



Operation SINDOOR: Forging One Force

The Synergy of India's Armed Forces

✚ Meaning of Sindoor:

- *A Traditional Vermilion red (or) orange, red (or) maroon cosmetic powder from South Asia, usually worn by married women along the part of their hairline.*
- **India's national security, architecture has demonstrated the strength of jointness and strategic foresight.**
- Operation SINDOOR, initiated on **May 7, 2025**, in the aftermath of the **Pahalgam terror attack**, which claimed the lives of **26 innocent civilians** showcased a calibrated, **tri-services response** that embodied precision, professionalism, and purpose.
- Operation SINDOOR was conceived as a punitive and targeted campaign to **dismantle the terror infrastructure** across the **Line of Control** and **deeper inside Pakistan**.
- **Multi-agency intelligence** provided confirmation of **nine major camps** that were eventually targeted in the operation.
- India's retaliatory action was based on **meticulous planning and an intelligence-led approach**, which ensured that the operations were conducted with **minimal collateral damage**. Operational ethics were central to the mission, and restraint was exercised to avoid civilian harm.
- **India's comprehensive and multilayered air defence architecture.**

Indian Air Force (IAF)

- The operation unfolded across land, air, and sea—a **seamless demonstration of synergy** between the **Indian Army, Air Force, and Navy**.
- The Indian Air Force (IAF) played a crucial role in delivering precision strikes against terror infrastructure across Pakistan. It conducted high-impact air operations on targets such as the **Nur Khan Air Base** and the **Rahimyar Khan Air Base**, with visual evidence of damage presented during official briefings.

- The **indigenously developed Akash surface-to-air missile system** and legacy platforms like the **Pechora** and **OSA-AK** were deployed effectively in a **layered defence grid**.
- The IAF's Integrated Air Command and Control System enabled **real-time coordination** of air assets, allowing Indian forces to neutralize aerial threats efficiently and maintain net-centric operations throughout the conflict.

Indian Army

- Deploying a wide array of systems ranging from **shoulder-fired MANPADS** and **LLAD guns to long range SAMs**.
- These units were instrumental in countering waves of drones and loitering munitions launched by Pakistan.

Indian Navy

- The Indian Navy played a critical role in asserting maritime dominance during Operation SINDOOR.
- Operating as a composite networked force, the Navy deployed its **Carrier Battle Group (CBG)** equipped with **MiG-29K fighter jets** and **airborne early warning helicopters**.
- This ensured persistent surveillance and real-time identification of threats across the maritime domain.
- The CBG maintained a powerful air defence shield that prevented hostile aerial incursions, especially from the **Makran coast**.

Border Security Force (BSF)

- During Operation Sindoor, **the Border Security Force (BSF)** also played a critical role in **thwarting a major infiltration attempt** along the International Border in the **Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir**.
- BSF troops noticed suspicious movement in the early hours and swiftly responded, leading to a heavy exchange of fire.
- In the ensuing encounter, the BSF **successfully neutralized** at least **two infiltrator** and **recovered arms, ammunition, and other war-like stores**.

Major Government-Led Coordination Efforts among the Armed Forces

1. Creation of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)

- On **24 December 2019**, the Union Cabinet approved the creation of the **Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)**, a **four-star General** who heads the **Department of**

Military Affairs (DMA) and acts as the principal military adviser to the **Defence Minister on tri-Service matters**.

2. Integrated Theatre Commands (ITCs)

3. Creation of the Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

- **Department of Military Affairs (DMA) with CDS as Secretary** was created in **2020** to facilitate optimal utilization of resources and **promote jointness** among the three Services. The subjects allocated to DMA include.

4. Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control & Discipline) Act, 2023

5. Joint Logistics Nodes (JLNs)

- **Three Joint Logistic Nodes (JLNs)** have been established and are operational since **2021** at **Mumbai, Guwahati and Port Blair for Logistics Integration** between the three services.

6. Joint Training Courses, Seminars & Exercises

- **Tri-services Future Warfare Course:** A pioneering initiative by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, this is a **rank agnostic course** for **Major Generals to Majors** and their **equivalent level officers from other services**. The course intends to acquaint the officers with the **operational** and **technological** aspects of **modern warfare**.

