

Maha Vir Chakra

IC-64405M COLONEL BIKUMALLA SANTOSH BABU, 16TH BATTALION THE BIHAR REGIMENT (POSTHUMOUS)

Colonel Bikumalla Santosh Babu, Commanding officer 16 BIHAR deployed in Galwan Valley (Eastern Ladakh) during Operation SNOW LEOPARD, was tasked to establish an Observation Post in face of the enemy. Organising and briefing his troops about the situation with a sound plan, he successfully executed the task. While holding the position his column faced stiff resistance from the adversary who attacked using lethal and sharp weapons along with heavy stone pelting from adjoining heights. Undaunted by the violent and aggressive action by overwhelming strength of enemy soldiers, the officer in true spirit of service before self, continued to resist the enemy's attempt to pushback Indian troops.

Despite being grievously injured, Colonel Bikumalla Santosh Babu led from the front with absolute command and control despite hostile conditions to deter the vicious enemy attack at his position. In the skirmish that broke out and ensuing hand to hand combat with enemy soldiers, he valiantly resisted the enemy attack till his last breath, inspiring and motivating his troops to hold ground.

Colonel Bikumalla Santosh Babu displayed exemplary leadership and astute professionalism. He showed conspicuous bravery in the face of enemy and made supreme sacrifice for the nation.

**JC-413798Y SUBEDAR SANJIV KUMAR, 4TH BATTALION, THE
PARACHUTE REGIMENT (SPECIAL FORCES) (POSTHUMOUS)**

Subedar Sanjiv Kumar was enrolled into the Parachute Regiment on 30 August 1996.

On 04 April 2020, Subedar Sanjiv Kumar was the leading squad commander of the Special Forces detachment which was helidropped in Keran Sector (Jammu & Kashmir) to intercept and eliminate an infiltration track of Pakistan sponsored terrorists.

After being helidropped, Subedar Sanjiv Kumar along with his squad began to track the foot trails of the infiltrating terrorists. After wading through waist deep snow for over five hours, his squad homed on to the likely location of the terrorists. As the squad was discreetly closing in towards their target, the leading scouts of the squad stepped on an ice ledge which gave in and both the scouts fell into the nallah where hiding terrorists opened indiscriminate fire injuring both scouts. Subedar Sanjiv Kumar along with his buddy immediately surged ahead into the nallah to rescue them. While his buddy provided covering fire, Subedar Sanjiv unmindful of his personal safety, under intense fire from the terrorists evacuated one of the scouts from the contact site. He then moved forward to retrieve the other scout when he came under intense fire from the hiding terrorist. Realising the imminent danger to his squad members, Subedar Sanjiv charged towards the hiding terrorists and neutralised one terrorist at very close range. Thereafter, Subedar Sanjiv in a daring act crawled towards the other terrorists and engaged them in a hand to hand combat seriously injuring them. In the intense close quarter fight that ensued Subedar Sanjiv Kumar sustained a gun shot wound from which he later succumbed.

Subedar Sanjiv Kumar displayed outstanding leadership qualities, raw courage and utmost gallantry in eliminating one hardcore terrorist, injuring two terrorists, evacuating his injured scout and made the supreme sacrifice in the highest traditions of the Indian Army. His selfless action led to the subsequent elimination of five hardcore terrorists. While exhibiting conspicuous courage beyond the call of duty, Subedar Sanjiv Kumar made supreme sacrifice for the nation.

