

Shifting Strategy of Naxals: Will the 'Red Corridor' Survive?



Balaghat: The narrative of the 'Red Corridor' faces a critical test as Naxalites drastically alter their strategy to ensure survival against aggressive security operations. With the government aiming for a Naxal-free region by 2026, insurgents have adopted a defensive stance, moving away from direct confrontation.

Naxals Adopt New Tactics
In a significant strategic change, Maoists have abandoned large groups, opting instead to



travel in small, discreet squads to minimize losses during encounters. They have also started moving in civilian attire to blend in. This shift acknowledges the immense pressure from security forces, which have effectively blocked their access to villages for meetings and recruitment.

Intensified Security Operations
Security forces, including Hawk Force and three battalions of the CRPF, have ramped up

their efforts. Over 1,200 Hawk Force personnel are conducting long, large-scale operations deep within the dense forests of Lanji, Kirmapur, and Baihar, aiming to encircle and neutralize the threat.

Despite the pressure, Naxal activity is not fully suppressed. Last month, Maoists showed a visible presence, posting banners and fatally abducting and murdering a youth on suspicion of being a police informer. An exchange of fire was also reported on October 3rd.

The Hunt for Key Leaders

IG Sanjay Kumar acknowledged that this "guerrilla warfare" doesn't guarantee success every time, but the strategy is expanding beyond jungles into remote villages. Furthermore, the focus on eliminating leaders in neighboring Chhattisgarh, particularly the elusive Hidma, is expected to weaken the network in border districts like Balaghat.

However, a former Naxal commander warned that while bodies may fall, the 'revolutionary' ideology will persist, suggesting the Red Corridor will remain a challenge.

2 held with brown sugar worth Rs 2.8 lakh



Indore: The Crime Branch team apprehended two criminals with 28.68 grams of brown sugar. Upon seeing the team, they began running. The team surrounded them and apprehended them. Upon searching, they found brown sugar, valued at Rs 2,80,000 in the international market.

Additional DCP Rajesh Dandotiya stated that the team is continuously taking action against illegal substances. In this connection, the team was checking suspects in various areas. During this period, the team spotted two sus-

picious individuals in the Patel Nagar area of Shaheed Petrol Pump Road in Khajrana.

Upon seeing the team, they began running. They were surrounded and stopped. Upon questioning, they identified themselves as Kapil Yadav and Kamal Dhanwal, residents of Talavli Chanda. Upon searching them, cops found 28.68 grams of brown sugar and their bike was confiscated.

DCP stated that brown sugar is valued at Rs 2,80,000 in the international market. Action has been taken against the accused under the NDPS Act. Both accused are drivers by profession and have studied only up to the fifth grade.

Preliminary investigation revealed that they purchased the brown sugar at low prices and sold it at higher prices to drug addicts in the city.

The team is questioning the accused about where they obtained the brown sugar and to whom they were supplying it.

Massive Lokayukta Action in Shahdol

ASI Caught accepting Rs 3,000 Bribe



Shahdol: Corruption within the Dhanpuri Municipality has been starkly exposed after the Lokayukta (anti-

ti-corruption ombudsman) team from Rewa conducted a major trap operation. Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Inder Bahadur Singh was caught red-handed accepting a bribe.

The action stemmed from a complaint filed by Yodendra Verma, a resident of Ward No. 2, who was asked for a bribe to approve his building construction plans. Initially demanding Rs 10,000, the amount was negotiated down to Rs 5,000. Verma had already paid the first installment of Rs 2,000.

The moment Verma handed over the final Rs 3,000 installment at the municipal premises, a 15-member Lokayukta team swooped in, recovering the tainted cash. The investigation revealed that ASI Singh was not working alone, Razzan Chaudhary, a permanent employee of the municipality, was also allegedly involved in the extortion.

Both have been booked under the Prevention of Corruption Act. The raid sent shockwaves through the Dhanpuri Municipality, where locals allege that rampant bribery and arbitrary actions have long been the norm. This successful trap is viewed as a severe blow against the entrenched corrupt system.

Minister Narendra Shivaji Patel makes Brief Stop at Picturesque Tamia



Tamia: State Minister Narendra Shivaji Patel made a brief and refreshing halt at Motel Tamia on Sunday evening while traveling from Chhindwara to Bhopal on

Highway 62. The Minister was visibly delighted by the surrounding greenery and the pleasant weather of Tamia, taking time to inquire about the local sightseeing spots.

Following a short refreshment break, he warmly interacted with the staff of Hospitality Essentials Company's motel.

