#### KIRTI CHAKRA

## 3007678Y SEPOY VRAHMA PAL SINGH THE RAJPUT REGIMENT / 44<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)

In November 2017, a cordon & search operation was launched in a village in Jammu and Kashmir on input of presence of three terrorists. Sepoy Vrahma Pal Singh was deployed in inner cordon. Having cleared two houses, Sepoy Vrahma Pal Singh alongwith his buddy moved ahead to clear the adjacent cowshed. Upon entering the completely dark cowshed as Entryman Number 1, he came under heavy effective fire from the cowshed from three different directions. Unmindful of his personal safety, he retaliated immediately. All three terrorists started aimed firing at him. In a single handed gallant action displayed by Sepoy Vrahma Pal Singh, he provided cover fire and afforded opportunity to his buddy Rifleman to extricate himself not only out of cowshed, but also kept the three terrorists engaged thus prevented their escape out of cowshed. In the ensuing firefight, he sustained bullet injuries on his chest and legs. Despite being grievously wounded and numerically overwhelmed by terrorists, Sepoy Vrahma Pal Singh continued dominating and engaging the terrorists, which led to neutralization of one terrorist and injuring of another.

Sepoy Vrahma Pal Singh displayed heroic action, indomitable spirit, exceptional bravery, camaraderie, esprit-de-corps, leading to saving the life of his buddy and neutralization of one hardcore terrorist and injuring of another terrorist and made supreme sacrifice for the nation in line with highest traditions of Indian Army.

#### KIRTI CHAKRA

## SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR NAIN, CONSTABLE 130 BATTALION, CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE (POSTHUMOUS)

On 30 December 2017 at around 0200 hrs, three heavily armed terrorists sneaked into the Lethpora camp in Jammu and Kashmir and entered the four-storeyed building. On receipt of information about the attack, the Valley Quick Action Team (QAT) from Srinagar and Range QAT of South Kashmir Ops Range (SKOR) and Anantnag rushed for Lethpora camp. Sh Zile Singh, Assistant Commandant of Range QAT (SKOR) with his buddy Constable Rajendra Kumar Nain moved to evacuate the trapped personnel from the building. Amid the heavy firing, troops first rescued about ten personnel from building, and then advanced to engage the terrorists hiding somewhere in attic area.

As Constable Rajendra Kumar Nain opened the attic door, the militant fired a volley of bullets and simultaneously lobbed a grenade towards them. Constable Rajendra Kumar Nain, in a flash, without caring for his life, moved inside with his BP shield and fired a burst at the militant with full might. However, the militant also fired back from behind the cemented block. Resultantly, one Armour Piercing Incendiary (API) round pierced through the BP shield and hit Constable Rajendra Kumar Nain in the chest. Despite this, he valiantly continued to fire on the militant, till he fell unconscious. In the process, he inflicted grievous wounds on the militant. Constable Rajendra Kumar Nain was evacuated to the hospital immediately where he attained martyrdom.

The Lethpora operation continued for more than 36 hours and was eventually repulsed successfully by CRPF.

Constable Rajendra Kumar Nain displayed exceptional and conspicuous bravery, raw courage, utmost dedication and commitment to duty in fighting with terrorists and made supreme sacrifice for the nation.

# SHRI DHANAWADE RAVINDRA BABAN, HEAD CONSTABLE 182 BATTALION, CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE (POSTHUMOUS)

On 26<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at around 0400 Hrs, three terrorists sneaked into the District Police Line, Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir. However, they were intercepted by the daring alert CRPF troops who responded valiantly disorienting them from their target. Then the terrorists rushed towards the family quarters located opposite of the barracks.

Reacting to the situation, Shri Kuldeep Singh Chahar, Deputy Commandant and Unit Quick Action Team (QAT) evacuated most of the residents to safety. However, the occupants of the blocks, where the terrorists had positioned themselves, were yet to be rescued. To accomplish this task, Shri Kuldeep Singh Chahar and Head Constable Dhanawade Ravindra Baban alongwith their team kept on moving inside the building to search for the terrorists.

