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Army to respond to each & every act of Pak: GOC

and Balakote sectors of Poonch district. Pakistan Army used heavy fire arms including 82mm mortar shells, automatic and medium mortars, rockets, heavy machine guns, light machine guns, medium machine guns and Pika weapons," official sources told the Excelsior.

They added: "response of the Indian Army was very effective. Definitely, it was much more than the Pakistan Army. We have been responding very effectively to silence the Pakistani guns".

The ceasefire violation from Pakistan side first took place between 1 am to 3.30 am at all three sectors of Mendhar, Hamirpur and Balakote while it again took place at 2 pm during the day today and continued at some places for more than three hours.

"There were no casualties or damage on the Indian side but casualties or damage on the other side of the Line of Control (LoC) was not known," sources said.

However, several houses in the forward villages on Indian side have suffered partial damage with pellets of mortar shells landing inside or close to their houses in Mendhar, Hamirpur, Balakote and other surrounding areas. Several cattle have also perished. Cattle sheds have also been damaged in some places.

Three Army jawans and four civilians have been injured in the past three days on the Indian

place of its choice. "You (Pakistan) are making a serious mistake (with regard to ceasefire violations and BAT attacks)—do not do it," General Officer Commanding (GOC) 25 Infantry Div, Major General V P Singh told reporters in Rajouri.

He was replying to volley of questions about what strong message he wants to convey to



GOC 25 Infantry Division Rajouri Maj Gen V P Singh speaking to media in Rajouri on Sunday. —Excelsior/Bhat

Army officers have been asked to respond strongly and effectively. "We have fired heavy caliber weapons from our side in retaliation. They have been firing at us for past over one week without any reason with an intention to cause casualties," they added.

Sources said the ceasefire violations from across are due to frustration over failure of infiltration bids by terrorists. "We have major inputs that there are a large number of terrorists -- from 200-300 (waiting to infiltrate)," they said.

Since August 10, the Army personnel feel that the daily Pakistani firing has brought the situation back to pre-2003 when jawans were entrenched in their mud posts with LMGs and MMGs round-the-clock to retaliate to any Pakistani provocation.

"There was not much firing from Pakistan in past years. It was once of twice in two to three months that major ceasefire violation from Pakistan took place. But this year ceasefire violations and firing has increased. We have accordingly changed our strategy of movements," sources said.

"We are engaged sometimes in night-long exchanges. Peace on the borders seems to have ended," sources said.

He said a group of 40 pilgrims left the Yatri Niwas early this morning in two buses for the holy cave.

He said 302 pilgrims performed darshan at holy cave today. With this, total pilgrims performing darshan in cave shrine so far has reached 3,53,032, spokesman added.

He said though there was a heavy down pour on both the tracks, the yatra proceeded smoothly during the day. He said 379 pilgrims left from Baltal via shortest track for holy cave this morning while 251 pilgrims left from Nunwan-Pahalgam base camp to holy cave via traditional Chandanwari track.

we are responding and retaliating to the situation as per the requirements with full force", Maj Gen Singh said.

He further said that the Army Chief had also made it clear that Army is free to reply and respond to the BAT attacks as per opportunity and strategy.

"As per opportunity and situation, what is to be done -- everybody knows it and reply accordingly will be given."

At another media briefing at Bhimber Gali in Poonch sector along LoC, Brigade Commander, 120 Infantry Brigade, Brig A Sen Gupta said Army has inputs about Pakistan trying to engineer more BAT attacks along the border.

Meanwhile, official sources said the fierce exchanges in recent weeks have cast a shadow on the prospect of the 2003 Indo-Pak border truce. India and Pakistan entered into the border ceasefire as a confidence building measure during NDA rule and it will complete one decade on November 26, 2013.

The ceasefire violations have been reported on daily basis for past nine days without a break, forcing Indian troops to retaliate, they said.

"Pakistan troops have been firing on our forward posts daily for past couple of days. They are firing intensely with mortar bomb, rockets, RPG and high caliber weaponry," sources said.

The Pakistan Army is not only directly firing on the posts but also targeting civilian villages along borderline.

"Pakistan is not showing any respect to the Indo-Pak ceasefire. They are violating it daily by firing at us. Where is sanctity of this truce?" sources asked and maintained that Indian troops have always respected the truce despite provocations in the past.

Sources said the firing from Pakistani side was aimed at targeting terrorists infiltrate and demoralise the troops posted along LoC. "But the morale of our troops is very high," they added.

They said the ceasefire violations are "very intense and totally unprovoked".

"Troops are ready to give a strong response to those firing from across. We have also strongly retaliated in these sectors-- their five posts have been damaged in retaliation by us," sources said.

