

15 Maoists gunned down

2 Naxals, including senior commander, held in Chhattisgarh

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Security forces gunned down 15 alleged members of the outlawed Communist Party of India (Maoist) in an operation in Sukma district of Chhattisgarh on Monday. Two Maoists, including a senior commander, were arrested.

“Two intelligence-based operations were launched in Sukma district on Sunday. One operation was launched in the area between Gollapalli village and Konta town of Sukma in which 200 jawans of the DRG [District Reserve Guard] and the Special Task Force participated. They had left their camp yesterday [on Sunday] evening. The security forces came across a Maoist camp, four km away from Nalkatong village. There was an exchange of fire in which 15 Maoists



The arms and materials seized from the Maoists.

were killed and 16 weapons were recovered,” D.M. Awasthi, Special Director-General of Police, Anti-Naxal Operation (ANO) unit of Chhattisgarh police, said in Raipur.

Indiscriminate firing

The Inspector-General of Police, Bastar range, Vivekanand Sinha, said the Maoists began to fire indiscriminate-

ly at the security forces after which the security forces retaliated.

“The encounter lasted for about two hours. We have recovered 15 bodies of male Maoist cadres. One female Maoist, who suffered a bullet injury in the leg, was captured. She is being treated in Konta. A senior Maoist commander named Deva, who was working in the area committee of the Maoists, was captured alive. This was a major success and the credit goes to the entire police machinery in Bastar. This incident will act as a morale booster to our forces,” said Mr. Sinha.

The Maoists cadre belonged to three different militia formations. These three platoons were operating between Konta, Bhejji and Gollapalli areas bordering Telangana.