

Transparency International Sri Lanka  
**National Integrity Award 2010**  
*in commemoration of the United Nations Anti Corruption Day*

**Guidelines for Nomination**

**National Integrity Award**

The National Integrity Award is annually presented to an outstanding individual or an organization for demonstrating exceptional integrity in public engagement.

This is the seventh consecutive year that TISL will be honouring a public spirited Sri Lankan In recognition of anti-corruption initiatives.

Since its inception in 2004, the National Integrity Award has been won by nine persons with four being rewarded with a Special Mention for outstanding contributions. The winners include high ranking public officials, journalists, trade unionists and activists.

The awardees are identified through a highly competitive selection process by an independent panel of judges comprising of distinguished personalities whose decision shall be final.

**1) Eligibility criteria**

Nominees shall meet the following requirements;

- i. The nominees must have undertaken action/ actions that are likely to significantly combat, or have had a significant impact on, reducing and or working towards eliminating corruption in Sri Lanka. (Please refer annexure 01 on perceptions on corruption.)
- ii. The action/actions should preferably be initiatives that can be or have been used as models or best practices locally and/or in other parts of the world.
- iii. The action/actions must be pioneering innovative courageous and initiatives to combat and /or work towards eliminating corruption.
- iv. The action/actions should have been sustainable in reducing and or working towards eliminating corruption in Sri Lanka.
- v. Posthumous nominees will be considered

## 2) Ineligible Nominations

The following categories will **not** be considered by TISL for the National Integrity Award:

- i. Individuals or organizations with demonstrated conduct that is in conflict with values and principles of TISL. ( Please refer annexure 02 )
- ii. TISL Board of Directors, the Awards Committee and salaried staff of TISL.

(A past or current external working relationship or being part of any TISL initiated activity does not preclude an individual from being considered for the Award)

## 3) Nomination Procedure

- i. Nominations may be submitted by any person or organization in accordance with the stipulated guidelines. Self-nominations will not be entertained.
- ii. It shall not be open for members of the Award Committee or TISL itself to submit nominations.

(An applicant may seek assistance from TISL to facilitate preparation of an application or seek clarifications regarding applications.)

## 4) Nomination File

To be eligible for consideration, a nomination shall include the following:

- i. Personal details of the nominee, including a short biography and CV
- ii. A letter of support making the case for the specific nomination, including a proposed draft citation setting out in no more than 250 words the reason why such nominee should be considered for the Award.
- iii. A duly filled consent form signed by the nominee (Please use the consent form in annexure 03)

*In the case of posthumous nominees, the consent of immediate family members shall be mandatory or in the absence of immediate family, the consent of a relevant extended family member.*

- iv. Integrity Pledge signed by the nominee (Please use Integrity Pledge in annexure 04 )

***Incomplete nominations will not be considered by the Award Committee.***

## **5) Submission of Nominations**

To be considered for the Award, a completed nomination file (as per Guidelines 4) should be submitted by post/ e-mail to reach TISL on or before August 31, 2010 to the following address;

(Please see annexure 05 for Nomination Form)

National Integrity Award - 2010  
Transparency International Sri Lanka  
28/1, Buller's Lane,  
Colombo 07.

Tel: 011- 5627432

Fax: 011 - 2592287

Email: nia @tisrilanka.org

**The deadline for submission is August 31, 2010**

***Late nominations will not be considered by the Award Committee***

## **6) Award Committee.**

- i. TISL will appoint a minimum of three persons with demonstrated integrity and acceptance in society to be members of the Committee. The Committee thereafter selects a Chairperson or Co-chairpersons.
- ii. The Committee shall maintain the highest standards of integrity in the selection process.
- iii. The Executive Director and TISL shall assist the Committee by calling for nominations. In considering the nominations, the Committee may seek the assistance of TISL to verify the details relevant to any nomination or to acquire further material.

- iv. The decision of the Award Committee shall be final except where a future Committee considers withdrawal of an award under Guidelines 8 below.

