

No matter how hard the past, you can always begin again.

— Buddha

Rajnath Singh promises 'proper reply' to Pakistan over unprovoked ceasefire violations

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday condemned the cross-border firing by Pakistan in which four Indian soldiers, including a Captain, were killed, saying Army shall 'give a proper reply' to the neighbour.

"Have full faith in the valour of our soldiers, and they shall give a proper reply," Singh told reporters, as per IANS.

Earlier, Minister of State for Home Affairs Hansraj Ahir also condemned Sunday's ceasefire violation in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri and Poonch districts saying that it shall "cost Pakistan dearly".

"Pakistan has been violating ceasefire along the LoC. And this year the number of ceasefire violations are high," he said.

"Yesterday (Sunday) also, they again violated ceasefire. We will not forgive Pakistan's actions," Ahir added. "The cease-

Mehbooba pained over killing of soldiers in Pak ceasefire violation

SRINAGAR, FEB 5: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti has expressed pain over the death and injuries of soldiers in ceasefire violation by Pakistani troops near the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri in Jammu region on Sunday evening.

In a tweet she said "Pained to hear that three soldiers were killed & two injured along the Line of Control in Rajouri. My condolences to the deceased's families, Mehbooba".

Four soldiers, including a Captain, were martyred when Pakistani troops fired across the LoC.

On Sunday, four soldiers were killed, including

Army vows to avenge killing of soldiers by Pakistan, says 'action will speak for itself'

The Indian Army has vowed to avenge the killing of four soldiers in ceasefire violation by Pakistan in Rajouri sector of Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday.

"That (retaliation) goes without saying. I think I don't have to say that. Action will speak for itself. We will continue with our process of giving a befitting reply," said Chand while speaking to mediapersons.

The statement by the Army vice chief comes amid NDA constituent Shiv Sena questioning the government's stand over the issue. Urging the government to take a tough stand, Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut on Monday said that Pakistan had declared a war and should be responded to in a similar manner.

Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior, besides Subham Singh, 23, from Kathua and Havilder Roshan Lal, 43, from Samba in Jammu and Kashmir.

Meanwhile, the Army's vice chief said on Monday that India will continue to give a "befitting reply" and its action will speak for itself.

5 alleged OGWs of JeM arrested in south Kashmir

SRINAGAR, FEB 05: Security force on Monday arrested five Over Ground Workers of Jaish-e-Muhammed (JeM), who allegedly carried out recent grenade attacks in south Kashmir, along with arms and ammunition in Pulwama.

Official sources told UNI that following specific information, a joint team of Special Operations Group (SOG) of state police and security forces arrested a former Pakistan trained militant, Sajad Ahmad Bhat, in Pulwama.

They said during questioning Bhat confessed that he alongwith four other OGWs carried out recent grenade attacks in Pampore and Khrew in south Kashmir. "All the four accused were arrested," they added.

"The accused have been identified as

Umar Gani Sheikh, Jan Mohammad Khanday, Owais Ahmad Bhat and Muzaffar Hussain Bhat," he said.

A police spokesperson said that JeM which was earlier having strong basis in Tral had been dislodged from the area by conducting intelligence based operations in which some of the top commanders were eliminated and large number of hideouts were busted.

"After continuous operations in Tral they shifted their focus in Khrew and Pampore belt. The slain JeM Commander Noor Mohammad Tantray was the key in creating this network of OGWs who was killed in a joint operation on December 25, 2017 at Sambora Pampore," he said.

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Achabal attack: Police files charge-sheet against 4 accused

SRINAGAR, FEB 5: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Monday filed a charge-sheet against four accused, including an Uttar Pradesh (UP) resident, in connection with a militant attack in which six policemen, including an officer, were killed in south Kashmir on June 15, 2017.

Six policemen, including Station House Officer

SI of BSF injured in Pak shelling on LoC in Rajouri

JAMMU, FEB 5: A sub-inspector of Border Security Force sustained injuries in Pakistani firing and shelling on the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir.

"A BSF SI was injured in shelling and firing by Pakistani troops along the LoC on Sunday evening in Rajouri district," an official said here on Monday.

