

BHARAT RATNA

भारत रत्न

WHY IN NEWS?

Pranab Mukherjee

Nanaji Deshmukh (posthumously)

Bhupen Hazarika (posthumously) were awarded Bharat Ratna.

ABOUT THE WINNERS

PRANAB MUKHERJEE



He is an Indian politician who served as the **13th** President of India from **2012** until **2017**.

NANAJI DESHMUKH



He was a politician and a social activist from India. He worked in the fields of education, health, and rural self-reliance.



He established **Chitarkoot Gramodya Vishwavidyalaya** in **Chitrakoot**, India's first rural university and was its first Chancellor.

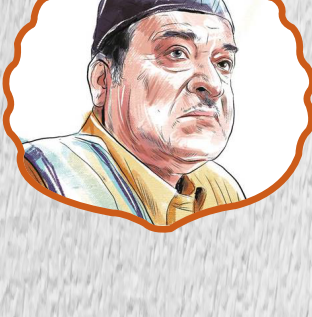


He actively participated in **Bhoodan Movement** started by Vinoba Bhave & also joined Jai Prakash Narayan when he gave the call for "**Total Revolution**".



He established **India's first Saraswati Sishu Mandir** at Gorakhpur in **1950**.

BHUPEN HAZARIKA



He was an Indian singer, poet, musician and film-maker from Assam. He was popularly known as the '**Bard of Brahmaputra**'.



He was also the recipient of **Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1987)**, as well as the prestigious **Dada Saheb Phalke Award (1992)**.



India's longest bridge (Dhola-Sadia bridge), which runs over the **Lohit river** in **Assam** has been named after him.

ABOUT BHARAT RATNA



Bharat Ratna is the **highest civilian award** of the country and was instituted in the year **1954**.



The **recommendations** for Bharat Ratna are made by the **Prime Minister** himself to the President. No formal recommendations for this are necessary.



It is awarded in recognition of exceptional service/performance of the highest order in **any field of human endeavour**. Any person without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex is eligible for these awards.



The number of annual awards is restricted to a **maximum of three in a particular year**. It is not mandatory for the government to announce the award each year.



The Award **does not carry any monetary grant**.



They are placed at **7A in the Table of Precedence**.



On conferment of the award, the recipient receives a **Sanad (certificate)** signed by the President and a **Peepal-leaf-shaped medallion**.

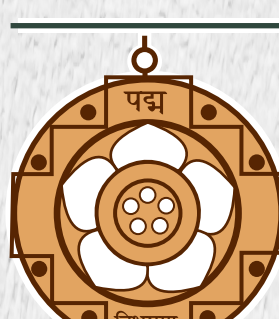


In terms of **Article 18 (1)** of the Constitution, the award **can not be used as a prefix or suffix** to the recipient's name.



There are two Non-Indian Bharat Ratna winners **Khan Abdul Ghaffar** (Pakistan National) & **Nelson Mandela** (former president of South Africa).

PADMA AWARDS



These are among the highest civilian Awards of the country.



The Awards are given in **(3) three categories**:



Padma Vibhushan (for exceptional and distinguished service),



Padma Bhushan (distinguished service of higher order) and



Padma Shri (distinguished service).



Government servants including those working with PSUs, except doctors and scientists, are not eligible for these Awards.



All nominations received for Padma Awards are placed before the **Padma Awards Committee** (headed by the Cabinet Secretary) which is constituted by the Prime Minister every year.



The awards are announced on the occasion of Republic Day every year.

