

रक्षा अलंकरण समारोह
Defence Investiture Ceremony

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

SHRI AMIT KUMAR, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT, CRPF

On 12th October, 2020, on input about the presence of armed terrorists in Old Barzulla area, PS Saddar, Distt Srinagar, a joint operation was launched by Valley QAT, CRPF, SOG and J&K Police. As planned all the adjacent houses were searched and civilians were evacuated to safety. Presence of two suspected terrorists in the house was felt.

While the team under command of Shri Amit Kumar, AC, was tactically moving towards the entry of the target house, the hidden terrorist opened heavy fire on them. The terrorist lobbed a grenade towards the team. The grenade blast resulted in injuries to two of his teammates. Seeing his teammates in imminent danger, Shri Amit Kumar, AC exhibited true camaraderie and exceptional leadership skills and evacuated his injured teammates to safety. As Shri Amit Kumar, AC, was about to reach the first floor, the terrorist lobbed a grenade and fired fusillade of bullets towards him, but he had a miraculous escape and remained undeterred. Amid the spraying of bullets, he took the terrorist on in a head-on-battle and neutralized the category 'A++' terrorist from close quarters. In ensued close quarter gun battle another terrorist was also killed during the encounter.

In recognition of his extreme valour and exemplary determination in the face of imminent threat and danger, in the highest traditions of the force, Shri Amit Kumar, AC, is awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA”**.

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

SHRI SATENDRA SINGH, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT, 21 BN, CRPF

On 28th June, 2021, based on intelligence inputs regarding a possible terrorist attack on SF, a dreaded terrorist, travelling in a vehicle, was apprehended on Srinagar- Baramulla National Highway. Based on the input of the apprehended terrorist, an operation was launched by Valley QAT, CRPF, SOG and 2RR. AC Satendra Singh along-with his team, laid an effective cordon and tactically established a firebase, covering the front of the target house.

To prevent the terrorists from escaping, AC Satendra Singh assessed the situation and tactically advanced and augmented the cordon at the rear of the house. In order to create an opening in the house's rear wall, he advanced and placed himself strategically, so that MGL/RL could be fired effectively. On seeing the movement, the terrorist opened a volley of fire towards the team. Despite clear and imminent danger to his life, AC Satendra Singh kept firing and advanced towards the terrorist. During the close quarter battle, AC Satendra Singh received a bullet injury on his left arm, and it got completely broken. Despite his injuries, excruciating pain and blood loss, he crawled forward and continued to engage the terrorist. During the post encounter search, two dead bodies of terrorists were recovered along with 2 AK series rifles, 13 AK rounds and 1 UBGL.

AC Satendra Singh displayed most exceptional bravery and unwavering courage in the face of imminent threat and danger and eliminated a terrorist despite being badly injured. AC Satendra Singh is awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA”**.

"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

2693096F HAVILDAR GHANSHYAM, THE GRENADIERS, 55TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

On 13 July, 2021 at 22:30 hrs, specific input was received regarding presence of terrorists in Pulwama town (Jammu and Kashmir). Havildar Ghanshyam with his intimate knowledge of terrain ensured swift laying of an impregnable cordon and quickly readjusted his position to cover the escape routes.

At 08:40 hrs on 14 July, 2021, Havildar Ghanshyam and his buddy came under heavy fire from a terrorist attempting to break the cordon. Exhibiting raw courage and tactical acumen, Havildar Ghanshyam swiftly retaliated with accurate fire thereby preventing escape. Once it was decided to close in towards terrorist hiding in the house, Havildar Ghanshyam volunteered to undertake this daunting task alongwith his buddy. With utter disregard to his personal safety and exhibiting extraordinary valour, Havildar Ghanshyam dashed towards the terrorist from limited cover and eliminated the terrorist at close range under covering fire from his buddy. Terrorist eliminated was identified as a Category 'A++' terrorist.

For displaying indomitable courage, exceptional dedication and devotion beyond the call of duty resulting in elimination of one hardcore terrorist, Havildar Ghanshyam is awarded **"SHAURYA CHAKRA"**.

"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

**SHRI VIKKI KUMAR PANDEY, DEPUTY COMMANDANT,
209 CoBRA, CRPF**

SHRI VIJAY ORAON, CONSTABLE/GD, 209 CoBRA, CRPF

An intelligence input was received regarding the movement of dreaded armed Maoists Dasta near Kadaldag Pahar. Accordingly, on 15 July, 2021, a joint operation was planned and 04 SAT (Small Action Teams) were constituted. DC Vikki Kumar Pandey was leading SAT-C.

At around 08:52 hrs, while approaching the suspected target area, all of a sudden, the assault groups (SAT-A, SAT-B and SAT-C) came under a heavy volley of fire. DC Vikki Kumar Pandey along with Constable/GD Vijay Oraon and their team took vanguard action and crawled towards the Maoists hide out, amid intense Maoists firing. The coordinated counter attack resulted in breaking the ranks and files of the Maoists and forcing them to flee from the site, taking cover of the undulating terrain.

