

Indian troops kill 5 militants in Kashmir

REUTERS, Srinagar

Indian troops yesterday killed five militants, including a top commander from the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) group, in stepped-up anti-militancy operations in Kashmir, police said.

The militants were killed in two separate overnight operations by Indian troops south of Srinagar, Kashmir Police chief Vijay Kumar told Reuters.

"We had launched two separate operations on the basis of inputs about the presence of militants in these areas last night. 5 militants, including JeM commander, Zahid Wani, and a Pakistani national, Kafeel, were killed," Kumar said. A police officer was shot to death by militants outside his residence Saturday evening in the south of Srinagar, Kumar said.

In January, 21 militants, including 8 Pakistan nationals, have been killed across Indian Kashmir, according to police.



A military instructor teaches civilians holding wooden replicas of Kalashnikov rifles, as they take part in a training session at an abandoned factory in the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv, yesterday. As fears grow of a potential invasion by Russian troops massed on Ukraine's border, within the framework of the training there were classes on tactics, paramedics, training on the obstacle course. The training is conducted by instructors with combat experience, members of the public initiative "Total Resistance".

PHOTO: AFP

'Bomb cyclone' batters eastern US

AFP, Boston

Blinding snow whipped up by powerful winds pummeled the eastern United States into yesterday's early hours, as one of the strongest winter storms in years triggered transport chaos and power outages across a region of some 70 million people.

Major cities such as New York and Boston bore the brunt of the blizzard, which the National Weather Service (NWS) confirmed had intensified into a "bomb cyclone" -- characterized by the explosive power of rapid drops in atmospheric pressure.

The heaviest-hit parts of New York and Massachusetts received two feet of snow by early evening, with more than 95,000 homes in Massachusetts reported without power. Snowfall in Boston equaled the one-day record of 23.6 inches set in 2003, the NWS said.

The towns of Islip, New York, and Warren, Rhode Island, were similarly blanketed. Cold weather stretched as far south as Florida. Residents in towns and cities across the eastern seaboard were urged to avoid all unnecessary travel for a second night of whiteout conditions, with additional snowfall expected to be heaviest across New England.



MURDER OF UN EXPERTS

51 sentenced to death in DR Congo

AFP, Kananga

A military court in Democratic Republic of Congo Saturday sentenced 51 people to death, several in absentia, in a mass trial over the 2017 murder of two UN experts in a troubled central region.

Unrest in the Kasai region had broken out in 2016, triggered by the killing of a local traditional chief by the security forces. Around 3,400 people were killed. The conflict fizzled out in mid-2017.

Michael Sharp, an American, and Zaida Catalan, a Swedish-Chilean, disappeared as they probed violence in the region after being hired to do so by the United Nations. Their bodies were found in a village on March 28, 2017, 16 days after they went missing. Catalan had been beheaded.

'Felt like a bullet'

Bhutan PM mourns rare Covid death

AFP, New Delhi

Bhutan's success in avoiding coronavirus is almost unrivalled but a rare patient death -- just the kingdom's fourth -- shows more work was needed to fight the pandemic there, its leader says.

The remote Himalayan nation of around 800,000 people, sandwiched between China and India, has recorded fewer Covid fatalities than almost anywhere else in the world.

Bhutan's Prime Minister Lotay Tshering said this week's death was "a bitter reminder that we need to do more".

Tshering said in a Facebook post late Saturday that "it felt like a bullet-hit to learn that one more precious life died with Covid-19."

"I grieved with the nation and continue to offer my prayers for our dear friend," he added.

Bhutan, like much of the world, has seen a surge in infections linked to the highly contagious Omicron variant. Friday's death came on the same day health authorities reported record 205 new cases.

The kingdom has still seen fewer than 5,000 cases overall since the disease emerged two years ago.



Nuclear, ICBM tests could be next

Fears Seoul as North Korea test-fires most powerful missile since 2017

AFP, Seoul

North Korea yesterday tested its most powerful missile since 2017, ramping up the firepower for its record-breaking seventh launch this month as Seoul warned nuclear and long-range tests could be next.

Pyongyang has never test-fired this many missiles in a calendar month before and last week threatened to abandon a nearly five-year-long self-imposed moratorium on testing long-range and nuclear weapons, blaming US "hostile" policy for forcing its hand.

With peace talks with Washington stalled, North Korea has doubled-down on leader Kim Jong Un's vow to modernise the regime's armed forces, flexing Pyongyang's military muscles despite biting international sanctions.

South Korea yesterday said that North Korea appeared to be following a "similar pattern" to 2017 -- when tensions were last at breaking-point on the peninsula -- warning

Pyongyang could soon restart nuclear and intercontinental missile tests.

North Korea "has come close to destroying the moratorium declaration", South Korea's President Moon Jae-in said in a statement following an emergency meeting of Seoul's National Security Council.

South Korea's military said it had "detected an intermediate-range ballistic missile fired at a lofted angle eastward towards the East Sea."

The missile was estimated to have hit a maximum altitude of 2,000 kilometres and flown around 800 kilometres for half an hour, Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

The last time Pyongyang tested an intermediate-range missile was the Hwasong-12 in 2017, which analysts said at the time was powerful enough to put the US territory of Guam in range.

Pyongyang has tested hypersonic missiles twice this month, as well as carrying out four launches of short-range ballistic and cruise missiles.



Another thing we'll do, and so many people have been asking me about it, if I run and if I win, we will treat those people from Jan. 6 fairly. And if it requires pardons we will give them pardons. Because they are being treated so unfairly.

