Local boys tease pilgrims, attack bus with stones

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Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, May 10: The police arrested a youth after some local boys, resorted to stone pelting on a bus and teasing some girl pilgrims of Mata Vaishnodevi at Lakhanpur, last night.

Reports said two buses carrying students (girls and boys) from Roorkee (Uttrakhand) stopped for dinner at Lakhanpur late last evening. These students were returning from Katra Mata Vaishnodevi. Some local boys started teasing the girls. The school staff members and boys accompanying, intervened and objected. This led to exchange of some abuses between them. The scuffle between them was however, averted with the intervention of school staff and others.

When the buses bearing number UK07PA/1427 and UK07PA/0987 left the station, the local youth resorted to stone pelting on buses. The window panes of buses were smashed and it caused injuries to the three students. The buses were stopped and the school boys ran after these `goonda' elements and nabbed one of them while others escaped. After giving good thrashing by boys, he was handed over to Lakhanpur police which also reached there. Two injured students were hospitalized.

The police identified the nabbed accused as Arvinder Singh, son of Sanjeev Singh, resident of Pathankote. The police has started manhunt for the other accused persons. The matter was then brought to the notice of SSP Kathua and DC by the staff. The Administration has taken serious note of the issue and directed the SHO to trace all the accused and nab with in 24 hours. However, no arrest was reported till this evening.

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