



भा.कृ.अनु.प.-केन्द्रीय मृदा लवणता अनुसंधान संस्थान

ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute

जरीफा फार्म, काछ्वा रोड, करनाल-132001 (हरियाणा) भारत
Zarifa Farm, Kachhwa Road, Karnal-132001 (Haryana) India



ISO 9001 : 2015

डा. राजेन्द्र कुमार यादव

निदेशक

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F.No. A-16/Award/PME/2025

Dated: 16.01.2026

Sub: Call for applications 'ICAR-CSSRI Excellence Award on Soil Salinity'-2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

The ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (ICAR-CSSRI), Karnal invites applications for the '**ICAR-CSSRI Excellence Award on Soil Salinity-2025**' from eligible scientists, academicians, and extension professionals who have made significant and sustained contributions in the field of management of soil salinity and poor-quality water. The award is open to all Indian scientists and professionals working in relevant disciplines, who are below 62 years of age as on December 31, 2025. Detailed eligibility criteria, prescribed application format, and guidelines for submission are available on the institute's official website: <https://cssri.res.in>.

The award carries a cash prize of ₹15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Thousand only) along with a Scroll of Honour. The awardee will be entitled to travelling and daily allowance as per ICAR norms, if coming to attend the award presentation ceremony. The award shall be conferred during the Foundation Day celebrations of ICAR-CSSRI.

The completed application, duly supported with all required documents, may be submitted either by email (oicpmecssri@gmail.com) or by post addressed to:

Dr Rakesh Banyal
Principal Scientist and Officer In-Charge,
PME Cell, ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute,
Karnal – 132001, Haryana

The last date for receipt of applications is 16 February 2026 up to 5:30 pm. Applications received after the due date will not be considered. Applicants are advised to ensure that the application is complete in all respects and that the information furnished is correct and verifiable. Incomplete applications or those found to contain any misinformation at any stage shall be liable to be rejected summarily without any further correspondence.

This call may kindly be given wide circulation among ICAR institutes, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, other research institutions, universities, and other relevant organizations to encourage deserving candidates to apply.

With regards.



(R.K. Yadav)

GUIDELINES FOR THE ICAR-CSSRI EXCELLENCE AWARD

Name of the award:

The award is known as "**ICAR-CSSRI Excellence Award on Soil Salinity**". The award would be managed by the Prioritization, Monitoring and Evaluation (PME) Cell of the ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal.

Nature of Award and Eligibility:

Eligibility Criteria: The award is intended for active agricultural scientists, teachers, or extension workers who have demonstrated sustained and meritorious contributions in the field of soil salinity and poor-quality water management. Eligibility requirements are as follows:

- The applicant must hold a Ph.D. degree in a relevant field and have made significant contributions to the development of science and technology in reclaiming and managing salt-affected ecosystems.
- The applicant must have served for at least **five (5) years or more** as of **31st December 2025** (for the award year 2025) in the position of Principal Scientist, Professor, or equivalent in an organization involved in research, teaching, or extension work related to soil salinity, poor-quality water management, or other associated areas.
- The applicant must not have attained the age of **62 years** as of **31st December 2025** (for the award year 2025).
- The work carried out throughout the applicant's career as a researcher, teacher, or extension scientist will be considered for the award.
- Individuals who have previously received this award are not eligible to apply again.

Number of Awards:

One individual will be selected annually for this award. However, if the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) determines that no entry meets the outstanding criteria (minimum of 70 marks), the award will not be conferred for that year. In such cases, the award will lapse and will not be carried forward to subsequent years.

Application Procedure:

Applications will be invited by the PME Cell in consultation with the Director and will remain open for approximately one month. The announcement will be made on the institute's website (www.cssri.res.in) and communicated via email or letters to various organizations, specifying the last date for submission. Applicants must submit the duly filled application form, detailing their original contributions as per the prescribed proforma. The proforma can be downloaded from the website or requested via email (oicpmecssri@gmail.com). Completed applications should be forwarded through the competent authority (e.g., Directors of Institutes, Vice-Chancellors, Directors of Research, or Deans of universities), certifying the authenticity of the statements made. Applications should be addressed to **Officer-In-Charge (PME Cell), ICAR-CSSRI, Zarifa Farm, Kachwa Road, Karnal, Haryana-132001**.

Administration of the Award:

The Director will constitute a committee of three (3) experts, with the OIC (PME Cell) as the Member Secretary, to scrutinize the applications for eligibility and assign marks based on the documents attached.

