



Police at the school in north Delhi on Wednesday. Praveen Khanna

## Guard, brother killed on school premises

ABHISHEK ANGAD  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

THE SECURITY guard of a city school and his brother were bludgeoned to death on the premises of the United Christian Senior Secondary School in North Delhi. The incident happened despite the presence of two policemen in the vicinity, who were guarding a church located barely 50 metres away.

Both victims, Sunil (40) and Anil (24), were students of the school once.

The incident happened on the intervening night of July 14 and July 15. Nearly Rs 25,000 was also stolen from the principal's room, said police.

But the two policemen guarding the nearby Saint Stephen Baptist Church reportedly had no inkling of the

incident. Delhi police have deployed their personnel at several churches after a series of attempted burglaries were reported from various churches and schools.

A sweeper working at the school found the bodies lying outside the principal's office at 7.30 am on Wednesday.

"A blood-stained stone and an iron rod have been seized from the spot and we are investigating the matter. There is no CCTV footage available," said DCP (North) Madhur Verma.

The police are also investigating four threat letters reportedly received by Darwin Pershad, the principal of the school.

"The principal had earlier received four threat letters in Hindi. He had ignored them and did not even file a complaint. But we don't think this is an important link. Someone

might have played a prank," said the police.

The modus operandi of the incident was similar to some other crimes in the area, he said. "The assailants broke the iron water pipe and used it to break the lock of the door," said Verma.

The police are also looking into two separate motives behind the crime.

"It could be an intended burglary and an eventual killing. Or the assailants came with the intent to murder," said the police.

But family members of the duo claimed they had no problems or feuds with anyone.

Pershad said Sunil was an efficient man who had worked for the school since 2009.

He added that had not filed a complaint over the threat letters as he had assumed that they were merely part of a prank by some students.

## Former director of North civic body summoned in defamation case

EXPRESS NEWS  
SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

A DELHI court has summoned a former director of education of North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) in connection with a civil defamation suit, filed by two school teachers and a retired princi-

pal, who claimed that he had levelled charges of sexual harassment against them.

Additional District Judge Kamini Lau issued summons to Jasram Kaim, former head of the Department of Education at the NDMC, on a suit filed by teachers Sandeep Dabas and Mahinder Sharma and retired school principal Kamal Kant Kaushik. The three have sought damages and

compensation of Rs 15 lakh from Kaim for allegedly defaming them in a meeting of the NDMC's Standing Committee.

The plaintiffs alleged in the suit that they were defamed in the notings made in the departmental file. The file, according to the plaintiffs, had been circulated to higher officials, others in the department and the Standing Committee.

## CENTRE VS DELHI GOVT

### HC refuses to quash BJP leader's appointment as NDMC vice-chairman

ANEESHA MATHUR  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

THE DELHI High Court on Wednesday refused to get involved in yet another spat between the Centre and the Delhi government over yet another high-level appointment, that of BJP leader Karan Singh Tanwar as the member and vice-chairman of New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC).

The HC was hearing a plea filed by AAP MLA Surender Singh, challenging Tanwar's appointment, seeking quashing of the notification appointing him as the NDMC vice-chairman and a stay on the oath-taking ceremony.

The court of Justice V P Vaish declined to give any interim orders and issued notices to the Central government, NDMC, Delhi government and Tanwar, asking them to respond to Singh's plea by September 3.

During the hearing, Additional Solicitor General N K Kaul, appearing for the Central government, claimed that the Centre had sent several communications seeking the AAP government's inputs on the issue, but it had failed to respond.

The argument was refuted by senior advocate Dayan Krishnan, who appeared for the Delhi government and argued that the Centre had not given adequate

**In a plea before HC, AAP MLA Surender Singh had challenged Karan Singh Tanwar's appointment**

time to the Delhi CM to give his opinion on the issue. "Mere communication is not the same as consultation," he said.

Senior advocate Sudhir Nandrajog, representing Surender Singh, argued that since the Delhi government and the Central government had both proposed different names for the position of NDMC vice-chairman, there should have been a "proper consultative process".

The central government's counsel, however, claimed that the AAP government was "trying to create a political battle" as it had initially not responded to the letters sent by the Home Ministry.

