

France suspects leftists in rail attacks as telecoms networks hit

PARIS, July 29 (Reuters) - Vandals sabotaged France's telecoms networks overnight, piling pressure on French security services trying to secure the Olympics after authorities said they suspected left-wing groups of attacking rail lines ahead of the opening ceremony in Paris.

The cuts to long distance telecoms cables at five sites early on Monday "look like sabotage", Romain Bonenfant, general director of the French Telecoms Federation, told Reuters.

"It was an operation that was prepared. If it wasn't people who work for (us), it was people who had information."

Police have yet to arrest anyone for Friday's attacks on high-speed rail lines with explosive devices, but Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin said on Monday authorities suspected members of far-left militant groups due to the nature of the sabotage.

"We have identified the profiles of several people," Darmanin told France 2 TV.

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