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08 Dangri Terror Attack: Widespread anti-Pakistan protests held across Jammu region; PoJK refugees take out candle march at Rehari Colony

10 PoJK DPs will not flee from their home: Rajiv

Website : www.statetimes.in, Email: statetimes1@gmail.com

Terror strikes: 2 cousins martyred in IED blast in Rajouri

VDCs to be revived, rearmed; senior officers were intended target: DGP

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI/JAMMU: In an apparent security lapse, two cousins - aged four and 16 - were martyred when an improvised explosive device (IED) went off in a village in Rajouri area on Monday, 14 hours after terrorists had shot dead four people there. The terrorists, locals claimed, had planted the IED on Sunday itself and it was missed during the scanning by police and security officials who had cordoned off the area after the shootings last evening.

Samiksha Sharma (16), daughter of Koushal Sharma and Vihan Kumar Sharma (4), son of Sushil Kumar were killed and six others injured in the blast in Dangri village near the house of Pritam Lal, a victim of the Sunday attack, locals said. There were several people, including Lal's relatives, in the house when the blast took place at around 9.30 am. Six



Blast victims being rescued in Dangri village after the IED explosion while locals staged protests on Monday as Rajouri observes Bandh to condemn brutal attack.

persons were killed and 12 injured in the two incidents. The injured include Kamlesh Devi (50), wife of Gopal Das; Sharda Devi (38), wife of Satnam Sharma; Kanayia Sharma (14), son of Vipin Kumar; Soniksha Sharma (10), daughter of Raj Kumar;

Sajal (15), daughter of Koushal Kumar; Vanshu Sharma (13), son of Koushal Kumar; Sanvi Sharma (7), daughter of Sushil Kumar and Anjali Sharma (8), daughter of Sushil Kumar. Village Sarpanch (headman) Deepak Kumar said that it was a serious security

lapse on the part of police and security agencies. "It is a serious security lapse by security agencies. Minority community people do not feel secure. The administration should take tough measures," he told reporters in Rajouri. As the incidents led to

protests across the district, including in Rajouri town, and a complete shutdown, Director General of Police Dilbag Singh, who visited the site, said that the IED blast was intended to target senior officers who were about to reach there. The officers reached the spot late. The

incident had happened already, he added. He announced that Village Defence Committees (VDCs) will now be revived and rearmed, after some protesting leaders and locals claimed that the incidents could have been averted had the authorities not taken

away the weapons of VDCs. Talking to reporters, he said: "We will have to give them a befitting reply." Replying to their concern, DGP said that guns will not be taken back. "If some guns have been taken back, they will be returned. Wherever there is a

need for more guns, they will be provided", he said.

The DGP said that there is a need to give a boost to VDCs.

He said that the attacks were an act of cowardice.

"Only a coward can attack an innocent unarmed person. They did this act of cowardice and are hiding now. We will hunt them down," he said.

The DGP met the protesters who were refusing to conduct the last rites of the victims till Lt Governor Manoj Sinha came to the spot.

Urging protestors to allow cremation of the bodies, he said, "We have to undertake the cremation of our loved ones as per rituals. We should not dishonour them".

The DGP said that whatever will be the decision of the local leaders and families, "we will act accordingly".

He appreciated the people of Rajouri for always

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J&K registers 28 pc growth in GST collection in Dec 2022

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has registered a substantial growth in collection of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in the month of December, 2022.

As per the state/UT wise data being reflected in a statement issued by the Finance Ministry, J&K has registered an increase of 28 per cent in its GST collection for the month of December, 2022 which is 13 per cent more than the national average. Additional

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Govt appoints Principals for three GMCs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Health & Medical Education Department, Jammu & Kashmir Government on Monday appointed principals of three Government Medical College (GMCs).

"It is ordered that three professors/HoDs shall temporarily look after the charge of principals of Government Medical Colleges (GMCs) in addition to their own duties, in their own pay and grade, with immediate effect, till regular appointment

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Distribution of free rice, wheat among NFSA beneficiaries from Jan 1

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In an important decision, Government of India has made distribution of foodgrains to National Food Security Act (NFSA) beneficiaries free of cost from January, 1st, 2023. So far under NFSA, subsidized foodgrains were being distributed at Rs 3 per kg for rice, Rs. 2 per kg for wheat and Rs. 3 per kg for wheat flour to NFSA beneficiaries

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 18.5°C Min: 4.2°C

Humidity
Max: 91 Min: 69

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 8.8°C Min: -5.4°C

Humidity
Max: 89 Min: 57

Sunset : 17:38 Hours
Sunrise : 07:34 Hours

LG meets protesters; says Govt committed to eliminate terrorism, help families

Announces Rs 10 lakh ex-gratia, Govt job to NoK

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI/JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday met people protesting against the double terror strikes at the same site in Rajouri within hours, and said the government is committed to eliminate terrorism from the Union Territory and help the affected families.

