

## Manjakote, Keri pounded; boy injured Pak spreads heavy firing, shelling to Rajouri sector

Sanjeev Pargal

JAMMU, Aug 24: Pakistan Army tonight opened up Rajouri sector for the second time during ongoing skirmishes along the Line of Control (LoC) by pounding forward areas with mortars and heavy fire arms at Manjakote and Keri sectors, causing injuries to a boy. Pakistan Army had earlier in the morning opened firing in Poonch sector.

Army, meanwhile, recovered an old rocket at Hamilton bridge in Rajouri town and defused it.

Official sources told the Excelsior that Pakistan Army fired mortar shells and resorted to firing with automatic and heavy fire arms at 7 pm today targeting half a dozen forward Indian posts and civilian areas at Kanga Gali, Tarkundi Gali and Baryani Gali in Dormal forward area of Manjakote sector and Chiti Bakri in Chingus area of Keri sector in Rajouri district.

The Indian side retaliated immediately with equal caliber of weapons, leading to heavy exchanges that continued till late

tonight sending a wave of panic and fear among the people putting up in forward areas of Manjakote sector, bordering villages Tarkundi and Dadot of Balakote sector in Poonch district.



Ready To Retaliate: Army jawans take positions in Balakote sector. (Another pic on page 7).

Sources said several bullets and mortar shells either landed inside the villages or very close to the villages triggering resentment among the people, who demonstrated against Pakistan Army for trying to kill them.

The villagers demonstrated

after 17 years old boy Mohammad Khalil son of Abdul Gani was injured after being hit by splinter of the mortar shells near forward post of Chittar Paul at Chiti Bakri in Chingus area of

Keri sector at 7 pm. Security forces and police shifted the injured to District Hospital Rajouri.

SSP Rajouri Mubassar Latifi said police was maintaining a close vigil on the sit-

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## 4 Information Deptt officials suspended, inquiry ordered Omar leaves in huff without addressing rally; pandemonium breaks out

Fayaz Bukhari

SRINAGAR, Aug 24: Four officials of the Department of Information including District Information Officer, Anantnag were suspended today after Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, failed to address a rally in Bijbehara due to a technical snag in the public address system.

Eyewitnesses said that angry Chief Minister left the venue without his address after the gathering created furore over the failure of the public address system. As he left the venue pandemonium broke out leading to ransacking of the podium and stone pelting in which one Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) jawan was injured.

Reports said that the public address system was installed last night. "In the morning a cultural party was going on from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the venue. When Omar was about to speak, one of the amplifiers developed technical snag and it was followed by breaking down of other two amplifiers as well", reports added.

When Chief Minister arrived

at the venue, district president of National Conference (NC) Mohammad Akbar Ganai was addressing the gathering. As soon as announcement of Chief Minister's address was made, the public address system developed the snag.

People in the gathering created furore over the failure of the address system and Omar left the podium in a huff. Reports said that he told the local Member Legislative Council (MLC) Dr Bashir Ahmad Veeri "it is enough, I am leaving".

As soon as the Chief Minister left the venue people

jumped over the concertina wire that was erected around the podium for security reasons. They attacked the Information Department employees and ransacked the podium. The local photo journalists who were covering the rally were also beaten up. Those who became target of NC workers ire were Arif Aftab, Meenbul Islam and Fida Hussain.

They also raised slogans the district administration and

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## 10 officers empanelled as DIGs

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 24: The Union Ministry of Home Affairs today empanelled 10 IPS officers of Jammu and Kashmir cadre in the rank of DIG and equivalent in the Government of India.

The MHA has issued a notification to this effect after the meeting of Central Police Empanelment Board (CPEB).

Apart from 10 IPS officers of Jammu and Kashmir, the officers from other States have also been empanelled in the rank of DIG and equivalent.

The IPS officers of J&K cadre empanelled as DIG or equivalent included Tsering Punchook, DIG Indian Reserve Police (IRP), an IPS officer of 1995 batch, Surinder Gupta, DIG CID, Jammu (1997 batch), Shakeel Ahmad Baig, DIG Jammu-Kathua range (1998 batch), Ahfadiq Mujtaba, DIG Srinagar range (1998 batch), Mushtaq Ahmad Sadiq, DIG Security (1998 batch), Vijay Singh Samyal, SSP and Commandant IRP 10th battalion (1999 batch), J.L. Sharma, SSP CID (Special Branch), Jammu (1999 batch), Anand

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## Sonia rules out early polls

NEW DELHI, Aug 24:

Scotching speculation, Congress President Sonia Gandhi today ruled out the possibility of early Lok Sabha polls.

"Our aim is to go till the very end," she told reporters after the inauguration of the National Media Centre here.

Gandhi initially tried to steer clear of the question when asked by reporters whether Congress would go for polls after passage of landmark legislations like Food Security bill and the Land Acquisition bill.

"I cannot say anything," she remarked when another questioner put the same query.

But when journalists persisted, she gave the reply of going "till the very end".

There has been talk of Lok Sabha polls, due next year in April-May, being combined with the Assembly polls in some States later this year in November. More so, the BJP has been asking the

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## Hideout busted, arms seized

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 24: Security forces today busted a hideout of the militants and recovered arms and ammunition at Sarkantha Gali under the jurisdiction of Gool police station in Ramban district.

Reports said a column of Rashtriya Rifles at Gool under the aegis of Rashtriya Rifles Force along with a team of Special Task Force (STF) from Gool police station unearthed the hideout located in a 2.5 meters x 3 meters cave.

