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Gujarat EDN

## **SIT asked to produce phone records in Gulbarg case**

### **TIMES NEWS NETWORK**

Ahmedabad: A special court hearing the Gulbarg Society case on Monday asked the special investigation team (SIT) to furnish phone call records of ex-Congress MP Ahsan Jafri who was killed in the post-Godhra massacre of February 28, 2002, in which 69 persons were killed.

The designated judge SH Vora ordered SIT to place evidence on records within a month after advocate SM Vora, the lawyer who appears with prosecution, demanded further investigation in this case under Section 173(8) of the CrPC and sought directions to SIT to place certain documentary evidence before the court.

Acting on the application, the court has asked for call details of Ahsan Jafri's landline number. His family has been saying that Jafri made frantic calls to top cops and politicians for help when he was attacked by a mob in his home, but his plea fell on deaf ears. The court asked SIT to get these details from BSNL.

The prosecutors and investigating agency are asked to furnish call details of accused persons, whose interviews were run by the Tehelka journalist Ashish Khaitan, who too is a witness in this case. Besides this, the video tapes containing his dialogues with accused which were shown in a sting, are to be placed on record, after an application was filed by Citizens for Justice and Peace (CJP).

The court has also asked SIT to bring on record the details of phone calls of police officers involved in investigation when the incident took place. The investigating agency would have to produce wireless messages, police diary containing notes regarding the incident and the logbook of the police van. Moreover, SIT is also directed to get a new map of Gulbarg society prepared by a surveyor.

Judge Vora has asked the prosecution to place the injury certificates of victims after gathering in from the SIT. The investigating agency has till date not provided such certificates to government lawyers.

The SIT is also probing Jafri's wife's complaint against chief minister Narendra Modi and 62 other politicians and bureaucrats upon direction from the Supreme Court.

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Investigate Gulbarg case again, SIT told

Special court asks team to submit police & vehicle logbooks, injury certificates

Roshan Kumar

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) is being directed by a special court to conduct further investigation into various aspects of the Gulbarg Society massacre case, including finding several people accused in the matter. BU Joshi, the special judge appointed for the case, has directed the SIT to submit all the reports, including the police logbook, vehicle logbook, injury certificates of witnesses in the case and other documents, by October 7.

Though the CD containing mobile phone data, submitted by IPS officer Rahul Sharma, is vital evidence in the 2002 riot cases, the SIT has not submitted details of the location of the accused as found on the bases of the data on the CD. The court also mentioned a sting operation conducted by investigative journalist Ashish Kaitan into the role played by the perpetrators of the 2002 communal riots. During the sting operation, he recorded a conversation between Babu Bajrangi and others accused in the related cases. There has been no mention of this sting operation in the report.

Moreover, there is no mention of the videography and photography with regard to Gulbarg Society, which were taken after the incident. Slain MLA Ahasan Jafri, who was killed in the Gulbarg Society massacre, had made numerous phone calls to the police and others. However, there has been no mention of the details of these phone calls.

Replying to a query raised by the court, the special public prosecutor earlier said that the details of the phone calls made by Jafri were not available as BSNL had destroyed all the data. Earlier, social activist **Teesta Setalvad** had submitted an application listing the lacunae in the investigation conducted by the SIT.

"On the bases of the application by the witness and the Citizens for Justice and Peace (CJP), the judge has ordered further investigation in the case under section 173(B) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) on a detailed application filed by us pointing out the sloppy and incomplete investigation by the SIT in the Gulbarg Society massacre case," Setalvad said. "The SIT failed to investigate the entries in the station dairies and the fire brigade register," she added.