



Ghar-Ghar Shaurya Samman Initiative & Kargil Vijay Diwas

Why in News?

As part of the '**Ghar-Ghar Shaurya Samman**' initiative, the [Indian Army](#) paid **tribute to the valour of soldiers** who laid down their lives in the [Kargil War](#) by presenting their families with a certificate of honour and a memento.

- As the country prepares to observe the **26th Kargil Vijay Diwas** on 26th July 2025, this initiative exemplifies the Army's unwavering dedication to its soldiers and their loved ones.

Key Points

- **Kargil Vijay Diwas:**
 - On 26th July, 1999, the Indian Army declared the **success of Operation Vijay**, marking victory in the nearly three-month-long Kargil conflict.
 - Key **battle sites** included **Tololing and Tiger Hill**, known for their extreme altitudes and harsh terrain.
 - During the **Kargil War**, the region was part of the former state of Jammu and Kashmir.
 - After the **2020 reorganisation**, Kargil now lies in the **Union Territory of Ladakh**, known for its rugged landscape and high-altitude terrain.
 - **Background:**
 - India and Pakistan have a history of conflicts, including a significant one in 1971 that led to the creation of **Bangladesh**.
 - Post-1971, both nations faced ongoing tensions, particularly vying for control over the [Siachen Glacier](#) through military outposts on nearby mountain ridges.
 - In 1998, both countries conducted **nuclear tests**, escalating tensions. The [Lahore Declaration](#) in February 1999 aimed to resolve the [Kashmir conflict](#) peacefully and bilaterally.
 - During the winter of 1998-1999, Pakistani armed forces covertly trained and deployed troops across the [Line of Control \(LOC\)](#) to seize fortified positions overlooking NH 1A in the **Drass and Batalik Sectors of Kargil, Ladakh**.
 - Indian troops initially mistook the **infiltrators for terrorists or 'jihadis,'** but it soon became clear that the attack was a well-organised **military operation**.
 - It was fought in the summer of 1999 along a 170km mountain frontier, stretching from **Mashkoh Valley to Turtuk** in the Kargil sector.
 - In response, **India launched Operation Vijay**, deploying over 200,000 troops to the region to counter the incursion.
 - **Significance of Kargil War Diwas:**
 - Since 1999, 26th July has been observed as Kargil Vijay Diwas to **remember and honour** the **supreme sacrifices** made by Indian soldiers during the war.
 - The [Kargil War memorial in Dras](#) was built in 2000 by the Indian Army to commemorate the **success of Operation Vijay in 1999**.
 - It was later renovated in 2014. It is also known as the "**Dras War Memorial**" due to its location in the town of Dras in the Kargil district of Jammu and Kashmir.
 - The [National War Memorial](#), inaugurated in 2019, is dedicated to soldiers who sacrificed their lives in various conflicts and missions, including the [Sino-Indian](#)

war in 1962, Indo-Pak wars in 1947, 1965, and 1971, [Indian Peace Keeping Force Operations in Sri Lanka](#) 1987-90, and the Kargil Conflict in 1999.

