

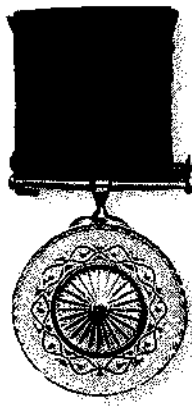


सत्यमेव जयते

रक्षा अलंकरण समारोह-2024

DEFENCE INVESTITURE CEREMONY-2024

D(CEREMONIALS)
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
NEW DELHI



“KIRTI CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)”

INSPECTOR/GD DILIP KUMAR DAS

HEAD CONSTABLE/GD RAJ KUMAR YADAVA

CONSTABLE/GD BABLU RABHA

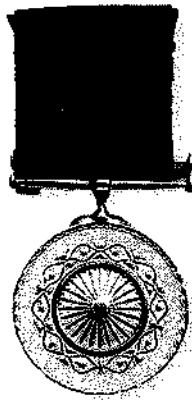
CONSTABLE/GD SAMBHU ROY

(210 CoBRA, CRPF)

On 02 April 2021, based on a specific input regarding presence of Maoists in the jungle area of Police Station Tarrem, Bijapur, Chhattisgarh, a joint special operation was planned and six strike teams were formed.

On 03 April 2021, troops observed Maoist's movement. Intense barrage of gunfire and explosive assaults were unleashed by the Maoists. Amidst intense firing from armed Maoists, Head Constable/GD Raj Kumar Yadava, Constable/GD Sambhu Roy, Constable/GD Bablu Rabha and others engaged the Maoists with relentless firepower, however, one CRPF personnel faced casualties. The trio demonstrated remarkable bravery in retrieving the body of one CRPF personnel and evacuating other trapped personnel. While advancing, Inspector/GD Dilip Kumar Das, Constable/GD Sambhu Roy and other DRG commandos, displayed remarkable bravery, eliminating 4 to 5 Maoists and recovered the body of a Maoist along with 1 INSAS rifle, 26 INSAS live rounds, and 3 magazines. Thereafter, the troops advanced further, despite relentless assault from Maoists who were using BGLs/RPGs and automatic weapons from all directions. The Maoists intensified their firing, challenging the troops' rear position. The troops demonstrated exceptional courage and coordination, engaging in a fierce encounter for over 6 hours and inflicting significant casualties on the Maoists. However, Inspector/GD Dilip Kumar Das, Head Constable/GD Raj Kumar Yadava, Constable/GD Bablu Rabha and Constable/GD Sambhu Roy sacrificed their lives in the operation.

In recognition of their most extraordinary and conspicuous gallantry, unflinching courage, indomitable will and supreme sacrifice, **Inspector/GD Dilip Kumar Das, Head Constable/GD Raj Kumar Yadava, Constable/GD Bablu Rabha and Constable/GD Sambhu Roy** are posthumously awarded **“KIRTI CHAKRA”**.



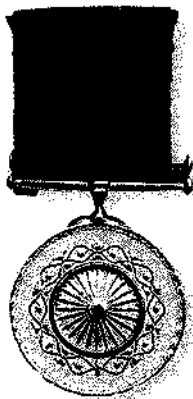
“KIRTI CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)”

2710816W SEPOY PAWAN KUMAR (THE GRENADIERS, 55TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES)

On 27 February 2023, specific input was received regarding presence of terrorists in a village of South Kashmir's Pulwama district. Sepoy Pawan Kumar displayed exceptional tactical acumen in laying an impregnable cordon.

Sepoy Pawan Kumar led search team from the front and volunteered to undertake room intervention alongwith his buddy. As he approached the first floor of the target house, hiding terrorists resorted to grenade lobbing and indiscriminate fire. Displaying operational composure, Sepoy Pawan Kumar retaliated with restraint to prevent collateral damage while preventing terrorists from escaping. Sensing grievous danger to his colleagues, in an act of supreme courage and indomitable spirit, he dashed ahead and engaged one terrorist in a hand to hand combat and snatched his weapon and eliminated him at very close quarters. He also injured second terrorist. In this intense fire fight, Sepoy Pawan Kumar sustained fatal gunshot wounds and laid down his life in the highest traditions of Indian Army. The terrorist eliminated was identified as Category 'A', terrorist.

For displaying undaunted courage, conspicuous gallantry and unparalleled devotion beyond call of duty, **Sepoy Pawan Kumar is posthumously awarded “KIRTI CHAKRA”.**



“KIRTI CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)”

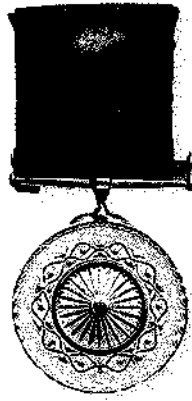
MS-20323K CAPTAIN ANSHUMAN SINGH

(THE ARMY MEDICAL CORPS, 26TH BATTALION THE PUNJAB REGIMENT)

Captain Anshuman Singh was commissioned into the Army Medical Corps on 19 March 2020. The officer joined 26 Battalion of PUNJAB REGIMENT as Medical Officer for Chandan Complex under Operation MEGHDOOT.

During the night of 19 July 2023, Chandan Dropping Zone witnessed a major fire incident. The officer heard a call of fire and rushed out of his hut. He rescued 4-5 individuals from the adjacent Fibre Glass Hut which was covered in smoke and was on the verge of catching fire. He directed individuals to a safe location. Meanwhile, he noticed Medical Investigation Shelter containing medicines and other essential medical equipment had also been engulfed in raging fire. Appreciating the requirement of these life-saving medical aids, Captain Anshuman Singh, without caring for his own safety and welfare entered the Medical Investigation Shelter to retrieve these medicines and equipment, however, he could not make his way out as the flames had spread and engulfed the shelter because of high velocity winds. He could not be rescued despite repeated efforts. His mortal remains were retrieved from the shelter after the fire was doused.