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Villagers watch a crater caused due to shelling by Pakistan Army in Mendhar sector on Sunday.

side in firing and shelling by the Pakistani troops while as there were confirmed reports of the killing of three Pakistan Army personnel and injury to many others.

Sources said the Pakistan Army was now deliberately targeting the civilian areas to force migration of the people so that pressure was built on the Indian Army to stop firing. However, they added, the civilians in the forward areas were standing like a rock and have been asking the Army to give effective reply to Pakistani firing. The civilians were determined not to leave the villages in forward areas.

Sources said the Pakistan Army has been frequently firing 82mm mortars with a range of three to four kilometers with a view to target the civil population.

There have been 17 ceasefire violations by Pakistani troops in past nine days, Army officials said.

Seventy ceasefire violations by Pakistani troops have taken place this year from January 1 to August 5, which is 85 per cent more than those during the same period last year, they added.

Meanwhile, sending a strong message to Pakistan over repeated ceasefire violations and BAT attacks, a top Army commander today warned it was making a "serious mistake" and said a befitting reply would be given with "full force" at the time and

Control in Sarla battalion area in Poonch sector on August 5 night. "...What you are putting across-- it is not going to affect, deter us or weaken our resolve," Maj Gen Singh said.

He further said that the Army is here to respond to each and every act of Pakistan in which ever way it feels so.

Regarding Army's strategy in the wake of the BAT attacks engineered by Pakistan, Maj Gen Singh said: "as far as BAT action is concerned, we are absolutely aware what kind of response it is going to get-- that response will be delivered".

"It will be delivered in our own time and at the place of our own choosing and with full force, that you shall see.

"It is a military matter-- as and when the response is delivered-- you will see", he said, adding "the response would be delivered-- we will select our time and place to give a befitting reply to Pakistan with full force," he said.

Maj Gen Singh said Defence Minister (AK Antony) and the Chief of Army Staff (Gen Bikram Singh) have given his command clear directions that violation of ceasefire or any other act of infiltration from across the LoC will be met resolutely with power and full force.

"As far as I am concerned, those directions are with me--

at Panchtarni.

On the occasion of 'Pratipda' on August 22, Chhari-Mubarak shall leave at 0700 hrs for night halt at Pahalgam.

On August 23 on the occasion of 'Dvitiya' Pujan' & 'Visarjan' ceremonies shall be performed at 1015 hrs on the bank of the river Lidder.

Thereafter, traditional 'Kari-Pakouri' Bhandara shall be organised for Sadhus. With this last ritual, annual pilgrimage of Swami Amarnath Ji shall culminate. Chhari-Mubarak shall return to its Abode at Srinagar.

Meanwhile, Additional Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Shri Amarnath Shrine Board (SASB) P P Singh said that subject to fair weather conditions, the last batch of Yatrins from the Pahalgam route shall be allowed to cross the Chandanwari Access Control Gate upto 1100 hrs tomorrow.

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Chhari Mubarak leaves for Chandanwari

Mahant Deependra Giri, custodian of Chhari, led the puja before the yatra left for Chandanwari amid changing of 'Bam Bam Bholey' and vedic mantras.

Meanwhile, the traditional Pahalgam route will be closed from 1100 hrs tomorrow while Baltal will remain open till 0900 hrs on August 21.

After night halt at Chandanwari, the Chhari Mubarak left this afternoon on the occasion of 'Tryodashi' for a night halt at Sheshnag (3352 mtrs).

Mahant Giri said Chhari Mubarak will leave at 0700 hrs from Sheshnag on August 20 for a night halt at Pancharntari (4114 mtrs), six km short of Holy Cave.

Next morning on August 21, the Chhari Mubarak will leave at 0400 hrs Pancharntari for Holy Cave (3952 mtrs) on the occasion of Raksha Bandan' Sharavan Purnima.

He said traditional rituals shall be performed and prayers shall be offered the whole day at Holy Cave.

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All party delegation heads for Kishtwar today

Government has already ordered a judicial inquiry into the riots and it will go into the reasons for violence. On the demand of BJP leader Sunil Sharma's arrest, he said police have registered FIRs in rioting and killings and anyone found guilty will be dealt with under law.

On the demand for compensation of 2008 losses, he said the NC Government was not in power at that time.

Mr Sagar called upon both the communities to maintain communal harmony and live in peace so that curfew was lifted in Kishtwar and normalcy restored.