At the request of Motel Manager Arbaaz Khan and the team, Minister Patel posed for a memorable group photograph. His stop came after a day spent in Parasia and surrounding villages of Chhindwara, where he met with the grieving families of children tragically affected by the recent cough syrup incident. He conveyed the resolve of CM Dr. Mohan Yadav's government to take the strictest possible action against those responsible, assuring the families that the state stands firmly with them in their time of sorrow.

Rs 5.70 Crore Share Trading Scam Uncovered in Indore

Accused Conman Nabbed in Karnataka

Indore: The Crime Branch has arrested a highly sought-after fraudster accused of orchestrating a massive Rs 5.70 crore scam by promising lucrative returns in share market trading. The accused had been evading law enforcement by hiding out in Karnataka for an extended period.



The arrested individual, 40-year-old Gulam Moinuddin, a resident of Raichur (Karnataka), allegedly created and operated fraudulent firms under names like 'Stage One', 'Sunrises', and others. He used these fictitious companies

to lure investors in Indore and other cities across the country with false promises of exponential stock market profits. Moinuddin successfully convinced numerous victims, including Rekha Solanki, Jitendra Patidar, and Siraj Khan, to invest millions. After collecting the hefty investments, the accused absconded without returning any of the funds. His capture in Karnataka marks a significant breakthrough in tracking down the perpetrators of such sophisticated financial fraud.

12-year-old girl dies as earthen mound collapses, five others injured

Tragic accident in Sheopur village

Sheopur: A tragic incident occurred on Monday morning in Laxmanpura village, under the Vijaypur police station area, when six people were buried under a mound of soil. A 12-year-old girl, identified as Shivani, daughter of Pan Singh Kushwaha, lost her life, while five others sustained injuries. All the injured have been admitted to Vijaypur Hospital for treatment.

According to reports, several women from the village had gone to collect soil from a nearby mound for plastering their houses, accompanied by some children. While digging, the mound suddenly collapsed, burying six people under the soil.

Nearby villagers rushed to the spot: Hearing the cries for help, nearby villagers rushed to

the spot and began removing the soil with shovels and their bare hands. The police were also informed, and with their assistance, all six were rescued after about half an hour.

Shivani, a Class 6 student, was declared dead on arrival at the hospital. She is survived by two elder sisters and two younger brothers. The injured, including Aashiqui (8), daughter of Karan Kushwah, are under medical supervision.

Vijaypur TI Rakesh Sharma confirmed that Shivani's body has been sent for post-mortem. SDM Abhishek Mishra visited the hospital and instructed doctors to ensure the best possible care for the injured, whose condition is now stable.

Man collapses while refueling, dies during treatment

Indore: A tragic incident occurred at a Bharat Petroleum petrol pump in the Vijaynagar area of Indore on Monday morning when a 45-year-old man suddenly collapsed while refueling his vehicle and later died during treatment.

The deceased has been identified as Saudan Singh, son of Phool Singh Parmar, a resident of Singapore Township.

Around 7:30 a.m., he arrived at the petrol pump located in front of Hotel Sayaji to fill fuel in his Tempo Traveller.

While making the payment after refueling,

Saudan Singh suddenly fell to the ground and became unconscious. Pump employees rushed to assist him, splashing water on his face in an attempt to revive him.

When there was no response, they immediately called an ambulance and took him to Bhandari Hospital, where doctors declared him dead during treatment.

According to police sources, a silent heart attack is suspected to be the cause of death, though the exact reason will be confirmed after the post-mortem at MY Hospital.

Mother Commits Infanticide and Suicide after Alleged Marital Abuse

Indore: A deeply tragic incident has rocked the Rau area of Indore, where a 24-year-old woman, Suman Patel, murdered her five-month-old son, Pratham, by dousing him with acid before taking her own life in the same horrific manner. The heartbreaking event occurred on the morning of October 10th in Braj Vihar Colony. Police investigations have revealed a shocking motive: alleged relentless mental torture and instigation by Suman's husband, 25-year-old Kailash Patel. According to the police, initial reports and the case diary strongly indicate that Kailash's continuous harassment and pressure drove Suman to commit the extreme act of infanticide and suicide. Police have now registered a case against the husband, Kailash Patel, for abetment to suicide. The devastating sequence of events has drawn attention to the hidden distress that led a young mother to such an irreversible, painful final act, highlighting the grave consequences of domestic abuse.

