



pilot-events

Type '/' for commands

december 2014 - Naxal attacks on CRPF jawans

the events

▼ the set of events/facts everyone agrees to

- the CRPF jawans were returning from their training scouting practise and where ambused by the maoist troops who used the nearby villagers are human shield to reduce the firing from forces.
- 14 killed and many more injured, two commanding officers died.
- the home minister will visit the next day, attack takes place two days after the CM makes an announcement about the elimination of the naxals from the state.
- joint squad of CRPF 223 battalion, its elite Commando Battalion for Resolute Action 206 battalion and district police was attacked by a large group of armed rebels in Kasalpada village forests when the security forces were returning to their camp after operation in the Chintagufa region, about 450 kms from Raipur
- The injured jawans are being airlifted to Raipur for treatment while the bodies of martyred security personnel are also being brought to Raipur in choppers

- Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh strongly condemned the attack as an act of cowardice
- Singh also spoke to Chattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh and asked him to monitor the situation.

the supporting information

▼ firstpost

- the glaring truth that security forces are waging a battle already lost in the Maoist heartland, where the latter repeatedly emphasize their supremacy by killing jawans in big numbers
- How many more jawans will have to die before the government realises that its efforts don't measure up to the challenge posed by the Maoists?
- The ambush on Monday morning has again raised questions about the modus operandi of the security forces in taking the Maoists head on, and the failure of the on-the-ground intelligence network.

▼ one india

- It was an attack waiting to happen and after being specifically warned just 23 days back.
- The alert that was issued stated that the naxals were attempting to regroup especially after they lost control over the Bastar region
- the attack shows both audacity and desperation on their part. It was extremely necessary for them to carry out this attack to lift their sagging morale.
- The forces have returned to the Chintagufa camp. The

▼ rediff

- security has been tightened across the Naxal-hit Bastar region as the Maoists are observing Peoples' Liberation Guerrilla Army week from today in the honour of their slain leaders
- Naxals looted three under-barrel grenade launcher armoured AK-47, 7 AK-47, one Insas-LMG, one Insas, a bullet-proof jacket, a GPS, one binoculars, a monopack and several magazines of AK-47, Insas and Insas-LMG of CRPF men
- Maoists certainly got a tip-off about the route of

chopper could not fly because of low light

security forces during their return to camp on December 1 after a three-day-long search and area domination operation and may have set up the ambush in just a short span of time

▼ **hindu, deccan chronicles, indiatoday and timesofindia**

- covering only the events and statements from officials.

gauri lankesh murder

the outliers

✓ **indiatimes**

- Among very few woman editors in Kannada journalism, she was a fierce activist, who openly expressed her pro-Naxalite and Leftist views.
- Gauri started her own Kannada tabloid 'Gauri Lankesh Patrike' in 2005 after quitting as editor of Lankesh Patrike following differences with her brother and paper's proprietor and publisher Indrajit.
- Gauri had in the past worked for the rehabilitation of Naxalites who wanted to return to the social mainstream and was one among those involved in the founding of Citizens Initiative for Peace (CiP) in the state.

▼ **huffpost-india**

When I met for the first time, shortly after her brush with the law last year, Lankesh seemed unconcerned about the danger she was courting with her unabashedly anti-establishment views.

✓ **firstpost**

- The sensible ones stayed with the objective line that she had been murdered by unknown assailants, and mentioned her ideological differences with the BJP, stopping short of linking both to the murder. The others, however, smelt an "opportunity" and put the blame on "fascist forces" and the BJP. How did they come to such a conclusion? Did they have proof, evidence, eyewitness accounts? Or did they just follow the old dictum of "strike while the iron is hot" in the hope that some dirt would stick or some link would emerge? There could have been a host of suspects who might have wanted the firebrand journalist eliminated - jealous rivals, family, politicians, ideologues, - just anyone with an axe to grind. Didn't that occur to these journalists? It almost seemed like they had decided the narrative this killing would follow the minute they heard about it. So fascist terror it would be and to hell with the facts – of which there were none
- A curious fact was that not one journalist even made the symbolic gesture of demanding the resignation of either Karnataka chief minister Siddaramaiah or state home minister Ramalinga Reddy.
- For a crime so heinous that they could organise nationwide candlelight protests and even blame the prime minister and the BJP for it, they didn't think it important enough to ask for the resignations of the top two in the state? Objective journalism?
- Then some 48 hours later, news anchors and editors woke up to the fact that objectivity did matter. They began asking politicians why they were accusing the BJP and other related organisations of the murder, conveniently forgetting that they were doing just that two days earlier. Someone told me on Twitter on Friday, that I was ignoring the "circumstantial evidence." Where was it? Has the police found any even now?
- The slogans raised at the event, however, seemed to be influenced by the Left-liberal line of thought. For instance: 'Modi sarkar murdabad', 'Sangh Parivar se azadi', 'bhookmari se azadi (freedom from hunger)', 'jatiwad se azadi (freedom from casteism)' – many of these same slogans were heard during the February 2016 protests on the JNU campus.
- A friend once cheekily commented, "In Mumbai, students are more interested in collecting funds for college fests than attending rallies." This seems, sadly, a correct assessment.
- DN Jeevaraj, a former minister in the BJP government that ruled the

