











रक्षा अलंकरण समारोह-2022 Defence Investiture Ceremony-2022







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KIRTI CHAKRA

SHRI ALTAF HUSSAIN BHAT, CONSTABLE, JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICE (POSTHUMOUS)

Ct Altaf Hussain Bhat was deputed to ensure safety and security of protected functionaries in the district of Ganderbal.

On 06-10-2020, the protected person visited his family at Nunner and was about to proceed to his safe accommodation at PDC colony Kangan when he was targeted by terrorists, who indiscriminately fired upon him. The deployed police personnel retaliated promptly and effectively. Ct Altaf Hussain was critically injured but despite his injuries, he chased the terrorists and killed one terrorist on the spot. Besides, he also pushed the protected person inside his house to save his life. Ct Altaf Hussain Bhat was immediately rushed to SKIMS Soura for medical treatment; unfortunately, the official succumbed to his injuries in the hospital thereby attaining Martyrdom in the line of duty.

Ct Altaf Hussain Bhat exhibited gallantry of the highest order and high level of professionalism. In recognition of his gallant act, raw courage, utmost dedication and commitment to duty and supreme sacrifice for the nation, Ct. Altaf Hussain Bhat, is awarded "Kirti Chakra (Posthumously)".

SHRI SHAHBAZ AHMAD, SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER, JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICE (POSTHUMOUS)

On 21.01.2020, Police Station Khrew received specific information regarding presence of terrorists in village Zantrag Nagander Khrew. The operation was planned and the cordon was established around the said area with the assistance of 50-RR, 185 Bn CRPF. Immediately a joint search party was constituted.

As soon the search was conducted, the hidden terrorists fired indiscriminately upon the searching party with their arms/ammunition. As a result, one Army Personnel and Shahbaz Ahmad, SPO of Police Component Pampore attained martyrdom. Consequently, the cordon and search operation was intensified and extended round the clock. Following day i.e. 22-01-2020 the contact was again established with the terrorists resulting into gun battle. Meanwhile the terrorists lobbed couple of grenades and opened fire indiscriminately towards joint search party in order to make their escape. The joint search party, with prompt action and accurate fire killed all the terrorists resulting in the culmination of the operation after continuous gun battle for more than two days. A huge quantity of arms/ ammunition was recovered from the possession of slain terrorists.

SPO Shahbaz Ahmad exhibited exemplary commitment with a record service career of 02 years against terrorism and laid his life in the line of duty and made supreme sacrifice for the nation. SPO Shahbaz Ahmad is awarded "Shaurya Chakra (Posthumously)".

SHRI AJEET SINGH, HEAD CONSTABLE (GD), 204 COBRA CRPF, KARANPUR, JAGDALPUR, BASTAR, CHHATTISGARH (POSTHUMOUS)

On specific input, about the presence of Maoist Leaders, in the general area of Irrapalli, an operation was launched on 09 February 2020 involving various teams of CRPF.

While searching the area, a group of heavily armed Maoists encircled the troops and opened indiscriminate fire at them. The troops immediately took positions and retaliated. The audacious counter attack broke the Maoists ranks and they fled from the site leaving their dead cadre behind. The teams kept on searching the area, while they were approaching the height, the Maoists in large numbers, opened heavy fire upon the teams, in further exchange of fire a few personnel got grievously injured.

Seeing his commander down, HC/GD Ajeet Singh took the lead and held the front against the Maoists, he came out of the cover and fired HE Bombs on Maoists to break their dominance. Seeing him in the open, Maoists opened indiscriminate fire at HC/GD Ajeet Singh, inflicting severe bullet injuries on him. Despite being seriously wounded, HC/GD Ajeet Singh did not lose his composure and fought gallantly, till the support from other teams reached there.

In recognition of his most extraordinary and conspicuous act of gallantry, and supreme sacrifice in the line of duty, HC/GDAjeet Singh, is awarded "Shaurya Chakra (Posthumously)".

SHRI VIKAS KUMAR, CONSTABLE (GD), 204 COBRA CRPF, KARANPUR, JAGDALPUR, BASTAR, CHHATTISGARH (POSTHUMOUS)

On specific input, about the presence of Maoist leaders, in the general area of Irrapalli, an operation was launched on 09 February 2020.

