

3 MAHARASHTRA

NOVEMBER 29 GADCHIROLI ENCOUNTER

2 killed had no Naxal link, say villagers; police claim otherwise

VIVEK DESHPANDE
BHAMRAGAD, JANUARY 2

A POLICE-NAXAL encounter in Gadchiroli that killed two persons on November 29 last year has turned into a war of wits between 18 far-flung villages and police a month after the incident. While villagers have claimed that the victims were innocent civilians, police maintained that there was evidence to prove their “Naxal” identity.

While one of the deceased, Raju Dassa Pusali, 40, was from Modemetta, the other, Prakash Chukku Muhanda, 23, was from Nelgonda village, about 18 km from tehsil headquarter Bhamragad. The villages are situated in the deep interior and remain cut off during the rainy season.

The encounter took place in Abujmad hills on Maharashtra-Chhattisgarh border in Bhamragad tehsil of the district, beyond the inaccessible Modemetta village. Police claimed to have busted a huge Naxal camp on top of an 812-metre-high hill and recovered a lot of material, including guns, IED blast material, three quintals of rice and other food material, a lot of Naxal literature, among others from the spot. Police said it was a gathering of around 80-100 Naxals from both sides of the border in the camp. Villagers, however, said Prakash and Raju had no Naxal connections and had gone to the forest to collect Gurga, an intoxicant popular among local Madia-Gond tribals.

“Prakash and Raju had gone to the forest to collect Gurga around 11 am carrying their tiffins since it takes a whole day to collect it and return. They had no idea there was a Naxal camp nearby. The men didn’t return on that day and the next day, police brought their bodies to Nelgonda. They later took the bodies to Gadchiroli by a helicopter. After postmortem, police handed over the bodies to us at the nearby Dhodraj police station,” said Panda, Prakash’s elder brother. “The police had caught them while they were returning and mercilessly beat them up before shooting them dead,” he claimed.

Prakash was unmarried and is survived by Panda and another brother. Both originally belong to Chhattisgarh.

Asked why the police would kill the two if they had not been a part of the Naxal gathering, Panda said, “Because they were frustrated with the fact that they couldn’t find any Naxal at the camp. So, they had to show some success.”

At Modemetta, Raju’s wife Rukmi narrates a similar story as the youngest of her three daughters, Karishma, cuddles her and elder Permila stands close by. After Raju, she has to till a five-acre land they have to feed her children.

Villagers said some eyewitnesses from Modemetta actually saw the police dragging and beating the two in the forest on the day of the encounter.

About a month later, on December 24 evening, around 300 people from 18 villages in the area gathered near Dhodraj



(Top) Prakash Mahunda’s brother Panda; Raju Pusali’s wife Rukmi and daughters Karishma and Permila. Deepak Daware

police station and held a sit-in protest, demanding action against the policemen who killed Raju and Prakash. They sat there till the next day and later called off the protest after Additional Superintendent of Police Mohit Garg met them.

“We have recorded statements of the relatives of the two men after the encounter who said they (Raju and Prakash) were regularly moving with the Naxals and they had seen this end coming someday. We had intelligence information that Naxals had been holding meetings in the villages since the encounter. Curiously, the protest happened a month later. We have definite information that senior Naxal leader Tarakka was at Nelgonda till 4 pm on the day they sat on protest. She had organised the villagers and had directed them to hold the sit-in. Even on December 31, Bhamragad dalam commander, Dinesh, was at Raju’s house at Modemetta. These villages are in their area of influence. They have to follow Naxal diktats, which we can understand,” said SP Shailesh Balkawde.

He added written material, recovered from the camp, “lists names of people present at the camp, which is normal practice with Naxals. It has Raju and Prakash’s names too. They were also on our record as Naxals militiamen, who typically move for three-four months with Naxals and then return to the village to do agricultural work before joining the Naxals again. They are trained in firing and also set up explosives.”

The police official said even after the 2018 Kasnasur encounter, in which 40 Naxals were killed, “the Naxals spread several canards about police saying we had first poisoned the Naxals gathered at the camp through food and had then shot them in cold blood. They had also claimed that police had killed seven civilians in the encounter. Later, they had themselves released names of all

the cadres killed and admitted that it was their operational failure. So, for Naxals, it is a part of their propaganda war to discredit and demoralise the police”.

Balkawde claimed a videotaped panchama from the spot of the encounter purportedly shows Prakash in uniform, Raju in a civil dress carrying a whistle and a big-dial watch, which is usually with a senior cadre or with a sentry. The SP said both men were identified by surrendered Naxals as well. “A magisterial inquiry has been ordered,” Balkawde said. Viscera samples of the two have been sent for forensic tests. “The reports will bring the truth to fore.”

