


REMEMBERING BRAVEHEARTS

October 21 is observed as Police Commemoration Day, the day to pay tributes to the martyrs who have sacrificed their lives in the line of duty. It is also a day to express gratitude to the officers and the families of those who continue to serve and protect us every day."The Wall of Valour" - 30 feet tall granite sculpture stands at a police memorial with the names of over 35,000 martyrs who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty and reminds them of their valour and glory. This is day is observed as Martyr's Day in all police forces of India. Since Independence, 34,832 Police personnel have sacrificed their lives for safeguarding the integrity of the nation and providing security to people of this country. Since Independence, 23,000 Indian Army soldiers have made supreme sacrifice. If we deeply go to the reality, with the increasing rate of crimes, today, the shortage of manpower has an impact both on crime prevention and detection. With the increasing rate of crimes, shortage of manpower will have an impact both on crime prevention and detection. Inspectors and SIs at the police station have little time to focus on all cases and investigation is usually confined to sensational cases or grave crimes. From problems relating to police organisation, infrastructure and environment to obsolete weaponry and intelligence gathering techniques to shortage of manpower to corruption, police force in the country is not in a good shape. There are Police personnel who are also complaining of stress due to over working. Deployment of police for traffic regulation and accident-prevention activities also takes a beating. There are occasion where most of the time Police personnel goes attending to day-to-day functions like VIP security, public agitations etc. As incidents of chain and bag snatching have been reported frequently across the cities, residents and experts stress on the need for increased patrolling. Here a question many ask if there are enough policemen to do the job. The shortage of staff often leads to delay in investigation and filing of charge-sheet in cognizable offences. There should be no compromise in the deployment of men for vehicle checks, night patrolling and traffic regulation. The increasingly sedentary lifestyle of younger generations, the increased occurrence of obesity, and the relatively low fitness level of so many people have also lead to a smaller group of potential police officer candidates. There is a huge manpower shortage in the police department. There is now a serious requirement for the execution of the proposed system as the city population is growing and a stronger police force is needed to tackle crime and L & O situations. It is also reported that more and more police personnel were being diagnosed for hypertension, diabetes and stress-related ailments in the annual health screening camps.



OFF 'D' CUFF

'Love is always new'

true love is something else. It is eternal. It always was, is and will be the same, always new, never getting old."

But what does one need to do, to access true love — something that we all need so desperately? The answer lies in connecting with the soul, instead of being engaged with the outside world, all the time. "Make a sincere effort to turn within and listen to what your soul has to say and navigate through the world accordingly. You will never go wrong and this will only bring you closer to Parmeshwara, because He speaks to you through your soul," says Babaji. But where does the love part come in? "The soul," he says, "is the khazana, a treasure trove, of true love. Soul is eternal, love, too, is eternal. Just take that first step towards knowing the soul. That's enough."

Soon, it is time for satsang. The small congregation has been waiting patiently, singing verses from the Guru Granth Sahib, keeping up the faith tempo. Babaji steps out of his chamber and addresses the devotees gathered there. This time, he chooses to recite a passage from the Sahaj Katha, a compilation of commentaries of his gurus on the teachings of Guru Nanak.

On one of his travels, Guru Nanak was asked by someone, "Who is your Ishta?" He replied, "Ek." "And what is this 'Ek'?"

Guru Sahib replied, Ekam ek onkar nirala, amar, ajonee jaat na jana, agam agochar roop na vekhya, sabb kucheh aeh hai — "There is only One, formless, unique, immortal One, who has no caste, is invisible and infinite; He is everything." But I have seen Him in everyone's heart. My Ishta Deva is Ek Onkar, the One."

Onkar is present in the mountains, as well as in the plains, in each and every being and matter. If you take gold out of a gold bangle, there will be no bangle left, similarly, take Parmeshwara, the divine out of this creation, and there will be no creation. Parabrahmn is everywhere, in the forest as well as in the mountains. It is only on His command that Prakriti functions. We can attain Him with the guidance of a true guru."

