

Indian Express, 1 April 2008

Hizb chief sees 'tremendous betrayal' in Pak offer

SRINAGAR, MARCH 31: Hizbul Mujahideen supremo Syed Salahuddin has joined Kashmiri separatist leaders in flaying the new Pakistani government for hosting mainstream leaders like Mehbooba Mufti and Omar Abdullah. Terming the development a 'tremendous betrayal' by the Pakistani government, Salahuddin said Pakistan People's Party co-chairman Asif Ali Zardari was legitimising Kashmiri leaders who had helped strengthen New Delhi's control over the state

Tribune, 1 April 2008

Mehbooba, Qayyum seek free movement across LoC

Srinagar, March 31 Senior leaders of the mainstream political parties from Jammu and Kashmir have had meetings with top leaders of different political parties on the sidelines of two-day Pugwash conference to discuss Kashmir that concluded in the Pakistan capital, Islamabad yesterday

Daily Excelsior, 3 April 2008

2 militants killed, 4 held in north Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Apr 2: Police and security forces have killed two militants in Bandipore and apprehended four more militants in Handwara area of north Kashmir since last evening. Informed sources told EXCELSIOR that Bandipore Police and troops of Rashtriya Rifles 14 Bn launched a cordon-and-search operation over a specific information at Arin Dardpora in Bandipore early in the morning today

Daily Excelsior, 3 April 2008

Mehbooba for joint council on Kashmir

ISLAMABAD, Apr 2: People's Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti has proposed the setting up of a Regional Council comprising members of Assemblies of both parts of Kashmir for settling the dispute. Delivering a lecture organised by the South Asian Free Media Association (SAFMA), Mufti emphasised the need for the new Pakistan Government to accord the same priority to the Kashmir issue as previous Governments. Mufti rejected the impression that India had not reciprocated to Pakistan's steps for resolving the Kashmir issue. She said allowing Kashmiris to travel on permits was a major concession by India

Daily Excelsior, 7 April 2008

EU Parliament rejects Kashmir reference

BRUSSELS, Apr 6: The European Parliament (EP) has rejected an attempt to include a reference on Kashmir in its latest global annual report on human rights but went ahead to criticise the worsening rights situation in China and Pakistan. An attempt by British EP member of Pakistani origin, Sajjad Karim, to include a reference on Kashmir in the report was rejected, the EUAsiaNews said

Daily Excelsior, 7 April 2008

3 rail projects in J&K on Railways top priority: Lalu

JAMMU, Apr 6: Railways Minister Lalu Prasad Yadav today said his Ministry will

accord "top priority" to three major railway projects in Jammu and Kashmir including Jammu-Srinagar rail link, double laning and electrification of Jammu-Jalandhar rail line. Mr Yadav, who is here on a two-day visit to the State, laid foundation of Rs 170 crore project for electrification of Jammu Tawi-Suchi Pind railway line on Jammu-Jalandhar section of Northern Railways and also flagged off Jammu-Kathgodam Garib Rath Express through remote control in a function organized at General Zorawar Singh Auditorium in Jammu University

Asian Age, 7 April 2008

'Valley rail line to open new chapter'

Srinagar, April 6: The prestigious Rs 11,270-crore project of laying the rail line into the picturesque Kashmir Valley will open a new chapter of affluence and development in the region on completion, railway minister Lalu Prasad Yadav said on Sunday. The Qazigund-Baramulla section of the link within the Valley is expected to be completed this year

Asian Age, 7 April 2008

Investment flow in J&K sees increase of 10 times

Srinagar, April 6: The investment flow into Jammu and Kashmir registered a 10-fold increase and went up to \$200 million in 2001 to \$2,300 in 2007 after the security situation in the state showed a remarkable improvement. Stating this at a press conference in Jammu on Sunday, Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (Assocham) president Venugopal N. Dhoot said that the flow is expected to further accelerate in next five years. He urged the Central government to extend a special package of Rs 5,000 crores towards improving the necessary infrastructure "so that investment flow towards J&K fastens both in value and volumes from domestic and overseas industries"

Indian Express, 7 April 2008

Militant leaders meet in Rawalpindi, vow to continue jihad in Valley

Islamabad, April 6 : After lying low for some time, leaders of several militant groups operating in Jammu and Kashmir met at Rawalpindi near here on Sunday and vowed to continue their "jihad" in the Valley. The meeting, organised by the Pakistan-based Al-Badr Mujahideen at a mosque in the garrison city, was addressed by United Jihad Council and Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin, Al-Badr chief Bakht Zameen Khan and leaders of the Lashker-e-Taiba, Hizbi Islami-Kashmir and other jihadi groups

