

Press Release

Hyderabad

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NIA FILES CHARGE SHEET AGAINST THE INDIAN MUJAHIDEEN OPERATIVES

Today, NIA had filed charge sheet in Dilsukhnagar bomb blast case against two top operatives of the Indian Mujahideen , Mohammed Ahmed Siddibapa @ Yasin Bhatkal @ Sharukh and Asadullah Akhtar @ Haddi @ Tabrez @ Daniyal in the Special Court for NIA Cases, Hyderabad. The offences for which the accused are charge sheeted are, 302, 307, 324, 326, 316, 121, 121A, 122, 201 and section 120B of IPC; Sections 3 & 5 of the Explosive Substances Act 1908; sections 10,16, 17, 19, 20, 38 (2) and 39 (2) and section 18 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967.

In the twin explosions at Dilsukh Nagar in Hyderabad, on 21st February 2013, 18 persons including an unborn child in the womb had lost their lives and 131 persons injured. The investigation of the case was started by the Malakpet PS, Hyderabad and Saroornagar PS, Cyberabad City immediately after the incident that took place at about 7 'o clock on 21-02-2013. Later, as per the orders of the Government of India, NIA, Hyderabad had taken over the investigation. Involvement of the now charge sheeted accused in this case surfaced during their interrogation subsequent to their arrest by NIA on 29.8.2013 from Raxaul on the Indo- Nepal border area.

After the arrest of the two accused, the NIA had searched the hideout of Asadullah in Mangalore and seized many parts of materials kept by them, which could be used for preparation of more IEDs. These items include Ammonium nitrate, Diodes, connected wires, timers, batteries etc. By the arrest of the accused and further seizure of these materials, NIA had ripped off the move of the IM to conduct more blasts.

Through the investigation of NIA, it has been established that the Indian Mujahideen had hatched a high level conspiracy to wage war against India and as per that conspiracy, they decided to conduct bomb

blasts in Hyderabad to create terror in the minds of the people and to further the activities of the Indian Mujahideen.

The main operative of the module Riyaz Bhatkal, who is named as the first accused in the case has directed his associates Asadullah Akhtar, Waqas to find a shelter place in Mangalore to be used as a hide out for receiving explosive materials sent by him. After receiving the explosive materials sent by Riyaz Bhatkal through an unknown person and the money sent by him through Hawala and other Money Transfer channels, Asadullah Akhtar and Waqas had reached Hyderabad and started working with Tahseen Akhthar @Monu, who had already reached Hyderabad and living in a hideout in Abdullapurmet in Hyderabad . The three of them prepared two IEDs while staying there. The other required materials for preparing the bomb such as pressure cooker, timers etc. were arranged in Hyderabad and after preparation of the bomb on 21.02.2013, they had mounted two IEDs on two bicycles (purchased by them for the purpose of mounting the IEDs), and planted them in two separate places in Dilsukhnagar.

NIA investigation has brought to evidence all the financial help received by the accused from abroad through the Hawala and other money transfer facilities. It is also unearthed by the investigation of the NIA that the miscreants, after procuring the explosive materials to Hyderabad had conducted a test blast in a hillock near the Abdullapurmet in Hyderabad. Many incriminating materials in the form of remnants of exploded bomb have been recovered from the test blast site and brought to evidence.

The main feature of the conspiracy of the accused was that they had been communicating through the internet chatting with each other throughout the planning, finding the suitable hideouts, purchasing of materials for the preparation of bombs and until the escape. They were using proxy servers for the chatting to hide their identity. These aspects

were also unearthed by NIA, through a systematic and meticulous investigation.

It is also to be noted that the DNA fingerprints extracted from the hideouts of the Asadullah Akhtar and the absconding accused Tahseen have been compared with the DNA of Asadullah Akhtar and the father of Tahseen. The result of the examination has established the presence of Asadullah Akhtar and Tahseen. The Call records of all the mobile phones used by the accused during their operation have been analysed and thus established their movements.

NIA had found that, after the incident Asadullah Akhtar and Waqas had left to Bangalore and thereafter Asadullah Akhtar left to Bihar and later reached Nepal and had taken shelter with Mohammed Ahmed Siddibapa. The role of harbouring of the other accused by Riyaz Bhatkal in Nepal was also unearthed by the NIA. Investigation had revealed that Riyaz Bhatkal is now in Pakistan.

Through the investigation, the NIA had brought to light the larger conspiracy hatched by the accused through encrypted email communications and online chatting. The role of Yaseen Bhatkal , who was staying in Nepal at the relevant time, in the planning , providing advice procurement of Explosives , conspiracy and his role in harbouring Asadullah Akhthar after the incident in Nepal has been fully unearthed by the NIA during its investigation. In this investigation a total of 440 witnesses were examined, 251 documents seized and 300 material objects were seized. Extensive cyber forensic evidence was gathered and placed on record as evidence.

The investigation in respect of the absconding accused is continuing.