All applications, along with the comments and marks assigned by the scrutinizing committee, will be submitted to the Institute's Research Advisory Committee (RAC). The Chairman of the RAC will convene a meeting to review the applications and recommend a suitable candidate for the award.

The application for the award can be downloaded from the institute's website (<https://cssri.res.in/downloads/>) or requested via email from the OIC (PME Cell) at [*oicpmeccsri@gmail.com*](mailto:oicpmeccsri@gmail.com).

Presentation of the Award:

The award winner will be formally notified by the PME Cell of ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal, well in advance. The award will be presented during the Institute's Foundation Day Ceremony. The award includes a Scroll of Honor and a cash prize of Rs. 15,000/- (Rupees fifteen thousand only). Travel and daily allowances will be provided as per ICAR-CSSRI rules.



ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute

Karnal, Haryana – 132001, India



Application Proforma for “ICAR-CSSRI Excellence Award”

1. Basic Details							
Name of the Applicant							
Date of Birth							
Age as on 31.12.2025 (attach proof of age)							
Gender (M/F)							
Designation							
Name of institute/university							
Complete address for correspondence							
Contact details		Mobile no.					
		Tel no.					
		E-mail address					
2. Educational qualification (Graduation onwards) (Please attach proof)							
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maximum marks – 5 (Ph.D.: 2 marks; M.Sc.: First division (2 marks), Second division (1 mark); B.Sc. : First division (2 marks), others (1 mark).							
Degree	University	Year	Subject	Percentage Marks/GPA	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
Total Marks under 2							

3. Position held (in chronological order)

S. No.	Designation	Organization	Period (From-To)		Nature of work	Pay Scale
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						

4. Provide a detailed explanation and justification for your suitability for this award (200 words).

5. Research publications (Maximum Marks – 40)

- *Attach 30 best research publications (Minimum 15 from salinity related fields + Maximum 15 from other than relevant field)*
- *Use current year's NAAS rating*
- *Please attach first page of the published article as proof for claiming marks*
- *First author / Corresponding author will get full marks, while Co-author will get 75% marks*
- *For journals with an impact factor but no NAAS rating, the NAAS rating will be calculated as 6 plus the impact factor.*
- *Detailed evaluation criteria given separately in S. No.2 of Guidelines for evaluation*

S. No.	Research Paper (Author(s) name, year of publication, title, journal, volume no. and page no.)	First author/ Corresponding author/co-author	NAAS Journal ID	NAAS Rating (current year)	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
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A) Best research publication related to soil salinity and water quality (minimum fifteen)

- Keywords such as salinity, sodicity, alkalinity, waterlogging and salt should be either in the title or in the abstract

1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							
6.							
7.							
8.							
9.							
10.							
11.							
12.							
13.							
14.							
15.							

Total Marks under 5a

B) Other relevant research publications (maximum fifteen only)

1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							
6.							
7.							
8.							
9.							
10.							
11.							
12.							
13.							
14.							
15.							
Total marks under 5b							
Cumulative total marks under (a) to (b)							
Score/marks obtained = [(Total NAAS of A + Total NAAS B) ÷ 10] × 1.33							

6. Technologies & Products (Maximum marks-20)

- *List 20 Best Products/Crop varieties/Technologies/Software/ Discoveries/Inventions/ Innovations/ patents/copyrights/technologies disseminated/ extension tools developed/policy papers /success stories in the field of soil salinity, water quality, and other related fields.*
- *Attach proof of certificate issued by the ICAR or Certificate issued by the Head of Institute/University along with proof of research paper of >7 NAAS rating or attach certificate issued by the concerned agencies for technology commercialization, patent granted and copyright or Proof of technology/variety adopted in package & practices by the state/centre govt. or attach proof of certificate issued by the state govt. or related agency for technology transfer and adoption.*
- *Research papers claimed in sections 5(A) & 5 (B) will not be considered in this section.*
- *At least 50% (minimum 10 marks) of the technologies must specifically address salinity, sodicity, or poor-quality water management. The remaining 50% (maximum 10 marks) can be from related fields.*
- *Detailed evaluation criteria given separately in S. No. 3 of Guidelines for evaluation.*

(A) Twenty Products/Technologies/Software etc. developed

S. No.	Name of Product/Variety/Technology/Software/extension tool etc. (as given above)	Developer, Co-developer or Associate	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					
12.					
13.					
14.					
15.					
16.					
17.					
18.					

