

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 21.04.2010
ANSWERED ON
SELECTION OF PADMA AWARDS .

2794

DR. K. MALAISAMY

Will the Minister of COALHOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether there has been a scope for showing favouritism and partiality in selection of Padma Awards;
- (b) whether there has been complaints questioning the system and the implementation of the system of selection; and
- (c) whether there has been any move to improve the system of election based on pure merit and objectivity?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (c): Padma awards are given in accordance with the guidelines duly approved by the competent authority.

As per extant guidelines, all nominations for Padma Awards are considered by a Padma Awards Committee constituted every year by the Prime Minister, which comprises senior level functionaries of the Government and four to six eminent personalities. No awards are conferred except on the recommendations of the Padma Awards Committee.

A due diligence exercise, including verification by premier investigating/intelligence agencies of the Government, is undertaken in respect of persons shortlisted by the Padma Awards Committee before finalisation. The recommendations of the Padma Awards Committee are approved by the Home Minister, Prime Minister, and the President of India before the announcement is made.