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NIA CHARGE-SHEETS HYDERABAD HAND-GRENADE CASE AFTER UNRAVELING MAJOR CONSPIRACY TO CARRY OUT TERRORIST ACTS

Following thorough investigations into the case involving Lashkar -e- Toiba (LeT) who were targeting Hyderabad City, the National Investigation Agency filed a chargesheet today against 3 LeT operatives. Mohd Abdul Wajid @ Zahed, Samiuddin @ Sami and Maaz Hasan Farooq @ Maaz have been charged for their role in the terrorist conspiracy to raise funds, collect explosives and carry out recruitment into the LeT. NIA had taken over investigations into the case in January 2023 from Hyderabad Police.

NIA Investigations revealed that Zahed, Sami and Maaz were in touch with Farhatulla Ghori, an 'individual terrorist' listed by Government of India. Simultaneously, they were also in league with Siddiqu bin Osman @ Abu Hanzala, Abdul Majeed @ Chotu and other LeT leaders and operatives. They had aimed to carry out bomb blasts at crowded places in Hyderabad City.

Farhatulla Ghori, Siddiqu bin Osman @ Abu Hanzala and Abdul Majeed @ Chotu are both based in Pakistan. Ghori recruited Zahed from cyberspace and sent funds to him through hawala channels. Zahed was tasked to recruit more persons into LeT and to carry out terrorist acts. Sami, Maaz and Mohammed Kaleem were instigated and prodded by Zahed to work for the LeT.

Four (04) hand-grenades were dead dropped at an isolated spot near Manoharabad village on Hyderabad-Nagpur Highway (NH-44) on 28.09.2022. Zahed got the hand-grenade consignment collected through Sami and then gave one grenade each to Sami and Maaz with instructions to hurl the same at public gatherings during Dusshera festival. However, their intentions could not bear fruit as they were arrested before the planned attacks. The grenades were recovered from their possession during search of their houses. Rs 20 lakhs was also seized from Zahed.

NIA unravelled all these facts and has filed a chargesheet today against Zahed, Sami and Maaz under sections 120B, 153A of IPC, sections 4, 5, 6 of the Explosives Substances Act, 1908 and sections 13, 17, 18, 18B, 20, 38, 39 of the UA (P) Act, 1967.

