

MORE TROUBLE FOR OFFICER TRANSFERRED DUE TO 'COWARDICE' DURING 26/11

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In response to a PIL filed on the issue in the Bombay High Court, the public prosecutor has asked Mumbai police to submit details of investigations done in this regard and explain why the officer was only transferred and not dismissed from the force.

Surprisingly, despite this disgrace, the officer managed to get a plum posting on promotion as the Dy SP (Home) in Nashik. The position is known to be very sensitive at the district level. Senior officers of Zone 1 are busy compiling a report on the matter.

An officer from the south region said, "We have received a note from the public prosecutor last week

asking for a report on the entire investigation in the case. It is being filed in response to a PIL filed in the High Court.

Shishupal, who had proceeded on leave at around 9 pm on November 26, 2008, had failed to respond to numerous calls from his juniors despite being aware of the attacks.

His operator, who himself made several calls to the officer, later died in the attacks. Shishupal did not go to the police station till early morning next day. Following an internal enquiry, he was transferred to Local Arms department, regarded as a punishment posting.

PIL filed

In February 2009, advocate S Kunjuraman filed a PIL in the High Court alleging that the department had not taken proper action against the officer. According to rules, an officer found guilty of cowardice should be immediately suspended, a departmental enquiry held, and he should finally be dismissed from the force.

Says Kunjuraman, "I had read in the papers that he had been transferred for cowardice and was very shocked to know that he was merely transferred. Now we are waiting for the police to file their report."

Shishupal did not respond to 12 desperate calls

The report, which Mumbai Mirror had access to, has detailed evidence of Shishupal's misdeeds including cowardice, corruption and even molestation.

According to the report, which contains call details of Shishupal's phone through the night of terror, in all 12 calls were made to the officer.

At around 11.22 pm PI Yashwant Thorawade first made a call to Shishupal and informed him of the terror attacks, but he did not go to the police station. At 11.56 pm, his orderly Constable Nimbalkar called Shishupal, with no results.

His operator Vijay Khandekar also called. He later died in the attacks. Shishupal also switched his phone off for sometime, says the report.

The report also says that Shishupal was twice trapped by Anti-Corruption Bureau and the cases are still pending in the court. Three women, including a police constable have given written statements to senior officers on how Shishupal allegedly molested them.

"He once reached the house of a woman complainant in Borivali in the dead of the night, completely drunk," said an officer in the south region office.

