



FBI team meets Mumbai Police, discusses terror,crime

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Mumbai: As part of an exchange programme, a team of officers from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) arrived on Thursday and held deliberations with the top brass of city police and exchanged views on tackling terror and other crimes, officials said.

The 15-member team from the US accompanied by Bureau of Police Research Development (BPRD) met the city police commissioner Arup Patnaik at the police headquarters.

The city police and the FBI exchanged their views and measures adopted in tackling terror and other crimes like robbery and murder.

The team, which will be here till Friday, is also designing content for senior police officers, who will be participating in a two-week course to be held in October in Los Angeles. The course will be aimed at helping higher command police officers in forming special weapons and tactics (SWAT) and quick response teams in the city.

"This is the team that came to Mumbai that looks after the tactical operations of the FBI. The team had an interaction with the top brass of city including few handpicked policemen today. The team shall also meet officers from the Anti-Terrorism Squad, Force One and other units," said a senior officer who was present in the interaction.

Patnaik is understood to have explained the working pattern of the security agencies here, modernisation programme as well as new measures taken to tackle crime.

The FBI team had yesterday visited Delhi Police headquarters, National Security Guards (NSG) headquarters and held similar discussions with the top brass there.

"The Government of India will select the officers and we hope a few officers from Mumbai will also be asked to undertake the course as our city has always been a terror target," said the officer.

He said the FBI will develop the course for policemen around the world, though the content will be different for each country to suit their needs.

"The course will include how to set up field command centres at the sites itself during attacks like November 26 terror strikes. The centres will be like a control room at the site so that the officers manning them can give first hand leads from the spot," he said.

The team lodged in the Heritage building at Hotel Taj, will also visit the sites of July 13 blasts. In March, the FBI in partnership with the Home Ministry conducted a five-day law enforcement exchange focusing on crime scene management and evidence collection techniques in Chandigarh.

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