

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1564**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019/ MAGHA 23, 1940 (SAKA)  
NATIONAL HONOUR AWARDS BEING USED AS TITLES**

**1564. SHRI B. SENGUTTUVAN:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

**(a) whether the conferment of Indian National Honour Awards such as Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Shree and Padma Bhushan etc. entitles the awardees to use them as titles or as prefixes or suffixes to one's name;**

**(b) if so, the details thereof;**

**(c) if not, whether the Government would clarify whether a person, who continues to indulge in using the National Award as title, prefix or suffix to his or her name for publicity enhancement or as self-glorification can be stripped of the award under Regulation 10;**

**(d) if so, the details thereof; and**

**(e) whether the Government has any proposal to repeal the conferment of National Awards of the Padma category and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)**

**(a) to (d): The national awards such as Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri do not amount to "titles" within the meaning of Article 18(1) of the Constitution and thus are not to be used as prefixes or suffixes to the name of the recipient in any manner whatsoever. In case of any misuse, the defaulter shall forfeit the national award conferred on him or her by following the procedure laid down in Regulation 10 of each of the four notifications creating these awards. Accordingly, immediately after these awards are conferred, every awardee (except posthumous case) is communicated the above stipulation and is advised not to prefix or suffix the award to his/her name.**

**(e): No, Madam.**

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