

Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment

KERALA SASTHRA PURASKARAM – 2025

Kerala Sasthra Puraskaram is an annual award instituted by the Government of Kerala to honour outstanding Scientists/Technologists of Kerala origin working anywhere in the world.

I. Salient Features

- Kerala Sasthra Puraskaram is conferred on an outstanding Scientist/Technologist of Kerala origin, working anywhere in the world, who has made significant contributions to any branch of Science and Technology.
- The award recognises and acknowledges **decades of sustained contributions, outstanding accomplishments, and lifetime achievements** in the field of Science and Technology.
- The award carries a **cash prize of ₹2 lakh, a memento, and a citation**.
- The award is intended to recognise and encourage **excellence in research, training, leadership, institution building, and management in Science and Technology**.
- A Selection Committee comprising eminent Scientists from leading Science and Technology institutions in the country shall be constituted to evaluate the nominations and recommend the recipient of the award.

II. Nominations

i. **Self-nominations or direct applications shall not be entertained.**

ii. Nominations may be submitted by **Fellows of National Academies of Sciences, Vice-Chancellors of Universities, Directors/Heads of national scientific institutions and establishments, and eminent Scientists of national or international repute.**

iii. **Previous recipients of Kerala Sasthra Puraskaram** may also nominate eminent Scientists for the award.

iv. Nominators are requested to ensure that the nominee is an **outstanding Scientist** who has demonstrated excellence in one or more of the following areas:

- leadership and organisational capabilities in Science and Technology;
- institution building in Science and Technology;
- national or international leadership in Science and Technology;
- serving as a role model in Science and Technology; and/or
- visionary contributions to the advancement of Science and Technology.

v. As Kerala Sasthra Puraskaram is the **highest honour instituted by the Government of Kerala in the field of Science and Technology**, the nominee(s) recommended for the award shall be of exceptional merit and shall uphold the high standards and stature associated with the distinguished recipients of the award in previous years.

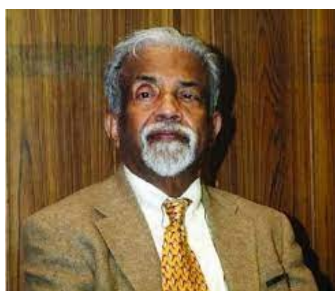
vi. Nominators may, if desired, attach a **draft citation highlighting the seminal contributions and major achievements of the nominee**.

vii. **Shortlisted nominations from previous years that were not selected for the award may also be considered along with fresh nominations**, subject to the provisions of the applicable guidelines.

III. Age

There is no age limit for consideration for the award.

IV Recipients:



Prof. E. C. G. Sudarshan (2011)

Prof. E. C. George Sudarshan was an eminent theoretical physicist and a professor at the University of Texas. Prof. Sudarshan has been credited with numerous contributions to the field of theoretical physics, including Glauber–Sudarshan P representation, V-A theory, tachyons, quantum Zeno effect, open quantum system and quantum master equations, spin–statistics theorem, non-invariance groups, positive maps of density matrices, and quantum computation.



Prof. M. Vijayan (2012)

Prof. M. Vijayan is one of the most distinguished Scientists in India and has been associated with the advancement of science in Kerala for a very long time. Prof. Vijayan has carried out outstanding research in the field of Structural Biology. He has served as the Associate Director at Indian Institute of Science, and has been the President of Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi.



Prof. M. S. Valiathan (2013)

Prof. M .S.Valiathan is an Indian cardiac surgeon. Dr. Valiathan took the lead in establishing the Sree Chithra Thirunal Institute for Science and Technology and became the first Director. He was the team leader in developing a mechanical implanting valve for Cardiology patients. The Chithra TTK valve is the fourth model that was developed over a decade of collaborative research in India. He was awarded the Padma Vibushan in 2005 for his contributions to health technology in India. He was the Chairman of the State Committee for Science, Technology and Environment of the Government of Kerala and the founder Executive Vice President of KSCSTE.



