

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC STATEMENT

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India: Amnesty International condemns multiple bomb attacks in Jaipur

Amnesty International condemns the multiple bombings that took place on Tuesday 13 May 2008, in the north-western Indian city of Jaipur, which, according to reports, have claimed at least 25 lives so far and injured scores of others.

According to the reports, the death toll is likely to rise.

Amnesty International's thoughts and sympathies are with the victims of these attacks, which took place in crowded market places and busy public spaces, including a place of worship frequented by locals and tourists.

Amnesty International is dismayed by the fact that the attackers chose to target civilians going about their daily business. This shows contempt for the most fundamental principles of humanity.

Nothing can justify such attacks. Individuals' right to life must be protected, and the civilian population must not be treated as expendable tools for achieving political or ideological ends. The Indian government must initiate a prompt and thorough investigation of the attacks. Those suspected of being responsible must be brought to justice in proceedings that meet international standards of fairness, and without the imposition of the death penalty.

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