

City Monitoring Report - 10th May, 2010

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Delhi City Monitoring

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Law and Order

4 pose as cops, rob airman of cash

Four men posing as crime branch officers robbed a 22-year-old airman, Bihari Singh, of cash and ATM card near Mandi House in New Delhi district on Sunday evening.

Singh, posted at an Indian Air Force installation in Assam, reached Nizamuddin railway station around 4pm and was to take a bus to his native place in Rajasthan. But the accused asked him to get into their Maruti van saying that a security drive was on.

Driving around the city, the four took away his money and ATM card and finally asked him to get down near Mandi House. The four fled in the car, said a senior police officer. Singh then lodged a complaint at the local police station.

In a similar incident, a CRPF constable was robbed of Rs 35,000 by three autorickshaw-borne men on Bhagwan Dass Road on Sunday morning.

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Law & Order

Elderly couple robbed in Salt Lake

In yet another incident of violent crime against the elderly living by themselves, armed burglars barged into the Salt Lake residence of veteran journalist Tarun Ganguly, 72, assaulted his 65-year-old wife and fled with jewellery and other valuables on Friday evening. The incident occurred when Ganguly's wife Krishna was alone at home.

The criminals had operated so professionally that even next-door neighbours were not aware of the incident. They came to know only on Saturday after police officers, including the additional SP and SDPO of Bidhannagar, turned up at the house to investigate.

Man held with fake notes worth Rs 93K

A 30-year-old man was arrested from Michael Nagar Green Park under NSCBI Airport police station on Saturday for allegedly possessing fake currency of the face value of Rs 93,000.

Babu Sheikh had gone to a grocery store in the locality and asked the shopkeeper, Subir Saha, if he could give him change for Rs 500. Babu gave Saha a Rs 500 note, which raised the latter's suspicion. Soon, he realised that the note was a fake one.

Babu was surrounded by locals who grilled him on how he managed to procure the fake note. Under pressure, he admitted before the locals that he was carrying fake currency worth thousands. The mob then beat him up before handing him over to the local police.

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Tsunami alert triggers panic in TN

The coastal districts in Tamil Nadu were on high alert on Sunday afternoon following an earthquake off Sumatra although the Union government as well as the scientists ruled out a tsunami threat to the Indian mainland or the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

The government said there wasn't any immediate threat but asked the coastal states to remain alert and take "appropriate precautionary measures". The quake struck Indonesian province of Aceh at a depth of 30km and 66km southwest of Meulaboh district at 12.59pm (1129 IST), according to the local Meteorological and Geophysics agency. "There's no immediate tsunami threat to Indian mainland and A&N Islands due to the earthquake in Sumatra. However, the ministry of home affairs advises state governments to take appropriate precautionary measures," a ministry spokesperson said.

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Law & Order

Earthquake in Indonesia: Coastal dists on high alert

In the wake of a powerful earthquake in Indonesia which triggered fears of tsunami, the nine coastal districts were put on high alert. The district administrations were on complete guard and fishermen were told not to venture into sea.

Though the authorities did not issue any tsunami warnings, precautionary measures were taken by issuing alert warnings following orders from the state government. In Visakhapatnam and other port cities, visitors and tourists were told to stay away from the beaches. Control rooms were opened in Vizag, Machilipatnam, Rajahmundry and other coastal towns.

Since AP has a coastline of 974 kms -- the longest in the country -- the officials didn't want to take any chances. The East Godavari administration put 13 mandals on high alert and shifted people living in low-lying areas to safer places. In Narsapur in West Godavari and Singarayakonda in Nellore district, the sea waters entered the coast 100 metres inside.

Fake currency racket busted in Hyderabad, 11 held

Eleven members of an inter-state gang allegedly involved in circulating fake Indian currency were arrested in Mahabubnagar district of Andhra Pradesh and counterfeit notes with face value of Rs3.25 lakh were seized from their possession. The arrested accused include K Bhasker from Bangalore and Shyam John from Kerala,

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Power shutdown

The following areas in the city will not have power supply on Monday due to maintenance works.

From 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.: Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Colony, Road No. 72, Prasasan Nagar Water Works, IAS Colony

From 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.: BGR Colony, Ramanaidu Studio

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Law & Order

Jewellery shop looted, ornaments worth Rs 4L stolen

Two men armed with a revolver robbed gold ornaments worth Rs 3.94 lakh from D B

Jewellers in Pimpri on Saturday, after threatening the owner.

According to assistant commissioner of police, Sangramsinh Nishandar (crime), the suspects entered the shop around 2 pm, when the owner, Sandeep Jain, was alone in the shop. Nishandar said that the men pretended to be customers and asked to see ornaments, but then one of them pulled out a revolver and asked Jain to hand over the jewellery.

After Jain gave them the ornaments, the men rendered him unconscious by forcing him to sniff chloroform and locked him in the toilet. They then fled with the loot, said Nishandar.

When Jain regained consciousness, he called up other jewellers on his cell phone and they alerted the Pimpri police station.

Health

3 more H1N1 deaths; toll 230

Three people have succumbed to the influenza A H1N1 virus since Friday, taking the death toll in the city to 230.

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Law & Order

Bomb hoax at Amausi airport

An unclaimed heavy cardboard carton containing some cylindrical metal objects and packets spotted in the parking lot of the Chowdhary Charan Singh Airport on Saturday evening sent the airport, security and district police officials into a tizzy following suspicion that the carton contained some explosive in it. The subsequent search operation launched thereafter added to the crisis when an unclaimed bag was traced in the toilet of the airport.