While the duo was moving ahead, the terrorist opened a barrage of bullets towards them. However, they continued to advance in an attempt to pin down the terrorist who was frequently changing his position. Seeing them uncomfortably close, the terrorist unleashed a heavy volume of fire at the duo. The deadly bullets hit Head Constable Dhanawade Ravindra Baban. Despite the injury and bleeding profusely, he did not leave the ground and continued to fire at the terrorist with his Commander. Before the terrorist could change his position, the duo hit the terrorist leaving him grievously injured. The terrorist in a desperate attempt lobbed a grenade towards the duo to block their advance and repositioned himself beneath the stairs. Meanwhile, condition of Head Constable Dhanawade Ravidnra Baban was deteriorating. Subjecting to grave risk, Shri Kuldeep Singh Chahar evacuated him. Later Head Constable Dhanwade Ravindra Baban attained martyrdom in the line of duty.

#### PARAM VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL

- IC-35471M General Bipin Rawat, UYSM, AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM, ADC The Infantry
- IC-38226W Lieutenant General Surinder Singh, AVSM and Bar, VSM The Mechanised Infantry
- 3. MR-03993P Lieutenant General Bipin Puri, VSM, The Army Medical Corps
- IC-38750H Lieutenant General Manoj Mukund Naravane, AVSM, SM, VSM The Infantry
- 5. Vice Admiral Ajit Kumar Payyapillil, AVSM, VSM (02275-W)
- 6. Air Marshal Balakrishnan Suresh AVSM VM (16206) Flying (Pilot)
- 7. Air Marshal Raghunath Nambiar, AVSM, VM and Bar (16378) Flying (Pilot)
- 8. IC-38879W Lieutenant General Ashwani Kumar, AVSM, VSM The Army Air Defence
- IC-38011W Lieutenant General Pankaj Kumar Srivastava, AVSM, VSM The Regiment of Artillery
- IC-39445H Lieutenant General Sudarshan Shrikant Hasabnis, VSM The Corps of Engineers
- 11. IC-39607H Lieutenant General Iqroop Singh Ghuman, AVSM The Mechanised Infantry
- 12. Air Marshal Sardar Harpal Singh, AVSM, VM (16071) Flying (Pilot)
- IC-38403K Lieutenant General Shokin Chauhan, AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM
   The Infantry (Retired)
- IC-38753W Lieutenant General Jaswinder Singh Sandhu, UYSM, AVSM, VSM The Infantry (Retired)
- MR-37934P Major General Vijay Dnayandev Chowgule, VSM The Infantry (Retired)

#### KIRTI CHAKRA

## SS-46936F MAJOR TUSHAR GAUBA 20TH BATTALION THE JAT REGIMENT

On the night of 23 May 2018, eight militants attempted infiltration across Line of Control in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir. At 0400 hours on 24 May 2018, Major Tushar Gauba laid an ambush to deny exfiltration to the terrorists. On the night of 25 May, terrorists tried to exfiltrate. Party led by Major Tushar was alerted, and accordingly he redeployed his ambush. At 0530 hours on 26 May, terrorist group sensed the location of ambush led by Major Tushar and started indiscriminatory fire using automatic rifles and hand grenades in which a Sepoy sustained splinter injuries. Sensing the danger to own party, Major Tushar Gauba crawled upto 20 meter close to the terrorists under heavy firing by terrorists. He lobbed a hand grenade and with utter disregard to his personal safety charged on the terrorists. In close combat he killed three militants with personal weapon.

Major Tushar Gauba displayed unparalleled bravery, conspicuous gallantry under heavy terrorist fire, tactical acumen and swift action to save his party, and eliminated three hardcore terrorists.