Advancing cross country, the troops reached near the target area around 0530 hours on 10th February 2020 and divided themselves into 3 Strike Teams. When the troops had advanced, 3-4 Maoists were seen trying to plant IED. Meanwhile, a group of heavily armed Maoists encircled the troops and opened indiscriminate fire at them. The troops, immediately, took positions and retaliated. During the fierce exchange of fire, the audacious counter attack broke the Maoists ranks and they fled from the site leaving their dead cadre behind. While the team was approaching height, the Maoists, in large numbers, opened heavy fire upon them. The troops again took positions and retaliated but in the process they got bullet injuries.

Seeing his colleagues falling, Ct/GD Vikas Kumar tried to reach him and gave first-aid. Despite knowing that his own life would be at grave risk, he reached his colleagues, provided first aid but in doing so he got hit by bullets and attained martyrdom, but helped his team in recovering and counter attacking the Maoists. This unified counter attack broke the Maoists further and forced them to retreat.

In recognition of this extraordinary and conspicuous act of gallantry, Ct/GD Vikas Kumar is awarded "Shaurya Chakra (Posthumously)".

SHRI PURNANAND, CONSTABLE (GD), 204 COBRA CRPF, KARANPUR, JAGDALPUR, BASTAR, CHHATTISGARH (POSTHUMOUS)

On specific input, about the presence of prominent Maoist leaders, in the general area of Irrapalli, a joint operation was launched on 09 February 2020.

Advancing cross country, the troops reached near the target area around 0530 hours on 10th February 2020 and divided into 3 Strike Teams. When the troops had advanced approx 200 m, 3-4 Maoists were seen trying to plant IED. The troops chased the Maoists, during the search, warlike stores were recovered from the area. Meanwhile, a group of heavily armed Maoists encircled the troops and opened indiscriminate fire at them. The troops, immediately, took positions and retaliated. The audacious counter attack broke the Maoists ranks and they fled from the site leaving their dead cadre behind.

The teams started to search the area again. Suddenly, the Maoists, in large numbers, opened heavy fire upon them. The troops again took positions and retaliated, the party commander directed Scouts Ct/GD Purnanand and his colleague to attack the Maoists from the flanks. Displaying exemplary courage and bravery, Scout Ct/GD Purnanand advanced towards the Maoists. Amidst the raining bullets, Ct/GD Purnanand moved out of his cover and attacked the Maoists, from the flanks, under the covering fire. However, in the process, Ct/GD Purnanand got hit by bullets. Despite, being severely injured, Ct/GD Purnanand resolutely continued firing at the Maoists, till he fell down. However, giving enough opportunity to the team to retaliate and counter attack the Maoists. His timely support not only saved the lives of his fellow commandos but also prevented the Maoists from encircling the troops.

In recognition of his most extraordinary and conspicuous act of gallantry and supreme sacrifice for the security of nation, Ct/GD Purnanad is awarded "Shaurya Chakra (Posthumously)".

SHRI KULDEEP KUMAR URAWAN, HEAD CONSTABLE (GD), 118 CRPF, GUND, GANDERBAL (J&K) (POSTHUMOUS)

On 02 July 2020 at about 2100 hrs, an input was received from SOG Zakhura about the presence of heavily armed terrorists, in Malbagh area, Hazratbal, Srinagar Accordingly, joint cordon and search operation was launched.

The troops jumped inside the boundary wall of the target house. The hiding terrorist noticed their presence and opened indiscriminate fire towards them. To aid his colleagues, HC/GD Kuldeep Kumar Urawan jumped inside the compound and fired towards the terrorist, forcing him to retreat. But, in process, he got into the direct line of the fire and got hit by a bullet. HC/GD Kuldeep Kumar Urawan, ignoring his injuries, continued to counter the terrorist while his colleagues entered the house.

As the troops reached the first floor, the terrorist opened a volley of fire towards them. In a close quarter gun fight, HC/GD Kuldeep Kumar Urawan injured the terrorist but also got multiple bullets hits. The terrorist tried to escape to ground floor but was retaliated from the ground team and forced to get back to the first floor. The terrorist in panic, moved back and fired indiscriminately again towards the search team. HC/GD Kuldeep Kumar Urawan with his colleagues opened targeted fire and neutralized him on the spot and one AK56 Rifle, magazines and ammunition were recovered.