DC Vikki Kumar Pandey and Constable/GD Vijay Oraon chased the fleeing Maoists for approximately 3.5 KMs in a dense, undulating and IED-prone jungle area. During this fierce encounter, the advancing troops succeeded in neutralising and recovering the dead body of one hardcore Maoist leader along with his AK 47 weapon. During the entire operation, the troops also detected and destroyed 33 Nos of IEDs in-situ.

DC Vikki Kumar Pandey and Constable/GD Vijay Oraon exhibited act of bravery and unwavering courage in the face of imminent threat and danger, in the highest traditions of the force and neutralised a hardcore Maoist leader. DC Vikki Kumar Pandey and Constable/GD Vijay Oraon are awarded **"SHAURYA CHAKRA"**.

"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER MRITUNJAY KUMAR (07456-W)

At 23:00 hrs on 23 July, 2021, an outer cordon was established in Shok Baba forest in Kashmir. Lt Cdr Mritunjay Kumar led the MARCOS team for SADO in the challenging dense mountainous forest terrain.

At 07:10 hrs on 24 July, 2021, two terrorists hiding near a boulder opened indiscriminate fire on the search team wherein one personnel got injured. Whilst terrorists were pinned down by a heavy volume of retaliatory fire by the joint team including MARCOS, the officer noticed two other terrorists escaping uphill. The valiant pursuit and precise tracking by the officer in an extremely treacherous terrain regardless of his tactically disadvantageous position and personal safety resulted in subsequent neutralisation of both terrorists by the readjusted uphill stops. After this, the officer conducted hot extraction of the injured personnel downhill to the MARCOS evacuation team and administered IC Fluids and compression bandage en route.

Whilst army troops approached the boulder to confirm status of neutralised terrorist, the second terrorist opened fire on them. With utter disregard to his personal safety, the officer broke cover and unleashed a heavy volume of aimed fire to subdue the terrorist. This effectively stopped firing by the terrorist. Thereafter, during the search conducted, the body of neutralized terrorist with war like stores was recovered.

In keeping with the highest traditions of the Indian Navy, Lt Cdr Mritunjay Kumar went beyond the call of his duty during OP SHOKBABA FOREST (2021) displaying rare courage, personal example and selfless daring for which he is awarded "**SHAURYA CHAKRA**".

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

IC-78962W MAJOR AMIT DAHIYA, SENA MEDAL, FIRST BATTALION THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT (SPECIAL FORCES)

Major Amit Dahiya, Sena Medal, was leading a Search and Destroy Operation Team, tasked to eliminate foreign terrorists in Pulwama district based on the intelligence provided by General Officer Commanding, Counter Insurgency Force (Victor) and corroborated by different intelligence agencies.

On 31st July, 2021 the officer through his meticulous planning and tactical acumen inducted his team in general area under inclement weather conditions, using unexpected route to achieve complete surprise. He astutely deployed his Sniper Detachments to observe the area from vantage points and stops to cut off likely escape routes. At 06:05 hrs, suspicious movement was seen in the general area. Terrorists upon sensing danger came out from a Dhok and started firing indiscriminately, using civilians as cover. On ascertaining threat to own troops and civilians, Major Amit Dahiya, Sena Medal, took bold initiative and tactically manoeuvred to close in and neutralized the terrorist in a fierce gun battle. Thereafter, he provided accurate fire support to assist in neutralizing the second terrorist while ensuring no collateral damage.

For displaying enterprising leadership, conspicuous courage, tactical acumen and unvanquishable determination, Major Amit Dahiya, Sena Medal, is awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA”**.

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

**SHRI SOMAY VINAYAK MUNDE, IPS, ADDL. SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE
(NOW SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE), MAHARASHTRA POLICE**

**SHRI RAVINDRA KASHINATH NAITAM, HEAD CONSTABLE,
MAHARASHTRA POLICE**

**SHRI TIKARAM SAMPATRAO KATENGE, POLICE NAIK,
MAHARASHTRA POLICE**

On 12th November, 2021 information was received about the gathering of 120-130 heavily armed insurgents and their plan to conduct a major attack on security forces. An anti-naxal operation was chalked out by Shri Somay Munde, Addl. Supdt. of Police (Now Supdt. of Police) (Ops.), Gadchiroli.

On 13th November, 2021 at around 06:00 hrs, while the group were combing through the forest of Mardintola, the Maoists hidden on the hilltop, suddenly attacked the forces and fired indiscriminately. During this exchange of fire, Shri Tikaram Katenge received grievous bullet injuries on the right hand and right shoulder, his dominant hand was incapacitated and heavily bleeding. Sensing grave danger to his colleagues, in spite of grievous injuries, he shifted his rifle position to left hand and continued to retaliate and neutralized all the three Maoists. But Maoists, seeing wounded jawans, began to encircle them using accurate BGL fire in order to cause maximum damage. Shri Somay Munde along with 6 personnel left cover and began crawling to the spot under heavy fire. Through controlled and accurate fire, he and his assault group neutralized six heavily armed Maoists. He and Shri Ravindra Naitam laid down accurate fire to neutralize three more Maoists.