## **7) Prerogatives of the Award Committee**

The Award Committee has the right:

- i. To annually review and modify the existing guidelines prior to calling for nominations.
- ii. To follow the guidelines currently in force and determine the procedure for evaluations.
- iii. Members of the Awards Committee will refrain from voting on a particular nomination when a conflict of interest may arise.
- iv. To request the nominator for additional information to be submitted in support of a specific nomination and to make such further enquiries as it deems fit and to decline to consider a nomination where the information provided is, in its opinion, insufficient.
- v. To organize, if necessary, a visit to the nominee's organization / locality to verify the accuracy of information submitted or to obtain additional information/ evidence as required.
- vi. To publish or disclose the shortlist of candidates.
- vii. To take all necessary steps to select the most suitable candidate (up to two persons / organizations) for the Award.
- viii. To refrain from making any Award if the nominations are not up to the required standard.
- ix. The Award Committee may, in addition to the two winners, recommend one for Special Mention.
- x. To withdraw an Award under Guidelines 8 below.

## **8. Withdrawal of an Award**

8.1 An Award Committee may withdraw an Award that had already been conferred, strictly on the following instances:

- (i) If it is discovered that a past winner had qualified for the Award after suppressing material facts relevant for the grant of the Award or
- (ii) if the winner's conduct could create embarrassment to TISL

8.2 However the Award Committee is required to gather all information necessary to decide on the matter and give a hearing to the relevant winner prior to reaching such decision.

8.3. In all such instances requiring a consideration of a withdrawal of a previous Award, the Executive Director of TISL is required to make such application to the Award Committee and the Award Committee shall give adequate reasons for such decision.

However, the Award Committee may, without assigning reasons, decline to consider an application for withdrawal.

### **9) Announcement of results**

The results (including that of a withdrawal of an Award) will be announced at the National Integrity Award Ceremony to be held on UN Anti-Corruption Day, December 9, 2010 at the B.M.I.C.H or any other venue as may be determined subsequently.

The Award Committee is under a duty to notify final decision to TISL at least 3 weeks prior to December 09, 2010.

## **Perceptions on Corruption**

There is no single, comprehensive and universally accepted definition of corruption. The word corruption has multiple meanings and is defined in different ways.

The working definition and the most accepted definition of the word corruption is: **abuse of entrusted power for personal gain.**

### **At which level does corruption happen:**

#### **Grand and petty corruption:**

Grand corruption pervades the highest levels of nation, leading to a broad erosion of confidence in good governance, the rule of law and economic stability among the public in the country.

Petty corruption can involve the exchange of very small amounts of money, the granting of minor favours by those seeking preferential treatment or the employment of friends and relatives in minor positions.

The most critical difference between grand corruption and petty corruption is that the former involves the distortion or corruption of the central functions of the state, while the latter develops and exists within the context of established systems and social frameworks.

### **Forms of Corruption**

#### **Bribery:**

Bribery is the bestowing of a benefit in order to unduly influence an action or decision. It can be initiated by a person who seeks or solicits bribes or by a person who offers and then pays bribes.

Bribery is possibly the most common form of corruption known. The “benefit” in bribery can be virtually any inducement: money and valuables, company shares, inside information, secular or other favours, entertainment, employment or indeed the mere promise of incentives.

**Embezzlement and fraud:**

Embezzlement involves the taking or conversion of money, property or valuable items by an individual who is not entitled to them but, by virtue of his or her position or employment, has access to them.

Fraud, however, consists of the use of false or misleading information to induce the owner of the property to relinquish it voluntarily.

**Extortion:**

Whereas bribery involves the use of payments or other positive incentives, extortion relies on coercion, such as the use of threat of violence or the exposure of damaging information to induce co-operation. As with other forms of corruption, the “victim” can be the public interest or individuals adversely affected by corrupt act or decision.

**Abuse of discretion:**

In some cases, corruption can involve the abuse of a discretion vested in an individual for personal gain. For example, an official responsible for government contracting may exercise the discretion to purchase goods or services from a company in which he or she holds a personal interest or propose real-estate developments that will increase the value of one’s personal property.

