

Indian Sports Awards:

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Awards.

India's highest honour given for achievements in sports, instituted in 1991-92.

The list of sportspersons who are conferred with this honour is given in the table below:

Year	Name	Birth / Death	Sport Discipline
1991-92	Viswanathan Anand	1969	Chess
1992-93	Geet Sethi	1961	Billiards
1993-94	Not Conferred to Any.		
1994-95	Cdr. Homi D. Motivala	1958	Yachting (Team Event)
1994-95	Lt. Cdr. P. K. Garg	1963	Yachting (Team Event)
1995-96	Karnam Malleswari	1975	Weightlifting
1996-97	Nameirakpam Kunjarani	1968	Weightlifting
1996-97	Leander Paes	1973	Tennis
1997-98	Sachin Tendulkar	1973	Cricket
1998-99	Jyotirmoyee Sikdar	1969	Athletics
1999-2000	Dhanraj Pillay	1968	Hockey
2000-01	Pullela Gopichand	1973	Badminton
2001-02	Abhinav Bindra	1982	Shooting
2002-03	Anjali Ved Pathak Bhagwat	1969	Shooting

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2002-03	K. M. Beenamol	1975	Athletics
2003-04	Anju Bobby George	1977	Athletics
2004-05	Lt. Col Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore	1970	Shooting
2005-06	Pankaj Advani	1985	Billiards and Snooker
2006-07	Manavjit Singh Sandhu	1976	Shooting
2007-08	Mahendra Singh Dhoni	1981	Cricket
2008-09	Mary Kom	1983	Boxing
2008-09	Vijender Singh	1985	Boxing
2008-09	Sushil Kumar	1983	Wrestling
2009-10	Saina Nehwal	1990	Badminton
2010-11	Gagan Narang	1983	Shooting
2011-12	Vijay Kumar	1985	Shooting
2011-12	Yogeshwar Dutt	1982	Wrestling

The Arjuna Award.

It is the second highest sports honour, instituted in 1961. It has a big list of winners and the list of sports for which gets honoured through this award has undergone a series of modifications since its inception.

Wushu (M. Bimoljit Singh) & Polo (Samir Suhag) players were given the award for the first time in 2012.

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Winners of 2012:

Name	Discipline
Ms. Deepika Kumari	Archery
Ms. Laishram Bombayla Devi	Archery
Ms. Sudha Singh	Athletics
Ms. Kavita Ramdas Raut	Athletics
Ms. Ashwani Ponnappa	Badminton
Mr. Parupalli Kashyap	Badminton
Mr. Aditya S. Mehta	Billiards & Snooker
Mr. Vikas Krishan	Boxing
Mr. Yuvraj Singh	Cricket
Mr. Sardar Singh	Hockey
Mr. Yashpal Solanki	Judo
Mr. Anup Kumar	Kabaddi
Mr. Samir Suhag	Polo
Ms. Annu Raj Singh	Shooting
Mr. Omkar Singh	Shooting
Mr. Joydeep Karmakar	Shooting
Ms. Deepika Pallikal	Squash
Mr. Sandeep Sejwal	Swimming
Ms. Ng. Sonia Chanu	Weightlifting
Mr. Narsingh Yadav	Wrestling
Mr. Rajinder Kumar	Wrestling
Ms. Geeta Phogat	Wrestling
Mr. M. Bimoljit Singh	Wushu
Mrs. Deepa Malik	Athletics Paralympics

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Normally only one award of Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna is given every year to an individual sportsperson. However, the Scheme provides that this condition can be relaxed in exceptional circumstances viz., winning of an Olympic medal. Likewise for the Arjuna Awards, normally not more than 15 awards are to be given in any calendar year. However, the Scheme of Arjuna Awards also provides that keeping in view the performance of Indian sportspersons in the Commonwealth, Asian Games and Olympic Games during a particular year, Arjuna Awards exceeding 15 in number may be allowed with proper justification and approval of the Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports. The Selection Committee noted that 2012 is the Olympic year and India has won 6 medals in the London Olympics, which is country's best performance in Olympic Games, and recommended that the condition of one award in case of Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna and 15 awards in case of Arjuna Awards may be relaxed and the number of Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award may be increased from 1 (one) to 2 (two) and Arjun Awards may be increased from 15 (fifteen) to 25 (twenty five).

National Sports Awards are given every year to recognize and reward excellence in sports. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award is given for spectacular performance in the year under consideration; Arjuna Award is given for consistently outstanding performance for three consecutive years preceding the year of award.

Apart from a medal and a citation, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Awardees will receive a cash prize of Rs.7.5 lakh each and Arjuna Awardees will receive statuettes, citations and cash prize of Rs.5 lakh each.

