

NAVS (I)- Dr. K. K. Baxi Senior Scientist Award for Excellence in Veterinary Sciences

DESCRIPTION AND RULES

1. **Name of the Award:** NAVS(I) - Dr. K. K. Baxi Senior Scientist Award for Excellence in Veterinary Sciences
2. **Sponsorship:** The award has been instituted by Dr. Khushdev Kumar Baxi, an internationally known Veterinary Microbiologist and an Elected Fellow 2004-05 of National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India) in his name. Dr. Baxi remained Professor of Bacteriology- cum-Head, Department of Bacteriology & Virology and Dean College of Veterinary Sciences at Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Ludhiana. A donation of Rupees ten lakh has been made to the Academy as the corpus money for the institution of the award. The interest generated from the corpus money (Fixed Deposit) would be utilized for the cash award. Additional money, if any from the annual interest, i.e., total interest generated minus award money, will be added back to the Corpus. Should an award not be made in a particular year for what so ever reasons, the interest generated will form part of the corpus money strictly for award purposes. The award will be an annual feature and is planned to begin in the calendar year 2023.
3. **Background of the Award:** As a veterinary microbiologist Dr. K.K. Baxi played the great role in the field of veterinary sciences by focusing his study of microorganisms that affect animals. His contributions are diverse and impactful, spanning various areas such as disease prevention, diagnosis, treatment and overall improvement of animal health. He was regarded international leading expert on the typing of *Pasteurella multocida* for which he received appreciation from the Vice Chancellor of PAU for his outstanding contributions. He also received Life Time Achievement Award in recognition of outstanding contributions for the advancement of Veterinary Microbiology. His major Research work was related to *Escherichia coli*, *Pasteurella multocida*, Chlamydia, Mycoplasma, Leptospira, Actinomycosis, Bluetongue, mastitis etc. His work extended beyond the laboratory, influencing public health, agricultural practices, and the overall well-being of both animals and humans. 'Dr. K. K. Baxi Senior Scientist Award for Excellence in Veterinary Sciences' is instituted to celebrate of his lifetime contributions to the Veterinary Profession and the Society.
4. **Objectives of the Award:** The award is aimed for prestigious recognition that honours individuals who have made significant contributions to the field of veterinary sciences throughout their distinguished careers. This award serves to acknowledge the outstanding achievements, groundbreaking research, and lifelong dedication of senior scientists in advancing the understanding and practice of veterinary medicine. Receiving the Senior Scientist Award for Excellence in Veterinary Sciences is not only a personal honour but also a testament to the collective progress and impact of the veterinary community. It serves to celebrate a lifetime of dedication to the betterment of animal health, the advancement of veterinary knowledge, and fostering of future generations of scientists and practitioners. Overall, this award highlights the indispensable role of senior scientists in

shaping the trajectory of veterinary sciences and underscores the ongoing commitment to excellence within the profession.

5. **Nature of the Award:** The award is exclusively based on merit for veterinarians engaged in veterinary science activities, including teaching and research.

Only one award will be presented annually. Each award will consist of a Citation/Scroll and Cash Prize of Rs 41,000/- (Rupees Forty Thousand only). The award may be shared by two candidates, if circumstances so required. If in one particular year for some reason award is not given then next year it may be given to two scientists.

6. The controlling authority (NAVS (I)) will ensure that the award money does not deplete the corpus in the Fixed Deposit. The total award amount may be increased as appropriate every five years, if feasible, such that the total revised award amount never exceeds the interest accrued minus the “increased amount”. In principle, it must not negatively affect the corpus money.

7. **Eligibility Criteria:** Veterinarians, holding Indian citizenship, possessing the following minimum mandatory qualifications are eligible for the award: -

(a) **Qualification:** Minimum BVSc/BVSc&AH and M.V.Sc degree in any discipline from a recognized university.

(b) **Age limit:** Minimum 50 years as on 31st December of the year of award.

