

*KIRTI CHAKRA*

**16116742F SAPPER PRAKASH JADHAV, THE CORPS OF  
ENGINEERS, FIRST BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES,  
(POSTHUMOUS)**

At 0330 hours on 27 November 2018, a Cordon and search operation was launched in a village of Jammu & Kashmir.

Sapper Prakash Jadhav was leading the search party. Suddenly, terrorists opened indiscriminate fire on search party. Sensing danger to his buddy, he pushed him aside, exposed himself, under heavy firing by the terrorists, effectively retaliated back and eliminated one terrorist on the spot. Meanwhile, second terrorist opened fire and threw a petrol bomb. He alerted his team to leave house. In this process, Shri Jadhav sustained bullet injuries; however, undeterred from his grave injuries, Shri Jadhav fearlessly brought down accurate fire and injured the terrorist. Due to the petrol bomb, fire spread all over the house and Sapper Prakash Jadhav could not extricate himself out of house and later succumbed to his gunshot wounds and burn injuries.

Sapper Prakash Jadhav displayed conspicuous gallantry, exemplary courage beyond the call of duty and made supreme sacrifice in true traditions of Indian Army.

*SHAURYA CHAKRA*

**SS-44986N MAJOR VIBHUTI SHANKAR DHOUDIYAL, THE CORPS  
OF ELECTRONICS AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, 55<sup>TH</sup>  
BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)**

Major Vibhuti Shankar Dhoundiyal had exhibited unparalleled valour and exceptional leadership qualities in various operations resulting in elimination of five terrorists and recovery of 200 Kilograms of explosive material.

On 17 February 2019, when an input of the presence of a terrorist group in a village was received, the officer planned a Battalion level operation. During search, officer was fired upon by terrorist hiding in a cow shed resulting in multiple gunshot injuries to him. Despite being severely injured, the officer maintained his tactical composure and retaliated terrorist fire. Exhibiting utter disregard to his personal safety, officer crawled closer to the cow shed in the line of fire to bring down effective fire on hiding terrorists resulted in the elimination of one terrorist. The officer succumbed to his injuries at operation site while fighting with terrorists.

Major Vibhuti Shankar Dhoundiyal displayed unparalleled courage and made supreme sacrifice for the nation.

*SHAURYA CHAKRA*

**JC-492138A NAIB SUBEDAR SOMBIR, THE JAT REGIMENT, 34<sup>TH</sup>  
BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)**

Naib Subedar Sombir was part of the assault team of 34 Rashtriya Rifles (JAT) which planned and executed an operation in which three hardcore terrorists were eliminated in Jammu and Kashmir.

While cordoning the target house, Naib Subedar Sombir deployed himself and his buddy to cover the most likely escape route of terrorists. One of the terrorist tried to break the cordon by firing indiscriminately and lobbing grenades on them, which resulted in grievous injuries to his buddy. Seeing his buddy in danger and not caring about personal safety, Naib Subedar Sombir seized the initiative and engaged the terrorist. In close quarter battle, Naib Subedar Sombir killed the foreign terrorist later identified as Category 'A++' terrorist. During this extremely courageous act, Naib Subedar Sombir received grievous Gun Shot Wounds to his chest and neck due to which he later succumbed.

Naib Subedar Sombir displayed conspicuous bravery, exemplary leadership, courage under fire and unparalleled spirit-de-corps under the most challenging circumstances and made supreme sacrifice for the nation.

