

## Target locators to hunt out shooters & snipers

Delhi Police is buying gadgets that would help it locate snipers and sharpshooters hidden from view.

Called optical target locators, these devices would help sleuths of the security wing and two districts in securing VIPs, and the Special Cell in anti-terror operations, say sources. On Monday, police invited bids from vendors to buy three such devices.

Delhi Police protects the most number VVIPs in the country and could be the first police force to acquire this device that's usually handled by the armed forces.

Officers said it would help identify snipers equipped with any optical electro-optical surveillance device like night vision equipment, binoculars, surveillance cameras or laser range finders. "In a layman's language, you can say that the device will alert us if a shooter with a long-range weapon is hiding on a building or on a tree or even inside a vehicle which is close to the VIP route," an officer said.

The police are apparently looking at OTL-300, a shorrange device made by DRDO. It can spot threats within 300 metres. "It can detect passive or active optical threats like telescopes, binoculars," a source said. The devices will come with a display screen and around 4GB memory for recording.

An officer quoted from a document: "It is a laser based portable surveillance device that functions on cat's eye effect. It releases a laser beam

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**What's an optical target locator?**

- > Laser-based portable surveillance and target acquiring device
- > Uses laser beams to locate optical targets
- > Useful for detection during a blurry/foggy day or night

**Utility**

- > Surveillance on specific areas
- > VIP security
- > Detection of pointed optics
- > Night operations; will also be given to SWAT
- > Can be used for hostage rescue too



**Features**

- > Functions with the cat's eye effect
- > Uses reflected signal from front-end optics. Can also detect sniper equipped with a day sight or night-vision device
- > Delhi Police is buying three units
- > **Users:** Security unit, New Delhi district; Special Cell for night ops

Range  
300  
metres

which scans a designated area and as soon as it hits any target, it sends back the scattered energy and the target is detected. This retroreflected energy helps in locating optical targets against a static background. Any surveillance device with front-end optics and a sensor at the focal plane can be detected by this approach.

## DRDO sets timeline for fixing grievances to discourage direct complaint to PM Modi

New Delhi: As scientists involved in defence research continue to write to Prime Minister Narendra Modi with their grievances, DRDO headquarters has asked all its department heads to take timely action on these complaints to avoid direct communication with PM or Defence minister.

Following series of complaints, the DRDO's vigilance department has now fixed a deadline to complete probe into any grievance within in ten days of receipt of complaint.

Days after assuming office, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had asked government officials to give their suggestions directly to his office. But, within months, the PMO's desk handling grievances was flooded with hundreds of representations. To address complaints, Cabinet Secretary P K Sinha, in August 2015 issued an instruction that writing directly to the PMO by violating the prescribed channel of communication has to be viewed 'seriously' and is liable for 'disciplinary action'. But, despite strict instructions from the Cabinet Secretariat, several scientists have been continuously approaching prime minister's office and defence minister. "In absence of appropriate action to be taken on such complaints, the complainant addresses his grievances to various authorities including the Raksha Mantri (defence minister) and Prime Minister's Office," according to an stinker from the vigilance department head of the DRDO, Dr. JP Singh, Director, Vigilance and security writes. "It has been noted with concern that neither any timely action is taken by the head of Clusters or establishment on complaints which are addressed to them, nor any action taken report is forwarded by them headquarters,"

Vigilance department believe that because of in-action by concerned Clusters or Establishments in the DRDO, 'copious correspondence among various government agencies take place as all the complaints were processed as per extant of guidelines of the DoPT. "All heads of Clusters/ Laboratories/ Establishments and Units are requested to take timely action on complaint directly addressed to them and forward Action Taken Report to the Chief Comptroller with ten days of the receipt of complaint," Dr. JP Singh, Director, Vigilance and security writes. Citing a Cabinet Secretary note on official communication channel, the DRDO headquarters in August last year, had issued detailed instructions to all its laboratories for strict compliance regarding representations being sent directly to higher authorities bypassing the prescribed channel of communication.