

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1105**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13TH DECEMBER, 2022/AGRAHAYANA 22, 1944
(SAKA)**

CRITERIA FOR BHARAT RATNA AWARDS

†1105. SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any set criteria for conferring 'Bharat Ratna' the highest award in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the date on which the above said award was started and the names of citizens honoured with above awards so far, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to confer the country's highest award 'Bharat Ratna' upon the brave and revolutionary martyrs Shri Bhagat Singh, Shri Rajguru and Shri Sukhdev for awakening the spirit of revolution for the country's freedom and taking to the gallows happily and not bowing before the British without writing an apology to them; and

(d) if so, the time by which they are likely to be awarded and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) to (d): Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian Award of the country was instituted on 2nd January, 1954. All persons without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex are eligible for this Award. It is awarded in recognition of exceptional service/performance of the highest order in any field of human endeavour. The decisions regarding award of Bharat Ratna are taken from time to time. No formal recommendations for this Award are necessary. A list of recipients of Bharat Ratna (year-wise) is at Annexure.

LIST OF RECIPIENTS OF BHARAT RATNA

S. No.	NAME	AWARDED IN
1.	Shri Chakravarti Rajagopalachari (1878-1972)	1954
2.	Shri Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan (1888-1975)	1954
3.	Shri Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman (1888-1970)	1954
4.	Dr. Bhagwan Das (1869-1958)	1955
5.	Shri Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya (1861-1962)	1955
6.	Shri Jawaharlal Nehru (1889 -1964)	1955
7.	Shri Govind Ballabh Pant (1887-1961)	1957
8.	Dr. Dhondo Keshav Karve (1858-1962)	1958
9.	Shri Bidhan Chandra Roy (1882-1962)	1961
10.	Shri Purushottam Das Tandon (1882-1962)	1961
11.	Dr. Rajendra Prasad (1884-1963)	1962
12.	Dr. Zakir Husain (1897-1969)	1963
13.	Dr. Pandurang Vaman Kane (1880-1972)	1963
14.	Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri (Posthumous) (1904-1966)	1966
15.	Smt. Indira Gandhi (1917-1984)	1971
16.	Shri Varahagiri Venkata Giri (1894-1980)	1975
17.	Shri Kumaraswamy Kamraj (Posthumous) (1903-1975)	1976
18.	Mother Mary Teresa Bojaxhiu (Mother Teresa) (1910-1997)	1980
19.	Acharya Vinoba Bhave (Posthumous) (1895-1982)	1983
20.	Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan (1890-1988)	1987
21.	Shri Manidur Gopalan Ramachandran (Posthumous) (1917-1987)	1988
22.	Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar (Posthumous) (1891-1956)	1990
23.	Dr. Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela (1918-2013)	1990
24.	Shri Morarji Ranchhodji Desai (1896-1995)	1991
25.	Shri Rajiv Gandhi (Posthumous) (1944-1991)	1991

26.	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (Posthumous) (1875-1950)	1991
27.	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (Posthumous) (1888-1958)	1992
28.	Shri Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhai Tata (1904-1993)	1992
29.	Shri Satyajit Ray (Posthumous) (1922-1992)	1992
30.	Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda (Posthumous) (1898-1998)	1997
31.	Smt. Aruna Asaf Ali (Posthumous) (1909-1996)	1997
32.	Dr. Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam (1931-2015)	1997
33.	Smt. Madurai Shanmukhavadiyu Subbulakshmi (1916-2005)	1998
34.	Shri Chidambaram Subramaniam (1910-2000)	1998
35.	Shri Jayaprakash Narayan (Posthumous) (1902-1979)	1999
36.	Professor Amartya Sen (b-1933)	1999
37.	Shri Gopinath Bordoloi (Posthumous) (1890-1950)	1999
38.	Pandit Ravi Shankar (1920-2012)	1999
39.	Ms. Lata Dinanath Mangeshkar (1929-2022)	2001
40.	Ustad Bismillah Khan (1916-2006)	2001
41.	Pandit Bhimsen Gururaj Joshi (1922-2011)	2009
42.	Prof. Chintamani Nagesa Ramachandra Rao (b-1934)	2014
43.	Shri Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar (b-1973)	2014
44.	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee (1924-2018)	2015
45.	Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya (Posthumous)(1861-1946)	2015
46.	Shri Nanaji Deshmukh (Posthumous)(1916-2010)	2019
47.	Dr. Bhupendra Kumar Hazarika (Posthumous)(1926-2011)	2019
48.	Shri Pranab Mukherjee (1935-2020)	2019
