



National Investigation Agency

Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India



NIA Press Release

NIA SPECIAL COURT CONVICTS AND SENTENCES 3 ACCUSED IN PUNJAB AGH TERROR CONSPIRACY CASE.

New Delhi, 4th June 2026

A special court of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has convicted and sentenced three accused in a 2018 terror conspiracy case linked with the banned Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind (AGH) terrorist organisation, involving the seizure of weapons and explosive materials from an educational institute hostel room in Jalandhar, Punjab.

The NIA special court at Mohali in Punjab, which had convicted Zahid Gulzar, Yasir Rafiq Bhat and Mohammad Idris Shah in the case RC-34/2018/NIA/DLI on Monday, today passed the sentences against them. The sentences against the three range from 5, 7 and 10 years of Rigorous Imprisonment (RI) under different provisions of IPC, UA (P) Act, Arms Act and Explosive Substances Act, leading to a maximum of 10 years of RI.

One accused, Suhail Ahmed Bhat, has been acquitted in the case that was originally registered by Punjab Police in October 2018, and handed over to NIA on the directions of the Government of India in November the same year.

The case originated when a Punjab Police search operation at the hostel of CT Institute, Shahpur, Jalandhar, led to the seizure of arms, ammunition and explosive material from the room occupied by the accused. The seizure included an AK-56 rifle, magazines, live cartridges and explosive material.

Investigation by NIA revealed that the accused had entered into a criminal conspiracy to further the activities of the proscribed AGH terror outfit with the aim to wage war against the Government of India. NIA had, during the course of its investigation, collected and examined extensive oral, documentary, electronic and forensic evidence, along with witness testimonies. A total of 64 witnesses were examined by the prosecution during the trial, which was the successful culmination of the collective efforts of Punjab Police and NIA.