During this flanking manoeuvre, two Maoists hiding in the nearby bush fired indiscriminately at the flanking jawans in order to achieve surprise. Shri Ravindra Naitam, with utter disregard for personal safety, charged at the two Maoists and neutralized them. During this charge, he received a grazing bullet wound to his head. In spite of shock and bleeding due to the bullet wound, he continued to fire in order to maintain pressure. Shri Munde, through spot-on tactical acumen and audacious manoeuvre, was able to neutralize two more armed Maoists. This sudden counter attack destroyed morale among the Maoists rank, due to which they retreated from the wounded jawan. During the search, police found 26 Maoists lying unconscious on the ground. Also, 29 firearms and other naxal belonging in huge quantities were recovered from the place of incident.

For displaying extraordinary courage; extreme valour and exemplary determination in the face of imminent danger, Shri Somay Vinayak Munde, IPS, Addl. Supdt. of Police (Now Supdt. of Police) (Ops.), Shri Ravindra Kashinath Naitam, Head Constable, and Shri Tikaram Sampatrao Katenge, Police Naik are awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA”**.

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

IC-72252H MAJOR NITIN DHAANIA, 2ND BATTALION THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT (SPECIAL FORCES)

On 13 December, 2021, Major Nitin Dhaania was tasked to execute a surgical operation in a crowded area of South Kashmir (Jammu and Kashmir) to avert terrorist attack on Army convoy.

At around 13:30 hrs, two terrorists in guise of civilians were identified by him. Sensing danger to civilians and imminent threat to Army convoy, he alongwith his buddy discreetly closed in towards the terrorists and tactfully challenged the terrorists, who retaliated with automatic fire towards them. Major Nitin and his buddy immediately grabbed the terrorists and engaged them in hand to hand combat. In ensuing grapple, he eliminated a terrorist identified as a Category 'A+' terrorist. Subsequently, sensing mortal threat to his buddy, he rushed towards him and in another aimed shot eliminated the second terrorist identified as a category 'A' terrorist.

For displaying exceptional courage with utter disregard to personal safety, indomitable fighting spirit, ferocity in combat and averting an attack on an Army Convoy and saving precious lives of civilians, Major Nitin Dhaania is awarded “**SHAURYA CHAKRA**”.

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

14941570X LANCE NAIK RAGH VENDRA SINGH, THE MECHANISED INFANTRY, 9TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

Lance Naik Ragh Vendra Singh was serving 9 Rashtriya Rifles. He was a part of the initial team of a cordon and search operation, launched by the unit on 29 December, 2021 in a village in Kulgam District (Jammu and Kashmir).

At around 21:40 hrs, Lance Naik Ragh Vendra received a radio call about a suspect approaching his side, he immediately realigned himself towards terrorists and charged upon them while firing swiftly and accurately. The terrorists opened indiscriminate fire and lobbed grenades towards Lance Naik Ragh Vendra, injuring him grievously and attempted escape into the orchards. In a bold action, unmindful of his injury, displaying ingenuity, initiative, most conspicuous gallantry and unparalleled bravery Lance Naik Ragh Vendra closed in with the terrorists under fire and neutralized a hard-core terrorist from point blank range ensuring no injuries to the troops or the civilians. The terrorist was later identified a Category ‘A++’ terrorist.

Despite sustaining gunshot injury, he displayed exceptional courage and valour with little regard for personal safety, resulting in the elimination of a hard-core terrorist. Lance Naik Ragh Vendra Singh is awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA”**.

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

**IC-80532L MAJOR SANDEEP KUMAR, THE GRENADIERS, 55TH
BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES**

Since March 2020, Major Sandeep Kumar has exhibited exceptional resoluteness and fortitude during five successful operations resulting in elimination of 13 terrorists.

On 05 January, 2022 at 04:30 hrs, during a specific operation in Pulwama district (Jammu and Kashmir), three terrorists equipped with modern assault rifles and night vision devices opened indiscriminate fire on search party of Major Sandeep from a cowshed. Undeterred by terrorist fire and with utter disregard to personal safety, the officer crawled ahead under covering fire provided by his buddy and closed in to the cowshed in an open area without any cover. The terrorists opened indiscriminate fire on Major Sandeep and his buddy. Displaying unflinching loyalty, he pushed his buddy away from grave danger, exposing himself to heavy terrorist fire. In an act of unparalleled courage, he engaged terrorists in a face to face gun fight eliminating one terrorist and grievously injuring the other terrorist. Terrorist eliminated was identified as a Category 'A+' terrorist.

For displaying supreme leadership and exemplary courage beyond the call of duty, Major Sandeep Kumar is awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA”**.

"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

**SS-47677W MAJOR ABHISHEK SINGH, THE MECHANISED INFANTRY,
50TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES**

On 06-07 January, 2022, he was part of Operation ZOIU leading his team to lay initial cordon in Budgam District (Jammu and Kashmir). The officer observed suspicious movement of three individuals who opened indiscriminate fire on being challenged. Effective retaliation by the officer foiled escape bid.

Post neutralization of first terrorist, remaining two terrorists got holed up in narrow alley between houses. Major Abhishek Singh leading search team volunteered to clear it physically. While closing in team was fired upon by hiding terrorist and in ensuing firefight Major Abhishek Singh injured second terrorist with effective fire. Meanwhile, grenade lobbed by third terrorist injured the officer near left eye. Though bleeding profusely, the officer regained his wit and located third terrorist firing at the search team. Sensing grave danger to his buddy and disregarding personal safety the officer swiftly manoeuvred to acquire advantageous position and took aimed shots and neutralized heavily armed category 'A+' foreign terrorist.

