



Third President's Gallantry Medal to Ajay Sahni

Why in News?

Senior IPS officer **Ajay Kumar Sahni**, known for leading 52 encounters, has been awarded the **President's Medal for Gallantry** for the **third time** in his career.

- **Sahni, a 2009-batch officer** from the Uttar Pradesh cadre, was **honored with the President's Medal** for his exceptional courage during a high-risk operation in **Meerut on Republic Day (26th January 2020)**, praised for his gallantry, leadership, and dedication under life-threatening circumstances.

Gallantry Awards

- **About:** They are given to the **personnel for displaying raw courage**, unparalleled bravery and total disregard to personal safety in the line of duty.
 - These gallantry awards are **announced twice in a year**, first on the occasion of the [Republic Day](#) and then on the occasion of the [Independence Day](#).
- **Types:**
 - **Gallantry Awards in the Face of the Enemy:**
 - **Param Vir Chakra (PVC)** for most conspicuous bravery
 - **Mahavir Chakra (MVC)** for acts of gallantry
 - **Vir Chakra** for acts of bravery
 - **Gallantry Awards Other than in the Face of the Enemy:**
 - Includes **Ashoka Chakra**, **Kirti Chakra**, and **Shaurya Chakra**.
- **Order of precedence of the Awards:**
 - Param Vir Chakra
 - Ashoka Chakra
 - Mahavir Chakra
 - Kirti Chakra
 - Vir Chakra
 - Shaurya Chakra

CIVILIAN AND GALLANTRY AWARDS

CIVILIAN AWARDS

Bharat Ratna

- India's **highest civilian award**; instituted in **1954**
- Awarded for exceptional service/performance of the highest order in any field of human endeavour
- Award includes certificate & medallion (no monetary grant)
- Recommended **to President** by the PM
- Can be given (max) **thrice per year**



Padma Awards

- Instituted in **1954**; announced annually on **eve of Republic Day**
- Recognises achievements in all fields/disciplines involving **public service**
- Categories: Padma **Vibhushan** > Padma **Bhushan** > Padma **Shri**
- Recommended by **Padma Awards Committee** (constituted by PM annually)
- **Suspended twice** - 1978-79 and 1993-97
- Max no. of awards per year - **120**



GALLANTRY AWARDS

- **Wartime Gallantry** instituted on **26th January 1950**
- **Peacetime Gallantry** instituted on **4th January 1952**
- **Announced twice** a year - Republic Day and Independence Day
- Order of Precedence - **Param Vir Chakra** > **Ashoka Chakra** > **Mahavir Chakra** > **Kirti Chakra** > **Vir Chakra** > **Shaurya Chakra**

- Eligibility -
 - » All officers of all ranks (**Army, Navy, IAF**), Reserve forces, **Territorial army**
 - » **People providing nursing services** under any of the above forces

Wartime Gallantry Awards



Peacetime Gallantry Awards

