



Strikes and Planning went Deep

India struck and destroyed nine of the 21 terror camps on its radar. The Wheres, Whys and Whos of the operation



India left Pak Air Force Shaken and Stirred

The before-after images of Pakistan's airbases India hit show the damage and power of India's strikes

Indus Treaty Move will Deepen Pak's Eco Crisis

Weaponising water could stir more unrest in Pakistan and can be an effective recipe for its balkanisation.



Lies, Damn Lies and Pakistan

All that rolled through Attari was truckloads of fake news

OPERATION SINDOOR: MILITARY, DIPLOMACY, OPERATIONAL STRATEGY WERE LYNCHPINS

India's Warship Won on All Fronts

A NEW DOCTRINE India made it clear that state-sponsored terrorism will be an act of war, with no distinction between terrorists and their backers. That sets a global benchmark for countering terrorism

Palki Sharma



On May 7, 2025, India launched Operation Sindoor, a meticulously planned military campaign in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 lives. This operation was not just a retaliatory strike, it was a defining moment in India's strategic history. India's response to Pahalgam was planned along three vectors - military, political and psychological. The military carefully chose targets of significance beyond the immediate. By targeting the headquarters of terrorist groups in multiple Pakistani and PoK cities, India went for the head of the snake, not foot soldiers. The political moves included the unprecedented decision to put the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance, a treaty that survived all previous wars and terror attacks. And psychologically, India has created a new normal with the "kinetic action" showing that no place in Pakistan is safe.

MILITARY MASTERY

The Indian Army, Air Force, and Navy operated in unprecedented harmony. The Indian Air Force's Rafale jets, equipped with indigenous BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles, struck nine terrorist camps across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) in a mere 23-minute window. These strikes obliterated terror infrastructure with surgical precision, while avoiding civilian casualties - a testament to India's ethical warfare principles.

The operation leveraged India's Integrated Air Command and Control System that synchronised indigenous air defence systems. When Pakistan retaliated on May 8 with swarms of drones targeting multiple Indian cities, India's D-4 anti-drone technology and multi-layered defences downed the projectiles. The Indian Navy's strategic positioning in the Arabian Sea kept Pakistan's naval forces pinned. This tri-service dominance-across air, land, and sea-highlighted India's ability to dictate the terms of conflict.

Satellite imagery released on May 11 revealed the extent of destruction. This precision underscored India's technological superiority, forcing Pakistan's military to confront its inability to defend its own airspace and territory.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi celebrating the win with armed forces at Adampur in Punjab

DIPLOMATIC TRIUMPH

Diplomatically, Operation Sindoor was a masterstroke. India kept its global partners in the loop. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, supported by senior women officers from the army and the airforce, briefed the world on the operation's restrained scope. This pre-emptive outreach reframed the strikes as a legitimate act of self-defence against Pakistan-backed terror, decoupling the narrative from the Kashmir dispute. For the first time, the world viewed India's actions through the lens of counter-terrorism, not bilateral tensions.

India's diplomatic offensive secured tacit support from major powers. Turkey's lone vocal support for Islamabad fizzled out against India's robust narrative. When Pakistan peddled misinformation, India exposed its use of AI-generated videos and recycled war footage, dismantling Islamabad's propaganda. The ceasefire reinforced our control over the conflict's optics and pace.

A BOLD NEW DOCTRINE

Operation Sindoor unveiled a transformative security doctrine: state-sponsored terrorism will be treated as an act of war, with no distinction between terrorists and their backers. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's declaration - "India will not tolerate nuclear blackmail" - directly challenged Pakistan's strategy of using its nuclear arsenal

India's Three Strikes

- MILITARY:** Armed forces carefully chose targets of significance beyond the immediate.
- POLITICAL:** Unprecedented decisions like putting Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance ensure Pakistan pays more than it bargained for.
- PSYCHOLOGICAL:** India has created a new normal with "kinetic action" showing that no place in Pakistan is safe.

as a shield for terrorism. This calculated escalation, paired with restraint to avoid all-out war, redefined deterrence in a nuclear context. India set a global benchmark for countering state-sponsored terrorism.

MADE-IN-INDIA ARSENAL

Operation Sindoor was a resounding endorsement of India's defense self-reliance. The BrahMos missile and the Akash missile system outperformed Pakistan's Chinese and Turkish-supplied arsenal. These indigenous platforms reflect India's shift from arms importer to innovator.

A MESSAGE TO ADVERSARIES

Operation Sindoor was more than a military operation; it was a strategic declaration. By dismantling terror networks, exposing Pakistan's weaknesses, and asserting diplomatic dominance, India has redrawn the red line: terrorism will face immediate, punitive consequences. The synergy of its armed forces, the lethality of indigenous weapons, and the clarity of doctrine have sent a clear message: India is a formidable power, ready to defend its sovereignty with resolve.



