

## CRPF offers helpline for local militants

Mr. Khan who had joined the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) returned home after a video clip of an appeal by his mother went viral online.

The officer said the Centre has increased the civic action programme budget of the CRPF significantly this year.

“We are focussing on sports and are in touch with schools and colleges to organise tournaments. We have used the budget to construct basketball courts in some schools.”

The officer said that as per the J&K police 60 boys had been weaned from militancy. “Following Majeed’s case, two more families have also appealed for their sons to return,” he said.

A senior Home Ministry official said that as of now 200 militants remained active in the Valley. On Sunday, J&K DGP S.P. Vaid had said that 190 terrorists had been killed this year and of them 66 were local boys.

As per a new surrender policy the State was considering, “passports and jobs to any local youth who gives up the gun” and “support for his full assimilation into society” would be provided.

Another official said that fresh recruitment of local boys by terrorist groups was going on primarily in South Kashmir districts.

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