**JC-561645F NAIB SUBEDAR NUDURAM SOREN
16TH BATTALION, THE BIHAR REGIMENT, (POSTHUMOUS)**

Naib Subedar Nuduram Soren during Operation SNOW LEOPARD deployed in Galwan Valley (Eastern Ladakh) valiantly led his column and resisted the enemy's attempt to push back the Indian soldiers establishing an Observation Post. He organised his column, countered the adversary forcefully and stopped them in their attempt to push back Indian troops. During the skirmish, he was viewed as a daunting leader and was targeted by the enemy soldiers with lethal and sharp weapons. Being grievously injured when asked to move back, as a true leader he refused, inspite of being heavily outnumbered by the enemy soldiers. The Junior Leader stood at the forefront under hostile conditions and displayed raw courage, fighting with resolute spirit in a hand to hand combat, before succumbing to his injuries. The gallant action by the Junior Commissioned officer resulted in a positive response which overwhelmed the enemy by surprise. His action speeded own retaliation and also galvanised own troops to continue to hold ground.

Naib Subedar Nuduram Soren displayed determined courage & conspicuous gallantry in the face of enemy and made supreme sacrifice for the nation.

Vir Chakra

15139118Y HAVILDAR K PALANI, 81 FIELD REGIMENT (POSTHUMOUS)

Havildar (Gunner) K Palani was deployed in Galwan Valley (Eastern Ladakh) as part of Operation SNOW LEOPARD.

On night of 15 June 2020, individual was part of patrol of 16 BIHAR tasked to establish an Observation Post. In a close hand to hand fight he fought valiantly and saved his subordinates from the aggressive action of the enemy soldiers. Suddenly, the adversaries outnumbered and encircled him, with utter disregard to his personal safety, he stood bravely and tried to defend his comrades even when the enemy attacked him with sharp weapon injuring him seriously. His act of valour inspired other fellow soldiers to fight fiercely and resist enemy aggression. In spite of his grievous injuries, he continued to hold his ground resolutely and in the finest traditions of the Indian Army, laid down his life for the motherland.

Havildar K Palani showed courage & bravery in the face of enemy and made supreme sacrifice for the nation.

Vir Chakra

**15439373K NAIK DEEPAK SINGH, THE ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
16TH BATTALION THE BIHAR REGIMENT (POSTHUMOUS)**

Naik Deepak Singh was performing duties of Battalion Nursing Assistant. During Operation SNOW LEOPARD, he provided treatment to casualties of the skirmish at Galwan valley (Eastern Ladakh).

Having assessed the battle condition, he moved up for immediate medical support. As the skirmish broke out and casualties increased, he moved to frontline rendering First Aid to own injured soldiers. In the ensuing skirmish coupled with heavy stone pelting, he received serious injuries, but undeterred and tirelessly, he continued to provide medical aid. The enemy outnumbered Indian troops and he was injured while carrying out his duty. In spite of grievous wounds by the enemy, he continued rendering medical assistance to injured soldiers and saved many lives. He finally succumbed to his injuries. He was pivotal in rendering treatment and saving lives of more than 30 Indian soldiers, which reflect the epitome of his professional acumen.

Naik Deepak Singh displayed unmatched professionalism in hostile conditions, unflinching devotion and made supreme sacrifice for the nation.

VIR CHAKRA

2516683X SEPOY GURTEJ SINGH, 3RD BATTALION THE PUNJAB REGIMENT (POSTHUMOUS)

Sepoy Late Gurtej Singh, during Operation SNOW LEOPARD in Galwan Valley (Eastern Ladakh), on 15 June 2020, was performing the duties of the scout of his Operational Patrol and was tasked to establish an Observation Post. He successfully spotted the enemy troops building up against the Indian troops while establishing the Observation Post.

The faceoff between the two sides turned into a violent skirmish in which the enemy troops attempted to push back the Indian troops. In the ensuing clash, the enemy soldiers used lethal weapons and heavily outnumbered own troops. Sep Gurtej Singh displayed undaunted bravery, raw courage and exceptional combat skills in resisting the enemy troops in a fierce hand to hand combat. He himself got seriously injured however, with utter disregard to his personal safety, he continued to fight the enemy valiantly and also extricated own injured troops, thereby saving number of fellow soldiers of his patrol party before making the supreme sacrifice.

Sepoy Gurtej Singh displayed conspicuous gallantry in the face of enemy and made supreme sacrifice for the nation.