19.				
20.				
Total marks under 6				

7. Books / Book Chapter / Manuals / Bulletins / Popular Article (Maximum marks-5)

- Please see S. No. 5 in the Guidelines for marks distribution

Books published

- Books with a minimum of 100 pages with Copyright/ISBN No., published by a reputed publisher or organization, will be considered
- Proof of book indicating author/editor information along with the total number of pages should be attached.
- First author / editor will get full marks; other Co-author will get 75% marks (for books only)

a) Books authored (Maximum marks-4)

S. No.	Books title along with authors, year of publication, ISBN no. and number of pages	First author/co-author	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
Total marks under a					

b) Books edited (Maximum marks 4)

S. No.	Books title along with authors, year of publication, ISBN no., and number of pages	First author/co-author	Proof on page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
Total marks under b					

c) Book Chapters (Maximum marks 2)

- Only book chapters published in books with Copyright/ISBN Nos., will be considered

S. No.	Title along with authors, year of publication and ISBN no.	Proof on page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
Total marks under c				

d) Popular articles (Maximum mark 1)

S. No.	Title along with authors, year of publication	Proof on page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
Total marks under d				

e) Manuals /Bulletins/Technical Article/Web article/State Level Status Reports/Contingent plan (Maximum marks-2)

S. No.	Title along with authors, year of publication	Proof on page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
Total marks under e				
Cumulative total marks under (a) to (e)				

8. Research/Teaching/Extension

- Maximum 15 marks
- Marks as per S. No.4 of Guidelines for evaluation

S. No.	(a) Research/extension project handled for minimum of two years duration (Maximum 10 marks)	PI/Co-PI	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
Total marks under a					
S. No.	(b) M.Sc./ Ph.D Student Guided as major guide (Maximum 10 marks)	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted	
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
Total marks under b					
S. No.	(c) Course taught as leader (Maximum 2 marks)	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted	
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
Total marks under c					
S. No.	(d) Externally funded Project handled (>10 lakh) – Maximum 6 marks	PI/Co-PI	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted

1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
Total marks under d				
Cumulative total marks under 8 (a) to (d)				

9. Awards & honours

- Please see Serial no.6 of guidelines for evaluation criteria
- Maximum marks-10

PART-A: National and International Awards and fellowships (Maximum Marks 10)

(a) National/International Awards of high repute such as Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award, Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award and Norman E. Borlaug Award (4 marks for each)

S. No.	Award details	National/ International Awards	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.					
2.					
3.					
Total marks under a					

(b) Fellowship of National Science Academies (NAAS, INSA, NASI, IAS, INAE) (4 marks for each)

S. No	Award details	Awarding Agency	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.					
2.					
3.					
Total marks under b					

(c) Awards by ICAR, CSIR, DST, DBT, NRDC, GOI Ministry etc. (2 marks for each)

S. No	Award details	Awarding Agency	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.					
2.					

3.					
	Total marks under c				
	Sub-total marks under 9 (a) to (c)				

PART –B: Other awards & honours (Maximum 2 marks)

(d) State Government / Institutional Awards / Young Scientist Award/ Fellowships of Professional Societies (1 mark for each)-Max. 2 marks

S. No	Award details	Awarding Agency	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.					
2.					
3.					
	Total marks under d				

(e) Best Teacher Award (1 marks for each) – Max 2 marks

S. No	Award details	Awarding Agency	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.					
2.					
3.					
	Total marks under e				

(f) Best Research Paper Award for the paper published in any Impact factor/ NAAS-rated Journal (0.5 mark for each) – Max 2 marks

S. No	Award details	Journal Name	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.					
2.					
3.					
	Total marks under f				

(g) Best Oral presentation / Poster Award in National and International Conference (0.25 marks each) – Max 1 marks

S. No	Award details	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.				
2.				
3.				

		Total marks under g		
(h) Chairman/member of state/national level committees, invited lecture, Keynote and Memorial lecture (1 mark for each event) – Max 2 marks				
S. No	Details	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.				
2.				
3.				
	Total marks under h			
(i) Subject matter expert/member outside institute. 0.25 mark for each event) – Max 1 marks				
S. No	Details	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.				
2.				
3.				
	Total marks under i			
	Sub- total marks under (d) to (i)			
PART-C: Services to the professional societies, journal editor and, coordinator of training programs etc. (Maximum 3 marks)				
(j) Organizing or co-organizing Secretary of National/International Conferences/Symposia/Workshops – (1.5 marks for each) – Max 3 marks				
S. No	Details	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.				
2.				
3.				
	Total marks under 9j			
(k) Session Chairman/Co-chairman in National/International Conferences/Symposia/Workshops (1 marks for each) – Max 2 marks				
S. No	Details	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.				
2.				
3.				