-Mona Mehta

J&K Police martyrs have shown the way

■ DILBAG SINGH



Jammu and Kashmir Police working synergistically with the Indian Army and other Security Forces has largely succeeded in breaking the back of Pakistan sponsored terrorism in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The invaluable sacrifices by J&K Police personnel in the line of duty has led to normalcy returning back to J&K where terrorism is on the brink of being annihilated. Since 1989, when Pakistan pushed the gun-toting terrorists into J&K, 1604 policemen have laid down their lives to safeguard the sovereignty, unity and integrity of the country. In the long list of police martyrs is included, a Deputy Inspector General, a Superintendent of Police, 22 Deputy

Superintendents of Police, 28 Inspectors, 39 Sub Inspectors, 69 Assistant Sub Inspectors, 150 Head Constables, 189 Senior Grade Constables, 563 Constables, 516 Special Police Officers and 26 Followers. The more a J&K Policeman has been under intimidation over the past more than three decades the more steeled he has been in his resolve and has performed his duties, notably anti-terror operations, professionally and dedicatedly. Their heroic display of courage has inspired coming generations to follow in their footsteps. From fighting terror and maintaining law & order to providing assistance to victims in disasters, J&K Police has proven its dedication to serve and secure the lives of people and their property.

Commanders of the Central Armed Forces have always maintained that fight against terror in J&K without J&K Police would not have been possible. Officers and Jawans of J&K Police have faced bullets, grenades, bombs, and IEDs with-

out any fear. Their courage and valour have made the entire country proud. Terrorists who were sent by Pakistan to snatch J&K from India ended up in the graves. Even their bodies were not owned by their masters. What an Irony! They were killed fighting for the country which used them as tools and were dumped after they outlived their utility. In stark contrast, people of J&K are indebted to JKP martyrs and JK Police as a Parivar has always stood by the families of the martyrs through their testing times. As the commander of J&K Police I assure the family members of all the martyrs that they would never be left alone, come what may. Entire J&K Police force has stood with them and would always stand by them. J&K Police martyrs have been a source of inspiration for the entire force and their sacrifices shall ensure that the fight against terrorism is taken to its logical end. Dedication, sincerity and loyalty of J&K Police towards the

country have made India proud. Its sacrifices and achievements have been lauded on innumerable occasions by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and other leaders. In recognition of the yeoman's service that JKP has rendered to the nation it has been awarded with 1 Ashok Chakra, 2 Kirti Chakras, 18 Shuraya Chakras, 1,672 President's Police Gallantry Medals and 1,822 J&K Police Medals for Gallantry.

I am proud of my JKP team and am sure that very soon we would eradicate the remnants of terrorism from the soil of J&K. With the drastic reduction in levels of violence the common man in J&K is already heaving a sigh of relief and we in JKP on the Police Commemoration Day 2022 again renew our resolve afresh to fight terrorism till our victory is complete and unqualified.

(The author is DGP, J&K).

'Jo Lout Ke Ghar Na Aaye'

■ YUGAL MANHAS

October 21 is commemorated as Police Martyrs Day, the day, which speaks of supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. On this day we salute the sacrifices of all those Martyrs who held duty above their lives. In the year 1959, a patrolling party of CRPF was ambushed by Chinese PLA near Hot Springs Changthang Ladakh. The mausoleum of these martyrs near Hot Springs bear testimony to the fact that when it comes to country, the belt forces never retreat from the battle field. Year after year, Police and other Para military forces continue to lay their lives for upholding the sovereignty of the country. The message is conveyed unequivocally 'Country First'. We observe the day with deep respect and reverence for all those who chose country over their lives and embraced immortality. 21st October is the occasion to pay homage to the valour and sacrifice of our martyrs who never returned home 'Jo Lout Ke Ghar Na Aaye'.

Sacrifice is something very innate and embedded in the ranks of belt forces. Since the very first day of training, sacrifice is ingrained in the minds of belt forces. In fact the ultimate aim of every police person is to serve his country by offering his own life. While paying the homage to the martyrs, every police person imagines his name among the martyrs. This resolve and resilience to serve the country is the biggest challenge to the adversaries. With the inception of terrorism, the challenges of police force increased multifarious. The initial phase of terrorism in early 90s rendered the security and intelligence grid enervated. It was herculean task to regain the ground among the hostile conditions. JK Police lead from the front and took the terrorism head-on. In the process, the

organization lost hundreds of personnel to the inimical designs. We are all indebted to these martyrs for giving us current dominating position.

