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Title: Regarding conferring of Bharat Ratna Award on Veer Savarkar, Mahatma Phule and Savitribai Phule-laid.

**SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL (JALGAON):**

Maharashtra is known to be the land of revolutionaries and reformers such as Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, Mahatma Phule & Jyotiba Phule. Veer Savarkar was a freedom fighter, politician, lawyer, social reformer and formulator of the philosophy of Hindutva. Mahatma Phule & Savitribai Phule were social reformers who fought against the caste system, untouchability and found the Satyashodhak Samaj in 1873 to seek equal rights for people from marginalized section of the society. They are credited with launching the first school for girls in Bhidewada, Pune in 1848, with Savitribai as its first teacher. These reformers have played a big role in our Independence movement along with fighting for the cause of equality, education & Hindutva. I request the Government that in order to recognize their contribution to our country, Veer Savarkar, Mahatma Phule & Savitribai Phule should be posthumously conferred with the highest civilian honour, Bharat Ratna which will be a tribute to their valiant efforts and sacrifice for our nation. It will also inspire the future generation.