

Naroda Gam witness accuses cop of not recording full statement

11

people were killed in the Naroda Gam incident

83

people have been named as accused in the case

DNA CORRESPONDENT

A witness and survivor of the Naroda Gam massacre in his deposition before a judge has said that then second PI of Naroda police station had not properly recorded his statement about the incident. Gani Mansuri on Thursday made his deposition before special judge, SH Vora who is looking into the Naroda Gam case.

Mansuri said that after the incident when he went to make a statement to VS Gohil (second PI of Naroda police station) it was not recorded properly. Mansuri stated that Gohil, who is also one of the accused in the case, refused to register statements against seven people who were part of the mob. Gohil only registered the names of three people.

On Thursday, in a jam-packed courtroom, Mansuri identified six people including Sunil alias Madrasi, Navin Pravin Chandra Kadia, Ashwin Kanu Joshi, Jayesh Decorationwala, Pramukh Patel and Bhikha Gantiwala, as the people who set ablaze his house and were also part of the mob. Though Manusri did not lose any of his family members in the massacre, his property worth Rs3 lakh was gutted in the



fire. Earlier, Mansuri in his deposition stated that on February 28 at around 11 am, he was standing near his house at Joshiwadi Mohallah when he saw a mob entering the mohallah. The people who were part of the mob were armed with sharp-edged weapons and inflammable materials. While Madrasi was holding a torchlight, Kadia and Ashwin Joshi were carrying containers with kerosene and petrol. Mansuri also said that Jayesh was raising slogans against muslims. The mob after entering the Mohallah targeted properties of muslims.

After the mob left, Mansuri went to live with his relatives in Hansol village. Later after two months he returned to Ahmedabad and was living at the Shah Alam relief camp. On April 15, 2002 he went to record his statements before Gohil, however, Gohil did not take down all that he had said. Eleven people were killed in the Naroda Gam 2002 incident. Eighty three people have been named as accused in the case including sitting BJP MLA Maya Kodnani, sitting BJP councillor from Naroda, Vallabh Patel, Vishnu Thakor, Hansraj Mali and Prabhu Thakor alias Dhum.