SHAURYA CHAKRA

**9112648L RIFLEMAN SHIVE KUMAR, THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR
LIGHT INFANTRY, 31ST BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES
(POSTHUMOUS)**

On 31 Aug 2018, Rifleman Shive Kumar was part of the seek and destroy mission in an area in Jammu & Kashmir.

At about 0718 hours, Rifleman Shive Kumar noticed the movement of terrorists at very close range. He immediately sensed that his Team Commander who did not see the terrorist is vulnerable to fire. With utter disregard to personal safety and sensing danger to the life of his Team Commander, Shive Kumar charged towards the terrorists. He came under heavy barrage of accurate fire from the terrorists and suffered multiple gunshot wounds due to which he dropped his weapon. Displaying raw courage and despite being injured, he kept on charging towards the terrorist and pounced on him, overpowered him and killed him with his bare hands. Still sensing the grave danger to which his own troops were exposed, he picked up the weapon of the terrorist and injured the second terrorist before succumbing to his injuries.

Rifleman Shive Kumar displayed valour and exemplary raw courage in eliminating one hardcore terrorist and made supreme sacrifice for the nation.

Shaurya Chakra

**IC-76429H MAJOR ANUJ SOOD, BRIGADE OF THE GUARDS, 21ST
BATTALION THE RASHTRIYA RIFLES (POSTHUMOUS)**

Major Anuj Sood had been operating as a Company Commander in 21 Rashtriya Rifles in Kupwara District of Jammu & Kashmir.

On 01 May 2020, on receiving information of two terrorists in Watsar Forest, he launched operation to intercept them. On spotting the terrorists, the officer challenged them but the terrorists fired back indiscriminately and escaped. The officer restrained own fire and saved lives of civilians stuck in the crossfire.

The terrorist's location was re-established on 02 May 2020 at Chanjimula and the officer himself deployed the close cordon at the suspected house. In an act of conspicuous bravery, he alongwith Commanding officer and three others moved inside the target house to evacuate civilian hostages. Unmindful of his personal safety the officer relentlessly fired upon and pinned down hardcore terrorists resulting in evacuation of three civilian hostages. In an attempt to extricate the balance two civilian hostages, he physically assaulted and injured one Local terrorist, thus saving lives of the two hostages. During this gallant act the officer sustained multiple gunshot wounds and sacrificed his life.

Major Anuj Sood displayed conspicuous gallantry, extraordinary valour and made supreme sacrifice for the nation.

PARAM VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL

1. IC-40685M Lieutenant General Raj Shukla, YSM, SM, The Regiment of Artillery
2. Vice Admiral R Hari Kumar, AVSM, VSM (02540-Y)
3. Air Marshal (Now Air Chief Marshal) Vivek Ram Chaudhari, AVSM, VM (16978) Flying (Pilot)
4. Air Marshal Navkaranjit Singh Dhillon, AVSM, ADC (16580) Flying (Pilot) **(Retired)**
5. Air Marshal Rajesh Kumar, AVSM, VM, ADC (16770), Flying (Pilot) **(Retired)**
6. IC-39130Y Lieutenant General Rajeev Chopra, AVSM, The Infantry **(Retired)**
7. IC-39437K Lieutenant General Shashank Tarakant Upasani, AVSM, SM, VSM, The Infantry **(Retired)**
8. IC-39874K Lieutenant General Taranjit Singh, AVSM, VSM**, The Armoured Corps **(Retired)**
9. IC-39929H Lieutenant General Saranjeet Singh, UYSM, YSM, The Infantry **(Retired)**
10. IC-39996N Lieutenant General Rajeev Sabherwal, AVSM, VSM, The Corps of Signals **(Retired)**
11. IC-40007M Lieutenant General Yenduru Venkata Krishna Mohan, AVSM, SM, VSM The Infantry **(Retired)**
12. IC-40022F Lieutenant General Anil Kumar Bhatt, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM, The Infantry **(Retired)**
13. IC-40299A Lieutenant General Sanjay Verma, AVSM, VSM**, The Corps of Electronic And Mechanical Engineers **(Retired)**
14. IC-40003W Major General Sandeepan Handa, The Army Aviation Corps **(Retired)**