## UTTAM YUDDH SEVA MEDAL

 IC-39929H Lieutenant General Saranjeet Singh, YSM, The Infantry Headquarters 16 Corps

#### ATI VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL

- IC-40007M Lieutenant General Yenduru Venkata Krishna Mohan, SM, VSM The Infantry
- IC-40299A Lieutenant General Sanjay Verma, VSM and Bar, The Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers
- IC-40393K Lieutenant General Jagdeep Kumar Sharma The Mechanised Infantry
- MR-04262N Lieutenant General Umesh Kumar Sharma
   The Army Medical Corps
- IC-38694P Lieutenant General Paramjit Singh, VSM, The Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers
- IC-39437K Lieutenant General Shashank Tarakant Upasani, SM, VSM The Infantry
- 7. IC-39501W Lieutenant General Anant Prasad Singh, The Army Air Defence
- 8. IC-41461Y Lieutenant General Yogendra Dimri, VSM, The Corps of Engineers
- 9. IC-41471H Lieutenant General Surendar Kumar Prashar, VSM, The Infantry
- 10. Vice Admiral Sunil Anand, NM (02585-Z)
- 11. Air Marshal Amit Tiwari, VM (16806) Flying Pilot
- 12. Air Marshal Amit Dev, VSM (16972) Flying (Pilot)
- IC-40025P Lieutenant General Giri Raj Singh, SM, The Army Ordnance Corps (Retired)
- 14. IC-41154F Major General Alok Raj, The Infantry
- IC-41464M Major General Tejpal Singh Rawat, VSM and Bar, The Corps of Engineers

- 16. IC-42753N Major General Channira Bansiponnappa, VSM, The Infantry
- 17. IC-42833L Major General Gajinder Singh, The Infantry
- 18. Rear Admiral Makarand Arvind Hampiholi, NM (02859-Y)
- 19. Rear Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi, NM (02904-Z)
- Air Vice Marshal Pijush Mukherjee, VSM (17671) Aeronautical Engineering (Electronics)
- IC-39909P Major General Paramjit Singh Sandhu, VSM, The Mechanised Infantry (Retired)
- 22. Air Vice Marshal Soumitra Kumar Dey, VSM (17030) Administration (Retired)
- 23. IC-43756N Brigadier Sanjeev Langeh, SM, The Jammu & Kashmir Rifles
- 24. Air Commodore Dhananjay Vasant Khot, VM (19516) Flying (Pilot)
- 25. Air Commodore George Thomas, VM (20118) Flying (Pilot)

## SHRI A S KRISHNA, HEAD CONSTABLE SHRI K DINESH RAJA, CONSTABLE SHRI PRAFULLA KUMAR, CONSTABLE 45 BATTALION, CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE

On 05 June 2017, Constable K Dinesh Raja and Constable Prafulla Kumar were on sentry duty at 45 Bn, CRPF located in Industrial Area, Sumbal in Kashmir, while Head Constable A S Krishna was on night camp patrol duty. Constable K Dinesh Raja and Constable Prafulla Kumar noticed some suspicious movement in the apple orchard across the road. The duo spotted two heavily armed terrorists who were advancing towards the camp firing indiscriminately.

Constable K Dinesh Raja and Constable Prafulla Kumar retaliated against the terrorists to prevent them from entering in the camp. On hearing gunfire, Head Constable A S Krishna rushed and joined Constable K Dinesh Raja. Meanwhile, sentries set off the alarm to alert the entire camp. Terrorists were desperately trying to enter the camp and thus firing heavily upon the sentries. However, the audacious retaliation from the trio incapacitated the two terrorists, who had reached close to the fencing and were trying to snap the wires.

The alarm as well as the sound of heavy exchange of fire alerted Guard Commander. He also joined the sentries in the Morcha. Thereafter, exhibiting sound tactical acumen and extraordinary leadership skills, they quickly assessed the situation and took control of the proceedings. They kept moving from one location to the other guiding and motivating the troops to put effective fire.

Due to bad weather, power supply to the camp was disrupted and this facilitated the terrorists to change their position. Under the light of para illuminating bombs, troops sighted more terrorists running towards the perimeter fencing from across the road to join their colleagues. Head Constable A S Krishna, Constable K Dinesh Raja, Constable Prafulla Kumar and other sentries fired at the approaching terrorists.

