

**Embassy of India
Kabul**

KAB/815/2/2009 (53)

January 25, 2010

SECURITY ADVISORY

- **Threat of attacks in different parts of Kabul city**

The month of January, 2010 witnessed the following major attacks in Kabul city and other parts of Afghanistan showing an increase in militant activities:

On January 18, 2010 at 0945 hrs. a series of explosions held near Malik Asghar Square in Kabul City in which at least twelve people including seven militants and two Afghan National Policemen were killed and several more injured. Militants launched an audacious attack at multiple centers in Kabul bringing the normal life to a halt. More than 70 people including 18 Police personnel & 10 Army soldiers were also injured in the attacks involving suicide bombings, gunfire and rocket attacks that lasted for more than three hours.

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, Kabul Serena 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 Kabul Serena 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. Afghan capital Kabul has seen multiple militant attacks and suicide bombings in recent past and violence has been surging in the war-torn country.

On January 19, 2010, a VBIED vehicle was detected and later defused by the ISAF near German Embassy (Armani School) in highly secured Shasdrak/diplomatic areas. Later, on January 20, 2010 also a VBIED vehicle was detected in Street No. 15 in Wazir Akbar Khan area. Luckily, these VBIEDs could not explode.

The current security scenario indicates that militants will continue their suicide attacks against high value targets in Kabul city and in other provinces. In Kabul city, the Indian Embassy area, Ministry of Interior Road, Afghanistan, Afghan Parliament and Wazir Akbar Khan and other contiguous area continued to be remained vulnerable targets of militants.

In view of continuing grave threat inputs, all Indians staying in Kabul and other parts of Afghanistan are requested to maintain extra vigilance. It is also requested that unnecessary movement to the government buildings, crowded public places such as bazaars and restaurants, may please be curtailed. It is also suggested to constantly change your route/timings within the city so as not to form a fixed pattern of movement. Avoid visiting the above mentioned in coming days.

(Manmohan Singh)
Counsellor (PA)

All Indians in Afghanistan (Through e-mail)