Captain Anshuman Singh exhibited exceptional bravery and resolve of the highest order with utter disregard to his own safety. For his act of conspicuous gallantry and sacrifice reflecting the finest traditions of the Indian Army, **Captain Anshuman Singh is posthumously awarded “KIRTI CHAKRA”.**



“KIRTI CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)”

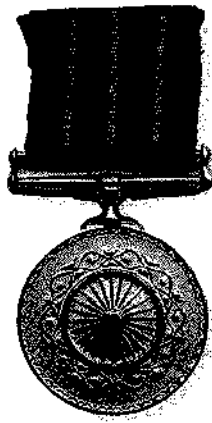
9114288Y HAVILDAR ABDUL MAJID

(9TH BATTALION THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT (SPECIAL FORCES))

Havildar Abdul Majid was a squad commander of 9th Battalion, the Parachute Regiment (Special Forces) operating in Jammu and Kashmir since 2011.

On 22 November 2023, during a search operation in forest areas of Rajouri district, his squad moved in to evacuate an officer of 63 Rashtriya Rifles Battalion who was mortally wounded due to terrorist's fire earlier. Bringing down heavy fire to pin down the terrorists, Havildar Abdul Majid crawled forward and evacuated the officer to safe area and returned back to his position. Displaying exceptional tactical acumen he manoeuvred his squad near a natural cave where the terrorists were hiding and firing indiscriminately. Despite being hit by a bullet in his leg and despite bleeding profusely, he closed in with the terrorist hiding in the cave and lobbed a grenade inside, which forced the injured terrorist to come out of the cave. Sensing danger to own troops, Havildar Abdul Majid swiftly changed his position and charged towards the terrorist, killed him at close quarters before succumbing to injuries.

For his exceptional courage, selflessness and conspicuous gallantry while evacuating a mortally wounded officer and then neutralizing a hardcore foreign terrorist, **Havildar Abdul Majid is posthumously awarded “KIRTI CHAKRA”.**



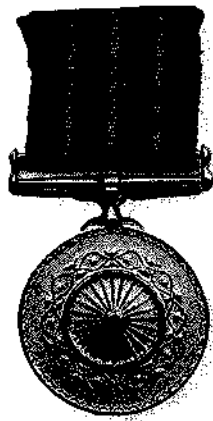
“SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)”

SELECTION GRADE CONSTABLE SAFIULLAH QADRI (JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICE)

On 10 April 2022, a specific input was received regarding presence of some unknown terrorists in Bishamber Nagar, Konkhan Dalgate Srinagar. During the search in the suspected area, the terrorists opened indiscriminate fire upon the search party followed by hurling of grenades due to which six (06) personnel received bullet injuries.

Sg Constable Safiullah Qadri pinpointed the exact location of hidden terrorists. Sg Constable Safiullah Qadri was tasked to lead the inner cordon as he had already gained the tactical guile. The terrorists had put the family member including-women and children hostage. As soon as the process of evacuation of trapped family was started by Sg Constable Safiullah Qadri and his buddies through the window of target house, the terrorists noticed the same and lobbed grenades upon them. The brave officer without caring about his personal safety, seized the initiative and engaged the terrorists and succeeded in neutralizing 2 terrorists, one of them was a category ‘A’ terrorist. However, in another incident on 24 May 2022 Sg Constable Safiullah Qadri fell prey to bullets from terrorist and attained martyrdom.

For displaying indomitable courage, act of gallantry and undoubting bravery beyond call of duty in eliminating two terrorists, **Selection Grade Constable Safiullah Qadri is posthumously awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”**



“SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)”

IC-76877P MAJOR VIKAS BHAMBHU, SENA MEDAL

IC-81741P MAJOR MUSTAFA BOHARA

(252 ARMY AVIATION SQUADRON)

On 21 October 2022, Major Vikas Bhambhu, as pilot and Major Mustafa Bohara, as co-pilot were on Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance mission in RUDRA Helicopter along the border in Arunachal Pradesh.

At 1028 hours post successful mission completion, 20 kilometers from the border, the helicopter caught fire in a catastrophic manner. This was an unprecedented catastrophic failure. There was rapid loss of altitude of the helicopter in extremities of limits. Both the pilots being in extreme physical and mental stress in a life threatening situation maintained exemplary composure and tried to regain control and fly away the helicopter from built up area to save precious lives. Facing a deadly situation, Major Vikas Bhambhu and Major Mustafa Bohara, instead of saving their own life, displayed extraordinary courage and flying skills, steered the helicopter and crash landed away from habitant area, making supreme sacrifice in the highest traditions of Indian Army.

In recognition of their unfathomable courage, fortitude, professionalism of exceptional order and act of gallantry, **Major Vikas Bhambhu, Sena Medal and Major Mustafa Bohara are posthumously awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



“SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)”

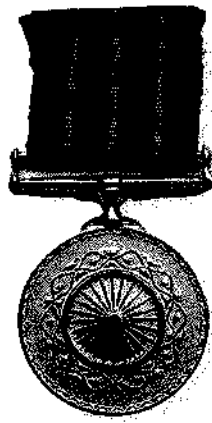
13779235X RIFLEMAN KULBUSHAN MANTA

(THE JAMMU & KASHMIR RIFLES, 52ND BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES)

Rifleman Kulbushan Manta was deployed in Operation RAKSHAK (Jammu & Kashmir) and was part of a joint operation which was launched in Baramulla district of North Kashmir in October 2022.

Based on intelligence received, the search party led by Scout Riflemen Kulbushan Manta reached in close proximity of two terrorists. Sensing the threat, terrorists made a desperate attempt to flee. Rifleman Kulbushan Manta immediately swung into action and attempted to capture one of the terrorist alive. In the ensuing hand-to-hand combat, he overpowered the terrorist. The second terrorist frightened by the bold action opened up indiscriminate fire in which Rifleman Kulbushan Manta received a gunshot wound in his leg. Regardless of the grievous injury, he attempted to chase the fleeing terrorist and engaged him with heavy fire. As a result of this gallant action, one terrorist was captured alive in this operation. However, Rifleman Kulbushan Manta succumbed to the injuries later.

For his exemplary courage, immense tactical acumen, act of gallantry and an indomitable spirit in the face of danger, **Rifleman Kulbushan Manta is posthumously awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



“SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)”

**16013482F HAVILDAR VIVEK SINGH TOMAR
(5TH BATTALION THE RAJPUTANA RIFLES)**

On 10 January 2023 at 0800 hours, Havildar Vivek Singh Tomar while being deployed at forward post at an altitude of 18300 feet in Central Glacier under Operation MEGHDOOT noticed thick smoke emanating from a snow tent.

