

The Gallantry awards

By IASToppers | 2024-01-29 15:15:00



Gallantry awards

President Droupadi Murmu has approved gallantry awards to 80 military personnel, recognizing their exceptional valor and service on the occasion of the 75th Republic Day.

- The awards include six Kirti Chakras, 16 Shaurya Chakras, 53 Sena Medals, one Nao Sena Medal, and four Vayu Sena Medals.

[ref- thebrighterworld]

About Gallantry awards:

- The Government of India has instituted Gallantry Awards to honor **acts of bravery** and **sacrifice by individuals** in the Armed Forces, lawfully constituted forces, and civilians.
- These awards are **announced twice a year**—on **Republic Day and Independence Day**.

Categories of Gallantry Awards: Gallantry Awards are classified into two categories:



[ref-IndiaToday]

- **Gallantry in the Face of Enemy:**
 1. Param Vir Chakra (PVC)
 2. Mahavir Chakra (MVC)
 3. Vir Chakra
- **Gallantry Other than in the Face of Enemy:**
 1. Ashok Chakra
 2. Kirti Chakra
 3. Shaurya Chakra

Institutional History:

- The **first three awards (PVC, MVC, Vir Chakra)** were instituted on January 26, 1950, with retroactive effect from August 15, 1947.
- Subsequently, **Ashoka Chakra Class-I, II, III** were instituted on January 4, 1952, renamed **Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra, and Shaurya Chakra** in January 1967.

Order of Precedence:

1. Param Vir Chakra
2. Ashoka Chakra
3. Mahavir Chakra
4. Kirti Chakra

5. Vir Chakra
6. Shaurya Chakra

Description of Awards:**1. Param Vir Chakra (PVC):**

- Circular **bronze** medal with replicas of "Indra's Vajra" and State Emblem.
- **Ribbon:** Plain purple.
- Recognizes most **conspicuous bravery or pre-eminent act of valour or self-sacrifice** in the presence of the enemy.

2. Mahavir Chakra (MVC):

- Circular silver medal with a **five-pointed heraldic star**.
- **Ribbon:** Half-white and half-orange.
- Awarded for acts of **conspicuous gallantry in the presence of the enemy**.

3. Vir Chakra:

- Circular silver medal with a **five-pointed heraldic star** and **Chakra**.
- **Ribbon:** Half blue and half orange.
- Awarded for acts of gallantry in the presence of the enemy.

4. Ashok Chakra:

- Circular gold gild medal with a **replica of Ashoka's Chakra**.
- **Ribbon:** Green with an orange vertical line.
- Recognizes conspicuous bravery or pre-eminent act of valour or self-sacrifice other than in the face of the enemy.

5. Kirti Chakra:

- Circular silver medal with a **replica of Ashoka's Chakra**.
- **Ribbon:** Green divided by two orange vertical lines.
- Awarded for conspicuous gallantry other than in the face of the enemy.

6. Shaurya Chakra:

- Circular bronze medal with a **replica of Ashoka's Chakra**.
- **Ribbon:** Green divided by three vertical lines.
- Awarded for gallantry other than in the face of the enemy.

Investiture Ceremony:

- Gallantry awards are **conferred annually** at the **Defence Investiture Ceremony** held at Rashtrapati Bhawan.
- The **Param Vir Chakra and Ashoka Chakra** are conferred during the **Republic Day Parade at Rajpath**.

Eligibility:

- **Param Vir Chakra, Mahavir Chakra, Vir Chakra:**
 - Eligible categories include officers, personnel of Armed Forces, nursing services, and civilians serving under Armed Forces.
 - Criteria include conspicuous bravery, gallantry, and acts of self-sacrifice **in the face of the enemy**.
- **Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Shaurya Chakra:**

- Eligible categories include officers, personnel of Armed Forces, nursing services, and civilians, including police forces.
- Criteria include conspicuous bravery, gallantry, and acts of self-sacrifice **other than in the face of the enemy**.
- Awards may be **conferred posthumously**.
- Recommendations should not involve adverse reports or disciplinary actions.

Selection Process:

- **Recommendations are invited twice a year** from the Armed Forces and the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- The Armed Forces initiate cases, which are forwarded through the **chain of command**.
- **Civilian recommendations are invited from State/UT Governments and various organizations.**
- Recommendations are scrutinized by committees and submitted to the Central Honours & Awards Committee.
- **The Prime Minister and the President approve the awards.**