



City Monitoring Report - 8th July, 2010

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Law and Order

Salesman shot at, robbed in Ajmeri Gate

A salesman was shot at and injured by unknown bike-borne assailants who decamped with his money bag in the Ajmeri Gate area of Central Delhi even as police claimed to have fired back at the fleeing criminals.

Kuldeep was on his Eterno scooter when he got down to drink water in Ajmeri Gate. As Kuldeep stopped his scooter, three Pulsar-borne bikers who had been chasing him tried to snatch his bag. However, when he resisted, they opened fire. Policemen present nearby heard the gunshots and fired back upon the criminals, but they managed to flee.

Jeweller shot in Sadar Bazar

A 40-year-old jeweller from Haryana was robbed and shot dead by unknown assailants in broad daylight at Sadar Bazar railway station in North Delhi yesterday.

The incident was reported around 2 pm and the victim has been identified as Ram Prakash, resident of Jind in Haryana. Ram Prakash had got down from Ferozpur Express at Sadar Bazar railway station and was descending the stairs on way out of station when assailants struck.

Sadar Bazar is a renowned wholesale market and attracts businessman from all over north India. There are a whole lot of businessman coming to this market for purchase and often carries cash in bags. The unsocial elements lay in wait for such unsuspecting businessman and struck at the slightest opportunity.

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Law & Order

Rs 43 L heist in Kharghar shop

Three unidentified armed men broke into a jewellery shop in Kharghar on Tuesday night and made away with ornaments worth Rs 43 lakh. The victims were reportedly "too scared" to raise an alarm.

Aishwarya Gold shop, in Raghunath Vihar, Sector 13, was looted around 11.30 pm by three robbers who reportedly came in a white Maruti van.

Two neighbouring shops, including a dairy outlet, were reportedly still open with people in and around the area at the time of the crime and they could have easily been alerted.

The shop owner, Pravin Pagaria, and an employee had locked the collapsible door of the shop

from inside and were checking the day's accounts when the robbers, armed with choppers, barged into the shop.

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Law & Order

Partial response to bandh in West Bengal

The 48-hour nationwide-bandh called by the Maoists, in protest against the death of their spokesperson Cherukuri Rajkumar alias Azad, had a partial effect in the three districts of Paschim Medinipur, Bankura and Purulia in the southwest of West Bengal that have been affected by extremist activity.

While the bandh had almost no impact in the urban centres, areas lying on the forest fringes witnessed a complete shutdown on the first day of the bandh.

Robbery on Howrah-bound train

Cash and valuables worth Rs 3,50,000 were snatched from a family travelling on the Howrah-bound Hatia Express, soon after the train started from Dhanbad station in the wee hours of Wednesday. Ghanshyam Sonkar, from whom a bag containing cash and ornaments was snatched, lodged a complaint with GRP after the train reached Howrah. By then, the bag had been recovered by security personnel patrolling the tracks outside Dhanbad station.

The incident occurred around 1.30 am on Wednesday. Sonkar complained that 3-4 miscreants rushed into the S4 coach and snatched the bag. The bag apparently contained Rs 2,50,000 in cash and some gold ornaments, collectively valued at Rs 3,50,000.

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Health

266 dengue, 326 chikungunya cases reported in State

As many as 266 cases of dengue and 326 cases of chikungunya have been reported in the State till June 28, according to Health Minister B. Sriramulu.

Bangalore alone accounted for 93 confirmed cases of dengue and 41 confirmed cases of chikungunya.

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Law & Order

25-yr-old American raped in Hyderabad

Sending shockwaves through the expat community residing in the city, a 25-year-old American national was blindfolded and raped at gunpoint at her residence in the upmarket area of Banjara Hills here on early Wednesday morning. The incident occurred between 3 am and 4 am when the assailant barged into her house, threatened her with a pistol and raped her repeatedly. By Wednesday evening, the police rounded up around five 'suspects' for interrogation.

Maoist bandh: several trains partially cancelled

The South Central Railway has announced partial cancellation on July 8 of several express

trains on the Mudkhed-Adilabad section on account of the 'Bharat bandh' called by the CPI (Maoists).