Joint Exercises:

- **Exercise Prachand Prahar 2025:**
 - The Indian Armed Forces conducted a **tri-service integrated multi-domain exercise, Prachand Prahar**, in the high-altitude terrain of the Himalayas along the Northern Borders in **Arunachal Pradesh**. The **three-day** exercise, held from **March 25 to 27, 2025**, focused on **coordinated operations** involving the Army, Air Force, and Navy. Prachand Prahar follows **Exercise Poorvi Prahar**, conducted in **November 2024**.
- **Exercise Desert Hunt 2025:**
 - An integrated **Tri-Service Special Forces exercise** named Exercise Desert Hunt 2025 was conducted by the **Indian Air Force** at Air Force Station Jodhpur from 24 to 28 February 2025.
 - The exercise involved elite **Para (Special Forces)** from the Indian Army, the Marine Commandos from the Indian Navy along with the **Garud (Special Forces)** from the Indian Air Force, participating together in a simulated combat environment.
 - This high-intensity drill was aimed at enhancing **interoperability, coordination and synergy** among the three Special Forces units to ensure swift and effective response towards emerging security challenges.

7. Technology Integration & Network-Centric Warfare

- **Defence Communication Network (DCN):**
 - The DCN is a **strategic, exclusive, secure and state-of-the-art communication network**. Implementation of DCN is a proof of strength of the Indian industry and has reaffirmed the emphasis of the Government on **Make in India** program.
- **Integrated Air Command and Control System (IACCS)**

8. 'Year of Defence Reforms' – 2025

- **Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh**, with all the Secretaries of the Ministry of Defence unanimously decided to observe 2025 as the '**Year of Reforms**' in the MoD. This would aim at **transforming the Armed Forces into a technologically-advanced combat-ready force capable of multi-domain integrated operations**. The broad areas identified for focussed intervention in 2025 include:
 - Reforms should aim to further **bolster Jointness & Integration** initiatives and facilitate establishment of the **Integrated Theatre Commands**.
 - Develop a shared understanding of operational requirements and joint operational capabilities through **inter-service cooperation & training**.

OPERATION SINDOOR Takes Down Terror Masters AND OPERATION MAHADEV Eliminates Terrorists

- **Operation Mahadev, July 28: A Decisive Blow to Terrorism.**
- **Operation Mahadev stands as a powerful testament to India's unrelenting resolve against Pakistan-sponsored terrorism.** This meticulously executed mission, which neutralised **three high-profile Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists in Dachigam near Srinagar**, stands not just as a tactical victory, but as a demonstration to the nation's strength and zero-tolerance towards terrorism under inspiring leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.
- Operation Mahadev culminated in a decisive strike after two months of persistent efforts by India's security forces, supported by the National Investigation Agency's (NIA) exhaustive probe.
- Guided by precise intelligence inputs, our brave jawans from the Indian Army, CRPF and Jammu and Kashmir Police encircled and neutralized the perpetrators of the Pahalgam attack.
- The operation sent a distinct message, no terrorist can evade India's relentless pursuit of justice.

- Operation Mahadev is not just another counter-terror mission, it marks a clear shift in India's fight against terrorism. It reflects the Union Government's determination to hunt down and dismantle terror networks, deny terrorists safe ground and protect every inch of Indian soil.
- Operation Mahadev's success builds seamlessly on Operation Sindoor, where Indian forces dismantled nine terrorist hideouts and eliminated over 100 terrorists deep inside Pakistan.
- From the surgical strikes in the aftermath of Uri in 2016 to the Balakot air strikes to avenge the Pulwama attack in 2019, and now through Operation Sindoor and Mahadev, India has demonstrated its will to pursue justice relentlessly, both at home and across the border.

When I speak of 'Vijayotsav' (victory celebrations), I would like to say that it is a celebration of turning terrorists' headquarters into dust. When I say 'Vijayotsav', it is about fulfilling the oath of 'Sindoor' (vermilion). When I speak of 'Vijayotsav', I speak of the valour and strength of the Indian Armed Forces. When I say 'Vijayotsav', I refer to the unity and resolve of 140 crore Indians and the triumph of that collective will.

Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Global Support

- Operation Sindoor generated widespread global support as the Prime Minister asserted that the international community stood by India.
- Out of 193 United Nations (UN) member nations, only three backed Pakistan, while major powers and strategic groupings such as the QUAD and BRICS publicly supported India's right to self-defence.
- International leaders including those from France, Russia and Germany, affirmed India's measured and resolute response.

Technological Prowess and Self-reliance

- **Operation Sindoor showcased India's advanced** technological capabilities, with '**Made-in-India**' drones and missiles exposing vulnerabilities in Pakistan's defences.
- The Prime Minister highlighted **India's self-reliance, with defence production up 250%** and exports surging 30-fold to nearly 100 countries.
- This success has bolstered **MSMEs and created jobs**, positioning India as a global defence leader.