For displaying commendable leadership and bravery thereby injuring one terrorist and eliminating the other heavily armed foreign terrorist, Major Abhishek Singh is awarded "**SHAURYA CHAKRA**".

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

**SQUADRON LEADER SANDEEP KUMAR JHAJHRIA, (33270)
ACCOUNTS/GARUD**

**CORPORAL (NOW SERGEANT) ANAND SINGH, (954576) INDIAN AIR
FORCE (GARUD)**

On 29 January, 2022 at 15:10 hrs, an operation was launched jointly by Indian Air Force Garud team and 55 RR in Nyir (Tahab) village, district Pulwama (J&K).

At 00:30 hrs on 30 January, 20:22 with the intention to escape, three terrorists equipped with modern assault rifles and night vision devices came out of the house firing indiscriminately and lobbing grenades at the Garud Cordon team. Maintaining tactical composure and indomitable courage, Squadron Leader Sandeep Kumar Jhahria swiftly retaliated with effective and accurate fire on the fleeing terrorists and foiled their escape bid. The terrorists opened heavy volume of fire on him and his buddy. The officer was hit by volley of fire on his left shoulder and arm. Undeterred by terrorist fire and his injury, he engaged the terrorists in a face to face gun fight eliminating one terrorist and grievously injuring another terrorist. In the same action, exhibiting raw courage and tactical acumen, Corporal (Now Sergeant) Anand Singh swiftly retaliated with accurate fire thereby preventing escape of the terrorists and eliminated one terrorist. Meanwhile one more terrorist who was hiding came out and started firing and Corporal (Now Sergeant) Anand Singh was hit by a bullet on his right lower back. Though bleeding profusely, he continued to engage the terrorist.

For act of exceptional courage, displaying indomitable valour and exemplary gallantry beyond call of duty, Squadron Leader Sandeep Kumar Jhahria and Corporal (Now Sergeant) Anand Singh are awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA”**.

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

**IC-77164W MAJOR ADITYA BHADAURIA, THE KUMAON REGIMENT, 50TH
BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES**

On 11 March, 2022, a critical input was received regarding presence of terrorists in a village in Pulwama District (Jammu and Kashmir). Major Aditya Bhadauria as mission leader displayed exceptional leadership and tactical acumen in laying an impeccable cordon with surprise.

During evacuation of civilians from target cluster, terrorists using assault rifles engaged own troops with indiscriminate auto fire and grenades in which one civilian was injured. Major Aditya Bhadauria effectively retaliated, ensured safe evacuation of civilian and tactically readjusted the cordon to foil escape bid by terrorists. Major Aditya Bhadauria and his buddy stealthily crawled under fire towards one of the hiding terrorist. Undeterred by heavy hostile fire, he lobbed grenade which forced terrorist out from cover coming face to face with him. Exhibiting nerves of steel and raw courage, Major Aditya Bhadauria eliminated a hard core terrorist in an extremely close quarter fire fight.

For displaying indomitable courage and devotion beyond call of duty under most challenging condition, Major Aditya Bhadauria is awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA”**.

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

**GROUP CAPTAIN YOGESHWAR KRISHNARAO KANDALKAR, (27207)
FLYING (PILOT)**

FLIGHT LIEUTENANT TEJPAL, (36539) METEOROLOGY/ GARUD

**LEADING AIRCRAFTMAN SUNIL KUMAR, (990231) INDIAN AIR FORCE
(SECURITY)**

During the period from **10 April 22 to 11 April 22**, Group Captain Kandalkar, Flight Lieutenant Tejpal and Leading Aircraftman Sunil Kumar were part of a rescue team tasked to evacuate pilgrims stranded in cable cars after an accident at a remote ropeway at Trikut hills at Deoghar district, Jharkhand.

Trikut ropeway is one of India's highest vertical ropeways with the cables raising at an angle of 45° on a hill upto 3000 ft. The rescue mission required free air hovering by helicopters with no external references available. The mission also posed an extreme danger of cables striking the helicopter rotors which were swaying due to the helicopter downwash. Group Captain Kandalkar carried out precise free air hover over the cable cars in precarious terrain and in close proximity of obstructions; firstly to insert a Garud Commando onto the roof of a cable car amidst the swaying cables and then started the onerous task of winching the pilgrims one by one without getting them entangled with the ropeway cables. Flight Lieutenant Tejpal led his team of Garud Commandos from the front by volunteering to be the first one to winch down from the helicopter; on to the dangling cable car. He rescued nine pilgrims from three cable cars and was the last one to exit the cable car each time after ensuring evacuation. Leading Aircraftman Sunil Kumar assisted in ensuring early evacuation. While being lowered on to a cable car, he was hit by nearby electric cables and received an electric shock. In spite of the injury, he continued the rescue mission and rescued a pilgrim with fractured spine. He displayed excellent determination, perseverance and exemplary courage in rescuing a total of 12 pilgrims from three cable cars regardless of his personal safety in a life threatening situation. During the mission, the IAF team rescued a total of 35 precious lives from 10 cable cars.

