

City Monitoring Report - 18th December, 2009

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Law and Order

Family held hostage for 2 hrs, robbed

It will be long before the Chutanis recover from the two most harrowing hours of their lives. In one of the most brazen robberies in the city this year, the family of three was held hostage by eight armed men in the middle of the night at their residence near D block in East of Kailash.

The incident took place in the wee hours of Thursday. According to the victims, their ordeal began when robbers broke into the house around 1.45am. And after staying there for two hours, the robbers left carrying with them booty of around Rs 25 lakh.

Three brothers robbed of Rs 5 lakh in Laxmi Nagar

Three brothers who were returning home after closing their shop were attacked near their house at Laxmi Nagar T-point and robbed of Rs 5 lakh on Wednesday night. The victims said when one of them tried to resist the robbers, he was hit hard on the head with a revolver butt.

Police have registered a case of snatching, but claimed that the robbers did not use any firearm. The three brothers — Shyamsunder (62), Lalita Prasad (52) and Jagdish Prasad (72) — deal in ghee and edible oils and their shop is in Ajmeri Gate.

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Law & Order

Con man wanted in five states is finally arrested

A soft-spoken con man with an impressive personality, wanted by the railway police in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu since last year, was finally nabbed by the crime branch of the Government Railway Police, Mumbai.

Bharatji Dhoka, 27, aka Jain, Suresh Kaluram Patel, and Harshad Shantilal Mehta, was arrested for looting railway passengers after offering them milk or juice laced with sedatives.

With his arrest, the railway police have solved 11 cases of drugging and looting passengers in 2009 and recovered Rs10,000 in cash and 590gm of gold bars collectively valued at Rs6.30 lakh.

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Law and Order

Police seize fake notes to the tune of Rs 2.49 lakh, arrest four

While the government has armed the security agencies with sophisticated weapons to tackle any possible terrorist strike, the law enforcing agencies are finding it tough to curb financial terrorism, which is raising its head again in Tamil Nadu.

In the past two days alone, two seizures of fake Indian currency notes of Pakistan origin, having a face value of about Rs 5 lakh were made in TN. On Wednesday, the police picked up four persons from the Madurai railway station and seized fake currency worth Rs 2.49 lakh. All the four accused were Muslims youths from Malda in West Bengal. On Monday, Chennai police arrested two persons who had come from Malda, and seized fake Indian currency to the tune of Rs 2.1 lakh. On each occasion, one person managed to escape. The arrested claimed that they were brought to TN by the persons who had escaped.

The Crime Branch Criminal Investigation department (CB-CID) sees a new pattern in the recent arrests. Malda has become a centre for distributing Pak-made counterfeit currency across India. Police have sent officials to West Bengal for further investigation.

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Sand transporters call of strike

In a move that will bring relief to the construction industry, sand transporters called off their 10-day-old strike on Thursday soon after the state government agreed to a majority of their demands.

Health

H1N1 flu claims one more

After a lull, H1N1 flu has claimed the life of a 30-year-old woman in the city. She was admitted to hospital on Tuesday, and died on Thursday. So far, the flu has claimed 127 lives in Karnataka.

On Thursday, four fresh cases were reported in the city. According to state health department officials, the death rate has declined but fresh positive cases are regularly being confirmed.

Advisory: It is advised to use N95 mask with you. Cover nose & mouth when coughing or sneezing by using tissues, which should be disposed off immediately. If symptoms of swine flu develop, stay at home and consult the doctor.

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Telangana activists stop screening of films

Angered over the film stars' open support for united Andhra Pradesh, the Telangana sympathizers targeted the films of Allu Arjun, PRP chief K Chiranjeevi's nephew, and Vishnu Babu, actor Mohan Babu's son, by stopping the screening of `Arya-2' and `Saleem' films in various theatres in Nizamabad and Adilabad districts for the second successive day on Thursday.