state between 2008 and 2013, told a party rally in Chikmagalur district's Koppa taluk: "If she had not written on the celebration of the death of chaddiwala (reference to RSS), wouldn't she have been alive today?" entire statement: "During the Congress government, we have seen how RSS workers have lost their lives. If Gauri Lankesh had not written the celebration of the death of chaddiwala, wouldn't she have been alive today. Gauri is like a sister to me but the way she has written against us is unacceptable."

- former minister H Vishwanath, also a writer himself, blamed the state government for the death of Gauri Lankesh. "Who held down the hands of state government in unearthing the killers behind Kalburgi murder? Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's callousness towards sensitive issues led to the collapse of law and order situation in Karnataka," he alleged, suggesting the government hand over the case to the CBI.
- The allegation against her was that in the process of supporting various people's causes, she forgot the wrongdoings and misdeeds of the people and organisations which she supported. It was an open secret that in recent days that she had vociferously supported all the decisions of the present Congress government in Karnataka, especially its chief minister Siddaramaiah who describes himself as a Lohiaite.
- in recent coverage of Parashuram Waghmore, no mentions of Gauri made.
- <https://www.firstpost.com/india/gauri-lankesh-was-extortionist-with-links-to-naxals-says-sanatan-sanstha-of-deceased-journalist-4019609.html>

national anthem in movie halls

- Discarding notions of "any different notion or the perception of individual rights", a bench of Justices Dipak Misra and Amitava Roy added that the movie screen shall have the image of the national flag when the anthem is being played and that doors of the halls will remain shut during the anthem so that no disturbance is caused.
- ✓ **hindu**
- "It is time people feel this is my country. This is my motherland... You

are an Indian first. In other countries, you respect their restrictions. In India, you do not want any restrictions?" Justice Misra said in court. - hindu

- The five-page written order, meant to be an interim measure on Mr. Chouksey's petition, however did not elaborate why movie halls were particularly chosen as venues to instill nationalism. - hindu
- The Bench said the protocol of showing respect to the anthem and flag was rooted in "our national identity, national integrity and constitutional patriotism."

▼ [economictimes](#)

The court had then wondered why citizens had to prove their patriotism and asked the central government to bring in rules to this effect if it wanted. "People go out for a movie for entertainment. Sometimes, they go in their shorts. Next, we may have to say they can't wear shorts. Where do you draw the line at moral policing?" Justice DY Chandrachud had said sitting alongside CJI Dipak Misra.

Read more at:[/economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/62419192.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst](http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/62419192.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

▼ [thewire](#)

opinion piece:

- By declaring that the anthem "does not allow any different notion or the perception of individual rights that have individually thought of have no space(sic)", the order seeks to restrictively choreograph the bodies and minds of people and turn participating citizens into docile subjects.
- The citizen cannot be a mere spectator but is required to perform and act in the production of the nation. By influencing and controlling the behaviour of the citizen's body and thereby disciplining their political thought through various practices, the state ultimately curbs the possibilities of any new or alternative conceptions of nationhood and citizenship.
- <https://thewire.in/culture/anthem-diktat-turns-participating-citizens-docile-subjects>

