

## Gas Explosions Rip Through Apartment Building, Mobile Phone Store in Dagestan

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## **Emergency Situations Ministry**

At least six people were injured after separate explosions ripped through an apartment building and a mobile phone store in the republic of Dagestan, authorities <u>said</u> Tuesday.

Russia's Emergency Situations Ministry <u>said</u> the blasts — one inside a 14-story apartment building in Makhachkala and another at a mobile phone shop several kilometers away — were caused by gas leaks.

Security footage published by the Telegram news channel Baza <u>captured</u> the moment a powerful explosion shattered windows in the apartment building, sending debris crashing into a parking lot below.

Rescuers evacuated 150 people, while investigators launched a preliminary <u>probe</u> into the incident.

## Embed:

Health officials in Dagestan said at least two people were <u>hospitalized</u> in that explosion, including a woman in critical condition.

The Makhachkala Mayor's Office initially said the apartment building was listed as an illegal construction but later <u>clarified</u> that a court had approved its occupancy in 2021.

Less than an hour after the apartment blast, a second explosion struck a mobile phone shop located 5 kilometers (3 miles) west of the apartment building, <u>injuring</u> four adults, according to regional health authorities.

Emergency officials said fires that broke out after the explosions were extinguished within an hour.

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