



National Investigation Agency

Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India



NIA Press Release

6 PLFI OPERATIVES SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS RI BY NIA SPL COURT IN JHARKHAND IN TERROR, ARMS & EXTORTION CASE.

New Delhi, 13th February 2026

A special court of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has sentenced six operatives of the banned terror outfit, the Peoples Liberation Front of India (PLFI), in a 2018 case relating to terror, arms and extortion activities.

The NIA Special Court in Ranchi, Jharkhand, on Friday sentenced the arrested accused to a maximum of 10 years of rigorous imprisonment (RI) each, under various sections of IPC, UA(P) Act and Criminal Law (Amendment) Act.

The sentence against the accused - Gulab Kumar Yadav, Ravi Yadav, Rakesh Kumar Paswan, Pawan Kumar Yadav, Santosh Yadav and Suresh Yadav - comes as a major blow to PLFI's terror operations in India. The court had convicted them in the case RC-13/2019/NIA/DLI last week.

The accused, identified as active members of PLFI, were found involved in militant operations, levy collection, recruitment of cadres, and facilitation of other criminal and terror activities of the organisation.

NIA investigations had revealed that the accused had been receiving illegal arms through PLFI channels, and had participated in violent acts and extortion to spread terror.

Investigations further showed that Santosh Yadav, a Sub-Zonal Commander of PLFI for Latehar and Chatra districts, was instrumental in recruiting and providing leadership and operational direction to PLFI cadres in facilitating terror and extortion activities. Suresh Yadav, an over ground worker and logistics facilitator, had acted as a conduit for supply of illegal arms and ammunition for use in PLFI's militant operations.

The case was initially registered by Jharkhand police in December 2018 following a search operation in Titir Mahua forest area under PS Balumath, district Latehar, Jharkhand. The search was carried out based on credible intelligence regarding a PLFI meeting involving armed cadres. Four accused persons were apprehended from the spot and two foreign-made rifles, along with a substantial quantity of ammunition, SIM cards and mobile phones, were recovered from their possession.

NIA, which took over the case from Jharkhand police in June 2019, had filed a chargesheet in February 2020 against the six accused who were sentenced today. During the trial in the case, the prosecution had conclusively established the acts of organised terror, arms procurement and extortion network of PLFI.

