



THE KERALA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL

Constituted by Kerala State Legislature by notification No.19536/Leg.Uni.3/2007/Law. Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 15th October, 2007
Science and Technology Museum Campus, PMG, Vikas Bhavan P.O., Thiruvananthapuram-33
website: www.kshec.kerala.gov.in, Tel: 0471-2301290/91/92/93/97/98 Fax: 0471-2301290, email:heckerala@gmail.com

KSHEC-A3/352/Kairali Research Awards/2026

20-2-2026

KAIRALI RESEARCH AWARDS 2025-26

NOTIFICATION

Nominations for Kairali Research Awards for the year 2025-26 are invited from scholars fulfilling the eligibility criteria prescribed in the guidelines as per the G.O. (Rt) No.915/2018/HEDN dated 08-5-2018. The awards are instituted with the aim to encourage the most eminent research scholars and research pedagogues of Kerala origin. Within the broad categories of awards, Kairali Gaveshaka Puraskaram and Kairali Gaveshana Puraskaram are given in five domain namely Arts and Humanities, Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Physical Sciences, Social Sciences. In case of Kairali Lifetime Achievement Prize for Researchers (Scholars from Institutions within Kerala), Kairali Global Lifetime Achievement Prize for Researchers (for scholars from abroad) the awards are given in three domain namely Arts and Humanities, Sciences, and Social Sciences.

How to Apply: Applications/Nominations shall be submitted through online mode only. Applicants belonging to state universities/affiliated institutions shall submit a copy of the complete set of application to the respective universities, through proper channel also.

Last date for submission of applications/nominations: **19th March 2026**

For guidelines and other details:

Visit: <https://www.kshec.kerala.gov.in>

For online submission of applications, visit the web portal:

<https://kshec.org/kairaliaward>

Member Secretary



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KSHEC-A3/352/Kairali Research Awards/2026

21.2.2026

To

The Registrar

Dear Registrar,

Sub: KSHEC - Kairali Research Awards 2025-26-Notification Issued-reg.

Ref: (1) G.O.(Rt)No. 915/2018/HEDN Dated, Thiruvananthapuram 08/05/2018

(2) Notification dated 20-2-2026 of the Kerala State Higher Education Council

In accordance with the 1st referred guidelines, the Kerala State Higher Education Council issued notification inviting applications/nominations for various category of **Kairali Research Awards 2025-26**, instituted by the Government of Kerala.

It is brought to your kind attention that the attached notification may be circulated among all institutions affiliated/attached to the university and for adequate publicity. The nodal officers designated in each university for the above purpose shall be advised for further steps.

Details are provided on: <https://www.kshec.kerala.gov.in>

For online submission of applications : <https://kshec.org/kairaliaward>

Email: kairaliawards.kshec@gmail.com

Warmly,

Dr. Rajan Varughese
Member Secretary

Enclosures: (1) Notification of Kairali Research Awards 2025-26, (2) Government Order specifies the guidelines of Kairali Research Awards (3) Brief Outline of Kairali Research Awards.

To,

1. The Registrar, University of Kerala
2. The Registrar, Mahatma Gandhi University
3. The Registrar, University of Calicut
4. The Registrar, Kannur University
5. The Registrar, Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT)
6. The Registrar, Kerala Agricultural University
7. The Registrar, APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University
8. The Registrar, Kerala University of Health Sciences
9. The Registrar, Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies
10. The Registrar, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit
11. The Registrar, Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University
12. The Registrar, Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University
13. The Registrar, The National University of Advanced Legal Studies
14. The Registrar, Kerala Kalamandalam Deemed University for Art and Culture
15. The Registrar, Sree Narayanaguru Open University
16. The Registrar, Kerala University of Digital Sciences, Innovation and Technology
(Digital University Kerala)



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Higher Education Department-Kairali Research Awards- Guidelines -
Approved- Orders issued.

HIGHER EDUCATION (C)DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Rt)No.

915/2018/HEDN Dated,Thiruvananthapuram,08/05/2018

Read:

- 1 G.O(Rt) No.253/2018/H.Edn dated 8.2.2018
- 2 G.O(Rt) No:820/2018/H.Edn dated 24.4.2018

ORDER

Government are pleased to approve the guidelines
for Kairali Research Awards as appended to this Order.

