

## Shopping areas in Chennai get extra security



Chennai: With just days to count for the big festival of Deepavali, important locations like Ranganathan Street, South Usman Road at T Nagar in the city see heavy inflow of shoppers and to help them out, Police Department has swung into action with various measures in the area.

A press release said a team headed by P Aravindhan, Deputy Commissioner of Police, T Nagar District has made various arrangements like installation of CCTVs in 54 locations, temporary control rooms near Panagal Park and T Nagar bus terminus, deployment of around 200 policemen including women cops and distribution of pamphlets carrying safety precautions to the people visiting here.

Speaking on the arrangements, Aravindhan said, "We have also provided albums containing photographs of a minimum of 100 criminals and their profiles to prominent show rooms and also to our personnel as a measure of precaution."

"Our cops will also, through mike system and mobile vehicles, alert the shoppers to be cautious with strangers and take care of their children and belongings like cash and jewels," he continued.

For the shopkeepers, the police department has also conducted several rounds of meeting and apprised them of the different modus operandi used by criminals particularly during the festival season.

A number of women cops in plain clothes will mingle with the crowd to help the shoppers in the area. 54 CCTV cameras are installed in several streets in between South Usman Road and Duraiswamy Subway and at few locations in Pondy Bazaar, the release added.

To facilitate comfortable parking of vehicles by shoppers, the traffic police department has also identified seven locations in T Nagar and Pondy Bazaar including four educational institutions that can accommodate a number of vehicles.

Few streets have been identified for restriction of vehicle movement to ease congestion in the area and to help out residents move freely.

In order to avoid congestion, we have decided to stop cars and auto rickshaws from travelling through streets parallel to South Usman Road during the festive period,' said a traffic cop positioned near T Nagar bus terminus.