Daily Excelsior, 8 April 2008

Karvan-e-Aman completes 3 years

SRINAGAR, Apr 7: The trans-border "Karvan-e-Aman" bus service between Srinagar and Muzaffarabad, the Capital of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), completes three years today, which enabled thousands of divided families to meet each other after more than six decades. The service continued despite threats held by militant outfits to attack the passengers

Asian Age, 9 April 2008

Mehbooba: Set up council for entire Kashmir

Srinagar, April 8: People's Democratic Party leader Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday mooted structuring a regional council for the whole of Jammu and Kashmir, including the parts of it which are now held by Pakistan. Its members, to be chosen through direct elections, she said, should be able to deliberate and decide on major issues concerning the state as a whole. Local administrative and other everyday matters, she added, could be taken up by area assemblies

Daily Excelsior, 9 April 2008

Pak moots different approach on Kashmir, wants more trade

ISLAMABAD, Apr 8: Pakistan's new Government has ruled out putting the Kashmir issue on the backburner but said it will not shy away from taking a "different" approach on the problem by using trade with India as means to move from "conflict management to conflict resolution". "The Kashmir issue is on the agenda in the composite dialogue. It's one of the top issues after peace and security and stability. It will remain so," Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi has said

Daily Excelsior, 9 April 2008

NC ready to accept better solution than autonomy

NC ready to accept better solution than autonomy SRINAGAR, Apr 8: Seeking support of the youths for its demand for restoration of autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir, Opposition National Conference today said it was ready to accept any better and popular solution to the Kashmir issue. Our party is ready to accept any better and popular solution to Kashmir other than autonomy, NC president Omar Abdullah said addressing a public meeting at Wathoora-Chadoora in Budgam district

Daily Excelsior, 9 April 2008

PM visiting Jammu for 2 days from Apr 25

JAMMU, Apr 8: After United Progressive Alliance (UPA) chairperson Sonia Gandhi's visit to Jammu on April 12, Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh is arriving here for two days visit from April 25. Official sources told the EXCELSIOR that soon after his arrival in the afternoon on April 25, Dr Singh will leave for Katra to address first convocation of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU). The Prime Minister will award degrees to 101 scholars of the University

Daily Excelsior, 9 April 2008

HM comdr among 2 ultras killed

JAMMU, Apr 8: Two militants of Hizbul Mujahideen outfit including a 'divisional commander' of the outfit were gunned down by police during two separate encounters in Doda and Kishtwar districts. Besides arms and ammunition, a fake identity card carrying signatures of Executive Magistrate Ist Class, Kishtwar, was also recovered from the 'divisional commander'

Daily Excelsior, 9 April 2008

14600 in queue to visit PoK

SRINAGAR, Apr 8: Many of the 14,600 aspirants who want to cross the border to

Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) on the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus will have to wait more than a decade for their wish to come true, if there is no change in the frequency of the existing service. The fortnightly bus service, which has completed three years of operation, can only ferry 450 passengers a year on an average to the other side of the border

Daily Excelsior, 10 April 2008

Militant leadership wiped out, 400 ultras waiting to cross over: GOC

JAMMU, Apr 9: General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the 16 Corps, Lt Gen R K Karwal has said that militants' leadership has almost been wiped out in the region and the terrorist groups operating on this side of the Pir Panjal range were running directionless. Addressing a press conference at Corps headquarters, Nagrota near here today, the GOC said that top leadership of the militants has nearly been neutralised and the morale of various militant organisations was sagging after severe leadership crisis. They were apparently running directionless and the emerging elements of frustration could be noticed from various intercepts received by the security agencies recently

Asian Age, 10 April 2008

Militants use Pak mobile networks in J&K

Srinagar, April 9: Militants operating in close vicinity of the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir's twin districts of Poonch and Rajouri are posing a high-tech challenge to the security forces combating the 19-year-old insurgency in the state. The militants have lately been using services provided by Pakistani mobile networks to communicate with each other, reports said. This has packed down the recent move by the authorities barring the border belt from the mobile services earlier provided by various networks within, though on a limited scale following reports that separatists have gained access to SIM cards

Hindu, 10 April 2008

Four Hizb commanders killed in J&K

Jammu: Five Hizb-ul Mujahideen militants, including four top commanders, were killed by the police and 59 Rashtriya Rifles in Doda and Reasi districts on Wednesday, official sources said. The militants were identified as Mohmmad Shafi alias Gazi alias Badshah Khan, a 'district commander'; Mohmmad Rafeeq alias Basharat, a 'section commander'; Talib Hussain alias Bakararwal, a 'battalion commander'; and Mansoor Hussain.