District Kupwara has faced the brunt of terrorism right from the very first day. The prime reason being the strategic location of the district. Kupwara shares maximum portion of LoC with the adversary country. This has resulted in majority of infiltration through this district. The dense vegetation, inhospitable weather conditions, porous routes, treacherous topology has helped the terrorism to thrive in the District. The separatist ideology in certain belts helped the terrorists to increase the number within their folds. Despite the evil designs of the inimical forces, the district is today immune from any major terrorism factor. The credit for this goes to our martyrs who have fought the inimical forces with all might. The dividends of peace owe their existence to these martyrs. As many as 110 Martyrs belonging to District Kupwara have so far attained martyrdom while fighting the terrorists. The detailed table is reproduced hereunder:

BREAKUP OF DISTRICT POLICE KUPWARA OFFICIALS WHO HAVE LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES IN THE LINE OF DUTY SO FAR SINCE 1989							
INSP.	ASI	ASI	HC	SGCT	CT	SPOS	TOTAL MARTYRS
01	03	04	10	19	40	33	110

It is not that valour and bravery of our brave heart police personnel is confined to this district only, but they offered their lives wherever the need arises. Infact the stream is not confined to JKP only, but youth of Kupwara serving in parallel forces like Army, CRPF, BSF, SSB, ITBP, CISF etc have contributed in

BEROZGAR SE SWAROZGAR

Tejaswini scheme weaves success stories of women empowerment

Jammu and Kashmir government is empowering and encouraging young women through ambitious 'Tejaswani scheme' by providing financial assistance for setting up gainful self-employment ventures, suited to their skills, training, aptitude and local conditions. The UT administration is also facilitating soft finance for setting up new enterprises or for expansion and modernization of existing ventures for income generation.

Pertinently, the scheme was launched by Lieutenant Governor; Manoj Sinha, in June 2021. The broad aim of this start-up funding programme for adolescents and young women of the UT is to make them empowered and self-dependent through their own business ventures.

'Tejaswini scheme provides financial assistance to the young women of 18 to 35 years of age'.

Under the scheme, female entrepreneurs are facilitated to avail financial assistance under Mudra from J&K Bank to the extent of Rs 5 lakh. An official said that Mission Youth J&K is providing an amount of Rs 50,000 or 10 per cent of project cost as upfront subsidy. Besides, an interest subvention up to 60 thousand rupees is also being sponsored by the government as special incentive thus making repayment of loan technically interest free for the young female entrepreneurs who apply for assistance under the scheme. The scheme intends to provide assistance to all eligible young women who are domiciles of J&K and have a qualification of matriculation and

above. It also caters to enterprises where women entrepreneurs hold not less than 50 per cent of financial holding, besides providing assistance to set up women centric businesses and micro start-ups. Pertinently, Mission Youth has conceptualized this scheme for young women of J&K to uplift the status of women in society in view of low female participation in various entrepreneurial and livelihood generation activities.

In the financial year 2021-22, Mission Youth had sponsored more than 2000 cases of women entrepreneurs under the scheme during the current financial year with a budgetary component of Rs. 12 crore as government subsidy. The government also helps the young aspiring women

entrepreneurs in acquisition of fixed assets (plant and machinery, equipment, furniture and fixtures) and meet the working capital needs for purchase of various products and equipments etc. Women entrepreneurs are also being provided EDP trainings through JKEDI to impart them with basic skills about running their business ventures. Notably, the scheme has the distinction of being the first of its kind under which repayment of financial assistance will be interest-free up to a certain extent. It has been specifically modeled to ensure that businesses set up by these young women turn into viable and flourishing enterprises.