A SCR press release said here on Wednesday that train no.7405/06 Tirupati-Adilabad-Tirupati Krishna Express (cancelled between Kinwat & Adilabad) will reach Kinwat on July 8.

It will return as train no 7406 Krishna Express to Tirupati.

The train no.0739/40 Nanded-Adilabad-Nanded special train will be cancelled between Adilabad and Kinwat.

The train no.1402 Nagpur-Mumbai CST Nandigram Express leaving Nagpur on July 8 will be terminated at Adilabad.

It will remain cancelled between Adilabad and Mumbai CST and return as train no.1401 from Adilabad to Nagpur.

Terminated

The train no.401 Mumbai-CST-Nagpur Nandigram Express leaving Mumbai CST on July 7 will be terminated at Kinwat on July 8.

This train will remain cancelled between Kinwat and Nagpur and return as train no.1402 from Kinwat to Mumbai CST.

The Parli-Adilabad and Purna-Adilabad passengers will be terminated at Kinwat and will remain cancelled between Kinwat and Adilabad.

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Law & Order

Two students at Satara school test H1N1 positive, 25 show symptoms

An ashram school run by the tribal department of the state government near Bamnoli village in Satara district has come under massive medical surveillance after two students tested positive for swine flu and as many as 25 students and a teacher showed symptoms of the contagion.

The throat swab samples of the two students, which were sent to the Pune-based National Institute of Virology, tested positive for the H1N1 influenza on July 5, following which all the students were screened by the health department.

The school has set up a special desk for screening of students and treatment for swine flu.

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Law & Order

Maoist bandh: GRP, RPF put on high alert

The Government Railway Police (GRP) and Railway Protection Force (RPF) have launched an intensified night surveillance at Patna Junction and other major stations under Danapur division in view of two-day Maoist bandh in protest against killing of one of their leaders in Andhra Pradesh allegedly in a police encounter. The bandh began on Tuesday midnight.

Both the GRP and RPF have been put on high alert since Tuesday night following a tip-off from the Union home ministry about possible attacks on railway property by the rebels. The railways has already suspended night services of a few passenger trains passing through Maoists-affected areas till Thursday.

The railways has set up quick action team (QAT) at all vulnerable stations, particularly on Patna-Gaya, Jhajha-Jamui, Kail-Gaya, Gaya-Sasaram and Gaya-Dhanbad routes. The striking reserved forces, mainly comprising Railway Protection Special Force (RPSF), have been deployed at all such Naxal-affected stations, sources said.

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Major fire at SBoP branch

A major fire broke out in the Sector 8 branch of the State Bank of Patiala during the wee hours of this morning.

The security guard of the bank, Kuldeep Singh, said the fire broke out at 4.30 am and he immediately informed the fire brigade and the senior officers of the bank. He said three fire tenders from Sector 5 fire station were pressed into service, which reached the spot within fifteen minutes. The firemen were able to douse the fire in about one-and-a-half hour.

The server room was completely damaged in the fire. The fire started due to short-circuit in the server room in the basement where the records, furniture and computers were completely damaged in the fire, the UPS systems, including batteries, were also damaged in the fire, the fire also spread on the ground floor and damaged the furniture and important documents.

Protesters block road, lathicharged

UT police on Wednesday afternoon resorted to a mild lathicharge on members of Chandigarh Industrial Area Joint Action Committee, who were protesting. The protesters tried to block Chandigarh-Ambala national highway to disrupt traffic flow.

Police booked and arrested seven protesters under preventive sections and later released them on bail.

Chandigarh Industrial Area Joint Action Committee members were holding protest against UT administration for its allegedly lopsided policies.

The protesters blocked the poultry farm road and were proceeding towards the main road when they were reined in with cane charge.

Flash floods leave north India in deep trouble

Within two days of the first monsoon showers, northern India was reeling under the impact of sharp downpours, with parts of Haryana, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh flooded and arterial highways connecting Delhi to northern towns either blocked by swirling waters or threatened with inundation.