By order of the Governor

DR. USHA TITUS

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

To:-

The Director of Collegiate Education, Thiruvananthapuram
The Member Secretary, Kerala State Higher Education
Council, Thiruvananthapuram
The Member Secretary State Planning Board, Pattom
The Registrar, (University of
Kerala/M.G.University/CUSAT/Calicut University/Kannur
University)
The Principal Accountant General(Audit)
Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
The Accountant General(A&E)Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
I&PR (Web & New Media)
Stock file/Office copy.

Forwarded/By order

Section officer

KAIRALI RESEARCH AWARDS GUIDELINES

The Government of Kerala have announced Kairali Research Awards from 2017-2018 academic year onwards. Candidates who excel in a particular subject will be considered for the award. The award is given under three categories i) Kairali Gaveshaka Puraskaram (for Post Doctoral Research Students) ii) Kairali Gaveshana Puraskaram (for Faculty Members) and iii) Kairali Lifetime Achievement Award (for Eminent Scientists). The subject areas include Chemical Sciences, Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences, Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities.

1. KAIRALI GAVESHAKA PURASKARAM

The award is for researchers who excel in the area of their research work. Students who have completed PhD are given opportunity to continue innovative research in future in interdisciplinary areas. 5 awards shall be given every year in Chemical Science, Biological Science, Physical Science, Social Science, Arts & Humanities.

Eligibility:

- The applicant should be a Keralite.
- The applicant must have obtained Ph.D Degree in Sciences/Social Sciences/ Arts and Humanities from a recognised University in Kerala.
- The upper age limit for the fellowship is 30 years at the time of the submission of application, age

will be calculated by taking the date of closure of the respective call. Age relaxation of 5 (five) years will be given to candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/Physically Challenged & Women candidates.

- Kairali Gaveshaka Puraskaram can be availed only once by a candidate in her/his career.
- The applicant should have mentor from any of the Universities/ National institutions of their choice. Mentor must hold a regular academic / research position in a recognized institution in India. Should have Ph.D. Degree in Sciences/Social Sciences/ Arts and Humanities.

Nature & Duration of Support:

- The fellowship is tenable only in Kerala and can be implemented in any of the recognized academic institutions, national laboratories and other recognized R&D institutions. The host institution may provide necessary administrative and infrastructural support.
- The fellows may work with the Ph.D. guide/co-guide and the award may be availed at the same Department / institution where the candidates have earned their PhD degree.
- The research grant is purely a temporary assignment, and is tenable initially for a period of 2 years. In exceptional cases, depending on the progress of research, the fellowship can be extended for one more year. There is no provision to extend the tenure beyond three years.
- Scholars can participate in one or more International Conferences outside the country.

5 fellows will be entitled to receive the grants as detailed below:

1	Award	Citation and Rs. 25,000/-
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2	Research Grant (to be utilized for buying instruments, buying chemicals/ glass wares, for outside instrumental analysis). Universities may provide Post Doctoral fellowship for the selected candidates	Rs. 4,00,000/- consolidated for 2 years
3	Travel Grant	as per actuals upto Rs.75000/-

Mode of Selection:

The candidates may apply to the respective Universities. The Universities may make a preliminary screening and provide the list to the Committee constituted for selection.

Selection of the Research Fellows under the scheme from amongst the eligible candidates through a process of interview by Selection Committee. Eminent experts for each subject domain should be included in the selection committee constituted for the purpose.

How to Apply:

For successful online submission of the application the following points may be noted:

- The applicants have to submit details of the project proposed to be done with the Research Grant including Project Title (max 500 characters), Project summary (max 3000 characters), , Expected output and outcome of the proposal (max 1500 characters) and work methodology and research plan (max 3pages) at the time of online submission of the application.

2. KAIRALI GAVESHANA PURASKARAM

The award is for Faculty Members who excel in their research output and who are expected to pursue innovative research programmes in cutting edge areas in future. There shall be five awards in Chemical Science, Biological Science, Physical Science, Social Science, Arts & Humanities.

