

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDUSTRIES
419, FIE, PATPARGANJ INDUSTRIAL AREA, UDYOG SADAN DELHI-110092

No. IND-V/16/2025-Handloom/ 95708

Dated 31/12/2025

GUIDELINES FOR STATE AWARD TO THE HANDICRAFT ARTISANS OF DELHI

1. Objective:-

The National Capital Territory of Delhi has rich heritage of handicrafts contributing to employment generation, economic growth and also foreign exchange. The State is known for its special handicrafts like Brassware, Wood craft, Cloth Paintings, Paper Mache, Lac Bangles & jewellery, Terracotta, Stuffed Toys, Carpets, Durries, Embroidery, Bead work, Camel Bone Jewellery, Metal Work, Pottery, Dolls, Fur & Leather Items, Cane & Bamboo items, Crochet and Metal items etc. There are more than 20,000 artisans in the State, who are registered with Development Commissioner, Handicrafts, GOI. State Awards will be conferred to the crafts persons and weavers in recognition of their outstanding contribution, craftsmanship and development of art. This recognition will encourage them to continue with the craft in a more enthusiastic and productive manner and will ultimately encourage others to emulate them. The main objectives of the scheme are as under:

- Recognize extraordinary skills of Handicrafts Artisans and designers who have contributed significantly to the promotion, development and preservation of Craft tradition and welfare of the Craft community.
- Encourage young Artisans to continue with the work in a more enthusiastic and productive manner and encourage others to compete with them.
- Reward individuals/designers to adopt innovative measures for marketing of Handicrafts products and recognize their achievements.
- Spread awareness about adoption of innovative Technology advancements in production of Handicrafts products by Artisans/ designer and their achievements in terms of increase in production.

2. AWARD CATEGORIES:

A) Rajya Shilpkar Puraskar (State Awards) : The Rajya Shilpkar Handicrafts Awards will be given to the Handicrafts Artisans under craft categories:

Category	Craft Category	No. of Award
Rajya Shilpkar Puraskar	Craft Category (Amongst the List of eligible crafts)	05
	Exclusively for Women	01
	Total	06

Note:

- Rajya Shilpkar Puraskar - The award is given to master crafts persons for an exceptional piece of craftwork to promote the handicraft and to impart their skills to the next generation of artisans.

B) Rajya Dakshta Puraskar (State Merit Awards) : This Award will be given under the following categories:

Sl. NO.	Categories	Sub Categories	Number of awards under each category and sub category
1.	Craft Category		
		1. Metal ware (e.g. metal, bidri work etc.)	1
		2. Wood work	1
		3. Stone ware	1
		4. Pottery, ceramics and terracotta	1
		5. Paintings	1
		6. Jewellery and semi-precious gem stone	1
		7. Paper Mache crafts and paper crafts	1
		8. Artistic textiles (e.g. hand block printing, tie and dye applique work, quilting and patch work) , Embroideries and zari / zardozi work	1
		9. Handmade, carpets/floor coverings Rugs and durries	1
		10. Toys and dolls, puppet, games and kites	1
		11. Miscellaneous crafts (leather craft, lace work, crocheted goods & braiding, glass work, bone conch and shell , musical instruments etc.)	1
		12. Exclusively for Women artisan	1
		13. Young Artisan not above 30 years	1
		14. Divyang artisan	1
		15. Endangered craft	1
		16. Tribal artisan	1
2.	Design Innovation		1
3.	Start-up ventures/producer company		1
	Total		18

Note:

- a) **Rajya Dakshta Puraskar** is conferred to outstanding master crafts persons in recognition of their contribution towards the growth & development of handicraft sector. The award, conferred once in a lifetime, encourages them to preserve our old craft-traditions and excellence in craftsmanship. However, Rajya Dakshta Puraskar awardee can apply for Rajya Shilpkar Puraskar.

