

Hospital staff say they saw women militants



The Mumbai terrorists, it seems, were all not young men in their twenties. The city police believe women were also involved in the worst militant attack India has ever seen.

Many witnesses, including the employees of Cama Hospital, which was one of the places targeted by the terrorists, have claimed that the men were helped by women in burqas. They not only provided logistical support but also fired indiscriminately.

Following the shocking disclosure, the Mumbai Police are now probing the role of a women's team that participated in the terror strikes. According to some employees of Cama Hospital, a burqa-clad woman had also opened fire along with two of her male colleagues on Wednesday night. Several independent witnesses have also claimed that the militants were accompanied by women.

Must See

Pattinson not taking Stewart's



The police now suspect many women were involved in the attacks. These women, say the police, were not mere assistants to their male colleagues - they were probably even part of planning and executing the strikes. Initially, the police suspected the male terrorists of wearing burqas to confuse the police. But as they reconstructed the events, they realised that the men didn't have the time to don burqas with the police chasing them. "Why would they waste time to dress up in a burqa? They hadn't covered their faces while striking at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CST) and many people had seen them. Also, we have not recovered any burqa from any of the encounter scenes," said a top Mumbai police official.

The police are also investigating if some terrorists were wearing uniforms of the hotel staff before going on a killing spree. In the meantime, the police have learnt that at least some of the terrorists had stayed in Mumbai earlier. In fact, they had been preparing for the attacks for the past one year. All of them had fake identities. For example, one of the terrorists killed in the Oberoi carried an I-Card of Rahul Patil from the Hyderabad Defence Institute. The I-Card of the other militant claimed him to be Manish Kumar from Ghaziabad. The police officer said a kitchen staff at the Taj Mahal Hotel was also under suspicion - he had secured the job by allegedly showing a British passport. At least two of the terrorists, he said, were guests at the hotel and had brought in plenty of ammunition months before the actual shootout. This explains why the terrorists at CST had only limited weapons while those at the Taj and Oberoi hotels possessed a huge cache of arms and ammunition.

The witness accounts also raise questions about Maharashtra chief minister Vilasrao Deshmukh's assertion that there were only 10 terrorists - nine of whom were killed and one arrested. The CM's 10-terrorists theory also does not explain how there were blasts in two taxis at an equal number of locations. The attacks have caused another embarrassment for the authorities in Gujarat and Mumbai. It is now learnt that Damodar Tandel, a leader of the fishermen in Mumbai, had warned about the possibility of RDX landing on the coast and terrorists using the route to launch attacks. "I had warned the deputy chief minister and a few officials from the maritime security department in August but nothing was done," said Tandel. Tandel had received information about some 'foreigners' being seen on the Gujarat coastline. "Devabhai Bhagat, a union leader of the fishermen in Gujarat, had told me that some suspicious people were being seen in their area. The Gujarat government also ignored his warnings," said Tandel.

Courtesy: Mail Today

call?

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