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Status of Kasganj Communal Clash

What is the issue?

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- A Communal clash has recently occurred at Kasganj in Uttar Pradesh.
- The situation there is under control but it is yet to get back to normal.

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What event had triggered the communal clash?

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- Kasganj, over 200 km from Delhi, is a district in western Uttar Pradesh, the town has about 20% Muslim population, mostly poor, has had no history of communal clashes.

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- On January 26, a student organisation affiliated with Hindu extremist group of Kasganj district took out a 'Tiranga yatra' without permission from the administration.

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- The participants of the motorcycle-borne yatra reached a Muslim-dominated area during flag hoist ceremony and raised certain "provocative slogans", which created a verbal clash.

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- The verbal clash soon flared up into a bigger confrontation and went out of control, later police separated the two groups.

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- However, the rally participants regrouped and took a detour to another Muslim-dominated area, where residents thought they had arrived to retaliate.

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- This led to violent clashes and exchange of fire between the two groups, in which two persons were injured.

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What was the action taken by the government?

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- The government moved in paramilitary and the Rapid Action Force from nearby places to control the violence and bring peace to the area.

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- To control the spread of fake news and rumours, Internet services were suspended in Kasganj and neighbouring districts.

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- The state police department have so far filed five FIRs and arrested 112 persons.

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Source: The Hindu

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