- b) While considering **Rajya Dakshta Puraskar** for (1) exclusively for women artisan, (2) Young artisan not above 30 years of age (3) Divyang artisan (4) Endangered Craft and Tribal artisan under Craft Category, due consideration should be given for any noteworthy effort in terms of reviving the craft by product diversification or application of contemporary use.
- c) List of Endangered Craft is given as **Annexure X** based on the List available with the National Award Guidelines.

C) Rajya Dakshta Puraskar for Design Innovation

- **Description**

Rajya Dakshta Puraskar for Design Innovation is a sub-category of State Merit Awards and is given to a group of designers & artisans on a co-creation basis.

- **Eligibility**

Following are the eligible entity:

- i. On co-creation basis to designer and artisan having valid photo identity card under PAHCHAN in the respective craft. Designer should have 4 years Degree from recognized institutions in sculpture, fine arts, design, fashion etc. (with relevance to handicrafts). Candidates must submit necessary documents related to their educational qualification and experience (if any).
- ii. Citizens & residents of Delhi (not below 18 years of age)
- iii. 05 years' experience in Handicrafts Sector.

By Nomination:

Reputed organizations viz. Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Ltd (CCIC), Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC), National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), National Institute of Design (NID), Crafts Council of India and Central/State /Handicrafts Corporations working in the field of handicrafts may also recommend the applicants for the Handicrafts Awards for consideration.

D) Rajya Dakshta Puraskar for Start-up Venture/Producer Company

Description

This award is given to the Start-up venture which is working in the handicrafts sector with the aim to build eco system for production of handicrafts products to drive the sustainable economic growth for past five years and generate employment opportunities. The Start-up venture should have made substantial progress to stir entrepreneurial spirit. The achievements in terms of growth of the start-up venture, employment generation and increase in the wages of the handicrafts workers are to be considered. The start-up must be compliant with the provisions of DPIIT (Department of Commerce) guidelines on the subject.

Eligibility

The start-up should have been in existence for a minimum period of 05 years as on 31st December of the previous year. However, it should not be more than 10 years old. The financial statement of the last 3 years of the venture, duly certified by the Chartered Accountants or Statutory Auditors is to be considered. For example: for an entry for award 2026, the audited figures for financial years 2022- 23, 2023-24, and 2024-25 will be considered.

Spot Verification report for Start up Venture

Confirmation of eligible start-up venture in the handicrafts sector and its progress over a period of five years is done by the Spot Verification by the Committee constituted by the Additional Chief Secretary (Industries)

3. ELIGIBILITY FOR AWARDS FOR HANDICRAFTS CRAFT CATEGORY

Award	Description	Eligibility
Rajya Shilpkar Award	Will be conferred to master Crafts persons for an exceptional piece of craftwork to promote the handicraft and to impart their skills to the next generation of artisans.	a) Any master craftsperson residing in Delhi holding valid photo identity card under PAHCHAN who is exceptional reputé or possesses extraordinary skills having made an immense contribution to the handicrafts sector is eligible for this Award. b) The applicant must be a citizen of India residing in Delhi, not below 18 years of age as on the date of inviting the application & possessing at least 10 years of experience in the craft is eligible to apply for Rajya Shilpkar Puraskar.
	Will be conferred to outstanding Master crafts persons in recognition of their contribution towards the growth & development of handicraft sector. The award, conferred once in a lifetime, encourages them to preserve our old craft-traditions and excellence in craftsmanship and development of Handicrafts Craft Category.	c) Any craftsperson holding the valid photo identity PAHCHAN card who is a citizen of India residing in the Delhi, above 18 years of age as on the date of inviting the application & has at least 5 years' experience in the craft is eligible to apply for Rajya Dakshta Award.