## PARAM VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL

1. IC-40703K Lieutenant General Harpal Singh, AVSM, VSM, The Corps of Engineers
2. Vice Admiral Anil Kumar Chawla, AVSM, NM, VSM (02312-B)
3. Air Marshal Raj Karan Singh Shera, AVSM, VSM (16315), Aeronautical Engineering (Electronics) **(Retired)**
4. Air Marshal Harjit Singh Arora, AVSM (16557) Flying (Pilot) **(Retired)**
5. IC-39070P Lieutenant General Ranbir Singh, AVSM\*\*, YSM, SM, The Infantry **(Retired)**
6. IC-39073H Lieutenant General Sanjeev Kumar Shrivastava, AVSM, The Corps of Engineers **(Retired)**
7. IC-39436F Lieutenant General Satinder Kumar Saini, AVSM, YSM, VSM, The Infantry **(Retired)**
8. IC-39465W Lieutenant General Amarjeet Singh Bedi, UYSM, YSM, VSM, The Infantry **(Retired)**
9. IC-39492A Lieutenant General Anil Chauhan, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM, The Infantry **(Retired)**
10. IC-39871W Lieutenant General Santosh Kumar Upadhya, AVSM, SM, VSM, The Infantry **(Retired)**
11. IC-40293Y Lieutenant General Alok Singh Kler, VSM, The Armoured Corps **(Retired)**
12. IC-40031H Lieutenant General Sanjeev Kanal, AVSM, The Regiment of Artillery **(Retired)**
13. IC-41960N Major General Ashwani Kumar Channan, SM, The Regiment of Artillery **(Retired)**
14. Air Marshal Kuldeep Sharma, AVSM, VSM (16541), Aeronautical Engineering (Mechanical) **(Retired)**

## *KIRTI CHAKRA*

### **SHRI HARSHPAL SINGH, DEPUTY COMMANDANT, CRPF**

In the morning of 12th September 2018, information about the presence of 03 foreign terrorists near Jhajhar Kotli was received by CRPF. Accordingly, a joint Search and Destroy Operation was launched by the troops of CRPF, Police and Army in their demarcated areas. At 1055 hrs on 13th September 2018, Shri Harshpal Singh received a specific input about the presence of 03 foreign terrorists in a house in Dheerti village and immediately rushed to the site along with a small team.

On sensing the presence of troops near the house, terrorists opened heavy fire upon them. Shri Harshpal Singh alongwith his buddy crawled sideways to find a position to launch an effective counter attack. Terrorists sensed the move of the duo and fired successive grenades upon them.

Shri Harshpal Singh, got positioned behind the tree, took aimed shots and neutralized a terrorist on the spot and injured others.

The terrorists marked the position of Shri Harshpal Singh and Constable Zaker Hussain and opened heavy fire upon them and hurled flurry of grenades towards Shri Harshpal Singh in which he was badly hit by the splinters. He sustained severe injuries in leg, ribs, chest and head. Despite being fatally hit, Shri Harshpal Singh stood his ground and continued to fire upon the terrorists.

Due to excessive bleeding, the duo was evacuated to hospital for treatment. The remaining two terrorists were neutralized by the troops with the recovery of arms, huge cache of ammunition & explosives.

During the operation, Shri Harshpal Singh, Deputy Commandant displayed exceptional leadership qualities, raw grit and moral courage risking his own life to secure his troops as well as the local populace.

## UTTAM YUDDH SEVA MEDAL

1. IC-40500A Lieutenant General Yogesh Kumar Joshi, AVSM, VrC, SM, The Infantry
2. IC-42389A Lieutenant General Raju Baggavalli Somashekar, AVSM, YSM, The Jat Regiment, Headquarter 15 Corps

## ATI VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL

1. IC-42298W Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi, The Infantry
2. Air Marshal Shashiker Choudhary, VSM ADC (17645), Aeronautical Engineering (Mechanical)
3. IC-39872Y Lieutenant General Anil Kapoor, VSM, The Corps Electronics And Mechanical Engineers **(Retired)**
4. IC-40680N Lieutenant General Pandala Nagesh Rao, YSM, SM, The Infantry **(Retired)**
5. IC-41456N Lieutenant General Rakesh Kumar Anand, SM, VSM, The Corps of Signals **(Retired)**
6. IC-45009F Lieutenant General Sukhdeep Sangwan, SM\*\*, The Infantry **(Retired)**
7. IC-42796H Major General (Now Lieutenant General) Kc Panchnathan, The Engineers Corps
8. IC-43354W Major General (Now Lieutenant General) Jyotinder Singh Sandhu, The Armoured Corps
9. IC-42771W Major General Sanjay Singh, SM\*\*, VSM, The Infantry
10. Rear Admiral (Now Vice Admiral) Sreekumar Nair, NM (50986-A)
11. Rear Admiral (Now Vice Admiral) Swaminathan Krishna, VSM (03221-W)
12. Rear Admiral Philipose G Pynumootil, NM (02973-F)
13. Rear Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan, NM (03295-N)
14. Air Vice Marshal (Now Air Marshal) Dilip Kumar Patnaik, VM (17464) Flying (Pilot)

15. Air Vice Marshal (Now Air Marshal) Gurcharan Singh Bedi, VM, VSM (17448) Flying (Pilot)
16. IC-39966W Major General Virinder Singh Randhawa, VSM, The Corps Electronics And Mechanical Engineers **(Retired)**
17. IC-40311W Major General Rajesh Chopra, The Mechanised Infantry **(Retired)**
18. IC-40679Y Major General Amit Kumar Sanyal, VSM, The Armoured Corps **(Retired)**
19. IC-40714W Major General Basavaraj Gurusiddappa Gilganchi, The Corps of Signals **(Retired)**
20. IC-40720K Major General Sandeep Sharma, VSM, The Infantry **(Retired)**
21. IC-41463K Major General Pawan Anand, The Corps of Engineers **(Retired)**
22. Air Marshal Rajvir Singh, VSM (35801) Medical **(Retired)**
23. Air Vice Marshal Sanjeev Narayan Deshpande, VM (16559) Flying (Pilot) **(Retired)**
24. Air Vice Marshal Manoj Kumar Dixit, VSM (17205) Administration **(Retired)**
25. GO-2116P Ashu Singh Rathore, VSM, CE (Civil)
26. GO-1568L Anil Kumar, Addl DGBR **(Retired)**

## *VIR CHAKRA*

### **WING COMMANDER (NOW GROUP CAPTAIN) VARTHAMAN ABHINANDAN (27981) FLYING (PILOT)**

Wing Commander Varthaman Abhinandan (27981) Flying (Pilot) was on the posted strength of a MiG 21 Bison Squadron from 19 May 2018. On 27 Feb 2019, at around 0955h, a large force of Pakistan Air Force fighter aircraft, consisting of advanced fourth generation F-16 and JF-17, were detected heading toward the LoC. At about 1000hrs, Wing Commander Varthaman Abhinandan was scrambled to intercept this package. Displaying exceptional air combat acumen and knowledge of the enemy's tactics, Wing Commander Varthaman Abhinandan scanned the low altitude airspace with his Airborne Intercept (AI) radar and picked up an enemy aircraft that was flying low to ambush the Indian fighter interceptor aircraft.

Wing Commander Varthaman Abhinandan alerted the other formation pilots towards this surprise threat. He then consolidated the riposte, by gathering his wingman in an offensive formation against the hostile Pakistani aircraft now dropping weapons on Indian Army positions. This audacious and aggressive maneuver forced the enemy aircraft into tactical chaos. All the enemy aircraft thereafter turned back including the rear echelon aircraft who were yet to launch their air to ground weapons.

Wing Commander Varthaman Abhinandan then pursued a retreating enemy fighter bomber aircraft, and in the ensuing aerial combat, shot down an F-16 aircraft with his on-board missile. However, in the melee, one of the enemy aircraft fired multiple advanced BVR missiles, one of which hit his aircraft forcing him to eject in enemy territory. Despite being captured by the enemy, he continued to display exceptional resolve in dealing with the adversary in a stoic, brave and dignified manner till he was repatriated on 01 March 2019. His actions raised the morale of the armed forces in general and the IAF in particular.

Wing Commander Varthaman Abhinandan showed conspicuous courage, demonstrated gallantry in the face of the enemy while disregarding personal safety and displayed exceptional sense of duty.



*SHAURYA CHAKRA*

**IC-64585A LIEUTENANT COLONEL AJAY SINGH KUSHWAH, SENA  
MEDAL, THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR RIFLES, 3<sup>RD</sup> BATTALION  
THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES**

On 22 November 2018 at 2355 hours, specific input was received of the presence of terrorists in an area in Jammu and Kashmir. Lieutenant Colonel Ajay Singh Kushwah, Sena Medal, immediately sprang into action and led a small team to cordon the area. While cordon was being laid, terrorists detected the movement and rushed out firing indiscriminately. The officer, undeterred by fire, quickly retaliated pinning down the leading terrorist. Detecting exact location of the officer, group of four terrorists charged towards his location. In bold display of raw courage, gallantry and unflinching fighting spirit, the officer controlled situation and let the terrorists close in to fair visible distance. The officer displaying nerves of steel, under enemy fire, ducked down and dashed forward while facing terrorist, he fired from limited cover available and neutralized two terrorists in an intense close quarter battle, both identified as hard core terrorists. The other two terrorists suffered grievous injuries with his immaculate firing.

