

04/10/2003

Andhra Pradesh in shock over bid to kill Chief Minister

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THE failed assassination bid on Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandra Babu Naidu which left him, several State Cabinet Ministers and MPs injured on Thursday has sent the State into shock.

The dastardly nature of the crime, which occurred at the holy city of Thirupathi in the State, received Page One lead coverage from both Tamil Nesan and Malaysia Nanban.

Such were the shock waves from the explosion that riots erupted in Hyderabad, the State capital, and the city of Guntur, as people came to know of the incident.

Chandra Babu, who succeeded his father-in-law N.T. Rama Rao, also a famed Telegu film actor who excelled playing the roles of Hindu deities, is well-respected for transforming the state into a computer hub.

Both newspapers carried several photographs showing a shaken Chandra Babu wearing blood-stained shorts, and Cabinet Ministers and MPs lying unconscious after the blast.

A side story also revealed that the Chief Minister's mother, who was unhurt, was in a daze as she awaited news of her son.

It is understood that the bombs exploded as the Chief Minister's car negotiated a bridge along a winding road leading to a temple.

The Lima `03 exhibition in Langkawi also received extensive coverage in the Tamil Press with daily stories and pictures.

Malaysia Nanban ran a Page One picture of Prime Muinister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad looking at model versions of new ships in the market.