



# Gallantry Awards 2025

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## Why in News?

The [President of India](#) conferred [Gallantry Awards](#), including **6 Kirti Chakras** (4 posthumously) and **33 Shaurya Chakras** (7 posthumously), to personnel from the **Armed Forces, Central Armed Police Forces**, and **State/UT Police** that were **announced** on the eve of the [76<sup>th</sup> Republic day 2025](#).

## What are the Gallantry Awards?

- **About Gallantry awards:** 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 Award in the Face of Enemy:**
    - **Param Vir Chakra (PVC):** It shall have embossed on the obverse **four replicas** of "Indra's Vajra" with the **State Emblem** embossed in the centre.
      - It is awarded for **most conspicuous bravery or some daring or pre-eminent act of valour or self sacrifice**, in the **presence of the enemy**.
    - **Mahavir Chakra (MVC):** It shall have embossed on the obverse a **five-pointed heraldic star** with the points of the **star just touching the rim**. The star shall have in the centre a **domed gilded State Emblem**.
      - It is awarded for **acts of gallantry** in the **presence of the enemy**.
    - **Vir Chakra:** The star will feature a **Chakra at its centre**, with a domed centerpiece inside the Chakra bearing the gilded State Emblem.
      - It is awarded for **acts of gallantry** in the **presence of the enemy on land, at sea or in the air**. The decoration may be awarded **posthumously**.
  - **Gallantry Award Other than in the Face of Enemy:**
    - **Medals:** It includes **Ashok Chakra, Kirti Chakra**, and **Shaurya Chakra**, on which the **obverse** of the medal shall be embossed a **replica of the respective chakra** in the **centre**, surrounded by a **lotus wreath**.
      - Along the **rim**, on the inner side, shall be a pattern of **lotus leaves, flowers, and buds**.
      - On its reverse shall be embossed the respective words both in Hindi and English the two versions being **separated by two lotus flowers**.

# 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 **26<sup>th</sup> January 1950**
- **Peacetime** Gallantry instituted on **4<sup>th</sup> 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



Drishti IAS

### Order of precedence of the Award:

- Param Vir Chakra
- Ashoka Chakra
- Mahavir Chakra
- Kirti Chakra
- Vir Chakra
- Shaurya Chakra



▪ **Eligibility:**

- **Param Vir Chakra, the Maha Vir Chakra and the Vir Chakra:** All ranks of the **Naval, Military, Air, Reserve, and Territorial Forces**, including **medical and nursing staff**, and **civilians** serving under their direction.
- **Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra & Shaurya Chakra:** All ranks of the **Armed Forces, Reserve and Territorial Forces, Nursing Services, Police, Central Para-Military Forces, Railway Protection Force**, and **civilian** citizens.

**Note:** For **each subsequent act** of similar bravery, recipients are recognized by a **Bar to the Chakra**.

- Also, both **Chakra** and **Bar to the chakra** for additional bravery **may be awarded posthumously**.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

### Prelims

**Q. Consider the following statements in respect of Bharat Ratna and Padma Awards: (2021)**

1. Bharat Ratna and Padma Awards are titles under the Article 18(1) of the Constitution of India.
2. Padma Awards, which were instituted in the year 1954, were suspended only once.
3. The number of Bharat Ratna Awards is restricted to a maximum of five in a particular year.

**Which of the above statements are not correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Ans: (d)**



**Q. Consider the following statements in respect of the Laureus World Sports Award which was instituted in the year 2000: (2021)**

1. American golfer Tiger Woods was the first winner of this award.
2. The award was received mostly by 'Formula One' players so far.
3. Roger Federer received this award the maximum number of times compared to others.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Ans: (c)**

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/gallantry-awards-2025>