15. Director General Shri Krishnaswamy Natarajan, President's Tatrakshak Medal, Tatrakshak Medal (0091-E), Indian Coast Guard
16. GO-1968X, CE (Civil) (Now ADGBR), KP Purushothaman, VSM **(Retired)**

UTTAM YUDDH SEVA MEDAL

1. IC-41521H Lieutenant General Harsha Gupta, AVSM, YSM, VSM, The Sikh Light Infantry, Headquarter 16 Corps
2. IC-41072Y Lieutenant General Rajeev Sirohi, AVSM, VSM, The Infantry, Headquarter 3 Corps

ATI VISHISHT SEVA MEDAL

1. IC-41083L Lieutenant General Amardeep Singh Bhinder, VSM, The Armoured Corps
2. Air Marshal Richard John Duckworth, VSM (17136) Flying (Pilot)
3. IC-40534N Lieutenant General Milind N Bhurke, VSM, The Corps of Signals
4. IC-41025F Lieutenant General Tirtala Subramanian Anantha Narayanan, The Corps of Electronics And Mechanical Engineers
5. IC-41091K Lieutenant General Shashank Shekhar Mishra, VSM, The Infantry
6. IC-41599N Lieutenant General Ravindra Kumar Singh Kushwaha, The Ordnance Corps
7. IC-41672F Lieutenant General Sanjeev Kumar Sharma, YSM, The Infantry
8. IC-42538H Lieutenant General Atulya Solankey, SM, The Infantry
9. IC-42958H Lieutenant General S Harimohan Iyer, The Regiment of Artillery
10. IC-43710L Lieutenant General Tarun Kumar Aich, The Infantry
11. IC-43725N Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar, The Infantry
12. IC-47020Y Major General (Now Lieutenant General) Dinesh Singh Rana, YSM, SM, The Infantry
13. Rear Admiral (Now Vice Admiral) Swaminathan Rajaram, NM (41228-Z)
14. Rear Admiral (Now Vice Admiral) Sanjay Jasjit Singh, NM (03081-A)

15. Rear Admiral (Now Vice Admiral) Suraj Berry, NM, VSM (03101-Y)
16. Rear Admiral (Now Vice Admiral) Srinivas Vennam, NM (03227-H)
17. Air Marshal Vibhas Pande, VSM (17647) Aeronautical Engineering (Mechanical)
18. Air Vice Marshal (Now Air Marshal) Suraj Kumar Jha (17445) Flying (Pilot)
19. Air Marshal Indira Padmanabhan Vipin VM (16829) Flying (Pilot) **(Retired)**
20. Air Marshal Thazhathupulikunnel Devasia Joseph, VM, VSM (16964) Flying (Pilot) **(Retired)**
21. Air Marshal Mahendra Singh Butola (30034) Medical **(Retired)**
22. IC 49496K Brigadier Preet Pal Singh, VSM, 1 GOrkha Rifles
23. IC-40290L Major General Bipin Bakshi, VSM, The Corps of Engineers **(Retired)**
24. IC-41470A Major General Virendra Singh, VSM, The Infantry **(Retired)**
25. IC-44812N Major General Sandeep Singh Bajaj, The Infantry **(Retired)**

Vir Chakra

15143643M HAVILDAR TEJINDER SINGH, 3 MEDIUM REGIMENT

On 15 June 2020, Havildar Tejinder Singh of 3 Medium Regiment was part of the Regimental column deployed at Galwan Valley (Eastern Ladakh). He was leading his column against the enemy resistance. Subsequently the standoff turned violent and resulted in a hand to hand fight. Concomitantly, a large enemy reinforcement joined in, thereby massively tipping the numbers in their favour.

