



RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
RAJYA SABHA

Member of Standing Committee on Finance
Member of Consultative Committee on Finance
Member of Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps
Co-Chairman, District Development Coordination & Monitoring Committee, Bengaluru Urban District

22 January 2018

Dear Ratscha Mantriji

Sub: Recognition of Noor Inayat Khan's legacy

I write to you regarding a matter that I had first raised in August 2006 – that of Recognition of Noor Inayat Khan's legacy, and now I urge you and the Government to recognise this truly inspiring story of bravery and of an Indian in World War II.

As you may be aware, one of the truly inspiring stories of wartime bravery is that of Noor Inayat Khan. During World War II, she was in the British Secret Service, & flown behind enemy lines into Nazi occupied France; was captured just before the war ended and died in a concentration camp, she was India's hero in World War II.

In August 2006, I first raised the issue about her in Parliament and urged the Government through a letter to recognise Noor Inayat Khan's bravery and sacrifice. (*Enclosed: Annex I & II*) As a result, the then Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee did pay homage to Noor Inayat Khan's memorial in Paris describing her bravery and sacrifice as inspirational. I had also suggested that a fitting tribute and recognition to Noor Inayat Khan would be in naming the Children's Bravery Award in her name, because she is an inspiration for the youth. Sadly, not much was done on this except for the visit to the Noor Inayat Khan memorial by the Defence Minister in September 2006.



In March 2014, Britain's Royal Mail issued a postage stamp in honour of Noor Inayat Khan's bravery. She has been awarded the highest honour, the George Cross & Croix de Guerre posthumously by the British and French governments respectively.

Today, when women in India have become an integral part of our Armed Forces and have proven that there is no limit to what they can achieve, it is time to recognise Noor Inayat Khan and her contribution too.

I hope and trust you will take initiative in giving Noor Inayat Khan the belated recognition she deserves by the Nation and our people.

Sincerely,

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

Smt Nirmala Sitharaman
Hon'ble Minister of Defence
Government of India
New Delhi

Encl- As above

Copy:

Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India