

## ■ Rajnath reviews J&K security for 2nd day Strengthen nakas to trap militants before they strike targets: MHA

Sanjeev Pargal

JAMMU, Feb 13: Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh was today reported to have directed for strengthening entire security apparatus in the hinterland of Jammu and Kashmir in the wake of two consecutive fidayeen attacks in Jammu and Srinagar and another thwarted fidayeen attempt at Domana as he held second high level review of security situation in the State in as many days in the Union capital.

National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval, Union Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba, top officials of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Incharge Jammu and Kashmir and heads of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) were present at the meeting that was chaired by Rajnath and lasted more than an hour in which situation prevailing in the State in the wake of twin terror attacks and the borders was discussed threadbare.

Sources told the Excelsior that the Central Government has

**DM clears mega purchase of weapons for Army**

NEW DELHI, Feb 13:

In a major decision, the Defence Ministry today approved capital acquisition proposals worth Rs 15,935 crore which included purchase of 7.40 lakh assault rifles, 5,719 sniper rifles and light machine guns to bolster the strength of the armed forces.

The long-pending proposals were cleared at a meeting of the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), the Defence Ministry's highest decision making body on procurement.

The approval to the proposals come amid increasing hostilities by Pakistan along the Line of Control in Jammu and

**HC directs removal of encroachments along Jhelum**

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Feb 13: The High Court today directed authorities to mobilize the exercise for removing of encroachments along river Jhelum and its tributaries.

The Division Bench of Justice Mohammad Yaqoob Mir and Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey in order to achieve the results in the PIL on protection and preservation of river Jhelum directed all the Deputy Commissioners where from the river flows to mobilize all concerned for ensuring complete

(Contd on page 9 Col 1)

**WEATHER**

JAMMU :  
Partially cloudy sky  
TEMPERATURE  
Max: 19.5 Degree C  
Min: 8.7 Degree C

RELATIVE HUMIDITY  
RH-I (Morning): 75.0 per cent  
RH-II (Evening): 50.0 per cent  
Sunset on Wednesday: 06.16 p.m.  
Sunrise on Thursday: 07.15 a.m.

SRINAGAR:  
Partially cloudy sky  
TEMPERATURE  
Max: 5.7 Degree C  
Min: -0.6 Degree C

RELATIVE HUMIDITY  
RH-I (Morning): 97.0 per cent  
RH-II (Evening): 74.0 per cent

LEH:  
TEMPERATURE  
Max: -1.0 Degree C  
Min: -5.4 Degree C

offered deployment of National Security Guards (NSGs) in some of the security camps, located in the sensitive areas of the State, which could become soft targets for the militants.

Sources said Rajnath has directed for enhanced surveillance along nakas, which were close to security installations to ensure that the militants are trapped before they could strike or enter the camps to cause casualties. Alert CRPF Sentry at Karan Nagar, Srinagar had reacted immediately yesterday and thwarted attack on the camp after which the militants intruded into a building and were killed today. Similarly, Army thwarted a suspected fidayeen attack at their camp in Domana today. It was also pointed out that two militants died in a road accident in Kashmir yesterday as they were over speeding to escape a naka.

However, according to sources, the MHA has taken note of the fact that four militants along with arms, ammunition and explosives managed to reach Sunjuwan Military

Station, located very close to Jammu City and attacked the Military Station, causing seven casualties-six Army personnel and a civilian.

"It was in view of this that the MHA has stressed upon all Central Armed Police Forces and police to ensure very strict surveillance on the nakas especially those located close to security installations to trap the fidayeens and other militants well before they could strike at the intended target," sources said, adding that a direction has gone to all CAPFs to keep on reviewing security system of vital installations as per changing security scenario and ensure that Sentries on duty react like Karan Nagar, Srinagar and Domana in Jammu to thwart fidayeen attacks.

