

[Home » Politics](#)

Naxalite attack in Chhattisgarh's Sukma kills 13 CRPF men

Officials said two officers, one in the rank of deputy commandant and an assistant commandant, have been killed

Last Published: Mon, Dec 01 2014. 10 07 PM IST

PTI

[Sign Up](#)

A CRPF officer said over a dozen personnel have also been injured and there could also be casualties on the Maoist side in the encounter during when the rebels opened indiscriminate firing. Photo: AFP

Raipur: Using human shields, Maoists on Monday killed 13 Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel, including two officers, and injured an equal number in the second attack on the force in 10 days in the same area in the Naxal hotbed of Sukma district in Chhattisgarh.

A senior Chhattisgarh police official said the attack on a CRPF squad by a large group of armed naxals took place near Chintagufa, about 450km from Raipur, at 10.30am in the dense forests in south Bastar region when the security personnel were returning to their camp after combing and area domination operation in the region that lasted for several days.

“Two officers, one in the rank of deputy commandant and an assistant commandant, have been killed,” R.K. Vij, Chhattisgarh’s additional director general of police (naxal operation), said. The deputy commandant and assistant commandant were identified as B.S. Verma and Rajesh.

A CRPF officer said over a dozen personnel have also been injured and there could also be casualties on the Maoist side in the encounter during when the rebels opened indiscriminate firing.

The squad comprised personnel from the 223 and 206 battalions of CRPF and its commando unit CoBRA. Union home minister **Rajnath Singh** strongly condemned the attack as an act of cowardice and a “dastardly act” of violence. He is leaving for Chattisgarh on Tuesday for an assessment of the situation.

“I express my condolences to the families of our brave CRPF men who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty. It is an act of cowardice. I strongly condemn this dastardly act of violence. Deeply saddened and disturbed to know of 13 CRPF men being killed by the naxals during an ongoing encounter in Chhattisgarh,” he said.

Singh also spoke to Chhattisgarh chief minister **Raman Singh** and asked him to monitor the situation. A CRPF officer said that the Maoists fired at the CRPF patrol party using the cover of locals and villagers and hence the force had to fire with restraint.

One squad was in the jungles for the last 10 days to carry out operations, he said. Most of the victims suffered bullet injuries, he said, adding the injured and the dead will be airlifted to Jagdalpur and the state capital on Tuesday.

Reinforcements are being sent to the area and the offensive by security forces is being led by CRPF inspector general (Chhattisgarh), H.S. Sidhu. Incidentally, five CRPF personnel were injured on 21 November in the same area in an encounter with Maoists who also attacked an Indian Air Force (IAF) helicopter. An IAF commando was also injured.

The attack came a day after chief minister Raman Singh said the day is not far when Chhattisgarh will become “naxal-free” due to the joint efforts of the state government and the Centre.

In the recent months, several dozen naxals have surrendered in Chhattisgarh, one of the worst states to be affected by left wing extremism.

First Published: Mon, Dec 01 2014. 06 19 PM IST

TOPICS:

NAXALITE ATTACK

CRPF

CHATTISGARH

SUKMA

MAOISTS

EDITOR'S PICKS »



The land challenge underlying India's farm crisis



KKR weighing investment in IL&FS road projects



Windfall for engineers as IT salaries shoot up

Home**Lounge****Specials****Companies****Multimedia****Technology****Opinion****Money****Contact Us****Industry****Science****About Us****Politics****Education****Advertising****Consumer****Sports****Mint Apps****Sitemap****Brand Stories****DesiMartini****Livehindustan****Shine****Subscribe****Hindustantimes****HT Brand Studio****Syndication****HT Brand Leadership Series****HT Punjabi**

[Subscribe to our Newsletter](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)[Terms of Use](#)[Mint Code](#)[RSS](#)

Copyright © 2018 HT Media Ltd. All Rights Reserved