For acts of exceptional courage, displaying indomitable valour and exemplary gallantry beyond call of duty, Group Captain Yogeshwar Krishnarao Kandalkar, Flight Lieutenant Tejpal and Leading Aircraftman Sunil Kumar are awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA”**.

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

SS-48529X CAPTAIN (NOW MAJOR) YUDHVIR SINGH, THE MECHANISED INFANTRY, 9TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

On 11 April, 2022, Captain (Now Major) Yudhvir led a covert surveillance and interception team based on specific intelligence regarding terrorist's movement in a vehicle in Kulgam district.

On observing the suspect vehicle, Captain (Now Major) Yudhvir expeditiously gave pursuit and blocked escape routes of terrorists. Terrorists being cornered opened heavy volley of fire upon the officer. Undeterred by terrorist fire and unmindful of personal safety, officer alongwith his buddy engaged the terrorists with effective fire. Swift retaliation forced the terrorists to seek refuge in nearby house. Officer displaying presence of mind, re-oriented his team into close cordon. Terrorists, being surrounded, attempted to escape from cordon by lobbing grenades and firing indiscriminately. Sensing danger to life of civilians and own troops, Captain (Now Major) Yudhvir displayed steely nerves and in an act of bravery, crawled to likely escape route of terrorists and surprised them with spectacular dash alongwith lethal and precise fire onto terrorists from close range, thus eliminating hard core terrorist.

During operation, the officer displayed audacious bravery, heroic courage and valour with utter disregard for personal safety, Captain (Now Major) Yudhvir Singh is awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA”**.

"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

SS-48830N CAPTAIN RAKESH T R, 9TH BATTALION THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT (SPECIAL FORCES)

Honourable Prime Minister was scheduled to visit Jammu for a Public Rally on 24 April, 2022. Amid heightened security for the visit, inputs of likely fidayeen attack on rally were received.

On receiving input of likely terrorist presence in Jammu district, Captain Rakesh immediately mobilized his team. While on the move Captain Rakesh received input of attack by terrorists on a security forces convoy, in which own fatalities were suspected. On reaching the contact site located in densely populated area, Captain Rakesh quickly spotted terrorists using a quad copter and manoeuvred tactically to place a close cordon around them. On realising that they were surrounded, terrorists started firing indiscriminately to break cordon and move towards civilian area. Captain Rakesh sensing imminent danger to civilian lives, pinned down one of terrorist by bringing down heavy fire on him and then, with utter disregard to his own safety and showing nerves of steel, charged towards the terrorist and neutralized him by accurate fire.

For his sharp tactical acumen, nerves of steel and unparalleled courage under fire while eliminating one terrorist and preventing a Fidayeen attack, Captain Rakesh TR is awarded "**SHAURYA CHAKRA**".

"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

13779485Y LANCE NAIK VIKAS CHOUDHARY, THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR RIFLES, 3RD BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

On 06 May, 2022, on receiving specific intelligence input regarding presence of terrorists, a search and destroy operation was launched in forested area of Anantnag district, where Lance Naik Vikas Choudhary was part of the operational team.

Along with his buddy, Lance Naik Vikas Choudhary was deployed to cordon off the target area and cover likely escape route. At approximately 15:00 hrs, one terrorist, taking cover of the terrain and boulders attempted to escape and started indiscriminate fire on the cordon party. Lance Naik Vikas Choudhary with utter disregard to his personal safety, displaying tremendous courage and outstanding firing skills, crawled to a tactically superior position. Displaying presence of mind, he under the covering fire of his buddy dashed towards the terrorist and brought down effective fire, thereby neutralizing one hardcore terrorist.

For this gallant act of exceptional bravery against perilous danger, Lance Naik Vikas Choudhary is awarded "**SHAURYA CHAKRA**".

"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

SS-48517H CAPTAIN (NOW MAJOR) ARUN KUMAR, THE KUMAON REGIMENT, 13TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

Captain (Now Major) Arun Kumar was leading surveillance cum ambush team in the hills of Bandipore district on 11 May, 2022 on specific intelligence regarding movement of terrorists.

On 13 May, 2022 at approximately 15:00 hrs, two terrorists were spotted. The officer appreciated the situation and readjusted troops in an aggressive posture to box the terrorists and deny them escape routes. On being challenged, the terrorists fired indiscriminately and took cover behind a boulder. The officer with utter disregard to his personal safety crawled as close as five meters from the terrorists amidst intense fire. The terrorists lobbed two grenades towards a fellow officer which he avoided tactfully. He decided to momentarily expose himself, confronting the terrorists in close proximity. In the fire fight at close quarters, he gallantly neutralised one terrorist. Subsequently, the officer relocated himself to acquire tactically advantageous position, took aimed shots which forced the second terrorist to expose himself leading to his neutralisation.

For displaying commendable leadership and bravery thereby eliminating one terrorist and assisting the elimination of second terrorist, Captain (Now Major) Arun Kumar is awarded "**SHAURYA CHAKRA**".