farmers protest in new delhi : better prices for produce and

debt free ▼ before the event

- According to the AIKSCC, members of around 180 farmer organisations are expected to participate in the protest.
- "Our main demand will be full remunerative prices as a legal entitlement with correct cost estimations and at least a 50 percent profit margin over the cost of production," All India Kisan Sabha president Ashok Dhawale said.
- We will also demand freedom from debt, including an immediate comprehensive loan waiver, as well as statutory institutional mechanism to address farmers' debt on an ongoing basis," he said. Dhawale said, "even though Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his Lok Sabha poll campaign, had promised that if elected, farmers would get good prices for their crops and he would implement the Swaminathan Commission recommendations, nothing has been done so far".
- According to the AIKSCC "steady rise in input costs, like fuel, pesticides and fertilisers and even water, and slashing of subsidies by the government" are some of the key factors behind cost versus income imbalance presently been faced by the farmers.

▼ day one of protest

- What has been termed by the farmers' movements as kisan ki loot (loot of the farmer) is happening at two levels. For many crops, the farmers are not even able to get the MSP announced by the government, which should really be the floor price. In just the current season, the loss due to the gap between MSP and actual price is estimated to be about Rs 36,000 crore for farmers across India. - the wire
- These demands only reiterate what the government's own committees have recommended repeatedly, such as the National Farmers Commission and Ramesh Chand committee. The Commission of Agricultural Costs and Prices itself has recommended in its report of 2017-18 that "to instill confidence among farmers for procurement of their produce, a legislation conferring on farmers 'The Right to Sell at MSP' may be brought out". - the wire
- Tens of thousands of farmers from all over the country on Monday hit Parliament Street to put pressure on the Modi government to give in to their long-standing demands of farm loan waivers and remunerative prices for their produce. - hindubusinessline

- The main feature of the protest meeting, held just 500 metres from Parliament, was an all-women parliament where its 545 members, mostly belonging to the families of farmers who committed suicide, passed Bills relating to crop loan waiver and remunerative prices for agricultural commodities. These Bills would now be sent to the government demanding their passage. - hindubusinessline
- The Kisan sansad felicitated Raju Shetty of Swabhiman Shetkari Sanghatan, a sitting MP who broke off with the ruling alliance in Maharashtra to be part of the farmer movement and Amra Ram, an All India Kisan Sabha leader, who successfully organised a huge farmer protest movement recently in the Shekhawati region of Rajasthan. - business line

▼ **day two of protest**

- The AIKSCC had earlier covered more than 10,000 km of the countryside of India, through its regional 'Kisan Mukti Yatras' across 19 states. Participants on Monday held rallies from different parts, including Ramlila Ground, Ambedkar Bhavan and Gurudwara Rakabganj, of the city before they all assembled at Parliament Street. - livemint
- The government procurement agencies, which are mandated to purchase some agricultural commodities at fixed rates to support prices and supply to the government for its welfare programs, buy only a small portion of a commodity's total output, leaving million of farmers across the country to sell at the market-determined levels. - bloomberg
- Addressing the all-women parliament, Pooja Ashok More of Swabhiman Shetkari Sanghatana in Maharashtra pointed out that these suicides were a matter of structural discrimination and injustice against farmers. She blamed successive governments for willfully and systemically neglecting farmers and their issues, even though they take care of the food security of more than 130 crore people. - thewire
- During the Kisan Mukti Sansad, the farmers also demanded unconditional and immediate release of Akhil Gogoi, leader of Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti, who is imprisoned for one year under sedition charges and the National Security Act, for calling Bangladeshi Hindu immigrants as a 'burden on farmers of Assam.'

Farm leaders called it murder of democracy and dissent and called for protests across all states against Gogoi's detention. - the wire

