



Padma Awardees From Bihar 2025

Why in News?

President Droupadi Murmu presented the **Padma Awards 2025 to 139 distinguished individuals** at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Among them, **seven personalities from Bihar** were honored with Padma Awards in 2025.

Key Points

Padma Awardees from Bihar

Name	Award	Field	Description
Dr. Sharda Sinha	Padma Vibhushan (Posthumous)	Art	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ She was affectionately known as the “Bihar Kokila”.▪ She gained national acclaim for her Chhath songs, which became deeply associated with the spiritual and cultural aspects of the Chhath festival.
Sushil Kumar Modi	Padma Bhushan (Posthumous)	Public Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ He was a former Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar and was posthumously conferred the award for his distinguished service in public affairs.
Kishore Kunal	Padma Shri (Posthumous)	Civil Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Kishore Kunal was a former IPS officer and served as the Chairman of the Mahavir Mandir Trust.▪ He was recognized for his

			contributions to religious and charitable service.
Bhim Singh Bhavesh	Padma Shri	Social Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He is a journalist who worked extensively with the Musahar community, a marginalized group in Bihar, to help children gain access to formal education.
Hemant Kumar	Padma Shri	Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He has been instrumental in both treatment and preventive education around kidney diseases, helping raise awareness and improve patient outcomes.
Nirmala Devi	Padma Shri	Art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> She is an artist and was conferred the Padma Shri in recognition of her work in the field of folk and traditional art (Sujni embroidery). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sujni is a traditional folk textile art from Bihar, known for storytelling through stitches.
Vijay Nityanand Surishwar Ji Maharaj	Padma Shri	Others – Spiritualism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He was recognized with the Padma Shri for his contribution to spiritual education and practice in Bihar.

Padma Awards

- The **Padma Awards** are among the **highest civilian honors in India**, instituted in **1954**.
- They are announced **annually on the eve of Republic Day** and presented by the President of India.
- The awards are given in **three categories**:
 - **Padma Vibhushan** (for exceptional and distinguished service)
 - **Padma Bhushan** (for distinguished service of a high order)
 - **Padma Shri** (for distinguished service in any field)
- **Eligibility and Fields**:
 - All individuals, regardless of **race, occupation, or gender**, are eligible.
 - **Government servants** (except doctors and scientists) are **not eligible**.
 - **Fields include**:
 - **Art** (music, cinema, painting, etc.)
 - **Social Work and Public Affairs**
 - **Science & Engineering, Medicine, Literature & Education**
 - **Civil Service, Trade & Industry, Sports**
 - Other categories like **human rights, environmental protection, and promotion of Indian culture**.
- **Selection and Nomination**:
 - Nominations are **open to the public** and **self-nomination** is allowed.
 - The **Padma Awards Committee**, formed annually by the **Prime Minister**, evaluates all nominations.
 - The committee is headed by the **Cabinet Secretary** and includes the **Home Secretary, Secretary to the President**, and 4–6 **eminent persons**.
- **Award Presentation and Rules**:
 - Awards are typically **presented in March/April** each year.
 - Each recipient receives a **certificate (Sanad)** and a **medallion**; a **replica** can be worn during official events.
 - The names of awardees are published in the **Gazette of India**.
 - The award is **not a title** and cannot be used as a **prefix or suffix**.
 - Normally, a **maximum of 120 awards** are given per year (excluding posthumous, NRI/foreigners/OCIs).
 - Awards are **rarely given posthumously**, but exceptions are made for highly deserving cases.
 - A **minimum gap of five years** is required between two Padma awards for the same individual, unless exceptionally justified.

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