		Total marks under 9k		
(l) Director/Coordinator/co-coordinator of training program (1 marks for each 10-21days and 2 marks for each more than 20 days) – Max 2 marks				
S. No	Details	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.				
2.				
3.				
	Total marks under 9l			
(m) President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Chief Editor, Secretary, Joint Secretary each term of 2 years (1 mark each). Elected Members / Editor each term of 2 years (0.5 mark for each) – Max 2 marks				
S. No	Details	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.				
2.				
3.				
	Total marks under 9m			
	Subtotal marks under (j) to (m)			
	Cumulative marks under 9			

10. Leadership & Experience					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maximum marks-5 ● Marks as per S. No. 7 of guidelines 					
(a) Served as Head/Director /Dean or equivalent position in any organization / Institute (1 marks for each year) – Max 3 marks					
S. No.	Details	Period (no. of years)	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.					
2.					
3.					
	Total marks under a				
(b) Service as Professor and Principal scientist in ICAR Institute/ University / State Government Department etc. / Department in ICAR Institute/ University / State Government Department etc. (0.5 marks for each year after five years of service) – Max 2 marks					

S. No.	Details	Service after five years of service (in years)	Proof at page no.	Marks claimed	Marks allotted
1.					
2.					
3.					
Total marks under b					
Total marks claimed under (a) to (b)					
Grand total marks from S. No. 1 to 10					

(Authentic documentary proof should be enclosed with the application in support of the claim)

SELF-ASSESSMENT BY THE APPLICANT

S. No.	Sections	Maximum marks allotted	Marks claimed by the applicant
1.	Educational qualification	5	
2.	Research publications	40	
3.	Technologies & Products	20	
4.	Research/teaching/Extension	15	
5.	Books / Book Chapter / Manuals / Bulletins etc.	5	
6.	Awards & honours	10	
7.	Leadership & Experience	5	
	Total	100	

I hereby declare that the statements made in the application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date
Place

.....
Signature of the Applicant

.....
Forwarded by the Competent Authority/Head of the institution
(With official stamp)

Evaluation of application by the RAC members

S. No.	Sections	Maximum marks allocated	Marks allotted by the committee*	Marks allotted by the RAC members**
1.	Educational qualification	5		
2.	Research publications	40		
3.	Technologies & Products	20		
4.	Research/teaching/Extension	15		
5.	Books / Book Chapter / Manuals / Bulletins etc.	5		
6.	Awards & honours	10		
7.	Leadership & Experience	5		
	Total	100		

(*Institute level committee will verify the attached proof, while the **RAC members will check the genuineness and relevance of the proofs for granting the award).

Signatures of RAC members

Member 1

Member 2

Members 3

Members 4

Chairman

Kindly send one hard copy of the complete application through speed post or by hand (courier service to ICAR-CSSRI not available) to:

Dr. Rakesh Banyal
Principal Scientist & OIC (PME Cell)
ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute
Zariffa Farm, Kachhwa Road
Karnal-132001 (Haryana)
E-mail: [**oicpmecssri@gmail.com**](mailto:oicpmecssri@gmail.com)

Evaluation Proforma/Scorecard for CSSRI Excellence Award

(Minimum qualifying score: 70 Marks)

S.No.	Particulars	Max. Marks	Criteria
1.	Educational qualification (Maximum 5 marks) Wherever two qualifications have been clubbed, maximum marks obtained out of the two will only be considered i.e., either of +2 or matric	5	Ph.D. 2 marks M.Sc. First division 2 Marks Others 1 Marks B.Sc. First division 2 Marks Others 1 Marks
2.	Research papers published in peer-reviewed journals either in the relevant field (such as salinity, sodicity, alkalinity, and waterlogging) or other than relevant field along with their NAAS rating.		<p>Total NAAS rating of 30 (Minimum 15 from relevant field + Maximum 15 from other than relevant field) best papers $\text{Score} = [(\text{Total NAAS of Relevant Field Papers (15)} + \text{Total NAAS of Other Field Papers (15)}) \div 10] \times 1.33.$</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First author / Corresponding author will get full marks of NAAS rating, other Co-author will get 75% marks of NAAS rating Minimum 15 best papers in relevant field as mentioned will be considered for evaluation. Maximum 15 best papers from other than relevant fields will be considered for evaluation. For journals with an impact factor but no NAAS rating, the NAAS rating will be calculated as 6 plus impact factor.
3.	Technologies & Products in the field of soil salinity and other related fields a) Products/Technologies/Software/Discoveries/Inventions/ Innovations b) Crop variety Development c) Information Technology/Statistical Methodologies/ Value chain/Model Villages/ Innovative Extension Methodologies/ Policy Papers published d) Patents/Copy Rights	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 % (minimum 10 marks) of the technologies/products should be related to the salinity, sodicity, and/or poor-quality water management aspects. The remaining 50% (maximum 10 marks) can be from other related fields. Varieties released by CVRC/SVRC (CVRC: Developer – 4 marks; co-developer – 2 marks; SVRC Developer – 2.5 marks; co-developer – 1.5 marks). Products/Technologies/Software/Discoveries/Inventions/ Innovations/Model Villages/ New Extension Methodologies/ Policy Papers etc. (Developer/Lead – 2.5 marks; co-developer/Associate – 1.5 marks) Patent granted / Copyrights obtained (Developer – 2.5 marks; co-developer – 1.5 marks)

