



National Investigation Agency

Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India



PRESS RELEASE

1. NIA conducted searches today at 50 locations in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi/ NCR region to dismantle and disrupt the emerging nexus between terrorists, gangsters and drug smugglers/traffickers based in India and abroad. The NIA crackdown followed launch of investigations against this nexus by the NIA after the re-registration of 2 cases, earlier registered by Delhi Police, as RC-38/2022/NIA/DLI and RC-39/2022/NIA/DLI on 26th August, 2022. A few of the most desperate gang leaders and their associates based in India and abroad, who are spearheading and carrying out such terror and criminal activities were identified and booked.
2. The recent sensational crimes and extortion calls by criminal syndicates and gangsters to businessmen, professionals including doctors etc., had created a widespread scare among the people. These gangs were using cyber-space to publicise these crimes to create terror among the public at large. The NIA investigations also revealed that such criminal acts were not isolated local incidents but there was a deep rooted conspiracy amongst terrorists, gangsters and drug smuggling cartels and networks, who were operating from both within and outside the country. Many gang leaders and members had fled from India and were now operating from foreign countries, including Pakistan, Canada, Malaysia, Australia etc. Ongoing probes by the NIA in cases being investigated by the Agency, such as the killing of Shaurya Chakra Awardee Comrade Balwinder Singh in Punjab also revealed that most of these conspiracies were being hatched from inside Jails of different States and were being executed by an organized network of operatives based in abroad.
3. Preliminary Investigations have revealed that these gangs were carrying out targeted killings, including those of prominent people, to terrorise the general public to extort money for running and promoting their criminal syndicates and activities. These gangs were also raising funds to carry out such criminal activities through smuggling of drugs and weapons.
4. In its ongoing efforts to dismantle these transnational terror and crime networks, NIA conducted searches at 50 locations in Fazilka, Fairdkot, Mukhtsar sahab, Moga, Taran Taaran, Amritsar, Ludhiana, Chandigarh, Mohali Districts of Punjab, East Gurugram, Bhiwani, Yamuna Nagar, Sonapat and Jhajjar districts of Haryana, Hanumangarh and Ganganagar districts of Rajasthan and Dwarka, Outer North, North West, North East and Shahdara Districts of Delhi/ NCR.
5. Searches were conducted today morning at the premises of Goldy Brar (Canada), Lawrence Bishnoi, Jaggu Bhagwanpuria, Varinder Pratap @ Kala Rana, Kala Jathedi, Vikram Brar, Gaurav Patyal @ Lucky Patyal (who was earlier arrested in Armenia), Neeraj Bawana, Koushal Chaudhary, Tillu Tajpuria, Amit Dagar, Deepak Kumar @ Tinu, Sandeep @ Bandar, Umesh @ Kala, Irfan @ Cheenu Pahalwan, Ashim @ Hashim Baba, Sachin Bhanja and their associates.
6. During the searches, 6 Pistols, one Revolver, one Shotgun, have been seized, along with ammunition. Apart from the above, drugs, cash, incriminating documents, digital devices, details of benami property, threat letters, etc. have also been seized by the NIA.
7. Further investigations will continue to dismantle these terror networks as well as their funding and support infrastructure.
