

City Monitoring Report - 09th February, 2010

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Law and Order

Shop looted of Rs 10-lakh jewellery

Five armed men intruded into a jewellery shop in the crowded Lajpat Nagar market in Sahibabad around 7 pm on Sunday and decamped with jewellery and gems worth Rs 10 lakh and Rs 20,000 at gunpoint.

The shop looted, De Noor Jewellers, in D-Block of Lajpat Nagar is owned by Rajat Kumar Verma.

Two bandits allegedly jumped across the counter and overpowered the jeweller. When Verma resisted, he was beaten up and warned of being shot dead.

In the 20-minute operation, the criminals put gold and diamond jewellery worth Rs 10 lakh in a bag. They also took away Rs 20,000 from the safe. Two of the criminals were seen fleeing on a bike while three others ran away on foot. The three are believed to have parked their vehicles near the shop.

Five minutes after the bandits had left, Verma informed other shopkeepers and the police about the incident.

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Innovative scamster dupes victims of Rs 3cr

Money-doubling schemes have become so innovative and convincing that gullible investors often fall prey to them without questioning the veracity of the plans even once.

Mohan Patil from Wadala came up with a scheme where women who invested Rs 5,000 in the first month of pregnancy were promised Rs 46,000 on giving birth. In the second scheme, for an investment of Rs 4,000, Patil issued a ticket, which entitled them for a three- day-two-night stay at hotels in tourist spots. Patil transported them in his own buses and also arranged for lodging. After 120 days of the visit, the investors were promised Rs 12,000.

The returns were directly proportionate to the investment. Patil was arrested by the EOW on Thursday.

Interestingly, when the police started sealing his offices, he came up with another idea. On

Thursday, Patil, with his 'investors', took a morcha to Azad Maidan against the police. But this did not work out and soon after the protest got over, EOW arrested Patil, who has duped several people of Rs 3 crore.

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Burglars scoot with Rs 4-crore jewellery

A gang of thieves broke into a pawn and jewellery shop and made away with gold and silver jewellery worth Rs 4 crore and cash at Karayanchavadi on Avadi High Road in Poonamallee on Sunday.

The police said the owners Parsanth Jain (50) and his son Dinesh Kumar (23) had downed the shutters around 9.30 pm on Sunday and went home.

The burglary came to light on Monday when Dinesh Kumar opened the shop at 8.45 am. The mortgage shop has a grille gate outside, and an iron shutter and a door. Finding jewellery strewn around, Dinesh alerted his father who in turn informed the police.

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Counterfeiters arrested in Bangalore

Adugodi police arrested Rahul Shaikh and Saleem Shaikh from West Bengal, when they were trying to circulate counterfeit currency in the city.

The two, along with four more associates, had come down to the city from West Bengal and stayed in a lodge at Kalasipalya. The six used to go around the city, circulating counterfeit currency of Rs 500 face value by making small purchases in shops.

The police recovered the counterfeit currency of Rs 41,500 face value, besides Rs 12,700 in real money, which the gang had got by circulating the counterfeit currency.

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Major fire in a lodge at Pathergatti

A major fire broke out in a lodge-cum-bar at Pathergatti in old city on Monday. While two employees trapped on the first-floor of the Royal lodge were rescued by the fire-fighters, two others escaped by jumping from the building.

Four workers were present when flames erupted from the cellar and spread to three other floors in the lodge having 21 guestrooms.

Two fire tenders from Moghalpura and Chandulal Baradari were rushed to the spot after receiving a call around 5.35 a.m. and extinguished the flames within two hours.

Flames could have erupted after a casual smoker threw a burnt cigarette butt on cartons dumped in the cellar.

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Train movement paralyzed as Maoists blow up tracks

Banned Naxal outfit CPI(Maoist) blew up railway tracks between Narganjo and Jhajha railway stations on the Jasidih-Jhajha section under the Asansol division of the Eastern Railway (ER) at 00.30 hours on Saturday night.

The blast damaged railway tracks up to a stretch of about four metres on the down line and two metres on the up line.

As a result, normal train movement remained completely paralyzed for about 10-12 hours on Sunday. No casualty was reported.

Normal movement of trains was restored at 10 am on the up line and 12 pm on the down line on the Howrah-Patna mainline section.

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Multi-crore telecom scam accused held

Police on Monday arrested Prem Bajpai, an accused in the multi-crore telecom scam allegedly involving Jide Zeitlin — an Obama aide. Prem Bajpai worked as a supervisor for the company that has been accused of duping 16 telecom sector contractors based in Lucknow of an estimated Rs 4.5 crore.

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Two held in fraud case

The local police yesterday arrested two residents of Ludhiana, identified as Harish Kumar and Babloo, and recovered fake bundles of Rs 500 from their possession.

A case of fraud has been registered against them on the complaint of Mukesh Kumar, a resident of Zirakpur, who hailed from UP.

Investigating official stated that the complainant alleged that on November 1, 2009, when he had gone to deposit Rs 17,500 in the SBI, two youths asked him to help them for opening a new account.

