

03 Pahalgam: BSF scales down retreat events at Attari, 2 other locations on Pak border

03 Dr Jitendra visits in Stem Bengaluru, highlights India's Gene related medical breakthroughs

10 JK Public School Panjtirthi students visit Dogra Art Museum

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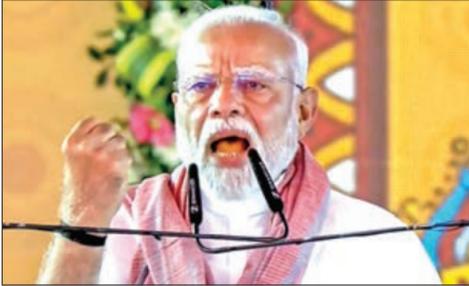
India will 'identify, track, punish' every terrorist, their backers: Modi

STATE TIMES NEWS
MADHUBANI (BIHAR): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday declared that the killers of Pahalgam will be pursued "to the ends of the earth" and promised to "identify, track and punish every terrorist and their backers".

In his first speech after the April 22 attack in Pahalgam in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed, the prime minister vowed to punish terrorists behind the strike and said India's spirit will never be broken by terrorism.

Modi spoke briefly in English and said, "Friends, today from the soil of Bihar, I say to the whole world India will identify, track, and punish every terrorist and their backers. We will pursue them to the ends of the earth. India's spirit will never be broken by terrorism. Terrorism will not go unpunished."

In the stern message, he said, "Every effort will be made to ensure that justice is done. The entire



nation is firm in this resolve. Everyone who believes in humanity is with us. I thank the people of various countries and their leaders who have stood with us in these times."

In a message to Pakistan without naming the country, Modi said he will state it categorically that the terrorists who carried out the attack and those who hatched the conspiracy, they will be punished beyond their imagination. "Punishment will definitely be served."

The prime minister said the willpower of 140 crore

Indians will break the back of patrons of terrorism. Paying condolences to the victims and their families, he said citizens across the country are in mourning over the brutal manner in which terrorists killed 26 innocent civilians in Kashmir on April 22. The nation stands with their families, he said.

Modi, other leaders on the dais and the crowd observed silence to pay homage to the victims of the attack at the beginning of the prime minister's speech.

He said people lost their sons, brothers and hus-

bands and noted that the victims belong to different parts of India, be it Bengal, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Odisha and Bihar.

"Our sorrow and anger are same from Kargil to Kanniyakumari," he said. Peace and security are the most necessary conditions for fast development, he added.

India had on Wednesday downgraded diplomatic ties with Pakistan and announced a raft of measures, including expulsion of Pakistani military attaches, suspension of the Indus Water Treaty of 1960 and immediate shutting down of the Attari land-transit post in view of the cross-border links to the horrific Pahalgam terror attack.

The gunning down of tourists by terrorists has sparked outrage across the country and a demand for decisive action from the Modi government, which is identified with a muscular stand on the plank of national security.

NIA team visits residences of three Dombivali men killed in Pahalgam attack
STATE TIMES NEWS
MUMBAI: A National Investigation Agency (NIA) team on Thursday visited the residences in Dombivali in Thane district of three persons killed in the Pahalgam terror attack and made inquiries with their kin, officials said here.

At least 26 people were killed and several injured when terrorists opened

Search operation underway in Poonch
STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Security forces on Thursday launched a cordon and search operation to track suspected terrorists in forest areas of Poonch district, officials said.

The search operation is ongoing in Lasana forest belt of the district following inputs about suspected terrorists hiding in the area, they said.

There was an exchange of fire between security forces and terrorists on April 14 in the Lasana area, during which one security personnel was injured.

All-party meet on Pahalgam Leaders seek action against terror camps, assure Govt of full support



STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Leaders across party lines on Thursday assured their support to the government in taking decisive action against terrorism and destroying terror camps, even as they flagged security lapses in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam, where 26 people were gunned down by terrorists.

During an all-party meeting to discuss the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, the government said it was taking all measures to ensure security. It noted that the attack was aimed at vitiating

the atmosphere at a time when the economy was on the upswing and tourism was booming in Jammu and Kashmir.

The government did not spell out any kind of action against terrorism during the meeting and the opposition also did not seek any such details.

After the meeting, all leaders assured their full support to any government action against the perpetrators of the terror attack.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said everyone agreed that India should fight terror unitedly

and all parties said that they are with the government in this fight.

