



Indian National Chapter of International Association of Hydrogeologists (INC-IAH)

INC-IAH Awards 2025-Guidelines

1. Introduction

INC-IAH, which stands for Indian National Chapter of the International Association of Hydrogeologists, recognizes the services, achievements, and academic excellence of its members in the form of their academic/scientific/practicing career in groundwater domain, excellent work done for societal benefit and publications of the research work in the peer reviewed international and National journals. The esteemed members of INC-IAH are the scientists and Engineers working in groundwater domain and its related disciplines. In order to boost the scientific and academic activities and fervor, achievements, and publications in various fields of development and management of groundwater in India, INC-IAH intends to constitute various awards particularly for its members. It is envisaged that the awards are to be given away annually approved by the INC IAH governing body. For the nomination of the INC-IAH awards, any groundwater professional must be a member of INC-IAH during 2026 and any one yr during 2021-25. He/she must have made outstanding contributions evidenced through recognizable practices and publications in the field of hydrogeology/ groundwater hydrology/ hydro geochemistry/hydro geophysics, Water well drilling technology, and in overall groundwater management for its sustainable use. in India.

The aim of this award is to provide continuous encouragement and motivation to the potential groundwater researchers and professionals. In order to identify most eligible awardee out of the received applications as well as nominations for some special category, a relevant guidelines is being framed. The guidelines hold the information on the eligibility criteria of the awards constituted by of the INC-IAH in the field of Indian Hydrogeology/Groundwater hydrology and allied disciplines. The awards, to be given away by the INC- IAH are no way connected with the International Association of Hydrogeologists, HQ.

2. About the Award

The INC- IAH Award has been instituted by the Indian National Chapter of International Association of Hydrogeologists (INC-IAH) as an instrument for the promotion, motivation, and recognition of the excellence in the domain of the science of the groundwater and its sustainable management in India

The INC-IAH award is a competitive annual program for the members of INC- IAH.

The following category of awards will be given away for INC-IAH Award 2025

1. Lifetime Achievement Award- One no.
2. Groundwater Excellence Award – one no.
3. Young Scientist Award – one no.
4. Best Paper Award – two nos. (one for male and one for female)
5. Best Post Graduate Dissertation / Project (M.Sc./ M. Tech / M.Sc. (Tech) in Hydrogeology / Groundwater – one no.
6. Best PhD Thesis in Ground water / Hydrogeology – one no.



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2.1 Lifetime Achievement Award- 1 No

Lifetime Achievement Award will be given away by the INC-IAH to recognize the outstanding contribution by the Senior groundwater scientists/technologists who have made significant contributions in the field of hydrogeology/ hydrology and the allied disciplines of groundwater.

The criteria for the award are as follows

- Candidate should be a citizen of India
- The applicant must be a member of IAH in 2026 and must have held IAH membership for at least one year during the preceding five-year period (2021–2025).
- The nominee must be above 60 years of age as on 31st December 2025.
- He/she should have acquired a post-graduate degree in science or bachelor's degree in engineering or equivalent.
- This award can only be received once.
- Only the research and development work done on the Indian hydrogeology / groundwater hydrology by eminent personalities shall be considered for the evaluation.
- Nominee must have made significant contributions to the development and management of groundwater in India.
- Nominee may possess an excellent record of publications in peer reviewed journal, valued Scientific reports for the Govt., Semi Government Institutions and NGOs, edited books, and patent in his/her credit. A detailed account /list of the aforesaid contributions should be attached with year of publication, Volume no, page no's, name of the national/international journal, publishing houses etc.; patent name and year and the relevant documents in testimony may be provided.
- Endorsement from at least Two nominators from IAH member, besides one self-nomination for an individual, need to be submitted for the award.

2.2 Groundwater Excellence Award- 1 No

The criteria for the Award are as follows

- Candidate should be a citizen of India.
- The applicant must be a member of IAH in 2026 and must have held IAH membership for at least one year during the preceding five-year period (2021–2025).
- He/she should have acquired a post-graduate degree in science or a bachelor's degree in engineering
- The nominee must be above 40 years in age as on 31st December 2025.
- He/she should have more than 15 years of working experience in the field of hydrogeology/ groundwater hydrology or allied science of groundwater, as on 31st December 2025. In case the candidate is having PhD degree then the experience should be counted excluding his/her duration spent for obtaining the doctoral degree (PhD).
- Only the contributions towards Indian hydrogeology / groundwater hydrology or allied discipline shall be considered for the evaluation.
- The applicant must possess an excellent record of publications in peer reviewed journal, valued Scientific reports for the Govt., Semi Government Institutions and NGOs, edited books, and patents in his/her credit. A detailed account /list of the aforesaid contributions should be attached with year of publication, Volume no, page no's, name of the national/international journal, publishing houses etc.; patent name and year and the relevant documents in testimony of the publication, edited books and patents may be provided.



