



## National Investigation Agency

Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India



### NIA Press Release

6 ACCUSED CHARGED BY NIA FOR THREATENING WITNESSES IN PUDUCHERRY SENTHIL KUMARAN MURDER CASE.

New Delhi, 16th March 2026

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed charges against six accused for threatening witnesses in a bid to subvert the trial in Puducherry's Senthil Kumaran terror killing case of 2023.

The accused, identified as Nithyanantham @ Nithi, Siva Sankar, Vengatesh, Ezhumalai, Heram @ TR @ Karthi and Udhayakumar, have been chargesheeted before the Puducherry Special Court under various sections of BNS, UA (P) Act and NIA Act.

Four of these accused, namely Nithyanantham @ Nithi, Siva Sankar, Vengatesh, Ezhumalai, were chargesheeted earlier too for their role in the main terror offence (case RC-06/2023/NIA/DLI), involving a deadly attack on BJP leader Senthil Kumaran. In the new chargesheet, the NIA has filed fresh charges against these four, and has also charged Karthi and Udhayakumar for unlawfully obtaining the witnesses details, approaching them, and issuing threats to them.

Senthil, a local BJP leader, was ruthlessly murdered by six bike-borne assailants with explosives and lethal weapons in Villianur in Puducherry in March 2023. The local police had initially registered a case, which was subsequently taken over for investigation by NIA.

During the trial of the Senthil murder case, NIA investigations revealed that the four previously chargesheeted accused had conspired with the two others from the precincts of Central Prison Kalapet and Special Prison in Yanam, Puducherry, to obtain certain confidential documents unlawfully. In order to subvert and sabotage the trial, they had used these documents to identify the witnesses, including the Protected Witnesses, in the case, with the intent to threaten them against deposing before the trial court.

Having discovered prime accused Nithi's modus operandi with respect to witness sabotage, NIA had requested the court to shift him from Central Prison Kalapet to Special Prison Yanam. The anti-terror agency had also arrested two of his accomplices and taken them in remand. In September 2025, NIA had conducted searches in the prisons and residences of the conduits and seized several incriminating material evidences relating to the conspiracy.

Investigations in the instant witness sabotage conspiracy case are continuing, and the NIA has appealed to all citizens to share any information in this regard, with the promise to keep their identity secret.