HC/GD Kuldeep Kumar Urawan was immediately taken to 92 Base Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries and attained martyrdom. He made the supreme Sacrifice at the altar of duty, in the highest martial traditions of the force. HC/GD Kuldeep Kumar Urawan is awarded "Shaurya Chakra (Posthumously)".

SHRI DEBASIS SETHY, COMMANDO, ODISHA POLICE (POSTHUMOUS) SHRI SUDHIR KUMAR TUDU, COMMANDO, ODISHA POLICE (POSTHUMOUS)

Based on credible information of movement of a group of Maoists, an intensive search operation was launched on 08.09.2020.

During the search operation on 09.09.2020, the Police team found presence of Maoists on hill top near village Sirki under Madanpur Rampur PS of Kalahandi district. On seeing the Police team, the Maoists on hill top opened indiscriminate fire at Police Party. The Police team retaliated valiantly by exchanging fire. The Maoists also hurled grenade at Police team. The Police team asked the Maoists to surrender, but they continued firing on the police team. During exchange of fire Shri Debasis Sethy and Shri Sudhir Kumar Tudu sustained bullet injuries and succumbed to injuries. After exchange of fire stopped, the Police team recovered five bodies of Maoists alongwith various weapons and other articles from spot.

The brave acts of Late Shri Debasis Sethy and Late Shri Sudhir Kumar Tudu, saved lives and properties of general public of the village Sirki. They showed raw courage, utmost dedication and commitment to duty and made supreme sacrifice for the nation. Shri Debasis Sethy and Shri Sudhir Kumar Tudu are awarded "Shaurya Chakra (Posthumously)".

WING COMMANDER (NOW GROUP CAPTAIN) VARUN SINGH, (27987) FLYING (PILOT) (NOW POSTHUMOUS)

Wing Commander (Now Group Captain) Varun Singh (27987) Flying (Pilot) was on posted strength of Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Squadron since 10 Sep 18 and had been performing the duties of a Squadron Pilot.

On 12th October 2020, he was authorized to fly a system check sortie in LCA at Air Force Station Hindan, after major rectification of Flight Control System (FCS) and pressurization system (life support environment control system). During the sortie, the cockpit pressurisation failed at high altitude, without any associated failure warning. Wg. Cdr. (Now Group Captain) Varun Singh correctly identified the failure and initiated a descent to lower altitude for landing. While descending, passing 17,000 feet, three out of four channels of the Flight Control System failed and led to total loss of control of the aircraft. There was a rapid loss of altitude, the aircraft pitched up and down viciously going to the extremities of G limits upto -3.5, which in itself is life endangering with the threat of permanent eye damage. Despite being in extreme physical and mental stress and life threatening situation, he maintained exemplary composure and recovered the aircraft. Soon thereafter, at 10,000 feet, the aircraft experienced total loss of control with vicious maneuvering and pitching uncontrollably. Under such a scenario, the pilot was at liberty to abandon aircraft. He evaluated the gravity of situation and decided to bring back the aircraft safely so as to be able to analyse the fault on ground, for prevention in future.

This allowed an accurate analysis of the fault on the indigenously designed fighter and further institution of preventive measures against recurrence. Due to his high order of professionalism, composure and quick decision making even at the peril to his life, he not only averted the loss of a LCA, but also safeguarded civilian property and population on ground.

The officer subsequently expired in the helicopter crash on 08th Dec 2021. Wing Commander (Now Group Captain) Varun Singh is awarded "Shaurya Chakra (Posthumously)".