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Six Kashmiris arrested by Rajasthan Police: J&K Govt

JAMMU, FEB 5: Jammu and Kashmir Minister for Revenue, Abdul Rehman Veeri on Monday said that the Rajasthan Police has released six persons who were earlier arrested by the BSF.

Speaking in the House he informed that four persons, namely Ehsaan Ahmad Mir, Athar Majeed Shah, Zaffar Qureshi, Sayeem Wani, Ghulam Mohammed (Driver) and Shameem

Awam, all residents of Bandipora were in the custody of Rajasthan Police. He was responding to a point raised by MLA Usman Majeed in the House in this regard.

Veeri said that as per the information provided by Rajasthan Police these persons were stopped by BSF as they were moving in prohibited area and were handed over to concerned police station.

"When police questioned them, they told the police that they started their journey from Amritsar and were using GPS for shortest possible route to Jaisalmer. They reached IGNP canal area by mistake (prohibited area). JIC of Jaisalmer questioned them," Mr Veeri quoted Rajasthan Police as saying.

He said all the persons were released on Sunday evening as per Rajasthan police and further details are awaited.

J&K Govt to clear 40000 pending pension cases: Minister

JAMMU, FEB 5: Jammu and Kashmir Minister for Social Welfare, Sajid Ahmad Lone on Monday said that a proposal to clear 40000 pending Old Age Pension and Destitute Pension cases has been submitted to the Finance department for clearance in the first instance.

Replying to the question of legislator, Mohammad Shafi, the Minister informed that the House that the proposal is under the consideration of the Department. He further informed that there are 16665 ISSS/NSAP pension cases pending with the

Dialogue only way to restore peace: J&K Govt

JAMMU, FEB 5: Jammu and Kashmir Government on Monday said that dialogue and reconciliation is the only way to restore peace along the borders in Jammu and Kashmir and in the mainland.

"Our stand is that dialogue and reconciliation is the only way to restore peace," Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Abdul Rehman Veeri told the House while responding to the concern expressed by the Legislators over the loss of lives and damage to the property due to recurrent incidents of cross-border firing in the twin districts of Poonch and Rajouri and other parts of the State.

reconciliation initiated by the then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in 2003 needs to be taken forward for everlasting peace in the State.

Referring to the latest incidents of cross-border firing in the twin districts of Poonch and Rajouri, the Minister said that the respective district administrations are taking all possible measures to avoid loss of life and property.

He said alternate arrangements for boarding and lodging have also been put in place for the affected population. Giving details of cross-border incidents of the last-mentioned firing, the Minister said that 4 Army personnel including an officer were killed while two

Premature retirement case

JAMMU, FEB. 05: HC directs to file compliance failing which Secy GAD, Law Secy and Administrative secretary of concerned Dept remain present in person

Jammu, February-05-2018-(JN)- In a much publicized premature retirement case in which contempt has been filed seeking implementation of judgment, Justice Alok Aradhe of J&K High Court Jammu Wing today grants weeks' time to submit the compliance report, failing which Commissioner/Secretary to Government, General Administration Department; Administrative Secretary of the concerned Departments; and Secretary, Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs shall remain

present before this Court positively. Justice Alok Aradhe further made it clear that no application seeking exemption of their personal appearance shall be entertained and in case of non-compliance, the aforesaid Officers shall positively remain present before this Court on 13th February, 2018, failing which this Court shall be constrained to issue bailable warrants for presence of the aforesaid Officers.

When the matter was taken-up today Sr. AAG Seema Shekhar filed compliance on behalf of the General Administration Department with the prayer to defer the proceedings. Sr. AAG submits that after dismissal of the Letters Patent Appeal, the file was sent to the Law Department.

The Law Department advised to put up the issue with regard to filing of SLP against the order passed by the Division Bench before a Committee. The file was received from the Law Department on 15-01-2018. Acting on the advice of the Law Department, vide order dated 18.01.2018 a Committee was constituted which as Commissioner/Secretary to Government, General Administration Department (Convener), Administrative Secretary of the concerned, Secretary, Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs and Law Officer (AAG/Dy. A.G.) representing the State before the High Court in the said case as Members.