The incident could have resulted in massive fire accident at the forward post in Glacier, leading to possible threat to life of soldiers and loss of property. Assessing the severity of situation, Havildar Vivek Singh Tomar immediately rushed inside the tent to contain the situation. With total disregard to personal safety, he entered through dense smoke and managed to contain the situation with great difficulty and prevented major fire incident at the post. However, due to inhalation of smoke particles and injury to wind pipe his health deteriorated and he could not be evacuated from the forward post due to inclement weather. He fought fearlessly for 36 hours, but made supreme sacrifice on 11 January 2023.

For displaying distinctive raw courage and act of gallantry with utter disregard to personal safety and leading to safety of life of his comrades, **Havildar Vivek Singh Tomar is posthumously awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



“SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)”

G/5031618P RIFLEMAN ALOK RAO (18 ASSAM RIFLES)

On 03 May 2023, ethnic riots erupted in Manipur. To control the worsening situation, columns of 18 Assam Rifles were deployed.

Rifleman Alok Rao was part of an Internal Security column deployed in the most sensitive area in the district. The Column was tasked to occupy a highest tactical feature overlooking the villages involved in violent activities. On 10 May 2023, Rifleman Alok Rao was deployed in the Light Machine Gun Bunker. At around 1130 hours, 10-12 suspected armed insurgents were seen moving towards his position. Rifleman Alok Rao realising an imminent danger to his position and to his colleagues, challenged the armed group who opened fire without warning. He therefore effectively returned fire in which two/three insurgents sustained injuries and were forced to flee, thereby saving his colleagues. However, in the ensuing firing Rifleman Alok Rao also sustained a gunshot wound and was evacuated to Military Hospital wherein he succumbed to his injuries.

For his exemplary courage, act of gallantry and immaculate application of intelligence during the operation, **Rifleman Alok Rao is posthumously awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



“SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)”

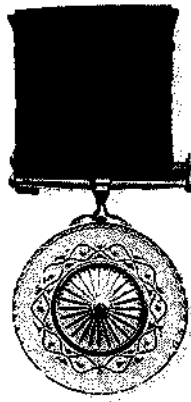
IC-83609N CAPTAIN MV PRANJAL

(THE CORPS OF SIGNALS, 63RD BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES)

On 22 November 2023, based on information about presence of terrorists in forest areas of Rajouri district, Captain MV Pranjal was leading a small team surveillance operation in an area which also included presence of civilian consisting women and children.

While maintaining stealth under cover, Captain MV Pranjal spotted movement of two terrorists, who too spotted him and opened fire. Sensing danger to the women and children, disregarding his own safety, he rushed out and pushed them out of danger and simultaneously engaged the terrorists with minimum cover. Despite his team size and heavy fire, he continued maintaining contact with the terrorists till arrival of additional troops. In the process, Captain MV Pranjal succumbed to a fatal gunshot wound. The unflinching bravery displayed while saving the lives of civilians and sustaining contact with the terrorist leading to their elimination later has been exemplary. The terrorists eliminated were identified as masterminds behind the killing of civilians and targeting security forces in the region.

For his act of gallantry, displaying unparalleled and selfless courage under fire in the highest traditions of the Indian Army, **Captain MV Pranjal is posthumously awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



"KIRTI CHAKRA"

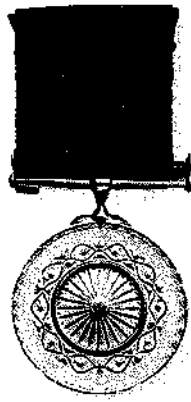
IC-78103L MAJOR DIGVIJAY SINGH RAWAT

(21ST BATTALION THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT (SPECIAL FORCES))

Immediately on insertion in Manipur, troop commander of 21 Parachute Regiment (Special Forces), Major Digvijay Singh Rawat established an innovative and thorough intelligence network, which enabled him to map all Valley Based Insurgent Groups (VBIGs) accurately through painstaking efforts.

During an operation, Major Rawat received intelligence of VBIGs planning to target a VIP, scheduled to visit Manipur. Based on this intelligence, Major Digvijay Singh Rawat activated his source to mislead the insurgent groups towards own ambush location. The source successfully channelised the insurgent group in intended area, where, on being challenged by own party, insurgents opened heavy fire using automatic weapons. Without losing momentum and undaunted by hostile fire, Major Digvijay Singh Rawat tactfully manoeuvred his party to engage the insurgents, eliminated one and injured another in a display of superlative skills. As per intelligence, the insurgents were masterminds of ambush on Assam Rifles. Similarly, during another operation, Major Digvijay Singh Rawat received intelligence regarding infiltration by VBIGs cadres. Using his knowledge of the area, he established close knit surveillance grid and successfully apprehended three senior cadres by physically overpowering them in a close quarter combat.

For dedication to duty, unmatched valour, conspicuous gallantry and tactical acumen in challenging combat conditions, **Major Digvijay Singh Rawat is awarded "KIRTI CHAKRA"**.



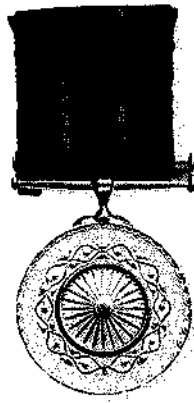
"KIRTI CHAKRA"

SS-45933F MAJOR DEEPENDRA VIKRAM BASNET (4TH BATTALION THE SIKH REGIMENT)

Major Deependra Vikram Basnet was the commander of an ambush deployed in Keren sector of Kupwara district along the Line of Control on 15 June 2023. This ambush was deployed on receipt of intelligence regarding likely infiltration by a group of five terrorists.

The surveillance team spotted these terrorists and provided early warning to them. Showing outstanding presence of mind in a high pressure situation, Major Deependra Vikram Basnet quickly re-adjusted his troops to trap the terrorists. Post-midnight on 16 June 2023, as the terrorists entered the ambush, he brought down heavy fire onto them. The terrorist, firing indiscriminately, threw grenades onto Major Deependra and his team. Realising the grave danger to his men, unmindful of his own safety, Major Deependra Vikram Basnet crawled towards the terrorist amidst heavy fire and killed him at a close range. In the ensuing firefight, he came face to face with a second terrorist. Without second thought, he engaged this terrorist in fierce hand to hand combat and killed him with his combat knife. He continued to resolutely control the operation and assisted in elimination of a third terrorist who was pinning down his team. Five heavily armed foreign terrorists were eliminated in the operation. Major Deependra Vikram Basnet risked his life to safeguard his troops and ensured success of the operation.