India had a Valid Right to Defend Itself: Bolton

Former US NSA, who served during President Donald Trump's first term and was in office when the Pulwama terror attack happened in 2019, JOHN BOLTON shares his views about Operation Sindoor in an exclusive conversation with Firstpost's Bhagyasree Sengupta.

What is your assessment of Operation Sindoor?

Well, India certainly had a legitimate right of self-defence in retaliating against those it had reason to believe were behind, or supportive of, the terrorist attacks in Kashmir. It is important for any country to be able to protect its citizens who are engaged in perfectly legitimate activity, tourists in Kashmir in this case. The Indian strikes were confined to what they believed were terrorist encampments or places that assisted in the terrorist activity across the border.

Pakistan's Defence Minister admitted to doing 'dirty work' for US-led West. What is your experience as a former NSA?

We've known for a long time that elements of the Pakistani military, especially Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), have been supporting terrorists. We had this problem when the US and much of the international community were aiding the Afghan Mujahideen to push the Soviet Union troops out of Afghanistan. ISI had its own agenda, and that ultimately resulted in the Taliban takeover in Afghanistan after the Soviets departed.

Do you think Trump rushed to take credit prematurely?

Well, that's something Trump does all the time, so nobody should have been surprised by it. Normally, you would have a joint statement by the parties involved to show what really happened behind the scenes based on the military-to-military communications between the Indian and the Pakistani sides, and some of the specifics of what the ceasefire would look like, when it would begin, and how it would be implemented were really done at that level.

But as I say, that's just Trump - when he gets involved, he's going to make sure he gets the credit for it, whether he deserves it or not.

Why does the Trump change his NSAs so frequently?

Well, Ajit Doval has been a very positive influence, I think. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's reliance on him shows that he trusts his judgement. The trouble with Trump is that he just wants people to agree with him.



The Military Assault, in Numbers

THE TRIGGER

26 People, 25 Indians and one Nepali, were killed by terrorists in Pahalgam

THE REACTION

23

Minutes it took IAF to bypass and jam Pakistan's Chinese-supplied air defence systems

9

Major terrorist camps India struck in Pakistan and PoK

11

Pakistani airbases and several radar and air defence units India hit in a withering aerial attack

100

number of terrorists killed in Operation Sindoor

THE PANIC

02:30 AM

on May 10 when Pak Army chief called PM Sharif after India attacked its airbases

Solid Defence

THE STRIKES, AND THE PLANNING, WENT DEEP

India chose to strike nine terror camps out of 21 known terror training sites. The strikes were designed to destroy the entire Lashkar-Hizb-Jaish terror complex and the targets were chosen based on intelligence inputs and to avoid civilians and civilian infrastructure.

FOUR HITS INSIDE PAKISTAN

1

Markaz Subhan Allah, Bahawalpur
Where: 100 km from international border in Pakistan's Punjab province
Why: JeM headquarters, it was recruitment, training and indoctrination centre
Who: JeM chief Masood Azhar visited often