"KIRTI CHAKRA"

15486168N NAIK DEVENDRA PRATAP SINGH, THE ARMoured CORPS, 55TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

On 29 January, 2022 at 15:10 hrs, specific input was received regarding presence of terrorists in a village in Pulwama District (Jammu and Kashmir). Naik Devendra Pratap Singh displayed exceptional tactical acumen in laying an impregnable cordon.

During search, when subjected to indiscriminate fire by four terrorists equipped with modern assault rifles, Naik Devendra Pratap Singh stood his ground undeterred and immediately retaliated, which prevented terrorist escape. Displaying indomitable courage with utter disregard to personal safety, he crawled under fire and positioned himself near target house in the line of fire within three meters from hiding terrorists. Terrorists rushed out of the house firing indiscriminately, lobbing grenades and came face to face with him. Exhibiting nerves of steel and bravery of highest order, Naik Devendra Pratap Singh eliminated one terrorist on the spot and swiftly changed his position to engage fleeing terrorists thereby eliminating the second terrorist. Terrorists eliminated were identified as a Category 'A++', and Category 'C' terrorists.

For displaying indomitable courage and devotion beyond call of duty resulting in elimination of two hardcore terrorists, Naik Devendra Pratap Singh is awarded "**KIRTI CHAKRA**".

“KIRTI CHAKRA”

SS-46926X MAJOR SHUBHANG, THE DOGRA REGIMENT, 62ND BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

Major Shubhang personally led his team through inhospitable, rugged and thickly vegetated terrain in extreme weather conditions to lay cordon of a village in Budgam district on 21 April, 2022. At around 03:45 hrs, on observing suspicious movement, Major Shubhang displayed nerves of steel to allow suspects to reach as close as ten meters, before challenging them; on which terrorists opened indiscriminate heavy small arms and Under Barrel Grenade Launcher fire, injuring the officer and two personnel of his team. Undeterred, Major Shubhang exhibited unparalleled valour despite sustaining gunshot wound on left shoulder and neutralised a hard core terrorist in an intense close quarter fire fight.

As the second terrorist continued to bring fire on injured comrades, Major Shubhang crawled to change his position and engaged the terrorist forcing him to hide in a nearby house which resulted in his subsequent neutralisation. Thereafter, the injured officer evacuated his injured buddies from the operation site before being evacuated himself.

For his conspicuous bravery and stout leadership in going beyond the call of duty in face of grave and imminent danger to his men, Major Shubhang is awarded “**KIRTI CHAKRA**”.

"KIRTI CHAKRA"

3011334X NAIK JITENDRA SINGH, THE RAJPUT REGIMENT, 44TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

Naik Jitendra Singh, since December, 2021, exhibited exceptional valour and courage as lead guide in three operations resulting in elimination of seven terrorists.

On 27 April, 2022, an operation was launched in Pulwama district on input of the presence of two terrorists. Naik Jitendra spotted the terrorists who lobbed multiple grenades towards him and tried to break cordon. Naik Jitendra got hit by a splinter. Showing nerves of steel, even after getting injured, Naik Jitendra crawled towards target house and eliminated one terrorist in close gunfight. Second terrorist again lobbed grenades and fired indiscriminately towards Naik Jitendra causing multiple gunshot wounds to him. Realising mortal danger to his buddy and troops in cordon, Naik Jitendra, displaying supreme gallantry, crawled towards the terrorist and injured him in another close gunfight. Subsequently, he fell unconscious and was evacuated to 92 Base Hospital.

For his indomitable spirit, exemplary initiative, supreme bravery in neutralising a hard core terrorist and injuring another, Naik Jitendra Singh is awarded "**KIRTI CHAKRA**".

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

9115892W RIFLEMAN AURANGZAB, JAMMU AND KASHMIR LIGHT INTANTRY, 44TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)

On 6th November, 2017 a cordon & search operation was launched at village Aglar on input of presence of three terrorists. Rifleman Aurangzab, having detailed knowledge of terrain and layout of hosues, volunteered for the search team.

During the search, sudden and indiscriminate heavy fire was brought down by terrorists, grievously injuring the buddy of Rifleman Aurangzab. Unwavering in the face of mortal danger to his own life, Rifleman Aurangzab displayed exceptional bravery and highest tactical acumen while retrieving the injured buddy to safety, single handedly. He again stormed the house with his team, wherein three terrorists were neutralized.

On 14 June, 2018 when proceeding to celebrate “Eid”, he was abducted by terrorists in a despicable act. He looked into the eyes of the abductors without blinking, without cowing down and got martyrdom, epitomizing the mettle and character of the Indian Army Soldier.

For displaying selfless bravery and exception initiative under grave danger, leading to evacuation of an injured soldier and subsequent neutralization of three terrorists, Rifleman Aurangzab is awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUSLY)”**.

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

3017767L SEPOY KARN VEER SINGH, THE RAJPUT REGIMENT, 44TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES, (POSTHUMOUS)

Based on specific HUMINT regarding movement of two unidentified terrorists in a village in Shopian district (Jammu and Kashmir), an ambush was laid on 20th October, 2021. Sepoy Karn Veer Singh was scout of the team which had laid the ambush.