Prof. K.P. Gopinathan (2014)

Prof. K.P. Gopinathan's major research contributions in those days pertained to identification of 'Nonsense Codons and Suppression' as well as the measurement of 'Absolute Fidelity in DNA replication' and 'Error Proneness' of viral reverse transcriptases. He was also intimately associated with the developments of recombinant DNA research, right from its formative days. Gopinathan was the first scientist to describe a genetic and biochemical basis for the development of resistance to the potent anti-tubercular drug isoniazid. Professor Gopinathan was the Founder Chairman at the Centre for Genetic Engineering at Indian Institute of Science and then served as Chairman of the Microbiology and Cell Biology Department for nearly ten years. He also served as the Founder Director of the Monsanto Research Centre in India, established at the Indian Institute of Science campus.



Prof. M. S. Swaminathan (2021)

Prof. Mankombu Sambasivan Swaminathan was an Indian agronomist, agricultural scientist, geneticist, administrator and humanitarian. He was a global leader of the green revolution. He has been called the main architect of the green revolution in India for his leadership and role in introducing and further developing high-yielding varieties of wheat and rice. He has served as Director of IARI, Director General, ICAR and Secretary to the Govt. of India; Department of Agricultural research and Education; Principal Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture; Acting Deputy Chairman and later Member (Science and Agriculture), Planning Commission; Director General, IRRI Philippines; Member of Parliament of India (Rajyasabha-2007-13); Chairman, High Level Panel of Experts for the World Committee on Food Security.



Prof. Thanu Padmanabhan(2021)

Prof. Thanu Padmanabhan was an Indian theoretical physicist and cosmologist whose research spanned a wide variety of topics in gravitation, structure formation in the universe and quantum gravity. His research contributions have made a significant effect on the subject of gravitation and cosmology. He was a Distinguished Professor at Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune



Prof. P. K. Ramachandran Nair (2022)

Prof. P. K. Ramachandran Nair is a distinguished Professor of Agroforestry and International Forestry at the School of Forest Resources and Conservation, University of Florida. Dr. Nair known as the “Father of Agroforestry” received several global recognition to the science of agroforestry. His areas of research interest include: agroforestry in the tropics and subtropics, integrated farming systems, soil carbon sequestration and climate change mitigation, ecosystem services, and soil fertility management.



Dr. S. Somanath (2023)

Dr. Somanath S. Panicker is a doyen in Indian Space Programme and a trailblazer in the global space community. Under his visionary leadership, the Indian Space programme has attained advanced Engineering excellence and cultivated significant global partnerships. His contributions in the field of space science, technology and its applications epitomizes leadership and technological excellence, setting a benchmark for others to aspire for highest level of achievements. His pioneering efforts have not only propelled India to the forefront of space exploration but also left a rich legacy in the field of Indian Space Programme.



Dr. Tessy Thomas (2024)

Dr. Tessy Thomas known as the 'Missile Woman' of India, is a Distinguished Scientist & Former Director General (Aeronautical Systems), Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). Dr. Tessy was associated with the 'Agni Programme' at DRDO right from its developmental flights. She has designed the guidance scheme for long range missile systems which is used in all Agni missiles. As the Project Director for the Agni IV and Agni V (mission), she is the first woman to lead missile teams in India. An energy management guidance scheme was designed

and developed for the first time in the country for a solid propelled long-range system for which she was conferred with Agni Self Reliance award in 2001. Her expertise on the solid propellant systems and mission design were critical in the development of the ballistic reentry missile systems. Dr. Tessy stands as a leading expert in ballistic missile technology. She has contributed in various fields such as Guidance, Control, Inertial Navigation, Trajectory Simulation and Mission Design and has been conferred with several prestigious awards.

V. Selection Committee

A Selection Committee comprising eminent Scientists from leading Science and Technology institutions in the country shall be constituted for the evaluation and adjudication of the nominations received for Kerala Sasthra Puraskaram.

The Selection Committee shall assess the nominations based on the prescribed criteria and make its recommendation regarding the most deserving candidate for conferment of the award.

The final decision on the conferment of the award shall be taken by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Kerala, and the selected awardee shall be officially announced accordingly.

VI. How to Apply

The **Nomination Proforma and Annexure** for Kerala Sasthra Puraskaram 2025 are available on the official website of the **Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment (KSCSTE)**:

www.kscste.kerala.gov.in

The duly completed **Nomination Proforma and Annexure**, along with all required supporting documents, shall be submitted by **Registered/Speed Post** to the address specified in the notification and also forwarded by **e-mail** to the designated e-mail address.

Last date for receipt of nominations: 30 September 2026.