A Legacy of Strength and Unity

- Operation Sindoor reflects the valour of India's Armed Forces and the resolve of its people.
- With a transformed defence ecosystem and unwavering global support, India has set a new standard for combating terrorism.
- As the Prime Minister affirmed, "Today's India is full of self-confidence," marching towards 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and a terror-free future.

STRATEGIC DIMENSIONS: OPERATION SINDOOR'S SUCCESS

- **First Dimension:** Pakistan has been exposed in front of the whole world.
- **Second Dimension:** Swift, surprise hits that avenged the April 22 Pahalgam attack within 22 minutes, catching Pakistan completely off guard.
- **Third Dimension:** Reaching and razing terrorist bases deep inside Pakistan that were previously considered unreachable, rewriting the playbook of cross-border operations.
- **Fourth Dimension:** Nullifying Pakistan's nuclear threats, demonstrating that nuclear blackmail will never sway India's resolve.
- **Fifth Dimension:** Showcasing high-technology warfare—'Made-in-India' drones and missiles, driven by a decade of reform and innovation, proved India's prowess and exposed vulnerabilities in Pakistan's arsenal.
- **Sixth Dimension:** Presenting the strength of an Atmanirbhar Bharat. The world witnessed India's self-reliance and innovation in defence, establishing it as a formidable force in the global market.

Operation Sindoor and Operation Mahadev A Symbol Of Modi Ji's Strong Political Will And The Valour Of Security Forces; Increase India's Prestige

- Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah outlined the success of Operation Sindoor and Operation Mahadev, which eliminated at least 125 terrorists and destroyed nine terror bases following the April 2025 Pahalgam attack.
- Under Operation Mahadev, the terrorists who carried out the Pahalgam attack were eliminated.
- With a nearly 70% reduction in terrorist incidents and about 80% drop in civilian deaths in Jammu and Kashmir, the Union Government's zero-tolerance policy against terrorism has fortified national security and fostered peace.

Swift Response to Pahalgam Attack

FIGHT AGAINST TERROR

- **Diplomatic Measures:**
 - Suspended Indus Water Treaty,
 - closed Attari check post,
 - cancelled SAARC visas for Pakistani citizens and
 - reduced Pakistani High Commission staff from 55 to 30, signalling India's firm stance.
- **Zero-tolerance Policy:** The abrogation of Article 370 dismantled the terrorist ecosystem; UAPA courts registered 2,260 cases (2022-2025), banned groups such as the Hurriyat, TRF, Hizb ut Tahrir and others and ended stone-pelting and strikes.
- **Empowering Jammu and Kashmir's Future:** 98.3% voter turnout in the recent Panchayat elections reflects restored peace.
- **Global Message:** The operations exposed Pakistan's state-sponsored terrorism, with senior Pakistani officers attending the funerals of the terrorists, reinforcing India's resolve to combat terror decisively.

Eliminating Terrorists with Precision

- Operation Mahadev, launched on May 22, culminated in the elimination of three high-profile Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists – Suleman, Hamza Afghani and Zibran – on July 28 in Dachigam, near Srinagar.

Operation Mahadev - A Decisive Blow to Terrorism

Focus on Security and Development

- Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah clearly stated that the Centre is not only **enhancing security measures but also undertaking** developmental works.
- Referring to the 2019 UAPA (**Unlawful Activities Prevention Act**) **amendment**, he noted that **57 individuals have so far been declared terrorists**.
- After amendment in the **NIA (National Investigation Agency) Act** in the year 2019, the agency now has the authority to investigate **cases abroad**.
- Shri Shah highlighted that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Union Government has taken decisive steps such as strict implementation of the **NSA**, abrogation of **Article 370**, **ban on PFI (Popular Front of India)**, **strengthening of MAC (Media Access Control)**,

establishment of ICJS (Inter-operable Criminal Justice System) and NAFIS (National Automated Fingerprint Identification System), curbing terror financing through PMLA and bringing terrorist networks under technological surveillance.

- As a result, **violence in the Northeast and Naxal affected regions** has reduced by up to **75%**, marking a significant achievement.

