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SENSEX

04:04 PM | 08 Aug

25,329.14  **-259.87**

NIFTY

7,568.55  **-80.70**

Gold (MCX) (Rs/10g.)

28,789.00  **19.00**

USD/INR

61.14  **-0.11**

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3 witnesses identify Kasab, court takes on record CCTV footage

PTI Jun 17, 2009, 06.48am IST

MUMBAI: Two policemen and a railway announcer today identified Ajmal Kasab as one of the gunmen who struck terror at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus on November 26 even as the trial court accepted on record CCTV footage of the attack.

A CD, showing CCTV footage of Kasab and slain terrorist Abu Ismail gunning down people at CST on the day of terror attack, was submitted by prosecution to judge M L Tahaliyani.

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The footage would be screened in the special court on June 18 in presence of advocates and media personnel, special public prosecutor Ujjwal Nikam said.

The film captures every moment of the attack when the two Lashker-e-Taiba suspects fired indiscriminately at people in the main hall of the local line section.

The 1.15 hour-film covers the incidents that occurred between 2130 hours and 2245 hours on November 26. It is during this period that Kasab and his accomplice killed over 50 people and injured nearly 90.

Earlier, prosecution produced still photographs of the terror attack at CST which were taken by a photojournalist. Both still photographs and CCTV are considered important evidence as they would corroborate version given by eye witnesses, Nikam said.

Railway announcer Vishnu Zende, who was shot at while alerting passengers about the CST attack, also identified Kasab as one of the attackers.

Zende is considered an important witness because it was due to his alert on the public address system that passengers of local trains exited from rear entrance instead of coming to the CST main entrance. Had he not used his presence of mind, the casualties could have been more, Nikam said.

Before Zende could identify the accused, Kasab was sitting in the dock with his head down. Seeing Kasab sitting with his head low, judge Tahaliyani said, "If you put your head down the witness will not be able to look at you and identify you. You should look at witness."

Following the court's instruction, he looked at the witness who identified him promptly.

Zende, who was rewarded by authorities after the terror strikes, told the court that on the night of November

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26 he was making announcements from his elevated glass cabin from where he could see the platforms.

He said he heard explosions from the main side of CST and saw passengers running to suburban side. "I alerted GRP and RPF to go towards the main side", he said.

After some time, he saw two gunmen firing at people in the suburban section and he alerted passengers to exit from rear entrance. They too fired at him but he ducked and his colleague switched off lights. At this moment, a bullet passed through his office cabin but no one was hurt.

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