**Favoritism, nepotism and clientelism:**

Generally, favoritism nepotism and clientelism involve abuses of discretion. Such abuses, however, are governed not by the self-interest of an official but by the interests of someone linked to him or her through membership of a family, political party, tribe, religious or other group.

*Source: Abridged version - United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, The Global Program against Corruption, UN Anti-Corruption Tool Kit, Third Edition, Vienna, September 2004. "Combating Corruption" A Training Manual*

## **Part B**

### **Profiles of some of the past NIA winners**

#### **Thusitha Pitigala**

Producer of investigative feature 'Vimarshana' of Sirasa TV, Thusitha Pitigala dredged stories about large scale corrupt practices, miscarriage of justice, misdeeds of high officials, political interference and misuse of public property. He succeeded in preventing certain corrupt practices by being vigilant and promoting public officials to take timely action. His exposure of the National Blood Bank using outdated plasma kits created a stir throughout the country forcing the authorities to take action against errant officials.

#### **S K Liyanage**

Class 1 SLAS officer S K Liyanage was highly respected as an officer with honesty and integrity with an unblemished record spanning over 30 years. As a senior public official, he brought the Secretary to the President before the Supreme Court on certain arbitrary decisions taken by him and succeeded in getting those decisions corrected thereby setting an example to his colleagues.

#### **S C Mayadunne**

Auditor General Sarath Chandrasiri Mayadunne transformed a virtually defunct auditing service into a vibrant service that people could see and feel. He introduced a new Audit Bill, submitted an interim report to Parliament on happenings after the 2004 tsunami and a special audit report on the 3.6 billion rupee VAT scam.



### **Upananda Senarathne**

Director of Weights and Measures Upananda Senarathne challenged a politically motivated move to relocate the Department's laboratory amidst threats to his life. He took the issue to the Supreme Court and got a favourable decision. Angered by his action, he was removed from his post but he courageously fought on and was reinstated on an order by the Supreme Court.

### **Lalith Ambanwela**

Audit Superintendent Lalith Ambanwela ignored threats to his life and investigated into a fraud running into over Rs. 40 million in the Education Department. He lost sight in one eye following an acid attack. He is well respected as a public officer and his courage and commitment are celebrated by public spirited.

**TISL Values**

- ✓ Transparency
- ✓ Accountability
- ✓ Integrity
- ✓ Democracy
- ✓ Solidarity
- ✓ Justice and Equity
- ✓ Non partisanship
- ✓ Courage and Endurance

**TISL Principles**

- ✓ Empowerment
- ✓ Knowledge-led Activism
- ✓ Inclusion and Participation
- ✓ Proactive vigilance
- ✓ Fair play
- ✓ Non discrimination
- ✓ Recognizing and promoting Best Practices
- ✓ Set standards

Date

**Annexure 03**

National Integrity Award Committee  
National Integrity Award 2010  
C/) Transparency International Sri Lanka  
28/1, Buller's Lane  
Colombo 7.

Dear Members of the Award Committee,

**Letter of Consent**

This is to confirm that I/we have been informed that I am/we are being nominated for the National Integrity Award 2010 conferred by Transparency international Sri Lanka(TISL) and that I/ we have given my/our consent for such nomination.

I/we hereby authorize Transparency international Sri Lanka (TISL) to make public my /our nomination in the event that I am/we are shortlisted for the National integrity Award (NIA).

I/ we hereby authorize Transparency international Sri Lanka (TISL) to conduct private research on the merits of my/our nomination.

I/we accept that all nominations become the property of Transparency international Sri Lanka (TISL) and by submitting a nomination, Transparency international Sri Lanka (TISL) acquires the right to use the, voice and image of a nominee, without compensation, for the purpose of advertising and publicizing all matters related to the National Integrity Awards programme and the National Integrity Award ceremony in any medium, locally or worldwide.

As a nominee/s, I/we preclude Transparency International Sri Lanka (TISL) from collecting/storing or using any personal data for any other reason except the above without my/our knowledge and written consent. I /we authorize Transparency International Sri Lanka (TISL) to use my/our personal data for the specific purpose of evaluating the nomination by the National integrity Award Committee only.

In accordance with the Nomination Guidelines, I/we also wish to take the Integrity Pledge and undertake to uphold the highest values of integrity at all times.

Sincerely yours,

Signature:

Name:

Date:



Transparency International Sri Lanka

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Integrity Pledge  
I,  
.....  
with great determination  
pledge to live and serve  
as an honourable and incorruptible  
Sri Lankan  
with a deep sense  
of accountability, responsibility and  
transparency  
in my personal, professional and  
occupational life  
with the noble purpose of passing on  
to future generations  
a nation ennobled by Integrity,  
dedicating myself as a pioneer in  
upholding democratic values,  
human rights and duties  
unsullied by forces that  
impede human and national progress

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நேர்மைத்திறன் சத்தியப் பிரமாணம்  
நான்  
.....  
நேர்மைத்திறன் மிகு தேசமொன்றை  
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நோக்குடன் ஜனநாயக ரீதியான  
பெறுமானங்களையும் உரிமைகளையும்  
கடப்பாடுகளையும் பாதுகாப்பதற்கு  
முன்னோடியாக  
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மாணுதத்திற்கும்  
நாட்டின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்கும் எதிரான  
எந்தவொரு ஆதிக்க சக்திக்கு  
அடிபணியாமல்  
தனிப்பட்ட வாழ்விலும் தொழில் வாழ்விலும்  
சிறந்த வெளிப்படாத தன்மையுடனும்  
பொறுப்புணர்வுடனும்  
அர்ப்பணிப்புக் கண்ணோட்டத்தடனும்  
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வாழ்வேன் எனவும் சேவையாற்றுவேன்  
எனவும்  
திடசங்கற்பம் பூண்டு  
உறுதிமொழி பகர்கின்றேன்.

Signature:  
Name :  
Date :

**Nomination Form**

1. Name of nominee:
2. Name and contact details of person/s or organization submitting the nomination
3. Explain in detail why, in your view, this nominee should receive the TISL Integrity Award. (Please refer 4(ii) of Guidelines).

***Citation should be in accordance with the format provided below***

- i. Prevention of an incident of corruption
  - ii. Creating a precedence to prevent corruption in the future
  - iii. Overcoming formidable challenges that appear strong and difficult to overcome for a person holding such position
  - iv. Whether the effort is by an individual or an organization
  - v. whether it is the effective use of an existing frame work to fight corruption or an innovative effort
  - vi. The extent of impact this effort/activity may have on
    - a) The organization
    - b) Local community
    - c) Nation
    - d) International arena
  - vii. Is the nomination is about a person whose effort creates an impact beyond his/her sphere/responsibility
  - viii. Or exceptional leveraging of the opportunity provided by the position/occupation he/she holds
  - ix. Did the person make any economic, personal, physical, social, professional, sacrifices to achieve positive impact
  - x. Does the activity create new bench marks or best practices
4. Details in relation to any nomination or selection of the nominee for TISL award or any other award of national level

5. Disclosures

- Has the nominee been convicted of a criminal charge or statutory offence relevant to his / her/ Institutional integrity
- Any pending disciplinary or criminal (no civil) proceedings against (in relation) the nominee
- If so, details of the above

***TISL reserves the right to determine any matter relating to the Awards and the decision of the Award Committee is final and conclusive.***

**Order of Nomination File:**

- Nomination Form
- A short Curriculum Vitae of the candidate / organization ( Please refer 4(i) of Guidelines)
- Reasons for Nomination / as per 3 above a short citation of their work and accomplishments (Please refer 4(ii) of Guidelines)
- Consent in writing of the nominee with his/her signature (Please refer 4(iii) of Guidelines)

In the case of posthumous nominees, the consent of immediate family is required. In the absence of immediate family, the consent of an extended family member is mandatory.

- Integrity Pledge signed by the nominee(Please refer 4(iv) of Guidelines)

Optional details/documents:

- Press clippings
- Additional background documentation
- Recordings of radio/television interviews
- Any other relevant documents supporting the nomination
- Any non- related referees