

# Three more militants shot dead along LoC

One soldier killed in the encounters, two Army men sustain injuries; number of terrorists killed in two days rises to seven

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Three more infiltrators were killed near the Line of Control (LoC) in the Kashmir Valley on Thursday, as the Army foiled multiple infiltration bids, taking the death toll in the past 48 hours to seven. One soldier was killed and two others were injured in the encounters.

The Army on Thursday spotted a group of militants in the Naugam sector in Kupwara near the LoC. "Alert troops foiled the infiltration bid in the Naugam sector and killed three heavily armed militants. One soldier was also killed," an Army official said.

Four infiltrators were killed on Wednesday in the Macchil sector of Kupwara district.

The Army said it foiled four infiltration bids in the Kashmir Valley in the past two days. "The Pakistan Army's attempts to push armed infiltrators were



**Different scenes:** A time for calm in Pulwama town, which sees frequent stone-throwing, on Thursday. But an anti-militancy operation came under attack in Anantnag. ■ NISSAR AHMAD

foiled in Gurez in Bandipora district, Macchil and Naugam in Kupwara and Uri in Baramulla district. The armed

groups were provided active support, including covering fire, from heavy-calibre artillery, by Pakistani posts," said

the Army spokesman.

While two soldiers were injured in a gunfight in the Uri Sector, a total of 15 milit-

ants have been killed along the LoC in Kashmir Valley since May 26.

According to the Army, 22 infiltration attempts were foiled and 43 armed intruders killed along the LoC this year.

"The relentless operations by the security forces have defeated desperate attempts by Pakistan and its agents to spread terror during the month of Ramzan," it said.

Meanwhile, a cordon-and-search-operation was launched in Poonch in Loran area on Wednesday night following information about the presence of about six militants.

## Stone-throwing

An anti-militancy operation was resisted by locals, who resorted to heavy stone-throwing in Anantnag's Wularhama village in south Kashmir.

A police official said aerial firing and tear smoke shelling were employed

against protesters "who attacked a cordon-and-search-operation." The militants reportedly managed to escape.

## 10 CRPF jawans injured

Meanwhile, 10 jawans of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) suffered injuries in the restive Shopian district when the driver of a vehicle carrying them came under attack by stone throwers.

The district has been witnessing tension following the killing of a student during an Army search operation two days ago.

An official said the CRPF men were discharged after treatment.

All educational institutions in the Kashmir valley will remain closed in the wake of a call by separatists for protests against the student's killing. Kashmir University has postponed all examinations, as the authorities have decided to impose curfew-like restrictions in parts of the Valley.