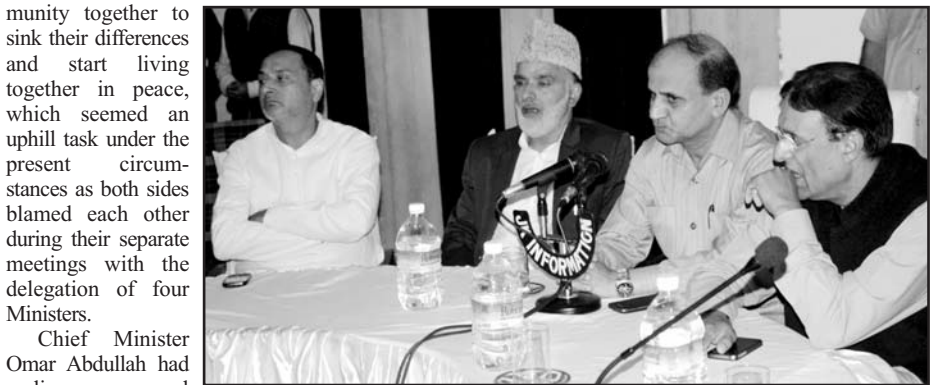
Later, the delegation of Ministers left Kishtwar. While Mr Sagar, CAPD and Transport Choudhary Mohammad Ramzan and PHE, Irrigation and Flood Control Minister Sham Lal Sharma flew to Srinagar, Deputy Chief Minister Tara Chand returned to Jammu.

The Deputy Chief Minister, who headed the delegation, would brief Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on the deliberations the delegation had with the two communities and steps required for restoration of normalcy in Kishtwar.

Meanwhile, curfew continued in Kishtwar town and outskirts for 10th day today. No relaxation was given in curfew today as "Chhari Mubarak" of holy Machail Mata ji shrine reached Kishtwar this afternoon. Despite curfew, the members of minority community welcomed "Chhari Mubarak".

Authorities allowed few people to stay in Kishtwar along with the holy mace while others accompanying the "Chhari Mubarak" were directly taken to Gulabgarh.

Sources said curfew was likely to be relaxed in Kishtwar tomorrow if everything goes well.



Deputy Chief Minister Tara Chand and three other Ministers speaking to people in Kishtwar on Sunday.

including shops and business establishments.

Meanwhile, an official hand-out said the team of Ministers had detailed meeting with both the communities who highlighted various issues and demands for consideration of the Government.

The Ministers emphasized upon members of both the communities to strive hard and work for communal harmony in the region. They assured both the communities that an impartial judicial probe will be held and mischievous elements responsible for violence would be brought to book. They also assured the people that all their grievances will be looked into for redressal.

Meanwhile, the team also conducted a tour of the town to take stock of damage caused by the people and their property due to recent disturbance in the area.

Regarding lack of essential commodities in certain areas especially farflung areas, the Ministers directed the officials to replenish the stock of ration and other essentials in these areas.

Referring to the issue of absence of teachers highlighted by the locals, the Deputy Chief Minister directed the District Magistrate to have random inspections in various schools and act strictly against the menace of absenteeism.

Sham Lal Sharma directed the concerned officials to ensure adequate supply of drinking water to the people and the areas where there is extreme shortage besides pressing into service the water tankers.

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Fake Society unearthed, several duped

The fake society named as 'Welcome Housing and Building Cooperative Limited' was being run from Vishal Nagar, Talab Tillo by a woman named as Prem Lata wife of Tejinder Arora, a resident of Vishal Nagar. She was absconding.

At the time of raids conducted by police after getting a report of the fraud, police could arrest only one office bearer of the Society, who has been identified as Manik Malhotra, a resident of Priyadarshani Nagar, Talab Tillo, who claimed himself to be Secretary of the Society.

Other members of the Society, who were absconding, included Tajinder Arora of Vishal Nagar, Talab Tillo, Dhani Ram of Kabir Colony, Talab Tillo and Lalit Slathia of Nagrota.

Police said the fake Cooperative Society office bearers had been cheating innocent Ladakhis by selling them Government land in connivance with the then Tehsildar and Patwari of the area.

They had collected Rs 50 lakh from Ladakhis for the Government land.

Nowabad police have registered a case against the accused under Sections 465, 468, 471, 447-A, 120-B and 420 RPC for further investigations.

Police parties headed by SHO Nowabad Jaipal Sharma unearthed the racket.

Relief no substitute to punishment: CM

".. It's no one's case that this is a substitute for the culprit being punished. The law will follow its own course as was the case earlier," Omar wrote on micro-blogging site Twitter.

He was responding to criticism of the State Government's recent revision of compensation rates for victims of violence including cases of death, disability, rape and human trafficking.

"It never ceases to amaze me how a perfectly good initiative taken by a Government can be twisted and misrepresented to suit an editorial line," he said, referring to editorials criticising the move.

Omar said the State Government had only made a provision that victims of violence, including rape and acid attacks, get compensation.

"Anyone who believes that violence doesn't exist in living in fool's paradise. So what's wrong with ensuring compensation to the victims?" he asked.