	e) New traits/ genes/germplasm/Species identified		marks). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New traits/germplasms/lines /genes identified – Registered with NBPGR and similar agency or published in a journal having NAAS rating >7.0 (0.25 marks for each).
4.	Research/Teaching/Extension	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research/extension project handled for a minimum two years of duration (1.5 mark for PI and 0.75 mark for Co-PI for each project) – Max 10 marks • Student Guided – Max 10 marks (PhD: Major guide - 1 mark for each; M.Sc.: Major guide - 0.5 mark for each) • Course taught as leader (0.5 marks per- course per semester)-Max 2 marks • External funded Project handled (>10 lakh) for minimum of two years duration (PI-1.5 marks; Co-PI -0.75 marks for each project)-Max 6 marks
5.	Books / Book Chapter / Manuals / Bulletins / Technical Article / popular article / State Level Status Reports / Contingent plan	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book authored with ISBN no. (2 marks for each Book) – Max 4 marks • Book edited with ISBN no. (1 mark for each Book) – Max 4 marks • First author / first editor will get full marks; other Co-author will get 75% marks • Book Chapter in book having ISBN no. (0.25 mark for each) – Max 2 marks • Popular/technical articles (0.10 mark for each) Max 1 mark • Other Publications: Manual / Bulletin /State Level Status Report/ Contingent Plan (0.5 marks for each publication)-Max 2 marks
6.	Awards and Honours/ Recognitions.	10	<p>National/ International Awards, Fellowships and honors (Max. 10 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National/International Awards of high repute such as Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award, Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award and Norman E. Borlaug Award -4 marks for each claim. • Fellowship of National Science Academies (NAAS, INSA, NASI, IAS, INAE)-4 marks for each claim. • Awards by ICAR, CSIR, DST, DBT, NRDC, GOI Ministry etc.-2 marks for each claim. <p>Other awards & honors (Max. 2 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Government/ Institutional Awards / Young Scientist Award/ Fellowships of Professional Societies (1 mark for each claim)- Max. 2 marks • Best Teacher Award (1 marks for each), – Max 2 marks

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Paper Award for the paper published in any Impact factor/NAAS rated Journal (0.5 mark for each) – Max 2 marks • Best Oral presentation / Poster Award in National and International Conference (0.25 marks each) – Max 1 marks • Chairman/member of state/national level committees, invited lecture, Keynote and Memorial lecture (1 mark for each event) – Max 2 marks • Subject matter expert/member outside institute (0.25 mark for each claim) – Max 1 marks
			<p>Recognitions (Max 3 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizing or co-organizing Secretary of National/International/Conferences/Symposia/ Workshops – (1.5 marks for each event) – Max 3 marks • Session Chairman/Co-chairman in National/International Conferences/Symposia/Workshops (1 marks for each) – Max 2 marks • Director/Coordinator/co-coordinator of training programme (1 marks each for 10 days and 2 marks each for more than 10 days) – Max 2 marks • President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Chief Editor, Secretary, Joint Secretary each term of 2 years (1 mark each). Elected Members / Editor each term of 2 years (0.5 mark) – Max 2 marks
7.	Leadership & experience	05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Served as Head/Director /Dean/or equivalent in any organization / Institute (1 marks for each year) – Max 3 marks • Five years of service as Professor/Principal scientist or equivalent in ICAR Institute/ University / State Government Department etc. (0.5 marks for each year of service over and above five years) – Max 2 marks
	Total	100	

(Authentic documentary proof should be enclosed with the application in support of the claim)