

Janaki Ammal - National Women Bioscientist Award

In order to recognize the outstanding contributions of women scientists in basic and applied research in the areas of biosciences and biotechnology including agricultural, biomedical and environmental sciences, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) accords them with two categories of the awards namely senior and young women scientists.

In the senior category, the award is conferred to senior women scientist for life time contributions with excellent research background that has benefited the student community in particular and society in general. The Award carries a cash prize of Rs. 5.00 lakh along with citation and a gold medal. The young category award is given to women scientist below age of 45 years for their outstanding contributions in basic and applied research in the areas of biosciences and biotechnology during last 5 years. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 1.00 lakh with citation and a gold medal and a research grant of Rs. 5.00 lakh per annum for a period of 5 years.

Padmashri Janaki Ammal Edavalath Kakkat, an Indian botanist, conducted her scientific research in cytogenetics and phytogeography. Her significant work was on sugarcane and the eggplant, and other medicinal plants and economically important plants from rain forests of Kerala, India. She had done her D.Sc. in 1931 from Michigan and she was a founder fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences. Janaki Ammal was awarded with Padmashri Award in 1977 for her exemplary contribution to science in India. She has immensely contributed to genetics, evolution, phytogeography and ethnobotany.



Janaki Ammal Edavalath Kakkat

Women scientists working in the area of biosciences and biotechnology can be nominated by members of the SAC (O), DBT; vice-chancellors of universities/deemed universities; UGC

chairperson; DGs of CSIR, ICAR, ICMR, DRDO; directors of national research laboratories etc. In addition, presidents of approved scientific societies and academies of all India nature; secretaries of S&T departments/ministries such as DST, DBT, DSIR, MES, MOEF, Atomic Energy, Department of Space, New and Renewable Energy, Commerce, Industry, Health & Family Welfare and Human Resource Development and science advisor/ member Niti Aayog.

Women scientists who got Janaki Ammal-National Women Bio-scientist Award in past 05 years

Year	Senior Category	Institute	Young Category	Institute
2014	Dr. Nahid Ali	Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Kolkata	Dr. Chaaya Iyengar; Dr. Rupinder Kaur	1. National Institute of Pharmaceutical Research and Education (NIPER), Mohali 2. Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Nampally, Hyderabad
2015	Dr. Rentala Madhubala	Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi	Dr. Ashverya Laxmi; Dr. Kakoli Bose	1. National Institute of Plant Genome Research, New Delhi. 2. Tata memorial Centre, Mumbai
2016	Dr. Chitra Sarkar	All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi	Dr. Sharmistha Banerjee; Dr. Debasree Dutta	1. University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad 2. Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology, Thiruvananthapuram
2017	Dr. Jaya Sivaswami Tyagi	All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS), New Delhi	Dr. Mahak Sharma, Mohali; Dr. Oishee Chakrabarti	1. Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER); 2. Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics (SINP), Kolkata
2018	Dr. Poonam Salotra	National Institute of Pathology (ICMR), New Delhi	Dr. Ruchi Anand; Dr. Shailja Singh	1. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay, Mumbai 2. Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi

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