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2.3 Young Scientist Award- 1 No

The criteria for the Award are as follows

- Candidate should be a citizen of India
- The applicant must be a member of IAH in 2026 and must have held IAH membership for at least one year during the preceding five-year period (2021–2025).
- He/she should have acquired a post-graduate degree in science or bachelor's degree in engineering
- The nominee must be 40 years or below in age as on 31st December 2025
- He/she should have more than 5 years of working experience in the field of hydrogeology/ groundwater hydrology or allied science/engineering, as on 31st December 2025. In case the candidate is having PhD degree then the experience should be counted excluding his/her duration spent for obtaining the doctoral degree (PhD).
- Only the contributions towards Indian hydrogeology / groundwater shall be considered for evaluation.
- The applicant may possess an excellent record of publications in peer reviewed journal, valued Scientific reports for the Govt., Semi Government Institutions and NGOs, edited books, and patent in his/her credit. A detailed account /list of the aforesaid contribution should be attached with year of publication, Volume no, page no's, name of the national/international journal, publishing houses etc., patents name and year and the relevant documents in testimony of the publication, edited books and patents may be provided.

2.4 Best Paper Award- 2 Nos(1-male, 1-Female)

The criteria for the Award are as follows

- Nominees should be a citizen of India,
- The applicant must be a member of IAH in 2026 and must have held IAH membership for at least one year during the preceding five-year period (2021–2025).
- He/she should have a post-graduate degree in science or bachelor's degree in engineering
- Only the contributions towards Indian hydrogeology/groundwater shall be considered for evaluation.
- A copy of the paper showing the date of receipt of the manuscript and its publication date online needs to be provided. The Publication date should be in the calendar year of 2025

2.5 Best Post Graduate Dissertation / Project Award- 1 No

[M.Sc./M. Tech/M.Sc. (Tech) in Hydrogeology / Groundwater]

This award has been included with an objective to motivate the young students registered as member of INC-IAH and involved in innovative studies and applied research in the field of ground water and Indian hydrogeology. It also aims to provide a wider platform for Post graduate students to present their studies to the larger fraternity of hydrogeologists and interact with them and benefit from their research experience for further value addition and application on the field.

Eligibility

1. Nominees should be a citizen of India,
2. . The applicant must be an IAH member at the time of nomination in 2026
3. The student must have completed their Post Graduate (M.Sc./M. Tech/M.Sc. (Tech) Dissertation



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/ Project in Hydrogeology / Ground water during the calendar years **2024 or 2025**

4. The research work must be original and must have a direct bearing on some relevant aspects of hydrogeology and allied topics.
5. Endorsement letter from Supervisor /Head of Department on official letter head of college / University as a proof of pursuing of post-graduation degree.

2.6 Best PhD Thesis in Ground water / Hydrogeology- 1 No

This award has been instituted with an objective to motivate the young researchers registered as member of INC-IAH and involved in innovative studies and applied research in the field of ground water and Indian hydrogeology. Through this award INC-IAH would attribute a kind of recognition to the awarded scientific innovations and research. It also aims to provide a wider platform for PhD. Scholars to present their research to the larger fraternity of hydrogeologists and interact with them and benefit from their research experience for further value addition and application on the field.

Eligibility

1. Nominees should be a citizen of India
2. The applicant must be a member of IAH in 2026 and must have held IAH membership for at least one year during the preceding five-year period (2021–2025).
3. The researcher must have submitted their PhD thesis in Ground water / Hydrogeology during the academic year **2024 or 2025**
4. Endorsement letter from PhD Supervisor /Head of Department on official letter head of college / University as proof of pursuing of research leading to the award of PhD.

3. SELECTION PROCEDURE

An award committee constituted by INC-IAH will evaluate the applications and will shortlist the nominations. On the basis of the recommendations of the Awards Committee, the governing body of INC-IAH will decide and formally declare the awards. The decision of INC-IAH on the award will be final, and no further communication in this regard will be entertained.

