

City Monitoring Report - 20th July, 2010

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Delhi City Monitoring

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Law and Order

Robbers snatch Rs 10 lakh

Four motorcycle-borne robbers looted Rs 10 lakh from two petrol pump employees who were on their way to deposit the cash at a bank in Garh Mukteswar in Ghaziabad district on Monday.

Angry traders later blocked the Lucknow-Delhi highway to protest rising crime in the area.

The cashier of Musaddi Lal Petrol Pump and his assistant were on their way to Syndicate Bank when the four robbers intercepted them and tried to snatch the bag containing the cash. When the two employees resisted, the robbers hit them with pistol butts and succeeded in fleeing with the cash towards Meerut.

The local traders blocked the vehicular movement on National Highway 24 to protest the rising crime in the area.

Delhi traffic police's SMS alerts a huge hit

The traffic police launched the free SMS service July 16 to help people plan their travel in the city.

Now, the Delhi traffic police's SMS alert service on traffic jams and diversion updates, launched three days ago, has already logged 21,240 subscribers with a majority describing it as a "world class service".

For subscribing to the service, one has to SMS "**Join DTP**" to 09219592195.

The users can also unsubscribe to the facility, for which one has to send a text message "**Leave DTP**" to 09219592195.

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Chennai City Monitoring

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Law and Order

TDP bandh freezes bus service to AP

Bus and lorry services to Andhra Pradesh from Tamil Nadu were affected on Monday due to the bandh called by the Telugu Desam Party in that state. The services resumed after 6 pm.

Monday's bandh was in protest against the arrest of TDP chief and former chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu by the Maharashtra Government. He and some of his supporters had on Saturday, despite prohibitory orders, entered Maharashtra over the Babhali dam issue. The TDP claims Maharashtra is illegally building the dam that will deprive Telangana of its due share of water.

About 2,000 lorries decided not to proceed to Andhra Pradesh from Gummidipoondi, Red Hills and Ranipet. The Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (TNSTC), the State Express Transport Corporation (SETC) and the Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC) suspended services from Koyambedu, Villupuram, Vellore, Tiruvannamalai and Kancheepuram to destinations in Andhra Pradesh.

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Bangalore City Monitoring

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Several protests disrupt traffic

It was a day of protests in Bangalore on Monday.

Autorickshaw drivers staged demonstrations demanding increase in the minimum fare and withdrawal of the newly introduced single windshield.

The advocates protested against amendments to the Advocates Act.

A group of Karnataka Rakshana Vedike activists protested against Tamil Nadu Government for going ahead with the drinking water project at the Hogenakkal.

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Hyderabad City Monitoring

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Bandh passes off without any incidents in city

Normal life came to a halt in the State capital on Monday following the bandh call given by Telugu Desam Party. The bandh was complete in the central parts, but partial on the fringe areas and passed off peacefully though RTC buses were stoned at six places.

Two RTC buses were set ablaze -one at Dilsukhnagar and another at Karmanghat - within few minutes gap late on Sunday night. Police believe the bandh enforcers could be behind it, but are yet to identify the accused. Unidentified persons also set on fire a SETWIN bus parked near Sanathnagar bus-stop in the early hours of Monday.

The bandh had absolutely no effect in the old city. Educational institutions announced holiday in advance, petrol bunks, theatres and malls remained closed fearing violence but no untoward incident was reported anywhere.

Office-goers and factory workers had tough time reaching their respective work places with RTC curtailing services in the morning hours.

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Power shutdown

The following areas in the city will not have power supply on Tuesday.

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Rehmat Nagar, Bangaru Mysamma temple, Kamalapur Colony, Satya Sai Kalyana Mantapam, Indira Nagar, and surrounding areas.

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Pune City Monitoring

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11 swine flu deaths so far this month

The number of critically-ill patients due to the H1N1 flu in the district has increased considerably this month. As many as 54 patients have been put on artificial respiration at

various hospitals in the district in the second week of July. Besides, the number of people admitted to various hospitals has gone up to 550 between July 5 and 11, as against 123 in the first week of June. The number of deaths due to swine flu this month has already reached 11 till date, as against a total of 13 casualties reported last month.

