

# Lawyer gets no help from cops to check on hawker with 2-yr-old girl

TNN | Nov 23, 2014, 06:16 AM IST

NAVI MUMBAI: A city-based lawyer and social worker, Siddh Vidya, reportedly had a harrowing experience while she tried to call up police emergency helplines on Friday evening to report about a suspicious looking hawker who was loitering outside Vashi railway station with a two-year-old girl child.

"For nearly three hours, I made multiple calls to the police emergency number 100 and several other numbers, as suggested by the control room officials. I had to patiently repeat myself that there is a roadside hawker who does not seem to be the parent or guardian of the baby girl, which is why I wanted the police to come to the spot and inquire. However, I was merely told to call various other phone numbers, but nobody actually helped me out," said Vidya.

When she confronted the hawker to ask him how he was related to the girl accompanying him, he gave evasive replies and stated that the girl's mother had gone to Pune.

"The girl was shabbily dressed and fair skinned, while this hawker who cleans 'ear wax' of pedestrians, was dressed well. The girl looked confused and kept asking for food. However, no police helpline agreed to listen to me. The nearest police beat chowky near the railway station was locked. Some locals told me that this particular chowky remains shut for long durations during the day, what good is it for citizens in need?" said the lawyer.

Only after the NRI police station, which is quite far away near Belapur station, assured her of some help, did the lawyer go home. "I later got to know that none of the cops had physically visited the spot to check. By then, it was night time and the hawker had vanished from the scene along with that girl," she added.