According to sources, the MHA meeting deliberated upon fortification of all security installations to ensure that the militants don't manage to scale walls or cut fencing to enter inside the camp by avoiding the main gates, where alert Sentries

(Contd on page 9 Col 3)

Army rescues 5 foreign tourists, 2 die in lightning  
**Avalanche warning in Kashmir, NH remains closed on 2nd day**

Power supply snapped to many Jammu areas

Fayaz Bukhari / Gopal Sharma

SRINAGAR/ JAMMU, Feb 13: After heavy snowfall in the hills of Kashmir and many parts of Jammu region, weather improved today and authorities issued avalanche warning while Jammu-Srinagar National Highway remained closed for traffic for the second consecutive day.

Two persons were killed dur-

ing thunderstorm and lightning in remote Kandi area of Rajouri and Bani belt of Kathua late last evening while power supply to many hilly areas of Jammu region including Doda, Kishtwar, Rajouri, Poonch,

Balakote, Reasi-Mahore, Dudu-Basantgarh area of Udhampur and Machhedhi-Bani area of Kathua has been snapped due to rain and snowfall.

In view of snowfall, the

(Contd on page 9 Col 5)

Children making way to their school amid snowfall in Bhaderwah on Tuesday morning. Another pic on page 9. (UNI)

'Existence of River Tawi in danger due to constant flow of waste'

Govt depts treating directions of Committee on Environment as 'trash'

Mohinder Verma

JAMMU, Feb 13: Showing disrespect to the State Legislature, majority of the Government departments have been treating as 'trash' the directions of the Committee on Environment of the Legislative Assembly during the past many years. Due to this environmental degradation has remained unchecked across the State

## Another attack on Army foiled Clear evidence of local support emerges as death toll rises to 10

CM turns emotional, bids farewell to martyrs

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 13: Army recovered body of another sol-



Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti interacting with family members of martyrs at Technical Airport in Jammu on Tuesday.

dier during sanitization operation from Sunjuwan Military

\*Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

Station this morning, taking death toll in the gunbattle to 10

including six troopers, a civilian and three fidayeens while another suspected fidayeen attack on an Army camp in Domana was

averted this morning due to alertness displayed by the Sentries.

Meanwhile, after Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's statement yesterday indicating local support to the militants, police sources said that since no

Global Positioning System (GPS) or mobile telephones were recovered from the slain fidayeens, it was

sure that they had been provided local support in shelter and travel.

Police was conducting searches at various places to track down fourth militant, who had guided fidayeens

(Contd on page 9 Col 3)

Sino-Indian troops meet in Ladakh

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 13: On the occasion of "Chinese Spring Festival", Indian and Chinese armies today held a ceremonial

Border Personnel Meeting

■ Pic on page 9

(BPM) in the latter's Moldo Garrison in Chushul sector of Eastern Ladakh.

"The delegations were led by Colonel Deependra Jasrotia of the Indian side and Senior Lt Col Bu Hong Dong from the Chinese side," sources said.

The BPM was marked by saluting the national flag of China by both the delegation members, he said.

"This was followed by the ceremonial address by both delegation leaders covering exchange of greetings, wishes and vote of thanks which reflected the

(Contd on page 9 Col 3)

importance cannot be undermined by any of the department of the State Government.

Pointing towards wetlands and water bodies, the House Panel said, "water bodies and the water resources to a larger extent have been polluted because of non-seriousness not only on the part of administration but the society as well although numerous suggestions and directions were given to check pollution of water bodies and wetlands by the predecessor Environment Committees".

The Committee on Environment has decided to constitute Sub-Committees which will go on-spot to ascertain the physical status of the water bodies and other water resources in the State.

Expressing concern over

(Contd on page 9 Col 5)

## 2 LeT fidayeen killed in 32-hr gun battle in Srinagar

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Feb 13: Two Fidayeen of Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) were killed in a 32-hour long gun battle by security forces in Karan Nagar area of Srinagar today.