2

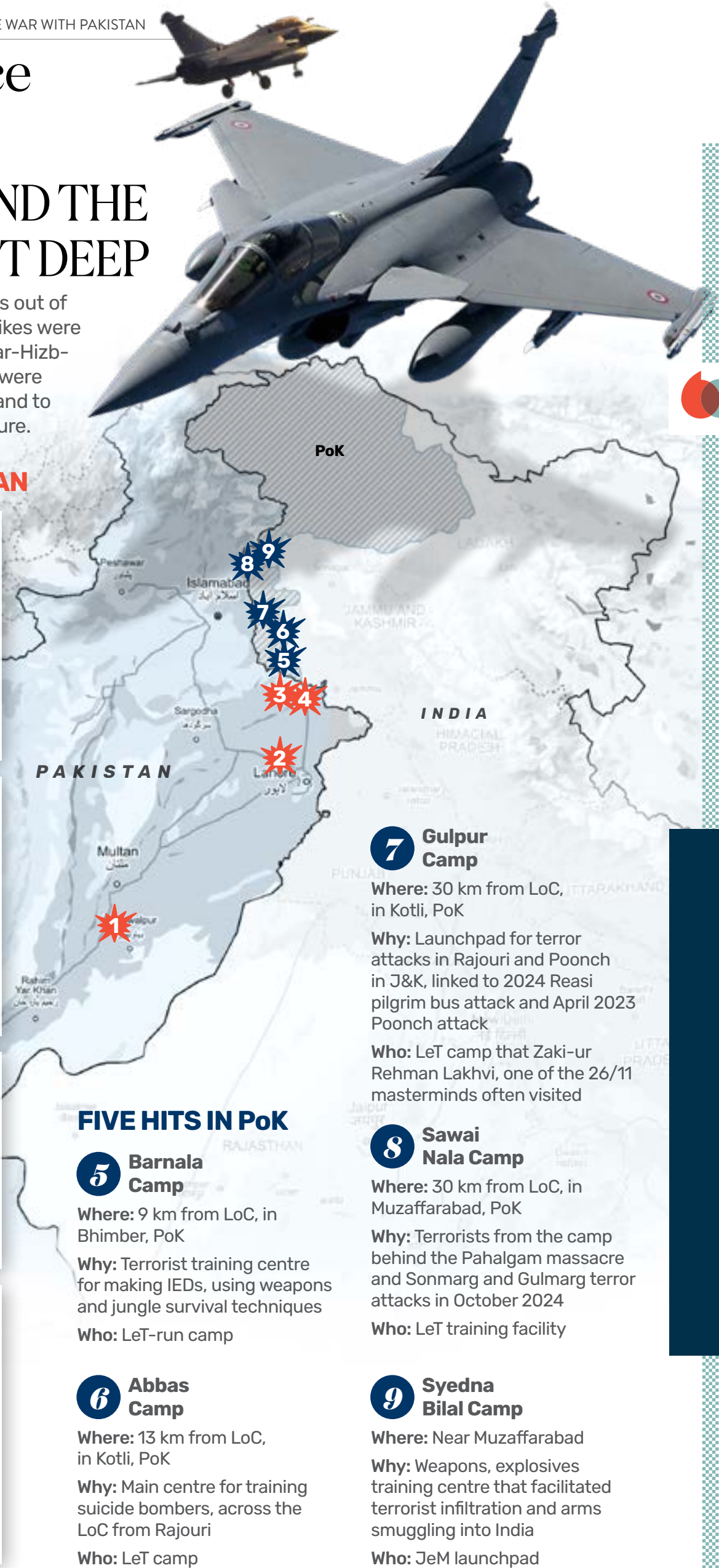
Markaz Taiba
Where: 25 km from international border, 50 km from Lahore, in Muridke
Why: LeT HQ, 26/11 terrorists Ajmal Kasab, David Headley trained here
Who: Ideological heart of Hafiz Saeed - led Lashkar, it was built with donation from Osama bin Laden

3

Sarjal Camp
Where: 6 km from international border, in Sialkot
Why: Terrorists behind the killing of four J&K policemen in March trained and sent from here
Who: JeM camp

4

Mehmooona Joya Camp
Where: 12 km from international border, in Sialkot
Why: Nodal centre for terror activities in Kathua-Jammu region, 2016 Pathankot airstrike attack was directed from here
Who: Was a Hizbul Mujahideen training camp



FIVE HITS IN PoK

5

Barnala Camp
Where: 9 km from LoC, in Bhimber, PoK
Why: Terrorist training centre for making IEDs, using weapons and jungle survival techniques
Who: LeT-run camp

6

Abbas Camp
Where: 13 km from LoC, in Kotli, PoK
Why: Main centre for training suicide bombers, across the LoC from Rajouri
Who: LeT camp

7

Gulpur Camp
Where: 30 km from LoC, in Kotli, PoK
Why: Launchpad for terror attacks in Rajouri and Poonch in J&K, linked to 2024 Reasi pilgrim bus attack and April 2023 Poonch attack
Who: LeT camp that Zaki-ur Rehman Lakhvi, one of the 26/11 masterminds often visited

8

Sawai Nala Camp
Where: 30 km from LoC, in Muzaffarabad, PoK
Why: Terrorists from the camp behind the Pahalgam massacre and Sonmarg and Gulmarg terror attacks in October 2024
Who: LeT training facility

9

Syedna Bilal Camp
Where: Near Muzaffarabad
Why: Weapons, explosives training centre that facilitated terrorist infiltration and arms smuggling into India
Who: JeM launchpad

A Robust Defence Industry Fortified India, Helped Achieve Success

A MILITARY SUPERPOWER India finely integrated satellite, drone and human intelligence for the operation

OPINION
David Vance



The genesis of Operation Sindoor can be best understood in the many years of terrorist provocation from the failed rogue state of Pakistan but more specifically, it is a direct response to the Pahalgam terror attack.

By targeting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan, and achieving military, political, and psychological objectives with great precision and power, India has sent a strong message to not just Pakistan but all those powers that enable Pakistan. Its success was the consequence of careful planning, advanced tech, military coordination, and a bold demonstration of India's zero-tolerance policy toward terrorism. It is this zero-tolerance of terrorism which the rest of the world should both recognise and support. India is fighting for us all and Western powers should not be afraid to hail Indian success.

I think some people were surprised by Operation Sindoor's overwhelming military success, but they should realise that India is fast becoming a global military superpower.

Another thing the world should appreciate is the operation's non-escalatory approach. India was focussed and restrained, neutralising Pakistan's attempts to target civilian areas with drones and missiles, all of which were intercepted. This demonstrated India's offensive capabilities as well as its robust defence systems that thwarted retaliatory strikes. It is the surgical nature of the strikes and the effectiveness of the defence capabilities that struck the biggest blow.