Remembering J&K Police Martyrs

■ LIAQUAT ALI CHOUDHARY

On October 20, 1959, three reconnaissance parties were launched from Hot Springs in North Eastern Ladakh. This was in preparation for further movement of an Indian expedition which was on its way to Lanak La. While members of two parties returned to Hot Springs by the afternoon of that day, the third one comprising of two Police Constables and a Porter did not return. All available personnel were mobilized early next morning in search of the missing personnel. This team was led by DSP / DCIO Karam Singh. At about mid day, Chinese Army personnel were seen on a hillock which opened fire and threw grenades at the party led by Karam Singh. Since there was no cover, most personnel were injured. Ten of our brave Police Personnel attained martyrdom and seven others sustained injuries. The seven injured were taken prisoners by the Chinese. Bodies of the ten personnel were returned by the Chinese only on November 13, 1959, a full three weeks after the incident. These bodies were cremated with full Police honors at Hot Springs. The Annual Conference of Inspectors General of Police of States and Union Territories held in January 1960 decided that October 21 would henceforth be observed as 'Commemoration Day / Martyr's Day'. It was also decided to erect a memorial at Hot Springs and every year members of Police Forces from different parts of the country trek to Hot Springs to pay homage to those gallant martyrs.

Hot Springs Martyrs Memorial: DSP Karam Singh of the ITBF and the Memorial for the Policemen killed during the fighting on the 21st of October 1959 still exists and serves as a pilgrimage visited every year by the Policemen across the country.

National Police Memorial: A National Police Memorial at Chanakyapuri, New Delhi stands as a testimony of the sacrifices made by countless policemen in the performance of their duty. The Memorial gives police Forces a sense of national identity, pride, unity of purpose, common history and destiny. "The Wall of Valour" - 30 feet tall granite sculpture stands at the police memorial with the names of over 35000 martyrs who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty and reminds of their valor and glory.

National Police Museum: A National Police Museum depicts the history, artifacts, Police related gazette notifications, unique weapons and uniforms of Central and State Police forces. It is a National level permanent exhibition on policing subjects. A section of the museum will be dedicated to the memory of the Police Martyrs from the various Police forces of the country. The arms are reversed (Shok Shashtra) and two minutes silence is observed in honor of the departed souls. The names of police martyrs of different states/UTs, and paramilitary forces are read out, to acknowledge with pride the supreme sacrifices made by them. Three volleys of shots are fired as a mark of respect for the martyrs.

Jammu & Kashmir Police: The history of J&K Police has been a saga of indomitable courage, unflinching devotion to duty and supreme sacrifice by its officers and men. JKP has always been at the forefront in the national struggle to defend the integrity of India. Jammu and Kashmir has a glorious past at its back on all

realms of policing. This elite police force, which is the pride of country's police forces, has the distinction of not only maintaining the internal law & order but taking on the external aggression of Pakistan sponsored terrorism, with its full might, beyond its expectations and capabilities. The history of Jammu and Kashmir Police is a history of gallantry, sacrifice and innumerable achievements. Jammu and Kashmir witnessed the worst kind of terrorism during the last two decades. It is to the credit of men and officers of this valiant force, that it has been successful in eliminating terrorism to a large extent, an achievement with few parallels anywhere in the world, where terrorism of such a magnitude has erupted. The Police leadership of the day led the force from the front with heroism, patriotism and devotion. It is because of the sacrifices of hundreds of JKP men and women that we have an atmosphere of peace, security and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir once again.

In 1989, SHO Kothibagh Inspector Saidullah became the first Police Martyr. Year 1990 saw an upheaval in Kashmir in which J&K Police was the only visible face of the State that was called upon to deliver on multiple fronts. Thirty Two years of continuous fighting against Pakistan sponsored terror by the Jammu and Kashmir Police and security forces has resulted in a sharp decline in militancy but J&K Police has had to face a bigger challenge to establish peace and tranquility in Jammu and Kashmir; J&K Police had to pay a heavy price of blood and sweat along with other sister agencies operating shoulder to shoulder on the ground while fighting with stone pelting mobs. During all the turbulent times right from the Pakistan tribal invasion in 1948, Jammu and Kashmir Police has always risen to the occasion and its men in uniform irrespective of its rank and file have offered supreme sacrifices to uphold the territorial integrity of the nation. Since, 1989, 1604 men in uniform from all ranks ranging from DIG to SPO have laid down their lives in the line of duty. The nation has always recognized the supreme sacrifice of J&K Police in maintaining the law and order and upholding the integrity of the country. In recognition of the supreme sacrifices given by men in uniform of J&K Police, the successive Governments at Union/State levels have bestowed upon highest Gallantry awards on this elite force. J&K Police has been bestowed with huge number of medals among its counterparts in the country. Since 1954 to 1987, a total 12 Presidents Police Medals for Gallantry and 35 Police Medals for Gallantry were conferred upon the members of J&K Police, and since 1989 onwards 1 Ashoka Chakra, 2 Kirti Chakras, 18 of Shaurya Chakra, 1626 Presidents Police Medal for Gallantry and 1822 Police Medal for Gallantry have been conferred upon the members of Jammu and Kashmir Police, so far which in itself narrates the tale of sacrifice offered by J&K Police in maintaining law & order & upholding the territorial integrity of India.

