Pranab Mukherjee

He was an Indian politician who served as the President of India from 2012 until 2017. He was a politician and a social activist from India. He worked in the fields of education, health, and rural self-reliance.

Nanaji Deshmukh

He was a politician and a social activist from India. He worked in the fields of education, health, and rural self-reliance. He established Chitarkoot Gramodya Vishwavidyalaya in Chitrakoot, India’s first rural university and was its first Chancellor.

Bhupen Hazarika

He was an Indian singer, poet, musician, and film-maker from Assam. He was popularly known as the ‘Bard of Brahmaputra’.

About Bharat Ratna

Bharat Ratna is the highest civilian award of the country and was instituted in the year 1954. The Award does not carry any monetary grant.

About Padma Awards

The awards are announced on the occasion of Republic Day every year. The recommendations for Bharat Ratna are made by the Prime Minister himself. No formal recommendations for this are necessary. The number of annual awards is restricted to a maximum of three in a particular year. It is not mandatory for the government to announce the award each year.

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Padma Shri

There are two Non-Indian Bharat Ratna winners, Khan Abdul Ghaffar (Pakistan National) & Nelson Mandela (former president of South Africa). These are among the highest civilian Awards of the country.

The Awards are given in:

1. Three categories: Padma Vibhushan (for exceptional and distinguished service), Padma Bhushan (distinguished service of higher order) and Padma Shri (distinguished service).

2. Three categories: Padma Vibhushan (for exceptional and distinguished service), Padma Bhushan (distinguished service of higher order) and Padma Shri (distinguished service).

All nominations received for Padma Awards are placed before the Padma Awards Committee (headed by the Cabinet Secretary) which is constituted by the Prime Minister every year.

In terms of Article 18 of the Constitution, the award cannot be used as a prefix or suffix to the recipient’s name.

The awards are announced on the occasion of Republic Day every year.