

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 500  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2017**

**RETURNING OF AWARDS**

**500: SHRI OM BIRLA:**

Will the Minister of Culture be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that many renowned literary writers had returned awards given to them for their exemplary work in the field of literature;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the names of the writers who returned their Sahitya Academy awards during the last three years;
- (c) the total number of Sahitya Academy awards dispersed during the last three years;
- (d) whether the Academy had passed a resolution urging writers not to return their awards; and
- (e) the number of writers who reconsidered the Government's request and accepted back the awards they returned?

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM  
(Dr. MAHESH SHARMA)**

**ANSWER**

- (a)&(b): Yes, Madam. The list of writers who have returned their Sahitya Akademi awards during the last three years is enclosed at Annexure. The writers claimed that there was an attack on their freedom of expression and the Akademi kept silent on the issue.
- (c): During the last three years, Sahitya Akademi has dispersed a total of 280 awards.
- (d): Yes, Madam. The Akademi had convened a special Executive Board meeting on 23.10.2015 and 17.12.2015 in which Resolution had been passed requesting the writers to reconsider their decision.
- (e): Sri Nand Bhardwaj, noted Rajasthani writer has taken back his decision of returning the award.

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**SAHITYA AKADEMI**  
**NEW DELHI**

**The following award winners returned the Sahitya Akademi Awards to the Akademi during the last three years:**

S.No	Name
1	Uday Prakash
2	Ashok Vajpeyi
3	Krishna Sobti
4	Mangalesh Dabral
5	Kashinath Singh
6	Rajesh Joshi
<b>ENGLISH</b>	
7	G.N. Devy
8	Nayantara Sahgal
9	Keki Daruwalla
<b>GUJRATI</b>	
10	Anil Joshi
<b>PUNJABI</b>	
11	Waryam Singh Sandhu
12	Surjit Patar
13	Jaswinder
14	Gurbachan Bhullar
15	Atamjit
16	Baldev Singh
17	Darshan Butter
18	Ajmer Singh Aulakh
19	Mohan Bhandari
<b>RAJASTHANI</b>	
20	Nand Bhardwaj
21	Ambikadutt
<b>KANNADA</b>	
22	Kum Veerbhadrappa
23	Rahamat Tarikere
24	Devanuru Mahadeva
<b>KASHMIRI</b>	
25	Ghulam Nabi Khayal
26	Margoob Banihali
<b>URDU</b>	
27	Munawwar Rana
28	Khaleel Mamoon
<b>MALAYAM</b>	
29	Sara Joseph

<b>ASSAMESE</b>	
30	Homen Borgohain
31	Nirupama Borgohain
<b>TELUGU</b>	
32	Katyayani Vidmahe
Translation Prize	
<b>HINDI</b>	
33	Chaman Lal
Kannada	
34	G.N. Ranganatha Rao
<b>MARATHI</b>	
35	Ibrahim Afghan
<b>YUVA PURASKAR</b>	
<b>ENGLISH</b>	
36	Aman Sethi
<b>PUNJABI</b>	
37	Pargat Singh Satauj
<b>BAL SAHITYA PURASKAR</b>	
<b>TELUGU</b>	
38	M. Bhoopal Reddy
<b>GOLDEN JUBILEE AWARD</b>	
39	Mandakranta Sen