(c) **Experience:** Minimum 25 years in a university/college/government/NGO/industry

- (d) **Qualifying Research/Field Work:**

i. The criteria for receiving this award typically include for all veterinarians who sustained record of excellence in research, teaching, and service within the veterinary sciences. Recipients of this award are often distinguished by their profound impact on the profession, their commitment to the advancement of knowledge in veterinary sciences, and their influence on the development of innovative approaches to animal health and welfare.

a. Senior scientists who have consistently contributed valuable insights to the scientific community and have demonstrated a commitment to disseminating knowledge are highly regarded.

b. Senior scientists who have played a pivotal role in shaping the next generation of veterinary professionals and researchers contribute significantly to the overall advancement of the field. Their ability to inspire and guide students, residents, and junior faculty is often taken into account in the selection process.

c. Senior scientists who have made notable contributions beyond the laboratory or clinic, such as in policy development, public awareness, and outreach efforts, are likely to be recognized for their holistic impact on the field.

- ii. All veterinarians, administrators, and field workers who have developed innovative projects, programs or strategies for livestock development.

8. Process of Award

(a) Application Format

- (i) Part - I: Declaration by the candidate, general information and specific information along with supporting Annexure(s).
- (ii) Part - II: Score assessment sections including score card and a statement of interest highlighting contributions by the candidate.

Note: Score-card for evaluation is placed at Annexure I.

(b) Judging Committee: The President, NAVS(I), in consultation with Vice- President and Secretary General will appoint a committee to evaluate eligibility and merit of the applicants based on attached score card. The Judging Committee will have total of five members. The composition will be as follows:

- (i) Three members from the NAVS(I) Governing Council.
- (ii) One eminent scientist (NAVS Fellow), who is not a GC member with high credibility and reputation, to be nominated by the President NAVS(I).
- (iii) Dr. K.K. Baxi or his representative – Dr. L.D.Singla, from Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University

(c) Actions by

(i) **The Applicants**. Applications for the award will be invited during the month of July of the award year. Prospective candidates for the award may apply on their own with appropriate recommendations by two NAVS(I) Fellows. The applications are to be submitted as 'hard copy' in the prescribed 'Application form', obtained from the office of NAVS(I), New Delhi or downloaded from its website (<http://www.navsindia.org/>). Applications will be accepted up to the end of August or a date specified in the advertisement announcing the award.

Note: For the first year of award, the applications can be accepted up to the date decided by NAVS (I) awards.

(ii) **The Award Committee**. The committee will screen the applications, identify outstanding candidates, prepare merit list with scores obtained by each applicant and submit the same to Secretary General. On receipt of merit list and evaluated applications, the Secretary General will ensure that proper procedure has been followed and submit the list to the President who will be the final authority for approval of the award.

Note: The decision of the Award Committee will be on merit and final. If none of the candidate scores the minimum 75% marks, the President will decide in consultation with Vice-President, Secretary General and Dr. K.K. Baxi or his representative Dr. L.D.Singla whether the award should be given or not during that particular year.

9. Presentation

(a) **Declaration of Award:** The recipient of the award will be intimated in advance (through e-mail and mobile) so that he/she can plan travel accordingly. The details of the

Awardee will also be uploaded on the Academy website(<http://www.navsindia.org>). Intimation of the selected candidate will also be sent to Dr. K.K. Baxi by e-mail (dr.baxi.k@gmail.com)

(b) Presentation by the Awardee: The recipient is expected to make a presentation of his/her outstanding contributions that led to recognition through this award during one of the sessions at the NAVS convocation. He / She may be invited to write an article for the annual NAVS (I) magazine/journal.

(c) Presentation Ceremony: The presentation of award will be made during NAVS(I) annual convocation. Before presentation of this award, a brief (~ 3minutes) about Dr.K. K. Baxi will be read. This will be followed by a short brief (~ 2 minutes) recognizing the accomplishments of the Awardee. The Chief Guest/President of the Academy and Dr. K.K. Baxi shall jointly present the award. In the absence of Dr. K.K. Baxi or his representative (Dr. L.D. Singla), it shall be presented by the President of NAVS(I)/Chief Guest as may be deemed appropriate.

10. Award & Accommodation:

(a) Award: A candidate with highest score (not less than 75% marks) will be presented a Citation/Scroll along with the Cash Prize out of the interest generated from the Fixed Deposit corpus money donated by Dr. K.K. Baxi (as discussed under point 6).

(b) Accommodation: Arrangements for boarding, lodging and local transport during the convocation will be made with the attending delegates of convocation. The boarding, lodging and local transport for the awardee will be hosted by NAVS (I)/Organizers.