One of the accused, Babloo, told him to give him some money to buy food items. The accused told him to deduct the money from the depositing amount. They handed over two bundles of Rs 500 each to him. While Mukesh had entered the bank for depositing the money, he saw the notes were fake. He immediately rushed out, but could not find them.

Mukesh told the police that he searched for the accused but did not find them and at last left for his native village for two months.

The complainant said he had gone to the bank for depositing the money here yesterday afternoon where he saw the accused and immediately informed the police.

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Bikers snatch bag with Rs 5L near Mithakhali

In a daring robbery, two unidentified men snatched a bag containing Rs 5.5 lakh cash from two employees of a courier company in Navrangpura on Monday. The incident took place barely 100 mt away from the DCP (traffic) office and 500 mt away from Navrangpura police station at 2.30 pm.

The branch accountant of CTS Logistics Ltd located in Abhilasha Complex near Mithakhali Crossroads, Naresh Pande, lodged a complaint of robbery with Navrangpura police station officials.

Naresh stated in his complaint that he had sent Girish Dave, who works as a clerk with the company and another employee Avnish Tiwari to HDFC Bank in Mithakhali to encash a cheque of Rs 5.5 lakh 2.10 pm on Monday.

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Bandh continues in valley

Normal life remained paralysed in Kashmir for the eighth consecutive day yesterday due to a bandh while strict restrictions were imposed in the city to prevent the Hurriyat's proposed march to the UN Office yesterday.

All shops and business establishments were closed and there was a thin attendance in government offices. Residents continued to face an acute shortage of essential commodities. A shutdown was also observed in other major towns of the valley where the transport services continued to be suspended.

The Mirwaiz continued to be under house arrest for the fourth consecutive day yesterday in the wake of the APHC leadership's call to march towards the UN office to present a memorandum regarding the recent killing of two youths and the "continued aggressive measures adopted by the government".

The trouble started last week when a teenager, Wamiq Farooq of the Rainawari locality was killed due to a teargas shell fired by the police in Rajouri Kadal. It was followed by the death of Zahid Farooq at Brein, Nishat, due to a bullet injury on Friday evening.

Bid to loot SBI branch

Some unidentified persons barged into a bank in Kathua late Sunday night. However, no loss has been reported, the police said. The police said some unidentified persons entered the State Bank of India building, situated in the industrial area of Kathua, and tried to break open the safe box, but could not succeed.

The incident came to light yesterday morning, when bank employees found the locks broken, following which they informed the police. A police team along with a dog squad and forensic science experts reached the spot and collected the samples. A case has been registered at Hazli Morh police station.

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Rs 4 L stolen from bike dickey in broad daylight, Surat

A diamond trader lost Rs 4 lakh on Monday afternoon in the middle of Mahidharpura diamond market. The trader, Brijesh Dhaduk's attention was diverted by a man who asked for directions while someone stole the money kept in the dickey of his two-wheeler.

According to the complaint, Dhaduk was at Hindustan Diamond Centre in the afternoon and was in the parking area of the apartment. A person of around 50 years age came to him and told him that someone was calling him.

As Dhaduk stepped out on the road, a person on a bike and wearing a helmet asked for directions. After showing the way, when Dhaduk returned to his bike he found that the money was gone.

Dhaduk attempted to locate the person who came to call him but the person had fled from the location within seconds.

Maoists blow up a portion of railway track in Jharkhand

Maoists blew up a stretch of railway track in Jharkhand's Giridih district in the wee hours on the third day of their 72-hour shutdown on Tuesday, affecting train services, the police said here.

The tracks were blown up under Nimiaghat police station in the district. Trains on this section have been stopped on both up and down lines, a couple of deafening explosions were heard around 2 am.

Maoists had on Sunday called a 72-hour bandh in Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, West Bengal and Chhattisgarh to protest the proposed all-out offensive against them by the Centre.

They yesterday blew up railway tracks in Orissa and Bihar on the second day of their 72-hour bandh.

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Five held in Guwahati, explosives seized

Five people were arrested and a large cache of explosives, including 500 detonators and gelatin sticks, were seized here Monday.

A police spokesperson said the seizures were made from a private vehicle during a routine road check on the outskirts of Assam's main city Guwahati.

The vehicle was stacked with explosives neatly wrapped in jute sacks with the consignment coming from somewhere in Meghalaya and was marked to someone in Guwahati which Police cannot divulge right now as investigations are on.

The explosives include around 500 detonators, 50 kg of ammonium nitrate, 103 pieces of gelatin rods, over 30 metres of wires and a few packets of pins.

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Gang war looms large over Nepal after tycoon's murder

The spectre of yet another tit-for-tat war between two powerful gangs loomed large over Nepal after a man called up a private television station in Kathmandu on Monday and claimed responsibility for the gunning down of controversial media tycoon 24 hours earlier.

Avenues Television said it received a call from a man who identified himself as Bharat Nepali, once the trusted lieutenant of gangster Chhota Rajan but now leading a gang of his own, and said he had caused the killing of Jamim Shah, the 47-year-old head of Space Time Network whose Channel Nepal cable television agency had triggered the Hrithi Roshan riots in 2000.

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