

## **India: Christ Statue Vandalised In Haryana As Attacks Against Christians Spread**

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**Ambala, Haryana:** A statue of Jesus Christ was vandalised at a Church in Haryana's Ambala this afternoon. Police are analysing CCTV footage but haven't yet been able to identify the criminals.

Haryana's Home Minister Anil Vij said that they hope to identify the criminals through CCTV footage. "We have assigned three teams to catch the criminals. We have gathered CCTV footage and two men appear to have been involved in this. We hope that we will soon arrest those involved based on the video footage," he said.

"Two men jumped the boundary wall at 12:30 pm and vandalised a Jesus Christ statue at around 1:40 pm. They haven't been identified yet, police teams have been assigned to investigate it. A complaint is being lodged and action will be taken accordingly," Naresh, Station House Officer of Sadar police station said.

India has seen a rise in cases of violence against religious minorities recently. Churches have been attacked and Christmas celebrations disrupted in many places. Karnataka recently passed an anti-conversion bill after accusations from the ruling BJP that Churches are trying to forcibly convert people into Christianity. A Christmas carnival was disrupted at a Haryana private school by a right-wing mob on Thursday.

- NDTV