At 10:30 hrs, when intercepted by the ambush, both the terrorists in an attempt to escape jumped into a nalla. Sepoy Karn Veer Singh foreseeing the contingency of terrorists' escape dashed after them alone for 100 meters. Terrorists realizing that they were being chased fired at him indiscriminately and lobbed grenades injuring him. Undaunted by his injuries, Sepoy Karn Veer Singh crawled ahead for 30 meters and accurately engaged the terrorists and pinned them down. At close range, he eliminated terrorist in an intense firefight. Displaying unprecedented courage and devotion to duty, Sepoy Karn Veer Singh continued to engage with the second terrorist, injured him before receiving a bullet injury on his head and laid his life in the line of duty.

For eliminating one hardcore terrorist and injuring another one, despite being mortally wounded, Sepoy Karn Veer Singh is awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUSLY)”**.

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

15240522P GUNNER JASBIR SINGH, THE REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY, 19TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)

On specific input, a cordon and search operation was launched on 29th December, 2021 in a village in Anantnag district (Jammu and Kashmir), Gunner Jasbir Singh was a part of the inner cordon during the operation.

As the deliberate search of target house was in progress, the terrorists opened indiscriminate fire and lobbed two grenades in a bid to break the cordon and flee. Sensing danger to own troops late Gunner Jasbir Singh immediately sprung into action and with sheer disregard to his personal safety, he repositioned himself and retaliated with accurate fire which blocked the escape route of terrorists. But terrorists continued the firing. He then showing indomitable courage moved ahead, closed in with the firing terrorists and eliminated a terrorist with M4 weapon at close range. The terrorist was identified as a CAT 'A++' terrorist. In the ensuing gunfight, Gunner Jasbir Singh sustained multiple gunshot wounds and made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

For displaying exceptional gallantry beyond the call of duty and nerve of steel under hostile fire in the face of enemy, Gunner Jasbir Singh is awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUSLY)”**.

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

665/SPO CONSTABLE MUDASIR AHMAD SHEIKH, JAMMU AND KASHMIR POLICE (BARAMULLA) (POSTHUMOUS)

On 25 May, 2022, an input of three heavily armed terrorists, travelling in a vehicle was received and a Joint operation was launched in Baramulla.

Constable Mudasir Ahmad Sheikh a seasoned soldier was prompt to identify and challenged the suspicious vehicle. Sensing imminent danger, the terrorists tried to escape. To deny any opportunity to escape, the officer charged on to the vehicle with utter disregard to his personal safety. Displaying raw courage, he dragged one terrorist out of the vehicle. The other terrorists now opened indiscriminate fire resulting in grievous injury to Constable Mudasir Ahmad Sheikh. In a swift response he opened a volley of fire to neutralise the terrorist. He however succumbed to his injuries on way to being evacuated. The operation led to neutralisation of three terrorists and recovery of huge cache of arms and ammunition thereby averting a major incident.

For displaying stellar gallantry, exemplary initiative, and unmatched courage while under fire, Constable Mudasir Ahmad Sheikh is awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)”**.

“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

13773112P NAIK JASBIR SINGH, 6TH BATTALION THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)

Naik Jasbir Singh was part of intelligence team deployed in extremely rugged and densely forested area of Jammu and Kashmir. The Non Commissioned Officer always displayed astute professionalism and high degree of intellect in analysing the input correctly.

At around 01:00 hrs on 08 July, 2022, the alert Non Commissioned Officer observed the movement of two terrorists in Kupwara district. Exhibiting tactical composure, he patiently allowed terrorists in killing area and opened accurate and effective fire on them. In retaliation, he faced heavy indiscriminate fire from the terrorists. In a bold action, unmindful of his personal safety, displaying ingenuity, initiative, conspicuous gallantry and unparalleled bravery, he closed in with the terrorist under fire and neutralized one of them. Displaying daunting courage and devotion to duty, Naik Jasbir Singh continued to engage the second terrorist, thus injuring him. In the ensuing firefight, Naik Jasbir Singh sustained multiple gunshot wounds and made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

Despite being grievously injured, showing utter disregard to personal safety and exceptional gallantry beyond the call of duty, he eliminated one terrorist and injured the other, Naik Jasbir Singh is awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)”**.

“KIRTI CHAKRA”

SHRI SUDIP SARKAR, CONSTABLE/GD, BSF (POSTHUMOUS)

During night intervening 07/08 November, 2020, Shri Sudip Sarkar, CT/GD, 169 Bn, was part of a patrol-cum-Ambush team along the Anti-Infiltration Obstacle System (AIOS) on the LoC, Distt- Kupwara, Kashmir. Shri Sudip Sarkar while guiding the team, observed armed infiltrators inching towards AIOS. On being engaged, the terrorists retaliated with heavy volume of fire from an elevated position on the ridge with ample cover. Exposed with no cover, Shri Sudip sarkar, CT/GD continued his assault by manoeuvring to engage the terrorists in a fierce gun battle but was severely wounded due to bullet and grenade blast injuries. Despite his injuries, Shri Sudip Sarkar lunged into a daring close Quarter Battle, killing one terrorist, but succumbed to his injuries sustained during hand to hand combat.

