

PRESS RELEASE

Text of the D.O. letter dated 8.3.2019 of **Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami,** Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to **Shri Narendra Modi,** Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

"On 14.2.2019 a suicide terror attack by a Pakistan based terrorist organization Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), led to martyrdom of 40 brave Jawans of Central Reserve Police Force(CRPF). In response, India initiated counter terrorism action against a training camp of Jaish-e-Mohammed in Pakistan.

One Pakistan Air Force fighter was shot down by MiG 21 Bison of the Indian Air Force when it tried to violate our air space. Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman, who piloted the MiG 21 Bison was taken into custody by the Pakistan armed forces.

Due to the diplomatic initiatives of the Hon'ble Prime Minister and intense international pressure, Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman was released by Pakistan on 1.3.2019.

Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman displayed amazing poise and confidence in the face of adverse conditions, which has won him many hearts across the country. It is appropriate that he be awarded India's highest military honour 'Param Vir Chakra (PVC)' for displaying most inimitable gallantry and valour.

I request the Government of India to confer the nation's highest military honour, 'Param Vir Chakra' on Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman."

**Issued by:Director, Information and Public Relations, Chennai-9.
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