Rajya Dakshta Puraskar	Design Innovation	Design Innovation is a sub-category of State Merit Awards and is given to a group of designers holding four years degree from a recognized institutions & artisans on a co-creation basis and artisan having valid photo identity card under PAHCHAN in the respective craft. The award, conferred once in a lifetime, to encourages them to preserve our old craft-traditions and excellence in craftsmanship and development of Handicrafts Craft Category.	a) Any citizen & resident of India not below the 18 years of age on the date of intuiting the application and having 5 years' experience in handicrafts sector can apply for this award. b) Designer should have 4 years Degree from recognized institutions in sculpture, fine arts, design, fashion etc. (with relevance to handicrafts). Candidates must submit necessary documents related to their educational qualification and experience (if any).
	Start-up ventures/ producer company	This award is given to the Start-up venture which is working in the handicrafts sector with the aim to build eco system for production of handicrafts products to drive economic growth for past five years and generate employment opportunities. The Start-up venture should have made substantial progress to stir entrepreneurial spirit. The achievements in terms of growth of the start-up venture, employment generation and increase in the wages of the handicrafts workers are to be considered. The start-up much be compliant with the provisions of DPIIT (Department of Commerce) guidelines on the subject the sustainable	a) The start-up should have been in existence for a minimum period of 05 years as on 31st December of the previous year. However, it should not be more than 10 years old. b) The financial statements of the last 3 years the Chartered Accountants or Statutory Auditors are to be considered. For example; for an entry for award 2026, the audited figures for financial years 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 will be considered. SPOT VERIFICATION REPORT FOR START UP VENTURE Confirmation of eligible start-up venture in the handicrafts sector and its progress over a period of five years is done by the Spot Verification by the Verification Committee constituted by the Additional Chief Secretary

- Provision of awards exclusively for women Handicrafts Artisans

One number of each Rajya Shilpkar Puraskar (RSP) & Rajya Dakshta Puraskar (RDP) can be given exclusively to the women Handicrafts Artisans.

4. Submission of Craft Artefacts

Applicants will submit the samples against each category as per details given below of the artifacts developed for the award for selection with technical details of processing method from starting to the finish product in bilingual (English & Hindi) along with application form with all the relevant documents. The technical details of the processing method should duly be signed by the Officer of Handicrafts Service Centre

- | | | |
|---|---|----------|
| 1. Rajya Shilpkar Puraskar (State Award) | : | 2 sample |
| 2. Rajya Dakshta Puraskar (State Merit Award) | : | 2 sample |

5. Demonstration of Craft skill

Skill test to determine proficiency in Craft Category will be conducted before an inspection committee constituted by the Additional Chief Secretary/Secretary-cum-Commissioner of Industries. The test will be conducted at either at working place of the artisan or at any other suitable place along with the videography before recommending the entries to State Level Selection Committee.

The Inspection Committee will submit "**on the spot verification report**" conducted by the field officer. And the inspection report of the field officers recommending the artefacts report will be placed before the State level selection committee.

6. General Terms and Conditions of Awards

a) Award Contents

Rajya Shilpkar Puraskar	The award consists of a cash prize of Rs. 1,00,000/-, tamrapatra, shawl and a certificate.
Rajya Dakshta Puraskar (All craft categories)	This award consists of a cash prize of Rs. 75,000/-, tamrapatra, shawl and a certificate.

b) Verification of character & antecedent of the awardee

The verification of character & antecedent will be carried out by the Dy. Commissioner of Industries (H/H) through the concerned agency before recommending the application to State Level Selection Committee for consideration. If the report is awaited from the concerned authority, a certificate may be given that the report is awaited and would be forwarded later on.

c) Declaration from the applicant regarding criminal cases, details of members of the family/ persons who have been awarded earlier etc. should be submitted in the prescribed format on an affidavit form duly attested by Class 1 officer of Central/State Govt. affixing the rubber stamp.

7. Procedures of advertisement & publicity for entries:

- An advertisement would be published in the two leading national newspapers in Hindi, English. The notification along with Awards calendar will also be uploaded on the website of Industries Department viz Home | Department of Industries (delhi.gov.in)
- Wide publicity shall be given by writing letter to the Regional Director of Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Dilli Haat, National Level Melas, etc. and pamphlets may be distributed in all Handicrafts clusters and the stalls at Dilli Haat.
- Special Commissioner of Industries (H/H) shall hold exclusive meetings with Artisans' representatives of Artisans' associations for spreading awareness about the award scheme.
- Wide publicity on social platforms from the official handle of Industries Department.

