

Security forces draw up new Kashmir's most wanted hit list

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Srinagar: Hizbul Mujahideen chief Riyaz Naikoo is the most wanted terrorist in Kashmir, according to a new hit list drawn up by security agencies, naming the 17 deadliest terrorists operating in the Valley. Naikoo, who hails from Beighpora village of Pulwama district, was the mastermind of the recent abductions of policemen's family members.

Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) tops the list, with seven commanders belonging to the militant outfit. It's followed by the Hizbul Mujahideen with six commanders in the list. Two commanders belong to Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), while one each are from Al Badr and Ansar Gazwat ul Hind. Security forces have said it's the elimination of these 17 terrorists that alone holds the key to ensuring lasting peace in the Valley.

Sources also said the security forces have intensified efforts to neutralise the commanders in a bid to demoralise the cadres in the ranks, which can help restore peace in the Valley. **Full report, P5**