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### **Introduction**

Hello and welcome to yet another module on physical education. Today we are talking about the sports awards in India.

Sports awards in India are given by the Sports Ministry of India to honour the players who have performed extraordinarily in their field of sport. It is done so as to enhance the player's spirit and recognize his or her achievements. The awards are annually presented on the National Sports Day of India which is celebrated on 29 August, the birthday of legendary hockey star Dhyan Chand. The President of India gives away the awards on this day at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. National Sports Awards are given every year to recognize and reward excellence in sports.

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award is given for the spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson over a period of four years; Arjuna Award is given for consistently outstanding performance for four years; Dronacharya Award for coaches for producing medal winners at prestigious international sports events, Dhyan Chand Award for lifetime contribution to sports development and Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar is given to the corporate entities (both in private and public sector) and individuals who have played a visible role in the area of sports promotion and development. Overall top performing university in inter-university tournaments is given Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy.

Dhyan Chand Award is India's highest award for lifetime achievement in sports and games, given by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of

India. The award is named after the legendary Indian hockey player Dhyan Chand. The award was initiated in 2002. The award carries a cash prize of INR 500,000, a plaque and a scroll of honour. In August 2013, 4 individuals were awarded the Dhyan Chand Award: Syed Ali (Hockey), Mary D'Souza (Sequeira) (Athletics), Anil Maan (Wrestling) and Giriraj Singh (Para-Sports).

On August 17, 2015, Selection committee headed by Zafar Iqbal recommended TPP Nair (Volleyball), SP Misra (Tennis) and Romeo James (Hockey) for Dhyan Chand Award.

## **Sports Awards**

### **Arjuna Award**

The Arjuna Awards were instituted in 1961 by the government of India to recognize outstanding achievement in National sports. The award carries a cash prize of 500,000, a bronze statuette of Arjuna and a scroll. Over the years the scope of the award has been expanded and a large number of sportspersons who belonged to the pre-Arjuna Award era were also included in the list. Further, the number of disciplines for which the award is given was increased to include indigenous games and the physically handicapped category. The Government has recently revised the scheme for the Arjuna Award. As per the revised guidelines, to be eligible for the Award, a sportsperson should not only have had good performance consistently for the previous three years at the international level with excellence for the year for which the Award is recommended, but should also have shown qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and a sense of discipline. Any sports person tested positive for the use of drugs banned by the international Olympic committee in any laboratory accredited by international Olympic committee will not be eligible for Arjuna award.

From the year 2001, the award is given only in disciplines falling under the following categories:

- Olympic Games / Asian Games / Commonwealth Games / World Cup / World Championship Disciplines and Cricket
- Indigenous Games
- Sports for the Physically Challenged

## General rules:

The nomination for the Arjuna Award is invited by the ministry of youth affairs and sports on a prescribed Proforma from all recognized National Sports Federations recognized by the govt. of India, India Olympic association and State\UT govt. in the month of January each year. Last date for the receipt of nominations is 31st may of the same year. The nomination can be sent for one or up to three names in particular discipline/sports for that particular year.

Its main aim to ameliorate the standards of sports in the country. Generally these awards are given to one player of a game but this can be given to a female player of the same game also.

No award will be made for second time to the same person.

Govt. of India decides the date and venue for the presentation of Arjuna award. The fixed date can be extended by the govt.of India.

Any sports federation can send a list of three players to govt. of India but govt. of India gives award to one player but in case of a female, she can also be awarded. So maximum two players i.e., one male and one female can be selected for the award from a game.

A selection committee constituted by the govt.of India decides the award. The selection committee is constituted every year by the govt. The committee comprises of the following member:

- Sports person of eminence: Chairperson.
- Olympian of eminence from the different discipline: 5 members.
- Arjuna awardees from different disciplines: 4 members.
- Sports administrators.
- Director\deputy secretary {sports}
- Ministry of youth affairs and sports Govt. of India: member\secretary

## Dronacharya Award

Dronacharya Award is an award presented by the government of India for excellence in sports coaching. The award comprises a bronze statuette of Dronacharya, a scroll of honor and a cash component of Rs.5,00,000. The award was instituted in 1985. Its main objective is to raise prestige of coaches in

sports and games. It also motivates coaches to dedicate them towards training that can bring highest performance at international level. Dronacharya award is presented to such famous coaches, whose teams or players have shown good performance at international level consecutively three years. The application for the award is invited by National institute of sports, Sports authority of India, National sports federation and Indian Olympic association every year by 31st January.

#### Eligibility:

This award is given to those who impart coaching temporarily, or permanently to the teams or players. He should also have good achievement during the three years previous to the year of award. The following capabilities are necessary for the eligibility of this award.

I. Individual Events: The coach is eligible for the Dronacharya award whose player/players has achieved following positions:

Who wins any medal i.e. gold\silver\bronze in the Olympic games, world cup tournaments or world championship for Olympic discipline.

Who wins any medal i.e. gold\silver\bronze in the Olympic games, world cup tournaments or world championship in non-Olympic association.

Who creates a world record or broken the world record which is ratified by the concerned international sports federation.

Who wins two gold medals in either Asian games or the commonwealth championships.

Who wins three gold medals in Asian championships or commonwealth championships.

