

The Indian Express, 1 February 2006

Pak spying racket busted, two arrested: Kolkata cops

With the arrest of two persons, including a Pakistani, police on Tuesday claimed to have busted an espionage network supplying defence documents to Pakistan. A search is on for two others, both Indians, reported to be part of the network. Waqar Salim, 32, suspected to be a Pakistani spy, was arrested from Howrah on Monday night with "documents related to technical aspects of defence establishments". Police said Salim has been in India since mid-2003, and in the city since January 23 this year. But there is no evidence to suggest he was here to collect information about the Eastern Command. Salim, reported to be a native of Bhawalnagar in Pakistan's Punjab province was allegedly given shelter by Ainul Haq, a resident of Howrah. In fact, it was Haq's arrest which led the police to Salim. Haq was arrested when he was about to board a bus. Salim was later picked up from Haq's residence...

The Telegraph, 1 February 2006

Intrusion yes, camps no (Amit Ukil)

Bangladesh's state minister for home affairs Md Lutfozzaman Babar today denied the existence of training camps for militants in his country but admitted that some amount of infiltration into India by Bangladeshis was taking place. During the first-ever visit by a home minister in the BNP government to the corridor that connects mainland Bangladesh to its enclave, the minister spoke mainly about the need to develop the area inhabited by more than 14,000 Bangladeshis. "Talks will be held at all levels with the Indian side so that the corridor is open for 24 hours instead of the (current status of) 12 hours," the visiting dignitary said. The Bangladesh enclave has two villages - Dahagram and Angrapota - and is spread over 4,616.93 acres. A narrow corridor of about 700 m connects the Panbari BDR border outpost in mainland Bangladesh to its enclave located 125 km from Cooch Behar town. Called the Tin Bigha, the corridor was leased out perpetually to the neighbours in June 1992 to facilitate movement through Indian territory. Babar and his entourage of 15 officials, including the director general of Bangladesh Rifles Maj. Gen. Md Jahangir Alam Choudhury, were given a cordial welcome by BSF officers and jawans led by Jalpaiguri sector commander deputy inspector-general Harish Kumar...

The Hindu, 2 February 2006

Militants held

A plot suspected to have been hatched by extremists of the Lashkar-e-Taiba to commit acts of sabotage in the city has been foiled with the arrest of three activists of the extremist group from central Kolkata, Jamshedpur and Varanasi over the past two days. Tariq Akthar, stated to be an expert in the manufacture and use of explosives, was arrested on Tuesday night.

The Hindustan Times, 4 February 2006

Delhi Police arrest Mirwaiz Umer Farooq's aide

Delhi Police have arrested Nasir Ahmed, a close associate of Hurriyat Chairman Mirwaiz Umer Farooq on charges of funding separatist organisations in Jammu and Kashmir, police sources said on Saturday. Nasir was picked up along with two prominent Kashmiri businessmen from a posh south Delhi locality on Friday. He was placed under arrest after the government screened his past links with separatist organisations, they said, adding that the others were released but would be called again for interrogation. Nasir, alleged to be a hawala operator, is understood to have come to Delhi on earlier occasions as well during which he had meetings with Kashmiri separatist leaders. Among the businessmen, was a prominent wholesaler of insecticides and pesticides...

The Indian Express, 10 February 2006.

Siwan MP may be grilled for Hizbul links

The problems for RJD MP Shahabuddin seem to be far from over as the police in Jammu and Kashmir are likely to question him for his alleged links with the pro-Pakistan Hizbul Mujahideen. Shahabuddin, who has been in judicial custody after his arrest last year in connection with various cases, including murder and abductions, could face tough questions as the state police claims he received two consignments of arms from Kupwara in early 2000, which included deadly Kalashnikov rifles as well, official sources said.

The Hindu, 10 February 2006

Al Badr terrorists arrested

Delhi police have arrested two alleged terrorists belonging to the Al Badr militant outfit from North West part of the capital. Irshad and Nawab both hailing from Kashmir, were arrested from Makarba Chowk in North West Delhi at around 6.30 pm yesterday, police sources said, adding two kg of RDX were also recovered from them.

The Hindu, 10 February 2006

Warrants against Geelani, Malik

A special TADA Court here has issued non-bailable warrants against the former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister, Ghulam Mohammad Shah and senior separatist leaders Syed Ali Shah Geelani and Mohammad Yasin Malik in a case of showing disrespect to the Constitution and torching the national tricolour 18 years ago. Taking a serious note of non-appearance of the accused in the court, Additional Judge of the Special TADA Court Asmat Hussain Shah issued the NBWs against the three and another separatist leader, Nayeem Ahmad Khan, on Tuesday, court sources said on Thursday. The police had registered a case against 24 persons, including Mr. Shah, Mr. Geelani, Mr. Malik and Mr. Khan for showing disrespect to the Indian Constitution and torching the national flag during a public meeting organised by the now-defunct Muslim United Front at Iqbal Park on August 20, 1987. The police filed a charge sheet against the accused in 1987.

The Indian Express, 20 February 2006

Bomb blast in Gujarat injures 14, alert sounded

A powerful bomb blast ripped through a railway station platform on Sunday in Ahmedabad, the main city of Gujarat which saw communal riots in 2002, police said. The bomb exploded minutes after a train had passed Kalupur railway station and injured 14 people, senior police official A.S. Gehlot told Reuters. "The explosive used appears to be of a high intensity, going by the damage it has caused on the platform," Gehlot said. The explosion tore open the roof of the platform and shattered glass on kiosks and offices, he said. The city had been put on alert.

The Indian Express, 22 February 2006

IISc attack has no linkage with Bangladesh: Government

Investigations carried out so far in connection with the terrorist shootout in the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) at Bangalore does not reveal any linkage with Bangladesh, the Rajya Sabha was informed today. To a question on concentration of Pak-supported terrorists on the Indo-Bangladesh border, Minister of State for Home Sriprakash Jaiswal said in a written reply that no such inputs have come to the notice of the government. On measures being taken by the government to deal with possibilities of terrorist attack, he said states are advised from time to time to take steps to streamline physical and protective security of vital installations and important establishments. He said the government has adopted a multi-pronged approach by strengthening the border management to check illegal cross-border activities.

The Indian Express, 26 February 2006

Arms cache, Sanjay Dutt gun in CBI's Salem chargesheet (Ritu Sarin)

Thirteen years after Mumbai's serial bomb blasts killed 257 and sparked off widespread riots, two of the prime accused, extradited don Abu Salem and his D-company associate, Riaz Siddique, are set to be chargesheeted by the CBI in a TADA court. Presented as a supplementary chargesheet in the 12 March, 1993 serial blasts case, it's being given final touches at the CBI headquarters here and is expected to be filed in the court of TADA special judge P D Kode on 1 March. In the chargesheet, the CBI will include statements of 20 fresh witnesses examined after Abu Salem's extradition from Lisbon on November 11 last year along with other witnesses already produced before the TADA judge.

The Indian Express, 27 February 2006

Ahead of Bush visit, LeT men held with RDX

Two suspected Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists were arrested from New Delhi Railway Station and RDX recovered from their possession ahead of Wednesday's India visit by US President George W Bush. Police said the terrorists - identified as Shamil and Shahin - were arrested on Sunday evening and three kg of RDX and two pistols recovered from their possession. "We had received information about their movements and had laid a trap to nab them," said Ajay Kumar, deputy commissioner of police Special Cell. The two men are being interrogated and more arrests could be made, he said.