PARAM VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL

- VICE ADMIRAL AJENDRA BAHADUR SINGH, AVSM, VSM, ADC (02619-A)
- VICE ADMIRAL SATISHKUMAR N GHORMADE, AVSM, NM, ADC (02671-W)
- AIR MARSHAL BALABHADRA RADHA KRISHNA, AVSM, SC, ADC (17326) FLYING (PILOT)
- IC-40353H LIEUTENANT GENERAL PARAMJIT SINGH SANGHA, UYSM, AVSM, SM, THE INFANTRY (RETIRED)
- IC-40753P LIEUTENANT GENERAL MANMOHAN JEET SINGH KAHLON, AVSM, THE ARMOURED CORPS (RETIRED)
- IC-42475L LIEUTENANT GENERAL SAVNEET SINGH, YSM, SM, VSM, THE INFANTRY (RETIRED)
- IC-45009F LIEUTENANT GENERAL SUKHDEEP SANGWAN, AVSM, SM**, THE INFANTRY (RETIRED)
- MR-04744H LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOY CHATTERJEE, VSM, THE ARMY MEDICAL CORPS (RETIRED)
- MR-05596P LIEUTENANT GENERAL MADHURI KANITKAR, AVSM, VSM, THE ARMY MEDICAL CORPS (RETIRED)
- IC-41471H LIEUTENANT GENERAL SURENDAR KUMAR PRASHAR, AVSM, VSM, THE INFANTRY (RETIRED)
- AIR MARSHAL DIPTENDU CHOUDHURY, AVSM, VM, VSM (17335)
 FLYING (PILOT) (RETIRED)
- 12. AIR MARSHAL VIJAY PAL SINGH RANA, VSM (17736) ADMINISTRATION/FIGHTER CONTROLLER (RETIRED)
- 13. IC-42294A MAJOR GENERAL SHAILJANAND JHA, VSM, THE ARMOURED CORPS (RETIRED)
- JC-471869A SUBEDAR NEERAJ CHOPRA, VSM, 4TH BATTALION THE RAJPUTANA RIFLES

ATI VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL

- IC-42387P LIEUTENANT GENERAL SURINDER SINGH MAHAL, VSM, THE ARMOURED CORPS
- AIR MARSHAL CHALAPATI JONNALAGEDDA, VSM (17358) FLYING (PILOT)
- 3. AIR MARSHAL SREEKUMAR PRABHAKARAN, VM, (17318)
- 4. IC-42273K LIEUTENANT GENERAL BASANT KUMAR REPSWAL, VSM, THE ARMY SERVICE CORPS
- 5. IC-42542L LIEUTENANT GENERAL MANOJ KUMAR MAGO, YSM, SM**, THE BRIGADE OF THE GUARDS
- IC-42390P LIEUTENANT GENERAL M UNNIKRISHNAN NAIR, SM, THE CORPS OF SIGNALS
- IC-42794X LIEUTENANT GENERAL MV SUCHINDRA KUMAR, YSM**, VSM, THE INFANTRY
- 8. IC-45642F LIEUTENANT GENERAL REDDY VENKATESHA GA, SC, VSM, THE INFANTRY
- IC-47003Y LIEUTENANT GENERAL DEVENDRA SHARMA, SM, THE ARMOURED CORPS
- IC-47253A MAJOR GENERAL (NOW LIEUTENANT GENERAL)
 GAJENDRA JOSHI, SM, THE INFANTRY
- 11. MR-04902M MAJOR GENERAL (NOW LIEUTENANT GENERAL)
 ASHOK KUMAR JINDAL, YSM, THE ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
- 12. SURGEON VICE ADMIRAL NAVEEN CHAWLA, VSM (75402-T)
- 13. AIR MARSHAL PRASHANT BHARADWAJ, VSM & BAR (37032) MEDICAL
- IC-44603W MAJOR GENERAL VIVEK KASHYAP, VSM, THE ARMOURED CORPS
- 15. IC-46319Y MAJOR GENERAL RAJEEV PURI, VSM, THE INFANTRY
- IC-47566Y MAJOR GENERAL VM BHUVANA KRISHNAN, YSM, THE INFANTRY

