

REPORT ON: **IED** BLAST AT BENGALURU

OVERVIEW

On Friday, March 1, 2024, at around 01:00 pm IST, a mysterious object placed in a bag exploded at the popular Rameshwaram Cafe in Bengaluru's Whitefield area.

The blast is suspected to have been caused by an improvised explosive device (IED) that was left behind in a bag by an unknown person who had bought a token and consumed food at the cafe. The blast injured nine people, including two staff members and seven customers, one of whom sustained 40 percent burns. The injured were taken to nearby hospitals for treatment.



Figure 1: Rameshwaram Cafe After the Blast

The incident occurred near the HAL police station area and has sparked police investigations. Apparently, a concealed object inside a bag detonated unexpectedly, causing chaos and damage. Swift responses from both police and firefighters ensued, as they examined the area for clues and contained the blaze.

INVESTIGATION

The blast was captured on CCTV cameras and the police are examining the footage to identify the suspect. The bomb squad and forensic teams are also investigating the scene to determine the exact nature and motive of the blast. The Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has confirmed that it was an IED blast and said that the investigation is underway. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) and the Intelligence Bureau (IB) have also been notified.

The identity and motive of the person or group behind the blast are still unknown. The police have launched an investigation and are examining the CCTV footage and the remnants of the bag and the object. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack so far. The police have not ruled out any possibility, including terrorism, extortion, or personal enmity.

IMPACT

The blast has shocked and scared the residents and visitors of Bengaluru, especially those who frequent the Rameshwaram Cafe, which is one of the most popular food joints in the city. The cafe is located in a busy commercial area, near many IT companies and residential complexes.

The blast has also raised questions about the security and safety of public places in Bengaluru, which has witnessed several bomb blasts in the past. The blast has also drawn attention to the need for better surveillance and detection of explosive devices in the city.

