

Three hurt in suicide attack at Chinese embassy in Kyrgyzstan

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Bishkek: Three persons were hurt in suicide blast at Chinese embassy in Kyrgyzstan's capital city Bishkek this morning.

Several dead in explosion near Chinese embassy in Kyrgyzstan

Authorities said that a van driven by a suicide bomber exploded after ramming through a gate at the embassy, wounding three.

As a result of the explosion, only the suicide bomber terrorist died. Security guards were injured, Kyrgyzstan's Deputy Prime Minister Jenish Razakov said.

All the three wounded were Kyrgyz employees of the Chinese embassy. Local medics said their injuries were not serious.

Police said that a Mitsubishi Delica van smashed through a gate at the embassy before blowing up in the centre of the compound close to the ambassador's residence.

Police confirmed that the vehicle was driven by a suicide bomber and described the incident as a terrorist attack.

Emergency service officials said that employees from the Chinese and nearby American embassy on the edge of the city were evacuated.

Security officials said that an explosive device had been placed inside the vehicle.

Locals said that the blast had blown in their windows and caused their houses to shake.

Law enforcement officials blocked traffic on one of the city's main highways and were checking vehicles.

Impoverished majority-Muslim Kyrgyzstan has a history of political instability and battling Islamist extremism.

The economically troubled ally of Russia has seen two governments overthrown and ethnic violence claim hundreds of lives since it gained independence in 1991.

The authorities regularly announce that they have foiled attacks planned by the Islamic State group in the country.