Patna - At least 26 policemen died Thursday when guerrillas set off a landmine in eastern India as the officers returned from overnight patrols.

(08.04.2004)

Communist rebels triggered the mine in the Saranda forest in the state of Jharkhand, police officials said.

The attack is being blamed on the People's War Group, which has been fighting for socialist governments to be set up in five Indian states since 1981.

The group often targets police forces, as well as wealthy property owners.

More than 6,000 people have been killed over the two decades of fighting.

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<<< zurück zu: News