Undeterred by the numerical superiority of the enemy, the Non Commissioned Officer took on the enemy in a hand to hand fight and resisted them gallantly. He also organised a group of soldiers to effectively thwart several enemy soldiers displaying exemplary leadership. This gallant act was pivotal in inspiring own troops to effectively engage the enemy troops during the violent standoff. The Non Commissioned Officer kept on leading his column valiantly and fought fearlessly till, he was grievously injured.

Havildar Tejinder Singh displayed selfless commitment and unflinching leadership beyond the call of duty in the face of the enemy with the highest traditions of Indian Army.

Shaurya Chakra

**IC-68482Y LIEUTENANT COLONEL KRISHAN SINGH RAWAT, SM,
FIRST BATTALION THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT
(SPECIAL FORCES)**

Lieutenant Colonel Krishan Singh Rawat, Sena Medal, was team leader of a mission oriented team, deployed along the Line of Control in Jammu & Kashmir for conduct of counter infiltration and counter terrorist operations.

An intelligence was received indicating likely attempt by the terrorist to infiltrate own side or cause casualties to own troops. He led his team and deployed it along the likely route of infiltration. After 36 hours in ambush in an inclement weather and close proximity to the Line of Control, his team spotted the group of terrorists. In the ensuing firefight, he maneuvered to a flank to locate specific position of the terrorists and directed squad commander to crawl forward and bring down accurate fire resulting in elimination of two terrorists. Under heavy retaliatory fire, he resited his team on tactically advantageous position to target rest of the group.

After protracted surveillance in close vicinity to the Line of Control and under heavy fire, he identified rest of the terrorists. Achieving complete surprise and unmindful of personal safety, he engaged them at extreme close range killing two terrorists, grievously injuring the third.

During the entire operation, Lieutenant Colonel Krishan Singh Rawat, Sena Medal showed his resolute, exemplary leadership and conspicuous gallantry in eliminating the terrorists.

Shaurya Chakra

**IC-73334X MAJOR ANIL URS, 4TH BATTALION
THE MARATHA LIGHT INFANTRY**

Major Anil is Company Commander deployed along the Line of Control in Jammu & Kashmir.

On receipt of intelligence of concentration of terrorist across Line of control for possible attempt of cross LC action to cause casualties to own troops, Major Anil laid an ambush along the appreciated route of movement.

Displaying good tactical acumen and strong resolve the officer waited patiently maintaining complete surprise. On spotting the group of terrorists Maj Anil brought down effective fire killing three terrorists. Being in close proximity to the Line of Control his action drew violent and effective fire from parties across the Line of Control. Enduring the risk of loss of life, Major Anil displayed extraordinary leadership, nerves of steel and spirit of service before self where he chose to remain at the location awaiting opportunity to engage rest of the terrorists.

After life threatening wait of fifteen minutes, the team sighted and accurately brought down fire on two more terrorists leading to neutralization of two more terrorists.

Major Anil Urs displayed raw courage, marksmanship and rare combat leadership during the entire operation.

Shaurya Chakra

**G/5022546P RIFLEMAN PRANAB JYOTI DAS, 6TH BATTALION THE
ASSAM RIFLES**

Rifleman Pranab Jyoti Das was part of an operation in South Arunachal Pradesh which was launched based on a specific intelligence input regarding presence of six hardcore insurgents.

At 0410 hours, during search of the target area, Rifleman (General Duty) Pranab Jyoti Das spotted an insurgent 70 meters from the target location. On being challenged, the insurgent tried to break the cordon by firing indiscriminately. Sensing grave danger to own troops Rifleman (General Duty) Pranab Jyoti Das eliminated one insurgent. Remaining insurgents also opened heavy volume of fire which resulted in grievous injury to one of the soldiers.

Displaying great tactical acumen Rifleman (General Duty) Pranab Jyoti Das in a gallant move came out of cover and evacuated the injured personnel to safety. Rifleman (General Duty) Pranab Jyoti Das continued to engage the insurgents from the close quarters and eliminated another insurgent.

