

Printed from

**THE TIMES OF INDIA**

## TOI Pieces Together The Last Hours Of Mumbai's Three Police Officers On The Fateful Night Of November 26

S Ahmed Ali &amp; Mateen Hafeez,TNN | Dec 19, 2008, 03.10 AM IST

MUMBAI: The events of November 26 night, that claimed the lives of three of Mumbai's top officers, cast doubts on union minorities affairs minister, A R Antulay's conspiracy theory. Here's what happened that night.

At around 9.45pm, the city police control room flashed the message saying there was a terror attack at CST railway station. Within minutes, the road outside the prominent station was deserted. Not even the policemen on duty, most of whom who were armed with only lathis, were ready to go to the spot.

Hemant Karkare, ATS chief, reached CST from his Dadar residence, and donned a helmet and bullet proof jacket. Additional director-general of police (Railways) K P Raghuvanshi also joined him.

But, while Raghuvanshi stayed back, Karkare, along with his four policemen, first went to the CST station's platform number 1 (opposite Anjuman-e-Islam School) but it was deserted and there was no sign of the terrorists.

"A fellow policeman informed them that the terrorists were spotted walking towards (the nearby) Cama Hospital," said city police commissioner Hasan Gafoor. Meanwhile, Karkare received a wireless message saying, "Additional police commissioner Sadanand Date is injured at Cama Hospital. A bodyguard is seriously injured, while another constable is dead."

Karkare, accompanied by four constables, made for Cama Hospital, while the Z-security guards were instructed to take position outside the TOI building. The team moved cautiously towards Cama and tried to get a clear idea of what was happening. "Later, inspector Vijay Salaskar and additional commissioner Ashok Kamte, who met at CST, arrived on the scene. Salaskar was accompanied by five of his subordinates," said Akhtar Shaikh, Karkare's orderly, who was present along with the ATS chief that night.

"As we headed towards the rear entrance of Cama, we heard gunshots. Kamte returned the fire, and the terrorists threw a grenade at us, but it fell in the hospital building premises," said Shaikh.

Inspector Nitin Alaknure, Salaskar's colleague, said, " Karkare, Kamte and Salaskar were discussing their next step. Kamte then suggested they enter the hospital from the main gate. They got into a police Qualis stationed there, and later, as they approached the special branch, Salaskar took over the driver's seat," Alaknure recalled.

Salaskar ordered his two constables to take position at the rear gate, while Karkare's four constables were assigned to take position at the other gates.

"They got a wireless message that the terrorists were hiding behind a red vehicle near Rang Bhavan. They started looking for the red vehicle and suddenly spotted one terrorist, who was later identified as Kasab. Kamte and Salaskar opened fire," said crime branch chief, Rakesh Maria.

The officers were about to get down from the vehicle when all of sudden another terrorists showered bullets from his AK-47, injuring all the policemen. Kamte and Karkare died on the spot. The terrorists then threw the three policemen out of the car, and hijacked the vehicle. It was Arun Jadhav, the sole survivor, who later informed the control room about the incident.

When the police brought the officers to the hospital, Kamte and Karkare were pronounced dead before admission, while Salaskar succumbed to injuries at GTHospital

Chance encounter: How the slain trio reached CST that Wednesday

Hemant Karkare

| Karkare was at his house in Dadar having dinner, when, at around 9.45pm, he gets a call on his mobile phone from one of his constables informing him about a shootout at CST, and tight nakabandi in the city

| Karkare switches on TV to see the news. He leaves immediately

| He gets into his Indigo, where his driver takes him to CST

Ashok Kamte

| At 8pm, Kamte is at his home in European House, behind Byculla police station.

| He gets a message on his wireless set at around 9.45pm: "There's a terror attack at CST"

| He dons his uniform, and prepares to leave

| He gets into his Honda City, where his driver, who is still on duty takes him to CST

| Of the three officers, he's the only one who comes in uniform

Vijay Salaskar

1 Salaskar is at home in Goregaon, about to sit down for dinner with his family, when he receives a call on his phone. It's from the crime branch informing him about the CST attack

1 He immediately calls his subordinates at Malad, Andheri and Vile Parle police stations, assigning them meeting places from where he'll pick them up.

