

Operation against JeM chief launched

5 foreign militants killed in Handwara forests

Fayaz Bukhari

SRINAGAR, Aug 1: Five foreign militants were killed in a fierce overnight gun battle that broke out in North Kashmir's Hafrooda forests last evening during a security force operation that was launched four days ago after a group of militants was spotted in the forests on July 29.

In the meantime, security forces have launched a massive operation in Lolab forests of North Kashmir's Kupwara district against new chief of Jaish-e-Mohammad militant outfit along with a group of around 9 militants.

General Officer Commanding (GOC) of Srinagar based 15 Corps of Army, Lt General Gurmeet Singh told reporters here that 5 foreign militants of Lashkar-e-Toiba were killed in the Hafrooda forests of Handwara in North Kashmir's Kupwara district in 72 hour long encounter.

The GOC said that two Army personnel also sustained injuries, and their condition is

improving now. He however, said that search operation is still in progress in the dense forest area. "The bodies of all the slain

The Army commander said that with the killing of 5 militants in Hafrooda, the death toll has risen to 10 in overall opera-

tion was launched on July 29 when the security forces received intelligence based information about the presence



Army jawans in action during encounter at Hafrooda in Kupwara on Thursday.

-Excelsior/Aabid Nabi

of a group of militants in the forests. Security sources said that 5

tions in North Kashmir including Keran sector and Machil sector since last three days. The General said that the

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Houses inundated, NH damaged, streams overflowing Cloudburst, flash floods in Kargil; one injured, many rescued

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 1: At least one person was injured and around one dozen who were trapped in flash floods in Kargil town in Ladakh division and a portion of the Srinagar-Leh National Highway was washed away this evening after a cloudburst hit many areas.

Officials said that at around 8 p.m. due to cloudburst at many places, water level of the streams flowing through Kargil rose suddenly with water entering the houses in the township and inundating them.

The officials said that the water level in the Suru river, flowing through Kargil was rising and it posed threat to the population.

The officials said that the main areas that have been affected by the flash floods due to cloudburst in Kargil are Main town, Hospital Road, Adulgund, Iqbal bridge and Chanchik Nalla.

The officials said that due to flash floods around 2 feet silt has accumulated in Kargil town and all the roads have been blocked due to flash floods and silt.

In Hinderman around 7-8 feet silt and mud has accumulated in the entire area and in Titichimik around 5-6 feet silt has accumulated.

In Pashkum, the Srinagar-Leh highway has been washed away and nine persons who were caught in the flash floods have been rescued now and one of them who was injured has

been admitted in the hospital. Large number of houses were reportedly inundated due to the floods and streams were flowing through the town were overflowing.

Police, district administration and Army are out and rescue operation has been launched. Large number of houses have been damaged and since it was night time, official say that picture about the loss to the property will be known by morning.

The flash floods and cloudburst caused panic in the township and people were seeking help.

The officials said that the weather, however, improved and water level was receding but the town and several adjacent areas are under silt.

Fake documents produced to secure loans CBI raids at 3 places in Rs 4 cr Bank of Baroda scam

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 1: The Central Bureau of Investigations (CBI) today conducted simultaneous raids at Jammu, Chandigarh and Mumbai in connection with Rs 4 crores worth fraud committed by private persons in connivance with Bank of Baroda officials and recovered impor-

tant and incriminating documents from the houses of accused.

The fraud was committed during the period 2007 to 2010. Official sources told the Excelsior that the CBI teams today conducted simultaneous raids at Jammu, Chandigarh and Mumbai in the residences of Bank of Baroda officials and private persons involved in the scam.

Raids were conducted under the supervision of Dr Armandeep Singh, SSP CBI, J&K.

Accused Manzoor Hussain of Bhatindi had secured Rs 4 crores worth loans from Gandhi Nagar branch of Bank of Baroda for bekeeping on his own name and the names of his family members. For securing huge loans, Manzoor had produced fake documents of land mortgage.

The CBI also conducted raid in the house of Tilak Raj Dogra, the then Chief Manager of Bank of Baroda, posted at Gandhi Nagar branch at Phagwara and another Bank official Mr RK Bhardwaj at Zeerakpur, Chandigarh. Another house of a Bank official was searched at Mumbai.

