

FOR PRESS

Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

EXTENSION OF DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS OF NATIONAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING FIELDWORK IN ERADICATING UNTOUCHABILITY AND COMBATING OFFENCES OF ATROCITIES AGAINST SCHEDULED CASTES FOR THE YEAR 2009.

The Government of India has instituted four National Awards to be given to Indian Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Individual Human Rights Activists, who have done outstanding fieldwork in the area of eradicating untouchability and in combating offences of atrocities under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 (PCR Act) and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (POA Act).

There shall be Four Awards every year i.e. one for each of four regions of the country. Rs.2 lakhs would be given to individuals and Rs. 5 lakhs to an NGO respectively who are selected for the awards. The awards may be shared by more than one recipient or organization.

Nominations may be submitted by any of the following in the prescribed formats:-

- (i) the Ministries of the Government of India with the approval of the Minister in charge of the Ministry;
- (ii) the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations with the approval of the concerned Chief Minister or Lt. Governors in UT Administrations;
- (iii) Such Members of Parliament belonging to Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes category who are not a member of the Selection Committee;
- (iv) Registered reputed NGOs working for the upliftment of the Scheduled Castes in particular and for the weaker sections in general except such NGOs, which are represented as members of either the Screening Committee or the Selection Committee;
- (v) Any other person or institution designated by the Screening Committee and the Selection Committee.

The last date of receipt of applications from the individual Human Rights Activists and Non-Governmental Organizations for National Award for 2009, which was 31.03.2010, has now been extended upto **30.06.2010**. The 'Code of Procedure' of the Award is available on the website of the Ministry (**www.socialjustice.nic.in**).

Contact person for further clarifications

Shri K.M.Tembhurney, Assistant Director,
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment,
Government of India, Room No. 721A, A Wing
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Ph. 011-23386981; Fax 011-23384918