

MacGregor Memorial Medals

Prelims - Current events of National Importance.

Why in News?

Five military personnel were recently conferred the MacGregor Memorial Medal by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan.

- **Instituted on** - July 03, 1888.
- The medal commemorates Major General Sir Charles Metcalfe MacGregor, founder of USI (established in 1870).
- **Aim** - Originally intended to recognize the acts of military reconnaissance and exploratory journeys.
- The medal's scope was expanded in 1986, post-Independence, to include military expeditions and adventure activities.
- **Eligibility** - The medal is **available to individuals of all ranks**, both active and retired, from the *Indian Armed Forces, Territorial Army, and Assam Rifles*.
- **Recent Awardees - Awardees for 2023** - Wing Commander D. Panda from the Air Force and Electrical Artificer (Radio) Rahul Kumar Pandey from the Navy.
- **Awardees for 2024** - Chief Electrical Aircraft Artificer (Radio) Ram Ratan Jat of the Navy and Sergeant Jhumar Ram Poonia from the Air Force were honoured with the medal.
- Colonel Ranvir Singh Jamwal, Director of the National Institute of Mountaineering and Adventure Sports in Arunachal Pradesh, was also awarded.
- The event also featured the launch of the book ***Bravest of the Brave***, inspirational chronicle on the life and heroic journey of Naib Subedar Chunni Lal, AC, VrC, SM, by the Chief of Defence Staff.

United Service Institution of India (USI)

- It is a ***national security and defense services think tank*** based in New Delhi, India.
- **Founded in** - Simla in 1870 by Col. (later Maj Gen) Charles Metcalf MacGregor.
- **Aim** - Established to advance military knowledge and professional development among British Indian Army officers.
- Its mission encompassed promoting knowledge in the art, science, and literature of national security, with a particular focus on the Defence Services.
- It focuses on national security, defense, and military affairs, providing a platform for research, debate, and the advancement of knowledge in these areas.

References

1. [PIB | MacGregor Memorial Medal Award](#)

2. [The Hindu | MacGregor memorial medals](#)

