

PROCEEDING OF THE SPECIAL GROUP FOR CIVIL DEFENCE & INTERNAL
SECURITY FOR BANGALORE INFRASTRUCTURE HELD ON 6TH DECEMBER
AT 12-30 PM AT BOARD ROOM, KUIDFC, BANGALORE

Shri Ananta Kumar, MP and Vice Chairman of Abide chaired the meeting and the following members were present:

1. Shri. Rajeev Chandrashekar, Convener ABIDE
2. Dr. Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, Member
3. Shri. K Jothiramlingam Member
4. Shri. Mallikarjuna Swamy (representing BDA)
5. Shri. Tushargirinath, Member
6. Shri. TK Palanethra Naik (Representing BMTC)
7. Smt. Jija Hari Singh DG Home guard
8. Shri. KC Siddappa (representing Home Secretary)
9. Dr. Balakrishnaiah, Director KSRSAC, Special invitee
10. Shri. A Nagappa, ACP Traffic
11. Shri. D Radhakrishna

Shri AnanthKumar while welcoming the members, in his opening remarks mentioned that this committee would not deliberate nor seek any sensitive information that is secret & classified by the police. He also mentioned that the members of ABIDE were quite aware that the Police Department has made sufficient arrangements to meet the contingency.

He expressed that what needs to be discussed in this forum is the concerns and views of the citizens regarding this scenario of increased terror threats and Abides suggestions to the Government for the overall security solution addressing both the prevention aspect and the role of the civil defense authority in times of a crisis.

Shri Praveen Sood mentioned that the role of the police was not to flush out the terrorists but to hold on until appropriate agency come and took over. To this end several Quick Response Teams (QRT) were formed in the city to move to positions at short notice. He mentioned that several QRTs were set up in sensitive area of Bangalore. He also mentioned that the police must verify private companies engaging the services of security personals and vehicles hired for their employees He also urged that Private companies must strengthen their perimeter and other security and could consult local Police for this and also increase and improve the screening of their Employees. He agreed with the Convenors suggestion that the Police will issue guidelines to Corporates on this screening process as well local security and co-ordination processes and that all Zonal DCPs are already in the process of initiating meetings with Residents and Corporates for the above.

Shri Ananthkumar drew attention of the members to the document circulated by Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, MP and Convener on this issue and sought a discussion on the same.

Ms. Kiran Mazumdar mentioned that the QRT areas to be covered should also include high profile IT Companies, ITPL, BIAL, Electronic City, Cubbon park and defence establishment. She proposed that a Private Public Partnership model be looked at in this connection.

Shri Praveen Sood responded informing that all such sensitive locations have been identified. But he also suggested some affirmative action by all IT/BT companies that they must verify the antecedents of all their employees as the present trend shows that the terrorists are no longer from any poor strata of the society, but highly educated and IT savvy. He mentioned that the IT companies must have some internal systems arrangement to track employees divulging sensitive information through emails.

Ms. Jeja Hari Singh mentioned that the civil defence has a strategy for training citizens in how to react in a systematic manner from zero hour to the end of the situation. However she mentioned that it would help if all the sensitive building/ companies gave a blue print of their building and were kept with a central authority so that they could be accessed when required. The Committee after deliberation felt that this was of prime importance and suggested Ms Jija Hari Singh to draw up a strategy to obtain building plans.

She also mentioned the initiative taken by her department in association with Shri Ramesh Ramanathan for neighborhood committees to monitor their neighborhood and to report to the police any unusual phenomena or activity happening in the neighborhood.

Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Convener, ABIDe, while welcoming the idea of public-private partnership like the neighborhood committee mentioned by Ms. Jig Hari Singh in non-sensitive and non-critical areas, expressed that the primary role in ensuring the safety and security of the civilians should be with the civil defense agency & the police who would accept ownership of the security arrangements. Any private participation must be accepted in terms of helping the Police and Civil defence, but without compromising the ownership of Government on this very important issue and without compromising Operational confidentiality and areas like helping Government build the necessary infrastructure for Crisis Management Command Center , Call center, Information center etc may be looked at with Private help. He further said the issue of Building plans only related to Private buildings since Government especially defence Ministry buildings should not asked to handover layouts to Police for fear of leakage etc.

Shri Ananthkumar reiterated that Private participation should be limited to specific areas and must not infringe on operational areas etc. He mentioned that as long Police had confirmation from Government agencies that all layouts and designs were available in some central location, Police should focus on Private Building layouts and designs.

The Principal Secretary, Urban Development Department also concurred with the views of the Convener and mentioned that it is important that the respective owners of the

private building, should be made obligatory to give the building plan to the central agency as BBMP would not have the internal building details.

With this discussion, the Committee decided to accept the recommendations circulated and Shri Ananthkumar concluded that this Note as part of the proceedings should be send to the Chief Minister from Abide by the Convenor.

The summary of recommendations is made part and parcel of this proceedings, the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Vice Chairman ABIDE

Convener, ABIDE