

Cash van loot: Accused's kin leads cops to ₹32-lakh stash



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MUMBAI: Police on Wednesday recovered nearly half of the Rs78 lakh that the driver of a cash delivery van fled with a day earlier. The Rs32 lakh in cash was recovered from the house of a relative of the accused Arun Waghmare.

Kandivli police said that on Tuesday night, Waghmare's wife's uncle Balu Gaikwad informed the MHB police that Rs32 lakh, a part of the loot, was kept at his home in Kanderpada, Dahisar (West).

Investigators also discovered that Satish Angle, a colleague of the accused Arun Waghmare, may have assisted the crime. "When Waghmare went to drop the bag of cash at Gaikwad's residence, he was accompanied by Angle. We have detained some of Waghmare's relatives to find out about the duo's whereabouts and the remaining amount," said an official from the crime branch unit that is also investigating the case.

Police said Waghmare and Angle had joined Writer Safeguard around 10 days ago. Police added that a local political party worker issued a recommendation of 'good character' to Waghmare, following which he secured the job. The police are also enquiring about the party worker.

Police said that the robbery appeared to be a planned affair as Waghmare and Angle's phone records suggest they were constantly in touch over the past few days. Police also found a hammer and other tools lying in the vehicle used by Waghmare, which indicate that he had been planning the robbery for a while.

We are investigating if more people were



■ Police are yet to trace the accused and the remaining cash, about Rs46 lakh.

FILE PHOTO

Security firms insist on narco-analysis and more

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MUMBAI: The Rs78-lakh robbery by the driver of a cash delivery van has come as a reminder of the risks involved in hiring staff for security agencies. To minimise risk, security firms now use private forensic laboratories to check if a potential employee has 'criminal tendencies'. To verify this, candidates are being put through lie-detector tests, handwriting analysis and other forms of psychological profiling.

"Several security agencies involved in providing manpower for making cash deposits in ATMs or jewellery store employees, have been approaching us to do a personality assessment of candidates before hiring them," said Dr R Krishnamurthy, former forensic science laboratory director and chairman of Helix advisory. "As those hired will have to be entrusted with huge sums of cash, they want to be sure that the candidate has no criminal tendencies."

"We have developed an advanced lie detector, or innocence test, which has credibility indicators to help us find out how trustworthy the person is," said Krishnamurthy. "If there are four candidates that a company refers

LEGAL ASPECT

■ According to a Supreme Court ruling on May 5, 2010, compulsory brain mapping, narco-analysis and lie detector tests were deemed unconstitutional.

■ The ruling stated that "...No individual should be forcibly subjected to any of the techniques in question, whether in the context of investigation in criminal cases or otherwise. Doing so would amount to an unwarranted intrusion into personal liberty."

detector test, there are several other parameters like psychological profiling and handwriting analysis that are used to gauge the person. On certain occasions, firms also approach the private laboratories after a crime has been committed, but the firm does not want to involve the police.

However, a Supreme Court ruling in May stated that compulsory brain mapping, narco-analysis and lie detector tests are unconstitutional as they violated individual rights. When questioned about the SC ruling, Krishnamurthy said, "We conduct these tests only after the candidates give us their willing-