



News

Terrorists stayed in room 630, had many visitors

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Sunday, November 30, 2008 1:09 AM (Mumbai)

Immediate tragedy and crisis has only just given way to the investigation process, and already it is clear that the terrorists who held Mumbai hostage for almost three days had planned far greater mayhem.

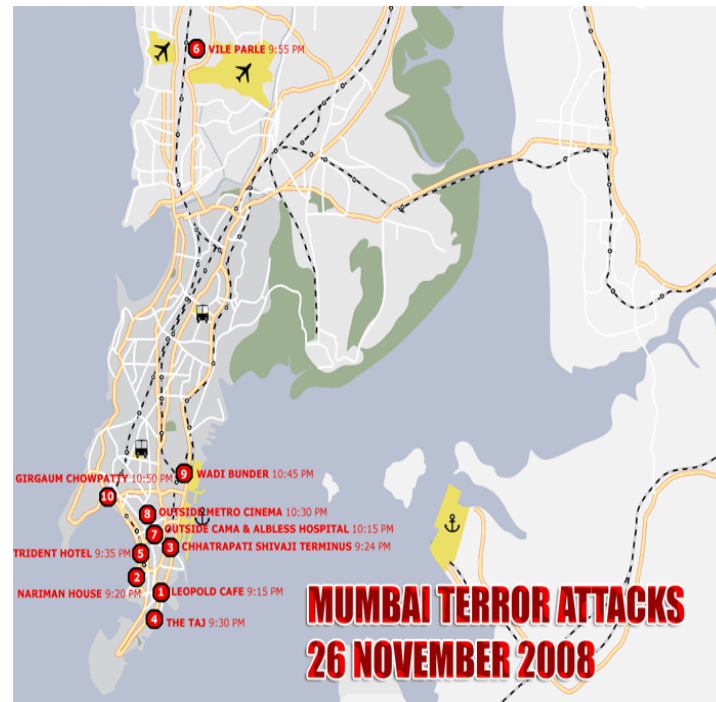
As the body count in the Mumbai terror attacks went up to almost 200, exclusive details were fast emerging by Saturday evening that the terrorists had plans to blow up the landmark Taj hotel at the Gateway of India, in an explosion similar to the one at the Marriott Hotel in Islamabad recently.

Much of the information has come from the lone terrorist arrested and now in police custody -- A A Qasab, who reportedly belongs to Faridkot in Pakistan.

Mumbai Police said Qasab had made clear that he believed he had done right and had no regrets. He reportedly said the plan was to blow up the entire heritage hotel, which is a landmark that represents the city.

"We wanted to blow up the Taj," he is said to have told the police.

Police said the operation had been planned for months, and a detailed recce was done four months ago by another group. They took satellite pictures of the hotels and various locations and prepared detailed maps.



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