Shri Sudip Sarkar displayed conspicuous gallantry, heroism, selflessness and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in the highest traditions of BSF which deserve to be recognized at the highest level. Therefore, Sudip Sarkar, CT/GD is awarded **“KIRTI CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUSLY)”**.

“KIRTI CHAKRA”

SHRI PAOTINSAT GUTE, SUB-INSPECTOR/GD, BSF (POSTHUMOUS)

On 30th November, 2020, a 24 hrs special ambush party of Ghatak Team of 59 Bn, BSF led by Shri Paotinsat Gute, SI(GD), was deployed along with anticipated ingress route of the terrorists in highly sensitive Damaikush Bowl on LoC under Army Ops Control of 120 Inf Bde.

On 1st December 2020 at about 08:35 hrs, the Ghatak team was fired upon from close proximity of ambush site from the direction of Damaikush Nullah (Pak Side). Shri Paotinsat Gute, SI(GD), displaying intrepid nerves of steel, took immediate control of the situation, re-settled the ambush and coordinated effectively despite the heavily mined terrain with undulating ground and thick vegetation. While manoeuvring to engage the enemy, Shri Paotinsat Gute, SI(GD), was shot through his upper torso. With total disregard for his own safety, he continued engaging the enemy under overwhelming fire in order to provide protective fore for his team. Despite being grievously wounded, he exhibited raw courage and successfully neutralized one of the terrorist before making the supreme sacrifice for the nation in the line of duty.

During the entire operation, the dynamic leadership of Shri Paotinsat Gute, SI(GD), resulted in killing of three militants. The conspicuous gallantry, intrepidity and heroism at the cost of his own life are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Forces. Therefore, Shri Paotinsat Gute, SI(GD), is awarded **“KIRTI CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUSLY)”**.

"KIRTI CHAKRA"

**SHRI DEEPAK BHARDWAJ, SUB INSPECTOR, STATE GOVERNMENT
OF CHHATTISGARH (POSTHUMOUS)**

**SHRI SODHI NARAYAN, HEAD CONSTABLE, STATE GOVERNMENT OF
CHHATTISGARH (POSTHUMOUS)**

**SHRI SHRAWAN KASHYAP, HEAD CONSTABLE, STATE GOVERNMENT
OF CHHATTISGARH (POSTHUMOUS)**

On 02 April, 2021 on an intelligence input about presence of large number of armed Maoists in the axis of village Peedagelur, Tekulgudem, Jonaguda, Jeeram, Dist-Bijapur, a joint ops consisting of DRG STF and 210 CoBRA, CRPF was launched under the guidance & directions of SP Bijapur.

On 03 April, 2021 at 10.30 hrs, when police parties after hitting the respective targets at Peddagelur and Tekulgudem, were moving towards their next point, Naxals who were waiting in ambush started heavy fire from their automatic, semiautomatic and country made weapons on the police party. In retaliation, the police party also fired and an exchange of fire took place. During the attack made by naxals, SI Deepak Bhardwaj, HC Sodhi Narayan & STF HC Shrawan Kashyap and other men showed a great presence of mind, extra ordinary courage and bravery. Due to their immediate action and tactical retaliation, a lot of Maoists were killed/injured. During exchange of fire, Maoists also poured volley of fire over the Police party and used UBGL/HE Bomb and other explosive projectiles due to which SI Deepak Bhardwaj, HC Sodhi Naryan and STF HC Shrawan Kashyap sustained fatal bullet injuries and made supreme sacrifice.

After strong retaliation by the forces and seeing themselves being encircled by forces, Maoists steeped back and fled from the spot taking advantage of thick vegetation and uneven ground.

SI Deepak Bhardwaj, HC Shrawan Kashyap and HC Sodhi Narayan displayed extra ordinary courage and exemplary bravery and made supreme sacrifice for the nation, while fighting and killing the Naxals. SI Deepak Bhardwaj, HC Shrawan Kashyap and HC Sodhi Narayan are awarded "**KIRTI CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)**".

"KIRTI CHAKRA"

SHRI ROHIT KUMAR, SG. CONSTABLE, J&K POLICE (POSTHUMOUS)

On 12 January, 2022 at 20:00 hrs, Kulgam Police received specific information regarding presence of terrorists in village Sehpora Parivan. Instantly, District Police Kulgam, 34 RR and 18th Bn CRPF cordoned the said village and started door to door search.

During thorough search of a house, the hiding terrorists from the house fired indiscriminately upon the search party. Sg Ct. Rohit Kumar without caring about his personal safety gave utmost importance to evacuate the civilians from the cordoned area towards safer places. While doing so Shri Rohit Kumar was fired upon by terrorist resulting in his injuries. Despite being grievously injured, he displayed utmost courage and steely determination and closed in with the terrorists. He engaged the terrorists accurately from close range thereby eliminated a hardcore terrorist in a fierce gunfight. During this close quarter battle, he received multiple bullet wounds to his chest and head, due to which he later succumbed to his injuries.

Sg Ct. Rohit Kumar displayed relentless courage and exemplary gallant action, went beyond the call of the duty, exhibited exceptional skills and sacrificed his life while saving the lives of other in order to maintain security and integrity of nation. Sg Ct. Rohit Kumar is awarded "**KIRTI CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)**".