The Government of India have decided to confer Arjuna Awards for the year 1986 to 13 distinguished sports persons in various disciplines. They are: Miss Suman Rawat (Athletics), Shri Jaipal Singh (Boxing), Shri Mohd. Azharuddin (Cricket), Kum. Sandhya Agarwal (Cricket), Shri Joaquim Martin Carvalho (Hockey), Kum. Rama Sarkar (Kabaddi), Shri Cyril C. Valloor (Volleyball), Shri Bhagiriath Samai (Shooting), Lt. Dhruv Bhandari (Yachting), Shri Prem Chand (Body Building), Lt. Col. K.S. Rao, SM, Skipper of Trishna (Adventure Sports), Shri Jog Mohan Sapra (Weightlifting) and Kum. Arti Pradhan (Adventure Sports).

The Arjuna Award was instituted in the year 1961 and carries a cash award of Rs.5,000/- and a citation. So far 353 outstanding sports persons have been conferred with this honour. The President Shri R. Venkataraman, will give away the Awards at a special ceremony on a date and time to be announced later.