

MacGregor Memorial Medal

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MacGregor Memorial Medal Latest News

Five military personnel were recently conferred the MacGregor Memorial Medal by Chief of Defence Staff for outstanding contributions in military reconnaissance, exploration and adventure for the years 2023 and 2024.

About MacGregor Memorial Medal

- It was **instituted on 03 July 1888 to commemorate** the memory of **Maj. Gen. Sir Charles Metcalfe MacGregor**, the **founder of the United Service Institution of India (USI)**.
- Initially this medal was awarded **for military reconnaissance and journeys of exploration** such as British Army expeditions in Central Asia, Afghanistan, Tibet, and Burma.
- **After independence**, it was decided to award this medal **for adventure activities as well**.
- The medal is **open to all ranks, serving and retired, of the Indian Armed Forces, Territorial Army, and Assam Rifles**.
- Among the **notable recipients** of this in the past are **Capt F E Younghusband** (1890), Maj. Gen. Orde Charles Wingate (1943), **Maj. ZC Bakshi**, VrC (1949), **Col. Narinder Kumar for Siachen Glacier**

exploration (1978-81) and Cdr. Dilip Donde and Lt. Cdr. Abhilash Tomy for their solo global circumnavigations.

What is the United Service Institution of India (USI)?

- It is a **national security and defence services think tank** based in **New Delhi**, India.
- It was **founded in Simla in 1870 by Col. (later Maj Gen) Charles Metcalf MacGregor**, to advance military knowledge and professional development among British Indian Army officers.
- It is the **oldest autonomous think tank in India**.
- Its mission encompassed promoting knowledge in the art, science, and literature of national security, with a particular focus on the Defence Services.

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