

**Embassy of India
Kabul**

KAB/815/2/2009 (38)

September 8, 2009

SECURITY ADVISORY

• **Suicide attack near Kabul International Airport**

Details

Today, September 8, 2009 at 0822 hours, a suicide attacker exploded his Vehicle Borne IED outside the main gate of the Kabul's military base, near Kabul International Airport. Colonel Koziel Barthe of ISAF said that all the gates of the base have been closed and all air operations have been suspended from there temporarily. The attack appeared to be aimed at an international convoy, said a police official for the area. Humayun, who watched the attack from his nearby shop, said that he was three or four Land Cruisers for the foreigners just in front of the gate, then there was a car that hit them and blew up. The Ministry of Interior said "there are civilian casualties" but had no details. As per available information, 2/3 persons were killed and 6/7 injured in the explosion. The explosion was so powerful, the blast rattled windows more than a mile away. The attack comes within weeks of a massive suicide car bomb attack outside ISAF's Kabul headquarters on August 15, 2009, just ahead of elections.

2. Earlier there was rocket attack on night of September 6, 2009 night hitting a civilian house on the Spin Kalay neighbourhood, a densely populated residential area in the capital's western suburbs on Qargah road; killing three members of a family and injuring two others. On August 28, 2009 at around 2335 hours, insurgents fired three rockets towards the Kabul International Airport, which missed the target and impacted in Tarakhel Tarnaw village area, causing no casualties.

3. Fresh inputs received suggest infiltration of SVBIED/BBIED/militants in the Kabul city to carry out attacks on high value targets, NATO/ISAF, ANA/ANP convoys, Ministries of Interior and Defence, government establishments, hotel Kabul Serena, Intercontinental hotel, roads leading to Kabul International Airport, Jalalabad & Bagram continue to remain vulnerable.

4. It is also learnt that militants are planning to use a new tactics by planting IEDs on "**Public buses**" without the driver's awareness and then detonate remotely while the buses are located near ANSF or CF convoys. Insurgents are planning to use adhesive IEDs that easily stick to metal (such as bridge structures) and can be covered with dust to prevent detection and detonate while convoys are passing over the bridges.

5. In view of the above incidents and available threat inputs, all Indian nationals residing in Afghanistan are requested to maintain special vigilance during coming weeks. Keeping a safe distance from International Military/ANA/ANP convoys, government establishments and Public Transport Buses is also reiterated, as they continue to be a target of militants. It is also emphasized that unnecessary movement in the city including crowded areas may please be avoided. You are also advised to constantly change your route/timings within the city so as not to form a fixed pattern of movement. Awareness of the prevailing security scenario via local visual/print media as well as through interaction with fellow colleagues is also suggested.

**(Pranab Nanda)
Counsellor (PA)**

All Indian in Afghanistan (through Email)