

ASHOK CHAKRA
LANCE NAIK NAZIR AHMAD WANI, BAR TO SENA MEDAL
THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR LIGHT INFANTRY / 34TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES
(POSTHUMOUS)

Since his enrolment in the Army, Lance Naik Nazir Ahmad Wani, SM**, epitomised qualities of a fine soldier. He always volunteered for challenging missions, displaying great courage under adverse conditions, exposing himself to grave danger on numerous occasions in the line of duty. This is evident from the two gallantry awards conferred on him earlier.

Lance Naik Nazir, yet again insisted on being part of the assault team during Operation Batagund launched by 34 Rashtriya Rifles Battalion on 25 Nov 2018 post receipt of credible intelligence regarding presence of six heavily armed terrorists in Shopian district of Jammu and Kashmir. Tasked to block the most likely escape route, Lance Naik Nazir, moved swiftly with his team to the target house and tactically positioned himself within striking distance. Sensing danger, the terrorists attempted breaching the inner cordon firing indiscriminately and lobbing grenades. Undeterred by the situation, the NCO held ground and eliminated one terrorist in a fierce exchange at close range. The terrorist was later identified as a dreaded district commander of Lashker-e-Taiba.

Thereafter, displaying exemplary soldierly skills, Lance Naik Nazir closed in with the target house under heavy fire and lobbed grenades into a room where another terrorist was hiding. Seeing the foreign terrorist escaping from the window, the NCO encountered him in a hand to hand combat situation. Despite being severely wounded, Lance Naik Nazir eliminated the terrorist.

Showing utter disregard to his injury, Lance Naik Nazir continued to engage the remaining terrorists with same ferocity and audacity. He injured yet another terrorist at close range, but was hit again and succumbed to his injuries.

For displaying unparalleled bravery and supreme sacrifice in the line of duty, Lance Naik Nazir Ahmad Wani, SM** is awarded “**ASHOK CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)**”.

KIRTI CHAKRA
MAJOR TUSHAR GAUBA
20TH BATTALION THE JAT REGIMENT

On the night of 23 May 2018, eight militants attempted an 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 night of 25 May terrorists tried to exfiltrate. Showing presence of mind Major Tushar 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 Sepoy Sunil Kumar sustained splinter injuries. Major Tushar Gauba immediately evacuated his injured colleague, while continuously firing on the terrorists and pinning them down. As the firefight progressed, Major Tushar Gauba realized that he had to get closer to the hiding terrorists. 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 firing his weapon. In close combat undeterred by the terrorists fire he killed three militants.

His act of unparallel bravery under heavy terrorist fire, tactical acumen and swift action to save his party resulted in elimination of three hardcore terrorist and no further casualty to own troops.

For displaying this act of uncommon valour, Major Tushar Gauba is awarded “**KIRTI CHAKRA**”.

KIRTI CHAKRA
SOWAR VIJAY KUMAR
THE ARMOURED CORPS / 22ND BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES
(POSTHUMOUS)

Sowar Vijay Kumar, 22 Rashtriya Rifles (PUNJAB) deployed at Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir, was part of “OPERATION VIJAY DARSU” conducted on 02 and 03 August 2018.

On 02 August 2018, based on input regarding presence of terrorists in village Darsu, an operation was launched. He was the guide of party that laid initial cordon and covered most likely escape route. Around 0230 hours terrorists opened heavy fire towards his position to break cordon; undeterred he returned fire forcing terrorist to hide in maize field. Around 0915 hours when search was being carried out by Major Varun Gaur, terrorist brought down heavy fire on the party. Sensing danger to his comrades he came out in the open and directly engaged the terrorists, to cover the movement. In the firefight he got injured but eliminated one terrorist.

Despite being injured he refused evacuation and under effective covering fire from his buddy he crawled forward and eliminated second terrorist in hand to hand combat.

For displaying indomitable raw courage and undaunting bravery beyond the call of duty in eliminating two hardcore terrorists, Sowar Vijay Kumar is awarded “**KIRTI CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)**”.

SHAURYA CHAKRA
LIEUTENANT COLONEL VIKRANT PRASHER
10TH BATTALION THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT (SPECIAL FORCES)

Lieutenant Colonel Vikrant Prasher of 10 Parachute Regiment (Special Forces) led a small team to eliminate a hardcore terrorist.

In August 2018, presence of category A++ terrorist was confirmed in a specific area in Central Kashmir. Lieutenant Colonel Prasher, alongwith three other ranks displaying extreme mental agility and situational awareness, closed in on the terrorists leader in a busy market place. Identifying the terrorist in the market was extremely challenging, and difficult to pinpoint their exact location. Suddenly, Lieutenant Colonel Vikrant Prasher came face to face with the terrorists and firefight ensued with the groups of terrorists, at extremely close range. Reacting swiftly, unmindful of fire and risks, Lieutenant Colonel Vikrant Prasher skillfully and accurately eliminated the terrorist leader and had to dive for cover under the return fire while the other terrorists disappeared amongst the crowd. Lieutenant Colonel Prasher skillfully retrieved his small team from volatile crowd in quick time with tremendous professional grit.