The ASG also said that the Delhi government had deliberately proposed a different name, only after the Centre suggested Tanwar's appointment for the post.

The ASG also argued that "consultation" did not have to mean concurrence of opinion between the Centre and the state, and the Centre was "correct" in issuing the notification appointing Tanwar as member and vice-chairman of the NDMC as the post had remained vacant for several months.

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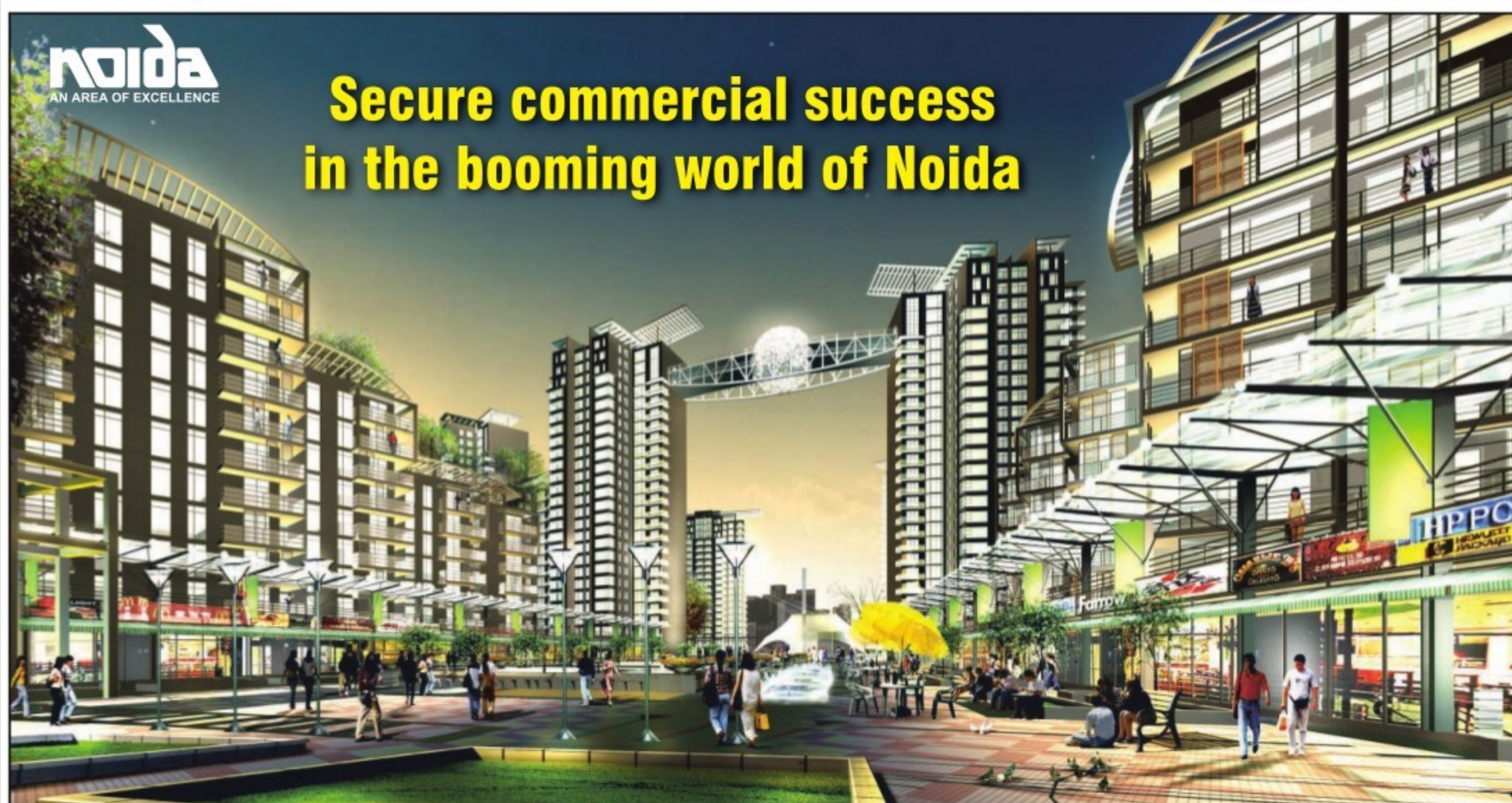
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