india-australia uranium deal

the event

- The two nations have held five rounds of negotiations on the deal since 2012, when Australia reversed its policy on nuclear sales to India. The policy was based on India's refusal to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.
- the exception was made in view of India's "model behaviour" on its nuclear capabilities. "From the time of Independence, India has scrupulously followed international laws regardless of the ups and downs of the political situation in New Delhi. There is a very high level of trust between us, and that is why we are signing this agreement," he said.
- Australia will now be a "long-term reliable supplier of uranium to India," said an External Affairs Ministry press release, and will provide for the "supply of uranium, production of radio isotopes, nuclear safety and other areas of cooperation."
- Mr. Abbott said he was keen that more Indian investment should follow the nuclear deal signed on Friday, which clears uranium sales to India.
- "Environmental groups are very hard to please and we have very high environmental standards in Australia. I am confident that there can be no reasonable objection to the current proposal. Adani Group is speaking of \$16 billion for this mine, and India's investments of under \$20 billion will almost double the total amount," said Mr. Abbott
- Mr. Abbott said he was keen to negotiate a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) as soon as possible. Modi faces opposition over this.
- "While Coal India can be asked to step up its production, the growing needs make it imperative to go in for more imports ... and what better source than Australia whose top leadership is engaged with strategic relationship with India," - no mention of coal in the hindu exclusive interview : reuters
- However, uranium supplies from Australia, which stands to earn billions of dollars through such shipments, to India could be limited because of Australia's domestic laws. Besides, it might take four-five years for the shipments to start. According to Australian rules, uranium mining is limited

to only a few mines and most are bound by long-terms contracts. - business-standard

- "if Australia was prepared to sell uranium to Russia then "surely we ought to be prepared to provide uranium to India, under suitable safeguards." Abbott had earlier stressed that Australia would ensure adequate safeguards. - hindubusinessline
- <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=109379>

cross border attack in Myanmar by Indian army

▼ thediplomat

- The most frustrating thing about the operation is how little has been confirmed thus far, down to even the essential facts. At the time of writing, the Myanmar government has denied that the operation even occurred on its side of the border despite India's insistence that it did. Other basic details, such as the time of the operation, the casualties incurred, and the degree to which there was coordination with Myanmar, are still unclear due to conflicting reports. - thediplomat
- Second, to seasoned observers, the strike is not as controversial as the sensationalist media reporting suggests. India has carried out several joint-cross border operations in Myanmar previously, most prominently in 1995 and 2006. Moreover, India and Myanmar reached an agreement for cross-border access back in 2010, and the two discuss the issue on a regular basis even if actual cooperation has waxed and waned over the years.
- There is still much that we do not know about India's cross-border strike into Myanmar and what it means. It is also unclear how this will play out in the longer-term, both in terms of India's northeast troubles as well as New Delhi's ties with Naypyidaw. Even more reason, then, to be a little more humble about the conclusions we can draw thus far from a single incident instead of exaggerating developments and declaring new doctrines.
- Third and finally, it is still far from clear whether this particular incident fits into a larger pattern or a new doctrine under the Modi government. Government officials – in particular, junior minister for information and broadcasting Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore – have been happy to play this up as a "message" to other countries including Pakistan and China.

Other government sources have reportedly claimed that the incident is in line with how the Modi government uses force in similar instances – including responding disproportionately to provocations and being bold about striking preemptively.

▼ other sources

- that at least 20 militants were killed in the operations across the border in Myanmar and conceded that retaliatory attacks were a possibility in the coming days. "We would keep up pressure on them," one senior officer said, indicating the possibility of more such cross-border operations. - timesofindia
- Military officials said between 30 to 50 rebels were killed in Tuesday's surprise raids, but a rebel group led by Burmese Naga leader S S Khaplang said the Indian claims were "exaggerated" and that there were few casualties. - aljazeera
- India's junior information minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore told TV channels that the "hot pursuit strikes" on separatist bases in Myanmar had been authorised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "Be it Yemen or Iraq, attacks on Indians are not acceptable. This is also a message to our neighbours who shelter terrorists," Rathore said. - aljazeera
- But never before have cross-border operations been conducted by India so quickly after an action by militants. Nor have they been acknowledged — even if somewhat ambiguously — immediately. - indianexpress
- "According to the information sent by Tatmadaw [Myanmar army] battalions on the ground, we have learned that the military operation was performed on the Indian side at India-Myanmar border," Zaw Htay said. - aljazeera
- "Each of the two teams were further divided into two sub-groups. While one was responsible for the direct assault, the second formed an outer ring to prevent any of insurgents from running and escaping," sources said. - the hindu {issues in the coverage here, some websites mentions the two sub-groups attacking two different set of groups in different bases} [two attack points were Ponyu, which is a key centre of NSCN-Khaplang, and Aumgzeaya, where militants drawn from various groups like UNLF, PLA and MNRF are based.]
- against militant groups along the border with Myanmar in the country's northeast on Tuesday, with special forces allegedly also entering

