

“VASUNDHARA AWARDS” 2010

**Instituted by:
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB)**



GUIDEBOOK FOR SCHOOLS & ENVIRONMENTAL NGOs

May, 2010

1.0 BACKGROUND

Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) instituted the “**Vasundhara Awards**” in 2009 to recognize the exemplary work carried out by Industries, Urban Local Bodies, Schools and Environmental Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) towards protection of environment in the State of Maharashtra.

2.0 OBJECTIVE

The “**Vasundhara Awards**” aim to:-

- a. Recognize the efforts of industries, urban local bodies, schools and environmental Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) who have made significant contributions to sustainable development and made measurable improvements to their performance, whilst achieving their own business plans, service functions and societal objectives;
- b. Put forward role models in sustainable development for Indian industries, urban local bodies, schools, and environmental NGOs for others to get inspired;
- c. Align with international best practices of promoting efforts beyond compliance by practicing sustainability.

3.0 WHAT ARE THE CATEGORIES OF THIS AWARD?

MPCB has instituted the ‘Vasundhara Awards’ broadly in four categories. These categories are:

i. Industry

Under the industry category there are following two sub-categories:

- a. Large Scale Industries [Capital Investment (*) over 10 crore]
- b. Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME)[Capital Investment (*) up to 10 crore]

(*): Note: Capital investment in plant and machineries. Ref: Notification dated 29th September 2006 by Ministry of SSI, GOI.

ii. Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)

Under the ULBs category there are following two sub-categories:

- a. Municipal Corporations
- b. Municipal Councils, Cantonment Boards

Following the submission of applications and the evaluation process, the winners for the above categories of Industry and Urban Local Bodies were announced on Earth Day, 22nd April 2010.

iii. Schools

Under the School category there are following two sub-categories:

- a. Government/ Municipal Schools.
- b. Private Schools.

iv. Environmental NGOs.

Under the Environmental NGOs the two sub-categories are the following:

- a. Projects/programmes in Urban Areas by NGOs.
- b. Projects/programmes in Rural Areas by NGOs.

This Guidebook is for the applicants of the Schools and Environmental NGOs categories.

4.0 WHAT IS THE AWARD?

- a. Award will be delivered through a well publicized function or an event – that can mean “recognition”;
- b. A trophy/memento and a citation;
- c. Cash prize;

Three awards under each category will be given by MPCB.

5.0 WHEN WILL THE AWARDS BE GIVEN?

For Schools and Environmental NGO categories the winners will be announced on 31st August 2010 and the awards for all FOUR categories (Industry, Urban Local Bodies, Schools and Environmental NGOs) will be given on MPCB’s Foundation Day, 7th September 2010.

6.0 WHAT IS THE ELIGIBILITY OF THE AWARD?

Schools

- Schools that are recognized by the Government.
- Schools from any Standard to Maximum up to 12th Standard.
- Schools operating/ having facilities in the State of Maharashtra.

Environmental NGOs

- Environmental NGOs who are registered with the Government as Trusts, Societies and Section 25 Companies.
- Environmental NGOs that have been working for a minimum of three years in the field of sustainable development, climate change, environment components (water, air, bio-diversity, ecology, land, etc) waste management, public health affected due to environmental problems and disaster management and other related areas of the environment.
- Only one project/programme is admissible per Environmental NGO.
- Project/ programme for which application is made must be in Maharashtra.
- Environmental NGOs who have conducted audit by certified auditor and prepared audit report for the past three years (2007, 2008 & 2009).

7.0 AWARD MANAGEMENT PROCESS

MPCB has appointed Environmental Management Centre (www.emcentre.com) for assisting in the management of the award process.

7.1 Constitution of Technical Committees

For each of the categories, MPCB has formulated Technical Committees consisting of reputed personalities. The Committee members with the assistance of MPCB and Environmental Management Centre (EMC) will evaluate the Applications and make recommendations for the Award.

7.2 Assessment Procedure

The assessment of application would be carried out in three stages as given below:

Stage-1: Initial assessment

- ❖ Screening against the eligibility criteria.
- ❖ Checking for completeness. Only complete applications shall be considered for evaluations.
- ❖ Initial assessment against the evaluation criteria.
- ❖ Short listing of applicants for detailed assessment.

Stage-2: Detailed Assessment

- ❖ Shortlisted applicants shall be called for interview and presentations to the Technical Committee. This will lead to a final round of the shortlisted applicants.

Stage-3: Final Assessment

- ❖ Conduct of site visit for better understanding as well as verification. Visits will be conducted a Team consisting members of the Technical Committee, MPCB and Environmental Management Centre (EMC).

8.0 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The broad assessment criteria for the two categories viz. SCHOOLS and ENVIRONMENTAL NGOS are highlighted below:

8.1 Assessment Criteria for Schools

Schools would be evaluated based on the following broad criteria:

1. School Infrastructure

- 1.1 Open space & use
- 1.2 Facilities/ resources for housekeeping, cleanliness, waste management, hygiene & sanitation
- 1.3 Provision of safe drinking water
- 1.4 Building & class room physical condition (space, fire safety) & environment (light, ventilation, etc.)

