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Blasts at Chennai Central station LIVE: Security alert at railway stations and airport

Bombs went off one after another in S-4 and S-5 coaches of the train standing at platform 9 of the Chennai Central Railway station at 7:15 am. 11 passengers injured, one suspect arrested.

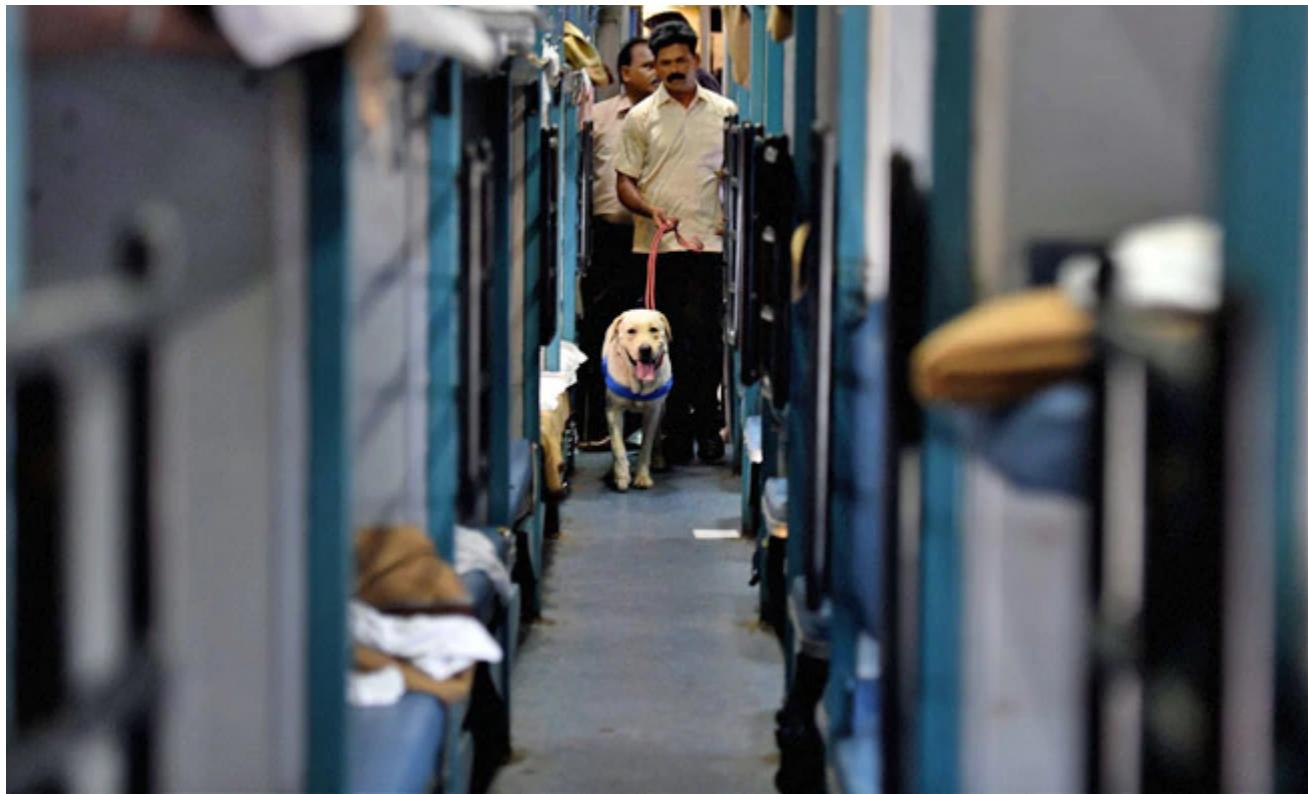
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IndiaToday.in Chennai May 1, 2014
UPDATED: May 1, 2014 22:10 IST

The explosions took place in the Bangalore-Guwahati Express on platform 9.



A



member of a bomb disposal squad with a sniffer dog examines a coach of a train in which two explosions occurred, at the Chennai Central Railway Station on Thursday.

PTI Photo

07:30 pm: "Security was on Thursday beefed up in the national capital after twin bomb blasts in a train at Chennai railway station in which a woman was killed and 14 others were injured." "Security has been beefed up at crowded and important places like railway stations, bus stations, markets," Delhi Police spokesperson Rajan Bhagat said.

07:15 pm : Central investigative agency sources say a crude timed device was used in the blast

04:45 pm : Finance minister P Chidambaram makes strong pitch for National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC).