8. Procedure for submission of entries

- All eligible applicants may submit their applications online in the prescribed format as per Annexures A to L (in concerned form whichever applicable), whenever a notification is advertised in the important national newspapers by the Office of Commissioner of Industries. They will submit the signed copy of printout of the online application mode, the craft artefacts and relevant documents, etc. to the Handloom & Handicraft Branch, Office of Commissioner of Industries.
- Joint entry may be accepted only in case of Craft Category in Design Innovation in National Handicrafts Award. In other craft categories **no, joint entry would be accepted.**
- All entries submitted by the applicant along with their crafts (where ever applicable) must be supported with declarations stating that the item being submitted has been prepared by him/ her and he/she is submitting the entry at his/her own risk and in case of damage, etc. during transportation of the entry due to unforeseen circumstances, the State Government will not be liable to pay any compensation.
- Applicants should attach photos of samples (where ever applicable) of final product as well as photos taken during intermittent stages of the product making, or videography of the intermittent stages of the product making with applications.
- All the pages of application along with photos of sample/other documents will be numbered serially as **X/Y** (X is serial page number and Y is total number of pages). All pages/photos/documents should be signed/attested by the applicant
- In the cases where applicant has already been conferred award in a particular category earlier, he/she cannot apply in the same category again e.g. State Award. However, he/she may apply for award in any other category as per eligibility e.g. Rajya Shilpkar.

9. Processing of applications

- The concerned Deputy Commissioner of Industries (Handloom & Handicrafts) will carry out proper scrutiny of applications, conduct skill/proficiency test (demonstration of Craft Category skills) and then recommend eligible entries to the Screening Committee. He/ She will exercise due diligence to physically verify the bona-fides of the applicants and verification of the character antecedents from the concerned agency.
- One officer of the rank of Section Officer/Assistant Commissioner will be nominated for coding of craft artefacts. After coding, applications will be sealed separately, codes will be stitched to samples and all other identification marks will be removed /masked properly so that identity of Artisans is not known.
- Samples will be coded for Rajya Shilpkar Puraskar and Rajya Dakshta Puraskar in following format :-

e.g. Rajya Shilpkar Puraskar : RSP/Year /Craft Category /Sl. No. of the entry
in the craft Rajya Shilpkar : RSP/2022/1/1
Rajya Dakshta Puraskar : RDP/2022/1/1

Coding list (without names) and samples will be submitted to the State Selection committees.

- The write up attached to samples during exhibits should contain all technical aspects of the product from beginning to end of the product in bilingual (Hindi and English) and should be certified by the concerned officer of field office of Handloom & Handicrafts Branch who had undertaken the inspection of the artifacts.

10. Selection Process:

There is a two-tier system for selection of Handicrafts Award. The composition of the members of each Committee is as under. The final selection of the awards for conferring is by State Level Selection Committee (Level -1) under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary/Commissioner (Industries) :

(X) State Selection Committee (SLC)-Level -1

1.	Addl. Chief Secretary/Commissioner (Industries)	Chairman
2.	Regional Director, Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts)	Member
3.	Director, Weavers Service Center (Delhi) (Handlooms)	Member
4.	Special Commissioner of Industries holding charge of Handloom & Handicraft	Convener
4.	Representative from NIFT	Member
5.	Representative of National Institute of Design	Member
6.	One Senior Designer	Member
7.	Two non-officials' members of handicrafts sector, out of which at least one will be handicrafts awardee .	Non-official members