Integrating satellite, drone, and human intelligence was also pivotal in ensuring the operation's success. Real-time intelligence allowed for rapid target selection, while kamikaze drones, operated remotely, delivered devastating blows to terrorist hideouts. This seamless coordination ensured that Operation Sindoor achieved its primary military objective: the destruction of terrorist infrastructure that posed an immediate threat to Indian security.

India can carry out such a successful operation because of its growing defence industry. The operation served as a showcase for homegrown systems instrumental in achieving strategic aims. These systems, developed through decades of investment in defence research and development, demonstrates India's ability to compete on the global stage

A Punchy Answer

- **INDIA IS FIGHTING FOR US** ALL and Western powers should not be afraid to hail Indian success
- **MY RULE OF THUMB IS THAT** when Pakistan claims India has failed, I then know India has succeeded! Nobody believes the lies that flow from Islamabad
- **IT IS THE SURGICAL NATURE OF THE INDIAN STRIKES** and the effectiveness of the defence capabilities that struck the biggest blow

while reducing dependence on foreign suppliers. This is important because foreign suppliers cannot be relied upon in moments of crisis.

Operation Sindoor also underscored India's advancements in satellite and cyber intelligence. These technologies

were integrated to allow real-time monitoring of terrorist movements, ensuring that the strikes were both timely and effective. India demonstrated that it could execute complex operations independently, which enhances its strategic autonomy.

India's ability to conduct this high-profile operation without escalating it showcased its strategic competency whilst countering Pakistan's "first to lie" strategy, where exaggerated claims of success were spread to deflect attention from huge losses. My rule of thumb is that when Pakistan claims India has failed, I know India has succeeded!

India has been very transparent on Operation Sindoor, providing copious evidence of the strikes' success, thus ensuring that the narrative remained in its favour. I think this upfront honesty is very important as it shows we can trust what India claims.

The operation's success can be viewed as a template for many counter-terrorism operations, balancing decisive action with the avoidance of civilian casualties. This success strengthens India's diplomatic leverage, particularly in forums addressing terrorism and regional security.

David Vance is a British political commentator and author

EXPERT TALK

A Massive Victory for India

FOREIGN EXPERTS AND ANALYSTS WEIGHED IN ON OPERATION SINDOOR, ENDORSING INDIA'S CLEAR VICTORY.



JOHN SPENCER

Chair of Urban Warfare Studies, SpencerGuard



"After just four days of calibrated military action, it is objectively conclusive: India achieved a massive victory. Operation Sindoor, met and exceeded its strategic aims—destroying terrorist infrastructure, demonstrating military superiority, restoring deterrence, and unveiling a new national security doctrine. This was not symbolic force. It was decisive power, clearly applied"

"Operation Sindoor represents a significant escalation in India's retaliatory strategy, targeting multiple terrorist sites across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, signaling India's resolve"

MICHAEL KUGELMAN

Director of the South Asia Institute at the Wilson Center, Washington, D.C., and a prominent South Asia expert.

CHRISTINE FAIR

Professor at Georgetown University and expert on South Asian security and militancy



"Operation Sindoor is a signal of intent from India, sending a clear message to Pakistan's military establishment about India's willingness to act decisively against terrorism"

DAMIEN SYMON

Well-known Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) expert and geospatial analyst

"Satellite imagery reveals significant damage to Pakistani military sites, including airbases, confirming the precision and impact of India's strikes in Operation Sindoor"

TOM COOPER

Austrian aerial warfare analyst and military historian



"When one side is bombing nuclear weapons storage facilities of the other, and the other has no ability to retaliate left, then that's a clear cut victory in my books. No surprise Islamabad 'sounded' for a 'cease-fire'"

KRIS NAIR

Founder of Defence Intelligence Firm, KawaSpace

His firm brought satellite pictures of the damage to the world's notice. He said, "These images back India's claims and show the real impact of our nation's operations. In the fog of conflict, proof is power – and we found it"



Hitting 'em Hard

Hamas-Hezbollah Playbook Now Driving Pakistan

TOXIC COCKTAIL Ideology and not grievance motivates Pakistan's terrorists. For all they talk about the occupation of Kashmir, they ignore that by law, Pakistan, and not India, occupies Kashmir

OPINION

Michael Rubin



Pakistan now follows the terrorist playbook crafted by Hamas and Hezbollah across decades: stage an attack, threaten escalation and then seek to sidestep accountability by hiding behind the skirts of diplomats in the name of deconfliction, especially as casualties mount.

In April 1996, Hezbollah fired several dozen missiles into Israel. Israel responded with "Operation Grapes of Wrath", an attempt to degrade Hezbollah and drive it north of the Litani River. For days, Hezbollah suffered repeated defeats, but then, on April 18, 1996, Israeli fire struck a UN compound in Qana, southern Lebanon, around which Hezbollah had set up firing positions. More than 100 Lebanese sheltering in the compound died, sparking outrage that forced Israel to curtail Operation Grapes of Wrath and allow Hezbollah to live another day.

