



VETERANS INDIA

(Regd. No- Delhi/2149/2015)

(AN ALL-INDIA ORGANISATION OF PATRIOTS LED BY EX-SERVICEMEN)

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PVSM, AVSM, YSM (Retd.)
Former Union Minister of India.
Former Chief of Army Staff.

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Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe
Chairman NETF, NAAC, NBA

National Coordinator

Prof (Dr.) Sunil Pareek

Organisation

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Founder & National President

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Senior IOCL Officer
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National Secretary

Dr. Ashok Kumar Lenka
International Taekwondo Player
National Secretary

Dr. Naresh Mudgal
International Basketball Player
Former Dir Sports Authority of India

Col Sanjay Sharma, (Retd.)
National Secretary (Coordination)

Col Sanjiv Taggar, (Retd.)
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Hony. Capt. BN Singh (Retd.)
Joint Secretary (Coordination)

Shri Rousan Kumar Singh
Rastriya Sampark Pramukh

Veterans India/Sports/CORRES/0010/2026

Dated: 27 July 2026

To

The Secretary
Padma Awards Committee
Ministry of Home Affairs
Government of India
North Block
New Delhi – 110001

**SUBJECT: STRONG RECOMMENDATION FOR CONFERMENT OF THE PADMA SHRI
AWARD – 2027 UPON DR. ASHOK KUMAR LENKA**

Reference: Padma Awards Nomination ID – 5037102

Respected Sir/Madam,

1. It is with immense pride, honour and confidence that Veterans India places on record its strongest recommendation for Dr. Ashok Kumar Lenka for the Padma Shri Award – 2027 in recognition of his outstanding and sustained contribution to the Nation through distinguished military service, sports, martial arts, youth development, women's empowerment, patriotic leadership and voluntary nation-building.
2. Dr. Ashok Kumar Lenka is a distinguished Indian Air Force Veteran, internationally acclaimed Taekwondo Grandmaster, sports administrator, mountaineer, mentor and social leader whose life exemplifies discipline, courage, integrity and selfless service. Following over two decades of exemplary service in the Indian Air Force, he continued his mission of serving the Nation by dedicating himself to sports, youth leadership, self-defence, physical fitness and social transformation.
3. Veterans India has had the privilege of working closely with Dr. Lenka in his capacity as National Secretary, Veterans India Sports Wing (VISW). During his tenure, he has made several notable voluntary contributions towards strengthening the role of sports as a powerful medium for patriotism, leadership development and nation-building.
4. Among his significant contributions to Veterans India are the following:
 - a. Drafting a Vision for Corruption-Free Sports Governance: Dr. Lenka played an important role in drafting and promoting a comprehensive framework for an ethical, transparent and corruption-free sports governance system within the Veterans India Sports Wing. His vision emphasises integrity, merit, accountability, fair play, athlete welfare and nation-building through sports, ensuring that sporting excellence is guided by values and national responsibility.
 - b. Expansion of the Veterans India Sports Wing: Through his dedicated organisational efforts, Dr. Lenka significantly contributed to expanding the Veterans India Sports Wing across 27 States, bringing together representatives from 22 sports disciplines

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under one patriotic platform. He helped connect internationally acclaimed athletes, Arjuna Awardees, national award recipients, coaches, veterans and distinguished sportspersons to strengthen Veterans India's mission of promoting sports for national development.

- c. Leadership of the Global Patriotic Run: One of Dr. Lenka's most remarkable contributions was his leadership as National Secretary, Veterans India Sports Wing, in successfully organising the Global Patriotic Run on 26 January 2021. The event witnessed participation from 52 countries and earned recognition in the India Book of Records, making it a historic global patriotic movement.
 - i. The initiative united veterans, serving Armed Forces personnel, students, youth, sportspersons and members of the Indian diaspora under the inspiring vision of:

