Naxalites, who had given a call for boycotting Maharashtra Assembly polls, today triggered a blast between Vengur and Parsalgota in Chamorshi taluka in Gadchiroli district and opened fire on police parties as well as at a polling booth, leaving two jawans injured, police said.

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A police party engaged in "road opening" (clearing of landmines, if any) in Parsalgota area in interior in Gadchiroli was attacked by naxalites, who opened indiscriminate fire and also triggered a landmine blast. However, no one was injured, police said. The policemen on duty retaliated by returning the fire and the fierce encounter lasted for about seven to eight minutes, police added. Earlier in the day, an SRPF jawan (Group IV) and an CRPF jawan were injured in two different incidents when naxals attacked a police patrol party and a polling party in Binagunda forests and Kasansur. Both the jawans, Vikrendra Kumar Tiwari (SRPF) and Santosh Jaiswal (CRPF) were brought back to Gadchiroli for treatment. "Voter turnout in naxal infested area was quite up to the expectations and barring these violent activities by naxals there was no effect of the call for boycott given by them", official sources said. Naxals had yesterday launched a grenade attack on an IAF chopper in Binagunda when the copter had just dropped the polling party and CRPF personnel, injuring a district police jawan Kishore Usendi.


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