The SP cited the Chhattisgarh origin of Prakash and Raju as a fact to support police claim. “Our information is that they had Naxal connections since they were staying in Chhattisgarh. We are confirming that,” he said.

A top source said, “Naxals generally drop posters or pamphlets to declare so if the deceased is not their cadres or militiamen. In this case, they haven’t come out with any such announcement.”

Panda and Rukmi, however, counter the police claim. “Prakash and we came here 10 years ago. He was only 13 at the time,” Panda said.

Rukmi said that Raju had come to Modemetta around 20 years ago when they got married. Panda and Rukmi also maintained that the duo was not Naxal or even their supporters. “The police offered us money and monthly pay-ups, which we refused. We want justice,” they said.

Bhamragad tribal activist Lalsu Nogoti, a lawyer and a Zilla Parishad member, said though there was “Naxal influence” in the area, there have been accusations against police killing innocent villagers. “It can’t be ruled out in this case too. There should be fair inquiry into the matter.”

RAISING DAY PARADE

Nehru gave state police its flag; honoured to oversee ceremony: CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JANUARY 2

RECALLING THE role of India’s first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in the Raising Day ceremony of the Maharashtra Police, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Thursday attended a first-of-its-kind parade to mark the day.

“Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru gave the Maharashtra Police its flag and today it is my honour to be seated as the guest, overseeing the first Maharashtra Police Raising Day parade,” said Thackeray, who, along with cabinet minister and son Aaditya, attended the 60th Raising Day ceremony at Marol on Thursday.

While the Maharashtra Police has celebrated the day in the past as well, this is the first time a parade was held on the occasion. Thackeray also performed the *bhoompujan* for the construction of more than 400 houses for police personnel at Marol Police Training Centre.

The chief minister said he was one year old when Nehru gave the Maharashtra Police its flag in 1961. “While overseeing the event, it was pointed out that the Maharashtra Police’s flag was designed by V N Adarkar, a Kala Nagar resident, a locality where I stay to this day. He was also the first dean of J J School of Arts, where I

“While overseeing the event, it was pointed out that the Maharashtra Police’s flag was designed by V N Adarkar, a Kala Nagar resident, a locality where I stay to this day.”

— UDDHAV THACKERAY
CHIEF MINISTER, MAHARASHTRA

studied. It made me realise how old my connection with the Maharashtra Police is,” he said.

The chief minister also said he had witnessed the contribution by the police over

Direct police to produce minor children of inmates before Child Welfare Committee: rights panel to DGP

SADAF MODAK
MUMBAI, JANUARY 2

THE MAHARASHTRA State Commission for Protection of Child Rights has written to the Director General of Police, stating that notices should be issued to all police stations across the state asking them to produce children in the age group of 6-18 years before the Child Welfare Committee if their parents face arrest.

According to a Supreme Court judgment, a child is allowed to stay with his or her

mother in prison till the age of six. Others between the age of six and 18, can stay with their father, other relatives or in protective custody at a children’s home.

Members of the commission, while visiting prisons in the state, were approached by a few women undertrials, who informed them that they were not aware where their children were after their arrest. Social workers, working in prisons, also informed commission members that while making arrests, the police do not necessarily ask the accused if there have minor children.

“The letter to the DGP was as per the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act and other Acts pertaining to children. The request is to produce minors of accused persons to be produced before the district Child Welfare Committee by the police after the arrest of a parent so that they are not left outside and put in some dangerous situation,” said Santosh Shinde, member of the commission.

He said, as per provisions of the JJ Act, the CWC can hand over the custody of a child to a parent, or guardian or take the child into protective custody.

The parents should also be in the know of the well-being of the child.

The letter also states that the parents should, from time-to-time, be informed about the child. It also states that regular reports should be sent to the commission regarding the compliance of this.

According to Prison Statistics of India, 2018, the total number of women inmates with children is 1,732 with 1,999 children. In Maharashtra, there are 97 women inmates in the state’s prisons with 117 children.

CM to reach out to India Inc Uddhav to hold conference of industry heads, CEOs on Jan 7

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JANUARY 2

AFTER EXPANDING his council of ministers, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray is all set to reach out to top industry heads and CEOs at a time when country’s industrial production has contracted further and private investment is yet to pick up after a prolonged slowdown.

Sources confirmed that the CM will first hold an interaction with the industry captains in Mumbai on January 7, before holding deliberations with industrialists from drought-hit Marathwada region in Aurangabad two days later, seeking inputs on how to spur up demand and investment. Maharashtra, the country’s

most industrialised state, has also been hit by macro economic headwinds. Thackeray’s meeting also comes in the backdrop of a negative buzz among a section of industrialists about the investment climate prevalent in the country.