Operation Mahadev-A Precision Strike

- **Operation:** Launched on **May 22, 2025**, culminating in a successful operation and elimination of terrorists on **July 28, 2025**.
- **Target:** Three Category 'A' Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists – Suleman, Hamza Afghani, and Zibran – responsible for the Pahalgam attack.
- **Location:** Dachigam near Srinagar, a challenging high-altitude terrain.
- **Coordinated Operation:** Involved the Indian Army, CRPF, and Jammu and Kashmir Police, showcasing seamless inter-agency coordination.
- **Intelligence Breakthrough:** Human intelligence from agencies, verified over two months using advanced ultra-signal capture equipment.
- **Weapons Confirmation:** Rifles (two AK-47s, one M4 carbine) recovered from terrorists matched cartridges from the Pahalgam attack.

National Security Challenges to be Addressed with Better Coordination

- The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, paid tribute to the brave personnel who sacrificed their lives for the nation, commemorating the solemn occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas during the 8th edition of the National Security Strategies Conference held in New Delhi on July 26.
- He commended the dedication and valour of the Indian Armed Forces and the Border Security Force (BSF) during Operation Sindoor and said that under the strong political leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and with the support of the public, India has effectively demonstrated its 'zero-tolerance' policy against terrorism on the global stage.
- **Shri Shah highlighted the importance of fully** utilising tools such as the National Database of Fugitives developed by NATGRID, along with **NIDAAN**, iMoT and the CBI and recommended integrating these systems into training **programmes**. He also urged State police forces and Central agencies to adopt the guiding principle of '**Suraksha, Sajagta & Samanvay**' (Security, Alertness & Coordination).

- **NATGRID** - stands for the **National Intelligence Grid**, a **centralized database and information-sharing platform** for **Indian intelligence and law enforcement agencies**.
- **NIDAAN PORTAL**
 - **Narco Coordination (NCORD) Portal** accessible is a gateway for all drugs and **Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)** related information for all four tiers of stakeholders starting from district level to state level and Central Ministries including all **Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (DLEAs)**.
 - To assist all DLEAs/other investigation agencies for investigation and proactive policing, **National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-Offenders (NIDAAN)** portal is developed. It provides data of narcotics offenders involved in narcotics offences under **Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985**.
 - **CCTNS (Crime & Criminal Tracking Network System)** is aimed to inter-link all police stations under a common application software for the purpose of investigation, data analytics, research, policy making and providing Citizen Services such as reporting & tracking of complaints, request for antecedent verifications, etc.
 - A task force on **Darknet and Crypto-Currency** has been set up under the **Multi Agency Centre (MAC)** mechanism with a focus on monitoring all platforms facilitating Narco-trafficking, sharing of inputs on drug trafficking amongst Agencies/MAC members, interception of drug networks, continuous capturing of trends, modus operandi & nodes with regular database updates and review of related rules & laws.
 - **The Government has launched MANAS Helpline No. 1933** designed as a unified platform for citizens to report the drug-related issues via multiple communication.
- **iMoT** - A software “**Terrorist Information System**”, now called “**Integrated Monitoring of Terrorism (i-MOT)**”, has been developed by the **National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB)** to have a mechanism for creation and maintenance of a centralized data base on terrorist incidents including terrorist financing cases.
- In addition, he commended the progress made in combating Left-Wing Extremism and the efforts toward peace building in the Northeast and Jammu and Kashmir.
- The conference highlighted the importance of addressing evolving security challenges, active involvement of young police officers in strategy development and real-time data sharing using national databases such as **NATGRID, NIDAAN, iMoT and the CBI fugitive database**.

Government Moving Towards Zero-Casualty in Disasters

- Shri Shah stated that the Union Government's objective is not limited to providing relief and rehabilitation after disasters, but also focuses on significantly strengthening **disaster risk reduction** and early warning systems.
- The goal is to minimize the loss of life and property. During a meeting chaired by the Union Home Minister on July 20 in New Delhi, it was noted that **Himachal Pradesh** has recently witnessed a sharp rise in the frequency and intensity of **cloudbursts, flash floods, landslides and episodes of torrential rainfall**.
- These natural disasters have led to significant loss of life, widespread destruction of infrastructure and livelihoods and have caused serious environmental degradation across the hill State.
- In view of the seriousness of the situation, the union Home Minister directed the formation of a multi-sectoral central team.
- This team will include experts from the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Central Building Research Institute (CBRI)-Roorkee, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM)-Pune, geologists and specialists from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Indore.
- The primary objective of this team will be to conduct a detailed study of the underlying causes of these disasters, evaluate their impact and provide concrete recommendations to mitigate losses in the future.