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Couple held for duping employer of Rs 20 lakh

Shahpur police station officials nabbed a couple on Wednesday for their alleged involvement in cheating of Rs 20.50 lakh. The duo, working with a travels agency, had siphoned off the amount from the employer over a period of six years.

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Army out, stages flag march in Srinagar

Army troops staged a flag march in Srinagar for the first time in two decades on Wednesday in an effort to quell anti-India protests sparked by the killings of at least 14 civilians in police firing this summer.

Four persons were shot dead by police and Central Reserve Police Force personnel on Tuesday — one of them a woman bystander — triggering protests that continued despite the imposition of curfew at 4 p.m.

The decision to commit the Army in Srinagar was taken after a late-night discussion between Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram.

Troops are also reported to have been placed on standby in the north Kashmir towns of Baramulla and Sopore.

Protesters in some Srinagar neighbourhoods, including Batmaloo, Tengpora, Mehjoor Nagar and Natipora, staged anti-India demonstrations despite news of the deployment of the Army. Mosque public address systems were used to urge local residents to join the protests. The protests were, however, quelled by police.

Never before had the Army been called in to assist authorities in securing peace in Srinagar. Police in the city were assisted by the Border Security Force until 2006, after which it was replaced by the Central Reserve Police Force.

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Angadia man looted of Rs 25 lakh, Angadia- Gujarat

In a major loot akin to a bank robbery, six unidentified persons, attacked employees and customers of an angadia firm in their office on Tuesday afternoon, tied them up and looted them of Rs 25 lakh cash in Gandhidham city of Kutch district. The firm is located at Bhaipratap Circle, one of the busiest areas of the city.

Following what is being said to be the largest loot of recent times in Kutch district, superintendent of police Wabang Jamir has ordered cordoning off of the entire area. Special operations group police along with local crime branch officials are keeping watch on Surajbari and Adesar check posts, which are entry and exit points of the district.

Red bandh throws life out of gear in Jharkhand

Normal life was thrown out of gear in Jharkhand on the first day of the 48-hour Maoist bandh on Wednesday with a number of trains either cancelled or diverted and vehicular traffic remaining off the roads

The banned CPI(Maoist) has called the two-day bandh to protest the killing of their leader Cherikuri Rajkumar alias Azad in an encounter in Andhra Pradesh on July 2.

A major mishap was averted in Simdega district when an explosion occurred as police tried to remove a Maoist banner put up on a road with poles. Two jawans received minor injuries in the incident.

The mining belt of Jharkhand was also badly affected during the bandh. Seven trains were cancelled and routes of five trains were diverted to avoid any mishap during the bandh. This despite the fact that the Maoists had announced that the railways would be kept out of the purview of the bandh.

Among the trains cancelled included the Barwadih-Dehri-on-Sone Express, the Chakradharpur-Gomo Express, the Tatanagar-Kharagpur passenger, the Palamau Express and the Tata-Howrah Steel Express.

The trains whose routes were diverted included Howrah-Varanasi Intercity Express, Tata-Jammu Tawi Express and Howrah-Jabalpur Shaktipunj Express.

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NDFB militants explode bomb

NDFB militants exploded a bomb near a rail track in Sonitpur district of Assam on Wednesday, but there was no casualty or damage.

The militants reportedly escaped to nearby Arunachal Pradesh. Earlier, the NDFB had threatened to target railway tracks and roads in Tezpur and Udalgiri districts.

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International Alerts

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| Suicide bomber kills three Shiite pilgrims in Baghdad | | |
| A suicide bomber wearing an explosives-filled belt killed at least three Shiite pilgrims on Wednesday in an attack against worshippers at a major festival in Baghdad. | | |
| The attack occurred around 7:45 pm (1645 GMT) in Adhamiyah, a Sunni district across the Tigris river from Kadhimiyah, an area named after Musa Kadhim, the seventh of 12 revered imams in Shiite Islam, whom the pilgrims are honouring. | | |
| An interior ministry official said three people were killed and 18 wounded in the suicide attack. Many of the pilgrims pass through Adhamiyah en route to the imam's mausoleum. | | |
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