Last month, industrialist Rahul Bajaj, at an award function in Mumbai, had said there was an atmosphere of fear, and that people were afraid to criticise the government. Bajaj is among those to be invited for the Thackeray meet, confirmed officials.

Senior officials also said that Thackeray has plans to announce an investment summit in Mumbai in February or March.

What has been worrying many, especially in the govern-

ment, is the slowdown in investment — private investment in particular. The ongoing economic slowdown in the country has affected new investments and demand. According to government data, the GDP growth in September 2019 had plunged to a six-year low of 4.5 per cent, the lowest since March 2013. On December 5, the RBI slashed the real GDP growth for 2019-20 downwards from 6.1 per cent in October policy to 5 per cent, saying it can even go down to 4.9 per cent. India’s industrial output contracted 3.8 per cent in October as against 4.3 per cent in September, according to the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) data, released by the government on December 12.

Governor meets CM over dinner

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JANUARY 2

GOVERNOR BHAGAT Singh Koshiyari visited Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray’s residence Matoshree in Bandra (East) Thursday evening for dinner. The move, sources said, is being seen as an attempt to improve the relations between the Governor and the Chief Minister.

In November last year, Koshiyari had refused to accede to the Sena’s request to be allowed a time extension for forming the government in the state after a rift with its pre-poll ally, the BJP. Sena sources said, Thackeray had extended a personal invitation to the Governor for the dinner. Uddhav’s wife Rashmi, sons Aaditya and Tejas, were also present, sources said.

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e-Procurement Notice

(1) e-Tender No.: IRCON/ELECT/5019/NELS/BNMD/TRS/IT/OT/41 Dated: 31.12.2019

e-Tender for and on behalf of South Eastern Railways is invited from bidders meeting qualifying requirements for the work of “Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Various Test Facility Equipment at Electric Loco Shed Rourkela in connection with setting up of New Electric Loco Shed Rourkela, Odisha, South Eastern Railway”

Estimated Cost of the Work ₹1,99.89,185/-

End Date & Time of E-Bid submission 20.01.2020 at 15:00 Hrs.

(2) e-Tender No.: IRCON/ELECT/5019/NELS/BNMD/TRS/CL/OT/42 Dated: 31.12.2019

e-Tender for and on behalf of South Eastern Railways is invited from bidders meeting qualifying requirements for the work of “Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Chemical Laboratory Equipment at Electric Loco Shed Rourkela in connection with setting up of New Electric Loco Shed Rourkela, Odisha, South Eastern Railway”

Estimated Cost of the Work ₹25.02,244/-

End Date & Time of E-Bid submission 20.01.2020 at 15:30 Hrs.

For further details, visit website: <https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app>. Corrigendum, if any, would be hosted only on the website.

General Manager (Elect)

Correspondence Office: 413, Palika Bhawan, R K Puram, New Delhi-110066

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

FOR SALE OF LAND AND PLANT / ASSETS OF COMPANY

OF GUPTA ENERGY PRIVATE LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION) GHUGHUS, CHANDRAPUR

In furtherance of Liquidation proceeding of Gupta Energy Pvt Ltd (Commenced vide NCLT order in CP no. 43/IB/NCLT/MAH/2017 dated 26th March 2018, interalia appointing the undersigned as a Liquidator). The Liquidator, in terms of section 35(1) (f) of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with Regulation 33of IBBI (Liquidation Process) Regulations 2017, invites expression of interest for sale of assets of the company on 'as is where is and whatever there is basis,

S.No	Assets in Parcel	Reserved Price (Rs. in Lacs)	EMD Amount (Rs. in Lacs)
1	Factory Land (144.51 Acres) , Building, Plant & Machineries and other Assets	6937.50	35.00
2	Land Other than Factory Land (232.72 Acres)	3700.00	18.50

Interested Parties may submit EOI for sale of Plant / Assets of Company along with prescribed EMD fee in terms of the invitation. For detailed terms and conditions of the EOI. Visit <https://eaction.npsource.com> or send email at liquidator.gepl@gmail.com

Other Points:
1. E Auction will be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS" through approved service provider, (<https://eaction.npsource.com>).
2. This Sale Notice shall be read in conjunction with the E-Auction Process Document containing Brief of the Assets, online E Auction Tender Form, Deed of Indemnity, General Terms & Conditions of E-Auction Sale which are available on website <https://eaction.npsource.com> or through mail liquidator.gepl@gmail.com, Contact Number +91-9860128856.
3. E Auction documents should reach the office of the Liquidator Physically or by Email, at the address : Level 3, Leela Vista Building, West High Court Road, Bajaj Nagar, Nagpur 440010 before 5.00 PM on 13th January 2020.
4. E-Auction will be start from at 3.00 PM to 5 PM IST 14th January 2020

