



National Investigation Agency
Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India



NIA FILES 1ST SUPPLEMENTARY CHARGESHEET AGAINST 2 IN WEST BENGAL EXPLOSIVES & DETONATORS SEIZURE CASE

ALSO RAIDS ILLEGAL GODOWNS OF ANOTHER SUSPECT IN THE CASE, SEIZES MORE EXPLOSIVES & ARMS

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday filed its first Supplementary Chargesheet in the June 2022 West Bengal case related to the seizure of a huge cache of electric detonators, Nonels (non-electric detonators) and explosives.

This takes the total number of accused charge-sheeted in the case ((RC-43/2022/NIA/DLI) to seven. Five accused persons were named in the original Chargesheet filed in April this year.

The NIA today also raided illegal godowns in two locations in Birbhum district in connection with the same case. The godowns were being run by another suspect in the case, identified as Manoj Ghosh. The agency has seized ammonium nitrate, country made pistol, live ammunition, gelatin sticks and incriminating documents in these raids.

The case was registered in September 2022 following the seizure of around 81,000 electric detonators from a vehicle in the Md. Bazar Police Station area in Birbhum by a team of STF, West Bengal. The vehicle's driver, Ashish Keora was also arrested, and subsequent searches had led to the seizure of another 2,525 electric detonators, 27,000 kg of Ammonium Nitrate and 1,625 kgs of Gelatin Sticks from an illegal Godown.

The duo chargesheeted today have been identified as Merajuddin Ali Khan @ Meraj Khan @ Meraz Khan from Jharkhand and Mir Md. Nuruzzaman @ Romeo @ Mir @ Jamai @ Prince of West Bengal. They have been charged under various sections of the IPC and Explosive Substances Act.

NIA investigations have revealed that Merajuddin Ali Khan had supplied the electric detonators and gelatin sticks to Rintu Sk @ Muntaj Ali, one of the five accused charge-sheeted earlier. Mir Md. Nuruzzaman had illegally supplied 27,000 kg ammonium nitrate to Rintu. The duo had also prepared forged and fabricated documents, which they uploaded on PESO site, to cover up their crimes.

The seized documents showed that Merajuddin had illegally supplied a total 86,700 kgs of gelatine sticks, 4,99,222 electric detonators and 204 Nonels (non-electric detonators) to various illegal miners so far. These included the detonators and explosives seized in the instant case, into which further investigations are continuing.