

Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI
(CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE)

New Delhi
EMBARGOED TILL 7 PM
Dated 23rd APRIL 2018

The President Honoured CRPF Men

Hon'ble President Shri Ram Nath Kovind honoured the matchless bravery of the CRPF officers/men. Shri Kovind honoured Shaheed Commandant Pramod Kumar with Kirti Chakra and Shri Vikas Jakhar, Assistant Commandant and Sub Inspector Md. Riyaz Alam Ansari with Shaurya Chakra in the Defence investiture ceremony held in New Delhi today. In a sombre ceremony Mrs. Neha Tripathi, widow of Shaheed Commandant Pramod Kumar received Kirti Chakra – the country's 2nd highest peace time gallantry award from the president.

Shaheed Pramod Kumar the then Commandant of the 49 Battalion deployed in Srinagar showed exemplary bravery and patriotism on 15th August 2016 and ultimately laid down his life fighting terrorist. He had just hoisted the tricolor at the Battalion Hqr. when he heard of the terrorist strike at Nowhatta Chowk, Srinagar. His intrinsic gallantry coupled with his proud patriotism led him instantly to the ground zero, where he not only laid a seize around the building where the militants were holed up but also safely evacuated his injured colleagues. Not only this, he went to the extent of braving the bullets of the militants by stepping out of his bullet proof vehicle, so as to take the hiding militants head on. In his valiant action of neutralizing one militant, he was fired at by another militant leaving him grievously injured. He succumbed to his injuries but not before he and his committed troops eliminating the militants.

In the same vein of patriotic fervour, Assistant Commandant Vikas Jhakhar and Sub Inspector Md. Riyaz Alam Ansari risked their lives in taking on the Maoists in the hilly and inhospitable terrains of Latehar in Jharkhand. It took more than two days i.e. 22nd & 23rd November 2016 for the special teams of 209 CoBRA Battalion and the State Police of which Shri Jhakar and Md. Ansari were a part, to achieve the mission of eliminating the Maoists in their own strong hold. Both these officers showed matchless bravery in rushing across the river, that too amidst the rain of bullets by the Maoists to take them on. This fierce strategic battle ultimately saw the elimination of six Maoists and the seizure of a huge cache of Arms & Ammunition.

Both Shri Jhakar and Shri Ansari awarded prestigious Shaurya Chakra for their raw courage and bravery in this daunting shootout.

-Sd- 23/04/2018
PRO, Dte. CRPF

