

BRAVEHEARTS OF KARGIL

The nation will celebrate the 23rd Kargil Vijay Diwas on July 26. This special day is dedicated to those heroic sons of the country who overcame all the difficulties, to chase away the Pakistani soldiers from Kargil on July 26, 1999, and hoisted the victory flag on the inaccessible peaks. In May 1999, the Indian Army launched "Operation Vijay" and secured the peaks from the Pakistani occupation in a battle that lasted for more than two months. Four soldiers- Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav, Rifleman Sanjay Kumar, and posthumously, Captain Vikram Batra and Lieutenant Manoj Kumar Pandey, were given Param Vir Chakra, India's highest military decoration for showing the indomitable bravery and courage in this battle

HERO OF THE TIGER HILL



**Grenadier
Yogendra Singh
Yadav**

During Operation Vijay in Kargil, Yogendra Singh Yadav was part of the deadly 18th Grenadiers platoon tasked with capturing Tiger Hill Top in Dras, Jammu, and Kashmir. On July 3, 1999, amid heavy shelling by the enemy, alongwith his team he climbed the icy cliff and demolished the bunker, allowing the platoon to climb it. Displaying exemplary courage despite being hit in the lower abdomen and shoulder with three bullets, he attacked and demolished another bunker, killing three Pakistani soldiers. His inspiring valiant act motivated his platoon to attack other targets and finally recapture Tiger Hill Top. Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav was awarded Param Vir Chakra for displaying indomitable courage and bravery of the highest order.

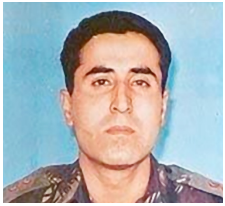
KILLED ENEMY WITH THEIR MACHINE GUN



**Rifleman Sanjay
Kumar**

Rifleman Sanjay Kumar was among the leading scouts of a company of 13 J&K Rifles which was sent on 04 July 1999 to occupy the flat top area in Mushkoh Valley of J&K. After reaching the summit, he came under heavy fire from a bunker of the enemy. In a face-to-face battle, he shot down three intruders in which he was also seriously injured. The enemy soldiers were absolutely stunned by this action and started fleeing leaving a universal machine gun. Rifleman Sanjay Kumar picked up that universal machine gun and killed the fleeing enemies. His courageous act inspired his other comrades who attacked the enemy and finally captured the flat top area. Rifleman Sanjay Kumar was awarded Param Vir Chakra for displaying indomitable courage.

EVEN ENEMY PRAISED HIS BRAVERY



Captain Vikram Batra

Captain Vikram Batra of 13 JAK Rifles was assigned the task to capture Point 5140 during Operation Vijay launched in 1999 in Kargil. Leading the squad, he fearlessly killed four enemy soldiers in face-to-face combat. On July 07, 1999, his company was assigned the task of capturing Point 4875. In a fierce face-to-face encounter, he killed five enemy soldiers. Despite being severely wounded, he led his troops in retaliation and successfully accomplished a militarily impossible task amidst the fierce shelling of the enemy before attaining martyrdom. Inspired by his fearless act, his battalion captured Point 4875, eliminating the enemy. Captain Vikram Batra was posthumously awarded the Param Vir Chakra for outstanding bravery, inspiring leadership, indomitable courage, and supreme sacrifice.

FEARLESS COMBATANT OF KHALUBAR



Lieutenant Manoj Kumar

During Operation Vijay, Lieutenant Manoj Kumar Pandey of the 1st Battalion of 11 Gorkha Rifles was assigned the task to clear Khalubar Ridge in Batalik, Jammu, and Kashmir. On 3 July 1999, as his company advanced, the enemy started firing heavily at them. He fearlessly attacked the enemy, killed four soldiers, and destroyed two bunkers. Despite injuries to his shoulder and legs, he first approached the bunker and killed two enemy soldiers in a fierce encounter. He continued to lead his team in capturing one bunker after another before getting fatal wounds on the head. Encouraged by his indomitable courage, his troops continued to attack the enemy and eventually captured the post. Lieutenant Manoj Kumar Pandey was posthumously awarded the Param Vir Chakra for his outstanding heroic deeds and supreme sacrifice.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS AFTER THE KARGIL WAR

CDS - The government approved the creation of the post of Chief of Defense Staff and made General Bipin Rawat the first CDS. This post has been vacant since his demise and is in the process of being filled soon.



SELF-RELIANCE IN THE DEFENSE

SECTOR- Indigenization is being emphasized to increase self-reliance in the defense sector. So far a total of 3 Lists of 310 Defense Products and Systems have been issued. The import of these items will be banned and bought within the country itself. This time in the budget of defense procurement, 68% amount has been kept for purchase from the domestic market.



INFRASTRUCTURE ON THE

BORDER - The infrastructure along our border with other countries is being strengthened. From 2014 to 2021 6763 km of roads and 15,000 bridges have been constructed.



MORE FINANCIAL POWER

TO ARMY - Rs 1.52 lakh crore was announced in the budget for 2022-23 for modernization and procurement of defense equipment. It has increased by about 76 percent since 2014.



PURCHASE OF MODERN WEAPONS

- The first consignment of the S-400 air defense system has been received from Russia. Kalashnikov AK-203 will be produced within the country while Dhanush, K9 Vajra, Sarang, and Ultra Light Howitzer guns are now being made in the country itself. 6 Scorpene submarines were built in India While the Apache and Chinook helicopters have strengthened the Air Force. ■

