



Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award

Why in News

For the first time **five sports persons** will be receiving the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna on the occasion of the **National Sports Day on 29th August**.

NATIONAL SPORTS AWARDS 2020

RAJIV GANDHI KHEL RATNA AWARD

Name of the Sportsperson	Discipline
Shri Rohit Sharma	Cricket
Shri Mariyappan T.	Para Athletics
Ms. Manika Batra	Table Tennis
Ms. Vinesh	Wrestling
Ms. Rani	Hockey

Key Points

- **27 sports persons** have also been finalised for the **Arjuna Award** while **five coaches** will receive the **Dronacharya Award**.
- **Ms. Rani** will become only the **third Indian hockey player** after Dhanraj Pillay and Sardar Singh to receive the Khel Ratna.
- **Shri Mariyappan T.** is the **only third Indian para-athlete** to be awarded the Khel Ratna award, after former Paralympic medallists Devendra Jhajharia and Deepa Malik.
- Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award is the **highest sporting award** given by the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** for the spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sports person over a **period of four years**.
 - The award comprises a **medallion, a certificate, and a cash prize of Rs 7.5 lakh**.
- The **National Sports Day** is observed every year across India on **29th August** to mark the birth anniversary of the legendary hockey player Dhyan Chand who was born on **29th August 1905**.

[Source: PIB](#)

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