Who has won gold medal three times in Asian championship or in commonwealth championship.

II. Team Events: A coach is eligible if she\he is responsible for training teams, which win:

Any medal gold silver bronze in the Olympic games, world cup or world championships in Olympic or non Olympic disciplines, provided that the performance is Weather better or equal to the best performance achieved earlier.

The team, which has won two gold, medals i.e. one gold medal in Asian games and second gold medal in Asian championship in the year of award or before that year.

The team, which has won two gold, medals i.e. one in Asian games and second in commonwealth games in the year of award or before that year.

III. Indigenous Sports: The coach who has been imparting training to a player or a team of an indigenous sports and that team has ameliorated the standard of sports during the last three years, is also eligible for Dronacharya awards.

### **Rajiv Khel Ratna Award**

The Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna (RGKR) is India's highest honour given for achievement in sports. The words "Khel Ratna" literally translate to "Sports Gem" in Hindi. The award is named after the late Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India. This award was instituted in the year 1991. It carries a medal, a scroll of honour and a substantial cash component. As of 2004-05, when the award was last bestowed, the cash component stood at Rs. 500,000/- The money has been increased from Rs.500, 000 to Rs.750, 000. The award was instituted in the year 1991-92 to supply the lack of a supreme national accolade in the field of sports. Predating the RGKR are the Arjuna awards that have always been given to outstanding sportspersons in each of many sporting disciplines every year. The Khel Ratna was devised to be an overarching honour, conferred for outstanding sporting performance, whether by an individual or a team, across all sporting disciplines in a given year.

#### **Objectives:**

The main objective of this award is to give social status and greater dignity to a sportsman in the society.

It motives the sportsman to give their highest performance in sports events.

This award intends to develop sports culture throughout the nation.

The main objectives of the award are motivation and social recognition of a sports person. The award is given yearly.

**Eligibility:**

The award is given to sports person who has excelled in Olympic games, Asian games and commonwealth games.

**Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad Trophy (MAKA)**

The MAKA trophy is mainly given to the top overall winners in the Inter-University Tournaments. As these tournaments are a very much and integral part of games and sports in the universities and colleges and they also play a very important role in supplying the talents to the country. This is actually a rolling trophy and a small replica of the trophy is also awarded to the University for Retention. A committee that is constituted by the AIU recommends the award of MAKA trophy. They usually send their recommendations to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports each year. They recommend their names of 4 universities to the order of merit mentioning their score and also giving the calculation sheet. It is the Government who takes the final decisions about the winner of the MAKA trophy. Government of India instituted 'Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy' award in 1956-57. The overall top performing university in the Inter-University tournaments is conferred with MAKA Trophy, which is a rolling trophy along with a cash prize of Rs.10 lakh. Universities securing second and third positions are also provided with cash prize of Rs.5 lakh and Rs.3 lakh, respectively.

**Dhyan Chand Sports Award**

Dhyan Chand Award is India's highest award for lifetime achievement in sports and games. The award is named after the legendary Indian hockey player Dhyan Chand. The award was initiated in 2002. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 5 Lakhs a plaque and scroll of honour.

## **ThePadmaAwards**

The Padma Bhushan is the third-highest civilian award in the Republic of India, after the Bharat Ratna and the Padma Vibhushan, but coming before the Padma Shri. It is announced on the occasion of Republic Day of India every year. It is conferred by the President of India at a function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan sometime around March or April.

The award was established on 2 January 1954 by the president of India. It is awarded to recognize distinguished service of a high order to the nation, in any field. As of December 2016, 1249 people have thus far received the award.

The prominent sportspersons who have received this award are

Lala Amarnath

Viswanathan Anand

Abhinav Bindra

Chandu Borde

Dhyan Chand

D. B. Deodhar

Rahul Dravid

Sunil Gavaskar

Nawang Gombu

Pullela Gopichand

Sonam Gyatso (mountaineer)

Kapil Dev Tenzing Norgay Sania Mirza

Padma Shri

Padma Shri (also Padmashree) is the fourth highest civilian award in the Republic of India, after the Bharat Ratna, the Padma Vibhushan and the Padma Bhushan. Awarded by the Government of India, it is announced every year on India's Republic Day.

Padma Awards were instituted in 1954 to be awarded to citizens of India in

recognition of their distinguished contribution in various spheres of activity including the Arts, Education, Industry, Literature, Science, Sports, Medicine, Social Service and Public Affairs. It has also been awarded to some distinguished individuals who were not citizens of India but did contribute in various ways to India.

On its obverse, the words "Padma", meaning lotus in Sanskrit, and "Shri", a Sanskrit-derived honorific equivalent to 'Mr.' or 'Ms.', appear in Devanagari above and below a lotus flower. The geometrical pattern on either side is in burnished bronze. All embossing is in white gold.

As of 2014, 2680 people have received the award.

The prominent sportspersons who have received this award are:

Shiny Abraham

Ramakant Achrekar

Aspy Adajania

Pankaj Advani

Premlata Agarwal

Om Agarwal

H. P. S. Ahluwalia

Chandraprabha Aitwal

Mushtaq Ali

Vijay Amritraj

Viswanathan Anand

Saba Anjum Karim

S. M. Arif

Mohammad Azharuddin

Bhaichung Bhutia

Mahesh Bhupathi