Head Constable AS Krishna, Constable K Dinesh Raja and Constable Prafulla Kumar, showed exceptional valor, gallantry and raw courage in the face of imminent threat to their lives and withstood their ground during one of the most insolent fidayeen attacks.

# SS-44853X CAPTAIN VARMA JAYESH RAJESH THE RAJPUT REGIMENT / 44<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

In September 2017 at around 1835 hours in Jammu and Kashmir, a group of fleeing terrorists fired on Captain Varma Jayesh Rajesh, who was in the process of laying the cordon. With utter disregard to personal safety, displaying utmost courage and excellent tactical acumen, he maneuvered to a tactically advantageous position and eliminated one of the two terrorists in a gunfight at close quarters, and forced the third terrorist to be localised to a nearby cluster of houses. The officer determined to neutralize the hidden terrorist, displaying extreme grit and putting his life in peril, under heavy volume of fire and retaliation by terrorist, using skillful battle craft, crawled closer to target to lob a grenade, which neutralised the third terrorist. In this act the officer received splinter injury in his right leg. Displaying professionalism beyond call of duty, he refused to be evacuated and continued to lead the operations.

Captain Verma Jayesh Rajesh displayed indomitable courage, bold leadership and determination with quick planning under extreme danger, resulting in the elimination of two hardcore terrorists.

# IC-78575F CAPTAIN KANINDER PAUL SINGH THE RAJPUT REGIMENT / 44<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

In October 2017, on receipt of input of presence of three terrorists in a village in Jammu and Kashmir, Captain Kaninder Paul Singh, Ghatak Platoon Commander quickly and effectively laid the cordon of the target houses. While readjusting the cordon, he was informed of suspicious movement from one of the houses, which was challenged by the officer. His challenge was returned with heavy retaliation of fire from the terrorists. In a swift action, displaying raw courage and putting himself in mortal danger, he maneuvered closer to the terrorist and eliminated him.

Again in March 2018, based on specific input of presence of large group of terrorists, a cordon was laid in a village. The terrorists being trapped started indiscriminate heavy fire and tried to break the cordon. Captain Kaninder Paul Singh alongwith his buddy moved forward and immediately brought accurate fire on the terrorists. The terrorists brought down heavy small arms fire and lobbed hand grenades towards the officer and his buddy. Unmindful of his personal safety, the officer advanced towards the terrorists and neutralised one terrorist. The second terrorist tried to run back under cover of heavy fire including fire of Under Barrel Grenade Launcher from the hiding terrorists. Exhibiting indomitable spirit and raw courage in life threatening situation, the officer crawled ahead and neutralised the second terrorist in close combat and injured other terrorists giving cover fire from house.

Captain Kaninder Paul Singh displayed exemplary leadership, raw courage and gallantry beyond call of duty resulting in elimination of three hardcore terrorists in two separate operations.

## 15220840X GUNNER RANJIT SINGH THE REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY / 13<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

Gunner Ranjit Singh was part of inner cordon during a specific operation in Jammu and Kashmir. He along with his buddy was deployed to cover the most anticipated escape route. The position was devoid of any cover and they used bullet proof shield for safety.

When cordon was being readjusted, six heavily armed terrorists ran out from the target house and opened heavy fire at their position with the intent of escaping into the built up area. The bullet proof shield used by them was hit by bullets and cracked, and Gunner Ranjit Singh received a gunshot wound in his thigh. However, realising that if terrorists get beyond his position, they will endanger his colleagues and also escape, he, dispite being grievously wounded, engaged the terrorists effectively, killing one and wounding two others. Faced with effective fire, terrorists abandoned this escape route and changed direction towards the designated killing area, where they were successfully eliminated.

Gunner Ranjit Singh displayed act of gallantry beyond the call of duty.

# IC-76811Y MAJOR ADITYA KUMAR 10<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION THE GARHWAL RIFLES

In November 2017, on receipt of information about presence of four terrorists in a village in Jammu and Kashmir, Major Aditya Kumar displayed high degree of professional acumen in galvanizing his team into action. Using his thorough knowledge of the terrain, he established an initial cordon without loss of surprise. This initial action helped localise the terrorists move and restricted them to the target house. During the ensuing gunfight, the officer coordinated firing of all weapons on the house to create a breach thereby injuring the terrorists inside. With utter disregard to his personal safety, he moved closer to one such breach and brought down accurate fire on one of the foreign terrorists, neutralizing him from close quarters. The officer displayed raw courage and excellent presence of mind in moving close to another terrorist firing from window of the house and neutralizing him.