In July 2006, Hezbollah crossed Israel's UN-certified border to kidnap and kill Israeli soldiers. Israel responded with another offensive to uproot Hezbollah. Again, Hezbollah shielded itself from accountability for its terrorism by manufacturing sympathy for alleged victims. After an Israeli airstrike killed 28 in a Qana apartment building, Hezbollah activated anti-Israeli partisans to pressure the Jewish nation, selling photographs of alleged children's bodies being excavated from the building, only to have video and analysis subsequently emerge showing the corpses get up and walk away or be featured elsewhere.

Ultimately, US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice succumbed to international criticism and pressured Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to curtail the Israeli efforts.

Hezbollah not only regrouped and re-armed but also terrorised southern Lebanon for another two decades. Meanwhile, its sponsors in Iran understood that they could get away with murder in their efforts to cripple, if not defeat, Israel by attrition.



As international diplomats scramble to win a ceasefire between India and Pakistan in the wake of the attack by Pakistan-sponsored terrorists last month at Pahalgam, New Delhi must ensure it does not repeat the mistakes of Israel. The United Nations Secretary-General and European foreign ministers will gladly take a cucumber, paint it yellow, and sell it as a cucumber. They will dress up any agreement, both by praising its protection of civilians and by presenting it as a deal to end terrorism. They will simply seek quiet to last long enough so that they cannot be blamed when the violence inevitably re-erupts.

Ideology and not grievance motivates terrorists such as those that Pakistan trains. For all they talk about the occupation of Kashmir, they ignore that by law, Pakistan, and not India, occupies Kashmir. Their problem is the idea that Muslims live under the authority of non-Muslims. Indeed, this was at the heart of Pakistani Army Chief Asim Munir's original speech in which he belittled the idea of Hindus and Muslims living together. What Prime Minister Narendra Modi understands but must convey to Washington, New York, London, and

Brussels is that any return to the status quo ante will inevitably mean terrorism throughout the entirety of India and not only in J&K.

Pakistan will complain about its listing, but the answer to that is not moral equivalency but rather to speak with one voice about the unacceptability of terror. The path to ending a state-sponsor designation should not be empty promises but real reform.

Indians should demand more. The family of every victim of Pahalgam deserves compensation. That money should come not from Pakistan's treasury but from the personal accounts of Munir, be they in Rawalpindi, London, Zurich, or Panama. There could be no other way for Pakistan to show that it has internalised that all terrorism is unacceptable than to make its individual cheerleaders and sponsors pay. Munir, of course, should no longer need such money, as any just agreement would see him spend the rest of his life in prison as an accessory to murder.

Michael Rubin is a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and director of policy analysis at the Middle East Forum

How Abeyance of Indus Treaty can Act as Waterboarding for Pakistan

Weaponising water or choking Pakistan through riverine disconnect will hurt its Achilles heel and stir more unrest in Pakistan. It can be an effective recipe for Pakistan's Balkanisation

JAJATI K PATTNAIK, CHANDAN K PANDA

Since its inception in 1960, the Indus Waters Treaty has never been weaponised. However, Pakistan's unrestrained terror sponsorship since Partition has forced India to hit back.

The Indus Waters System comprises the Indus, Jhelum, Chenab, Sutlej, Beas, and Ravi. The eastern rivers are Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej. The Indus Treaty entitles India to use the waters of the eastern rivers. On the other hand, the western rivers include the Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab. The treaty ensures that Pakistan can use its waters. This is Pakistan's lifeline. Its hydropower, agriculture, and industrial and non-industrial domains depend essentially on them. If India carves out the short-, medium- and long-term plans to weaponise Indus water with robust capacity building, Pakistan will undergo nightmares.

Agriculture contributes to around 25 per cent of Pakistan's GDP. Around 40 per cent of the workforce is involved in the agricultural sector. This explains the importance of the Indus water for Pakistan. Exercising control over the Indus water will hurt Pakistan severely. Food security will be in grave danger. Poverty will embrace Pakistan. Its hydropower stations will run dry, leaving



Pakistan in prolonged darkness.

Climate change has affected the precipitation patterns and volume. The Indus water blockade will exacerbate the water crisis, leading to drought or flooding. Downstream will be either inundated or dried, depending on India's decision to release or restrict water.

The water war on Pakistan will have economic ramifications, affecting agriculture and hydropower production. Indus water feeds Pakistan through irrigation, cotton, rice, and wheat production. Crop yield and

food production will nosedive in the absence of water. Pakistan's export basket will shrink; its textile industry will be impacted; food prices will skyrocket. Inflation will hit people directly. Economic hardship will hurt the people. On the other hand, electricity production in Punjab and Sindh will be decreased, affecting industries and manufacturing sectors.

Suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty will restrict information sharing. If India stops sharing the hydrological data, the downstream areas will

have no clue of flooding. Life and livelihoods will face grave risks of inundation, causing severe economic stress.

Climate change has invited more unpredictability. Fragile Indus ecology and its glacial ecosystem have become more sensitive. Unpredictability enlarges risk thresholds. Frequent flooding embodies consequences, especially in the downstream.

This, too, has sociological ramifications. Pakistan is a divided society. Economic vulnerability will open a Pandora's box of internal conflicts, clearing the way for Balkanisation. The strained relationship between India and Pakistan will hurt the latter, thinning its dependencies on India. However, Pakistan ought to be tutored. Terrorism and friendship cannot coexist.

Since 2016, India's action against Pakistan terror has been stern, swift, and decisive. Its unequivocal iteration will keep Pakistan in check. It is time to overcome Stockholm syndrome and smell the coffee. It is time to act and set a precedent so that Pakistan will think many times before it does anything wrong.

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OPINION

Lt Gen Syed Ata Hasnain



Modi's New Terror Doctrine is a Political Message for Pak

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent assertion that "every act of terror will be treated as an Act of War" has resonated powerfully across India. For many, it's the literal implication which holds good; that India will respond with military force each time a terrorist strike occurs within its borders. However, such an interpretation risks oversimplifying a complex national security strategy shaped by realism, restraint, and calibrated escalation. It needs a nuanced understanding.

At the outset it is necessary to clarify that the Prime Minister's assertion was a message of warning which contributes to the overall deterrence through communication of intent. Left in the grey zone, this has a more powerful effect, with the adversaries put on virtual notice not to expect inaction on the part of India, to any deliberate act of provocation.

PM Modi's declaration is not merely a tactical or doctrinal shift. It is first and foremost a political message—a signalling exercise aimed at multiple audiences. Domestically, it reinforces the government's image as strong on national security, appealing to a public that has long demanded a tougher line on cross-border terrorism. Internationally, it communicates India's growing impatience with the persistence of terror networks operating from Pakistan.

However, political signalling must not be conflated with operational doctrine or strategy. While military options are now clearly on the table, they are neither automatic nor uniform. As with everything in the domain of military operations, national interest comes first and it may not always lie in a military option.

India, therefore, must—and does—respond asymmetrically across a spectrum of covert and overt tools. These include intelligence-based neutralisation of operatives, cyber operations, economic and diplomatic isolation of Pakistan, as well as counter-terrorism diplomacy in multilateral forums like FATF and the UN.

India's doctrine vis-a-vis Pakistan-based terrorism has undergone a subtle but significant transformation. The traditional posture of "strategic restraint" has now been replaced with a model that might be termed "controlled escalation"—a strategy that combines overt retaliation with a careful calibration of risk.

This doctrine includes several core elements, as under:

- Credible deterrence below the nuclear threshold: India aims to demonstrate that it can punish Pakistan for terrorist acts without triggering a full-scale war or breaching the nuclear threshold.

- Flexible Response Spectrum: India now retains the right to choose the time, place, and mode of its response—ranging from kinetic strikes to covert operations. This flexibility avoids predictability and complicates Pakistan's planning and messaging.
- Non-Kinetic Measures: Since 2016, India has also shown greater willingness to use economic diplomatic offensives, and cyber capabilities to pressure Pakistan, particularly in the aftermath of major attacks.
- Legal and Institutional Consolidation: India's National Investigation Agency (NIA), UAPA, and amendments to intelligence frameworks have been geared toward enabling pre-emptive action and post-attack accountability.

Moreover, global geopolitical dynamics—including the role of the US, China, Gulf countries, and the wider international community—require India to balance assertiveness with diplomacy. Strikes like the ones in Operation Sindoor succeeded not only because of military precision but also because India had carefully prepared the diplomatic ground, ensuring progressive international understanding and support.

Operation Sindoor succeeded also because India had carefully prepared the diplomatic ground

STRATEGIC RESTRAINT STILL HOLDS VALUE

Despite the muscular posturing, it is important to recognise that restraint remains a crucial element of India's strategic culture. This restraint is not borne of weakness but of strength and maturity.

Moreover, global geopolitical dynamics—including the role of the US, China, Gulf countries, and the wider international community—require India to balance assertiveness with diplomacy. Strikes like the ones in Operation Sindoor succeeded not only because of military precision but also because India had carefully prepared the diplomatic ground, ensuring progressive international understanding and support.

