

Kargil Vijay Diwas

Source: BS

India celebrates Kargil Vijay Diwas every year on 26th July to honour the bravery of Indian soldiers who fought in the 1999 Kargil War.

- On 26th Kargil Vijay Diwas in 2025, the Indian Army launched three initiatives to honour soldiers' bravery.
 - These include an **e-shradhanjali portal**, a **QR code-based audio app** sharing Kargil war stories, and a new **Line of Control (LoC)** viewpoint at **Batalik sector**.
- The Kargil War began shortly after the <u>Lahore Declaration (1999)</u>, when <u>Pakistani troops</u> secretly occupied strategic heights in the Kargil district, Ladakh vacated for winter.
 - In response, the Indian Army launched Operation Vijay to reclaim the heights in the Kargil region of Ladakh.
 - The IAF carried out Operation Safed Sagar, targeting enemy positions on rugged peaks, while the Indian Navy launched Operation Talwar to exert pressure in the Arabian Sea.
 - The war was fought in challenging terrain across key areas like Tololing, Tiger Hill,
 Drass, and Batalik.
- The Kargil War Memorial in Dras, Ladakh was built in 2000 to honour the success of Operation Vijay.
- The National War Memorial in Delhi honours soldiers from major conflicts, 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.

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