Eligibility:

- The applicant should be a Keralite and should be in regular service (as a faculty member) in Universities /Colleges.
- The applicant must have obtained Ph.D degree in Sciences/Social Sciences/ Arts and Humanities from a recognized University.
- Preference will be given to those who are engaged in interdisciplinary research.
- The award will be given based on excellence in research, research contributions in the past and publications in peer reviewed indexed international journals list approved by UGC
- **The upper age limit for the fellowship is 45 years at the time of the submission of application, age will be calculated by taking the date of closure of the respective call. Age relaxation of 5 (five) years will be given to candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/Physically Challenged & Women candidates.**
- Kairali Gaveshana Puraskaram can be availed only once by a faculty member in her/his career.

Nature & Duration of Support:

- The fellowship is tenable only in Kerala and can be implemented only in recognized academic institutions, where the faculty is a permanent staff as per the UGC norms.
- The applicant can appoint one Project Fellow or Technical Assistant. The qualification of project fellow to be post graduate and the qualification

of technical assistant to be graduate in corresponding subject area.

- 5 fellows will be entitled to receive the grants as detailed below:

1	Award	Citation and Rs. 1Lakh
2	Research Grant (to be utilized for providing fellowship for the selected candidate, for buying instruments. Contingent Grant for buying chemicals/ glass wares, outside instrumental analysis, appointment of a Project Assistant, purchase of software, journals, books, registration fee, accomodation and travel to international conferences.	Rs.24lakh consolidated for 2 years.

Mode of Selection:

The candidates may apply to the respective Universities. The Universities may make a preliminary screening and provide the list to the Committee constituted for selection.

Selection of the faculty members under the scheme will be made from amongst the eligible candidates, through a process of interview by Selection Committee. **Eminent persons** for each subject domain may be included in the selection committee constituted for the purpose.

Project Staff Selection

- The Research personnel appointed under the project, for the full/ part duration of the project, may be treated as temporary project fellows.

How to Apply :

For successful online submission of the application the following points may be noted:

- The applicants may send a detailed note regarding the research work and research contributions in the past, publications etc.(not exceeding 3 pages). Details including Project Title , Project summary (3000 characters), Keywords (max 6), Objectives of the proposal (max 1500 characters), Expected output and outcome of the proposal (max 1500 characters) should be provided online at the time of submission of the application. An e copy may also be provided along with the applications.
- Work Methodology and Research plan in not more than 3 pages.

3. KAIRALI LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The award is for eminent scientists for a lifetime of outstanding research contributions in the fields of Sciences/Social Sciences/Arts and Humanities.

Kairali Lifetime Achievement Prize for Researchers will be given to scholars of Institutions within Kerala, annually

Citation and Rs.2,50,000 as award

The **Kairali Global Lifetime Achievement Prize for Researchers** will be given on alternate years to scholars of Kerala origin within India and abroad.

Citation and Rs.5,00,000 as award

SCOPE

All areas of Sciences/Social Sciences/Arts and Humanities (in the broadest terms) will be covered by this fellowship. There shall be 3 awards every year/every alternate year as the case may be.

ELIGIBILITY

i) This award will be given on alternate years to scholars of Kerala origin within India and Abroad and every year to scholars within Kerala.

ii) The applicant should possess a higher degree or equivalent, such as Ph.D. in Sciences/Social Sciences/Arts and Humanities; with adequate professional experience.

3. These Fellowships are very selective and only those who have a proven/outstanding track-record as evident from their research accomplishments, contributions to the upliftment of research in the respective fields; membership and presence in panels of national and international organizations, initiatives to encourage interdisciplinary research etc will be taken into consideration.

Mode of Selection:

Kairali Lifetime Achievement Prize for Researchers

The Universities may make a preliminary screening of the applications of the scholars or nominations and forward the list to the committee constituted for the purpose.

Kairali Global Lifetime Achievement Prize for Researchers

The Selection committee may invite nominations for the purpose. The Universities, Research Institutions or Academics may nominate the names of scholars for the awards.