

**Press Information Bureau
Government of India**

**Union Minister of Home Affairs Shri Amit Shah presides as Chief Guest on the occasion of
Police Commemoration Day**

The History of Police Forces is a legacy of Pride and Valour: Shri Amit Shah

**Modi Government is committed to the Holistic Welfare of Police personnel: Shri Amit
Shah**

**Police are the silent sentinels of the nation and without a stable law and order situation,
fruits of development cannot reach the last mile: Shri Amit Shah**

New Delhi, October 21, 2019

Union Minister of Home Affairs Shri Amit Shah presided over the occasion of the Police Commemoration Day and paid homage to the police personnel martyred in the line of duty at the National Police Memorial, in New Delhi today.



Police Commemoration Day owes its origin to the unflinching dedication and commendable courage of CRPF men. It was on this very day in 1959 when CRPF scripted a saga of valour and

sacrifice in the snow-laden, inaccessible, inhospitable terrain of Hot Springs in Ladakh. A patrol party of twenty personnel of CRPF and Intelligence Bureau had gone to search for a missing reconnaissance party when it was ambushed by PLA (Chinese Army). In spite of the sudden attack and disadvantageous tactical position, they fought valiantly against the Chinese army personnel who were in large numbers and heavily armed. In this battle, ten CRPF men were martyred in defense of the country. Since then, Police Commemoration Day is observed on 21st October every year to honor the loyalty and supreme sacrifice of police personnel for the nation.

Photographs of the jawans who laid down their lives for the Motherland at Hotspring, Ladakh in 1959.



CRPF JAWANS ON WAY TO HOT SPRING IN 1959.



DYSP. KARAM SINGH.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Shah recalled the battle of Hot Springs and remembered the valour of the CRPF men martyred in it. He acknowledged the service of all police personnel, and hailed the history of police forces as a legacy of pride and valour.



Shri Shah commended all police personnel and called them the silent sentinels of the nation. He said that from the guarding of borders to traffic management and fighting the menace of illicit drugs to battling terrorism, police personnel have played a quiet yet seminal role in the nation's development. He noted that the fruits of development can reach the last mile only when law and order are stable, and peace prevails, and police have an incredibly important role in ensuring that it does.

Remembering the martyrs, Shri Shah said that 34844 police personnel have laid down lives in the line of duty till now. He noted that 292 martyrs were being added to that list today. Speaking on the difficult conditions under which police personnel operate, Shri Shah said that police forces in India are severely understaffed, with an actual strength of 144 police personnel per one lakh population as opposed to the sanctioned strength of 222. Shri Shah said that because of this shortage of manpower, most policemen work long hours and not take weekly leaves. While acknowledging the difficult realities of police work environment, Shri Shah said that the Modi Government is committed to holistic welfare of police personnel – from residence and work environment to health and education.

Ending his address, Shri Shah wished for the good health and welfare of all the police personnel.

VG/VM/HS