Daily Excelsior, 10 April 2008

100 fresh militants infiltrate into Lolab, Gurez

SRINAGAR, Apr 9: Even as three militants got killed in an encounter with Police and Army in Sogam this evening, nearly one hundred fresh militants are believed to have infiltrated into Gurez and Lolab valley in Bandipore-Kupwara belt in the last five weeks. Highly placed authoritative sources disclosed to EXCELSIOR that six to eight groups of militants---with as many as 10 to 20 militants in each group---have successfully crossed the LoC and landed in Gurez and Lolab valley in Bandipore and Kupwara districts of Kashmir valley since March 1st this year. "This is a clear indication that inspite of some positive statements from leaders of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and Muslim League

(N), the terror infrastructure in Pakistan and PoK is intact and the practice of training and sending fresh guerrilla groups for subversive activities into Jammu and Kashmir is continuing", a senior Police official said

Daily Excelsior, 12 April 2008

Azad meets PM, seeks early implementation of WG reports

New Delhi, April 11: Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad had a detailed meeting with Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh at the latter's residence here last evening during which they discussed implementation of the recommendations made by four Working Groups on Jammu & Kashmir constituted by the Prime Minister in 2006. Mr. Azad pressed for early implementation of the recommendations made by four out of the total five Working Groups, arguing that these need not wait for the fifth WG on Centre-State relations to make its recommendations

Daily Excelsior, 12 April 2008

Put J&K power projects on fast track: Soz

NEW DELHI, Apr 11: Union Minister for Water Resources, Prof Saifuddin Soz today urged the Power Ministry and its agencies to take up various power projects in Jammu and Kashmir on fast track basis so that the available hydro potential could be fully tapped. "Out of the total assessed hydro potential of 14,275 Mega Watt in Jammu and Kashmir, only 1864 MW had been developed till now which comes to only 13 per cent of the total potential", he regretted during the power-point presentation on overall power scenario in the country, especially in Jammu and Kashmir, made by the authorities of National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) here today

Hindu, 14 April 2008

Women living along LoC get weapons training

Jhangar (LoC): With over 400 militants waiting to infiltrate from Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK), women living in villages along the Line of Control (LoC) have been given training in the use of weapons. General Officer Commanding 16 Corps Lt. General R.K. Karwal on Wednesday confirmed reports of over 400 militants stationed along the LoC. They were in 18 launching pads - in Goi, Kotli, Nikial, Bindi, Samani, Dhallupar, Hijira, Sensakudiala Bhimber and Mamana

Tribune, 14 April 2008

State's longest bridge took 31 years to come up

Akhnoor, April 13: It has taken 31 years for a concrete bridge to come up across the Chenab to replace the existing steel-girder span. What was envisioned to be done at a cost of Rs 77 lakh in 1977 was finally accomplished this year at a cost of Rs 23 crore. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh would commission the new bridge at Akhnoor, that connects Jammu with the border districts of Rajouri and Poonch, during his forthcoming visit to the state this month. It is the state's longest bridge

Indian Express, 15 April 2008

Mufti says allow Pak currency in Kashmir

Jammu, April 14: In a significant development which has the potential of creating a

political storm in Jammu Kashmir, former chief minister and ruling People's Democratic Party patron Mufti Mohammad Sayeed has called for allowing a dual currency in Jammu and Kashmir. "Like Europe which has one currency, we want the currency of both the countries run in Kashmir on both sides of the Line of Control," Mufti said while addressing a rally at Budhal in Rajouri district on Saturday

Hindu, 16 April 2008

Army deploys more troops

Rajouri: The Army has moved troops from the hinterland and deployed them along the Line of Control following the threat of increased infiltration by militants from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. General Officer Commanding (GOC), 16 Corps, Lieutenant General R.K. Karwal said heavy snowfall this winter had damaged the fencing along the border and this also necessitated heavier deployment in Rajouri and Poonch districts