The security forces operation to flush out the fidayeen from the under-construction building in the heart of the city was carried out by a Special Operations Group (SOG) of the Jammu and Kashmir Police and the Central

\*Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

Reserve Police Force.

Earlier, yesterday morning the CRPF foiled an attempt by two LeT fidayeen to storm into 23rd battalion headquarters of the force at Karan Nagar. The fidayeen after failing to storm the camp were trapped in an adjacent under-construction building.

Huge explosions continued since yesterday till this afternoon after security forces eliminated both the militants. Security forces recovered two AK-47 assault rifles and eight magazines from the site.

yet and we are trying to ascertain their identity," he told at a joint press conference with CRPF IG.

Pani said it was a clean operation without collateral damage, adding that it continued for long as the building where the terrorists were hiding was a five-storey structure.

"An alert sentry had foiled their attempt to attack the CRPF camp by opening fire on the terrorists, after which they took

(Contd on page 9 Col 1)

Thousands attend last rites of soldiers killed in Sunjuwan

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Feb 13: Thousands of people here today attended the last rites of the four soldiers who were killed in a fidayeen attack in Sunjuwan Military Garrison in Jammu last week.

Over 5000 people gathered at Maidanpora village in North Kashmir to mourn the death of

\*Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO), Mohammad Ashraf Mir.

People of the area, who are mostly serving in Police and army were desperately waiting for the body to pay last respect to the soldier. Large number of women were seen wailing as the body was being taken for burial.

While sharing his thoughts, Ghulam Mohideen, from Maidanpora said: "He had good

relations with everyone in the village. He would never harm anyone. We salute his parents for his martyrdom. He would never roam around and would spend most of his time with parents whenever he was on leave".

(Contd on page 9 Col 5)



A building where two militants were killed at Karan Nagar, Srinagar on Tuesday. Another pic on page 9. -Excelsior/Shakeel

A CRPF jawan was killed and a policeman injured in the initial exchange of fire yesterday.

Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir, S P Pani said the militants who tried to attack the CRPF camp in Karan Nagar area early yesterday morning belonged to the Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) group.

"The materials we recovered from the site of the encounter suggest that the militants belonged to LeT. But the militants have not been identified

(Contd on page 9 Col 1)

Troops and people pay tributes to Army martyr at Kewer, Qazigund in Anantnag district on Tuesday. -Excelsior/Sajad Dar

A pall of gloom descended on a village in Tral area of South Kashmir's Pulwama district today after the bodies of army man and his father killed in Jammu base attack arrived.

(Contd on page 9 Col 5)



Troops and people pay tributes to Army martyr at Kewer, Qazigund in Anantnag district on Tuesday. -Excelsior/Sajad Dar

A pall of gloom descended on a village in Tral area of South Kashmir's Pulwama district today after the bodies of army man and his father killed in Jammu base attack arrived.

(Contd on page 9 Col 5)

**Jio DIGITAL LIFE**

**JioPhone INDIA KA SMARTPHONE**

FORGET TYPING. USE YOUR VOICE TO CONTROL YOUR JIOPHONE.

Make a call. Play some music. Watch a movie. Surf Internet. Just say what you want.

FREE VOICE + UNLIMITED DATA  
₹49 FOR 28 DAYS

GET YOUR EFFECTIVELY  
**FREE JIOPHONE TODAY**  
CALL 1800 200 200 2 AND GET YOURS NOW

**TALLA Jewellers**

Valentine's Day  
LET LOVE OUTSHINE ALL

Diamond | Gold | Kundan | Silver Jewellery  
48, Lakhdata Bazar, Jammu. Ph: 0191-2544751, 87169 39000 | tallajewellers

LAST DAY

Valentine Sale  
FLAT 15%

IGI/DGLA DIAMONDS  
PLATINUM JEWELLERY  
SWISS WATCHES

**RAKESH Jewellers**  
Apsara Road Gandhi Nagar & Lakhdata Bazar

follow us on