

**Embassy of India
Kabul**

KAB/815/2/10(52)

January 18, 2010

SECURITY ADVISORY

• **Series of explosions and attacks in Kabul**

At least eleven people including four militants and two Afghan National Policemen were killed and several more injured when a series of explosions held near Malik Asghar Square in Kabul City today morning at 0945 hrs. A suicide car bomber exploded himself at the entrance of Gulbahar shopping centre near Foreign Ministry killing two people and injuring four others. Earlier, militants entered a multi storey Feroshgha shopping centre near the only five star hotel and engaged security personnel in gun fighting for more than an hour. Interior Ministry spokesman said four militants were killed in the fight. There was complete chaos in the areas as bomb explosions, rocket attacks and gun shots were heard near the only five-star hotel and residents of the hotel were taken to basement for security. Telecom building next to Serena Hotel also caught fire. Fire was also reported from a portion of the hotel and a shopping centre nearby was completely burnt. Intermittent gun fighting was heard for more than three times. Some militants are suspected to be holed in the shopping centre. Security personnel cordoned the whole area and roads were closed for normal traffic. NATO forces helped Afghan security personnel in neutralizing the attack. Taliban had claimed responsibility for the attack saying multiple suicide bombers have entered the city to carry out the attack. Afghan capital Kabul has seen multiple militant attacks and suicide bombings in recent past and violence has been surging in the war-torn country.

2. As advised from time to time, in view of an increase in the militant activities of all kinds, all Indian nationals in Afghanistan are advised to remain extra vigilant at all times for their own safety and security. Avoid visiting crowded areas, Malls, shopping centres, top hotels and sensitive Government buildings. It is also reiterated that a safe distance must be maintained from Afghan Military and Police/NATO/CF convoys as these continue to remain primary targets of militants. Indians are also requested to keep themselves aware about the security scenario in the country through local visual/print media as well as through interaction with their fellow colleagues in various organizations. To ensure your safety and security a fixed pattern of movement in the city may also be avoided.

3. It is requested that the Indians who have permanently left Afghanistan and still getting our email may inform us to enable us to update our databank.

**(Manmohan Singh)
Counsellor (PA)**

All Indians in Afghanistan (Through Email)