

Department Circular: - 03/2024

All District Secretaries/Divisional Secretaries
Writers' Associations



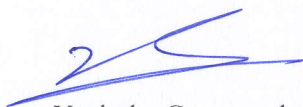
Department of Cultural Affairs
8th Floor, Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla.

PURCHASING OF BOOKS UNDER THE AUTHORS' AID PROJECT-2022/2023

The Department of Cultural Affairs implements a program for the year 2022/2023 to purchase books written under the following subject areas with the objective of encouraging amateur writers.

01. Subject Areas:
Novels, Short Stories, Children's Literature, Religious, Folklore, Music, Dancing, Dramaturgy, Cinema Works, Photography, Paintings, Mass Media/ Mass Communication, Academic Research Works, Literary Appreciations, Books on culture and arts, Books on various subjects, Poetry, History, Translations.
02. Books will be purchased on the recommendation of a Panel of Judges, appointed for the year 2022 and 2023.
03. Books will be purchased based on the marks given by the Panel of Judges and as per the provision allocated for the relevant year. Requests made by the writers whose books were rejected, to re-consider their books to be purchased will not be entertained for any reason.
04. The Panel of Judges specified under above 02 comprises members representing literati in Sinhala, Tamil and English languages.
05. The writers will be formally informed of the date on which the payments are made by the Department of Cultural Affairs and the relevant writer should be present himself/herself on the due date to collect their cheques and to place their signature on vouchers.
06. Criteria for selection of books
 - 6.1 Author publications or copies of the book given to the author as the "royalty" in case of books published by a publication institute, published during the period of 01st January to 31st December of the previous two years prior to the year of applying, will be purchased under this project. (The above facts should be proved by the writer in an affidavit and applications of those who fail to do so will be rejected).
 - 6.2 The book should be the first edition, should be bereft of any printing errors and the finishing of the book should have a good standard using at least GSM 80 papers in printing. (The book should be of prescribed standards as specified by the Educational Publications Advisory Board and Library Services Board. Books that do not meet those standards will be rejected.)
 - 6.3 As per the criteria given by UNESCO, children's literary works should have more than 16 pages and any other works should have more than 49 pages.

- 6.4 One author could submit 02 books, pertinent to the year 2022 and 2023 (One book per each year).
- 6.5 Articles, quarterly magazines or quarterly publications will not be entitled to receive aid under this program.
- 6.6 Standard grammatical rules and spellings should be followed in writing the book. Except in discussions and autobiographies, all other books should be published in written language.
- 6.7 No aid will be granted to the text books, books with questions and answers and children's work books.
07. Steps will be taken to purchase,
- Copies of value not exceeding Rs. 10,000 for children's literature and poetry collections.
 - Copies of value not exceeding Rs. 25,000 for books written on any of the subject areas specified in (01), except the books mentioned in above 07 a.
(Please note that the books are purchased subject to a 20% discount of the price of the book.)
 - You should mention the same name as mention in your bank account in the space provided in the application form to write the name which should be appeared on the cheque.
08. Further information could be obtained through paper notices, on www.culturaldept.gov.lk and from the Cultural Officers of the District/Divisional Secretariats. **Closing date for receiving applications is 31st March 2024.**
09. Three copies of the book together with the application should be sent by registered post or handed over to the Director, Department of Cultural Affairs, Literature and Publication Division, 8th Floor, Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla on week days from 8.30 am to 4.00 pm. "Authors' Aid Project- 2022/2023" should be clearly written on the top left-hand corner of the envelop enclosing the books and the application. The Department of Cultural Affairs will not be responsible for the delays in the post or any misplaces.
10. The decision of the Director of Cultural Affairs, which is based on Panel of Judges will be the final. When purchasing books from the selected applicants, books will be purchased including the three copies sent with the application. Books that were not recommended will be returned to the applicants.



Yasintha Gunawardena
Director of Cultural Affairs