Major Aditya Kumar displayed meticulous planning and gallant action during the operation against terrorists.

### CAPTAIN (TS) P RAJKUMAR, NM(03228-K)

A very severe cyclonic storm Ockhi struck southern coast of India in end November / early December 2017 causing massive devastation. On 01 December 2017, Captain P Rajkumar and his crew flew sorties from Trivandrum throughout the day for search and rescue operations. Whilst disembarking the survivors at Trivandrum at about 1830 hrs, one of them reported sighting one fisherman, adrift at sea. With no regard to his safety, Captain Rajkumar decided to fly the life threatening mission post sunset on the stormy night of cyclone to save the solitary survivor in the raging sea. His risk was considerably enhanced by the fact that neither the helicopter nor the crew were equipped with any Night Vision Device.

About 25 minutes into search, the survivor was sighted clutching onto a capsized boat. With his vast experience and superior piloting skills, the officer brought the helicopter into a hover at 25 feet over the raging sea in a pitch dark night, heavy swell, nil visibility and with no night vision aids. Several attempts were made to position the rescue strop over the survivor; however the survivor continued to cling onto the capsized boat. At this juncture he took a very bold decision to lower a diver into the water by night. Having dispatched the diver, the officer maintained an extremely difficult manual hover for almost 30 minutes unmindful of his own safety, with the helicopter being subjected to extreme weather conditions.

Captain (TS) P Rajkumar displayed courage, fortitude, valour and undeterred commitment to save human life in the face of danger.

# JC-461439H NAIB SUBEDAR VIJAY KUMAR YADAV 15TH BATTALION THE MARATHA LIGHT INFANTRY REGIMENT

In February 2018, upon realising that enemy actions have been initiated onto own neighbouring post, Naib Subedar Vijay Kumar Yadav quickly sprung into action and provided mutual support fire to the targeted post. Soon he discovered that enemy was taking cover in defiladed positions. Realising danger to own neighbouring post, with complete disregard to personal safety, he led the Quick Reaction Team and rushed towards the incident site under heavy enemy fire. Fearlessly leading his team, he swiftly cordoned off the enemy Border Action Team and terrorists. Nb Sub Vijay crawled ahead and killed one terrorist at close range. He then pounced ahead and shot another terrorist trying to retrieve the dead terrorist which led the enemy to seek immediate disengagement and flee. Realising the importance, he retrieved the dead terrorist's body. His fearless yet tactically sound act led to foiling of planned attack by Border Action Team.

Naib Subedar Vijay Kumar Yadav displayed commendable bravery, exemplary leadership, grit determination, selflessness and fearless spirit.

# IC-76179M MAJOR PAWAN GAUTAM THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS / 44<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

On 31 March 2018, on receipt of input about presence of terrorists, Major Pawan Gautam meticulously planned and established a foolproof cordon with stealth and surprise. He alongwith his buddy Rifleman tactically approached the target house but suddenly came under heavy volume of terrorist fire from the house. Two terrorists came out firing indiscriminately trying to break the cordon and also lobbed hand grenades on them, thus injuring his buddy Rifleman. Major Pawan Gautam, displaying raw courage under heavy fire, retaliated and neutralised one terrorist and rescued his injured buddy. The second terrorist took position and brought down heavy volume of fire on the officer and lobbed hand grenades on him. Simultaneously, other terrorists in the house also opened fire on the officer and his party. With total disregard to his personal safety and displaying nerves of steel under heavy indiscriminate terrorist fire, Major Pawan Gautam crawled towards the hiding terrorist and neutralised him from very close range and caused injuries to other terrorists. In addition, five more terrorists were neutralised during this operation.

