

Pak uses flat trajectory weapon, mortars

Asstt Comdt among 4 BSF men martyred in Ramgarh, 5 injured

Sanjeev Pargal

JAMMU, June 13: Four BSF personnel including an Assistant Commandant were martyred while five others were injured in targeted mortar shelling and firing by the Pakistani Rangers at forward area of Narayanpur near village Chamblyal in Ramgarh sector of Samba district in wee hours of this morning.

*Watch video on
www.excelsionews.com

The latest incident of ceasefire violation by the Pakistani Rangers despite committing themselves to 2003 ceasefire agreement at DGMO level talks on May 29 followed by Sector Commander-level meeting with the BSF on June 4, has resulted into fresh wave of tension among the people along the International Border in Jammu, Samba and Kathua districts, where eight BSF jawans and 10 civilians have been killed during the past less than a month besides several others were

injured. Pakistan has also suffered huge devastation in the BSF retaliation.

Official sources told the Excelsior that a BSF team head-

when the Rangers fired a flat trajectory weapon towards them, causing injuries to the jawans. The Rangers continued firing to delay evacuation of the injured



BSF personnel paying tributes to the martyrs at their Palouria Headquarters in Jammu on Wednesday. Another pic on page 6. —Excelsior/Rakesh

ed by ASI Ram Niwas was engaged in defence constructions by taking material to forward area of Narayanpur near Chamblyal in Ramgarh sector of Samba district late last night

BSF jawans including the ASI, who had been hit.

Assistant Commandant Jitendra Singh along with other BSF jawans headed towards the post to rescue the

Maximum BSF casualties this year

Eleven BSF troops have been killed in cross-border firing incidents along the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir till date in 2018, the highest casualty figure for the border force in a year during the last five years, a latest data revealed. As per the data, over 320 unprovoked firing incidents have taken place this year till date, leading to the killing of 11 BSF personnel and injuring 37 others.

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injured security personnel and shift them to hospital. In the process, the Rangers fired mortars targeting the rescue party. A mortar shell exploded close to the rescue team and all the jawans including the Assistant Commandant were

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Cop, sister hurt; SOG man abducted, let off

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, June 13: A police constable and his minor sister were injured in a militant attack in South Kashmir's Shopian district this evening while a Special Operations Group (SOG) man was abducted by militants from Tral area of Pulwama district but was later let off.

A group of 3 militants barged into the house of Police constable Rayees Ahmad Lone son of Ghulam Hassan at Katho Hallan village in Kellar area of Shopian district this evening. The militants fired indiscriminately injuring the constable and his minor sister Urfi Jan, 12.

The injured were removed to nearby district hospital for treatment where from they were referred to 92-Base Hospital at BB Cantt Srinagar for specialized treatment. The sister has suffered injuries in leg and her condition is stated to be stable but the constable is said to be critical. Lone was recently promoted from SPO to constable and is presently posted at DPL Shopian.

Militants managed to escape from the spot after carrying out the attack. Security forces

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No headway on Ujh Multipurpose Project despite preparation of DPR by CWC, Cabinet approval

Mohinder Verma

Lack of coordination between all concerned agencies playing spoilsport

JAMMU, June 13: Notwithstanding the urgency shown by the Prime Minister's Office, no headway could be made on Ujh Multipurpose Project in Kathua district even after the preparation of Detailed Project Report by the Central Water Commission and approval of the State Cabinet due to lack of consensus among State and Central agencies over the height of the dam.

Official sources told EXCELSIOR that the project of immense importance was mooted in the year 2001 and accordingly the process of conducting different studies and obtaining clearances from all the relevant quarters was set into motion.

However, completion of this process took unreasonably long time and thereafter the State Government stopped showing interest in the project although it was declared as National Water Resources Project by the Union Cabinet in the year 2006 with the assurance that 90% cost will be provided as Central Grant

and rest of the 10% will be borne by the State Government by its own resources.

Early last year the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) started intervening for giving necessary push to the project with the aim to optimally utilize every drop of water flowing through eastern river system for the benefit of the people. On July 3, 2017 Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister asked the Chief Secretary of the State to convey willingness of the State Government to the Union Government for the execution of project, sources informed.

Keeping in view the instructions of the PMO, the State Cabinet in its meeting held on August 9, 2017 accorded in principle approval to the execution of the project subject to certain conditions including reducing height of the dam to ensure minimum displacement/dislocation of the inhabitants of the

areas falling under the project. The Cabinet authorized the Irrigation and Flood Control Department to finalize the Detailed Project Report in consultation with the Central Water Commission and concretize the Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of India for execution of the project.

On December 28, 2017, the new DPR of the Ujh project was submitted by the Central Water Commission (CWC) to the State Government for latter's appraisal. As per the DPR, the project will store around 0.65 MAF of water of river Ujh, a tributary of Ravi River to irrigate 30,000 hectares of land and generate more than 200 Mega Watts of hydropower.

"However, no further progress could be made till date for want of consensus over the height of the dam of the project, which has not been reduced in the revised DPR by the CWC

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39 SSPs, SPs transferred

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 13: The State Government today ordered transfer and postings of 39 SSPs and SPs with immediate effect.

According to the order, Amritpal Singh, awaiting orders of adjustment has been posted as Additional SP PC Anantnag, while Dr GV Sundep Chakravarty, awaiting orders of adjustment has been posted as Additional SP Baramulla and Rajnesh Pran, Commandant JKAP-14th Battalion has been transferred and posted as Commandant IR-18th Battalion.