For outstanding combat leadership, executing a clinical operation by showing conspicuous gallantry, raw courage, **Major Deependra Vikram Basnet is awarded "KIRTI CHAKRA"**.



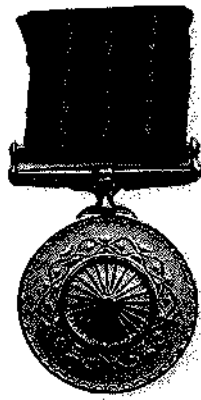
"KIRTI CHAKRA"

4576018L HAVILDAR PAWAN KUMAR YADAV (21ST BATTALION THE MAHAR REGIMENT)

Based on intelligence input of likely infiltration by 4-5 terrorists, Havildar Pawan Kumar Yadav promptly volunteered to lay ambush in a densely forested area along the LoC in Kupwara district.

Havildar Pawan Kumar Yadav displayed indomitable courage in laying ambush in close proximity of enemy post. When his team was fired upon from a close distance, displaying intrepid nerves of steel, he voluntarily moved ahead and crawled under indiscriminate fire of terrorists despite heavily mined terrain and thick vegetation. Havildar Pawan Kumar Yadav eliminated one fleeing terrorist. Second terrorist was still on run. With total disregard to his own safety, he continued chasing second terrorist under overwhelming fire. Despite being physically exhausted, Havildar Pawan Kumar Yadav exhibited raw courage by successfully neutralising second terrorist in a hand to hand combat.

For conspicuous gallantry, intrepidity and heroism at risk of his life and beyond call of duty resulting in elimination of two hardcore foreign terrorists, **Havildar Pawan Kumar Yadav is awarded "KIRTI CHAKRA".**



"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

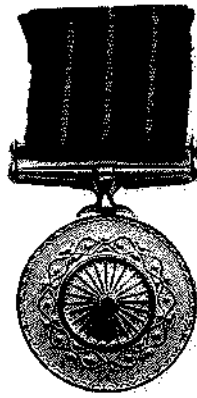
CONSTABLE/GD GAMIT MUKESH KUMAR

(61 CRPF)

On 19 December 2021, based on the intelligence input about the presence of heavily armed terrorists inside Darbagh (Muftibagh), Srinagar, a joint operation was launched by Valley QAT, CRPF and SOG, Jammu & Kashmir Police.

After due deliberation, it was decided to carry out house intervention. When Constable/GD Gamit Mukesh Kumar along with his buddy entered the room of target house, the hiding terrorist lobbed a hand grenade followed by indiscriminate fire upon them. Displaying tactical acumen and nerves of steel, Constable/GD Gamit Mukesh Kumar and his buddy took cover and retaliated effectively. On reaching closer to the terrorist, Constable/GD Gamit Mukesh Kumar grabbed and diverted the barrel of the terrorist's rifle upwards to prevent him from firing upon his buddy and engaged the terrorist in a hand-to-hand combat. The well-trained terrorist dropped a hand grenade on the floor and jumped outside the house through the window. Constable /GD Gamit Mukesh and his buddy chased the terrorist and eliminated him in a veritable dogfight. Post-encounter, dead body of 01 terrorist was recovered along with 01 AK 56 Rifle, 03 AK 56 magazines, 27 live rounds and 01 grenade. The slain terrorist was later identified as category 'A++' terrorist.

In recognition of his act of gallantry, raw courage and indomitable will, **Constable/GD Gamit Mukesh Kumar is awarded "SHAURYA CHAKRA"**.



“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

EXK022280 SUB INSPECTOR AMIT RAINA (JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICE)

On 03 January 2022 a specific input was received about the presence of some unknown terrorists possessing illegal arms/ammunition, hiding in Dar Mohalla Wanihama Srinagar. Immediately police teams of District Srinagar, Police Component Srinagar/Valley QAT CRPF/24 RR were constituted to identify the exact location and to neutralize the terrorists without any collateral damage.

One small team headed by Sub Inspector Amit Raina of Police Component Srinagar along with his buddy covered the target house from rear side and another small team from front side. Sub Inspector Amit Raina and his buddy positioned themselves to cover the most likely escape root of the terrorist/s and evacuated civilians to safer places. He led his team from the front and remained firm displaying nerves of steel while advancing the target house. During the course, the hiding terrorist noticed the presence of personnel and lobbed grenades during which they had narrow escape. Displaying utmost courage in the face of enemy, they responded with controlled fire, making the terrorist run in another direction. The other team of Police Component Srinagar, Valley QRT/Army (24-RR) also retaliated, inflicting injuries to terrorist. Sub Inspector Amit Raina left his cover without caring for his life, advanced towards the terrorist and in a face-to-face gunfight neutralized the category 'A' terrorist.

Due to display of his exceptional act of gallantry, indomitable will, the whole operation concluded successfully. **Sub Inspector Amit Raina is awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

ARP995924 SUB INSPECTOR FAROZ AHMAD DAR (JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICE)

On 03 January 2022, at around 1420 hours a specific input was received from reliable sources to the effect that terrorists possessing illegal arms/ammunition are roaming in Shalimar Garden of District Srinagar. Immediately police teams of District Srinagar/Police Component Srinagar/Valley QAT CRPF were constituted.

It was learnt that an “A++ category” terrorist was present inside the Shalimar Garden who was responsible for killing 12 civilians and martyring 05 Jammu & Kashmir Police personnel and 01 CRPF personnel besides injuring many. One small team headed by Sub Inspector Faroz Ahmad Dar entered the garden from front side and another small team of SOG and Valley QAT from back side. The garden was full of civilians mostly women and children. Sub Inspector Faroz Ahmad Dar alongwith his buddy identified and located the position of the terrorist towards the end of the garden and advanced towards the terrorist, sensing the presence of troops, the terrorist opened indiscriminate fire upon them and began running. However, the police party immediately took lying position and had a miraculous escape. After shifting the civilians to a safer place, Sub Inspector Faroz Ahmad Dar without caring for his life advanced towards the terrorist and in a face to face gun fight neutralized the terrorist.