INCIDENT LOCATION MAP

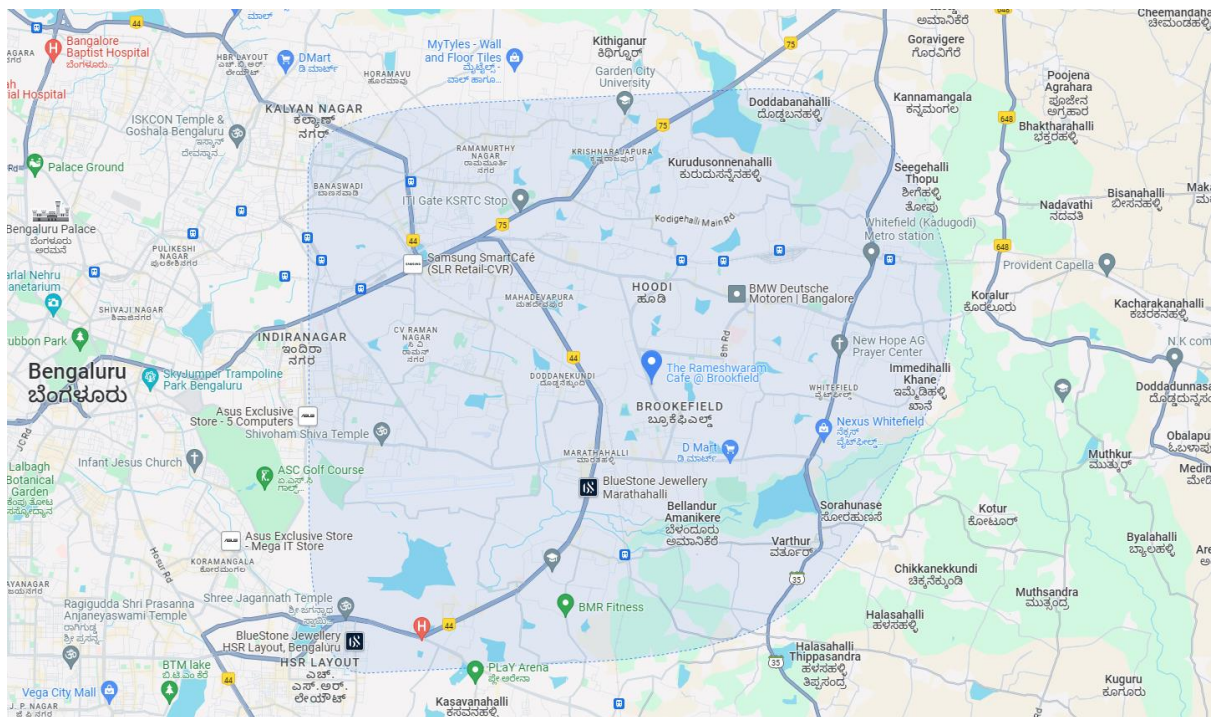


Figure 2: Incident Location & Radius

BUSINESSES AND TECH VILLAGES NEAR THE INCIDENT LOCATION

- **Prestige Tech Park:** A large IT park that houses many multinational companies such as Oracle, Cisco, JP Morgan, Accenture, and more. It is located about 3.5 km from the Rameshwaram Cafe.
- **RMZ Ecospace:** Another IT park that hosts companies such as IBM, Capgemini, Samsung, and more. It is located about 4.5 km from the Rameshwaram Cafe.
- **Embassy Tech Village:** A mixed-use development that includes office spaces, retail outlets, hotels, and residential apartments. It is home to companies such as Wells Fargo, Flipkart, Sony, Cognizant, and more. It is located about 6 km from the Rameshwaram Cafe.
- **Wipro:** A leading IT services company that has its headquarters in Sarjapur Road, about 7 km from the Rameshwaram Cafe.
- **Infosys:** A global leader in IT consulting and outsourcing that has its campus in Electronics City, about 18 km from the Rameshwaram Cafe.

POSSIBLE REASON BEHIND THE BLAST

These are just some of the possible scenarios that could explain the blast. However, none of them have been confirmed or ruled out by the authorities. The police are working hard to find the truth and bring the culprits to justice.

- The blast could be a criminal act by a rival gang or a disgruntled employee who wants to harm the Rameshwaram Cafe or its owner. The cafe is a well-known and reputed brand in the city and has a loyal customer base. It is possible that someone had a personal or professional grudge against the cafe or its owner and wanted to take revenge.
- The blast could be a terror attack by a radical group that wants to create fear and chaos in the city. This could be related to the recent attacks in other parts of the country, such as the Delhi Metro bombing and the Mumbai airport shooting, which have been claimed by the Islamic State of Khorasan Province (ISKP).
- The blast could be an accident caused by a faulty or mishandled device that was meant for some other purpose. The device could have been a part of a fireworks display, a mining operation, or a construction project that went wrong. The person who left the bag behind could have been unaware of its contents or could have panicked and fled the scene.

RESPONSE

The Deputy Commissioner of Police of the Whitefield area, the Fire and Emergency Services, and the Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad reached the spot soon after the blast and cordoned off the area. The Chief Minister of Karnataka, the Home Minister, and the Police Commissioner of Bengaluru have condemned the blast and assured that the culprits will be brought to justice.

They have also announced compensation for the injured and the cafe owner. The Prime Minister of India has also expressed his grief and solidarity with the victims and the people of Bengaluru.

OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION

The Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has confirmed that the Rameshwaram Cafe blast was caused by an improvised explosive device (IED) that was left behind in a bag by an unknown person. He said that the investigation is underway and the police are examining the CCTV footage to identify the suspect. He also said that the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and the Intelligence Bureau (IB) have been notified.

SOURCES

[Official Confirmation by CM](#)

[India Today](#)

[Times of India](#)

[Asianet News](#)

[Video Footage](#)

Please note that this is a developing situation, and further updates may emerge as investigations progress.