4. NOMINATION PROCEDURE

- The nomination may be made by the self or through a member of INC-IAH along with necessary enclosures. **The nomination along with certificates in a single PDF file may be sent to the Dr Sudhanshu Shekhar, Secretary, INC-IAH, only by email, positively by 15th October 2026.**

E-mail- secretaryinciah@gmail.com

- **Life-time Achievement-** Age certificate, Educational Qualification, and soft copies of Ten best paper.
- **Ground Water Excellence-** Age certificate, Educational Qualification, Experience Certificate and soft copies of Ten best paper.
- **Young Scientist-** Age certificate, Educational Qualification, Experience Certificate and soft copies of Five best paper.
- **Best Paper-** Educational Qualification, and soft copy of best paper published in 2025
- **Best Dissertation-** Educational Qualification, and Summary of Dissertation work in 500 words
- **Best Ph.D-** Educational Qualification and Summary of Ph.D work in 1000 words



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- **Governing Body Members of INC-IAH 2026-28 are not eligible to apply.**
- Persons who have applied earlier may also apply, except the winner in the same category. However, persons who have been awarded for Young Scientist may apply for ground water excellence award, or those who have been awarded Ground Water Excellence may apply for the Lifetime Achievement Award. The Lifetime Achievement awardees may not apply for any other award
- For any queries, contact Dr Sudhanshu Shekhar, Secretary, INC-IAH, PH- 8383030130, E mail- sshekhar1962@gmail.com/ secretaryinciah@gmail.com



Indian National Chapter of International Association of Hydrogeologists (INC-IAH)

Nomination form for INC-IAH Lifetime achievement award for the year -2025

(Please read the selection and nomination criteria given in the guidelines before filling up of the nomination)

1. Name: (full name in Block letters):
2. Date of Birth
3. IAH Membership No-
4. Mention one year when you became a member of IAH (during 2021-25)-
5. Whether the nominee has already received the award from INC-IAH)- Yes /No.
6. Name of the 2 nominators and their IAH Membership Nos.
 - 1.
 - 2.
7. Very brief profile of the nominators (within 100 words)
8. Present Address of the nominee with telephone/Fax/e-mail
 - a) Residential
 - b) Official
9. Field of specialization:
10. Academic Qualifications in brief
11. Details of Employment/Professional experience with nature of duties:

Sl. No	Period	Designation	Organization	Nature of duties
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12. Membership of the academic, scientific, and professional bodies
13. Honours / Awards received
14. Contributions made
 - a) Summarize the significant research/field research/applied research and achievements in entire carrier (not exceeding 500 words):
 - b) Assessment of the impact of the research done (in the form of citation, social impact etc):
 - c) List of Significant publications in National and International Journals:
 - d) List of papers presented in Conferences /Symposia/ Seminars, etc.:
 - e) List of the outstanding Technical Reports / Review/ Articles:
 - f) Conversion of your idea/proposal into management plan, if any:



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g) Details of Books published, if any

h) Details of Patents taken, if any:

15. Any additional information of relevance (very briefly 100 words).

Declaration-

All the information and particulars given are enclosed along with this application and those are true to the best of my/ our knowledge and belief.

Signature of candidate

Format of Certificate from 2 Nos of Nominators

I, Shri/Dr _____, IAH Membership No. _____, hereby nominate Shri/Dr. _____, IAH Membership No. _____, for the **INC-IAH Lifetime Achievement Award 2025** in recognition of _____ (Give justification).

Name and Signature of Nominator



Indian National Chapter of International Association of Hydrogeologists (INC-IAH)

Nomination form for INC-IAH Ground Water Excellence Award -2025

(Please read the selection and nomination criteria given in the guidelines before filling up the nomination)

1. Name: (full name in Block letters)
2. Date of Birth
3. IAH Membership No-
4. Mention one year when you became a member of IAH (during 2021-25)-
5. Present Address with telephone/Fax/e-mail
 - a. Residential
 - b. Official
6. Field of specialization:
7. Academic Qualifications (Bachelor's Degree onwards) In case of PhD mention the title of the thesis

Sl No	Degree	Subjects taken	University	Year of Passing	Class/Percentage of marks
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8. Details of Employment/Professional experience with nature of duties:

Sl No	Period	Designation	Organization	Nature of duties
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9. Membership of the academic, scientific and professional bodies
10. Honours / Awards received (if any)
11. Contributions made
 - (a) Summarize the significant research/field research/applied research and achievements in entire carrier (not exceeding 500 words):
 - (b) Assessment of the impact of the research done (in the form of citation, social impact etc):
 - (c) List of most significant publications (Maximum 10 along with one set of soft copy reprints/copies to be enclosed) :
 - (d) List of publications in peer-reviewed journals along with the impact factors:
 - (e) List of papers presented in Conferences /Symposia/ Seminars, etc.:
 - (f) List of the most outstanding Technical Reports/ Review/ Articles:
 - (g) Conversion of your idea/proposal into management plan, if any:
 - (h) Details of Books published, if any
 - (i) Details of Patents taken, if any:



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12. Any additional information of relevance (very briefly 100 words).

