



# Padma Awards 2021

## Why in News

Recently, the **Padma Awards for the year 2021** were announced on the occasion of **72<sup>nd</sup> Republic Day**.

## Key Points

- **Awardees (2021):**
  - A total of **119 Padma awards** will be conferred, including **7 padma vibhushan, 10 padma bhushan** and **102 padma shri**.
  - **Few Padma Vibhushan Awardees (out of 7)**
    - **Shri Shinzo Abe** (Japan), **Shri S P Balasubramaniam** (Posthumous), **Dr. Belle Monappa Hegde** (Medicine), **Shri Sudarshan Sahoo** (Art), etc.
  - **Few Padma Bhushan Awardees (out of 10)**
    - **Ms. Krishnan Nair Shantakumari Chithra, Shri Tarun Gogoi, Ms. Sumitra Mahajan, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan**, etc.
  - **Few Padma Shri Awardees (out of 102)**
    - **Shri Gulfam Ahmed** (Art), **Ms. P. Anitha** (Sports), **Shri Rama Swamy Annavarapu** (Art), etc.
- **Background:**
  - The Padma Awards are announced annually on the **Republic Day** (26<sup>th</sup> January).
  - Instituted in **1954**, it is **one of the highest civilian honours** of India.
- **Objective:**
  - The Award seeks to recognize achievements in all fields of activities or disciplines where an **element of public service is involved**.
- **Categories:**
  - The Awards are given in three categories:
    - **Padma Vibhushan** (for exceptional and distinguished service),
    - **Padma Bhushan** (distinguished service of higher-order) and
    - **Padma Shri** (distinguished service).
  - **Padma Vibhushan is highest in the hierarchy of Padma Awards** followed by Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri.
- **Disciplines:**
  - The Awards are given in various disciplines/ fields of activities, viz.- **art, social work, public affairs, science and engineering, trade and industry, medicine, literature and education, sports, civil service** etc.
- **Selection Process:**

- **Padma Awards Committee:** The Awards are conferred on the recommendations made by the Padma Awards Committee, which is constituted by the Prime Minister every year.
- **Awarded by President:** The awards are presented by the President of India usually in the month of March/April every year.

### **Bharat Ratna**

- **Bharat Ratna is the highest civilian award of the country.**
- It is awarded in recognition of exceptional service/performance of the **highest order in any field of human endeavour.**
- It is treated on a different footing from Padma Award. The recommendations for Bharat Ratna are **made by the Prime Minister to the President of India.**
- The number of Bharat Ratna Awards is restricted to a **maximum of three** in a particular year.

**[Source: IE](#)**

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