Sources said even after the first loan of Manzoor Hussain had been turned 'bad', he continued to secure more loans on the name of his other family members for the same business.

"As the Bank officials were also involved in the scam, they continued to oblige Manzoor Ahmad without checking the documents of land produced by him for mortgage," sources said. In total, Manzoor Hussain himself and on the names of his family members secured loans worth approximately Rs 4 crores including the interest amount due against him.

Manzoor had secured a total of 7 loans from the same bank, they added.

As Manzoor didn't pay the

of three hours.

Draft prepared by Revenue Deptt to be placed before Cabinet shortly

For first time, J&K to have comprehensive R&R policy

Mohinder Verma

JAMMU, Aug 1: For the first time, Jammu and Kashmir is going to have its own comprehensive Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) Policy and the draft of the same prepared by the Revenue Department is being submitted to the State Cabinet shortly for discussion and approval. The policy is aimed at ensuring that people to be affected due to the execution of major projects in power, roads, railways and industries sectors do not remain deprived of their rightful claim of rehabilitation and compensation and all the issues are resolved at the stage of placing of indent.

Official sources told EXCELSIOR that though the Union Government had made a suggestion to the States for preparing their own R&R Policy in 2010-11 yet in Jammu and Kashmir the authorities concerned remained in oblivion till early this year despite the fact that non-rehabilitation of people affected due to Baglihar Hydroelectric Project was sufficient to awake them from the deep slumber. "Recently, the Revenue

SVO books 10 PHE Engineers, others

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 1: The State Vigilance Organization has booked 10 Engineers among others for misappropriation of funds at PHE Sub-Division Bhalwal, Akhnoor Jammu.

A case in this regard has been registered against V K Abrol, the then Executive Engineer, U.S Dour the then Ex Engineer, R C Gupta the then Ex Engineer PHE Division Akhnoor Surinder Singh, the then AEE, Sub Division Bhalwal, Sanjay Nargotra the then AEE Sub Division Bhalwal, R K Sharma, Head Draftsman, N K Kohli, Head Draftsman, T K Sharma, Jr Engineer and D B Singh, Jr Engineer and others.

On receipt of a complaint, a Joint Surprise Check (JSC) conducted to enquire into the allegations of misappropriation of funds committed by the officials of PHE Sub Division Bhalwal, Akhnoor Jammu during 2004-2007 revealed that in the execution of Water Supply Schemes Kot, Sumbliwala, Gurha Pattan, Amb Dumi, Migrant Camp Purkhood and Bagani Gorda through Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (A Central Govt. Scheme) funds were

of a group of militants in the forests. Security sources said that 5

35 leading companies to train 54,000 J&K youth Terror incidents down; civilian, security forces killings up

Sanjeev Pargal

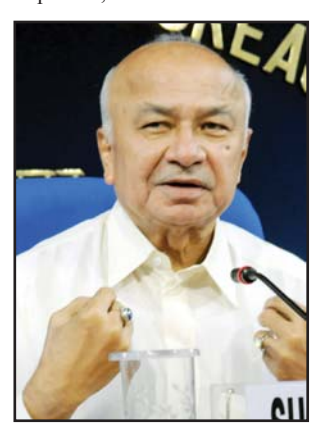
JAMMU, Aug 1: Union Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde said today that security scenario has improved and incidents of terrorism have gone down but the casualties of security forces and civilians have witnessed increase during first six months of this year as compared to the corresponding period of last year in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mr Shinde said the Ministry of Home Affairs has deployed 90 companies of additional Central Armed Forces for smooth conduct of ongoing 55 days long annual pilgrimage to Shri Amarnath Ji shrine in South Kashmir Himalayas this year.

Presenting the report of Union Home Ministry on completion of his one year in the office today in the Union capital, Mr Shinde said majority of work of fencing and floodlighting along Indo-Pakistan border has been completed.

He said 35 leading companies have partnered with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to train more than 54,000 youth from J&K over next five years.

An exhaustive document presented to the media at the press conference, the Ministry of Home Affairs held by Mr Shinde since August 1, 2012, said: "the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir has improved, the number of terror-



Union Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde speaking at a press conference.

the militants at Srinagar few days back besides targeted killing of police constables. The civilian killings have gone up due to targeting of Panchayat members by the militants.