Nisha Nathyal, Commandant IR-10th Battalion has been transferred and posted as Commandant JKAP-7th Battalion, while Mohammad Shah, Commandant IR-18th Battalion has been transferred

and posted as Commandant IR-10th Battalion and Firdous Iqbal, Commandant JKAP-7th Battalion has been transferred and posted as Commandant JKAP-14th Battalion.

Mohammad Yaseen Kichloo, SO to ADGP Armed has been transferred and posted as Commandant JKAP-4th Battalion Security, while Sanjeev Kumar Khajuria, Commandant JKAP-4th Battalion has been transferred and posted as Commandant IR-5th Battalion and Dalip Kumar, SSP Railways, Kashmir has been transferred and posted as SSP PC Srinagar.

Mohammad Arif Rishu, Commandant IR-5th Battalion has been transferred and posted as Principal CTC Lethpora, while Benam Tosh, SO to IGP

(Contd on page 6 Col 1)

5 KAS officers transferred

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 13: The State Government today ordered transfers and postings of five KAS officers with immediate effect.

Rajesh Sharma, Additional Secretary PDD, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary in the Governor's Secretariat while Shakeel-ul-Rehman Rather, Special Secretary, Home Department, has been transferred and posted as Special Secretary in the Chief Minister's Secretariat.

Pankaj Magotra, Additional Secretary, GAD, has been transferred and posted as ADC Samba against an available vacancy while Ram Sevak,

(Contd on page 6 Col 5)

Mother, son among 3 killed in mishaps

Excelsior Correspondent

DODA/KISHTWAR, June 13: Three persons including mother-son duo were killed, while 10 others were injured in road accidents today.

■ Pic on page 6

As per police sources, a Maruti Omni van bearing registration number JK06A-1698 was on its way to Padri from Bhaderwah, when the driver lost control over the vehicle and it plunged into gorge near Khanni Top on Bhaderwah-Chamba road, resulting into the spot death of two persons and serious injuries to seven others.

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MHA to bear Rs 105 cr cost for raising 2 women bns in J&K

60% posts to go to 10 border distts

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 13: The Union Ministry of Home Affairs today announced that it would bear the expenditure of Rs 105 crore for raising of two women battalions of Jammu and Kashmir Police, which had been announced by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh during his two-day visit to the State on June 7 and 8.

An official statement issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, said the MHA has approved raising of two women battalions of Jammu and Kashmir Police—one each for Jammu and Kashmir region.

Sixty per cent of posts in the two battalions would be reserved for women of 10 border districts of the State including Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Poonch, Rajouri, Baramulla, Bandipora, Kupwara, Kargil and Leh.

"This will provide direct employment to 2014 women in Jammu and Kashmir," the official statement said.

It added that the recruitment process would be completed by Jammu and Kashmir Government within one year.

"The one-time fund requirement on account of buildings, mobility, arms and ammunition etc to the extent of Rs 105 crore for raising of these two women battalions of Jammu and Kashmir Police would be borne by the Government of India while the recurring expenses towards salary etc would be borne by the State Government," the

statement said.

During his visit to Jammu and Kashmir on June 7 and 8, Rajnath Singh had announced that a total of nine police battalions will be raised in Jammu and Kashmir including two exclusively for women.

Apart from these, two battalions of men will be exclusively raised from the youths of border areas. In five other Indian Reserve Police (IRP) battalions, there will be reservation of 60 per cent for the border youths.

"This will largely benefit the youths including women of the border areas," sources said. The welfare initiative for the border people was part of series of measures announced by Rajnath Singh for the border dwellers including enhancement in compensation for the civilians killed in Pakistan shelling and firing from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 5 lakh and for dead cattle from Rs 30,000

(Contd on page 6 Col 5)

Centre clears Rs 3693 cr for 703 roads, 73 bridges in J&K

Gopal Sharma

JAMMU, June 13: The Union Government today cleared a whopping Rs 3693.49 crore funds for more than 700 roads and a large number of new bridge projects in Jammu and Kashmir State.

Official sources told the Excelsior that Union Ministry of Rural Development has cleared 703 roads and 73 new bridges for J&K State under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna. A total of 4821.31 kms roads and 3084 meter bridges in length, would be constructed during the year 2018-2019 in the State.

Out of the total amount, Rs 369.35 cr would be the State share, while funds to the tune of Rs 1728.33 crore will be spent on up-gradation of the existing State roads. A total road length

of 1870 kms would be covered under 257 upgradation road works, sources added.

An official letter of the Union Ministry of Rural Development conveying approval of the funds was received by the Administrative Secretary Works, J&K, today.

The sources said that the Union Ministry has also directed to the State R&B authorities that it should propose 16.94 Km using new materials/ IRC accredited materials as per new technology initiative guidelines in next batch of proposal to compensate this balance length.

"State should get at least one sample DPR of each of the new technology adopted in this batch before tendering of works. Moreover, State should also enter into MoU between NRRDA, Technology Provider

and SRRDA for the roads sanctioned using new materials/IRC accredited materials as per new technology initiative guidelines," the sources added.

The MoRD also made it clear to the State that the design of bridges should be done based on hydraulic particulars and soil exploration test results and if required, changes in BOQs should be carried out before according technical sanctions. All such details should be shared with NRRDA/ Ministry before tendering.

Meanwhile, Minister for Public Works and Culture, Naeem Akhtar said that Union Ministry of Rural Development has approved projects worth more than Rs 3324 crore under PMGSY

(Contd on page 6 Col 3)

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