"राष्ट्र भक्ति – खेल से शक्ति"
"Rashtra Bhakti – Khel Se Shakti"
(Patriotism through Sports, Strength through Sports.)
 - ii. The campaign demonstrated how sports can become a powerful instrument for promoting national unity, fitness, discipline and patriotism.
 - d. Youth Leadership Through Sports: Dr. Lenka has consistently encouraged young people to adopt discipline, perseverance, teamwork and patriotism through sports. He has motivated thousands of students and athletes to become responsible citizens and future nation-builders while promoting a healthy, drug-free and disciplined lifestyle.
 - e. Women's Empowerment Through Self-Defence: Recognising the importance of women's safety, Dr. Lenka has devoted considerable effort towards promoting self-defence education and martial arts training for women and girls. His initiatives have empowered numerous participants with confidence, resilience and practical self-protection skills.
 - f. Strengthening Veterans India's National Sports Network: Using his vast experience and credibility in the sporting community, Dr. Lenka has helped Veterans India establish meaningful connections with sports academies, martial arts organisations, educational institutions, veterans and eminent sportspersons, thereby enhancing the organisation's outreach and credibility.
5. Beyond his contributions to Veterans India, Dr. Lenka's personal achievements are equally distinguished. As a retired Junior Warrant Officer of the Indian Air Force, he rendered more than 22 years of dedicated military service. Through Hawrang Academy, he has reportedly trained and mentored more than two lakh individuals, produced thousands of medal winners and hundreds of Black Belt holders, while promoting discipline, character and national values through martial arts.
 6. He has represented India with distinction at international Taekwondo competitions and has earned recognition from globally respected institutions, including Kukkiwon, Republic of Korea, bringing honour to the Nation.
 7. Throughout our association with him, Veterans India has consistently found Dr. Lenka to be a person of impeccable integrity, humility, dedication and unwavering patriotism. His voluntary service, organisational commitment and ability to inspire veterans and youth alike have significantly strengthened the objectives of Veterans India.

8. Dr. Ashok Kumar Lenka represents the rare combination of a decorated veteran, international sportsperson, mentor, organiser and nation-builder. His lifelong service has positively influenced thousands of citizens and reflects the highest ideals of public service that the Padma Awards seek to recognise.
9. Veterans India, therefore, extends its highest and unconditional recommendation for conferring the Padma Shri Award – 2027 upon Dr. Ashok Kumar Lenka. We firmly believe that this national honour would be a fitting recognition of his exceptional contribution to the Nation and would inspire future generations to dedicate themselves to excellence, discipline and selfless service.
10. We shall be pleased to provide any further information or institutional verification required in support of this recommendation.

With highest regards,

Yours faithfully,



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "B. K. Mishra".

Dr. B. K. Mishra
Founder & National President
Veterans India
Mobile: +91 99115 11967
Email: veteransindia47@gmail.com
Website: www.veteransindia.com

सेवा में,
सचिव महोदय
पद्म पुरस्कार चयन समिति
गृह मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
नॉर्थ ब्लॉक
नई दिल्ली – 110001

विषय: पद्म श्री पुरस्कार – 2027 हेतु मास्टर डॉ. अशोक कुमार लेंका के नाम की सशक्त अनुशंसा।

संदर्भ: पद्म पुरस्कार नामांकन आई.डी. – 5037102

महोदय,

मुझे, राष्ट्रीय खेल समाचार पत्र "खेलपथ" के प्रधान संपादक के रूप में, यह अत्यंत हर्ष एवं गौरव का विषय है कि मैं **मास्टर डॉ. अशोक कुमार लेंका** के नाम की **पद्म श्री पुरस्कार – 2027** के लिए अपनी पूर्ण एवं सशक्त अनुशंसा प्रस्तुत कर रहा हूँ।

पिछले अनेक वर्षों से भारतीय खेल, मार्शल आर्ट्स तथा खेल प्रतिभाओं की यात्रा को निकट से देखने और उसे देश के सामने प्रस्तुत करने का अवसर मुझे प्राप्त हुआ है। इस दौरान जिन कुछ व्यक्तित्वों ने अपने कार्य, समर्पण और राष्ट्रसेवा से मुझे अत्यधिक प्रभावित किया है, उनमें डॉ. अशोक कुमार लेंका का नाम अत्यंत सम्मान के साथ लिया जाता है। उनका जीवन अनुशासन, राष्ट्रभक्ति, त्याग, उत्कृष्टता तथा समाज-सेवा का अनुपम उदाहरण है।