(Y) Screening Committee (SC)-Level 2

1.	Special Commissioner of Industries(HH)	Chairman
2.	Director(H) of Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts)	Convener
3.	Eminent master craftsperson	Member
4.	Empaneled designer (1 no.)	Member
5.	Trade / Exporter representative (2 nos.)	Members

- The first stage of selection would be at Screening Committee, (Level -2) as applicable.
- The final selection would be done by the State Selection Committee (Level -1) from amongst the entries recommended by the Screening Committee.
- State Selection Committee shall consider the following points for selection of Rajya Shilpkar Puraskar, Rajya Dakshta Puraskar, Start-up Venture Company and Design Innovation :-

- (i) The selection of outstanding Artisans for the Rajya Shilpkar Puraskar and Rajya Dakshta Puraskar in the field of Handicrafts Craft Category, will be done by a State Level Selection Committees (Level-1) as mentioned in X above
- (ii) Excellence of craftsmanship will be judged from samples received along with at least 4 photographs of intermittent stages of Craft Category of craft artefacts. Videography of the intermittent stages of the product making should be submitted, if possible.
- (iii) Other achievements in the Handicrafts sector would be assessed from the bio-data and documents submitted therewith, including photographs of different stages of Craft artefacts.
- (iv) Efforts made to achieve a break-through in the development of craft would be given due consideration.
- (v) To make awards more inclusive, other extraordinary Artisans may be given due consideration in comparison to the applicants from the same family who have already received the awards. This encouragement will help in disseminating skill and preservation of Craft tradition.

11. Finalization of Awards

After the awards are finalized by State Selection Committee, decoding will be done and list of awardees with names will be published. List of winners will be uploaded in the public domain. In addition, awardees will also be intimated through letter.

12. Other Provisions:

- i). The artisans, who shall apply along with their items for the State Handicraft Awards, will be reimbursed both side transportation charges (by road) for carrying the items to the office of Commissioner of Industries, GNCT of Delhi and back to their

- workshop. There would be a cap of 1,000/-, which would be extendable on the approval of Commissioner of Industries in such cases where model/item is large. The artisans shall also be provided travelling allowance of AC bus fare.
- ii). The State Awardees (not State Merit Award winners) shall get assured entry and suitable assistance for the participation of Suraj Kund Crafts Mela, District Faridabad without any charges, and shall be recommended by the Commissioner of Industries, GNCT of Delhi to the Tourism Corporation Haryana, based on availability of space.
- iii). The Awardees (not State Merit Award winners) shall be provided suitable space without any charges in the Delhi Pavilion, Pargati Maidan, New Delhi during India International Trade Fair on the recommendation of Commissioner of Industries, GNCT of Delhi to DSIIDC.

The Guidelines has the approval of the Cabinet (Cabinet Decision No. 3282 dated 11.12.2025) as conveyed by the Secretary to the Cabinet vide No. F.53/724/GAD/CN/2025/4706-4715 dated 11.12.2025.


(BIPUL PATHAK)

ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY (INDUSTRIES)

Copy to :

1. Secretary, Finance, GNCTD, A Wing, 4th Floor, Delhi Secretariat, New Delhi.
2. Private Secretary/ Special Secretary to Hon'ble LG, GNCTD
3. Special/Addl. Commissioner, Industries Department, Patparganj, Delhi-110092.
4. Director, Planning, Planning Department, GNCT of Delhi,
5. Director (NR), Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicraft) Ministry of Textile, Govt. of India
6. Director, Weavers Service Centre, Delhi
7. Director, NIFT,
8. Officer-in-charge, Regional Design and Tech Development Centre, O/o the DC (Handicraft)
9. Principal, Delhi College of Art, Govt of Delhi, Tilak Marg, New Delhi.
10. General Manager (commercial), Central Cottage Industries, Govt. of India undertaking, Jawahar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi
11. DCA, Industries Department
12. Sr. Account Officer/DDO, industries Department
13. System Analyst, Industries Department for upload on website.
14. Guard File.


(SABINA AVASTHY)

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF INDUSTRIES (HH)