Pellet Gun Causalities

Why in news?

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SHRC report estimates reveals that approximately 2,500 people were injured by the use of pellet guns in J&K.

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What type of weapon are pellet guns?

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- They are a form of non-lethal crowd control methods used by police and military worldwide.
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- The other popular methods are tear gas, water cannon, pepper spray, laser guns etc.
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- Pellet guns are also popular in hunting and pest control.
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- Pellet guns were first introduced in J&K after the 2010 protests, when 100 people were killed in firing by the security forces.
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What does recent estimates reveals?

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- Recently a report was submitted by the deputy commissioners of eight districts in Jammu and Kashmir to the State Human Rights Commission (SHRC).
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- The data reveals enormous costs social, political and economic of the indiscriminate use of pellet guns.
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- It have revealed that at least 2,524 people were injured by the use of pellet guns by security forces during the July 2016 protests in J&K.

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- The state government has confirmed the identity and nature of injuries of about 1,700 victims, including 59 women.
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What are the necessary measures taken by the government?

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- J&K government has announced compensation for the victims.
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- This the first step taken towards addressing and alleviating the grave hurt and damage that injuries, especially the loss of eyesight, has caused to victims.
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- State government had also planned to provide government jobs to those who have been blinded, apart from providing economic relief.
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- The union government is also looking at non-lethal alternatives to pellet guns and planning to phase out the weapon completely.
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Source: Indian Express

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