

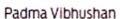
2021 Padma Awards

Why in News

Recently, the <u>President</u> of India presented the **Padma awards** to 119 recipients for the year 2021 at **Rashtrapati Bhavan**.

■ The list comprises 7 Padma Vibhushans, 10 Padma Bhushans and 102 Padma Shri awards.







Padma Bhushan



Padma Shri

Key Points

About:

- The Padma Awards are announced annually on Republic Day (26th January).
- It was instituted in 1954, except for brief interruption (suspended) during the years 1978 and 1979 and 1993 to 1997.
- It is one of the highest civilian honours of India. A higher category of Padma award can be conferred on a person only where a period of at least five years has elapsed since conferment of the earlier Padma award.

Objective:

• It 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.

The Vision

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. No formal recommendations for Bharat Ratna are necessary.
- The number of Bharat Ratna Awards is **restricted to a maximum of three** in a particular year. Government has conferred Bharat Ratna Award on 45 persons till date.

Source: IE

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