Sub Inspector Faroz Ahmad Dar not only took front in elimination of the terrorist but also displayed exceptional act of gallantry and indomitable will.
Sub Inspector Faroz Ahmad Dar is awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.



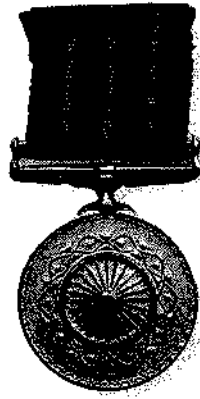
“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

11225 ASSISTANT COMMANDANT BIBHOR KUMAR SINGH (205 COBRA, CRPF)

On 25 February 2022, based on an input about the presence of an armed group of Naxals in the strong-hold area in Chhakarbandha forest area Distt Aurangabad, Bihar, a special Search and Destroy Operation was launched by 205 CoBRA, 47 CRPF and Bihar Police.

At about 1630 hrs, the Naxals opened heavy volume of indiscriminate fire on the troops. In response to the situation, Assistant Commandant Bibhor Kumar Singh, demonstrated unwavering determination and fearlessness. Along with his team, he advanced by crawling and firing towards the Naxals, displaying great courage and selflessness despite the imminent danger. However, the Naxals remained entrenched behind secure covers of boulders and trees, and their defenses were further bolstered by strategically placed command and pressure IEDs. During the strong counter offensive attack against the Naxals, Assistant Commandant Bibhor Kumar Singh and his team came under the impact of IED blast triggered by the Naxals. As a result, Assistant Commandant Bibhor Kumar Singh sustained severe and critical injuries. Notwithstanding his critical condition, he fearlessly, exemplified extraordinary valor, courage, and strength, even after losing his left foot. Undeterred by his impaired mobility, he maintained his position behind cover and continued to provide covering fire to support his troop's further advancement. His remarkable determination and leadership, along with the unwavering resolve of the troops, ensured the success of the operation.

In recognition of his act of gallantry, extreme valour and exemplary determination in the face of imminent threat, despite grievous injuries; **Assistant Commandant Bibhor Kumar Singh is awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



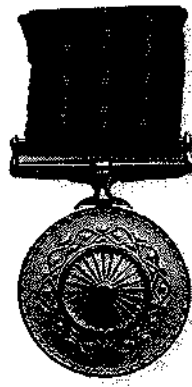
“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

ARP182381 CONSTABLE VARUN SINGH (JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICE)

On 12 June 2022, a specific input was received regarding some unknown terrorists carrying illegal arms/ammunition hiding in Chonchi Fakeer locality of Sangam area of District Srinagar. Immediately, teams of local Police Srinagar/ PC Srinagar were constituted and cordon and search operation was launched in the area.

While the cordon and search operation was being launched in target locality Chonchi Fakeer, Sangam Srinagar, terrorists hurled grenades amid indiscriminate fire upon the police parties. Meanwhile, Constable Varun Singh along with his team approached towards the terrorist from his side. The terrorist sensing presence of personnel towards him resorted to fire upon Constable Varun Singh and his buddies. However, the officer swiftly pulled down himself and his buddy to lying position and this way Constable Varun Singh and his buddy had a narrow escape. Meantime, Constable Varun Singh retaliated and caused fire injury in the leg of terrorist and in a fierce gun battle eliminated category 'A' terrorist. Arms/ammunitions were recovered from the possession of neutralized terrorist at the scene of encounter.

For display of exemplary courage under fire, tremendous grit and determination, act of gallantry and never-say-die-spirit under most challenging circumstances, **Constable Varun Singh is awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



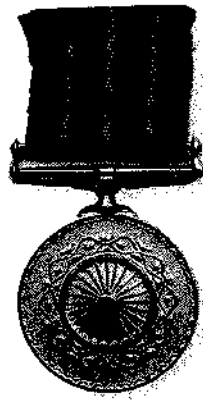
“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

JKPS116050 SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE MOHAN LAL (JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICE)

On 14 June 2022, input was received regarding movement/presence of unknown terrorist/s carrying illegal arms/ammunition in Bemina area of District Srinagar. Immediately Police teams of District Srinagar/Police Component Srinagar were constituted and deployed in the area.

A team led by SP Mohan Lal, Police Component, Srinagar established a special Naka at JVC Bemina Bypass, Srinagar. The terrorists, when reached near the naka/ambush, resorted to indiscriminate fire on the naka team and ran towards the nearby built-up area, flanked by the Government hospital on one side and a CRPF Camp on the other side. SP Mohan Lal along with his buddies kept on advancing towards the targeted area. The hiding terrorists suspected their movement and lobbed grenades amid indiscriminate fire towards the officer and his buddy, resulting into multiple splinter injuries to the officer. In order to restrict the movement of terrorists towards the Government hospital where civilian, patients/attendants including women and children were present and to avoid any hostage like situation at the said installation, the officer challenged the terrorists and neutralized 01 terrorist and inflicted injuries to the 2nd terrorist. SP Mohan Lal while displaying uncommon courage approached towards the nearby area leading his small team where the 2nd terrorist had taken refuge after being injured. Noticing the movement of police team, the terrorist lobbed grenades resulting into injuries to some other personnel. At this stage, sensing imminent threat to the lives of his team members, SP Mohan Lal without caring for his life, left his cover and advanced bravely towards the terrorist and neutralized him.

For his exceptional bravery, act of gallantry, indomitable will and passion, **Superintendent of Police Mohan Lal is awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

SC-00905H MAJOR RAJENDRA PRASAD JAT (THE DOGRA REGIMENT, 62ND BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES)

Major Rajendra Prasad Jat has exhibited unparalleled valour and exceptional leadership in OPERATION WATREHAL, leading to elimination of three hardcore terrorists.