13 जून 1968 को ओडिशा के भद्रक जिले के टेंटुलीगड़िया ग्राम में जन्मे डॉ. लेंका ने अत्यंत साधारण परिवेश से अपनी यात्रा प्रारम्भ की। युवा अवस्था में ही उन्होंने मातृभूमि की सेवा को सर्वोपरि मानते हुए **10 जुलाई 1987** को भारतीय वायु सेना में प्रवेश किया। लगभग **22 वर्षों से अधिक** के उत्कृष्ट सैन्य जीवन के दौरान उन्होंने एक समर्पित वायुयोद्धा के रूप में राष्ट्र की सेवा की तथा **जूनियर वारंट ऑफिसर** के पद से सेवानिवृत्त हुए।

भारतीय वायु सेना में सेवा के साथ-साथ उन्होंने खेलों और विशेष रूप से **ताइक्वांडो** को अपना जीवन समर्पित कर दिया। वर्ष **1989** से प्रारम्भ हुई उनकी यह साधना आज उन्हें विश्व स्तर पर प्रतिष्ठित **कुक्कीवॉन टॉप क्लास वर्ल्ड मास्टर इंस्ट्रक्टर, कुक्कीवॉन रिकमेंडर, विश्व ताइक्वांडो प्रमाणित कोच, राष्ट्रीय रेफरी** तथा **हावरंग अकादमी** के संस्थापक के रूप में स्थापित कर चुकी है। दिसम्बर **2024** में उन्होंने भारत का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हुए **हांगकांग में आयोजित विश्व ताइक्वांडो पूमसे चैम्पियनशिप में अंडर-60 पेयर वर्ग में विश्व में पाँचवाँ स्थान** प्राप्त किया। वे मात्र **0.8 अंक** से पदक से वंचित रहे, किन्तु उनके उत्कृष्ट प्रदर्शन ने विश्व मंच पर भारत और ओडिशा दोनों का गौरव बढ़ाया।

डॉ. लेंका का वास्तविक योगदान उनकी व्यक्तिगत उपलब्धियों से कहीं अधिक व्यापक है। उन्होंने अपने जीवन को राष्ट्र निर्माण के उद्देश्य से समर्पित किया है। उनके नेतृत्व में:

- **दो लाख से अधिक युवाओं, विद्यार्थियों, महिलाओं तथा भारतीय वायु सेना के कर्मियों को प्रशिक्षण** प्रदान किया गया।
- **हजारों राष्ट्रीय एवं अंतरराष्ट्रीय पदक विजेता खिलाड़ियों का निर्माण हुआ।**
- **सैकड़ों ब्लैक बेल्ट प्रशिक्षित हुए, जो आज स्वयं प्रशिक्षक एवं समाज के आदर्श नागरिक हैं।**

- देशभर में **300 से अधिक मार्शल आर्ट्स प्रदर्शन** आयोजित कर युवाओं में अनुशासन, आत्मविश्वास और राष्ट्रभक्ति का संदेश पहुँचाया।
- खेलों के माध्यम से नशामुक्ति, शारीरिक स्वास्थ्य, नैतिक मूल्यों और राष्ट्रीय चरित्र निर्माण का व्यापक अभियान चलाया।

महिलाओं के आत्मरक्षा प्रशिक्षण के क्षेत्र में उनका योगदान विशेष रूप से उल्लेखनीय है। उन्होंने हजारों बालिकाओं एवं महिलाओं को आत्मरक्षा का प्रशिक्षण देकर उनमें आत्मविश्वास, साहस एवं सुरक्षा की भावना विकसित की है। आज अनेक परिवार उन्हें महिला सशक्तिकरण के एक प्रेरणास्रोत के रूप में देखते हैं।

डॉ. लेंका केवल एक खिलाड़ी या प्रशिक्षक नहीं हैं, बल्कि साहसिक खेलों के भी अग्रणी व्यक्तित्व हैं। वर्ष **1998 से 2008** के मध्य उन्होंने **हिमालय की 11 पर्वत चोटियों** पर मार्शल आर्ट्स का अभ्यास एवं अनुसंधान कर भारतीय साहसिक खेलों तथा प्राचीन हिमालयी युद्ध कलाओं के अध्ययन में एक अद्वितीय अध्याय जोड़ा। यह उपलब्धि उन्हें विश्व के अत्यंत विरले मार्शल आर्ट्स साधकों की श्रेणी में स्थापित करती है।

