

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 389**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH DECEMBER 2023/ AGRAHAYANA, 15, 1945
(SAKA)**

PADMA AWARDS FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

389 SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a lot of distinguished individuals are named for Padma Awards from various fields every year for exceptional services;

(b) if so, the applications received for Padma Awards this year;

(c) whether Government is aware that India's digital payment sector is enabling and empowering the country to leapfrog and jump from a cash-centric economic to digital empowerment economy; and

(d) if so, whether Government would consider honoring with recognition of Padma Awards to persons involved in digital transformation in the life of India's common man and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)**

(a) to (d): The Padma Awards are given every year in three categories viz. Padma Vibhushan for "exceptional and distinguished service"; Padma Bhushan for "distinguished service of a high order" and Padma Shri for "distinguished service", in any field of activity. Any person without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex is eligible for the Padma Awards. Serving Government servants, including those

working with Public Sector Undertakings, except doctors and scientists, are not eligible for the Padma Awards. A total of over sixty-two thousand online nominations/ recommendations have been received for Padma Awards-2024. All the nominations received are placed before the Padma Awards Committee for its consideration. Award is conferred only on the recommendations of the Padma Awards Committee. The names of the persons recommended by the Awards Committee are submitted to the competent authority for approval.