The team had to dig 1.5 feet deep to recover the consignment, which was detected with the help of metal detectors.

Recoveries made from the hideout included one AK-56 rifle, two iron magazines, 43 live rounds of AK-56, 16 fired cartridges of 7.62mm and AK-56 and one Chinese pistol with one magazine.

## Govt sends Tunda to 14 days JC

NEW DELHI, Aug 24:

Top Lashkar-e-Toiba bomb expert Abdul Karim Tunda, who has been admitted to the AIIMS for special cardiac care, was today sent to 14 days' judicial custody by a Delhi court.

A magistrate visited Tunda in hospital and remanded him to custody till September 7.

Tunda was scheduled to be produced before the court today after expiry of his four-day police custody.

He was admitted to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) yesterday for special cardiac care.

70-year-old Tunda, who was arrested from the Indo-Nepal border last Friday, was admitted to Safdarjung Hospital on August 22 after he complained of chest pain.

However, keeping in view the specialised care and security concerns, he was shifted to AIIMS the next day and admitted in the Intensive Cardiac Care Unit.

A Delhi court on August 20 had remanded Tunda to four day police custody for questioning him in connection with 37 bomb

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## JDA finally decides to lodge FIR Unabated encroachment of land

Avtar Bhat

JAMMU, Aug 24: With authorities at the helm of affairs totally sleeping over the issue, the encroachment of land belonging to Jammu Development Authority (JDA) near SOS Village and Revenue Complex at Gole Gujral goes unabated.

According to sources, the failure of Government and concerned authorities to act against the land grabbers and vacate the Government land from their possession, has emboldened them to such an extent that they have now started constructing the pucca houses not only on the Government land but also by grabbing the portion of road linking the area to other parts of the Jammu city.

Sensing the gravity of the situation with increasing public resentment against the encroachments on its land, Vice Chairman JDA Satish Nehru has directed the concerned authorities of his organization to file an FIR against the land grabbers to get the encroachments removed. Confirming this, Director land JDA Jitender Singh told Excelsior that VC has issued

directives to file an FIR in concerned Police Station against the land grabbing and "we will follow the direction".

The land encroachment took place for years together under the very nose of the authorities, sources said, adding from last some time land encroachers have even started constructing the concrete houses on the JDA land by annexing a portion of the service road leading from the area and linking the Akhnoor road to the newly constructed Tawi bridge in Bhagwati Nagar.

The stoic silence maintained by the authorities over the issue has become a cause of concern for the people residing in the surrounding colonies who are up in arms against the Government for turning the area into a slum by encouraging the land encroachment, sources said.

Sources said over 400 kanals of the land in the area were meant for construction of a colony for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) of society way back in 2007 and JDA had issued a notification in this regard on April 19, 2007. The JDA had earmarked 1150 plots

on the land for which it had invited applications from prospective buyers belonging to economically weaker sections of the society and intending to get the plots allotted in the area, sources added.

Sources said the applicants were asked to submit their application forms along with the fee by JDA but to their surprise the plots were never allotted to the applicants later and some of them when approached the authorities of the organization they showed inability to allot the plots to them or refunding their application fee.

Sources said that the area has been fully demarcated in JDA site plan and maps showing the plots but on ground no plot exists as entire land has been encroached upon by the land grabbers. The people living in the surrounding areas have

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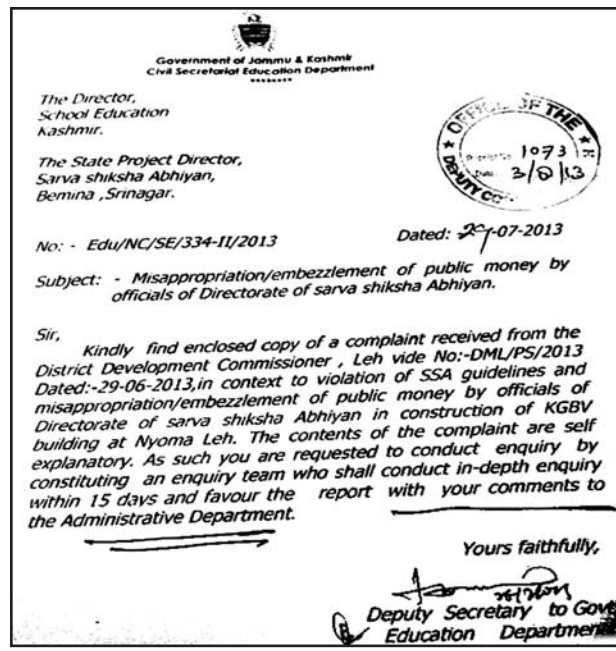
## Misappropriation of public money in construction of KGBV building DSE, SSA authorities unaware of enquiry ordered by Edu Deptt about month back

Mohinder Verma

JAMMU, Aug 24: Astonishing it may sound but it is a fact that officers of two important wings of the Education Department have been found completely ignorant about the enquiry ordered into the misappropriation of public money in the construction of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) building in Nyoma area of Leh district. Most shocking aspect is that the enquiry was ordered about a month back and had to be completed by none else than these officers within a period of 15 days.

The misappropriation / mbezzlement in the construction of KGBV building was detected during the preliminary enquiry

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	Sunset on Sunday: 07.06 p.m.
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	Mainly clear sky.
	TEMPERATURE
	Max: 31.8 Degree C
	Min: 19.6 Degree C
	RELATIVE HUMIDITY
	Highest: 76.0 per cent
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The Union Government promulgated the National Food Security Ordinance on 5th July 2013. The bill has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 7th August 2013.