वर्तमान में वे **वैटरन्स इंडिया स्पोर्ट्स विंग** के **राष्ट्रीय सचिव** के रूप में देशभर में राष्ट्रभक्ति, पारदर्शिता तथा खेल संस्कृति को बढ़ावा देने में सक्रिय भूमिका निभा रहे हैं। उनका उद्देश्य खेलों को केवल प्रतियोगिता तक सीमित न रखकर राष्ट्र निर्माण, युवा नेतृत्व और सामाजिक परिवर्तन का माध्यम बनाना है।

एक खेल पत्रकार एवं संपादक के रूप में मेरा यह दृढ़ विश्वास है कि डॉ. अशोक कुमार लेंका ने पिछले **35 वर्षों से अधिक समय** में भारतीय खेल जगत, विशेषकर ताइक्वांडो और मार्शल आर्ट्स के क्षेत्र में जो अमूल्य योगदान दिया है, वह असाधारण, प्रेरणादायक और राष्ट्रीय सम्मान का अधिकारी है। उनका व्यक्तित्व सैन्य अनुशासन, खेल उत्कृष्टता, सामाजिक सेवा और राष्ट्रभक्ति का अद्भुत संगम है।

मेरे विचार में मास्टर डॉ. अशोक कुमार लेंका पद्म श्री पुरस्कार – 2027 के पूर्णतः योग्य एवं सर्वाधिक उपयुक्त उम्मीदवार हैं। उन्हें यह राष्ट्रीय सम्मान प्रदान करना केवल एक महान खिलाड़ी और प्रशिक्षक का सम्मान नहीं होगा, बल्कि उन मूल्यों का भी सम्मान होगा जिनके आधार पर एक सशक्त, अनुशासित और राष्ट्रनिष्ठ भारत का निर्माण होता है।

अतः मैं, **"खेलपथ" के प्रधान संपादक** के रूप में, भारत सरकार के माननीय पद्म पुरस्कार चयन समिति से विनम्र अनुरोध करता हूँ कि **मास्टर डॉ. अशोक कुमार लेंका** के नाम पर सहानुभूतिपूर्वक एवं सकारात्मक विचार करते हुए उन्हें **पद्म श्री पुरस्कार – 2027** से अलंकृत करने की कृपा करें।

आपकी इस सकारात्मक पहल से न केवल एक महान राष्ट्रसेवी का सम्मान होगा, बल्कि देश के करोड़ों युवाओं को राष्ट्रसेवा, अनुशासन और उत्कृष्टता के मार्ग पर चलने की प्रेरणा भी मिलेगी।

सादर।

(श्री प्रकाश शुक्ला)

प्रधान संपादक

खेलपथ (राष्ट्रीय खेल समाचार पत्र)



EX-SERVICEMEN ASSOCIATION

BHADRAK DISTRICT - 756100 (ODISHA)

Regd. No- BIs3021-980/1991

Ref No - EsmBdk/07/2026

Date - 30 July 2026

To
The Secretary
Padma Awards Committee
Ministry of Home Affairs
Government of India
North Block
New Delhi – 110001

Subject: Strong Recommendation for Conferment of the Padma Shri Award – 2027 upon Master Dr. Ashok Kumar Lenka

Reference: Padma Awards Nomination ID – 5037102

Respected Sir,

On behalf of the Ex-Servicemen Association, Bhadrak District, Government of Odisha, we have the honour and privilege to submit our strongest recommendation for the conferment of the Padma Shri Award – 2027 upon Master Dr. Ashok Kumar Lenka, a distinguished Indian Air Force Veteran, internationally acclaimed Taekwondo Grandmaster, sports administrator, mountaineer, mentor, and nation-builder, whose lifelong service has brought immense pride to Odisha and the Nation.

Dr. Ashok Kumar Lenka was born on 13 June 1968 in the village of Tentuligadia, Charampa, Bhadrak District, Odisha. From his childhood, he displayed extraordinary determination, leadership, and excellence in academics, athletics, and public service. He studied at Saragadia and Chapundia Pre-Primary Schools, Banka Primary School, R.C.B.L. High School, Charampa, Bhadrak College, and D.D. College, Keonjhar, where he earned recognition as an outstanding athlete.