For displaying untranscended bravery, superior tactical expertise, ingenuity and unorthodox approach leading to surgical elimination of a category A++ terrorist commander, Lieutenant Colonel Vikrant Prasher is awarded “**SHAURYA CHAKRA**”.

SHAURYA CHAKRA
MAJOR AMIT KUMAR DIMRI
THE GARHWAL RIFLES /14TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

Major Amit Kumar Dimri joined 14 Rashtriya Rifles (GARHWAL RIFLES) on 30 December 2015.

On 20 September 2018, on receipt of information about presence of five terrorists in general area at Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir, Operation Shokbaba was launched by the battalion under Major Amit Kumar Dimri. The officer's meticulous planning ensured establishment of a compact tight cordon with no escapes routes. On 20 September 2018, the officer personally led the initial search of target complex exposing himself to grave danger and established first contact with terrorists. The officer ensured elimination of two escaping terrorists and trapping of remaining three terrorists inside a single 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 terrorists 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.

For displaying exemplary leadership and raw courage under heavy enemy fire, Major Amit Kumar Dimri is awarded "**SHAURYA CHAKRA**"

SHAURYA CHAKRA
MAJOR IMLIAKUM KEITZAR
4TH BATTALION THE 4TH GORKHA RIFLES

Major Imliakum Keitzar was tenanted appointment of Ismali-Di-Deri Company Commander on Line of Control at Keran Sector of Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir. He successfully led "OPERATION REKHA" in which he showed exemplary tactical acumen and courage beyond the call of duty.

On 09 June 2018, Major Keitzar went in pursuit of terrorists hiding in the inhospitable and snow bound terrain, crawled in the steep and rugged High Altitude terrain ahead of fence and closed in on to terrorists exposing him to their heavy volume of fire. The officer showed extraordinary valour by eliminating three terrorist all by himself one after the other risking his life, time and again beyond the call of duty. The officer killed the first terrorist by closing in on to him and firing Multiple Grenade Launcher at close range. The officer further moved tactically towards the second terrorist and showing his raw courage shot him on his head risking his life to the terrorist's spray of bullets. Sensing the presence of yet another terrorist he endangered his life yet again and eliminated the third terrorist.

For displaying courage, selfless devotion, leadership and conspicuous gallantry, Major Imliakum Keitzar is awarded '**SHAURYA CHAKRA**'.

SHAURYA CHAKRA
MAJOR ROHIT LINGWAL
9TH BATTALION THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT (SPECIAL FORCES)

Major Rohit Lingwal was deployed along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir for conduct of counter infiltration operations. He meticulously developed intelligence network with respect to activities of terrorist outfits.

Major Rohit Lingwal was able to obtain intelligence about likely reconnaissance activity of a hardcore terrorist. The terrorist was to lead a group for conduct of a major attack on own post on the line of control. Maj Lingwal led his troop through mine fields ahead of own defences and laid multiple ambushes for protracted period. In July 2018, he took his party out towards the Line of Control for a long duration operation. His team remained in hide, without any signature of their presence. One afternoon, he observed terrorists approaching own posts. He alerted his troop and started closing in towards the terrorist. Displaying outstanding field craft and nerves of steel, he maintained surprise till the end and soon had a close firefight with the terrorists. Unmindful of the volley of bullets and grenades, Major Rohit Lingwal crawled towards the terrorists and the terrorist leader was shot dead at close quarters. His action thwarted a major hostile action on own troops.

For displaying most conspicuous gallantry, outstanding leadership and meticulous planning and perseverance, in eliminating the hardcore terrorist leader, Major Rohit Lingwal is awarded "**SHAURYA CHAKRA.**"

SHAURYA CHAKRA
CAPTAIN ABHAY SHARMA, SENA MEDAL
FIRST BATTALION THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT (SPECIAL FORCES)

Captain Abhay Sharma, SM was the party commander tasked to undertake patrolling against enemy Border Action Team along Line of Control in Jammu district of Jammu and Kashmir.

On 21 April 2018, Captain Abhay Sharma, SM led a patrol along the Line of Control. At 1310 hours, own patrol spotted movement of 10 uniformed enemy personnel carrying weapons and moving towards own post Spur Forward. He quickly deployed his party in two locations and at opportune time he along with his buddy opened fire and neutralised two enemy personnel. Displaying exceptional battle craft, he provided cover fire enabling his buddy to disengage and move to safety. Thereafter, displaying exemplary junior leadership he crawled under support fire of his buddy and shot down another enemy regular at close range. Once under effective fire from enemy posts, he sensed grave danger to entire party and directed fire of five C-90s and destroyed three bunkers. Exhibiting composure and exceptional tactical acumen under heavy enemy fire, he successfully executed the ambush, destroyed three bunkers, recovered enemy weapon and ensured safe extrication without any casualty.

