

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:288
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013
PADMA AWARDS
M.Thambidurai Dr.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the norms/criteria being followed for selection of nominees for Padma Awards;
- (b) whether there are reports of favouritism in awarding Padma Awards and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether a few eminent personalities have rejected the Awards given to them;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year along with the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure transparency in the selection process of Padma Awards?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b): Padma Awards are given for exceptional/ distinguished service in various disciplines/ fields. In terms of extant procedures /guidelines regulating Padma Awards, nominations for the awards are open to all. Besides inviting nominations from institutional sources like State Governments/UT Administrations, Central Ministries/ departments, Institutes of Excellence and Bharat

Ratna and Padma Vibhushan awardees, a large number of recommendations are also received from various other sources like Governors, Chief Ministers, Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament, Private institutions/bodies and individuals, etc. All nominations/ recommendations received in the Ministry by the due date are placed before the Padma Awards Committee headed by the Cabinet Secretary for its consideration. The Padma Awards Committee scrutinizes all nominations and submits its recommendations after due verification of the credentials to the Home Minister, Prime Minister and the President for approval.

(c) & (d): No, Madam. There have been no cases of rejection of award after conferment by the President of India during the last three years. Padma Award for the current year has not been conferred so far.

(e): The current process of selection for the Padma Awards is transparent enough as outlined in answer to (a) to (b) above and no further changes are contemplated in the selection process.