Major Rajendra Prasad Jat planned and led the troops through inclement weather, maintaining surprise, trapped terrorists inside a house. Major Rajendra Prasad Jat displaying presence of mind and tactical guile, effectively engaged the terrorists. However, the terrorists engaged his buddy with effective fire. Sensing mortal danger to his buddy and not caring about his personal safety, Major Rajendra Prasad Jat moved out of cover, crawled forward and engaged the terrorists in close quarters. This daring act led to elimination of one hardcore terrorist. Subsequently, second terrorist ran out of the house hurling grenades and firing towards the troops, Major Rajendra Prasad Jat again changed his position, effectively engaged and injured the terrorist.

For his act of gallantry and stout leadership in going beyond the call of duty in the face of grave and imminent danger to his buddy, **Major Rajendra Prasad Jat is awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

SC-00971L MAJOR RAVINDER SINGH RAWAT (THE ARMoured CORPS, 44TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES)

Since March 2020, Major Ravinder Singh Rawat has exhibited inspiring leadership during conduct of 11 successful operations, resulting in elimination of 28 hardcore terrorists.

On 30 August 2022, an input was received regarding presence of three terrorists in a village in Shopian district. While laying initial cordon, Major Ravinder Singh Rawat spotted three terrorists trying to flee towards dense orchards. On spotting, the terrorists, in a bid to break cordon, lobbed a grenade and opened indiscriminate fire towards the officer. Major Ravinder Singh Rawat retaliated with precise fire and injured one terrorist who was subsequently neutralised by his buddy and thus prevented the terrorists from escaping. Another terrorist hiding in concrete drain, taking advantage of dense undergrowth and diminishing light, opened indiscriminate fire and lobbed grenades. Realising mortal danger to his troops, Major Ravinder Singh Rawat took initiative under grave mortal danger, approached the terrorist, entered the drain and eliminated him in close gunfight.

For displaying exemplary leadership and act of gallantry, **Major Ravinder Singh Rawat is awarded "SHAURYA CHAKRA"**.



“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

16022160H NAIK BHIM SINGH

(THE RAJPUTANA RIFLES, 9TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES)

On 26 September 2022, on receiving intelligence about the presence of terrorist group in a village in South Kashmir, Naik Bhim Singh, serving as Combat Team Commander, led the initial cordon and search operation.

Naik Bhim Singh positioned himself in a tactically critical location. While civilians were being evacuated from the operation area, the terrorist opened indiscriminate fire and lobbed grenades towards civilians and injured an officer. Naik Bhim Singh pinned down the terrorist with accurate fire and extricated injured officer safely. Sensing grave danger to his team, Naik Bhim crawled towards holed up terrorist and took a risky position. At 1910 hours, an attempt to escape was made by the terrorist by lobbing grenades and injuring two civilians. In a split second reaction, Naik Bhim Singh charged out of his position, completely surprised the terrorist and neutralised him at point blank range.

During the operation, Naik Bhim Singh displayed audacious bravery, heroic courage and act of gallantry with utter disregard for personal safety. **Naik Bhim Singh is awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

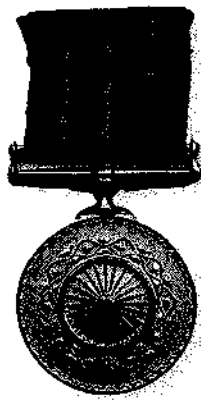
IC-76052K MAJOR VIJAY VERMA

(THE RAJPUT REGIMENT, 44TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES)

Since October 2021, Major Vijay Verma has exhibited inspiring leadership during conduct of 10 successful operations, resulting in elimination of 22 hardcore terrorists. On 04 October 2022, upon receiving inputs of terrorist's presence in a village in Shopian district of Jammu & Kashmir, a search and cordon operation was launched.

During the initial cordon, three terrorists fired indiscriminately and lobbing grenades on the cordon in a bid to escape. Realising mortal danger to his troops, Major Vijay Verma along with his buddy closed in, bringing heavy fire upon the terrorists, thereby blocking all escape routes. Under heavy fire, the officer in a one-on-one fire fight, engaged the terrorists at close range resulting in elimination of one terrorist and injury to the others. Concurrently, at around 0540 hours, Major Vijay Verma received inputs of terrorist movement in a nearby village, approximately seven kilometers from his location. Displaying situational awareness and without disturbing the tactical balance of his team, he marshalled critical resources to facilitate operation in the nearby village which resulted in elimination of one terrorist.

For displaying exemplary leadership and act of gallantry in elimination of one hardcore terrorist, **Major Vijay Verma is awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

IC-79120X MAJOR SACHIN NEGI

(THE GRENADIERS, 55TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES)

Since November 2020, Major Sachin Negi has exhibited exceptional professionalism and bravery in six successful operations, resulting in elimination of 14 terrorists.

Based on specific input of terrorist’s movement, Major Sachin Negi planned and established a Mobile Vehicle Check Post at a village in Pulwama district of Jammu & Kashmir. On being challenged, the terrorists in a vehicle opened indiscriminate fire and lobbed grenades towards him. Displaying composure, presence of mind and tactical acumen, Major Sachin Negi retaliated immediately while simultaneously readjusting the teams to cover the likely escape routes. In a daring act of indomitable courage and leadership of the highest order, Major Sachin Negi crawled ahead to close in the terrorists location. The terrorists in a bid to escape, rushed out and came face to face with Major Sachin Negi at a distance of less than five meters. Displaying raw courage and nerves of steel, Major Sachin Negi dashed out of his cover with utter disregard to personal safety and engaged the terrorists, eliminating one terrorist and injuring the other.

For displaying exemplary leadership and act of gallantry, **Major Sachin Negi is awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

IC-76640X MAJOR MANEO FRANCIS PF

(21ST BATTALION, THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT (SPECIAL FORCES))

Major Maneo Francis PF, the Assault Team commander of 21 Parachute Regiment (SF) has been operating in Manipur since 2022. Within a short duration, he developed an immaculate intelligence network on terrorist activities in Manipur, resulting in accumulation of accurate intelligence of Valley Based Insurgent Groups.