Inspired by patriotism, he joined the Indian Air Force on 10 July 1987, sacrificing his college education to serve the Nation. During his distinguished career of over 22 years, he served with exemplary dedication, discipline, and professionalism, eventually retiring as a Junior Warrant Officer. Alongside his military duties, he tirelessly promoted physical fitness, martial arts, leadership, and character-building among Air Warriors, their families, and the youth of the country.

His journey in Taekwondo, which began in 1989, has evolved into one of the finest martial arts careers produced by India. Today, he is internationally recognised as a Kukkiwon Top Class



EX-SERVICEMEN ASSOCIATION

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World Master Instructor, International Master Instructor, Kukkiwon Recommender, World Taekwondo Coach, National Referee, and founder of Hawrang Academy, one of India's respected martial arts institutions dedicated to discipline, patriotism, youth development, and social transformation.

One of the proudest moments for Odisha and India came in December 2024, when Dr. Lenka represented the Nation at the World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships, Hong Kong, securing 5th place in the Under-60 Pair Poomsae event, narrowly missing a medal by only 0.8 points against Austria. His remarkable performance placed India among the world's finest competitors and demonstrated that dedication and perseverance continue to define Indian sporting excellence.

Beyond personal achievements, Dr. Lenka has devoted his entire post-retirement life to nation-building through sports and social service. Through Hawrang Academy, he has:

- Trained and mentored over two lakh students, Air Warriors, women, and youth.
- Produced thousands of medal winners at district, state, national, and international levels.
- Developed hundreds of Black Belt holders, many of whom now serve as instructors and role models.
- Conducted more than 300 martial arts demonstrations before senior military commanders, civil administrators, educational institutions, and national dignitaries.
- Promoted anti-drug awareness, physical fitness, discipline, leadership, and patriotic values among the younger generation.

His contribution to women's empowerment deserves special recognition. Through thousands of self-defence awareness programmes and martial arts training sessions, he has empowered women and girls with confidence, courage, and practical skills for personal safety, thereby contributing meaningfully to national efforts toward women's security and empowerment.

Dr. Lenka is also among the very few Indian martial artists to combine adventure with traditional martial discipline. Between 1998 and 2008, he practised martial arts and meditation on eleven Himalayan mountain peaks, documenting the ancient disciplines of Tsumo and Lung-Gom, reflecting extraordinary courage, endurance, and commitment to preserving traditional martial heritage.

His leadership extends beyond sports. As National Secretary, Veterans India Sports Wing, he has played a pivotal role in promoting transparent, patriotic, and corruption-free sports administration throughout the country. He has contributed significantly to strengthening Veterans India's sports initiatives, youth outreach programmes, and nationwide patriotic



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activities, inspiring veterans and civilians alike to continue serving the Nation beyond military life. Throughout our association with him, we have found Dr. Lenka to be a man of impeccable integrity, humility, discipline, and unquestionable patriotism. His life represents the highest ideals of military service, sportsmanship, leadership, and social responsibility. Few individuals have demonstrated such sustained excellence across defence service, international sports, youth development, women's empowerment, adventure, education, and voluntary national service.

His inspiring journey—from a humble village in Bhadrak District to representing India on the world stage—stands as a shining example of what dedication, perseverance, and selfless service can achieve. His accomplishments have brought honour not only to Odisha but to the entire Nation.

The Ex-Servicemen Association, Bhadrak District, therefore, places on record its highest, strongest, and unconditional recommendation for the conferment of the Padma Shri Award – 2027 upon Master Dr. Ashok Kumar Lenka. We firmly believe that this prestigious national honour would be a fitting recognition of his extraordinary lifetime contribution to the Nation and would inspire generations of Indians to dedicate themselves to discipline, patriotism, excellence, and selfless service.

Should the Hon'ble Padma Awards Committee require any additional information or verification, our Association shall be honoured to provide every possible assistance.

We humbly request your kind and favourable consideration.

With highest regards,

Ashoka Kumar Patra

Secretary General

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