



Padma Bhushan Awarded to the Former Deputy CM of Bihar

Why in News?

Bihar's former Deputy Chief Minister, Sushil Kumar Modi, was posthumously awarded the prestigious [Padma Bhushan](#) for his exceptional contributions to public life. The honor was conferred by President Droupadi Murmu.

- Sushil Kumar Modi was **one of the ten distinguished personalities** to receive the Padma Bhushan.

Key Points

Contributions of Sushil Kumar Modi

- **Fiscal Management and State Development:** As Bihar's **longest-serving** Deputy CM and Finance Minister, he played a crucial role in transforming Bihar into a revenue-surplus state.
 - He was **known for effective fiscal management** and contributing to the state's development through improved governance.
- **Introduction of GST:** He was instrumental in the **introduction of the [Goods and Services Tax \(GST\)](#)** in India.
 - As the Chairman of the **Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers** (2011-2013), he played a pivotal role in building **consensus among states for the rollout of GST**, which was a landmark reform in [India's tax structure](#).
- **Political Career and Leadership:** With over three decades in politics, he served in both Houses of Parliament and the Bihar Legislative Assembly.
 - He also held leadership roles such as the **Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee** on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law, and Justice.
- **Gender Budget and Women's Welfare:** While serving as Bihar's Finance Minister, Modi introduced the innovative [concept of a gender budget](#), focusing on the welfare and [empowerment of women](#), ensuring that their issues were addressed in the state's financial planning.
- **Advocacy for Organ Donation:** He was a strong advocate for organ donation and founded the '**Dadhichi Deh Daan Samiti**' campaign in Bihar, which promoted awareness about organ donation and encouraged people to donate their organs.

Padma Awards

- **Background:**
 - The Padma Awards are announced annually on [Republic Day](#) (26th January).
 - Instituted in 1954, it is **one of the highest civilian honours** of India.
- **Objective:**
 - To **recognise achievements in all fields** of activities or disciplines where an element of public service is involved.
- **Categories:**
 - **The Awards are given in three categories:**

- **Padma Vibhushan** (for exceptional and distinguished service),
- **Padma Bhushan** (distinguished service of higher order) and
- **Padma Shri** (distinguished service).
- **Padma Vibhushan is highest** in the hierarchy of Padma Awards followed by Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri.
- **Disciplines:**
 - The awards are given in various disciplines/ fields of activities like art, social work, public affairs, science and engineering, trade and industry, medicine, literature and education, sports, civil service, etc.
- **Eligibility:**
 - All persons without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex are eligible for these Awards.
- **Selection Process:**
 - **Padma Awards Committee:**
 - The Awards are conferred on the recommendations made by the Padma Awards Committee, which is constituted by the Prime Minister every year.
 - **Awarded by President:**
 - The awards are presented by the President of India usually in March/April every year.

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



Param Vir Chakra

Maha Vir Chakra

Vir Chakra

Peacetime Gallantry Awards



Ashoka Chakra

Kirti Chakra

Shaurya Chakra

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