



**National Investigation Agency**  
Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **NIA SPECIAL COURT AWARDS DEATH SENTENCE**

### **TO 5 SENIOR INDIAN MUJAHIDEEN OPERATIVES, FOR THE TERRORIST ACTS OF TWIN BOMB BLASTS AT DILSUKHNAGAR, IN HYDERABAD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> FEB, 2013.**

1. On 21.02.2013, at around 1900 Hrs, two consecutive bomb explosions took place at Dilsukhnagar market in Hyderabad, resulting in the death of 18 persons, including one unborn child in mothers womb, and injuries to 131 persons. The first blast took place at around 1900 Hrs near 107 Bus Stop at Dilsukhnagar, in the limits of Malakpet Police Station of Hyderabad city. A case vide Crime No. 56/2013 under sections 302, 307, 120B of IPC, sections 3 and 5 of The Explosive Substances Act 1908 was registered in this regard. The second blast took place after a few seconds, near the A-1 Mirchi Centre shop at Dilsukhnagar, in the limits of Saroornagar Police Station of Cyberabad City. The Saroornagar Police Station of Cyberabad registered a case vide Crime No. 146/2013, in this regard.
2. The two aforementioned cases relating to the Dilsukhnagar twin blasts, were transferred to NIA for investigation by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India. During course of investigation, two senior operatives of IM namely Ahmed Siddibappa Zaraar @ Yaseen Bhatkal and Asadullah Akhtar @ Haddi, were arrested from Indo-Nepal, border in August, 2013 by NIA and during examination, they confessed to their involvement in the crime. Later on, two other accused involved in the crime, namely Tehseen Akhtar of Bihar and Zia ur Rehman @ Waqas, a Pak national, were arrested by Delhi police in Rajasthan on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2014 and were arrested for their involvement in the case by NIA in May, 2014. One accused Aizaz Sheikh, of Pune, Maharashtra, was arrested for his involvement in the terrorist conspiracy of the crime.
3. During course of investigation, the role of key founding member of IM, Mohammad Riyaz @ Riyaz Bhatkal, hailing from Bhatkal, Karnataka, now suspected to be in hiding in Pakistan, was established, as the key planning and guiding force behind the blasts and he was arraigned as an accused in the crime. He is absconding and NIA has issued a Interpol Red Corner Notice for his arrest.

4. The Hyderabad Branch of NIA, on completion of investigation, filed three Charge sheets in the case - on 14.03.2014, on 15.09.2014 and on 06.06.2015. The details of the charged accused are as follows :

Sl.	Particulars of the Charge-sheeted accused persons
A-1	Mohammad Riyaz @ Riyaz Bhatkal @ Ismail Shahbandri @ Riyaz Ismail Shahbandri, son of Ismail Shahul Hameed Shahbandari, resident of Fatima Manzil, Tenginagudi Cross, Bhatkal, Karnataka.
A-2	Asadullah Akhtar @ Haddi @ Tabrez @ Daniyal @ Asad, son of Dr. Javed Akhtar, resident of Baaz Bahadur, Gulamokapura, Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh.
A-3	Zia ur Rahman @ Waqas @ Javed @ Ahmed @ Nabeel Ahmed, son of Jalaluddin, resident of Chek No. 296, Gojara, Toba Tek Singh, Mustafabad, Punjab, Pakistan.
A-4	Mohammed Tahseen Akhtar @ Hassan @ Monu, son of Mohammad Waseem Akhtar, resident of Maniarpur, PO - Muktapur, PS-Kalyanpur, District- Samastipur, Bihar.
A-5	Mohammed Ahmed Siddibappa Zazaar @ Yasin Bhatkal, son of Mohammed Zazar Sidibapa, resident of Bhatkal village, Uttar Kannada district, Karnataka.
A-6	Aizaz Saeed Shaik @ Ajaz Shaikh @ Samar Armaan Tunde @ Sagar Aizaz Saeed Shaik, son of Saeed Sheikh, resident of House No 306, IInd Floor, Galaxy Apartment, Ghorpade Peth, Pune-42, Maharashtra.

5. The accused Mohammed Riyaz Bhatkal has been absconding and hence the trial was split. Charges were framed in the case on 16.07.2015 and the trial against A-2 to A-6 commenced on 24<sup>th</sup> Aug, 2015. During the trial, the prosecution examined a total of 157 witnesses. The examination in chief and the cross-examination of 157 witnesses concluded on 11.4.2016 and a total 486 exhibits and 173 Material objects were marked during the trial as evidence.
6. On 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2016, the NIA Special Court at Hyderabad, on completion of trial, convicted the 5 (five) charged accused for commission of offences.
7. Today, on 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2016, the NIA Special Court heard the arguments of prosecution on sentence, and later sentenced all the five convicted accused to multiple punishments of imprisonment and fines for various offences, on multiple counts. This also includes the sentence of the capital punishment, to all 5 convicted accused, on four counts, for penal offences relating to
- Waging war against the Govt. of India, an offence under section 121 of the Indian Penal Code,
  - for commission of terrorist acts causing death of innocent civilians, an offence under Section 16 of the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, 1967,
  - for committing murder as defined under Section 302 the Indian Penal Code and

- iv. for use of special category explosives to cause death of persons, an offence under Section 3(b) of Explosives Substances Act, 1908.

The details of the order on sentence is shortly awaited from the Court.

8. The role of each accused in the crime has been elaborated in the 3 charge- sheets filed by NIA, which are available on the NIA website. This is the first case in which any operative of the Indian Mujahideen have been convicted and awarded capital punishment.

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