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US develops novel gizmos to combat terrorism
Press Trust of India
Washington, March 5

A small US government agency, the Technical Support Working Group with about 70 employees, is funding the development of novel gizmos for the age of terrorism.

One is a 3-dollar sensor or dosimeter, the size of a credit card, that will show exposure to a dirty radioactive bomb, the *Wall Street Journal* reports.

The agency is providing $105,000 to JP Laboratories of Middlesex, New Jersey, an NRI company headed by Gordhan Patel, to develop the sensor.

The agency required that the device work in a range of temperatures, so that it could be used by emergency workers from Alaska (very cold in the winter) to Arizona (exceptionally hot in the summer).

It had to be ten times as sensitive as the prototype, for use in the event of a low radiation nuclear event such as a dirty bomb, not only a high radiation event such as a Chernobyl meltdown.

Patel told the newspaper: "My initial reaction was 'I cannot.'" However, he promised to try. Patel shelved all of his small company's other projects. His son quit his job as a marketing Vice President at Sun Mircrosystems to take over the administration and licensing of his father's business.