An army non-commissioned officer was killed Thursday [3 March] in a land mine explosion at a military outpost near the inter-Korean border, military sources said. The staff sergeant, identified only as Kim, was assigning work for snow clearing when the blast occurred in Paju, about 35 km north of the capital, around 3.40 p.m. [0640 gmt], they said.

“We have no other casualties. Kim is believed to have stepped on an anti-personnel land mine,” an army spokesman said. Land mines are scattered along the heavily guarded border. The two Koreas are technically at war as the 1950-53 Korean War ended without a peace treaty.