



## **BORDER SECURITY FORCE**

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **HON'BLE UNION HOME MINISTER SHRI RAJNATH SINGH DECORATED THE GALLANT OFFICERS AND MEN OF BSF ON THE OCCASION OF 13<sup>th</sup> BSF INVESTITURE CEREMONY 2015**

1. On 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015, Hon'ble Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh as a Chief Guest decorated the 05 BSF Men with Police Medals for Gallantry, and 25 BSF Officers and men with Police Medals for Meritorious Service on the occasion of 13<sup>th</sup> BSF Investiture Ceremony which was held at CRPF Officers' Institute 'Shaurya', Vasant Kunj, New Delhi. Shri D K Pathak, IPS, Director General BSF, Senior Officers from MHA, Directors General and Senior Officers of other Central Armed Police Force (CAPFs), BSF Officers and men, Retired BSF Directors General, Inspectors General, family members of the martyrs and families of the force members were present on the occasion.

2. Hon'ble Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh, the Chief Guest on the occasion said that he feel privilege to be here during his auspicious occasion of BSF Investiture Ceremony and take this unique opportunity to express his heartfelt gratitude & tribute to late Shri Rustamji and other officers whose pioneering efforts were instrumental in the raising and growth of this great Force. Sh. Singh lauded the role of BSF in Border Management & Anti Naxal Operations.

3. On this occasion, Director General Border Security Force, Shri D K Pathak also addressed a large audience which comprised of a number of retired BSF Officers and serving BSF Officers and men. He recalled Border Security Force journey since 1965. He said that BSF has successfully faced several challenges and crises over these years, and enjoys an excellent track record. He further stated that BSF is ready to face the challenges and is preparing itself in terms of doctrine, infrastructure, weaponry and training. He stated that BSF

is carrying out relentless vigil along the borders. He reiterated BSF's commitment in bringing peace in the Maoist's infested areas where it is deployed. The Director General also spoke about the 'Soldierly traits and Visionary leadership Skills' of first Director General Shri K F Rustamji, who was always popularly referred to as "Founding Father of BSF".

4. The Investiture Ceremony organized on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015 is a mark of deep seated affection and respect for founding father of BSF, Shri K F Rustamji. BSF has been organizing the Investiture Ceremony on the birthday of Shri K F Rustamji since 2003. To complement his legacy, Rustamji Memorial Lecture was institutionalized in the year 2006. This lecture is delivered every year by eminent personalities and visionaries who dwell on issues of national security having the bearing on the BSF and its role therein. Since the inception, Rustamji's memorial lectures have been a fascinating saga of in-depth analysis, changing dynamics and emerging national security challenges.

5. The Investiture Ceremony 2015 was followed by 10<sup>th</sup> Rustamji Memorial Lecture, which was delivered by Shri Ajit Kumar Doval, National Security Advisor (NSA). He spoke on the subject, '**Challenges of Securing India's Borders; Strategising the Response**'.

6. This ceremony is traditionally celebrated by BSF on 22<sup>nd</sup> May every year on the birth anniversary of Padma Vibushan Late Shri K F Rustamji, founding father of this Elite Force.

7. During this Investiture Ceremony, a book '**BSF Martyrs: a Legacy of Pride and Valour**' was also unveiled by Hon'ble Union Home Minister and a short documentary based film on '**operation Gazi Baba and Honouring the Brave Hearts**' was also screened. On the Occasion of the Investiture Ceremony, BSF Salute all those heroes who sacrificed their valuable lives and also those heroes who are still in service as well as retired.

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