Jammu and Kashmir Police salutes the memory of its gallant men with pride. Those men who personified the will of the force and sacrificed their lives while demonstrating unquestioning dedication to duty, those men who fell besides their comrades in the fight against terror to preserve the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country and those men who furthered the noble

ideal of 'service before self' at the cost of their lives. J&K Police is proud that these men of substance, without caring for their personal safety, security, convenience or comfort came forward to fight valiantly and vanished to yonder horizon where all of their kinds shine like stars, beckoning their comrades to continue to tread on their footsteps so that the good always triumphs over evil. The martyrs have conferred upon the entire organization a halo of invincibility, imperturbability, honor and dignity. Jammu and Kashmir Police along with the rest of the country observes 21, October as Police Commemoration day also known as National Police Day. The day commemorates the sacrifices of ten policemen who sacrificed their life while defending our borders with China in 1959. Various Schools, Roads, Buildings have been renamed for paying tribute to Martyrs by the Government. Some among the several JK Police Martyrs include martyr DIG Mohd Amin Bhat, martyr DySP Mohammad Ayoub Pandith, martyr DySP Aman Thakur, martyr DySP Manjit Singh, martyr Altaf Ahmad Dar, martyr Inspector Arshid Khan, martyr Insp Feroz Ahmad Dar etc.

Ashok Chakra Awardee: Assistant Sub Inspector Babu Ram born on 1972 in Dharana District. Poonch joined Police Service in year 1999 as Constable. On 27th July 2002 he was assigned to Special Operation Group (SOG) in Srinagar. He participated in (14) encounters in which 28 terrorists were killed. He got three special promotions. On 29th August 2020, ASI Babu Ram attained martyrdom in action against terrorists at Panthachowk Srinagar. The encounter ended with the killing of three hard core terrorists. On 15th August 2022 (the 75th Independence Day), he was awarded Ashok Chakra by the President of India (Posthumous) in recognition of his exemplary bravery and commitment towards his duties.

Kirti Chakra Awardee: Constable Altaf Hussain Bhat hailing from Rathpora Safakadal Srinagar joined J&K Police on 17th September 2011. He was posted in District Ganderbal and was deputed with a protected person as PSO. On 6th October 2020, the protected person visited his family at Nuner Ganderbal where terrorists suddenly attacked him, in retaliation the brave heart PSO killed the terrorists on spot, thus saved the life of the protectee, during retaliation, he got some bullet injuries due to which he attained martyrdom at SKIMS Soura. In reorganization of his utmost dedication, devotion, sincerity and sacrifice the President of India Ram Nath Kovind decorated him with Kirti Chakra, the 2nd highest peace Time Gallantry (Posthumously) at defense Investiture ceremony 2022 at Rashtrapati Bhawan New Delhi.

Shaurya Chakra Awardee: Shahbaz Ahmad from Hayatpora village of district Rajouri was engaged in J&K Police as SPO in the year 2017. He remained always a part of Anti-insurgency operations. On 21st January 2020, shahbaz Ahmad attained Martyrdom in an action against terrorists at Khrew Pampore. The encounter ended after three days with the result of killing of three hard core terrorists. On August 15, 2021 SPO Shahbaz Ahmad was awarded Shaurya Chakra by the President of India Ram Nath Kovind (Posthumously) for his supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.