

Tamil Nadu leaders vie with each other to politicise blasts at Chennai Central station

All the political parties in the state including the PMK, the MDMK, the DMDK and the Congress have also condemned the blasts and criticised police for being inactive in preventing the tragedy.

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DMK president M. Karunanidhi has criticised the [Tamil Nadu](#) government of being lethargic in preventing Thursday's [bomb blasts](#) in a Guwahati-bound train at a [Chennai](#) station in which one woman was killed and 14 injured.

In a statement, Karunanidhi said if only police had acted swiftly after the arrest of a suspected ISI agent a few days ago in Chennai, this blast could have been avoided.

On April 29, Tamil Nadu Police arrested a Sri Lankan suspected to be an ISI agent and the whole operation was kept under cover.

In his statement, Karunanidhi squarely blamed Chief Minister Jayalalithaa for the tragedy and said since she herself held the home portfolio, she has to answer for the incident.

He also ridiculed Jayalalithaa going for a rest at her preferred Kodanadu estate near Western Ghats and added that "law and order has totally collapsed in the state".

Police are questioning two persons in connection with the blasts and so far no arrests were made.

The state BJP on the other hand is floating a theory that the blasts were aimed at Narendra Modi, scheduled to address meetings in Nellore and Madanapalli on Thursday.

"Modi is addressing meetings in Andhra Pradesh today and the Guwahati Express was

to go through these areas. This should also be taken into consideration while looking into this blasts," says Tamil Nadu BJP president Pon Radhakrishnan.



Injured were being brought to Rajiv Gandhi hospital in Chennai.

All the political parties in the state including the PMK, the MDMK, the DMDK and the Congress have also condemned the blasts and criticised police for being inactive in preventing the tragedy.

Meanwhile, the state govt transferred the investigations to the Crime Branch Criminal Investigations Department (CBCID). State DGP K. Ramanujam said in a statement that the case has been immediately transferred to the CBCID.

Jayalalithaa, who is in Kodanad, ordered two of her ministers to take care of the 14 injured being treated at the Government General Hospital in Chennai. Ministers are camping in the hospital.

It may be recalled that twin blasts occurred within a gap of two minutes around 7.25 am inside S4 and S5 coaches of the Bangalore - Guwahati Express.

The bombs are identified to be kept beneath a seat.

One person, 22-year-old Sangeetha belonging to Guntur was killed on the spot and 14 others are injured.

The injured have been shifted to the nearby Government General Hospital. The condition of some is stated to be critical though government officials claim all of them are out of danger.

"I carried a couple of passengers who were profusely bleeding below their hips," a porter at the station told IndiaToday.in.

However the government refuted this.

"There are 14 injured and two of them among the list are sent to scanning. All of them are out of danger. The chief minister is constantly monitoring the situation," J. Radhakrishnan, Tamil Nadu Health Secretary, told IndiaToday.in.

Meanwhile, the train restarted its journey from Chennai by noon. The two coaches affected by the blasts were removed and taken to yards for forensic examination.

All the passengers of the concerned coaches were accommodated in fresh coaches. The top brass of the railways and state police are camping at Chennai Central Railway Station.

Apart from platform 9 where the twin blasts took place, the rest of the station is looking normal with passengers leaving normally.

Elsewhere in the city, police have intensified combing operations and barricades were erected at several important places and intensive vehicle checks are carried out since 8 am.

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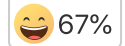
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