

**Embassy of India  
Kabul**

KAB/815/2/2009 (49)

December 29, 2009

**SECURITY ADVISORY**

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• **VBIED Attack in Wazir Akbar Khan area of Kabul on Dec. 15, 2009**

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**Details**

On December 15, 2009 at 0945 hrs there was a VBIED suicide attack in the Wazir Akbar Khan (WAK) area of Kabul. The explosion took place near the house of Ahmad Zia Massoud, former Vice President and brother of late Ahmad Shah Massoud and the Heetal Hotel, which is owned by the son of Burhanuddin Rabbani, President of Afghanistan during 1992-96. According to information available, eight people were killed and about 40 others injured. The powerful blast damaged many houses in the neighbourhood; windows were shattered in the residences, which are located about 100 metres from the explosion site.

2. A guest house located close to the site of the explosion, belonging to IO Global Services Private Ltd, an IT solution provider run mainly by Indians, also received extensive damage. Two Indians working as cooks in the guest house – suffered minor, superficial injuries. They were taken to Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health and were given first aid. About 20-22 Indian professionals normally living in the guest house are safe; fortunately they had left for office when the attack took place.

3. In view of the above incident, it is being assessed whether this attack was perpetrated to target Indians or not. However, it is advised that the Indians who are living in big group in Kabul or other cities in Afghanistan in vulnerable and unsecure buildings should reduce their strength maximum 3 to 4 so that the vulnerability of the target get reduced. It is also advised that they should find out such accommodations which should be properly secured and have strengthened access control system.

4. Since the threat level is still high, it is again advised 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 to the government buildings, crowded public places such as bazaars and hotels, 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.

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

**All Indians in Afghanistan** (Through Email)