On receipt of reliable intelligence of likely sabotage activity on a VIP, Major Maneo Francis PF planned an operation to foil the plan of the insurgents. Through painstaking efforts and protracted surveillance done over a long period, he identified likely crossing point of insurgent group near a Border Pillar and laid an ambush at the site. Four heavily armed personnel were moving towards the ambush site. On being challenged, the insurgents opened heavy fire using automatic weapons. In retaliation, unmindful of personnel safety, he quickly manoeuvred and outflanked the insurgents and successfully eliminated an insurgent who was the commander of an insurgent group and injured another insurgent at close range using his superior combat skills and continued engaging the remaining insurgents thus ensuring safety of his own team. As per intelligence, the insurgents were masterminds of ambush on Assam Rifles.

For his resolute leadership, raw courage under fire, precise intelligence during the whole operation and selfless act of gallantry, **Major Maneo Francis PF is awarded "SHAURYA CHAKRA"**.



"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

29507 WING COMMANDER SHAILESH SINGH (FLYING (PILOT))

Wing Commander Shailesh Singh was commissioned in Flying (Pilot) branch of Indian Air Force as a helicopter pilot on 16 Jun 2007.

Wing Commander Shailesh Singh was detailed to fly the No. 2 helicopter in the lead formation of a very audacious and daring Heliborne Operation, targeting Anti National Elements in the core of their highly guarded location. On 11 February 2023, the mission required flying at ultra-low level in thickly forested area with troops on board. The unfamiliarity and high probability of hostile firing from ground made the task even more daunting. As Wing Commander Shailesh Singh approached the landing zone with 24 troops on board, the helicopter came under intense fire by automatic weapons from all directions. Displaying immaculate presence of mind, he immediately ordered retaliatory fire which inflicted heavy damage to the hostile elements. The helicopter sustained 35 bullet hit marks which caused damage to critical systems and injured six troops, including the flight engineer in the cockpit. There was heavy fuel leak inside the helicopter with an imminent threat of fire and explosion. Shortly afterwards, the other fuel transfer pump also failed and the fuel dropped to critical levels. Undeterred and unfazed, Wing Commander Shailesh Singh remained calm & focused and took timely decision to divert to the nearest helipad at a distance of 22 kms and recovered the helicopter and all the personnel safely.

For act of exceptional courage, displaying indomitable valour and exemplary gallantry beyond the call of duty, **Wing Commander Shailesh Singh is awarded "SHAURYA CHAKRA"**.



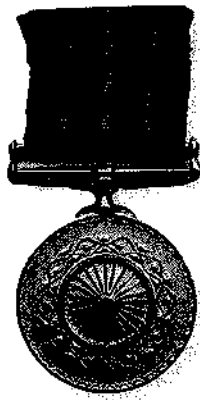
“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

09883-K LIEUTENANT BIMAL RANJAN BEHERA

On 06 March 2023, ONGC reported an operational emergency due to entanglement of fishing nets at the Fuel Extraction Mechanism/turret area in the Fuel Production Storage and Offloading (FPSO) vessel, therefore sought Indian Navy's diving assistance urgently. Lieutenant Bimal Ranjan Behera was part of the Diving team deployed to render assistance.

At the FPSO, a vertical dive of 18 feet to bilge keel followed by horizontal dive of 100 feet athwart ships was required to reach the turret to restore operations. The underwater conditions were perilous. Diving to depths of even few feet was gravely risky. Divers were unable to merely stabilise. Lieutenant Bimal Ranjan Behera stepped up fearlessly as lead diver. As soon as he dived, the waters brutally assaulted him, throwing him instantly breathless. As the enormous turbulence swirled and pushed, Lieutenant Bimal Ranjan Behera precariously hung onto the bottom chain, advancing barely few inches at a time, he successfully reached the turret area traversing 100 feet athwart ships. Fighting complete exhaustion, Lieutenant Bimal Ranjan Behera extricated the nets around turret and cleared the bell mouths one by one. Realising that orienting and clearing the turret by another diver would be risky, Lieutenant Bimal Ranjan Behera shouldered bulk of diving efforts himself during this grueling diving operation. He repeatedly dived 16 times for 552 minutes in two phases, negotiating the complex underwater fittings as also the sharp cuts inflicted by barnacles and cleared the nets around the turret.

For the selfless act of gallantry, utter disregard to personal safety in an extremely hostile diving operation, **Lieutenant Bimal Ranjan Behera is awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

G/95821X HAVILDAR SANJAY KUMAR (9 ASSAM RIFLES)

On 13 May 2023, Havildar Sanjay Kumar received an input pertaining to presence of four armed insurgents.

At 1100 hours a column was launched under one Officer and at around 1230 hours column reached the general area. Havildar Sanjay Kumar spotted two armed insurgents at short distance (08 Meters) and challenged them but the armed insurgents with their automatic weapon opened fire on him. Havildar Sanjay Kumar was hit by a bullet on his right calf. However, showing utter disregard to his personal safety, displaying raw courage and tactical acumen, he quickly deployed his Light Machine Gun at a dominating height having great knowledge of terrain. Havildar Sanjay Kumar ensured that his section does not come under effective fire while pinning the armed insurgent down. In this exchange of heavy automatic fire, he ensured the safety of his entire column even while being injured.

For his act of gallantry, selfless service and unflinching bravery under cross firing with armed insurgents, **Havildar Sanjay Kumar is awarded "SHAURYA CHAKRA"**.



"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

36810 FLIGHT LIEUTENANT HRISHIKESH JAYAN KARUTHEDATH (FLYING (PILOT))

Flight Lieutenant Hrishikesh Jayan Karuthedath was commissioned in the Flying (Pilot) branch of the Indian Air Force on 20 June 2020.

On 24 May 2023, Flight Lieutenant Hrishikesh Jayan Karuthedath was detailed to fly a Routine Transport Role mission as captain from Pathankot to Delhi in a DO-228 aircraft with two ground crews on-board. On final approach course, while selecting the landing gear down, three greens were not obtained and hydraulic pressure was reading zero. In face of a grave situation endangering the aircraft and its occupants, he maintained composure, correctly identified the emergency and promptly carried out go around actions. Understanding the dense traffic situation at Delhi International airport, he decided to proceed to Hindan airfield for visual inspection of the landing gear. On carrying out all actions as per Pilot Operating Handbook and selecting landing gear with emergency means, still the three greens could not be obtained. Amidst this rapidly deteriorating situation in air, Flight Lieutenant Hrishikesh Jayan Karuthedath displayed exceptional courage and situational awareness and decided to carry out a belly landing after burning additional fuel. While belly landing the aircraft on Hindan runway, he displayed flawless crew coordination and spatial orientation to execute a perfect belly landing at dusk time. He stopped the aircraft on the runway centerline, ordered a quick exit and ensured safe evacuation of the crew from the aircraft.