35-40

Pakistani personnel killed in LoC exchanges between May 7 & 10

Air-Frying the Enemy



STEPPING ON THE DIPLOMACY PADDLE

PM Modi called US President
PM met Saudi Crown Prince

EAM S Jaishankar called France FM
PM called Israel PM, Jordan King, Japan PM, France Prez, Italy PM, Egypt Prez

EAM call with Egypt FM
PM Called UAE Prez, Iran Prez

EAM called South Korea FM
Defence Minister Rajnath Singh called **US Secy of Defence**

PM called Qatar Emir Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani

PM Modi called Australia PM, Nepal PM, Maritius PM, US Vice-President

PM Modi called Netherlands PM Schoof, UK PM Starmer, Sri Lankan President Dissanayake

EAM S Jaishankar called UK Finance Minister Rachel Reeves

PM called Russia Prez Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin



SOURCE: @tanvi_madan via x.com

How India Left Pak Air Force Shaken & Stirred

RATTLING THE RUNWAYS OF TERROR India inflicted significant damage on several Pakistani Air Force assets, including bases in Rawalpindi, Sindh, northern Sindh, Pakistan’s Punjab, Sargodha and Thatta

India inflicted significant damage on several Pakistani Air Force assets. These included bases in Rawalpindi, Sindh, northern Sindh, Pakistan’s Punjab, Sargodha, and Thatta. Radar and defence sites at Pasrur, Sialkot, Chunian and Lahore were also hit with precision munitions. How badly were they damaged? Take a look:

NUR KHAN
Located in Rawalpindi, Nur Khan (previously known as PAF Chaklala) is one of Pakistan’s most important military bases that houses its Saab Erieye airborne early warning systems, C-130 transporters and IL-78 refuelling aircraft. Pakistan Air Force’s Air Mobility Command and the PAF College are here. Pakistan Army’s General Headquarters and the Strategic Plans Division – the operational arm of the country’s nuclear command – are also nearby.

SUKKUR
This forward operational base of the PAF’s Southern Air Command is located in Jamshoro district of Sindh. The airfield houses American F-16 jets, Chinese J-17s and Turkish drones. The base was inaugurated in 2017 to strengthen defences along the Karachi coastline.

RAHIM YAR KHAN
Located in South Punjab, the base falls under the PAF’s Central Command and faces the Rajasthan frontier. Its runway is used by the Sheikh Zayed International Airport. The deep crater in the middle of the airbase runway and damage to the building during Operation Sindoor has led to closure of the sole runway until June 6.

SARGODHA
Now called the Mushaf air base, it is one of PAF’s most important strategic assets. The base is the headquarters of PAF Central Air Command and home to Pakistan’s elite fighter jets – the F-16, the Chengdu J-7, the French Mirage 5 and the JF-17 Thunder.

JACOBABAD
Like Mushaf, it too has some of Pakistan’s most-advanced aircraft and equipment. These include the JF-17 Block II Thunder fighter jet, the F-16 Fighting Falcon, the Italian Leonardo AW139 helicopters of the 88 Search and Rescue Squadron. The Jacobabad base was extremely important to the US’ war on terror and was used by Nato forces during Operation Enduring Freedom.

BHOLARI
Inaugurated in December 2017, it is Pakistan’s newest airbase. In 2020, the base witnessed a major joint aerial exercise between Islamabad and Beijing. Bholari too has JF-17 Thunder fighter jets, F-16 jets, as well as Saab 2000

NUR KHAN

SUKKUR

PASRUR

RAHIM YAR KHAN

JACOBABAD

SARGODHA

BHOLARI



Pakistan military targets at Rafiqui, Murid, Chaklala, Rahim Yar Khan, Sukkur and Chunian were engaged using air-launched precision weapons from our fighter aircraft. While carrying out these responses, India ensured minimum collateral damage

WING COMMANDER VYOMIKA SINGH

AEW&C aircraft equipped with the Erieye radar system.

RAFIQUI
Located near Shorkot in Jhang district, the base is 337 kilometres south of Islamabad.

The base has JF-17s, Mirage 5s, and the French Alouette III utility helicopters.

MURID
One of the PAF’s most-important forward operational bases, it is the main hub for

Pakistan’s fleet of combat drones. Its more than eight hangars hold several unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), including the locally developed GIDS Shahpar and NESCOM Burraq, the Chinese Chengdu Wing Loong II, and the Turkish Bayraktar TB2.



A WAR OF MANY FIRSTS

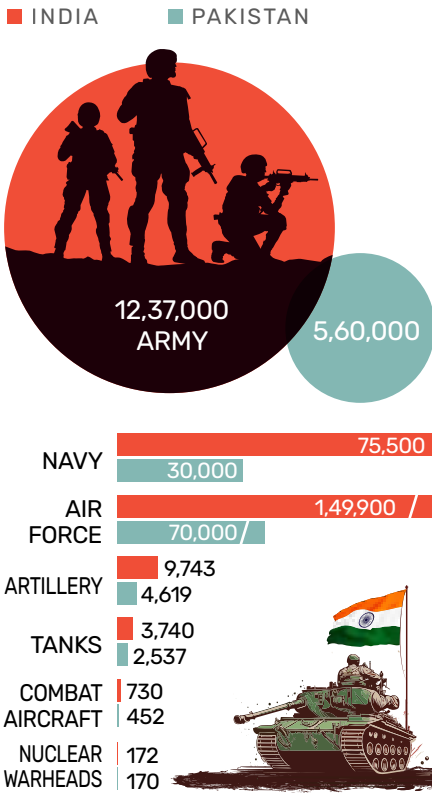


OPERATION SINDOOR WAS THE FIRST TIME...