The agitators trained their guns on Chiranjeevi for changing his tack on `social Telangana.' Activists of TRS and ABVP attacked a theatre in Nizamabad town and damaged furniture where Saleem was being screened. They also burnt the posters of the heroes belonging to Andhra region. The theatre management of Usha Mayuri was forced to stop screening of Arya-2 in the town.

In Kamareddy, the protesters damaged the windowpanes of a theatre screening Saleem. The T sympathizers also destroyed flagposts of PRP in Lingapur village of Kamareddy mandal, Gandhari mandal headquarters, Armour and Makloor.

In Adilabad and Karimnagar districts also, the agitators stopped the screening of the two films. Apart from Adilabad, Asifabad, Utnoor, Mancherial and Nirmal towns, the screening of the films was hit in Manthani, Peddapalli, Karimnagar and other towns.

Advisory: It is advised to stay away from and avoid travel to the areas adjacent to theaters and areas where agitation are going around, even if it appears peaceful.

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Law & Order

City gets additional forces to ensure peaceful Moharrum

With regards to the security arrangements in Lucknow for the month of Moharrum, the director general of police, Karamveer Singh has made special allocations.

Apart from deployment of an additional 13 companies of PAC and two that of Rapid Action Force (RAF) along with 180 constable trainees, Lucknow will have a team of 7 additional superintendents of police (ASPs) and 19 deputy SPs to assist the Lucknow district police for better coordination and supervision of security deployment.

Moharrum in Uttar Pradesh, in general and Lucknow, in particular, has been a sensitive issue with the two sects of the Muslim community -- Shias and Sunnis -- clashing over the manner in which each of them should observe the occasion. Situation had once deteriorated to the extent that the state government banned taking out of processions by either of the sects during Moharrum in Lucknow.

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Health

55 swine flu cases in Command hospital

Fifty-five cases of swine flu (H1N1) have been reported at the Western Command Hospital, Chandimandir, since the spread of the disease in this part of the region.

According to the hospital authorities, majority of those infected were serving soldiers, with 11 patients being family members of armed forces personnel. However, there has been no fatality due to H1N1 at the hospital.

Swine flu has affected military personnel in several countries, including the United States, Great Britain and Germany

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Maoists explode landmine during final phase of polling in Jharkhand

Suspected Maoists exploded a landmine, injuring a policeman at Mahur in Jharkhand which went to the final round of polling for its 81-member Assembly yesterday.

A personnel of the Jharkhand Armed Police suffered splinter injuries in the explosion triggered during patrolling in the area, Superintendent of Police Jatin Narwal said.

Narwal said the injured policeman has been shifted to hospital. Mahur belongs to Hussainabad Assembly constituency where Maoist presence is strong, he said. It is among the 16 constituencies where polling is on.

Advisory: Being in opposition to Democracy and Elections, Naxals are identified to attack security personnel deployed for poll activities. It is advised to remain alert while traveling to these areas during polls, till the election result announces.

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Two more migrant workers shot in Imphal

Barely two days after a migrant worker had been killed in Imphal, two Hindi-speaking persons were gunned down by suspected militants here late on Wednesday night.

Gajinder Ram (50), a resident of Darwa village in Bihar's Motihari district, and Subhash Yadav (30) of Assam's Cachar district were fast asleep in their rented house at Chingmeirong when the miscreants shot at them. The duo died instantaneously.

Wednesday's killings pose a fresh threat to a huge number of migrant workers living in the insurgency-hit Manipur. A source said about 50,000 migrant workers live in and around Imphal city alone.

Advisory: It is advised to stay alert and cautious while traveling during and after the sunset. Please report any suspicious activity to the police immediately.

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Six militants killed in two drone strikes in Pakistan

At least six militants were killed on Thursday as US drones struck twice in Pakistan's North Waziristan, targeting them in two different areas of the lawless region.

A drone fired five missiles in Depan and Amburshaga areas of North Waziristan, killing at least four militants, sources said, hours after a pilotless plane killed two others.

Earlier in the day, a US drone targeted a vehicle in which militants were travelling in Datakhel village, 30 km from Miranshah, the main town of North Waziristan Agency. Two militants were killed and as many injured in that attack.

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