Charkha, in partnership with The Human Capability Foundation, announces The Sanjoy Ghose Media Awards for the year 2020. Aimed at celebrating the work done by journalists in highlighting the struggles of women in our country, we invite journalists who have made an outstanding contribution to the reporting of humanitarian and development issues during the past year to participate in these awards.

The awards support the pursuit of in-depth, well researched articles on humanitarian and development work. Based on evidence both qualitative and quantitative, the articles should be strong enough to influence public policy and stir the social conscience of people. The articles should be written with the objective of bringing change in the society.

Inspired by Charkha’s founder, Sanjoy Ghose, who worked towards the social and economic inclusion of rural marginalized communities through the creative use of media, these awards are an opportunity for writers to delve into the challenges faced by rural women belonging to disadvantaged communities in particular. These writings should bring attention to the struggles and success of women which largely remain missing from the media.

Applicants will have the option to choose a specific theme from the following five categories and submit a detailed proposal.

1. Challenges Faced by Adolescent Girls in Rural India
2. Violence Against Women
3. Maternal Health Care in Rural India
4. Role of Women in Decision Making at the Village / Tehsil / Block / District levels.
5. Migration of Women from Rural India to Urban India

Five awards will be given, one each under these themes.

Entries will be judged by an independent panel of experts. Each award will carry a certification and a cash prize of INR 50,000/- (The amount will be subject to Income Tax laws). Each awardee will be expected to generate 5 (Five) well researched articles which will be acceptable in English, Hindi or Urdu along with good quality photographs during a period of 5 months from the date of announcement of the awards.
OBJECTIVES
- To create greater awareness.
- To strengthen public opinion regarding the need to take positive measures to support people centered development.
- To facilitate a process of sensitization to humanitarian and development issues amongst media professionals.
- To promote effective communication that draws attention to development concerns, and
- To facilitate a more informed development policy dialogue.

JUDGING PROCESS
Once a submission has been received, the following judging process will be followed:
- The judging panel will review all submissions.
- The judges will shortlist five submissions - one against each category.
- The judges uphold the integrity and reputation of The Sanjoy Ghose Awards and, as such, reserve the right to disqualify any piece of work if, in the judges' opinion, there exists reasonable doubt about the integrity of the finalists.
- The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
- Journalists from small and regional language publications and non-metro areas are encouraged to apply. All articles must be generated from India only.
- Women journalists are particularly welcome.
- Applicants must have demonstrated commitment to the development concerns of the less privileged in society through their previous work.
- These awards are open to all Charkha trained writers.
- The candidates should have a demonstrated commitment to a career in journalism and should have covered the issue in the past.
- Previous Charkha Fellows and writers currently availing benefits of any other fellowship or a similar scheme of financial assistance are not eligible to apply.
APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Applications for the Award Programme can be submitted in English or Hindi. Applicants must include the following in their submissions:

- Brief curriculum vitae with details of work experience, educational qualifications and awards and fellowships held in the past three years.
- A proposal of approximately 800 words, which will outline the particular thematic area in which the applicant would like to work. This should include details regarding the specific geographical location of the study, methodology, the relevance of the theme selected as well as the impact expected from these articles. Also, mention the contribution it can make to the larger development debate in the country. Please also specify the language of communication.
- Clippings of 2 articles must be sent along with the application. One recent, (published during the last two month’s) and one other article of the applicant’s choice.
- Two references with contact details. Letter from editor / head of organization, approving the candidate’s application
- Freelance journalists should include two letters of recommendation from editors or media personalities familiar with their work.
- All applications must be typed. Handwritten and in complete applications will not be considered.
- All articles will be published only after being approved by the editorial team at Charkha.

Last date for receiving applications will be 15th October 2020. Further details are available at www.charkha.org. Applications to be sent by email to mario@charkha.org with the Subject: ‘Application for Sanjoy Ghose Media Award 2020’; contact Mario Noronha at 07042293792.

ONLY SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTACTED.