


Republic Day Ceremony, 2023 - Recipients of Gallantry Awards

S. No	Rank and Name	Service	Photo	Citation
KIRTI CHAKRA				
01	SS-46926X MAJOR SHUBHANG, THE DOGRA REGIMENT, 62ND BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES	Indian Army		<p style="text-align: right;">21-21 Apr 2022</p> <p>Major Shubhang personally led his team through inhospitable, rugged and thickly vegetated terrain in extreme weather conditions to lay cordon of a village in Budgam district on 21 April 2022. At 0345 hours, on observing suspicious movement, Major Shubhang displayed nerves of steel to allow suspects to reach as close as ten meters, before challenging them; on which terrorists opened indiscriminate heavy small arms and Under Barrel Grenade Launcher fire injuring the officer and two personnel of his team. Undeterred Major Shubhang exhibited unparalleled valour despite sustaining gunshot wound on left shoulder and neutralised a hardcore terrorist in an intense extremely close quarter fire fight.</p> <p>As the second terrorist continued to bring effective fire on his injured comrades, Major Shubhang crawled to change his position and engaged the terrorist forcing him to seek hide in a nearby house which resulted in his subsequent neutralisation. Thereafter, the injured officer evacuated the injured personnel from the operation site before being evacuated himself.</p> <p>For his conspicuous bravery and stout leadership in going beyond the call of duty in face of grave and imminent danger to his men, Major Shubhang is awarded with "KIRTI CHAKRA".</p>
02	3011334X, NAIK JITENDRA SINGH, THE RAJPUT REGIMENT, 44TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES	Indian Army		<p style="text-align: right;">27-28 Apr 2022</p> <p>Naik Jitendra Singh, since December 2021, exhibited exceptional valour and courage as lead guide in three operations resulting in elimination of seven terrorists.</p> <p>On 27 April 2022, an operation was launched in a village in Pulwama district on input of presence of two terrorists. Naik Jitendra spotted the terrorists who lobbed multiple grenades towards him and tried to break cordon. Naik Jitendra got hit by a splinter. Showing nerves of steel, even after getting injured, Naik Jitendra crawled towards target house and eliminated one terrorist in close gunfight. Second terrorist again lobbed grenades and fired indiscriminately towards Naik Jitendra causing multiple gunshot wounds to him. Realising mortal danger to his buddy and troops in cordon, Naik Jitendra, displaying supreme gallantry, crawled towards the terrorist and injured him in another close gunfight. Subsequently, he fell unconscious and was evacuated to 92 Base Hospital.</p> <p>For his indomitable spirit, exemplary initiative, supreme bravery and for neutralising a hardcore terrorist and injuring another, Naik Jitendra Singh is awarded with "KIRTI CHAKRA".</p>



03	SHRI ROHIT KUMAR, SG. CONSTABLE, J&K POLICE (POSTHUMOUS)	MHA		<p style="text-align: right;">12.01.2022</p> <p>On 12.01.2022 at 2000 hours, Kulgam Police received specific information regarding presence of terrorists in village SehporaParivan. Instantly, District Police Kulgam, 34 RR and 18thBn CRPF cordoned the said village and started door to door search. The search party approached the residential house belonging to Mashooq Ahmad Lone and questioned the family members regarding presence of terrorists, but they strongly denied. However, as the searching party moved on to conduct thorough search of the house, the hiding terrorists from the house fired indiscriminately upon the search party. The fire was effectively retaliated by initial party ensuing to an encounter. Sgct. Shri Rohit Kumar without caring about this personal safety gave utmost importance to evacuate the civilians from the cordoned area towards safer places. While doing so Shri Rohit Kumar was fired upon by terrorist resulting in his injuries. Despite being grievously injured, he displayed utmost courage and steely determination and closed in with the terrorists. He engaged the terrorists accurately from close range thereby eliminated a hardcore foreigner terrorist in a fierce gunfight. During this close quarter battle, he received multiple bullet wounds to his chest and head, due to which he later succumbed and gave supreme sacrifice for the safety and security of nation.</p> <p>The operation concluded with the elimination of 01 hard-core categorized terrorist and huge quantity of arms and ammunition was recovered from his possession. Later the slain terrorist was identified as Babar Bhai, r/o Pakistan of JeM outfit. The death of said terrorist was a big jolt to the structural and functional unit of banned terrorist outfit JeM. He was involved in killing of innocent people, attacks on police/security forces, bank loots and motivating youth to join terror ranks.</p> <p>Sgct. Shri Rohit Kumar shown relentless courage and exemplary gallant action went beyond the call of the duty, exhibited exceptional skills and gave supreme sacrifice in his efforts for removing the menace of terrorism and in maintaining security of nation and national integrity.</p> <p>In view of the above, Sgct. Shri Rohit Kumar (Posthumously) is awarded with "Kirti Chakra".</p>
04	SHRI DEEPAK BHARDWAJ, SUB INSPECTOR (POSTHUMOUS)	MHA		<p style="text-align: right;">02.04.2021</p> <p>On 02.04.2021 on an intelligence input about presence of large number of armed Maoists in the axis of village Peedagelur, Tekulgudem, Jonaguda, Jeeram, Dist-Bijapur, a joint ops consisting of DRG STF and 210 CoBRA, CRPF was launched under the guidance & directions of SP Bijapur.</p> <p>On 03.04.2021 at 10.30 hrs, when police parties after hitting the respective targets at Peddagelur and Tekulgudem, were moving towards their next point, Naxals who were waiting in ambush started heavy fire from their automatic, semiautomatic and country made weapons on the police party. In retaliation, the police party also fired and an exchange of fire took place. SI Shri Deepak Bhardwaj and SI Shri Sanjay Pal were leading the</p>



				<p>DRG team No.1 during operation. During the attack made by naxals, SI Shri Deepak Bhardwaj, HC Shri Sodhi Narayan & STF HC Shri ShrawanKashyap and other men showed a great presence of mind, extra ordinary courage and bravery. Due to their immediate action and tactical retaliation, a lot of Maoists were killed/injured. During exchange of fire, Maoists also poured volley of fire over the Police party and used UBGL/HE Bomb and other explosive projectiles due to which Shri Deepak Bhardwaj, HC Shri SodhiNaryan and STF HC Shri ShrawanKashyap sustained fatal bullet injuries on their body parts and paid their supreme sacrifice.</p> <p>After strong retaliation by the forces and seeing themselves being encircled by forces, Maoists steeped back and fled from the spot taking advantage of thick vegetation and uneven ground. Once the exchange of fire stopped, incident site was thoroughly searched in which dead body of a female naxalSodiDuley @ SodiSanni along with 01 No. Insas rifle, Pouch/Magazine (26 live rounds) were recovered. Apart from this 03 other Maoists PadamLakhma, KowasiBadru and Nupo Suresh were also killed but the Maoists fled with their bodies. The death of the above Maoists in the encounter was confirmed in the press release issued by the Maoists.</p> <p>Shri Deepak Bhardwaj displayed extra ordinary courage and exemplary bravery and paid his supreme sacrifice for the nation, while fighting and killing the Naxals.</p> <p>In view of the above gallant act, Shri Deepak Bhardwaj (Posthumously) is awarded with "Kirti Chakra".</p>
05	SHRI SODHI NARAYAN, HEAD CONSTABLE (POSTHUMOUS)	MHA		<p style="text-align: right;">02.04.2021</p> <p>On 02.04.2021 on an intelligence input about presence of large number of armed Maoists in the axis of village Peedagelur, Tekulgudem, Jonaguda, Jeeram, Dist-Bijapur, a joint ops consisting of DRG STF and 210 CoBRA, CRPF was launched under the guidance & directions of SP Bijapur.</p> <p>On 03.04.2021 at 10.30 hrs, when police parties after hitting the respective targets at Peddagelur and Tekulgudem, were moving towards their next point, Naxals who were waiting in ambush started heavy fire from their automatic, semiautomatic and country made weapons on the police party. In retaliation, the police party also fired and an exchange of fire took place. SI Shri Deepak Bhardwaj and SI Shri Sanjay Pal were leading the DRG team No.1 during operation. During the attack made by naxals, SI Shri Deepak Bhardwaj, HC Shri Sodhi Narayan & STF HC Shri ShrawanKashyap and other men showed a great presence of mind, extra ordinary courage and bravery. Due to their immediate action and tactical retaliation, a lot of Maoists were killed/injured. During exchange of fire, Maoists also poured volley of fire over the Police party and used UBGL/HE Bomb and other explosive projectiles due to which Shri Deepak Bhardwaj, HC Shri SodhiNaryan and STF HC Shri ShrawanKashyap</p>



				<p>sustained fatal bullet injuries on their body parts and paid their supreme sacrifice.</p> <p>After strong retaliation by the forces and seeing themselves being encircled by forces, Maoists steeped back and fled from the spot taking advantage of thick vegetation and uneven ground. Once the exchange of fire stopped, incident site was thoroughly searched in which dead body of a female naxalSodiDuley @ SodiSanni along with 01 No. Insas rifle, Pouch/Magazine (26 live rounds) were recovered. Apart from this 03 other Maoists PadamLakhma, KowasiBadru and Nupo Suresh were also killed but the Maoists fled with their bodies. The death of the above Maoists in the encounter was confirmed in the press release issued by the Maoists.</p> <p>Shri Sodhi Narayan displayed extra ordinary courage and exemplary bravery and paid his supreme sacrifice for the nation, while fighting and killing the Naxals.</p> <p>In view of the above gallant act, Shri Sodhi Narayan (Posthumously) is awarded with "Kirti Chakra".</p>
06	SHRI SHRAWAN KASHYAP, HEAD CONSTABLE (POSTHUMOUS)	MHA	 <p>HC 272 Shrawan Kashyap</p>	<p>02.04.2021</p> <p>On 02.04.2021 on an intelligence input about presence of large number of armed Maoists in the axis of village Peedagelur, Tekulgudem, Jonaguda, Jeeram, Dist-Bijapur, a joint ops consisting of DRG STF and 210 CoBRA, CRPF was launched under the guidance & directions of SP Bijapur.</p> <p>On 03.04.2021 at 10.30 hrs, when police parties after hitting the respective targets at Peedagelur and Tekulgudem, were moving towards their next point, Naxals who were waiting in ambush started heavy fire from their automatic, semiautomatic and country made weapons on the police party. In retaliation, the police party also fired and an exchange of fire took place. SI Shri Deepak Bhardwaj and SI Shri Sanjay Pal were leading the DRG team No.1 during operation. During the attack made by naxals, SI Shri Deepak Bhardwaj, HC Shri Sodhi Narayan & STF HC Shri ShrawanKashyap and other men showed a great presence of mind, extra ordinary courage and bravery. Due to their immediate action and tactical retaliation, a lot of Maoists were killed/injured. During exchange of fire, Maoists also poured volley of fire over the Police party and used UBGL/HE Bomb and other explosive projectiles due to which Shri Deepak Bhardwaj, HC Shri SodhiNaryan and STF HC Shri ShrawanKashyap sustained fatal bullet injuries on their body parts and paid their supreme sacrifice.</p> <p>After strong retaliation by the forces and seeing themselves being encircled by forces, Maoists steeped back and fled from the spot taking advantage of thick vegetation and uneven ground. Once the exchange of fire stopped, incident site was thoroughly searched in which dead body of a female naxalSodiDuley @ SodiSanni along with 01 No. Insas rifle, Pouch/Magazine (26 live rounds) were recovered. Apart from this 03 other Maoists PadamLakhma, KowasiBadru and Nupo Suresh were also killed but the Maoists fled with their bodies. The death of the above Maoists in the encounter was confirmed in the press release issued by the Maoists.</p> <p>Shri ShrawanKashyap displayed extra</p>



				<p>ordinary courage and exemplary bravery and paid his supreme sacrifice for the nation, while fighting and killing the Naxals.</p> <p>In view of the above gallant act, Shri ShrawanKashyap (Posthumously) is awarded with "Kirti Chakra".</p>
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SHAURYA CHAKRA



1.	<p>IC-77164W MAJOR ADITYA BHADAURIA, THE KUMAON REGIMENT, 50TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES</p>	Army		<p style="text-align: right;">11-12 Mar 2022</p> <p>On 11 March 2022, a time critical input was received regarding presence of terrorists in a village in Pulwama District (Jammu and Kashmir). Major Aditya Bhadauria as mission leader displayed exceptional leadership and tactical acumen in laying an impeccable cordon with surprise.</p> <p>During evacuation of civilians from target cluster, terrorists using assault rifles engaged own troops with indiscriminate auto fire and grenades in which one civilian was injured. Major Aditya Bhadauria effectively retaliated, ensured safe evacuation of civilian and tactically readjusted the cordon to foil escape bid by terrorists.</p> <p>The hiding terrorists split up and continued engaging troops while own fire was not effective on their positions. Major Aditya Bhadauria and his buddy stealthily crawled under fire towards one of the hiding terrorist. Undeterred by heavy hostile fire, he lobbed grenade which forced terrorist out from cover coming face to face with him. Exhibiting nerves of steel and raw courage, Major Aditya Bhadauria eliminated a hardcore foreign terrorist in an extremely close quarter fire fight.</p> <p>For displaying indomitable courage and devotion beyond call of duty under most challenging condition, Major Aditya Bhadauria is awarded with "SHAURYA CHAKRA".</p>
2.	<p>SS-48517H CAPTAIN ARUN KUMAR, THE KUMAON REGIMENT, 13TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES</p>	Army		<p style="text-align: right;">11-13 May 2022</p> <p>Captain Arun Kumar was leading a surveillance cum ambush team in the hills of Bandipore district on 11 May 2022 on specific intelligence regarding movement of terrorists.</p> <p>On 13 May 2022 at approximately 1500 Hours, two terrorists were spotted. The officer appreciated the situation and readjusted troops in an aggressive posture to box the terrorists and deny them escape routes. On being challenged, the terrorists fired indiscriminately and took cover behind a boulder. The Officer with utter disregard to his personal safety crawled as close as five meters from the terrorists amidst intense fire. The terrorists lobbed two grenades towards a fellow officer which he avoided tactfully. He decided to momentarily expose himself confronting the terrorists in close proximity. In the fire fight at close quarters,</p>



				<p>he gallantly neutralised one terrorist. Subsequently, the officer relocated himself to acquire tactically advantageous position, took aimed shots which forced the second terrorist to expose himself leading to his neutralisation.</p> <p>For displaying commendable leadership and bravery thereby eliminating one terrorist and assisting the elimination of second terrorist, Captain Arun Kumar is awarded with "SHAURYA CHAKRA".</p>
3.	<p>SS-48529X CAPTAIN YUDHVIR SINGH, THE MECHANISED INFANTRY, 9TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES</p>	ARMY		<p>11-12 Apr 2022</p> <p>On 11 April 2022, Captain Yudhvir led a covert surveillance and interception team based on specific intelligence regarding terrorist's movement in vehicle in Kulgam district.</p> <p>On observing the suspect vehicle, Captain Yudhvir expeditiously gave pursuit and blocked escape routes of terrorists. Terrorists being cornered opened heavy volley of fire upon the officer, undeterred by terrorist fire and unmindful of personal safety, officer alongwith his buddy engaged the terrorists with effective fire. Swift retaliation forced the terrorists to seek refuge in nearby house, Officer displaying presence of mind, re-oriented his team into close cordon. Terrorists, being surrounded, attempted to escape from cordon by lobbing grenades and firing indiscriminately. Sensing danger to life of civilians and own troops, Captain Yudhvir displayed steely nerves and in an act of conspicuous bravery, crawled to likely escape route of terrorists and surprised them with spectacular dash alongwith lethal and precise fire onto terrorists from close range, thus eliminating hard core foreign terrorist.</p> <p>During operation, Captain Yudhvir displayed audacious bravery, heroic courage and valour with utter disregard for personal safety, Captain Yudhvir Singh is awarded with "SHAURYA CHAKRA".</p>
4.	<p>SS-48830N CAPTAIN RAKESH T R, 9TH BATTALION THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT (SPECIAL FORCES)</p>	ARMY		<p>22 Apr 2022</p> <p>Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was scheduled to visit Jammu for a Public Rally on 24 April 2022. Amid heightened security for the visit, inputs of likely fidayeen attack on rally were received.</p> <p>Captain Rakesh TR, Alert Troop Commander of 9 PARA (Special Forces), was responsible for maintaining readiness to react to any terror related incident in the region. On receiving input of likely terrorist presence in Jammu district, the Alert Troop immediately got mobilized. While on the move Captain Rakesh received input of attack by terrorists on a Security Forces convoy, in which own fatalities were suspected. On reaching the contact site located in densely populated area, Captain Rakesh quickly spotted terrorists using a quad copter and maneuvered tactically to</p>

				<p>place a close cordon around them. On realising that they were surrounded, terrorists started firing indiscriminately to break cordon and move towards civilian area. Captain Rakesh sensing imminent danger to civilian lives, pinned down one of terrorist by bringing down heavy fire on him and then, with utter disregard to his own safety and showing nerves of steel, charged towards the terrorist and neutralized him by accurate fire.</p> <p>For his sharp tactical acumen, nerves of steel and unparalleled courage under fire while eliminating one terrorist and preventing a Fidayeen attack, Captain Rakesh TR is awarded with "SHAURYA CHAKRA".</p>
5.	<p>13773112P NAIK JASBIR SINGH, 6TH BATTALION THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)</p>	ARMY		<p>08 Jul 2022</p> <p>Number 13773112P Naik Jasbir Singh was part of intelligence team deployed in extremely rugged and densely forested area of Jammu and Kashmir. The Non Commissioned Officer always displayed astute professionalism and high degree of intellect in analysing the input correctly.</p> <p>At around 0100 hours, the alert Non Commissioned Officer observed the movement of two terrorists in Kupwara district. Exhibiting tactical composure, he patiently allowed terrorists in killing area and opened accurate and effective fire on them. In retaliation, he faced heavy indiscriminate fire from the terrorists. In a bold action, unmindful of his personal safety, displaying ingenuity, initiative, conspicuous gallantry and unparalleled bravery, he closed in with the terrorist under fire and neutralized one of them. Displaying daunting courage and devotion to duty, Naik Jasbir Singh continued to engage the second terrorist, thus injuring him. In the ensuing firefight, Naik Jasbir Singh sustained multiple gunshot wounds and made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.</p> <p>Despite being grievously injured, showing utter disregard to personal safety and exceptional gallantry beyond the call of duty, he eliminated one terrorist and injured the other, for this brave act Naik Jasbir Singh is awarded with "SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)".</p>
6.	<p>13779485Y LANCE NAIK VIKAS CHOUDHARY, THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR RIFLES, 3RD BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES</p>	ARMY		<p>06 May 2022</p> <p>On 06 May 2022, on receiving specific intelligence input regarding presence of terrorists, a search and destroy operation was launched in a forested area of Anantnag district, where Lance Naik Vikas Choudhary was operational buddy of Major Borawake Apoorv Suhas.</p> <p>Lance Naik Vikas Choudhary was deployed alongwith Major Borawake Apoorv Suhas to cordon off the target area and cover likely escape route. At</p>

				<p>approximately 1500 hours, one terrorist attempted to escape and started indiscriminately firing on the cordon party taking cover of the terrain and boulders. Lance NaikVikasChoudhary with utter disregard to his personal safety, displaying tremendous courage and outstanding firing skills, crawled to a tactically superior position. Displaying presence of mind, he under the covering fire of his buddy dashed towards the terrorist and brought down effective fire, thereby neutralizing one hardcore terrorist.</p> <p>For this gallant act of exceptional bravery against perilous danger, Lance NaikVikasChoudhary is awarded with "SHAURYA CHAKRA".</p>
7.	<p>665/SPO</p> <p>CONSTABLE</p> <p>MUDASIR AHMAD SHEIKH, JAMMU AND KASHMIR POLICE (BARAMULLA) (POSTHUMOUS)</p>	MHA		<p>25 May 2022</p> <p>On 25 May 2022, an input of three heavily armed foreign terrorists of Jaish e Mohammed travelling in a vehicle was received and a Joint operation was launched in Baramulla. The terrorists were tasked to target the upcoming Amarnath Yatra.</p> <p>SPO Constable Mudasir Ahmad Sheikh a seasoned soldier was prompt to identify and challenge the suspicious vehicle. Sensing imminent danger, the terrorists tried to escape. To deny any opportunity to escape he charged on to the vehicle with utter disregard to his personal safety. Displaying raw courage he dragged one terrorist out of the vehicle. The other terrorists now opened indiscriminate fire resulting in grievous injury to Constable Mudasir Ahmad Sheikh.</p> <p>Despite profusely bleeding, undeterred by his wounds he continued to hold the terrorist in a hand to hand combat. In a swift response he opened a volley of fire to neutralise the terrorist. He however succumbed to his injuries on way to being evacuated. The operation led to neutralisation of three terrorists and recovery of huge cache of arms and ammunition thereby averting a major incident.</p> <p>For displaying stellar gallantry, exemplary initiative, and unmatched courage while under fire, Constable Mudasir Ahmad Sheikh is awarded with "SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)".</p>
8.	<p>GROUP CAPTAIN</p> <p>YOGESHWAR KRISHNARAO KANDALKAR (27207) FLYING (PILOT)</p>	AIR FORCE		<p>During the late hours of 10 Apr 22, GpCapt Kandalkar received the tasking for evacuating 48 pilgrims stranded in 12 cable cars on a ropeway in remote Trikuta hills at Deoghar district, Jharkhand. He got his team together immediately and undertook thorough and meticulous planning for the rescue mission. He along with his crew got airborne in the wee hours of 11 Apr 22 so as to reach the site by first light. On reaching the site, being the senior-most, he had the dual responsibility of Detachment Commander and the arduous role of Task</p>

				<p>Force Commander of all IAF elements. He carried out detailed coordination with the National Disaster Response Force, Army and district authorities to reach the best course of action.</p> <p>Trikut ropeway is one of India's highest vertical ropeways with the cables rising at an angle of 45° on a hill upto 3000 ft with an extreme danger of cables striking the rotors which were swaying due to the helicopter downwash. GpCaptKandalkar carried out precise free air hover over the cable cars in precarious terrain and close proximity of obstructions, firstly to insert a Garud commando amidst the swaying cable cars and then started the onerous task of winching the pilgrims one by one without getting them entangled with the ropeway cables. Rescue of each person required 20 to 30 minutes of precise hover with the aircraft operating at its limits. The mission required high concentration for prolonged periods. His tireless effort in this challenging task resulted in the saving of 27 lives. During conduct of the entire mission, the officer led by example and under his command, the IAF team rescued a total of 35 precious lives from 10 cable cars.</p>
9.	<p>FLIGHT LIEUTENANT TEJPAL (36539) METEOROLOGY/ GARUD</p>	AIR FORCE		<p>On 11 Apr 22 he led a Garud Team for the Trikut Hills ropeway rescue operation, which rescued a total of 35 civilians. He carried out planning, kitting, reconnaissance & obtained critical information like dimension, material, carriage capacity, mode of operation of cable cars. He standardized the procedure & safety precautions to be followed for successful rescue at heights ranging from 300 ft to 1500 ft above ground level.</p> <p>Showing exceptional courage and leadership, he put service before self and led his team of Garuds from the front by volunteering to be the first one to winch down from the helicopter, on to the dangling cable car. He swayed and maneuver himself so as to land on top of a mere 2 x 2 ft roof, slide along the roof down to the door, which could only be opened from outside. Battling rotor downwash, he successfully landed on the roof of the oscillating cable car by maneuvering his way through a network of cables spaced apart by a meagerly 6 feet. He reassured and secured each stranded civilian with a body harness before each passenger was winched up. During one such winch up, the winch cable got stuck with the ropeway cable, 8 ft above the cable car. Endangering his own life as he was detached from the winch cable, he climbed on top of the swaying cable car, to untangle the winch cable of the stuck passages. He rescued nine civilians from three cable cars and was the last one to exit the cable car each time after ensuring evacuation. There being no specialized harness for children,</p>


				they were secured using a tactical belt and were held with both arms by the officer, leaving no scope for maneuverability. Despite the risk and complexity involved, he demonstrated exemplary bravery by rescuing the children in tandem; an act that has no standardized procedure or precedence.
10.	SQUADRON LEADER SANDEEP KUMAR JHAJHRIA (33270) ACCTS/GARUD	AIR FORCE		<p>On 29 January 2022 at 1510 hrs, an operation was launched jointly by the Garud team and 55 RR in Nyir (Tahab) village, district Pulwama (J&K). The officer exhibited exceptional situational awareness and leadership skills while guiding his team to the rear of the house and establish a cordon that blocked the likely escape route of the terrorists.</p> <p>At 0030 hrs on 30 Jan 22 with the intention to escape, a total of three terrorists equipped with modern assault rifles and night vision devices came out of the house firing indiscriminately and lobbing grenades on the Garud Cordon team. Maintaining tactical composure and indomitable courage, he swiftly retaliated with effective and accurate fire on the fleeing terrorists and foiled their escape bid. The terrorists opened heavy volume of fire on Squadron Leader SK Jhajhria and his buddy. The officer was hit by volley of fire on his Left shoulder and Left arm. Undeterred by terrorist fire and injury, he engaged terrorists in a face to face gun fight eliminating one terrorist and grievously injuring another terrorist. Terrorist eliminated was identified as Category 'A++', Cdr of JeM South Kashmir.</p>
11.	CPL ANAND SINGH (954576) INDIAN AIR FORCE (GARUD)	AIR FORCE		<p>On 29 January 2022, based on the receipt of specific intelligence at 1510 hrs, an operation was launched jointly by the Garud team and 55 RR in Nyir (Tahab) village, district Pulwama (Jammu & Kashmir). The Garud team covertly approached and laid a close quarter inner cordon around the target house, thus cutting off all possibilities of an escape by the terrorists.</p> <p>At 0030 hrs on 30 Jan 22, a total of three terrorists equipped with modern assault rifles and night vision devices came out of the house firing indiscriminately and lobbing grenades in a bid to break through the cordon and flee. Exhibiting raw courage and tactical acumen, Corporal Anand Singh swiftly retaliated with accurate fire thereby preventing escape. Exhibiting nerves of steel and bravery of the highest order, he eliminated the terrorist in an intense fight from close range. Meanwhile one more terrorist who was hiding came out and started firing on the Garud team in which Corporal Anand was hit by a bullet on his right lower back. Though bleeding profusely, Corporal Anand continued to engage the second terrorist and injured him. The</p>

				terrorist eliminated was identified JeM, Cat 'A' terrorist.
12.	LAC SUNIL KUMAR (990231) INDIAN AIR FORCE (SECURITY)	AIR FORCE		<p>On 10 Apr 22, the Garud Flight was tasked for a rescue mission at Deoghar, Jharkhand wherein 12 cable cars were stuck midway in a ropeway accident with 48 civilians stranded in the cable cars. One Mi-17 helicopter reached Deoghar with Cpl GS Rawat and LAC Sunil Kumar on-board in the early hours of 11 Apr 22. The second mission was launched at 1400 hrs on 11 Apr 22 and LAC Sunil volunteered for the mission. He was winched down on the rooftop of the cable car. In spite of strong winds and down wash of the helicopter, the air warrior managed to anchor himself to the cable car and entered inside. LAC Sunil Kumar managed to harness all the stranded civilians in turns and released them for winching ops by the helicopter.</p> <p>After clearing the first cable car, LAC Sunil was pulled back and was winched down to the next cable car. While being lowered on to the second cable car, LAC Sunil was hit by electric cables and received an electric shock. In spite of the injury, he continued the rescue mission and rescued all the stranded civilians with his never say die attitude. Though being exhausted and injured, LAC Sunil continued with the mission and considering the deteriorating situation of stranded civilians and to minimize the rescue time, he decided to move directly to the third cable car rather than being pulled back to the helicopter. One civilian in the third cable car had suffered a fracture in his spine and was unable to move. LAC Sunil reassured him, provided first aid and carefully harnessed the individual so that he could be rescued. LAC Sunil displayed excellent determination, perseverance and exemplary courage in rescuing a total of 12 civilians from three cable cars regardless of his personal safety in a life threatening situation.</p>
13.	SHRI SATENDRA SINGH, ASSTT. COMMANDANT	MHA		<p>On 28 Jun 21, based on intelligence inputs regarding a possible terrorist attack on SF, on Srinagar-Baramulla National Highway, between Shalteng and Narbal, 04 HITs of CRPF Valley QAT, positioned themselves at strategic points, to neutralise the evil designs of the terrorists. Consequently, a dreaded terrorist, travelling in a vehicle, was apprehended and in the joint interrogation revealed that he had kept his AK 47 in a house, at Maloora.</p> <p>Based on the input of the apprehended terrorist, an op was launched by Valley QAT, CRPF, SOG and 2 RR. The teams laid a cordon around the target house at 1510 h, which was located near an embankment of river Jhelum in the outskirts of Srinagar. ShSatendra Singh, AC, along</p>

			<p>with his team, laid an effective cordon and tactically established a firebase covering the front of the target house. Following announcements, through a UAV broadcaster, a family comprising of a man, two women and a child came out of the targeted house. Immediately, thereafter, a terrorist, who was hiding inside the house, opened an indiscriminate burst of fire, at the firebase, where ShSatendra Singh, AC and his team were positioned. Due to effective retaliation from the firebase team, the terrorist was forced to retreat to the rear part of the house.</p> <p>To prevent the terrorists from escaping, ShSatendra Singh, AC, assessed the situation and tactically advanced and augmented the cordon at the rear of the house, which was an open field. Firing of MGL/RL from the open patch, without any effective cover, was extremely dangerous, but ShSatendra Singh, AC, advanced and placed himself strategically in an open area to provide cover fire so that MGL/RL could be fired effectively, to create an opening in the house's rear wall.</p> <p>Taken aback by the effective firing of RL, the terrorist retreated to the middle of the house. Thereafter, ShSatendra Singh, AC, decided to break the windows of the middle room, which was the most challenging and decisive part of the op and started advancing. On seeing the movement, the terrorist opened a volley of fire towards the team, led by ShSatendra Singh, AC: the team countered tactically, using a ballistic shield, and retaliated effectively. ShSatendra Singh, AC, ascertained the exact position of the terrorists, through a probing fire, and soon a fierce gunfight erupted. Subsequently, a terrorist jumped through the window of house and fired UBGL on the troops, inflicting splinter injuries to SI/GD Shivam Chauhan and Ct/GD MdWasim of his team. Nevertheless, ShSatendra Singh, AC, doggedly pursued the terrorist and opened a precise volley of fire towards his position.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the terrorist hid in the cover of the house wall. Despite clear and imminent danger to his life, ShSatendra Singh, AC, kept firing and advanced towards the terrorist. During the close quarter battle, ShSatendra Singh, AC, received a bullet injury on his left arm, but continued to engage the terrorist, thereby exhibiting indomitable courage and tremendous grit, inflicting serious injuries to the enemy.</p> <p>When ShSatendra Singh, AC, crawled for some distance, he realized that his left arm bone was completely broken: the realization of being hit by bullets and the sight of oozing blood could have disoriented a lesser person, but ShSatendra Singh, AC, despite his injuries, excruciating pain and</p>
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14.	<p>SHRI VIKKI KUMAR PANDEY, DEPUTY COMMANDANT</p>	MHA	<div data-bbox="816 653 1060 869" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>An intelligence input was received regarding the movement of dreaded armed Maoists Dasta led by Buddheshwar Oraon (Bihar Regional Committee Member), carrying a reward of 15 lakhs, near Kadaldag Pahar.</p> <p>Accordingly, a joint operation was planned by 203, 209 CoBRA, and 218 CRPF in consultation with Jharkhand Police in the general forest area of Keragani, Kochagani, Kadaldag, Marwa, Kurumgarh, under PS Gumla/ Kurumgarh, Distt Gumla. Topographically, the area comprised dense forest with heavy undergrowth/vegetation, steep slopes with boulders and fortified with IEDs. As the troops were moving tactically, Ct/GD Biswajit Kumbhakar (Dog handler) with his Dog Drone was manoeuvring the core area. On 13th Jul 21, at about 0730 hr, while approaching the target, Dog Drone sniffed some suspicious substance. Ct/GD Biswajit Kumbhakar sensed the danger of an IED and commanded his Dog to revert and rushed to secure the Dog Drone, thereby unfortunately, detonated a pressure IED, which resulted in the martyrdom of the Dog Drone on the spot and grievous injuries to him.</p> <p>Subsequently, on 14 July 21, on receipt of latest input, an operation No 21 was planned and launched afresh to nab the dreaded Maoist group led by Buddheshwar Oraon (RCM), under overall supervision of Sh Surender Kumar, Commandant, 209, CoBRA. Accordingly, 04 SAT (Small Action Teams) were constituted under the overall command of Sh Pintu Yadav, 2 IC comprising SAT-A under the command of Sh Pintu Yadav, 2 IC, SAT-B under the command of Sh Jaspreet Singh, AC, SAT-C under the command of Sh Vikki Kumar Pandey, DC and SAT-D under the command of Sh Jitendra Singh, AC along with Jharkhand Police component. Troops moved for the target area at 0300 hr on 15 Jul 21. SAT-C Commanded by Sh Vikki Kumar Pandey, DC, led the troops with</p>

				<p>SI/GD Sanjay Singh in navigation.</p> <p>Near the target area, as per the plan, SAT-D took position to prevent the Maoists from fleeing from both West/East directions and the remaining three SATs A, B, and C respectively moved ahead for an effective search of the target area.</p> <p>At around 0852 hr, while approaching the suspected target area, SAT-C commander Sh Vikki Kumar Pandey, DC and SI/GD Sanjay Singh noticed some suspicious movements and alerted the troops. All of a sudden, the assault groups (SAT-A, SAT-B and SAT-C) came under a heavy volley of fire. The advancing troops immediately took position and valiantly retaliated the indiscriminate fire from the Maoists.</p> <p>Sh Vikki Kumar Pandey, DC, along with SI/GD Sanjay Singh and Ct/GD Vijay Oraon took vanguard action and crawled towards the Maoists hide out, amid intense Maoists firing, without caring for their life and safety, fired effectively in mutual support and were able to inflict severe damage on the Maoists. The coordinated counterattack resulted in breaking the ranks and files of the Maoists and forcing them to flee, from the site, taking cover of the undulating terrain.</p> <p>Sh Vikki Kumar Pandey, DC, along with his buddy SI/GD Sanjay Singh and Ct/GD Vijay Oraon chased the fleeing Maoists for approximately 3.5 KMs in a dense, undulating and IED-prone jungle area. The chasing team faced ambush, but the determined valiant response by the troops, resulted in the Maoists suffering serious injuries and abandoning of their positions. During this fierce encounter, the advancing troops succeeded in neutralising and recovering the dead body of one hardcore Maoist leader along with his AK 47 weapon. The slain Maoist was later identified as BuddheshwarOraon, Regional Committee Member of the Maoist organisation, a Rs 15 lakh rewarder and a lynchpin of Maoism for the whole Bihar Regional Committee, whose elimination had an irreparable damage and debilitating effect on the Maoist Organisation in the State. During the entire operation, the troops also detected and destroyed 33 Nos of IEDs in-situ.</p> <p>Sh Vikki Kumar Pandey, DC exhibited his most conspicuous act of bravery and unwavering courage, in the face of imminent threat and danger, in the highest traditions of the force and neutralised a hardcore Maoist leader.</p>
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15.	SHRI VIJAY ORAON, CONSTABLE	MHA		<p>An intelligence input was received regarding the movement of dreaded armed Maoists Dasta led by Buddheshwar Oraon (Bihar Regional Committee Member), carrying a reward of 15 lakhs, near Kadaldag Pahar.</p> <p>Accordingly, a joint operation was planned by 203, 209 CoBRA, and 218 CRPF in consultation with Jharkhand Police in the general forest area of Keragani, Kochagani, Kadaldag, Marwa, Kurumgarh, under PS Gumla/ Kurumgarh, Distt Gumla. Topographically, the area comprised dense forest with heavy undergrowth/vegetation, steep slopes with boulders and fortified with IEDs. As the troops were moving tactically, Ct/GD Biswajit Kumbhakar (Dog handler) with his Dog Drone was manoeuvring the core area. On 13th Jul 21, at about 0730 hr, while approaching the target, Dog Drone sniffed some suspicious substance. Ct/GD Biswajit Kumbhakar sensed the danger of an IED and commanded his Dog to revert and rushed to secure the Dog Drone, thereby unfortunately, detonated a pressure IED, which resulted in the martyrdom of the Dog Drone on the spot and grievous injuries to him.</p> <p>Subsequently, on 14 July 21, on receipt of latest input, an operation No 21 was planned and launched afresh to nab the dreaded Maoist group led by Buddheshwar Oraon (RCM), under overall supervision of Sh Surender Kumar, Commandant, 209, CoBRA. Accordingly, 04 SAT (Small Action Teams) were constituted under the overall command of Sh Pintu Yadav, 2 IC comprising SAT-A under the command of Sh Pintu Yadav, 2 IC, SAT-B under the command of Sh Jaspreet Singh, AC, SAT-C under the command of Sh Vikki Kumar Pandey, DC and SAT-D under the command of Sh Jitendra Singh, AC along with Jharkhand Police component. Troops moved for the target area at 0300 hr on 15 Jul 21. SAT-C Commanded by Sh Vikki Kumar Pandey, DC, led the troops with SI/GD Sanjay Singh in navigation.</p> <p>Near the target area, as per the plan, SAT-D took position to prevent the Maoists from fleeing from both West/East directions and the remaining three SATs A, B, and C respectively moved ahead for an effective search of the target area.</p> <p>At around 0852 hr, while approaching the suspected target area, SAT-C commander Sh Vikki Kumar Pandey, DC and SI/GD Sanjay Singh noticed some suspicious movements and alerted the troops. All of a sudden, the assault groups (SAT-A, SAT-B and SAT-C) came under a heavy volley of fire. The advancing troops immediately took position and valiantly retaliated the indiscriminate fire from the Maoists.</p> <p>Sh Vikki Kumar Pandey, DC, along</p>
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