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.

SAHITYA AKADEMI NEW DELHI

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

| 1 Uday Prakash 2 Ashok Vajpeyi 3 Krishna Sobti 4 Mangalesh Dabral 5 Kashinath Singh 6 Rajesh Joshi ENGLISH 7 G.N. Devy 8 Nayantara Sahgal 9 Keki Daruwalla GUJRATI 10 Anil Joshi PUNJABI 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 RAJASTHANI 20 Nand Bhardwaj 21 Ambikadutt KANNADA 22 Kum Veerbhadrappa 23 Rahamat Tarikere 24 Devanuru Mahadeva KASHMIRI 25 Ghulam Nabi Khayal 26 Margoob Banihali URDU 27 Munawwar Rana 28 Khaleel Mamoon MALAYAM 29 Sara Joseph | S.No | Name | | | |
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| 4 Mangalesh Dabral 5 Kashinath Singh 6 Rajesh Joshi ENGLISH 7 G.N. Devy 8 Nayantara Sahgal 9 Keki Daruwalla GUJRATI 10 Anil Joshi PUNJABI 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 RAJASTHANI 20 Nand Bhardwaj 21 Ambikadutt KANNADA 22 Kum Veerbhadrappa 23 Rahamat Tarikere 24 Devanuru Mahadeva KASHMIRI 25 Ghulam Nabi Khayal 26 Margoob Banihali URDU 27 Munawwar Rana 28 Khaleel Mamoon MALAYAM | 2 | Ashok Vajpeyi | | | |
| 5 Kashinath Singh 6 Rajesh Joshi ENGLISH 7 G.N. Devy 8 Nayantara Sahgal 9 Keki Daruwalla GUJRATI 10 Anil Joshi PUNJABI 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 RAJASTHANI 20 Nand Bhardwaj 21 Ambikadutt KANNADA 22 Kum Veerbhadrappa 23 Rahamat Tarikere 24 Devanuru Mahadeva KASHMIRI 25 Ghulam Nabi Khayal 26 Margoob Banihali URDU 27 Munawwar Rana 28 Khaleel Mamoon MALAYAM | 3 | Krishna Sobti | | | |
| 6 Rajesh Joshi ENGLISH 7 G.N. Devy 8 Nayantara Sahgal 9 Keki Daruwalla GUJRATI 10 Anil Joshi PUNJABI 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 RAJASTHANI 20 Nand Bhardwaj 21 Ambikadutt KANNADA 22 Kum Veerbhadrappa 23 Rahamat Tarikere 24 Devanuru Mahadeva KASHMIRI 25 Ghulam Nabi Khayal 26 Margoob Banihali URDU 27 Munawwar Rana 28 Khaleel Mamoon | 4 | Mangalesh Dabral | | | |
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| 29 Sara Joseph | | | | | |
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| 30 | Homen Borgohain | | | |
| 31 | Nirupama Borgohain | | | |
| TELUGU | | | | |
| 32 | Katyayani Vidmahe | | | |
| Translation | | | | |
| Prize | | | | |
| HINDI | | | | |
| 33 | Chaman Lal | | | |
| Kannada | | | | |
| 34 | G.N. Ranganatha Rao | | | |
| MARATHI | | | | |
| 35 | Ibrahim Afghan | | | |
| YUVA PUR | ASKAR | | | |
| ENGLISH | | | | |
| 36 | Aman Sethi | | | |
| PUNJABI | | | | |
| 37 | Pargat Singh Satauj | | | |
| BAL SAHITYA PURASKAR | | | | |
| TELUGU | | | | |
| 38 | M. Bhoopal Reddy | | | |
| GOLDEN JUBILEE AWARD | | | | |
| 39 | Mandakranta Sen | | | |
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