The Astronomical Society of India has instituted a fund in the memory of Professor M. K. Vainu Bappu with the objectives to promote knowledge of Astronomy and Astrophysics and honour the contributions made by young scientists, normally not beyond 35 years of age, from any part of the world, in the field of astronomy and astrophysics. As a token of appreciation of the scientist's contribution to astronomy and astrophysics, the Astronomical Society of India awards the Professor M.K. Vainu Bappu Gold Medal and a citation. The award is given at intervals of two years.

The recipient of the medal shall be required to deliver the Vainu Bappu memorial lecture at a meeting of the Society. Partial support for the recipient's travel to the venue of the meeting and full local hospitality during the period of the meeting will be provided by the Society.

Young astronomers with exceptional achievements and promise are eligible for the award. The scientific achievements may be in any branch of astronomy, astrophysics and related fields. There are no restrictions on the nationality.

Nominations for the 2018 award are invited. Work done prior to 31 December 2017 only will be considered. The nomination may be made in the following format:

1. Name
2. Affiliation
3. Address for correspondence
4. Date of birth
5. Academic qualifications
6. Major scientific achievements on which the nomination is based
7. List of publications
8. Reprints relevant to the recommendation
9. Citations of relevance
10. Any other information pertaining to the scientific excellence of the nominee
11. Name and designation of the proposer along with the address for correspondence
12. Signature of the proposer with date

The nominations may be made by heads of institutions, directors of observatories, heads of departments or senior scientists. Each nomination, including all the supporting documents, should be submitted by email to the secretary of the society (secretary at astron-soc dot in) by 30.11.2018. A list of previous awardees is available at https://astron-soc.in/vainu_bappu