



Capt. Brijesh Thapa

DWS Outstanding Achievement Award

★ **2026 – Second Edition** ★

Organised By
Darjeeling Welfare Society (DWS)

Under the Guidance of

HARSH VARDHAN SHRINGLA

Member of Parliament (RS),
President, DWS



www.darjeelingwelfaresociety.com

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Darjeeling Welfare Society (DWS) instituted the Capt. Brijesh Thapa DWS Outstanding Achievement Award in memory and honour of Capt. Brijesh Thapa. He was a valiant soldier and an exemplary officer with courage, conviction, and the true spirit of patriotism. At the age of 27, he was martyred in counter-insurgency operation in Jammu & Kashmir. Capt. Thapa's life exemplifies selfless service and an enduring commitment to the progress of the Darjeeling Hills and the Gorkha community.

The Award recognises exceptional youth from the Darjeeling Hills who have demonstrated outstanding achievement, dedication, character and meaningful impact in their chosen field. It also aims to inspire future generations to pursue excellence and contribute positively to society.

THE FIRST EDITION

The first Capt. Brijesh Thapa DWS Outstanding Achievement Awards were presented by Col BK Thapa, father of Capt Brijesh Thapa at Darjeeling on 30 June, 2025. The first recipients were:



Ms. Zojila Dolkar Bhutia, IFS



Ms. Prativa Lama, IFS



Ms. Pratima Rai, Everester, 2025

PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

- » To recognise exceptionally deserving youth from the Darjeeling Hills who have demonstrated distinction in their chosen field.
- » To celebrate achievements of young people who bring pride and positive recognition to the Darjeeling Hills and the Gorkha community
- » To create a lasting platform of recognition that motivates young people and future generations to pursue excellence

THE AWARD COMPRISES



Cash prize- ₹1,00,000

Presented to the selected recipient in the recipient's name.



DWS Medallion

A specially minted medallion bearing the DWS emblem and commemorating Capt. Brijesh Thapa.



Certificate of Honour

A formally signed and sealed certificate recognising the recipient's achievement and the Award year.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for the Capt. Brijesh Thapa DWS Outstanding Achievement Award 2026, the nominee must fulfil the following conditions:



Age – The nominee must have been born between 1 January 1985 and 31 December 2008, making them 18 to 40 years of age in the 2026 Award year. Age criteria may be exempted under special consideration, as provided under the Award guidelines.



Permanent Residency – The nominee must have permanent residency in the Darjeeling Hills region, comprising Darjeeling, Kalimpong and areas historically and culturally recognised as part of the Darjeeling Hills. Current residence elsewhere in India or abroad does not disqualify a nominee, provided permanent residency is documented.



Community Relevance – The nominee's achievement should bring recognition and pride to the Darjeeling Hills and the Gorkha community. Achievements should demonstrate meaningful excellence, contribution or impact beyond purely personal or commercial success.

FIELDS OF ACHIEVEMENT



Academics & Research – Academic distinction, research, patents, doctoral achievements and recognised fellowships.



Competitive Examinations – UPSC Civil Services, State PSC, Defence Services, Judicial Services, SSC, Banking, Railways and any other recognised competitive qualifications.



Sports – Outstanding achievements and representation at national or international levels.



Culture & Arts – Music, visual arts, literature, dance, theatre, cinema, crafts and other recognised cultural achievements.



Environment – Environmental conservation, climate action, ecological initiatives and related research.



Social Work & Humanitarian Service – Sustained and verifiable service benefiting communities and humanitarian initiatives.



Entrepreneurship & Innovation – Enterprises creating employment or economic upliftment, and technology or social innovations with measurable impact.



Other Fields – Exceptional achievements in other fields may also be considered.

WHO CAN NOMINATE?

Community organisations, registered NGOs, educational institutions or sporting bodies operating within the Darjeeling Hills.

Any individual resident of the Darjeeling Hills may nominate a candidate other than themselves.

The Jury may also nominate candidates.

JURY BOARD

The Award will be considered by a Jury comprising of four eminent representatives from the Darjeeling Hills. The Jury is intended to bring credibility, independence and informed assessment to the Award process.

The names and professional profiles of the Jury members will be included in the public-facing Award material to establish transparency and credibility.

Jury members will consider eligible nominations in accordance with the Award's established criteria and guidelines.



Dr. Gambhir Singh Yonzon

Padma Shri Awardee
(2026) - Chairman



Dr. Anuradha Rai

Principal, Southfield
College - Member



Shri Penden Tshering

Former Additional Secretary,
Government of India -
Member Secretary



Puskar Gurung

International Men's Physique
Athlete & Certified Professional
Fitness Coach

SELECTION PROCESS

Nominations will be reviewed against the prescribed eligibility criteria and Award guidelines. Supporting information may be verified as part of the process. Eligible nominations will then be considered by the Jury before the final selection is made.

FINAL SELECTION

The final selection will be made in accordance with the Award framework. The decision of the competent final selection authority, based on the Jury's recommendations and the established guidelines, shall be final and binding.

Selection is based on merit, documented achievement, impact and character. Submission of a nomination does not guarantee selection.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS



All nominations and selections are subject to the eligibility requirements, criteria, terms and conditions of the Capt. Brijesh Thapa DWS Outstanding Achievement Award 2026.



DWS reserves the right to verify information, achievements and supporting documents submitted with a nomination.



Providing false or misleading information may result in disqualification.



The submission of a nomination does not create any right or entitlement to receive the Award.



The decision of the competent Award authority regarding selection shall be final.

CELEBRATING THE SPIRIT OF THE HILLS

This Award is more than a recognition of individual achievement. It is an initiative to celebrate youth with excellence from the Darjeeling Hills, inspiring people to pursue their aspirations, and showcase stories of dedication, courage, service and achievement.



NOMINATE A DESERVING ACHIEVER

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★ **2026** ★



NOMINATE NOW

Darjeeling Welfare Society (DWS)

For more details, visit www.darjeelingwelfaresociety.com