Donald Trump
Former US president tells a rally in Texas

'Brutally ironic'

Snubbed by her own country, New Zealand pregnant, unmarried journalist offered refuge by Taliban

AFP, Wellington

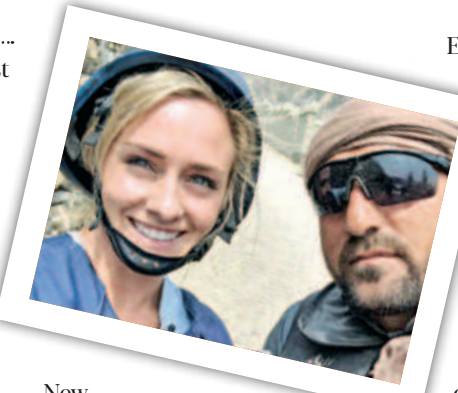
A pregnant New Zealand journalist denied re-entry to her home country to give birth due to strict Covid-19 regulations said she has been offered refuge by the Afghan Taliban.

"This just feels like such a breach of trust," Charlotte Bellis yesterday told Radio New Zealand from Kabul.

Bellis had been working for Al Jazeera in Afghanistan, but said she didn't realise she was pregnant until she was at the media company's headquarters in Doha, Qatar.

It is illegal to be pregnant and unmarried in Qatar, so Bellis kept her pregnancy secret as she prepared to return to New Zealand.

Upon being told she did not qualify for an exemption under



They also said, "Don't worry. Everything will be fine," she told the New Zealand Herald.

"In my time of need, the New Zealand government said you're not welcome here."

"When the Taliban offers you -- a pregnant, unmarried woman -- safe haven, you know your situation is messed up."

Bellis, who once questioned the Taliban about what they would do to ensure the rights of women and girls, said it was "brutally ironic" she was now asking the same question of her own government.

After going public with her situation, and involving lawyers, Bellis said she had been contacted by New Zealand officials who said her rejected application was under review.

New Zealand's strict Covid border controls, Bellis said she called senior Taliban contacts and was told she could give birth there.

"We're happy for you, you can come and you won't have a problem," Bellis said in an interview about what the Taliban had told her.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Upazila Engineer
Upazila: Khoksha, District: Kushtia
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.02.5063.000.14.029.16-44
Dated: 30/01/2022

Invitation for Tender (Works)
e-Tender Notice Number: 02/2021-22

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of following works. Details are given below:

Sl No.	Package No. & ID No.	Name of works	Tender last selling (date & time)	Tender receiving (date & time)	Tender opening (date & time)
1	Khoksha/ADP-01 & ID No. 652635	Const: of C.C Road at Bongram Mohammad Master's house to Horindhara Khal Road Under Bethbaria UP, Khoksha, Kushtia	Date -16/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-10.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-10.00am
2	Khoksha/ADP-02 & ID No. 652838	Const: of 900mm dia Pipe Culvert at Dosundo Khal Near Salim Reza's House Under Jointahazra UP, Khoksha, Kushtia.	Date -16/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-10.15am	Date -17/02/22 Time-10.15am
3	Khoksha/ADP-03 & ID No. 652890	Const: of C.C Road at Gopogram- Kumarkhali Road to Shamjomj Mosque Road Under Gopogram UP, Khoksha, Kushtia.	Date -16/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-10.30am	Date -17/02/22 Time-10.30am
4	Khoksha/ADP-04 & ID No. 652903	Const: of Ghat of Sontospur Jame mosque Under Shomospur UP Khoksha, Kushtia.	Date -16/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-11.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-11.00am
5	Khoksha/ADP-05 & ID No. 652939	Const: of Bridge at Chokhoripur Khal Under Shomospur UP, Khoksha, Kushtia.	Date -16/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-11.30am	Date -17/02/22 Time-11.30am
6	Khoksha/ADP-06 & ID No. 652951	Const: of Boundary wall at Ambaria Union Parishad Campas Under Ambaria UP, Khoksha, Kushtia.	Date -16/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-12.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-12.00am
7	Khoksha/ADP-07 & ID No. 652994	Const: of BFS Road at Chalkhoripur-Roghunathpur Road Under Gopogram UP, Khoksha, Kushtia.	Date -16/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-13.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-13.00am
8	Khoksha/ADP-08 & ID No. 653000	Const: of BFS Road at Kamapur Abu Taleb's House to Sanars House Road Under Janipur UP, Khoksha, Kushtia.	Date -16/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-13.30am	Date -17/02/22 Time-13.30am
9	Khoksha/ADP-09 & ID No. 653052	(1) Const: of BFS Road at Raipur Graveyard road Under Osmanpur UP. (2) Const: of BFS Road at Debinagor Graveyard road Under Osmanpur UP, Khoksha, Kushtia.	Date -16/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-13.15am	Date -17/02/22 Time-13.15am
10	Khoksha/ADP-10 & ID No. 653063	(1) Const: of BFS Road at Fulbaria Nazir House to Fulbaria Pucca road Under Jointahazra UP. (2) Const: of BFS Road Uthali UZR to Uthali Asrain Project pacca Road Under Jointahazra UP, Khoksha, Kushtia.	Date -16/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-13.45am	Date -17/02/22 Time-13.45am
11	Khoksha/ADP-11 & ID No. 653066	Const: of BFS Road at Singhoria LGED Road near Bagu Sarder House to Singhoria RHD road Under Simulia UP, Khoksha, Kushtia.	Date -16/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-14.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-14.00am
12	Khoksha/ADP-12 & ID No. 653069	Const: of Shomospur Madrasha Under Shomospur UP, Khoksha, Kushtia.	Date -16/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-14.15am	Date -17/02/22 Time-14.15am
13	Khoksha/ADP-13 & ID No. 65370	Const: of Fish Shed at Biljani Hat Under Simulia UP, Khoksha, Kushtia.	Date -16/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-15.00am	Date -17/02/22 Time-15.00am

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches up to 15:00 on 16/02/2022 mention above. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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