- 17. IC-47646W MAJOR GENERAL GULJEET SINGH JAMWAL, SM**, THE INFANTRY
- IC-48085Y MAJOR GENERAL MANISH MOHAN ERRY, SM, THE INFANTRY
- IC-48118Y MAJOR GENERAL PRAVEEN KUMAR AIRY, VSM, THE INFANTRY
- 20. IC-48677H MAJOR GENERAL DHEERENDRA SINGH KUSHWAH, SM, THE INFANTRY
- 21. MR-05261X MAJOR GENERAL R RAVIKUMAR, THE ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
- 22. IC-41869X MAJOR GENERAL ARVIND BHATIA, THE INFANTRY (RETIRED)
- 23. IC-41885P MAJOR GENERAL U SURESH KUMAR, YSM, VSM, THE INFANTRY (RETIRED)
- 24. REAR ADMIRAL ATUL ANAND, VSM (03247-B)
- 25. REAR ADMIRAL UI BELLIAPPA, VSM (41291-T)
- 26. AIR VICE MARSHAL NAGESH KAPOOR, VM (18557) FLYING (PILOT)
- 27. AIR VICE MARSHAL TEJINDER SINGH, VM (18806) FLYING (PILOT)
- 28. AIR VICE MARSHAL KALVAKUNTLA SHEKHAR REDDY, VSM (17774) LOGISTICS (RETIRED)
- 29. IC-51426K BRIGADIER ARVINDER SINGH HQ CE (P) HIMANK

SHRI CHITESH KUMAR, DEPUTY COMMANDANT, CRPF SHRI MANJINDER SINGH, SUB INSPECTOR, CRPF SHRI SUNIL CHOUDHARY, CONSTABLE, CRPF

Based on intelligence, regarding the presence of a group of Maoists, a joint operation was launched on 25th March, 2019 by the troops of 201 CoBRA and State Police, in the village of Karkanguda, PS Jagargunda, Distt.Sukma, Chhattisgarh.

After crossing the Chintavagu river, the troops split into 3 groups and advanced towards the target area, through different routes. On 26 March, 2019, when the front team, reached near Vate Vagu Nallah, the scout noticed some noise/suspicious activity across the Nallah. When they moved through Nallah to ascertain the situation, suddenly a heavy volley of fire from automatic/semiautomatic weapons came towards them from different directions. A bigger formation of uniformed armed Maoists, spreading in small groups along with the Nallah started indiscriminate firing on the front section of team. Shri Chitesh Kumar DC, Ct/GD Shri Sunil Choudhary and SI/GD Shri Manjinder Singh were cornered by the Maoists. The trio displaying exemplary bravery hold on to the ground and counter attacked the Maoists. With the effective support from the flanks, Shri Chitesh Kumar, DC, along with his two commandoes launched a full-fledged frontal attack on the Maoists. The coordinated audacious counterattack broke the ranks of the Maoists as they retracted from their position to save their lives.

As the troops started searching the area, Maoists regrouped and attacked the searching party, using improvised arrow bomb and other weapons. Shri Chitesh Kumar DC, Ct/GD Shri Sunil Choudhary and SI/GD Shri Manjinder Singh alongwith other commandos again counter-attacked the Maoists and chased them. With their effective battle acumen and firing, they inflicted heavy casualties on Maoists. Once the firing stopped, the troops thoroughly searched the area and recovered 4 dead bodies of Maoists along with a number of ammunition and other incriminating items.

Shri Chitesh Kumar, Deputy Commandant, SI Shri Manjinder Singh and Ct Shri Sunil Choudhary displayed unparallel courage, fortitude and conspicuous gallant action blended with adroit military acumen, without caring for their own lives in the gravest life threatening situation. Shri Chitesh Kumar, Deputy Commandant, SI Shri Manjinder Singh and Ct Shri Sunil Choudhary are awarded "Shaurya Chakra".

SHRI DILIP MALIK, DY. COMMANDANT, 205 COBRA, CRPF, BARWADHI, PS- BARACHATTI, GAYA-824201

Based on an intelligence input, regarding the movement of a group of CCPI Maoist in Chakarbandha Forest in Bihar, an operation was launched by CoBRA 153 and 159 CRPF along with Bihar Police on 24/25 July, 2019.

On 25 July 2019 morning, while searching the area, the troops noticed an IED, planted on a track going uphill. Immediately, Team Cdr Sh Dilip Malik, DC, alerted the troops. Suddenly a heavy volume of fire came on the leading Section of Team-1 from the dominating heights. Before the troops could react, the firing was followed by 5 IED blasts and they were trapped in the killing zone of Maoists.

