

PM Modi awarded Sri Lanka's Mitra Vibhushana

Prelims - *Current events of International Importance*

Mains (GS II) - *Bilateral relations*

Why in News?

Shri Narendra Modi (1st Indian) was honored with the Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana Award.

- Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana is the highest honour bestowed on foreign leaders.
- It honours **Heads of State and government heads** with whom Sri Lanka has cordial relations.
- It appreciates their friendship towards and solidarity with the people of Sri Lanka.
- **Instituted in** - 2008.
- **Instituted by** - Mahinda Rajapaksa (former President of Sri Lanka).
- This award ranks higher than the national honours granted by Sri Lanka, including the Sri Lanka Rathna (equivalent to the Bharat Ratna).



- The award consists of a citation and a silver medal studded with Navarathna, or 9 Sri Lankan gems.
- The Navarathna surrounds a globe encircled by lotus petals.
- At its centre is a Pun Kalasa, a ceremonial pot with rice sheaves, akin to the kalasa used during Sankranti. It signifies prosperity and renewal.
- The top of the medal bears symbols of the Sun and the Moon. It also features a Dharma Chakra, representing the shared Buddhist heritage of both countries.
- The medal is worn around the neck with a 6.5 cm wide ribbon.
- The award is granted at the President's discretion.

Other foreign country awards received by PM Modi

Saudi Arabia's Order of King Abdul Aziz	Mauritius' Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean	United States' Legion of Merit
Order of the State of Palestine	Russia's Order of St Andrew	Papua New Guinea's Order of Logohu
United Arab Emirates' Order of Zayed	State Order of Ghazi Amir Amanullah Khan of Afghanistan	Egypt's Order of the Nile
Order of Fiji	Order of the Distinguished Rule of Nishan Izzuddin of Maldives	Legion of Honour of France
Egypt's Order of the Nile	King Hamad Order of the Renaissance of Bahrain	Order of Honour of Greece
Bhutan's Order of the Dragon King		

References

1. [PIB | Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana award](#)
2. [The Indian Express | Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana](#)