04:30 pm : In Bangalore, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), in which Swati was employed, described her death as "tragic". "We are deeply shocked and saddened at this unfortunate loss of life of our colleague in this tragic incident," a TCS spokesperson said in a statement.

04:14 pm : CISF orders stepping up of security in airports across the country following Chennai train blasts.

01:58 pm: The train passenger who was killed in the blast has been identified as 22-year-old Sangeetha from Guntur in Andhra Pradesh. Some reports said she was an

employee of ICS.

01:37 pm: Prime Minister Manmohan Singh condemned the Chennai blasts, saying such "barbaric acts" highlight the "desperation and cowardice" of those responsible and asserted that no efforts would be spared in bringing the perpetrators to justice.

01:30 pm: Chennai train blasts is terror attack: NCP's Tariq Anwar.

01:28 pm: Police sources : Modi had three rallies in Andhra Pradesh. We are exploring that aspect. The train passenger who is detained is 27-year-old. He speaks only Kannada.



Inside picture of the Guwahati Express after the twin blasts.

01:12 pm: Chennai Central railway station blast update: Sources in the investigation team say the bomb blast was not targeted for Tamil Nadu. Train was supposed to halt at Gudur in Andhra Pradesh. Since the train was delayed it landed in Tamil Nadu.

12:46 pm: Chennai station blasts: BJP expresses condolences to the families affected, says Nirmala Sitharaman.

12:23 pm: Our heartfelt condolences to those injured and to the family of the deceased: Congress leader Randeep Surjewala

12:14 pm: Chennai blast: Platform number 9 of Chennai Central railway station cordoned off, heavy security deployed.

12:00 pm: Blasts at Chennai Central station: Police and forensic teams inspect train.

11:40 am: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J. Jayalalithaa strongly condemned the twin bomb blasts on a train and expressed her grief at the death of one young woman and several who were injured. [Chennai train blasts: 3 pieces of the jigsaw puzzle](#)



injured are stable, 1 lady brought dead: V Sundaravalli, District Collector, Chennai.

11:34 am: Bangalore-Guwahati Express blast: Another person detained at airport and is being questioned.

11:24 am: An extremely unfortunate incident, immediate action must be taken against those responsible : Congress leader Rashid Alvi.

11:06 am: I express deep sorrow over this incident of terrorism: BJP spokesperson MJ Akbar.





was chaos all around at the Chennai Central Railway Station as passengers ran out of the Guwahati-Bangalore Express in panic.

11:01 am: Bangalore-Guwahati Express blast: Injured being brought to Rajiv Gandhi hospital in Chennai.

10:58 am: Bangalore-Guwahati Express blast: Forensic team reaches at the blast site.



Railway minister Mallikarjun Kharge

10:47 am: Sequence of blasts not clear, we need to wait for detailed and time-bound investigation to take place:

Anil Saxena, Additional DG PRO, Railway.

10:43 am: 13 people have lower limb problem, 1 has vascular injuries, 1 brought dead: V. Sundaravalli, District Collector, Chennai.

10:40 am: Investigation is going on. Railway and state police are working together: Railway Minister Mallikarjun Kharge.



Forensic team reaches the blast site in Chennai.

10:37 am: Let's not jump to conclusions, it will take approximately 1 week to make the analysis and for the investigation: Kharge.

10:35 am: A passenger, who was travelling by the S3 coach, narrating his experience, said, "I was awake and resting on my berth. At about 7.15 am, we heard some sound from the next coach. I came out of the coach and saw what had happened in S4 and S5 coaches".



The



explosions took place in the Bangalore-Guwahati Express on platform 9.

10:23 am: Railway Minister Kharge assures help, offers Rs 1 lakh for kin of dead.

10:15 am: A Special Investigation Team would probe the twin bomb blasts that rocked the Bangalore-Guwahati Express: Tamil Nadu DGP K Ramanujam.

10:07 am: An ISI agent was arrested from Chennai two days ago.

10:05 am: Suspect was hiding inside the train for two hours after the twin explosions:
Sources.





Train services have been halted. The nature of the blast is yet to be ascertained.

09:59 am: Tamil Nadu police nab a suspect who was hiding inside the Guwahati express: Sources.

09:58 am: Home Ministry has issued general alert to all railway stations after Chennai blasts: Sources.

09:55 am: Top Home Ministry officials discuss railway station security scenario with Railway Ministry officials.

09:50 am: Security beefed up at all railway stations. All precautionary measures initiated.



