

NIA arrests 2 in Hyd for aligning with ISIS

Sumit Kumar Singh

singh.sumit@dnaindia.net

New Delhi: The NIA on Sunday arrested two alleged ISIS sympathisers from Hyderabad. The Hyderabad-based youths, Mohammed Abdullah Basith (24) and Mohammad Abdul Qhadeer (19) were arrested for pledging allegiance with ISIS and planning to carry out terror attacks in India. Basith had undergone several rounds of deradicalisation over the last four years. He had made two previous attempts to join the ISIS, but was intercepted and sent for deradicalisation.

Basith got lured to the ISIS believing he will go to heaven. In 2014, Basith was in his third year of a computer engineering course, when he made an attempt to join the ISIS. His sister too allegedly wanted to accompany him to Syria.

Basith then had said they were given a contact in Bangladesh by their handlers who used to communicate with them through Skype and telegram. "I got inspired by the idea of Jihad after watching online videos. Soon I was in touch with people on FB who were directing me how to reach Syria," he said.

The NIA stated in January

PLANNED ATTACKS

■ Mohammed Abdullah Basith was lured to ISIS believing he will go to heaven.

■ **Mohammad Abdul Qhadeer (19) was also held for pledging allegiance to ISIS**

28, 2016 that they had filed a case of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 against Sheikh Azhar-ul Islam, Mohammed Farhan Shaikh and Adnan Hassan over allegations that they and their associates were members of ISIS and involved in a conspiracy to identify, motivate, radicalise, recruit and train youth for the terror group.

Subsequently, all the three accused were arrested by NIA. The agency filed a chargesheet on July 25, 2016. During trial, Islam and Shaikh pleaded guilty and were sentenced to seven years of imprisonment.

The trial against Hassan is still going on. During probe, NIA found that Basith is in touch with Hassan and his associates, and is conspiring to carry out terror activities.