



**NIA Files Charge-sheet Against Nine Accused in Case RC-20/2019/
NIA/DLI, Tarn Taran Blast Case in NIA Special Court, Mohali**

Today (11.03.2020), NIA filed charge-sheet in Case No. RC-20/2019/NIA/DLI, against accused viz. i) Massa Singh @ Mandeep Singh r/o District Tarn Taran, Punjab (ii) Harjit Singh @ Harjit r/o District Tarn Taran, Punjab (iii) Gurjant Singh r/o District Tarn Taran, Punjab (iv) Chandeeep Singh @ Gabbar Singh r/o District Gurdaspur, Punjab (v) Malkit Singh @ Sher Singh @ Shera r/o District Amritsar, Punjab (vi) Amarjeet Singh @ Amar Singh r/o District Amritsar, Punjab (vii) Manpreet Singh @ Maan r/o District Tarn Taran, Punjab (viii) Bikramjit Singh Panjwar @ BikkarBaba r/o District Tarn Taran, Punjab (absconding) and one juvenile u/s 120B r/w 153A of IPC, Sections 13, 18, 18A, 20 of UA (P) Act, Section 3, 4 & 5 of Explosive Substances Act in the Special NIA Court, Mohali, Punjab. The charges against two deceased Vikram Singh @ Vicky and Harpreet Singh @ Happy, both r/o District Tarn Taran, Punjab have abated on account of their death in the incident.

2. The case relates to a powerful explosion that took place in a vacant plot at the outskirts of village Pandori Gola, District Tarn Taran, Punjab on 4.09.2019, resulting in death of 02 persons and grievous injuries to one other, who were engaged in digging a pit to retrieve concealed explosives. Originally, a case FIR no. 280 dated 05.09.2019 was registered in this regard at PS Sadar Tarntaran under sections 304 IPC, 4 & 5 of Explosive Substances Act, which was re-registered as RC-20/2019/NIA/DLI by NIA on 23.09.2019 for investigation.

3. During investigation, it was found that accused persons were radicalised pro-Khalistan youths who had formed a terrorist gang under the leadership of absconding accused Bikramjit Singh Panjwar @ Bikkar. The members of terrorist gang carried out secessionist activities on ground as well as on social media to instigate the members of Sikh community to agitate for the secession of Punjab from the Union of India. The terrorist gang chose targets for attack with a view to promote enmity between people of different communities, to create unrest and disturb social and religious harmony and there by endangering the maintenance of public peace and order in Punjab. They also illegally procured explosive substances, prepared and tested crude bombs to carry out terrorist acts in Punjab. Accused had, lately, planned to target one dera at Muradpura, Tarn Taran. In this regard they held a series of secret meetings and had finally chosen the date of the attack. To this end accused Harjit Singh, Gurjant Singh and deceased accused Vikram Singh @ Vicky and Harpreet Singh @ Happy were retrieving the buried explosives when the explosion took place.

4. Further investigation against co-conspirators / suspects who are absconding/ located abroad continues under section 173(8) Cr PC.