The State Cabinet, during a meeting chaired by the Chief Minister on Friday, had approved the revised and enhanced compensation for victims of violence, mainly focusing on women and children. (PTI)

Rajnath visiting Jammu on Aug 31

Sources said that as per Party tradition, the new incumbent to the post of President visits every State after taking over to interact with the Party members there. It will be Mr Singh's first visit to J&K after assuming the post of Party President for second time eight months back.

Sources said Mr Singh is fully aware of the J&K situation and he has visited the State many times in past as Party's national president as well as Ex-Union Agriculture Minister in the NDA Government led by Atal Behari Vajpayee.

The BJP chief also headed the Party's Parliamentary Study Group on J&K and visited all the three regions of the State to ascertain the views of the people on prevailing situation in the State to submit a report to Union Government about the same.

Mr Singh is the first president of any political party who first of all took up the Kishtwar situation with Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh after August 9 communal violence forcefully and showed his Party's concern over it.

Amend Development Control Regulations, Municipal Bye-Laws: NDMA to J&K Govt

Stating that building code plays an important role in public safety and loss prevention, the report said, "active enforcement of the building code is the only effective way to reduce personal injuries, property damages and minimize economic losses", adding "in all the existing Acts, Rules and Bye-Laws in the State, provisions should be made for hazard risk mitigation. Moreover, Government should pass necessary legislation to mandate retrofitting in at least Government owned and rented structures".

About the earthquake resistant design and construction education, the NDMA said, "engineers and architects of all Government departments and private architects and engineers should be given 5-day training introducing them to the basic concepts of earthquake resistant design and construction".

The NDMA has also suggested long term training of engineers through degree programs, licensing of engineers to ensure competence in those who are responsible for new constructions and retrofit of existing structures and certification of artisans of different trades as part of comprehensive human resource development plan.

"The faculty members in the newly started Government Polytechnic in Doda should be trained in the subjects of earthquake resistant design and construction and mock drills be arranged in schools, hospitals, communities and offices as a regular feature to help people internalize the needed actions in the aftermath of earthquakes", the NDMA has further suggested.

Army foils major intrusion bid in Keran

were killed early this month in Mooldari and Hafrooda forests of Handwara.

On August 3, Army killed their commander, Abdullah, in the

On August 1 while 3 Army personnel were also injured in the operation.

Sources said that five militants of the group had escaped from



Troops patrolling near a barbed wire on LoC in Keran sector of North Kashmir's Kupwara district. —Excelsior/Abid Nabi

Mooldari forests of Handwara in the frontier district of Kupwara.

It may be mentioned here that the group that was spotted on July 29 by the security forces and 5 members of the group were killed

Hafrooda forests early this month after Army killed 5 of them. One of the five escaped was later killed in Mooldari forests and now two of the rest four were spotted last evening in the forests.

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Jammu and Kashmir Circle

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Notification for extension of date for receipt of application

Direct recruitment of Postman and multi tasking staff

Date of Notification	22th July, 2013
Name of Post	Postman & Multi Tasking Staff in J&K Circle
Closing date of receipt of application	31st August, 2013(revised)

We had issued an advertisement on 22nd July 2013 calling for applications for the post of Postman/Multi Tasking Staff vide this office notification no. 2-14/2012-SPE/DR Dated 22-07-2013. The last date for receipt of applications was fixed as on 19-08-2013. Due to curfew in various parts of the state recently, candidates could not submit their application forms. Therefore, it has been decided to extend the closing date of receipt of applications forms to 31-08-2013.

Further, as per eligibility criteria given at point 1.1 of Annexure-A to the above job notification dated 22-07-2013 wherein minimum & maximum age for various categories was specified.

Competent authority is pleased to allow following relaxation of age in respect of various categories.

UR	SC/ST	OBC	Govt. Employee
27	32	30	40

a. Person with disabilities - 10 years
b. Person who had ordinarily been domiciled in the state of J&K during 01-01-1980 to 31-12-1989 - 5 years

Age relaxation will be admissible as per DOPT Office OM No. :-5012/2010 Estt.(D) Dated 27-03-2013

The application forms can be obtained from the following Post offices:-
Jammu Tawi HO, Gandhi Nagar HO, Udhampur HO, Rajouri HO, Kathua HO, Srinagar GPO, Baramulla HO, Anantnag HO, Leh HO, Pulwama MDG, Kupwara MDG, Budgam SO, Ganderbal SO, Bandipore SO, Kargil SO, Kulgam SO, Shopian SO, Samba MDG, Poonch MDG, Ramban SO, Reasi SO, Kishtwar SO & Doda MDG.

For further details please log on to www.jkpost.gov.in OR Contact Assistant Director, Office of Chief Postmaster General J&K Circle, Jammu : 0191-2544906; Srinagar : 0194-2452473

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