

Rajnath reviews PM security in wake of assassination plot

Govt Taking Threat 'Very Seriously'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Union home minister Rajnath Singh reviewed the PM's security on Monday in the backdrop of a communication between individuals linked to Maoist outfits revealing a plot to assassinate him. Sources told TOI the threat was being taken "very seriously" and the deliberations at the meeting focused on further strengthening the PM's security apparatus to effectively neutralise all possible threats.

The home ministry has already received a report from the Maharashtra police regarding the communication found from the Delhi residence of activist Rona Wilson, one



Letters exchanged between individuals allegedly linked to Maoists revealed a plot for another 'Rajiv-like incident' and 'end of Modi raj'

of the five arrested last week for alleged Maoist links and their role in the Bhima-Koregaon violence. It contains references to plans for "another Rajiv Gandhi-like incident", supposedly pointing to an assassination plot, and talks of "end of Modi raj".

"While the PM's security is of the highest level, today's meeting discussed if the stan-

dard operating procedures can be further tightened. An overview will be taken by the expert committee in this regard," an MHA official said.

The meeting on Monday was attended by national security adviser Ajit Doval, home secretary Rajiv Gauba and Intelligence Bureau director Rajiv Jain. "The home minister directed that all ne-

cessary measures be taken in consultation with other agencies to suitably strengthen the PM's security arrangements," said an MHA release.

While Congress has demanded a probe into the alleged assassination plot and asked the issue not to be politicised, NCP boss Sharad Pawar on Sunday dismissed the threat letter as an attempt to garner sympathy. At a rally, Pawar said, "BJP has realised they are losing popular support. To gain sympathy, it is now playing the threat letter card. However, I am sure people will not fall prey to such tactics."

At a presser on Monday, Union minister Prakash Javadekar said casting aspersions on a plot to assassinate the country's PM is the lowest level of politics. "The country has witnessed assassination of two PMs. Unfortunately, the party which lost its leaders is also not sensitive over the issue," he said.