CONTD ON P-2

Unconditional apology by Ratno Devi in Kathua crusher case accepted by the High Court

JAMMU, FEB. 05: A Petition titled Ratno Devi and others bearing No. OWP 2109/2017 was filed by the Court in which it was mentioned that on 06-12-2017 OWP No. 1104/2016 and OWP 1358/2016 was heard and reserved for judgment by the Court.

Counsel for the petitioners categorically made a statement before the Court that the above mentioned petitions were heard and reserved for judgement and not dismissed. The Counsel for the respondents strongly objected to it and mentioned that the Court on 06-12-2017 has heard and dismissed the above mentioned petitions.

It was further submitted by the Counsel for respondents that is making a false statement which is not scandalous but also contemptuous. The matter was again listed on February 02, 2018 before Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar, the Counsel for the respondents Sr. Adv. Sunil Sethi and A A Khan advocate made a mention about the conduct of the Court.

It is pertinent to mention here that OWP No. 1358/2016 and OWP No. 1104/2016 were heard and dismissed on 06-12-2017 by the High Court by giving the judgement in the open court. At that relevant point of time was also present in the court as he had argued the matter at length on behalf of the petitioners.

Youth injured in security force firing in south Kashmir

SRINAGAR, FEB 5: A youth was injured on Monday when security forces allegedly opened fire to disperse demonstrators in south Kashmir district of Kulgam, official sources said here this afternoon.

They said a security force party came under heavy stone pelting at Hawoora in Kulgam. "The security force opened fire to disperse demonstrators in which a youth, identified as Arif Ahmad Lone, was injured," they said.

The injured was immediately taken to Sub District Hospital Quimoh from where he was referred to District Hospital Anantnag, they added. They said the youth has been referred to a hospital in Srinagar in a critical condition. The incident was also raised in the Legislative Assembly by the opposition

National Conference (NC) MLA from Pahalgam Altaf Kalo who protested against fresh Army firing today in which a youth was injured.

CONTD ON P-2

Transfer of ADC Reasi at the behest of MOS Finance stayed

JAMMU, FEB. 05: Justice Mohammad Yaqoob Mir of J&K High Court stayed the transfer of Additional Deputy Commissioner Reasi stayed.

Justice Mohammad Yaqoob Mir observed that during the course of hearing Adv Abhinav Sharma appearing for the Babu Ram Additional Deputy Commissioner Reasi who was transferred submits that order is alleged to be tainted with malafides and on political interference.

Adv Rohan Nanda appearing for the Ajay Nanda Minister of State submits

that the respondent iws MLA and also being Minister has recommended posting of Nagendra Singh Jmalwal as ADC Reasi vice petitioner in the interest of administration, therefore, there is no question of malafide and Adv GS Thakur appearing for the Des Raj Bhagat submitted that since the petitioner has been posted as Jammu which is a comfortable posting, therefore he should not file the petition.

Justice Mohammad Yaqoob Mir after hearing Adv Abhinav Sharma in length,

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Karvan-e-Aman bus between Srinagar to PoK suspended

SRINAGAR, FEB 5: The weekly Karvan-e-Aman bus, operating between Srinagar and Muzaffarabad, capital of Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir (PoK), has been suspended on Monday as a precautionary measure, official sources said.

We have got a message from PoK that there will be no bus service today (Monday), official sources told UNI. The message said that today is a national holiday in Pakistan, where people are observing February 5 every year as "solidarity with Kashmir day", they said. All the passengers, who were scheduled to travel in the bus have already been informed, they said adding the passengers will be accommodated in next bus.

The number of guests from PoK witness drop during winter due to sub zero temperature while

BUDGET SESSION 2018-19 - LC PROCEEDINGS

Upper House passes Rs 95666.97 Cr Budget for 2018-19

Govt brings in law to speed up public expenditure; Avoid cost, time overrun

In a major fiscal reform, FM factors in wide-ranging Expenditure Rules in Appropriation Bill

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 05: The Legislative Council Monday passed Rs 95666.97 crore budget for J&K for the year 2018-19, comprising revenue component of Rs 51244.72 crore and capital component of Rs 44422.24 crore.

The Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation Bill-2018, passed by the

CONTD ON P-2