All political parties have given this message and their leaders have said in one voice that whatever step the government takes, they will support it.

Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi said everyone at the meeting unequivocally condemned the terror attack and offered full support to the government. He also raised the issue of security lapses at the tourist spot, asking why no security personnel were

Trade associations hold candle march against Pahalgam terror attack, 'Delhi bandh' today

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Chamber of Trade and Industry (CTI) announced a 'bandh' across the national capital on Friday to protest against the Pahalgam terror attack as trade organisations held a candle march Thursday at the Connaught Place here to express solidarity with the victims.

More than 100 markets are expected to remain shut in response to the call, the CTI said.

Wearing black armbands, members of the CTI and over 100 trade organisations registered their protest at Connaught Place on Thursday.

Traders from key markets such as Kashmere Gate, Chandni Chowk, Sadar Bazar, Chawri Bazar, Bhagirath Place, Rajouri Garden and Sarojini Nagar, participated in the march on Thursday, a statement said.

CTI chairman Brijesh Goyal said that the business community is deeply disturbed by the incident and stands united in condemning the attack.

There is widespread anger among the traders, said Rahul Adalkha, a vice president of the CTI.

The markets supporting Friday's shutdown include Sadar Bazar,

All parties meet in Srinagar J&K leaders unite in condemning terror attack, call for harmony and stronger security measures

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Political parties in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday adopted a resolution and condemned the Pahalgam terror attack, calling it barbaric act. Leaders across party lines came together at an all-party meeting chaired by Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to strongly condemn the brutal terrorist attack in Pahalgam on April 22.

Senior leaders, including Jammu and Kashmir Congress President Tariq Hameed Karra and Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) President Ghulam Nabi Azad, expressed deep anguish over the loss of innocent lives. They collectively called for strengthened measures to ensure the safety of civilians and uphold communal



harmony. Ghulam Nabi Azad underscored the collective grief and unity of Hindus and Muslims in the region against terrorism. Azad said, "...The whole nation and the people of

Top security brass discusses J&K, internal security

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Top security officers of the country on Thursday closeted here for an hour at a high-level meeting chaired by Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan, sources said.

Intelligence Bureau Director Tapan Deka, R&AW chief Ravi Sinha and a few other senior security officials attended the meeting which took place a day after the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) met in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed.

The top officials took

stock of the prevailing situation in Jammu and Kashmir as well as other parts of the country and key national security issues, the sources said.

However, there has been no official confirmation about the subjects discussed at the meeting.

The security forces have been directed by the government to maintain "high vigil", the sources said.

The government has also highlighted the cross-border linkages to the Pahalgam attack at the CCS meeting following which it decided to take the measures against Pakistan.

Pahalgam attack: India briefs foreign envoys, G20 nations

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: India on Thursday briefed envoys of the US, the UK, France, China, Russia, Germany and several other countries on the Pahalgam terror attack and its link to cross-border terrorism, people familiar with the matter said.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri apprised the diplomats about various aspects of the dastardly terror attack on innocent civilians and India's firm policy of "zero tolerance" against terrorism, they said.

The briefing was held a day after India announced a raft of measures against Pakistan including expulsion of Pakistani military attaches, suspension of the Indus Water Treaty of 1960 and immediate shutting down of the Attari land-transit post.

Diplomats of Oman, the United Arab Emirates,

Soldier martyred in encounter in Udhampur LG Sinha, Dr Jitendra pay tributes to martyr



STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A soldier of the special forces of the army was martyred in an encounter between security forces and terrorists following a search operation in



Udhampur district on Thursday, officials said.

The firing took place in the Dudu-Basantgarh area during a cordon and search operation that was launched based on information about the presence of terrorists, they said.

"Based on specific intelligence, a joint operation with Jammu and Kashmir Police was launched today in the Basantgarh area of Udhampur," the

Only one foreigner among 26 killed in Pahalgam attack: Govt

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Only one foreigner, hailing from Nepal, was among the 26 people killed in the Pahalgam terror strike on Tuesday, officials said here.

Earlier, the officials had prepared a list in which a resident of Uttarakhand was shown as a national of the UAE.

However, on Wednesday night, the government for the first time officially announced the casualty figure, saying only one foreigner had been killed in the attack. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri told

India revokes visas issued to Pakistani nationals; asks Indians in Pakistan to return home immediately

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: India on Thursday announced revoking all visas issued to Pakistani nationals from April 27 and advised Indian nationals residing in Pakistan to return home at the earliest as tensions between the two countries escalated over the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people.