Indian Express, 16 April 2008

Srinagar-Leh Highway opens to traffic, first time in mid-April

JAMMU, APRIL 15: Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad on Tuesday flagged off a fleet of Srinagar-bound vehicles from near Gumri across Zojila, marking the earliest annual opening of the 434-km Srinagar-Leh highway after remaining closed in winter. It is for the first time that the road has been thrown open for vehicular traffic as early as mid-April. This vital road link between Kashmir and Ladakh is generally opened for traffic in June. Last year, the road opening was advanced to May 1

Daily Excelsior, 19 April 2008

Geelani, Jamiat ask Kashmiris to stay away from mainstream political rallies

SRINAGAR, Apr 18: Separatist hardliner Syed Ali Shah Geelani and the radical guerrilla outfit, Jamiat-ul-Mujahideen, have taken serious note of the increasing mainstream political activity in the Valley and asked the Kashmiris to stay away from rallies of all pro-India politicians. Geelani has also made frontal attacks on the PDP patron Mufti Mohammad Sayeed who has been publicly seeking credit for releasing JKLF chairman Yasin Malik from jail and arranging former's treatment at a Mumbai hospital when he was Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir four years ago

Asian Age, 19 April 2008

'NHPC exploited J&K water'

Srinagar, April 18: The PDP leadership on Friday alleged that National Hydro Power Corporation (NHPC) has been involved in "arbitrary exploitation" of the state's water resources. It asked the Centre to work out a compensatory mechanism for the huge recurring losses being suffered by the state as a consequence of the NHPC's indulgence as well as because of the discriminatory Indus Water Treaty (IWT). "The NHPC has been indulging in arbitrary exploitation of our water resources for power generation. Already, we are suffering enormously as a result of the discriminatory IWT," party president Mehbooba Mufti said. In a statement, she added, "The negative and almost crippling fallout of the water-sharing agreement with Pakistan under IWT is now acknowledged as the most serious hurdle in the state's economic development."

Daily Excelsior, 20 April 2008

PDP for making J&K a model among SAARC nations: Mufti

JAMMU, Apr 19: Reiterating his proposal of introducing dual currency in Jammu and Kashmir, former Chief Minister and patron of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) Mufti Mohammad Sayeed today said that he has mooted this visionary suggestion to make this State as model among South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries

Daily Excelsior, 22 April 2008

CRPF cop kills Inspector, jawan; commits suicide

JAMMU, Apr 21: In yet another fratricidal act in para-military Central Reserve Police force (CRPF), a jawan gunned down a CRPF Inspector and a constable before committing suicide with his official Insas rifle at LMG post on a hill surrounding Mata Vaishno Devi Bhawan, about 13 kms from Katra, this morning

Daily Excelsior, 22 April 2008

Pak currency can never be used in J&K: Farooq

NAGROTA, Apr 21: Former Chief Minister and National Conference patron Dr Farooq Abdullah today charged PDP patron Mufti Mohd Sayeed with "selling dreams" to the people which were far from reality and "resorting to petty politics for short term gains. "All of us know that Pakistan currency can never be used in J&K. The Mufti's demand to this effect is a deliberate attempt to mislead innocent Kashmiris who have already seen enough violence and bloodshed in the State", Dr Abdullah said addressing a public rally here this afternoon

Daily Excelsior, 22 April 2008

132 cross sides at Poonch

POONCH, Apr 21: A total 132 passengers from both sides of the Line of Control crossed sides at Chakkan-da-Bagh LoC point in district Poonch today. Out of the total, 64 persons crossed over to that side of the LoC today are 28 fresh J&K residents, who had gone there to meet their relatives while 36 are residents of PoK who returned after brief stay on this side of the LoC

Daily Excelsior, 23 April 2008

LeT, JeM involved in most terror attacks

NEW DELHI, Apr 22: The hand of Pakistan-based outfits has been observed in most of the terror attacks in India as groups from across the border continue to sponsor terrorist and subversive activities in the country, a Government report said today. This has come to light following apprehension of people suspected to be involved in subversive and terrorist activities in various parts of the country, the Union Home Ministry said in its Annual Report for 2007-08. "The hand of Pakistan-based terrorist organisations-LeT and JeM-and, increasingly of the Bangladesh-based HuJI, known to have close links with ISI, has been observed in most of these cases," the 167-page report said