2. Waste Management, Resource Conservation, Green Management Practices

- 2.1 Solid Waste Management, waste reduction, reuse,
- 2.2 Water & Energy conservation
- 2.3 Housekeeping & cleanliness
- 2.4 Greening the school campus, landscaping, etc.
- 2.5 Efficient & eco-friendly transport

3. Environmental Education, Training & Awareness

- 3.1 Teachers' training & awareness program
- 3.2 Education through Formal Curriculum
- 3.3 Education through Co-curricular Activities
- 3.4 Environmental communication/ Joint activities & programs/ Interaction with parents/ Interaction with communities
- 3.5 Affiliation & partnerships

4. Green Initiatives & Innovations

For example: Rain Water Harvesting; Vermi Composting; Use of Solar Energy; Green Procurement; eco-club; etc.

8.2 Assessment Criteria for Environmental NGOs

Environmental NGOs would be evaluated based on the following broad criteria:

1. Organizational Strength

- 1.1 Capacity (human resources)
- 1.2 Capacity building (education, training & awareness) of staff
- 1.3 Promotion of Accountability and Transparency (publication of project completion report, publication of annual report/ audit report)
- 1.4 Acceptance of and responsiveness to social and cultural diversity/ Process & initiatives towards engagement of communities/ stakeholders.

2. Project Context & Relevance

- 2.1 Appropriateness/ relevance of the project/ program
- 1.2 Timeliness of initiative
- 1.3 Innovativeness of the project within local context
- 1.4 Sustainability of the project

3. Impacts/ Effectiveness of the project

For example: (1) Measurable improvement/ reduction pollution/ improvement in environmental health; (2) Percentage (%) of targeted population benefitted; (3) Awareness/ knowledge dissemination; (4) Protection and conservation of natural resources and of its environment; (5) Potential for transferability, adaptability and replicability.

9.0 RULES AND REGULATIONS

- i. Please be precise in furnishing the information.
- ii. Please provide data/ information for the last three calendar years (2007, 2008 & 2009)
- iii. Use additional sheets, if necessary.
- iv. Decision of the MPCB 'on Vasundhara Award based on the recommendation of Technical Committees is final and no appeal or correspondence will be entertained.
- v. MPCB shall not accept any kind of liability, loss or damage due to disclosure of information made by the Applicant to its Technical Committee members. MPCB will take reasonable precautions however to maintain confidentiality/ secrecy of information by requesting appropriate undertaking from the members of the Technical Committee.

- vi. All completed application forms shall be submitted in **duplicate with relevant enclosures**.
- vii. Application materials will have to be submitted only one time and not revised or supplemented.
- viii. Application materials submitted will not be returned.
- ix. MPCB and the Technical Committee reserves the right to change the award criteria, at any time, if required or appropriate.
- x. Any attempts made to influence the members of the Technical Committee will lead to disqualification of the Applicant
- xi. Shortlisted award applicants will be invited to make presentation of their costs to Technical Committee.
- xii. Team members from MPCB consisting members of Technical Committee, staff of MPCB and Environmental Management Centre may visit the premises/ site of the final round of shortlisted applicants for better understanding and verification of the information.
- xiii. The expenses to be incurred by the applicants for submitting the application, providing additional information that may be called for by the Jury/ Technical Committee/ Member of the Assessment Team, for receiving of award, etc. shall be borne by the applicant.

10.0 NON-DISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Names of applicants, information, data and results of assessment will be kept confidential. Such information would be available to only to those officials/ members of technical committee directly involved in assessment and administrative process. Please be assured that such information would not be used for any investigative or litigation purposes by the MPCB.

MPCB proposes to publish a compendium of good practices based on the information provided by the Award winning Applicants. MPCB on discussions and consent of the Award winning Applicant will process such information in releasing such a compendium.

11.0 APPLICATION FEES

There are no fees for participation/ application for all categories.

12.0 APPLICATION FORMS

Please download the Application Form from website of MPCB: <http://www.mpcb.gov.in>

Completed application form with relevant enclosures shall be submitted in duplicate.

13.0 LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

S. No.	Category	Last Date of Submission of Application
i.	Schools	30.06.2010
ii.	Environmental NGOs	30.06.2010

The application received after Last Date Submission will not be considered.

14.0 ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

Sealed applications complete in all respects and in duplicate with cover marked as VASUNDHARA AWARDS 2010 should reach the following address:

**The Member Secretary,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Kalpataru Point, 3rd Floor,
Opp. Cineplanet, Near Sion Circle,
Sion (E), Mumbai – 400 022**

For any clarification, information or help, applicant may contact:

**Mr. Sanjay Bhuskute,
Public Relation Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Kalpataru Point, 3rd Floor,
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