New Delhi also announced suspending visa services to Pakistani nationals with immediate effect as part of the retaliatory measures over the cross-border links to the worst terror strike on civil-

ians in India since the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack.

The latest move came a day after India announced a raft of measures against Pakistan including expulsion of Pakistani military attaches, suspension of the Indus Water Treaty of 1960 and immediate shutting down of the Attari land-transit post.

The punitive measures against Pakistan were decided at a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said all exist-

ing valid visas issued by India to Pakistani nationals stand revoked with effect from April 27.

It said medical visas issued to Pakistani nationals will be valid only till April 29.

The MEA said all Pakistani nationals currently in India must leave the country before the expiry of visas.

It also "strongly advised" Indian nationals to avoid travelling to Pakistan.

"In continuation of the decisions made by the Cabinet Committee on Security in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack,

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 38.0°C Min: 22.3°C

Humidity
Max: 30 Min: 18

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 21.9°C Min: 9.0°C

Humidity
Max: 56 Min: 29

Sunset : 19:07 Hours
Sunrise : 05:51 Hours

Suspension of IWT, STATE TIMES had said it 2 months ago

ANCHOR
DOST KHAN

On February 11, 2025 - STATE TIMES had written under the title, "Time to Punish Pakistan and Bangladesh", that India should take action against Pakistan for violating terms of the Indus Water Treaty with a specific focus on the cross-border terrorism. This newspaper wrote: "Today, the ill-effects of the wars and proxy war were self-evident in J&K," and urged the Government to "punish Pakistan with the measures it deserves- that is to do away with the Treaty," and that "this should be done at the earliest as people of J&K and Punjab cannot be allowed to suffer because of this Treaty in perpetuity. Delhi must take a call."

And Delhi took a call on Wednesday evening after the Cabinet Committee on Security after an over two-hour-long meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, decided: "The Indus Waters Treaty of 1960 will be held in abeyance with immediate effect, until Pakistan credibly and irrevocably abjures its support to cross-border terrorism." The CCS also decided to punish Pakistan, with four measures: (a) the integrated Check Post Attari will be closed with immediate effect. Those who have crossed over with valid visa endorsements may return through that route before 01 May 2025, (b) Pakistan nationals will not be permitted to travel to India under the SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme (SVES) visas. Any SVES visas issued in the past to Pakistani nationals are deemed cancelled. Any Pakistani national currently

in India under SVES visa has 48 hours to leave India, (c) The Defence/Military, Naval and Air Advisors in the Pakistani High Commission in New Delhi are declared Persona Non Grata. They have a week to leave India. India will be withdrawing its own Defence/Navy/Air Advisors from the Indian High Commission in Islamabad. These posts in the respective High Commissions are deemed annulled. Five support staff of the Service Advisors will also be withdrawn from both High Commissions and (d) The overall strength of the High Commissions will be brought down to 30 from the present 55 through further reductions, to be effected by 01 May 2025."

But the thing that concerns J&K the

most is, Indus Waters Treaty, as three of its major rivers - Indus, Chenab and Jhelum were assigned to Pakistan for its control over their waters. These rivers flow is 91 billion cubic meters, of which more than 70 per cent goes to Pakistan, while India retains only 30 per cent and that too with restrictions. This Treaty signed by India and Pakistan in 1960 with World Bank's mediation has been unfair to India, but somehow the country carried on with it even when there was a pressure to scrap it. This magnanimity cannot be everlasting, particularly when Pakistan did not cease its terror attacks on the Indian soil.

The CCS decision announced on Wednesday came against the backdrop of the massacre of 28 tourists in mead Baisaran meadow in Pahalgam, the world famous tourist resort in the Kashmir Valley. Terrorists showered

bullets on unsuspecting tourists, including newly-wed couples on their honeymoon trip. The attack and its shocking impact left the whole of the nation stunned and shocked, while the world leaders came out to condemn it and demonstrate their solidarity with India in its fight against terrorism.

At the moment, suspending IWT is diplomatic and if Pakistan refuses to exhibit its failure to stop cross-border terrorism into India, it can be used as a big counter-terrorism tool against terrorism propagated and exported from Pakistan. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has already hinted at that in his speech in Madhubani, Bihar, on Thursday. His words should not leave Pakistan in any illusion that its acts will go unpunished. This time a severe and unforgettable punishment is on anvil if it doesn't retreat cross-border terrorism.

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OUTLOOK