Rifleman Pranab Jyoti Das displayed ferocious and unparalleled fighting spirit by neutralising two insurgents and evacuating one injured soldier to safety.

Shaurya Chakra

**13631414L PARATROOPER SONAM TSHERING TAMANG, 4TH
BATTALION THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT (SPECIAL FORCES)**

Paratrooper Sonam Tshering Tamang was enrolled into The Parachute Regiment on 28 June 2014 and has been operating in OP RAKSHAK ever since.

On 04 April 2020, Paratrooper Sonam Tshering Tamang was part of the Special Forces detachment which was helidropped in Keran Sector (Jammu & Kashmir) to intercept and eliminate an infiltrating column of terrorists. After wading through waist deep snow for over five hours, the squad successfully established contact with the terrorists. In the intense close quarter fire fight that ensued, both the squad commander Subedar Sanjiv Kumar and Paratrooper Amit Kumar sustained gunshot wound and the remainder of the squad was out of communication.

Paratrooper Sonam Tshering Tamang after carrying out a quick mental survey of the situation moved ahead tactically to evacuate his squad commander. He successfully evacuated his squad commander under intense fire from the terrorists. Paratrooper Amit Kumar was injured and was pinned down by accurate fire from the terrorists. Sensing grave danger to his buddy, Paratrooper Sonam Tshering Tamang in a daring act crawled towards the boulder and killed one terrorist with accurate rifle fire at close quarters. He then lobbed a grenade at a fleeing terrorist and injured him grievously.

Paratrooper Sonam Tshering Tamang displayed raw courage and utmost gallantry in eliminating one hardcore terrorist, injuring one other terrorist and evacuating Subedar Sanjiv Kumar to safety. He maintained his composure and fought with nerves of steel under the most adverse circumstances wherein all other squad members of his detachment were killed in action.

WING COMMANDER VISHAK NAIR (28993) FLYING (PILOT)

Wing Commander Vishak Nair (28993) Flying (Pilot) is on the posted strength of a Sukhoi 30 MKI Squadron since 21 Apr 2018.

On 05 Aug, 2019, Wg Cdr Vishak Nair was flying as captain for an instructional flight mission. After recovering from a complex manoeuvre, he discovered that the aircraft was tending to pitch nose-down and there was an abnormally high force required to move the control-stick back in order to bring the aircraft back to level flight. With engagement of autopilot, aircraft behaviour worsened and the aircraft became almost uncontrollable with severe oscillatory motion in pitch. He took over controls of the aircraft manually and with great difficulty brought the aircraft back to stable flight, albeit with heavy stick forces. Retaining his composure and demonstrating tremendous grit, he made five unsuccessful attempts at high speeds to land the aircraft. In such grave situations, a pilot would have normally ejected from the stricken aircraft. However, Wg Cdr Nair unmindful of the great peril to his own life in these rapidly worsening circumstances, dug deep into the reserves of his knowledge, training and experience to extend the air-to-air refuelling probe. Extension of the probe made the aircraft marginally more controllable due to activation of the damping system. Severely fatigued, flying with tremendous stick forces and low on fuel, he made one final attempt to land, something which had never been attempted before on Sukhoi 30 MKI aircraft. On approach, he ran out of control deflection at 3 km from landing runway. He maintained higher speeds and aiming for centre of the runway, landed the aircraft safely. Post flight inspection revealed that a critical mechanical failure of Angle of Attack sensor in aircraft Fly-by-Wire system of the aeroplane had rendered the aircraft practically un-flyable. The gallant act by Wg Cdr Nair in recovering an afflicted aircraft despite grave risk to his own life, not only demonstrated his extraordinary courage but also prevented loss of life and property while saving loss of an expensive aircraft.

Wing Commander Vishak Nair showed exceptional gallantry, professionalism of a very high order and courage under extreme stress.