For displaying conspicuous gallantry, unmatched professionalism and resolute leadership in face of enemy, Captain Abhay Sharma, SM is awarded '**SHAURYA CHAKRA**'.

SHAURYA CHAKRA
CAPTAIN ABHINAV KUMAR CHOUDHARY
THE CORPS OF SIGNALS / 21ST BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

Captain Abhinav Kumar Choudhary is serving with 21 Rashtriya Rifles (GUARDS) since 24 February 2018.

On 07 August 2018, based on specific technical intelligence regarding presence of infiltrating group in General Area Liddar Panzal at Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir, operational teams of 21 Rashtriya Rifles (GUARDS) and 9 Parachute Regiment were inducted for close cordon and surveillance of area during inclement weather. At 0950 hours on 08 August 2018, on being alerted regarding move of five terrorists, he displayed tactical acumen and leadership and taking advantage of inclement weather and low visibility quickly readjusted both teams to prevent escape of terrorists. After visually confirming and positively identifying of 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 unidentified 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 Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists subsequently.

For displaying exceptional courage, grit and valour, Captain Abhinav Kumar Choudhary is awarded “**SHAURYA CHAKRA**”.

SHAURYA CHAKRA
LANCE NAIK AYYUB ALI
THE RAJPUTANA RIFLES / 9TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

On 15 Sep 2018, a group of five heavily armed terrorists were cordoned in a house by 9 Rashtriya Rifles Battalion. Lance Naik Ayyub Ali was a part of the cordon, occupying a position covering the most likely escape route.

At 0050 hours, 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. Lance Naik 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 accurate fire onto the terrorist and eliminated him at very close range. This terrorist was later identified as a dreaded terrorist of Lashkar-e-Taiba. He thereafter continued to engage the remaining terrorists and enabled evacuation of wounded personnel to a safe location.

His unflinching bravery and indomitable spirit directly resulted in killing of a terrorist and the safe evacuation of two wounded men. For this remarkable display of cold courage and camaraderie under fire, Lance Naik Ayyub Ali is awarded “**SHAURYA CHAKRA.**”

SHAURYA CHAKRA
SEPOY AJAY KUMAR
THE MECHANISED INFANTRY / 42ND BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES
(POSTHUMOUS)

On 24 April 2018, Sepoy Ajay Kumar of Ghatak Platoon was deployed as Scout in the initial search during Operation Lam Forest at Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir.

At approximate 0640 hours on 24 April 2018, the battalion Ghatak Platoon started search for likely hideout area. While the parties were approaching the area, Sepoy Ajay Kumar and Sepoy L Roshan Kom performing the duties of scouts of Battalion Ghatak Platoon drew heavy volume of fire from terrorists. The scouts retaliated and were engaged with grenades by the terrorists. Sensing grave danger to his party Sepoy Ajay Kumar deliberately depriving himself of cover and displaying raw courage and nerves of steel, fired back on the terrorist enabling his team to move to cover without sustaining any injury. In this engagement Sepoy Ajay Kumar eliminated a hardcore terrorist of Jaish-e-Mohammad (Foreign Terrorist) Commander in South Kashmir, Category A++ while sustaining gunshot wound on the head in the process.

For displaying courage, exceptional valour and presence of mind in extreme challenging condition to neutralise the terrorist and safeguard his team. For this act of unparalleled gallantry, Sepoy Ajay Kumar is awarded “**SHAURYA CHAKRA (POSTHUMOUS)**”.

SHAURYA CHAKRA
SAPPER MAHESH HN
THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS / 44TH BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES

On 03 August 2018 based on input of presence of terrorists, a cordon and search operation was launched at a village in Shopian district of Jammu and Kashmir. Sapper Mahesh HN with his indepth knowledge of terrain guided his team to lay a quick, effective and timely cordon thus cutting off all routes of escape of terrorists.

At around 2100 hours, his position came under heavy fire from five terrorists and the terrorists 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 neutralisation 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, Sapper Mahesh, blocked the terrorist and neutralised him in an intense close quarter battle. The slain terrorist was later identified as a dreaded terrorist of Lashkar-e-Taiba in Shopian.

For displaying indomitable spirit, presence of mind, exemplary initiative and unparalleled courage, resulting in neutralisation of a dreaded terrorist of Lashkar-e-Taiba, injuring another terrorist and assisting in neutralisation of other terrorists, Sapper Mahesh HN is awarded **“SHAURYA CHAKRA”**.