Lieutenant Colonel Ajay Singh Kushwah, Sena Medal displayed extraordinary tactical acumen, dauntless courage, sterling leadership qualities and self example with utter disregard to personal safety, leading to neutralization of hardcore terrorists.

*SHAURYA CHAKRA*

**IC-79501Y CAPTAIN MAHESHKUMAR BHURE, THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS, 34<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES**

On 25 November 2018, Captain Maheshkumar Bhure led a team for the operation in which six top terrorist commanders were eliminated.

Captain Maheshkumar Bhure cordoned the target house and achieved complete surprise, thereby trapping the terrorists. The terrorists attempted to break the cordon in darkness by lobbing grenades and firing indiscriminately. As they ran towards his position, the officer retaliated with deadly accurate fire at close range, thereby killing a terrorist and forcing the other terrorists to retreat back.

Seeing his buddy wounded in this fire fight, Captain Maheshkumar Bhure put himself at great risk and personally evacuated him under very heavy fire. He then readjusted the cordon to prevent any escape and was able to pin down the terrorists. Thereafter, with raw courage and steely determination he crawled forward under intense fire and at point blank range killed one more terrorist.

Captain Maheshkumar Bhure displayed exemplary leadership and unparalleled courage under the most challenging circumstances.

*SHAURYA CHAKRA*

**IC-77536W MAJOR KONJENGBAM BIJENDRA SINGH, THE ARMY  
AIR DEFENCE, 23<sup>RD</sup> BATTALION THE ASSAM RIFLES**

Based on an input about movement of hardcore armed militants in a village in Manipur, Major Konjengbam Bijendra Singh put together a detailed plan and with his tactical guile, professionalism and proficiency in jungle warfare covertly inducted his team over long distance through extremely harsh jungle terrain and inhospitable weather to establish a surveillance detachment showing extreme physical and mental endurance.

On 22 March at 1330 hours, the early warning party reported the movement of armed militants who on being challenged to surrender opened indiscriminate fire on to the squad. The officer sensing imminent danger to his troops, who were pinned down from hostile fire, displayed raw courage to dash forward and bring down effective retaliatory fire onto the militants from close range. This daring act resulted in elimination of two militants.

Major Konjengbam Bijendra Singh showed conspicuous bravery and stout leadership in going beyond the call of duty in the face of grave and imminent danger to his men.

*SHAURYA CHAKRA*

**9103747M NAIK NARESH KUMAR, THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
LIGHT INFANTRY, 42<sup>ND</sup> BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES**

Naik Naresh Kumar was performing the duties of Scout in Company Assault Team during an operation conducted in a village in Jammu and Kashmir.

On receipt of input regarding presence of one terrorist in the village, a specific joint operation was launched. During the search of the house a terrorist was detected under the staircase. The terrorist sensing the adverse situation, opened indiscriminate fire at the party. Naik Naresh Kumar alongwith his buddy was tasked of closing onto the terrorist. When the buddy pair moved ahead, the terrorist opened heavy volume of fire and ran in the opposite direction. Naik Naresh Kumar, sensing the grave danger to the troops deployed in that direction brought down accurate fire and eliminated the terrorist later identified as Category A++ terrorist.

Naik Naresh Kumar exhibited immense courage of conviction and perseverance in eliminating a hardcore terrorist.

*SHAURYA CHAKRA*

**IC-64162M LIEUTENANT COLONEL JYOTI LAMA, 11<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION  
THE GORKHA RIFLES, 37<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION THE ASSAM RIFLES**

Lieutenant Colonel Jyoti Lama created a vibrant intelligence network in Manipur this has resulted in his Company in apprehending fourteen hardcore terrorists.

The officer, on 23 Jul 2019 based on a specific input regarding movement of two terrorists laid an ambush.