Public outrage over smart meter installation in Khajuraho

Villagers surround electricity office, accuse dept of dictatorial actions



Khajuraho: In a major show of anger, residents of Rajnagar in Khajuraho openly protested against the ongoing installation of smart electricity meters on Monday. Enraged villagers, farmers, businessmen, and women surrounded the local electricity department office, raising slogans like "Stop dictatorship" and accusing officials of forcibly replacing traditional meters with smart ones. Protesters alleged that the department,

in collaboration with private companies, was removing old meters without prior notice or consent, leading to inflated electricity bills. Local BJP councillor Roby Jain joined the protest in support of the people, further intensifying the agitation.

One of the protesters said, "Our old meters were working perfectly. The department is forcibly installing smart meters that cause bills to shoot up. First they raise the charges, then threaten disconnection — if this isn't dictatorship, what is?"

The demonstration saw participation from hundreds of locals demanding an immediate halt to the installation process. Across several parts of the country, similar protests have emerged against the smart meter scheme, with villagers alleging collusion between private firms and the government. Experts note that while smart meters were meant to promote transparency, frequent technical faults and inaccurate readings are burdening consumers instead.

Man fires four bullets after being insulted in front of his wife

Revenge shooting in Jabalpur restaurant, accused held

Jabalpur: In a shocking act of revenge, a young man opened fire at a restaurant just two days after being insulted there in front of his wife. The incident took place at Abhinandan Restaurant in Teen Patti Chowk, where four bullets were fired, causing chaos and panic among customers. Fortunately, the restaurant owner, Ashwin Pariya, escaped unhurt by hiding behind the counter.

Police arrested the accused, Golu Khabadi alias Mahesh Vishwakarma, and his accomplice, Anoop Kewat, from Shirdi, Maharashtra.

The two were reportedly on their way to seek forgiveness at Sai Baba's temple for their crime.

On October 2, Golu visited the restaurant with his pregnant wife. During dinner, Golu accidentally bumped a table, which led to an argument.

When the owner intervened, the dispute turned heated, and Golu felt humiliated. Enraged, he returned on October 7 with a pistol and fired four rounds at Ashwin, narrowly missing him.

CCTV footage helped police identify Golu, who fled to Bargi Dam after the shooting and later traveled to Shirdi with his wife. Maharashtra police, acting on a tip-off, arrested the duo. A pistol and scooter used in the crime were recovered. Both accused were produced in court and sent to jail.

Tiger cubs found in tree cavity will be trained to live in wild



Umaria: Two tiger cubs rescued from a fallen tree cavity in the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve in Umaria district of Madhya Pradesh will now be trained to live in the wild. These two tiger cubs have been successfully rescued and taken to Tala. Both are approximately 4 to 5 months old. They will be taught how a wild tiger lives

and hunts in the wild. Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve Director Anupam Sahay stated that a patrol team in the Panpatha buffer zone spotted the tiger cubs entering a fallen tree cavity. A search revealed no signs of a male or female tiger. A rescue operation was subsequently launched. The rescue team was successful in safely retrieving the two tiger cubs from the cavity. Both tiger cubs have been safely transported to Tala, Bandhavgarh, where their health is being evaluated.

Search underway for female tiger

According to reports, an intensive search operation is underway for the female tiger. Speculation that there were three tiger cubs have also been put to rest, as the rescue team has found no sign of the third cub. Sources indicate that the two tiger cubs will be trained to live in the wild, assuming no human presence.

This will be closely monitored by Sahay, who has successfully conducted this experiment once before in the Panna Tiger Reserve.

Municipal employees protest salary delays



Narsinghpur: Under the banner of the Madhya Pradesh Officers and Employees Joint Front, employees of the Narsinghpur Municipal Council staged a protest on Monday against salary discrepancies and delays in payment. The employees took out a rally, marched

to the Collectorate, and submitted a memorandum to the Collector demanding immediate resolution of the issue.

In their memorandum, the employees stated that they have been facing serious financial hardship for the past three to four months

due to irregularities in salary and arrear payments. They emphasized that salaries should be disbursed between the 1st and 5th of every month to maintain financial stability and peace at home. Highlighting their worsening economic condition, the employees said that delayed payments have made it difficult to manage household expenses and meet essential needs.

They urged the administration to release pending salaries before Diwali, so they can celebrate the festival without stress. The Joint Front appealed to the Collector to take swift action and ensure timely payment of salaries. Department head Sonalal Mehtar informed that the employees' financial situation has become dire due to continuous delays and expressed hope that the administration will address their concerns promptly.