Indian Express, 23 April 2008

Militants meet in PoK again, vow to pursue jihad in J-K

Militants meet in PoK again, vow to pursue jihad in J-K Srinagar, April 22 : In the second meeting of its kind in the past one month, Pakistan-based militant groups and secessionist leaders on Monday held a conference in Muzaffarabad in PoK to resolve their commitment to revive 'jihad' in Kashmir. The conference, attended by United Jihad Council chief Syed Salahuddin, LeT chief Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi and leaders of PoK-based Hurriyat factions, made no secret of their growing disillusionment with the new Pakistan establishment, and indicated a resolve to strike on their own

Daily Excelsior, 23 April 2008

HM militant, 3 LeT OGWs arrested

SRINAGAR, Apr 20: A top Hizbul Mujahideen militant and three Over Ground Workers (OGWs) of Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) were arrested by the security forces today in Kashmir valley. Senior Superintendent of Police, Kulgam, S P Pani said that a top Hizbul Mujahideen militant was arrested while trying to flee from the Valley

Asian Age, 24 April 2008

J&K epitaph writers have little work as violence falls

Srinagar, April 23: The drop in violence in Jammu and Kashmir has sprung many surprises: its epitaph-writing trade, for instance, is falling off considerably as fewer dead bodies arrive at cemeteries these days. "No militancy-related incident has been reported during the past 24 hours," read the daily bulletin on "terrorist violence" issued by the police in Kashmir's capital on Wednesday, the statement repeated the following evening. During the past two decades, there have been very few occasions when such updates could be noticed at a place which has seen killings and violence on an almost daily basis
◆?? ever since the outbreak of insurgency in the state in 1989-90

Times of India, 24 April 2008

J&K bans Pakistani channels

SRINAGAR: In a significant move, the Jammu and Kashmir government on Wednesday evening banned airing of Pakistani and local "unauthorized" news channels. While the local channels have been asked to shut shop for allegedly blackmailing and practising yellow journalism, the state government hasn't specified any reason for imposing a ban on Pakistani channels

Daily Excelsior, 24 April 2008

Hizb commanders in north Kashmir killed

SRINAGAR, Apr 23: Both of Hizbul Mujahideen's most wanted commanders in north Kashmir---Tanvir Ahmed Zargar and Imtiyaz Ahmed Khan---have been killed by Police and Army in a 12-hour-long gunbattle in Baramulla. Even as authorities claimed that both the militants were involved in a number of civilian killings and attacks on security forces, hundreds of the residents clashed with Police and participated in their funeral while shouting pro-Azadi and pro-Pakistan slogans

Indian Express, 25 April 2008

Elections ahead, J&K offers 70,000 jobs for youth in next 60 days

SRINAGAR, APRIL 24: With Assembly elections set to be held later this year, the Jammu and Kashmir government has fast-tracked a job recruitment drive which aims to provide employment to 70,000 youths in the 'next two months'. So far, around 21,000 vacancies, excluding Grade IV posts, have been referred to the Service Selection Recruitment Board (SSRB) which has already advertised for 6,299 jobs. These include the posts of teachers, lab assistants, librarians, dental assistants, multi-purpose health workers, junior assistants, laboratory assistants, X-ray assistants and village level workers

Indian Express, 25 April 2008

Another spring in the Valley (C. Raja Mohan)

To his credit, Manmohan Singh has persevered with the peace process, despite lack of enthusiasm within the Congress and the government. Having invested so much in it, it will be a pity if the prime minister holds himself back now. Clearly, the committee approach to Kashmir, the PM's preferred methodology so far, has reached its limits. Internally, four of the five working groups constituted by the PM as part of his Kashmir Round Table initiative gave their recommendations more than a year ago.

