

Kargil Vijay Diwas In Panchkula

By Sarabpreet Chopra

The 22nd anniversary of Kargil War was observed at Major Shankla Memorial, Sector 2, Panchkula on Sunday under the aegis of Indian Ex-servicemen Movement (IESM). The convenor of the event was Brig Kiran Krishan and there were about 100 ex-servicemen, municipal counsellors along with, Gian Chand Gupta, MLA, Speaker Vidhan Sabha who paid their homage to the Kargil Martyrs with 2 minutes of silence followed by the national anthem.

The welcome address was given by Lt Col SS Kalia where he provided a brief of how this commemorate began in 2008. He stated, "We are pleased to be present here after 1 year of Covid, the motive of this meet is to understand and solve the problem of ex-servicemen."

He further continued with the history of Kargil War, which was cleared of all intruders by 26 July, 1999. By the time the war ended, the Indian defence forces had lost 527 men and another 1,363 were wounded. He made announcement for composition of District War Memorial Committee for which the necessary budget for maintenance and function will be provided by the Municipal Corporation, Panchkula.

The family of martyrs, municipal counsellors, ex-servicemen and Gian Chand Gupta were then invited for the wreath laying ceremony.

Gian Chand Gupta, MLA stated, "It is a matter of pride to gather here and witness the glory of our nation and to pay respect to the brave hearts of our nation."

Brig Kiran Krishan stated, "The idea behind this commemoration is for the whole nation to know that to be independent, we have to make sacrifices. Also the policy makers, bureaucrats and politicians must know that giving slogans is not the only task that they have to do but they owe their duty to the country."

Brigadier Amarjeet Singh stated, "It's not just about the Kargil War but for all the wars after Independence that the Indian Army has fought with great valor and achievements, which are unparalleled in the world. The youngsters must keep in touch with what all is being done by the defence forces and emulate the good values by inculcating discipline and professionalism, and must respect the veterans."

As the closure to the program, Brig Kiran Krishan and Lt Col SS Kalia paid tribute to Major Sandeep Shankla, who was awarded Ashoka Chakra, for acts in Jammu and Kashmir.