Major Pawan Gautam displayed exemplary leadership, raw courage and gallantry beyond call of duty resulting in elimination of a total of seven hardcore terrorists

# 16121676N SAPPER MAHESH HN THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS / 44<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

On 03 August 2018, during a cordon and search operation in a village in Jammu and Kashmir, Sapper Mahesh HN guided his team to lay a quick, effective and timely cordon cutting off all routes of escape of terrorists. At around 2100 hours, his position came under heavy fire from five terrorists who attempted to escape from that direction. Sapper Mahesh HN and his buddy in a fearless and gallant action engaged the terrorists in an intense and close firefight. In this daring action, he assisted in neutralization of one terrorist and in seriously injuring another, and forced the surviving terrorists back inside the compound of a house. Next morning when his team was engaged in an intense firefight by terrorists, a terrorist in a desperate bid to escape, fired indiscriminately towards Sapper Mahesh. With nerves of steel and indomitable courage, he blocked the terrorist and neutralized him in an intense close quarter battle.

Sapper Mahesh HN, displaying indomitable spirit, presence of mind, exemplary initiative and unparalleled courage, neutralized a hardcore terrorist, injured another terrorist and assisted in neutralization of other terrorists.

# IC-80045L CAPTAIN ABHINAV KUMAR CHOUDHARY THE CORPS OF SIGNALS / 21<sup>ST</sup> BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

On 08 August 2018 at 0950 hrs, on being alerted regarding move of five terrorists, Captain Abhinav Kumar Choudhary, displaying tactical acumen and leadership and taking advantage of inclement weather and low visibility, quickly readjusted his teams to prevent escape of terrorists. After visually confirming and positively identifying the terrorists, the officer and his buddy opened heavy volume of fire on terrorists. In the ensuing firefight, the officer displayed nerve of steel and, unmindful of his personal safety, closed in with the terrorists which were hiding behind a boulder and eliminated one foreign terrorist on his own. The officer thereafter exercised effective command and control and ensured strict fire discipline which facilitated elimination of all five foreign terrorists subsequently.

Captain Abhinav Kumar Choudhary displayed exceptional courage, grit and valour in elimination of five terrorists.

# 16014704X LANCE NAIK AYYUB ALI THE RAJPUTANA RIFLES / 9<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

On 15 September 2018, a group of five heavily armed terrorists were cordoned in a house in Jammu and Kashmir. Lance Naik Ayyub Ali was a part of the cordon. occupying a position covering the most likely escape route. At 0050 hrs, terrorists tried to break the cordon by using grenades and heavy volume of fire. Due to their indiscriminate firing, two of our men were wounded. L/Nk Ayyub Ali, on seeing his comrades hit, came out from cover and engaged one of the escaping terrorists. With complete disregard to his own safety, he brought down withering accurate fire onto the terrorist and eliminated him at very close range. He thereafter continued to engage the remaining terrorists and enabled evacuation of wounded personnel to a safe location.

Lance Naik Ayyub Ali displayed unflinching bravery and indomitable spirit directly resulting in killing of a hardcore terrorist and the safe evacuation of our two wounded personnel.

# IC-70006Y MAJOR AMIT KUMAR DIMRI THE GARHWAL RIFLES / 14<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

On 20 September 2018, on receipt of information about presence of five terrorists in an area of Jammu and Kashmir, an operation was launched under Major Amit Kumar Dimri. The officer personally led the initial search of target complex exposing him to grave danger and established first contact with terrorists. He ensured elimination of two escaping terrorists and trapping of remaining three terrorists inside a cowshed. On 21 September, after elimination of two more terrorists, Major Amit Kumar Dimri closed in with the cowshed using bullet proof shields under direct fire of the terrorist and, using an improvised explosive device, created a breach in the wall. Major Amit Kumar Dimri charged inside the cowshed through the breach. The terrorist jumped out and tried to escape. However, the officer pursued and eliminated him at extremely short range in close quarter battle.

Major Amit Kumar Dimri displayed exemplary leadership and raw courage under heavy enemy fire in elimination of three terrorists.