On challenging the terrorists to drop their weapons and surrender, the Officer drew heavy fire and with utter disregard to his personal safety, pulled his buddy to safety and exhibiting raw courage and outstanding initiative engaged the terrorist in an intense firefight and eliminated a hardcore terrorist. The other terrorist while trying to escape fired indiscriminately towards him. The officer unmindful of his personal safety and exhibiting nerves of steel, once again retaliated with effective fire, thereby eliminating the second hardcore terrorist.

Lieutenant Colonel Jyoti Lama displayed daring leadership and conspicuous gallantry which resulted in neutralization of two terrorists.

*SHAURYA CHAKRA*

**JC-414282H NAIB SUBEDAR NARENDER SINGH, 9<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION  
THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT (SPECIAL FORCES)**

Naib Subedar Narender Singh was part of the party deployed to prevent infiltration across the Line of Control

While being deployed, the surveillance detachment detected movement of heavily armed hostiles intruding across Line of Control with likely aim of carrying violent action upon our posts. Naib Subedar Narender in a daring and calculated tactical move led his Squad through dense undergrowth and a narrow minefield safe lane during the pitch dark night. He displayed nerves of steel and quick thinking. Narendra Singh alongwith his buddy initiated contact at close quarters. In the ensuing firefight, Narendra Singh shot two hostiles dead at extreme close quarters and wounded another one. His aggressive actions led to foiling of attempt of the hostiles to target our posts.

Naib Subedar Narender Singh showed conspicuous gallantry, tactical acumen and outstanding leadership in combat.

*Shaurya Chakra*

**3003914X HAVILDAR ALOK KUMAR DUBEY  
THE RAJPUT REGIMENT, 44<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES**

On 22 June 2019, based on receipt of information a cordon and search operation was launched in orchards near a village in Jammu and Kashmir.

Havildar Alok Kumar Dubey using tactical proficiency assisted the Company Commander in laying the initial cordon. Havildar Alok was deployed as stop in inner cordon. At 0540 hours, Havildar Alok observed suspicious movement in the thickly vegetated bushes just ahead of him. At 0545 hours, Havildar Alok observed a group of terrorists trying to break cordon by taking advantage of poor visibility and thickly vegetated terrain. Upon challenging, the terrorists lobbed a grenade and opened indiscriminate fire. Displaying raw courage, Havildar Alok closed in to the group of terrorists and killed one terrorist at close range with aimed fire. The terrorist was later identified as a dreaded terrorist of category A++. In utter disregard to his personal safety, Havildar Alok crawled further blocking escape route of the terrorists. Maintaining offensive spirit, he brought down heavy volume of fire pinning the terrorists down and facilitating manoeuvre of own parties to further tighten the cordon. His courageous action prevented escape of the terrorists and eventually elimination of all four terrorists.

Havildar Alok Kumar Dubey has shown indomitable spirit, presence of mind, exemplary initiative and unparalleled courage, resulting in neutralization of a dreaded terrorist.

## *SHAURYA CHAKRA*

### **AMIT SINGH RANA, LME, 231243-B**

The sailor was deployed for Op Rakshak, J&K, since May 18 wherein he participated in multiple operations. During two such operations viz. OP Shok Baba and OP Danna, he displayed exemplary courage, tactical acumen and gallantry of a very high order and played a vital role in neutralising the terrorists.

On 20-21 Sep, he was involved in Op Shok Baba along with 14 RR in a Cordon and Search Operation, where terrorists were entrapped in a house at village Shok Baba. Despite firing heavy caliber weapons and grenades, the terrorists remained protected in the cow shed. At this juncture, AS Rana and his team volunteered to approach the cow shed with a heavy IED to destroy it. With cover fire provided by the balance MARCOS, the brave soldier quickly manoeuvred and placed the IED at the cow shed. Whilst manoeuvring in, he was heavily fired upon by the hiding terrorists. Displaying excellent field craft and strict fire discipline, the sailor with his gallant action, blew up the cow shed using IED and eliminated three terrorists.

In Op Danna, he as buddy of Lt Cdr Mahesh Kumar, with utter disregard to his personal safety shot dead one terrorist at extreme close quarters, whilst giving cover fire to the Officer. In these two, back to back operations, eight foreign terrorists were eliminated.

Amit Singh Rana, LME, displayed outstanding leadership, tactical acumen and exceptional gallantry in the fight against the terrorists.