The sequence of events started minutes after the last operation of the day - Lucknow-Delhi Jetlite flight number 6140 took off at 8:30 pm. Some locals who had come to see off some of the passengers reached the parking lot to get into their vehicles when one of them spotted a carton lying in a deserted corner of the parking lot and informed the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel on duty at the entrance of the departure lounge.

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Chandigarh City Monitoring

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Law & Order

Man snatches cash, nabbed

Taking quick action, the police today nabbed a person who snatched Rs 12,000 from a resident of Khatparali village in Raipur Rani after the latter withdrew the money from an ATM near the village.

Police sources said the accused, identified as Dharminder of Dadu Majra village in Chandigarh, snatched the money from Singhraj and escaped on his motorcycle (CH32D-2450).

Singhraj immediately reported the matter to the Raipur Rani police station. ASI Charan Singh informed policemen at a 'naka' near Barwala, who arrested the accused. A case was registered.

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Ahmedabad City Monitoring

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Law & Order

Ahmedabad leads nation in robberies at commercial places

According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), our own Ahmedabad tops the list of robberies at commercial establishments.

NCRB, the central agency publishing statistics on police activities and crime incidents in the country, has termed Gujarat as one of the safest places in the country with a crime rate less than the national average.

However, on the flip side, Gujarat, one of the affluent states in India, has recorded high number of property-related offences and white-collar crimes. Ahmedabad has been a front-runner in robbery and theft cases.

The city reported a total of 538 incidents of robbery from residential house, commercial establishments, railway properties and other places, all worth Rs 1.58 crore. On overall basis, it is only behind Bengaluru (702) and ahead of Delhi (493).

The state has recorded 58 criminal breach of trust cases and 28 cheating cases in a calendar year.

Gujarat has reported 58 criminal breach of trust (CBT) cases, the highest in the country, ahead of states like Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. The total number of cases registered under CBT from the country were 129, out of which 45 per cent cases came from Gujarat alone.

Overall, Gujarat with 86 cases of financial fraud stands at top, ahead of Bihar and

Maharashtra (73 cases each), Mizoram (60 cases), Delhi (44 cases) and Tamil Nadu (39 cases).

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Two Hizb militants killed in J&K

Two Hizb-ul Mujahideen militants, one of them a self-styled district commander, were killed in a gun-battle with security forces in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir, the police said on Sunday.

On a tip-off that some militants were hiding in the Khour belt at Mahore, troops and the police launched a search-and-cordon operation in the area on Saturday evening.

The militants opened fire as the security forces zeroed in on them, triggering a gun battle, in which the two militants were killed and a policeman was injured.

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Six Maoists believed killed in gun battle in Orissa with security forces

At least six Maoists are believed to have been killed in a gun battle with security forces in Orissa's Koraput district on Sunday.

Senior police officers engaged in the anti-Maoist operation at Podapadar area in Narayanpatna said, "On the basis of indications from the encounter site, we anticipate that at least six Maoists have died."

The exchange of fire, which began last night between the rebels and a joint team of the Orissa police, Greyhounds, and BSF in Podapadar forest, about 100km from here, ended this morning after the Maoists fled.

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Alert after earthquake, rough seas

- *Tsunami warning lifted internationally, but vigil continues in Kerala*

The Kerala government issued a precautionary warning to people in the coastal areas of the State on Sunday following fears of a tsunami after an earthquake in Sumatra (Indonesia) and sea erosion in various parts of the State.

Though the tsunami warning has been lifted internationally, the government has not withdrawn the alert till late in the evening as angry waves continued to lash the coastal areas of Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Alappuzha districts. The sea was rough in some parts of Kozhikode and Kannur districts also.

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North East City Monitoring

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Naga blockade cripples life in Manipur

The price of petrol soared to Rs.150 a litre while most hospitals were running out of life-saving drugs and oxygen in Manipur Sunday following an indefinite economic blockade launched by various Naga tribal groups Thursday to protest the state government's decision to prevent separatist leader Thuingaleng Muivah from visiting his birthplace.

All vehicles carrying essentials to Manipur were stopped at Dimapur in adjoining Nagaland since Thursday to protest the state government's decision not to allow Muivah, general secretary of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) separatist group, to visit his birthplace in Ukhrul district.

Landlocked Manipur depends on supplies from outside the region with trucks carrying essentials from the rest of India passing through Nagaland.

Simmering tension continues in the bordering areas between Manipur and Nagaland after security forces Thursday killed three supporters of Muivah and injured 70 more in clashes with Naga protestors who wanted Muivah to travel to his birthplace.

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International Alerts

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Ash cloud grounds flights in France, Italy and Portugal

Airspace above France, Italy and Portugal was closed on Sunday and dozens of flights

cancelled because of an ash cloud drifting over from a volcano in Iceland that caused air travel chaos last month.

French authorities said the cloud forced the suspension of about 20 flights at the airport in Nice, the nearest international airport to Cannes which is to host its flagship international film festival in three days' time.

Most of the affected planes were from British company easyJet and included flights to or from Paris, London, Geneva and other major European centres.

US drone strike kills 10 in Pakistan

A US drone fired two missiles into a militant compound in Pakistan's northwest tribal belt on Sunday, killing at least 10 rebels.

The strike took place in Inzarkas village, 50 kilometre (31 miles) west of Miranshah, the main town in North Waziristan tribal district, known as a hub for Taliban and al-Qaida linked militants.

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