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Law & Order

Yet another bid to break ATM

In yet another bid, miscreants tried to break ATM (automatic teller machine) of the State Bank of Patiala at Sector 35 in the wee hours here yesterday. This was the third incident in the city this month.

Though miscreants had never been able to take cash from ATMs, the police had failed to achieve any breakthrough in half-a-dozen incidents reported in the recent past. Even CCTV cameras installed in cabins of certain ATMs had not proved to be of much help as miscreants covered their faces with masks.

The absence of security guards at many ATMs was also said be a contributory factor behind such frequent attempts. A bank official said ATMs were equipped with strong security features and there was no reported incident of any miscreant ever taking away cash from those.

But their desperate attempts had caused extensive damage to the machines, leaving those redundant for a couple of days.

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Ahmedabad City Monitoring

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Another SIMI activist held by crime branch

City crime branch officials nabbed a 36-year-old man, few days after arrests of two SIMI activists on the eve of rath yatra on July 11. The man arrested this time, Farkat Jamal alias Arshad, had allegedly supplied illegal firearm to Hasseb Raza Saiyad, said crime branch officials.

According to investigators, Arshad is former state president of SIMI and was in proximity with a number of senior leaders and operatives.

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Law & Order

Boy killed in Baramulla police firing; Shutdown in Srinagar on separatists' call

A boy was killed and 15 others received bullet injuries when the police opened fire to disperse an unruly mob in Baramulla town yesterday.

The protesters attacked the police after the body of 10-year-old Faizan Buhroo, who had drowned in a river on Saturday, was fished out. It was alleged that the boy was on his way home from school on Saturday when men of the Special Operation Group threw him into the river. However, the police had maintained that the boy was part of a stone-throwing group and had jumped into the river while being chased away by cops.

As the situation went out of control, the police fired in the air. The mob attacked the police, prompting it to fire at the protesters in which some persons were injured and a person later died, A senior police officer said.

Army calls off operation in Poonch

After scanning deep in the woods for a week, the Army and the other counter-insurgency forces yesterday called off the operation in the Beri Rakh forest in the Mendhar sector of Poonch, 230 km north of Jammu.

After the heavily armed militants killed Major Amit Thenge besides injuring 11 other soldiers, including a Major and a Colonel on July 13, the Army, with the help of the CRPF and the Special Operations Group (SOG), had launched a massive search operation to track down the remaining militants. However, the check posts in the area have been alerted.

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63 dead, 150 injured as trains collide in West Bengal

- Speeding Uttarbanga Express overshoots signal, ploughs into Vananchal Express
- One of the coaches mounts overbridge upon impact
- Mamata hints at sabotage, officials 'puzzled'

At least 67 persons were killed and 121 injured when the Sealdah-bound New Cooch Behar-Sealdah Uttarbanga Express rammed the Bhagalpur-Ranchi Vananchal Express from behind at the Sainthia station in the early hours of Monday.

The Uttarbanga Express had a scheduled stop here but was still running at a very high speed. Railways police is not ruling out any possibility, including sabotage. Commissioner of Railway Safety R.P. Yadav has already initiated an inquiry.

Tourists held within 3 hrs of Rs 5.5L theft

Less than three hours after they stole gold ornaments and cash worth about Rs 5.5 lakh on Monday afternoon, five tourists from Gujarat were arrested by Old Goa police at Mollem and the stolen items recovered from them.

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International Alerts

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Attack on British security firm in Iraq kills 4

A suicide car bomber ploughed into a convoy of a British security company in northern Iraq on Monday, killing four foreigners and wounding five Iraqi civilians, Iraqi security officials said.

The British embassy said one of the dead was a Briton. The nationalities of the others were not known.

The suicide bomber targeted the last vehicle of the convoy in restive Mosul, a dangerous city where al Qaeda remains active, and the force of the blast threw the armoured vehicle 40 metres (yards) into a ravine, killing everyone inside.

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