

DELHI LITERATURE FESTIVAL AWARDS 2026

Rules & Conditions

1. Applicability

These Rules and Conditions govern the Delhi Literature Festival Awards for the year 2026.

2. Nature of the Award

The Delhi Literature Festival Awards shall be presented in 2026 to books of high literary merit:

- Written originally in English or Hindi, or written in any other language and published in English or Hindi translation.

The Award shall be conferred upon the author of the winning book in each category and shall include:

- A trophy, and
- A certificate.

3. Eligibility Criteria

- To be eligible for consideration, a book must:
 - a) Have been first published in English or Hindi between 1 January 2025 and 31 December 2025 (both dates inclusive); or
 - b) Be a first English or Hindi translation published within the same period; and
 - c) Be available in print, commercially published and distributed.

4. Nominations

- Nominations may be submitted by authors, publishers, or literary agents.
- Participating in any form of canvassing will result in the immediate disqualification of the entry.

5. Entry Requirements

- Entries must be submitted through online registration.
- Each entry must include:
 - a) A non-refundable nomination fee of ₹2,500 per entry
 - b) A 2,000-word synopsis uploaded on the portal
 - c) Two physical copies of the book, delivered to the Delhi Literature Festival Awards – Delhi office

On line Synopsis must be received no later than January 14th , 2026 and physical copy by the January 22nd 2026 at M72 SAKET, NEW DELHI 110017

6. Non-Receipt of Books

- The Delhi Literature Festival Awards shall not be responsible for books that are lost, stolen, mislaid, or not received by 22nd January 2026.
- No extensions shall be granted under any circumstances.

7. Acceptance of Rules

Submission of a book as per Rule 5 shall be deemed:

- Formal entry of the book for the Award, and
- Full and unconditional acceptance of these Rules and Conditions by the publisher, author, and translator (if applicable).

8. Author Consent

Submission of a book shall be considered confirmation by the publisher that the author's consent has been obtained for nomination.

9. Judging Process

- The judging process shall comprise:
 - a) 50% Public Voting (open from 20 January to 27 January 2026), and
 - b) 50% Jury Evaluation.

- From all valid and eligible entries, the process shall:
 - a) Shortlist three finalists per category, and
 - b) Select one winning book per category, announced on the day of the Awards.

10. Attendance at Award Ceremony

- Finalists (authors/publishers/agents) are required to attend the Award Ceremony in Delhi, scheduled between 6 February and 8 February 2026 (dates to be confirmed).
- All travel and accommodation expenses shall be borne by the publisher of the shortlisted/winning book.

11. Signed Copies for Publicity

The publisher of the winning book must supply 10 signed copies for publicity purposes at the time of the winner announcement.

12. Public Relations Obligations

- All shortlisted authors/publishers/agents must make themselves available for promotional and PR activities, if requested.
- Winning authors must be available for media interactions, including interviews via video call, phone, or in person.

13. Award Event Participation

Finalists must be available for a full PR schedule and may be required to participate in Award-related events, including live interviews, during the festival dates 6–8 February 2026.

14. Confidentiality

All information regarding:

- Entries,
- Shortlists, and
- Winners

must remain strictly confidential until officially announced by the Delhi Literature Festival Awards.

15. Canvassing

Any form of canvassing before or after entry submission will result in disqualification.

16. Other Awards do not affect eligibility

A book shall not be disqualified for having been nominated, shortlisted, or awarded any other literary prize.

17. Reprints eligibility clause

Reprints are not eligible unless the book was originally published within the eligibility period specified in Rule 3.

18. Ownership of Submitted Copies

All submitted book copies shall become the property of the Delhi Literature Festival Awards and will not be returned.

19. Unsolicited Submissions

Books or manuscripts that are not formally nominated or officially requested will not be considered for the Awards and will not be returned.

20. Conflict of Interest

- A book shall be ineligible if the author or translator is:
 - a) A staff member of the Delhi Literature Festival Awards
 - b) A member of the Judging Panel
 - c) A parent, spouse, or child of any of the above
 - d) A staff member of the nominating library or its parent body

21. Eligibility Decisions

The decision of the Delhi Literature Festival Awards regarding eligibility shall be final and binding, with no correspondence entertained.

22. Judging Decisions

The decision of the Delhi Literature Festival Awards regarding winners shall be final and conclusive. No correspondence shall be entered into regarding the judging process.

23. Right to Amend

The Delhi Literature Festival Awards reserves the right to amend, defer, or discontinue the Awards or these Rules and Conditions at any time without prior notice.