Asian Age, 25 April 2008

PM begins 2-day J&K visit today

Srinagar, April 24: Separatist Hurriyat Conference alliance faction headed by Kashmir's chief Muslim cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq has announced to take out a silent procession through the streets of summer capital Srinagar on Friday when Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh arrives in Jammu on a two-day visit to the state. "The silent procession is being organised to bring it home to him and everyone else that we haven't given up our just struggle. It is also to underline the fact that the Indian security forces continue to inflict terrible atrocities on the people in Jammu and Kashmir and the discovery of nearly 1,000 unmarked graves in villages is a glaring example of the mayhem," an alliance spokesperson here said

Hindu, 26 April 2008

Rs. 1,600-crore package for J&K refugees

Akhnoor (j&k): Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday announced a Rs. 1,600-crore economic package for refugees in Jammu and Kashmir and offered sops for migrants willing to return to the State. Speaking in this Harappan city, which symbolises the common civilisational heritage of India and Pakistan, Dr. Singh said more steps would be taken to improve relations so that the neighbours could live in a relationship of permanent friendship

Hindu, 26 April 2008

Manmohan: borders have lost their old relevance

Jammu: Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday said the cross Line of Control connectivity that has been established by the Central government has contributed to a new sense of empowerment to the ordinary people. Speaking at the convocation of Shri Mata Vaishnodevi University, Dr. Singh said, 'I believe we should draw inspiration from the success of the initiatives taken so far and move forward to take more such initiatives to strengthen the bonds that exist between the people on both sides of the Line of Control

in Jammu and Kashmir. I have often said that in the modern world of globalisation, with the march of communications technologies, borders have lost their old relevance. Everywhere people wish to be connected to their neighbours. This is true of the people of India and Pakistan, including people living on both sides of Line of Control in Jammu & Kashmir

Indian Express, 26 April 2008

PM dedicates 390-MW J&K hydro project to nation

Dulhasti (J&K), April 26: : Prime Minister Manmohan Singh dedicated a 390 MW hydro electric power project built on river Chenab in the newly created Kishtwar district of Jammu to the nation. Singh, who inaugurated the project for which the foundation stone was laid 25 years ago by the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, described it as another milestone in tapping the vast hydro power potential in Jammu and Kashmir. About 20,000 MW of hydro-power potential has been identified in the country's northern most state and nearly 23 minor and major hydro projects are in the pipeline

Tribune, 29 April 2008

PM's statement on Kashmiri Pandits hailed

The Kashmiri Pandit Sangarash Samiti (KPSS) has welcomed the Prime Minister's recent announcement to facilitate return of migrant Pandits to their ancestral places by announcing Rs1,600 crore package. It had, however, expressed anguish over the alleged betrayal by the successive Central governments by ignoring the suffering of valley-based Kashmiri Pandits through the militancy period, who chose to live along with the Muslim majority community after the mass migration of community in 1989-90, president of the KPSS Sanjay Tickoo said here today

Tribune, 29 April 2008

Nexus between govt officials, land grabbers: Kashmiri Pandits

The displaced community of Kashmiri Pandits has alleged that a nexus between government officials and land grabbers active in the valley has been illegally grabbing their property and officials were providing them documents for the same. The all-state Kashmiri Pandit Conference today while addressing mediapersons in Jammu alleged that various government agencies in the valley were helping land grabbers in the valley to grab the property of migrant Pandits in the valley

Tribune, 29 April 2008

2 Hizbul militants killed

Srinagar, April 28: Two local militants of the Hizbul Mujahideen (HM), one of whom was the outfit's financial chief, were killed in an encounter with the security forces in Pattan area of Baramulla district, last evening. Six others, including a policeman, were injured in a grenade explosion at Sopore on Sunday evening, while two security forces personnel were injured in an attack by armed militants in Handwara area of north Kashmir today

Times of India, 30 April 2008

'Around 1,200 terrorists active in J&K'

NEW DELHI: Even as Jammu and Kashmir witnessed a slight decline in incidents of terrorist violence as well as infiltration from across the border in the past one year, the threat continues to loom large with the presence of as many as 1,200 terrorists including foreign militants in the state. The estimated figure of terrorists in the state was disclosed by the government in Lok Sabha on Tuesday. Minister of state for home affairs Sriprakash Jaiswal, in a written reply to a question, said, "Available reports indicate that there are an estimated 1,200 terrorists, including foreign terrorists, active in the state of Jammu and Kashmir."

Daily Excelsior, 30 April 2008

HuM chief Sajjad Afghani gunned down in Sopore

SRINAGAR, Apr 29: In a major achievement, Sopore Police tonight claimed to have gunned down Harkatul Mujahideen's Jammu & Kashmir chief, Sajjad Afghani, in a dramatic gunbattle at Sub District Hospital Sopore. Baramulla Police have, meanwhile, arrested four persons, including a branch manager of Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd, for illegal exchange of foreign currency and its subsequent supply to militants of Lashkar-e-Toiba