



NYPD SHIELD TERRORISM ASSESSMENT

July 13, 2011

NYPD Counterterrorism Bureau
Terrorism Threat Analysis Group

Open Source Assessment

Mumbai Blasts on July 13, 2011

Information Cutoff: 2:00 p.m. hours, July 13, 2011

Key Points

- **Three explosions took place in Mumbai at approximately 7:00 p.m. local time.**
- **Two of the blasts took place in South Mumbai, and the third in Central Mumbai.**
- **The targets were the city's Opera House district; the Zaveri jewelry market; and the Dadar neighborhood, a busy area in central Mumbai.**
- **As many as 20 people have been reported killed and 80 wounded.**
- **Today's attacks are the first to hit Mumbai since the 2008 attacks which left 170 people dead.**



Details of Incident

Three improvised explosive devices detonated in the evening of Wednesday, July 13, between 6:50 and 7:00 p.m. local time, in Mumbai, India. The explosions took place almost simultaneously, during rush hour, at three crowded areas in the city. Two of the blasts occurred in the south of the city, while the third took place in central Mumbai.

In the south of the city, the explosions took place in the Opera House district, which is also a busy business hub, and the Zaveri Bazaar, which is known as the city's most popular jewelry market. In the center of the city, the explosion took place in the Dadar neighborhood, which is a busy area with several shops and other commercial venues. All three locations are known to be crowded, popular areas.

One of the IEDs is reported to have been hidden in a taxi cab and detonated near a bus station in Dadar. Dadar is considered to be a popular commuting destination for people traveling through Mumbai. The IED used in the Zaveri Bazaar attack was reportedly concealed in an electrical box, and the Opera House district IED was inside a motorcycle. Initial reports indicate that the explosives used in the devices were available locally and remotely detonated, though additional details are not yet available.

As many as 20 people are reported to have been killed, and more than 80 people injured. The Indian Home Ministry has stated that they are viewing the explosions as a coordinated terrorist attack. Mumbai Police sources say the **Indian Mujahideen (IM)** is suspected to be behind the attack. In Delhi, Home Ministry sources also report the IM, working

closely with the Lashkar-e Tayyiba (LT), is suspected. Two members of the IM were arrested in Maharashtra yesterday by the Maharashtra Anti-Terror Squad. However, sources confirm there was no intelligence alert or input that warned of today's terror attack. No group has yet claimed responsibility.

Mumbai is India's financial capital, and has been the target of several attacks in the past. In one of the deadliest international terrorist attacks in recent years, Lashkar-e Tayyiba assailants attacked several targets in Mumbai in November 2008, leaving 170 people dead.

Today's attacks are the first in the city since the 2008 attacks. Indian authorities have issued security alerts for the rest of Mumbai, New Delhi, and Kolkata.

Conclusions

- Crowded, commercial venues are among the most common targets for mass casualty attacks.
- These bombings appear to be aimed at venues frequented by the local residents of Mumbai, rather than at areas frequented by Westerners, as was the case in the 2008 attacks.

Sources

1. [Mumbai: Explosions reported to hit city](#), BBC, July 13, 2011
2. [Three blasts rock Mumbai: police](#), Dawn, July 13, 2011
3. [Deadly blasts rock Mumbai](#), Al-Jazeera, July 13, 2011.
4. [Police report 3 explosions in Indian financial hub](#), Associated Press, July 13, 2011.
5. [3 Blasts Reported in Attack on Mumbai](#), New York Times, July 13, 2011.
6. [At least 13 reported dead in India blasts](#), CNN, July 13, 2011.
7. [India says terror attack kills 10, wound 54](#), Associated Press, July 13, 2011.
8. Mumbai Attacked Again, Daily Jang (Pakistan), July 13, 2011

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