Declaration-

All the information and particulars given are enclosed along with this application and those are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of candidate



Indian National Chapter of International Association of Hydrogeologists (INC-IAH)

Nomination form for INC-IAH Young Scientist Award -2025

(Please read the selection and nomination criteria given in the guidelines before filling up of the nomination)

1. Name: (full name in Block letters)
2. IAH Membership No-
3. Date of Birth
4. Mention one year when you became a member of IAH (during 2021-25)
5. Present Address with telephone/Fax/e-mail
 - a. Residential
 - b. Official
6. Field of specialization:
7. Academic Qualifications (Bachelor's Degree onwards) In case of PhD mention the title of the thesis

Sl No	Degree	Subjects taken	University	Year of Passing	Class/Percentage of marks
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8. Details of Employment/Professional experience with nature of duties:

Sl No	Period	Designation	Organization	Nature of duties
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9. Membership of the academic, scientific and professional bodies
10. Honours / Awards received (if any)
11. Contributions made

- a) Summarize the significant research/field research/applied research and achievements made so far (not exceeding 500 words):
- b) Assessment of the impact of the research done so far (in the form of citation, social impact etc):
- c) List of most significant publications (Maximum 10 along with one set of reprints/copies to be enclosed) :
- d) List of publications in peer-reviewed journals along with the impact factors:
- e) List of papers presented in Conferences /Symposia/ Seminars, etc.:
- f) List of the most outstanding Technical Reports/ Review/ Articles if any.
- g) Conversion of your idea/proposal into management plan, if any:
- h) Details of Books published, if any
- i) Details of Patents taken, if any:



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13. Any other additional information of relevance (very briefly within 100 words).

Declaration-

All the information and particulars given are enclosed along with this application and those are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of candidate



Indian National Chapter of International Association of Hydrogeologists (INC-IAH)

Nomination form for Best Post Graduate-Dissertation / Project Award - 2025

(Please read the selection and nomination criteria given in the guidelines before filling up of the nomination)

1. Name: (full name in Block letters)
2. IAH Membership No -
3. Date of birth:
4. Present Address with telephone/Fax/e-mail
 - a. Residential
 - b. Official

5. Field of specialization:

6. Academic Qualifications (Bachelor's Degree onwards)

Sl No	Degree	Subjects taken	University	Year of Passing	Class / Percentage of marks
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7. Membership of the academic, scientific and professional bodies

8. Honours / Awards received (if any)

9. Contributions made

- a) Brief Summary of the Dissertation/Project work in maximum 500 words
- b) Details of any published research article from the dissertation/project only.
- c) List of papers presented in Conferences / Symposia / Seminars, if any
- d) Any additional information of relevance (very briefly, 100 words).

Declaration-

All the information and particulars given are enclosed along with this application, and those are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of the candidate



Indian National Chapter of International Association of Hydrogeologists (INC-IAH)

Nomination form for Best PhD Thesis in Ground water / Hydrogeology - 2025

(Please read the selection and nomination criteria given in the guidelines before filling up of the nomination)

1. Name: (full name in Block letters)
2. IAH Membership No -
3. Date of birth:
4. Mention one year when you were a member of IAH(2021-25)
5. Present Address with telephone/Fax/e-mail
 - a. Residential
 - b. Official

6. Field of specialization:

7. Academic Qualifications (Bachelor's Degree onwards)

Sl No	Degree	Subjects taken	University	Year of Passing	Class / Percentage of marks
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8. Membership of the academic, scientific and professional bodies

9. Honours / Awards received (if any)

10. Contributions made

- a) Brief Summary of the PhD research carried out with key findings in a maximum 1000 words
- b) Details of published research article from the PhD work only (The article published in the Web of Science journal will be considered)
- c) List of papers presented in Conferences / Symposia / Seminars, if any
- d) Any additional information of relevance (very briefly, 100 words).

Declaration-

All the information and particulars given are enclosed along with this application and those are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of the candidate