Myanmar to perform "surgical strikes" - time {no other quote found}

- While some villagers have spoken about having seen helicopters with soldiers land near the border, many in Manipur are questioning the Indian government's description of the raid as a major success. "No pictures have been released to show the extent of the damage on the rebel camps or of any bodies," says one young man, refusing to give his name. Most of the rebels have families in Manipur. If many had died, word would have got out. And it hasn't." - bbc news
- "We should have selected a hard target, deep inside Myanmar and hit some leadership cadres," he says. "Instead we have hit the softer and most proximate camps, which is why there was little retaliatory fire with no casualties on the Indian side." - bbc
- The Indian Army conducted on Tuesday a cross-border revenge attack in Myanmar in which it killed nearly a dozen militants thought to be involved in the massacre of 18 soldiers last week in Manipur, reports said. - dawn
- The Times report then linked this instance of hot pursuit to the Modi government: "The cross-border pursuit was in line with Modi government's decision to give disproportionate response to provocations, which had been visible in Jammu and Kashmir in recent months, where Indian troops have been aggressive in their response to ceasefire violations by Pakistan." - the scroll
- The strategy of seeding rumours allows the Bharatiya Janata Party government to derive political capital for an act that it hasn't actually admitted to carrying out. It also allows the Indian government to be vague about whether it actually crossed the borders into a neighbouring country, lacking the courage of its convictions to project itself a fearless administration with a muscular defence policy. - the scroll
- Zaw Htay, director of the office of Myanmar President Thein Sein, confirmed Wednesday that Indian troops had entered his country. He said that there was "coordination and cooperation" between the Indian troops and Myanmar's armed forces based in the area of the raids, but added that no Myanmar soldiers were directly involved. "We will never allow or support insurgents, whether [they are] against Myanmar or against our neighboring countries," Mr. Zaw Htay added. - wsj

AAP wins the Delhi elections

▼ hindu

- Only Sikkim has seen bigger sweeps, with one party having won all seats in the Assembly sometimes. The AAP won 67 of the 70 seats, or nearly 96 per cent. Its performance is by far the best ever in the State.
- While one should not consider the Delhi Assembly election result as a referendum on the performance of the Modi-led government at the Centre, this rout shows that despite the massive victories of the BJP since the general election, it still remains vulnerable in a direct contest

▼ timesofindia

- the BJP on Tuesday may have been decimated in terms of seats in the Delhi state elections but its vote share has remained almost intact. On the other hand, the Congress has been completely obliterated seat-w

✓ business-standards

- Internally, the BJP's equations in the Sangh Parivar will have to be reset. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, which had been pressed into service extensively in these elections, showed up the BJP, with attacks on churches and communal tension working against it. Under these circumstances, Modi will be more empowered in dealing with those such as Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti, whose controversial public statements hurt the BJP.

✓ guardian

- a series of incidents involving hardline rightwing groups that are part of the same broad political and cultural family as the BJP have raised concerns, as have controversial statements by junior ministers about religious minorities.
- Some analysts said the defeat in Delhi indicated a need for the party to reach beyond its core Hindu nationalist constituency. Others called the defeat "a huge personal blow for Modi".

✓ financial-express

- The BJP's humiliation was complete with its Chief Ministerial face Kiran Bedi losing in the traditional stronghold of Krishna Nagar

which was long held by party veteran Harsh Vardhan. The BJP won a paltry three seats as all its veterans had to bite the dust. The party gambled on Kiran Bedi but relied mostly on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's image, which still did not work for the party.

- "We have lost badly. We accept our massive defeat with all humility. We will seriously look into the reasons. We probably feel we have faulted in gauging the mood of the people of Delhi. We will seriously think about it and take a comprehensive review of the reasons that led to this defeat," Union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said. He added the Narendra Modi government treats everyone equally without any political discrimination and the same principle will apply in Delhi. {not quoted anywhere else}
- before the election :

If an eight month-old party faces so much allegations, it will be disappointment if it is felt that this party would reform the country. Some of us felt, after the party was formed and after listening to him, that the party may try to bring about a change in society, that there would be a healthy competition.

"But, unfortunately, it was proved in practice that all that would not be possible. Shanti Bhushanji himself said (Kiran) Bedi is a good candidate. After seeing all this, there is not much of a difference between AAP and Congress. Because, it joined hands with Congress. It is behaving like Congress.