For the act of exceptional courage, displaying indomitable valour and exemplary gallantry beyond call of duty, **Flight Lieutenant Hrishikesh Jayan Karuthedath is awarded "SHAURYA CHAKRA"**.

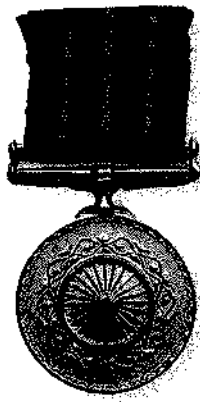


"SHAURYA CHAKRA"

IC-86211K CAPTAIN AKSHAT UPADHYAY (20TH BATTALION THE JAT REGIMENT)

On the intervening night of 27-28 May 2023, Captain Akshat Upadhyay and his team established a temporary operating base. At 0300 hr, he observed one house catching fire at a distance in the village and also noticed movement of a large mob towards the village. Captain Akshat Upadhyay deployed his team tactically and ordered to fire illumination round for better observation. As soon as illumination round was fired, his team came under effective heavy automatic fire from the direction of the burning house. Under heavy fire, Captain Akshat Upadhyay immediately moved tactically and led his team towards the rear of the mob. He warned the mob not to burn the houses but he was again fired upon. Captain Akshat Upadhyay and his team retaliated the fire thus eliminating four insurgents and apprehending five along with war like stores. The action forced the remaining mob to disperse thus saving the lives of 200 villagers.

For this act of gallantry, unparalleled bravery under heavy fire, utter disregard to his personal safety, highest standards of tactical acumen, swift and resolute action in a challenging situation, **Captain Akshat Upadhyay is awarded "SHAURYA CHAKRA"**.



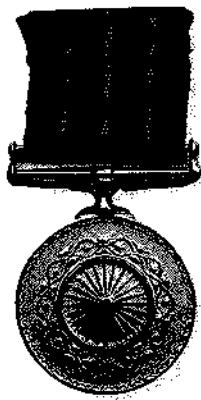
“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

**JC-573009A NAIB SUBEDAR BARIA SANJAY KUMAR BHAMAR SINH
(21ST BATTALION THE MAHAR REGIMENT)**

Based on intelligence inputs from various agencies of a likely infiltration, Naib Subedar Baria Sanjay Kumar Bhamar Sinh was made part of an ambush team on 12 June 2023.

When the ambush was called off for rest and recoup, again specific intelligence input of infiltration by 4-5 terrorists was received. Though physically drained and exhausted for many days, Naib Subedar Baria Sanjay Kumar Bhamar Sinh volunteered to be part of the ambush in General Area Kala Jungle. When terrorists came within effective firing range but could not be engaged due to the defiladed position of the ground, he volunteered to move ahead to establish contact with the terrorists. Displaying intrepid nerves of steel, he took immediate control of the situation and co-ordinated effectively and moved in heavily mined terrain with undulating ground and thick vegetation. With total disregard to his own safety Naib Subedar Baria Sanjay Kumar Bhamar Sinh continued engaging terrorists under overwhelming fire and neutralized one hard core terrorist.

For his act of gallantry, indomitable courage and devotion beyond call of duty resulting in elimination of one hardcore terrorist, **Naib Subedar Baria Sanjay Kumar Bhamar Sinh is awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



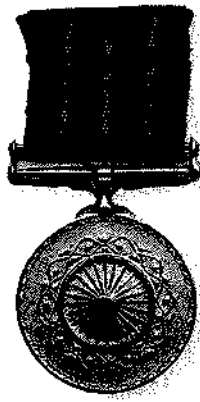
“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

SS-47915X MAJOR AMANDEEP JAKHAR (4TH BATTALION THE SIKH REGIMENT)

Major Amandeep Jakhar was part of cut-off group of an ambush deployed in Keren sector of Kupwara district along the Line of Control on 15 June 2023. This ambush was deployed on receipt of intelligence regarding likely infiltration by a group of five terrorists.

On 16 June 2023, as the ambush was sprung, two terrorists tried to escape while firing indiscriminately towards the officer and his team. Major Amandeep Jakhar, despite being under heavy fire, tactically pursued these terrorists. In this action, he came face to face with one terrorist whom he killed in fierce hand to hand combat. Another terrorist had taken cover behind a tree and brought down heavy automatic and grenade fire. Sensing grave danger to his troops, Major Amandeep Jakhar unmindful of his personal safety, moved closer to this terrorist to draw him out of cover. As the terrorist took aimed fire onto the officer and got exposed, his buddy eliminated this terrorist. The officer put his own life at risk to save his troops and ensured that the operation was a success. The operation resulted in elimination of five heavily armed foreign terrorists.

For his act of gallantry, raw courage, leading his men from front and outstanding decision making under a combat situation, **Major Amandeep Jakhar is awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”.**



“SHAURYA CHAKRA”

SHRI PARSHOTAM KUMAR

Shri Parshotam Kumar, resident of district Rajouri is a farmer by profession and Village Defence Committee Member. He is a go getter with a panache of service to the nation ingrained in him and has been responsible for ensuring the safety and security of his village.

On 05 August 2023, Shri Parshotam Kumar while collecting fire wood in the jungle with his family spotted two suspicious armed individuals with rucksacks resting in close vicinity to his location. Realizing the imminent danger to the village, Shri Parshotam Kumar quietly moved his family members to safety towards their house and fetched his weapon while also alerting other members of Village Defence Committee, Police and the Army. While the forces were closing in, unmindful of his own safety, Shri Parshotam Kumar tailed the two terrorists and with raw courage and excellent field craft, he closed in to the terrorists and engaged them from a close distance and maintained contact with them till security forces closed in. His brave act led to the neutralization of one foreign terrorist.

For displaying astute patriotism, courage and inspirational act of gallantry under fire, **Shri Parshotam Kumar is awarded “SHAURYA CHAKRA”**.