Vikas Prakash Gupta
Liquidator
(Gupta Energy Private Limited - under Liquidation)
Registration No : IBBI/PA-001/MP-POU501/2017-18/10889

Date : 03.01.2020
Place : Nagpur

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RECRUITMENT- NON-TEACHING POSITION

Institute invites online applications from Indian nationals for the position of “Junior Office Assistant (Multi-Skill)” (Level 4, UR). For detailed information about emoluments, requirements and information about submission of online applications, please visit www.iiserpune.ac.in and click on the link “Opportunities – Technical/Administration”. The last date for submission of online applications is **January 23, 2020**. Advtn. No.: 01/2020/ISER-P/Rect./02.01.2020

Registrar

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

NUNAR CAMPUS, GANDERBAL-191201 (J&K)

SKILL TEST FOR VARIOUS NON-TEACHING POSTS

Central University of Kashmir is going to conduct skill test for various non-teaching positions as per below mentioned schedule. The said positions were advertised by the University vide Employment Notification No.s 02 of 2019 dated 28.02.2019, 06 of 2018 dated 04.10.2018, 01 of 2018 dated 07.02.2018, 08 of 2017 dated 20.12.2017, 12 of 2016 dated 28.12.2016, 15 of 2015 dated 07.10.2015 & 08 of 2014 dated 08.08.2014:

Sr. No.	Post	Schedule of Skill Test
01	Upper Division Clerk: 01- OBC	Date: 13.01.2020
02	Statistical Assistant: 01 – UR	Venue: Central University of Kashmir, Green Campus, Ganderbal– 191201 (J&K).
03	Semi Professional Assistant: 01-UR, 01-OBC	
04	Library Assistant (01-UR, 01-OBC)	Date: 14.01.2020
05	Lower Division Clerk (01-UR)	Venue: Central University of Kashmir, Green Campus, Ganderbal– 191201 (J&K).
06	Pharmacist : 01-UR	
07	MTS/Peon/Office Attendant: 02-UR	
08	Section Officer (01-UR)	Date: 15.01.2020
09	Professional Assistant (01-UR)	Venue: Central University of Kashmir, Green Campus, Ganderbal– 191201 (J&K).
10	Personal Assistant (02-UR)	

All the candidates who have qualified the written test as per the prescribed scheme of the University are requested to attend the Skill test along with all relevant certificates/documents etc in original for verification. The candidates in their own interest are advised to be in regular touch with the University website/daily newspapers for further updates. The list of eligible candidates is also available on the University website www.cukashmir.ac.in.

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Officer In-Charge
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Dated: 01.01.2020
CUK-1191

LAYS FOUNDATION FOR NDRF ACADEMY

Modi govt achieved international-standard disaster management within 5 years: Shah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NAGPUR, JANUARY 2

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said the Narendra Modi-led central government has achieved disaster management preparedness of international standards within five years, which wasn’t achieved in the past 70 years.

Shah was speaking at a function to honour firemen from across the country for exemplary work in 2017 and 18, at the National Fire Service College (NFSC) here.

“India was a \$2 trillion economy when the Modi government took over. Within five years, the country became \$3 trillion economy. Our effort

would be to make it \$5 trillion economy by 2024 or, if possible, by the time of 75 years of Independence. But with development, disaster risks also grow. So, we have to be prepared to safeguard our installations. I am sure we will achieve that capability,” Shah said.

Earlier, Shah dedicated to the nation the new campus of NFSC spread over 42 acres. The campus, built at a cost of over Rs 200 crore, had been operational since the past two years. Shah also laid the foundation for the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) academy.

“Disaster management and fire-fighting had remained a neglected field after Independence. The Narendra Modi government made efforts

to bring India at par with the world’s best standards in the two fields in five years... Today, the country has achieved leading position in disaster management,” Shah said.

The BJP chief cited the examples of three cyclones that hit the country in 2019, killing 64 people as against the Odisha cyclone in 1999 that claimed 10,000 lives. He said, “Fire-fighting is a state subject. The state has further delegated it to municipal bodies and zilla parishads. So, this particular service is feeling neglected. But NFSC at Nagpur has made us proud by becoming a centre for excellence in training firemen from across the country and even outside.”

Shah added, “The NDRF Academy, being set up here, will

have a facility to create sea-like waves and 80 metre deep diving facility. I hope it could become a training centre for all SAARC countries too.”

“The Academy will come up soon and we will inaugurate it before next election, unlike Congress, which would have four different governments to lay foundation, release funds, build and then inaugurate anything they planned,” Shah said, taking a dig at the Congress.

Union Surface Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai, former Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Director General of Fire Safety M Nageshwar Rao and NFSC Director G S Saini also spoke on the occasion.