Assessing the critical situation, Shri Dilip Malik, DC, took a bold decision to launch a full throttle frontal attack. Before the maoist could respond, Shri Dilip Malik, DC, fired heavily from standing position and shot down one Maoist. However, as the Maoists were occupying safe positions they blasted an IED just in front of the advancing troops. Shri Dilip Malik, DC, along with his team moved to attack the left flank of the Maoists, while ordering the other troops to attack from the right flank and to fire UBGL at the Maoists position. The brave personnel, on the right flank charged towards the Maoists and neutralised two of them. Meanwhile, Shri Dilip Malik, DC, mobilised a small team to encircle them from behind. The ferocious and tactical counter attack broke the Maoist ranks and they started fleeing. After the firing ceased, the troops thoroughly searched the area and recovered 3 dead bodies of Maoists along with huge cache of ammunition.

During the operation Shri Dilip Malik, DC, unmindful of his safety, exhibited unparalleled devotion and raw courage while leading from the front, continuously moving forward to save the lives of his troops, while putting his own at stake, he set the highest and exemplary standards of leadership. Shri Dilip Malik, Deputy Commandant is awarded "Shaurya Chakra".

SHRI ANIRUDH PRATAP SINGH, ASST. COMDT, 54 CRPF, SRINAGAR

On 18th May 2020, an input was received about the presence of the terrorists, in Kani Mazar, Nawakadal, PS Safakadal, Srinagar (J&K). Accordingly an operation was launched by Valley QAT.

The following day, at around 0235 hrs, when the team were searching the suspected houses and evacuating civilians, the terrorists in a bid to escape opened fire and hurled grenades. A fierce exchange of fire ensued between Valley QAT and the terrorists. The terrorist again threw a grenade and fired at QAT injuring a few personnel. The coordinated counter attack by troops resulted in the neutralisation of one terrorist.

However, in between, the second terrorist escaped from the target house. Shri Anirudh Pratap Singh, AC along with his buddies chased the terrorist, following the blood trail they cordoned a nearby house and commenced the search. The moment they opened the door of one of the bathrooms, on the ground floor, the terrorist lobbed a grenade, resulting in splinter injuries to Shri Anirudh Pratap Singh and his buddies. Trying to take advantage, the terrorist again tried to escape but Shri Anirudh Pratap Singh, AC, despite being injured, fired at him from a close range, thereby preventing his escape. Finding himself encircled, the terrorist in a last attempt lobbed another grenade. Being at a close distance, Shri Anirudh Pratap Singh, AC, again got hit by splinters however, undeterred by his grievous injuries he along with his buddies fired at the terrorist. The effective firing by these committed soldiers led to the neutralisation of the terrorist.

In recognition of extreme valour and exemplary determination, in the face of extreme danger, despite being injured, Shri Anirudh Pratap Singh, AC, is awarded 'Shaurya Chakra'.

CAPTAIN SACHIN REUBEN SEQUEIRA (04272-H)

Captain Sachin Reuben Sequeira is presently holding the appointment of Commanding Officer of INS Kochi. During the cyclonic storm Tauktae in the North Arabian Sea, INS Kochi, under his able leadership, undertook Search and Rescue Operations.

On 17 May 21, INS Kochi was sailed with dispatch to render assistance to Barge P-305, which was sinking under the influence of the severe cyclonic storm Tauktae. Displaying thorough professionalism, exemplary leadership, the officer guided the ship to close the stricken barge. The increasing perilous conditions of 50 kns winds, sea state 7/8 and intense spells of rains, precluded rescue by boat, Gemini divers or shore based air ops. Faced with extremely limited options, the officer took the bold decision of maneuvering the ship to close and recover survivors directly from the sea. The survivors recovered onboard through various innovative ways such as use of scramble nets jumping ladders and lines. The Officer, keeping the mission of saving lives foremost, over and above the safety of his own team and the ship, led and guided his officers and ship's company tirelessly throughout a period of 36 hours. His courageous action, motivation of the crew and composed decision resulted in rescue of 125 personnel, including over 65 survivors recovered in dark hours, without injury or loss of life of his crew.

The successful and daring execution of the Search and Rescue Operation under unprecedented stress and extreme rough weather highlights the extraordinary leadership, professionalism and fortitude of the officer. This brave act of leadership and courage was in keeping with the ethos of the Navy and in service of the Nation in times of peril and adversity. Captain Sachin Reuben Sequeira is awarded "Shaurya Chakra".