The MHA document noted that in the month of December 2012 alone, Army and security forces eliminated 14 terrorists including eight foreign mercenaries, operating in Jammu and Kashmir. The slain ultras included a group of nine militants (two local and seven foreigners), who were involved in various attacks against security forces and were planning an attack in Srinagar City.

It said two slain militants were involved in Hotel Silver Star shoot out. Another killed militant was a Hizbul Mujahideen commander, who was wanted for his involvement in Delhi High Court blast case.

Pointing out that pilgrimage to holy cave shrine of Shri Amarnath ji was progressing smoothly with over 3 lakh yatis having already performed darshan at the cave shrine located in South Kashmir Himalayas in

(Contd on page 6 Col 5)

Antony reviews security scenario

NEW DELHI, Aug 1:

Defence Minister A K Antony today reviewed the security situation in and around the country with the National Security Advisor and the three Services chiefs.

During the meeting, the three services chief briefed the Defence Minister about the prevailing security situation in the region and the measures taken by the Army to tackle terrorism in J&K and the northeastern areas, ministry officials said here.

The meeting has happened at a time when the security agencies in J&K are concerned over the attempts to raise the violence levels

(Contd on page 6 Col 3)

4 militants held for killing SPO

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 1: Police have apprehended four militants of Hizbul Mujahideen for killing a Special Police Officer (SPO) and attacking a Sarpanch in North Kashmir's Sopore area town last week.

DIG North Kashmir, J P Singh told a news conference in Baramulla that these militants were tasked to eliminate at least a half dozen Panchayat members before Eid-ul-Fitr that falls on August 9.

The DIG said that the four militants were affiliated with Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) under direct command of HM commander

(Contd on page 6 Col 1)

Gou-sul-Nissa is 2nd VC

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 1: Governor, N N Vohra today appointed Gou-sul-Nissa Jeelani, former Principal District and Sessions Judge, as 2nd Vigilance Commissioner in the State Vigilance Commission.

The appointment of Gou-sul-Nissa Jeelani will take effect from the date she assumed charge of the post in the State Vigilance Commission, said a notification issued by the General Administration Department.

With the appointment of Jeelani as Vigilance Commissioner, the vacancy in State Vigilance Commission has been filled and is now complete with a Chief Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) and two Vigilance Commissioners.

The State Vigilance Commission was made operational with the appointment of former Director General of State Police, Kuldeep Khoda as CVC and former IAS officer R K Jerath as Vigilance Commissioner in February this year.

J&K Bank records 25 pc net profit

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 1: J&K Bank today posted a net profit of Rs 307.92 crores for the quarter ended June 2013, which is up by 25.12 percent from Rs 246.09 crores earned during the corresponding quarter of the previous financial year.

The Bank announced its financial results for the first quarter today following the approval of its Board of Directors at a meeting held here on August 1, 2013.

The Bank's operating profit witnessed a Year on Year (YoY) growth of 15.85 percent and reached to Rs 480.99 crores from Rs

(Contd on page 6 Col 3)

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INSIDE	WEATHER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Succour for the handicapped * KAS officials ...Page 8 * Multi seeks decisive mandate to resolve all contentious issues ...Page 3 * Tension in Kathua as land mafia threaten villagers ...Page 3 * Saifullah inspects work on new Legislature Complex ...Page 5 * Nayas discusses Buddha Amarnath Yatra arrangements with Govt. ...Page 5 * India take 4-0 lead with another big win ...Page 14 	<p>JAMMU</p> <p>Possibility of light rain/thundershower</p> <p>TEMPERATURE</p> <p>Max: 32.3 Degree C</p> <p>Min: 23.8 Degree C</p> <p>RELATIVE HUMIDITY</p> <p>Highest: 98.0 per cent</p> <p>Lowest: 83.0 per cent</p> <p>Sunset on Friday: 07.29 p.m.</p> <p>Sunrise on Saturday: 05.48 a.m.</p> <p>KASHMIR</p> <p>Possibility of light rain/thundershower</p> <p>TEMPERATURE</p> <p>Max: 29.1 Degree C</p> <p>Min: 21.4 Degree C</p> <p>RELATIVE HUMIDITY</p> <p>Highest: 91.0 per cent</p> <p>Lowest: 72.0 per cent</p>

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