I have heard several people among you. It is a commitment of the government of India to stamp out terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir," the LG told the protesters. He was accompanied by



LG Manoj Sinha meeting with the family members of martyrs at Dangri village. (More pics on page-9)

Selective killings tool to create disharmony, Azad requests people not to fall prey to evil designs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Chief Minister & Chairman Democratic Azad Party Ghulam Nabi Azad expressed his concern on terrorist attacks in Rajouri District J&K.

"I am deeply concerned and saddened to see the resurfacing of militant activities in Rajouri district for two consecutive days in which 6 precious lives including children have been lost and 15 injured, which is matter of great concern for each one of us", said Azad.

Azad strongly condemned this heinous acts of terrorism against civilians, particularly against the minority community in the state of J&K. Such acts of selective killings of a particular community even in the past had been used by terrorists as a tool to create disharmony in our society.

Azad requested the people of all sections of society not to fall prey to these evil designs of militants and maintain a climate

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Rajouri attack a cowardly act, Pak ISI will be defeated in its nefarious designs: Chugh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Monday blasted the Pakistan ISI for trying to disrupt peace in J&K.

Expressing his shock and grief at the death of six people near Rajouri after the militants attack, Chugh said it was a cowardly act by the Pakistan-based militants who are basically disturbed at the recent development and growth of the union territory.

He said it was a cowardly act of the militants to unleash bullets of unarmed and innocent people.

Chugh said Pakistan is disturbed to see guns and



stones being replaced by books and computers in the hands of the J&K youth. It is time the Pakistan agents understand it comprehensively that the Modi government would not spare

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23-year-old youth martyred in Dangri terror attack was about to join Army's Ordnance Deptt

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

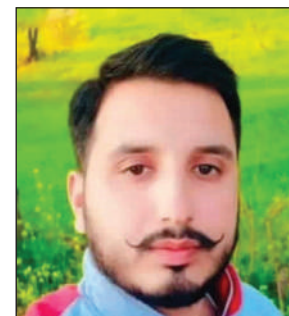
DIHANGRI (RAJOURI): Twenty-three-year-old Deepak Kumar who was martyred in terror attacks on the minority community in Dangri village in Rajouri District on Sunday was about to join Indian Army's ordnance department on Tuesday.

Deepak, who was son of an employee of the Public Health Engineering department, worked hard and qualified for the army job, his close relatives said on Monday.

He was supposed to join the Army's ordnance department in two days but destiny had something else in store for him, they said.

Four civilians, including Deepak, were killed and six

others injured when terrorists opened fire on three houses of the minority community in the village in the border district of Rajouri Sunday evening, officials had said.



Deepak Kumar

The other deceased in the incident were identified as Satish Kumar (45), Pritam Sharma (56) and Shishu Pal

(32).

"Food was being prepared when terrorists entered Pritam Sharma's house. They verified his name through Aadhaar card and then resorted to indiscriminate firing," said Ranjeet Tara, a resident of Dhangri and Pritam's neighbour.

This was the first house that became the target of the terrorists, he said, adding that he was the first to visit the house after the attack to ferry the injured to the hospital.

"The food is still on plates. Blood stains have dried. The terrorists targeted the minority community in Rajouri to force their migration," Tara said, while showing the bullets still

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SC upholds legality of 2016 note ban by 4:1 majority

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday upheld the legality of the Centre's 2016 decision to ban Rs 1,000 and Rs 500 currency notes, saying the decision-making process was neither flawed nor hasty and that it is "not relevant" whether the stated objectives were achieved or not.

In a big win for the Modi government, a Constitution bench by a 4:1 majority also held that demonetisation is not bad in law merely because some citizens suffered through hardships. The decision does not suffer from illegality as there was consultation between the RBI and the Centre for a period of six months before the notification under challenge was issued, it said.

The shock move to demonetise 86 per cent of the currency



try's cash in circulation overnight in a bid to tackle black money and corruption was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a televised address on

November 8, 2016. Scrutinising the entire record on demonetisation, the bench said there has to be

great restraint in matters of economic policy and the court would not interfere with any opinion formed by the government if it is based on the relevant facts and circumstances or based on expert's advice.

"The decision had a reasonable nexus with its objectives, such as eradicating black money, terror funding etc., and it is not relevant whether those objectives were achieved or not," the court said, adding such decisions required to be taken with utmost confidentiality and speed.

"The individual interests must yield to the larger public interest sought to be achieved."

Justice B V Nagarathna dissented from the majority judgment and said the demonetisation of high-value currency notes was "vitiating and unlawful." Holding that Parliament cannot be

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Applications are invited for the position of FLC Counsellor (On- Contract) at Poonch & Shopian Offices of J&K Bank.

Interested candidates are requested to send duly filled application form available on Banks website www.jkbank.com under careers tab via mail on recruitment@jkbmail.com.

The detailed notification for the post of FLC Counsellor (on contract) is available on Bank's website. Last date for submission of application form is 16.01.2023.

No: JKB/Rec/2023-001
Dated: 02-01-2023

DIP/J-4611-P/22

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