Injured were being brought to Rajiv Gandhi hospital in Chennai.

Two minor-intensity bomb blasts on Thursday rocked the Guwahati-Bangalore Express at the Central Railway station here claiming a woman's life and leaving 13 others injured, as police detained a suspect in this connection.

A 22-year-old woman passenger, identified as Swathi, bound for Guntur via Vijaywada, was killed in the explosions that occurred in the S4 and S5 coaches in quick succession.

June 13, 2013: Maoists attack Dhanbad-Patna Express train in Bihar, 3 killed

The injured, including two grievously hurt, have been rushed to the state-run Rajiv Gandhi Hospital, where doctors said the injured were "out of danger".



seeks details of Chennai blast from Tamil Nadu Government, police teams rushed to spot.

The train arrived from Bangalore for a ten-minute halt at the Central Railway station, the major railway hub in this metropolis, at about 7:05 am, and the explosions occurred in the coaches at about 7:15 am.

As panic-stricken passengers rushed out of the train in platform No 9 and also others in the neighbouring platform, police rushed to the spot and cordoned off the entire area.

Police said a suspect has been detained in connection with the explosions and he was being questioned.

Tamil Nadu DGP K. Ramanujam said a special investigation team would investigate the blasts and added that Chennai was not the target.

"It is not a major blast. It is suspected that Chennai could not have been target of those who were behind the blast because the train was running late. Some other location could have been the target", Ramanujam said.

He said police had no immediate information on who was responsible for the explosion."It is premature to say what kind of device was used in the blast. Damage to the train is not heavy," he said.



Platform number 9 of Chennai Central railway station was cordoned off.

Southern Railway General Manager Rakesh Mishra described it as a "minor blast".

December 2, 2008: 3 killed, 30 hurt in Assam train blast

Railway Minister M. Mallikarjun Kharge, expressing shock over the incident, announced Rs one lakh ex-gratia to the family of the woman killed in the explosion.

He said Rs 25,000 will be given to those seriously injured and Rs 5,000 to those with minor injuries.

Kharge said the Railway will bear the entire treatment expenses of the injured.

Commissioner Railway Safety (southern circle) S.K. Mittal will conduct an inquiry into the incident, Railway Spokesperson Anil Saxena said.





Blasts occur between 7:30 am and 7:45 am inside S4 and S5 coaches.

Home Minister Sushilkumar Shinde, who is in Himachal Pradesh for campaigning for Congress candidates, said, "I have directed my officials to provide all assistance to the state government".

Union Home Secretary Anil Goswami said, "We are in touch with the Tamil Nadu government and have sought a report on the incident".

Asked whether the blast can be termed as a terror attack, Goswami said it was too early to arrive at any conclusion.

"We are still waiting for the details," he said.

Railway Board Chairman Arunendra Kumar said, "It seems the blast took place under a berth".



team rushed to Chennai.

Kharge said Railway authorities have detached the two coaches damaged in the blasts and replaced them to enable the train to proceed on its onward journey.

Train services at the station were expected to be resumed by 1100 hrs, he said.

December 13, 2007: 5 killed in Raidhani Express blast

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/south/story/twin-blasts-at-chennai-central-station-bangalore-guahati-express-platform-9-191126-2014-05-01>

"Affected coaches will be detached and two new coaches will be attached to the train," said Anil Saxena, Railway spokesperson.

A team of National Security Guard and explosive experts is likely to be sent to Chennai to join in the investigation into the blast.

NIA team from Hyderabad is being rushed to the blast site, official sources said.

Condemning the blasts, DMK MP T.K.S. Elangovan said, "This will create fear in the minds of the passengers... so it is on police to take precautionary steps and see such things don't happen in the future".



Several persons were injured in a bomb explosion in a train at Chennai Railway station. Meanwhile, security at the railway station, where thousands of people arrive and depart daily, has been further stepped up and all inbound and out-bound trains were being subjected to extensive check.

Baggage screening procedures have been further scaled up, Railway sources said.

As a precautionary measure, police have stepped up security at the airport here.

Southern Railway has set up a helpline to provide information to the public. The helpline number is 044-64502416.

The injured have been identified as Murali (37), Krishnapant, Soren Pant, Santh, Bijan Kumar (24), Uma, Abdul Khan(24), Shihabul Haque (22), Vimal Kumar, Hari (21), Altaf

Khan admitted to Government Hospital.

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Bomb explosion

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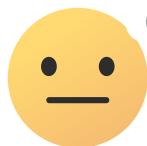
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