1 As his driver has left for the day, Salaskar drives his Qualis

1 En route, he gets a call from a senior officer asking him to go to the Taj

1 By the time he arrives, operations have already begun at the Taj. He receives a call from the joint commissioner of police (crime), Rakesh Maria, on his cellphone. Maria says, "Go to the Colaba police station as they have caught two terrorists. Go and interrogate them."

1 Salaskar and his team (two constables, three officers), rush to Colaba police station, where they find out that the people detained are actually two Israeli nationals

1 Salaskar calls Rakesh Maria to tell him that it is a false alarm. Maria to Salaskar: "It doesn't seem like the attacks are orchestrated by local goons. Please go to the head office [Crawford market

We'll chalk out a plan." 1 Salaskar heads towards HO, but he takes the CST route. He gets a message from an officer saying that the additional commissioner of police, Sadanand Date, has been injured at Cama Hospital 1 At CST (near the TOI building), he meets Karkare

Stay updated on the go with Times of India News App. Click [here](#) to download it for your device.

Post a comment

FROM AROUND THE WEB

MORE FROM THE TIMES OF INDIA



Gold likely to fall to Rs 23,000-level within a month: Experts Jul 26, 2015



How Maharashtra govt averted rumour-mongering over Yakub Memon's execution Jul 30, 2015



Beggar held for touching woman commuter, obscene remark in Mumbai Jul 28, 2015

Recommended by Outbrain

- .....
• .....
• .....
• .....
• .....
• .....
• .....

More from The Times of India

- Overnight downpour sinks Kolkata 02 Aug 2015
• Yakub Memon's last call to his daughter 31 Jul 2015
• Yakub hanging: There will be consequences, warns Dawood aide Chhota Shakeel 31 Jul 2015
• Beggar held for touching woman commuter, obscene remark in Mumbai 28 Jul 2015
• 36 takes for a lip-lock scene 04 Jul 2015
• 'Make in India' for 90 medium combat jets 02 Aug 2015

Recommended by Outbrain

**THE TIMES OF INDIA**Powered by **INDIATIMES**

- » [About us](#)
- » [Privacy policy](#)
- » [TOI Mobile](#)
- » [Archives](#)

- » [Advertise with us](#)
- » [Feedback](#)
- » [ePaper](#)

- » [Terms of Use and Grievance Redressal Policy](#)
- » [RSS](#)
- » [Sitemap](#)

**Other Times Group news sites**

The Economic Times  
 इकनॉमिक टाइम्स | ईकॉनॉमिक टाइम्स  
 Pune Mirror | Bangalore Mirror  
 Ahmedabad Mirror | ItsMyAscent  
 Education Times | Brand Capital  
 Mumbai Mirror | Times Now  
 Indiatimes | नवभारत टाइम्स  
 महाराष्ट्र टाइम्स | महाराष्ट्र टाइम्स  
 Go Green | NavGujarat Samay

**Living and entertainment**

Timescity | iDiva | Entertainment | Zoom  
 Healthmeup | Luxpresso | Gadget Reviews  
 | Online Songs

**Interest Network**

itimes

**Hot on the Web**

World | Politics  
 Business | Sports  
 Entertainment  
 New Cars  
 Xiaomi Mobile  
 Motorola Mobile

**Services**

Book print ads | Online shopping | Free SMS | Website design | CRM | Tenders  
 Matrimonial | Ringtones | Astrology | Jobs | Tech Community | Property | Buy car  
 Bikes in India | Free Classifieds | Send money to India | Used Cars  
 Restaurants in Delhi | Movie Show Timings in Mumbai | Remit to India | Buy  
 Mobiles  
 Listen Songs | Real Estate Developers

**Trending Topics**

Samsung Mobile | Micromax Mobile | You Tube | Delhi Travel Guide | Katrina Kaif  
 Photos | Sony Mobile | Hindi Songs | Horoscope 2015 Predictions | Asus Mobile |  
 Facebook | Sunny Leone Photos | Hindi News

Copyright © 2014 Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd. All rights reserved. For reprint rights: [Times Syndication Service](#)