- Since 1971 war that all three services were used together to target Pakistan and PoK-based targets.
- ANY COUNTRY STRUCK 11 AIRBASES OF A NUCLEAR-ARMED NATION IN A SINGLE OPERATION
- BrahMos missile was used in combat
- The Integrated Defence Staff (IDS) played an operational role
- The Indian Air Force used SCALP missiles and the French-origin HAMMER missiles in a ‘live’ conflict
- India decisively rejected the distinction between terrorists and their sponsors
- India’s actions were seen purely through the lens of counter-terrorism

India Vs Pakistan

HOW THE TWO NATIONS STACK UP IN MILITARY MIGHT



The Big Q

India had questions about Operation Sindoor. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri’s briefing to the Parliamentary panel on external affairs answered some



Was US President Donald Trump involved?
Misri told the panel that the call for pause in Indo-Pakistan hostilities was taken after DGM-to-DGM talks between the two countries.

Why didn’t India say anything before then?
Trump made his claims about

“ceasefire” on social media, and not through any official channel, where India could have put its point across.

What about now?
Trump has since modified his statement on “mediation” by toning it down to “help”.

What about Trump’s offer to ‘mediate’?

MEA also said no other country has any locus standi to comment on issues of Jammu & Kashmir.

Was there anything ‘nuclear’?
There was no nuclear signalling from Pakistan and the recent conflict remained in the conventional domain.



A Temblor for Terror



1 Destroyed terrorists and terror infrastructure

India neutralised nine high-value terror launchpads belonging to Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammed, and Hizbul Mujahideen across Pakistan and PoK

2 Struck deep inside Pakistan, not just PoK



India struck targets even in Punjab province, a strategic stronghold of Pakistan's military.

3 Exposed Pak's fragile air defence

Indian forces successfully bypassed or jammed Pakistan's air defence grid. The swift and precise strikes, conducted within a 23-minute window, without any reported losses

4 Showed how to be precise without escalating

No military or civilian infrastructure was targeted – only terror assets



5 Sent a big global message

Showed the world that India will not wait for permission to defend its people. Terror will be punished – anytime, anywhere



Operation Sindoor Reflects India's Unity in Diversity Too

CHRIS BLACKBURN

In the aftermath of the blood-soaked Pahalgam massacre, India's response will extend beyond missiles. It will deploy diplomacy driven by diversity—a sophisticated strategic counteroffensive aimed at reclaiming narrative supremacy in the international arena.

The formation of all-party parliamentary delegations highlights India's intention to project unity in diversity. Over 30 MPs, carefully selected from across the political spectrum, will brief foreign governments and parliaments across Europe, North America, East Asia, West Asia, and the Global South. This reflects the breadth of India's democratic fabric.

The strategic symbolism of selecting diverse voices—Hindu and Muslim, secular and religious, north and south, male and female—is intentional and timely. India's diplomatic outreach aims to neutralise Pakistan's longstanding propaganda, simultaneously reinforcing a powerful message of internal cohesion.

The naming of Operation Sindoor, after the vermilion worn by married Hindu women, was a chillingly symbolic act”

ation Sindoor. Their appearance was deliberate, showcasing India's unity in diversity and gender equality—a stark contrast to the religiously motivated terrorism India faces from Pakistan. Their presence transcended mere optics; it communicated a deeper reality: India stands firm against communal divisions and terrorism.

The Islamist terrorists behind the Pahalgam massacre targeted civilians, singling out Hindu travellers. The naming of Operation Sindoor, after the vermilion worn by married Hindu women, was a chillingly symbolic act.

India's goal is explicit: separate the Kashmir dispute from Pakistan's support for mass casualty terrorism. Parliamentarians are tasked with delivering this nuanced message directly to foreign counterparts—eschewing hyperbole for evidence-based clarity.

India's carefully orchestrated narrative—built around unity, pluralism, and decisive action against terrorism—signals a profound evolution in its approach to confronting terrorism and shaping global perception.

The author is a seasoned strategist in international relations and economic development

We will Measure Every Step of Pakistan: Modi

UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE Operation Sindoor has carved out a new benchmark in fight against terror. India's armed forces — Air Force, Army and Navy — will always stay alert

Operation Sindoor is not just a name but a reflection of the feelings of millions of Indians. Operation Sindoor is our unwavering commitment to justice. On May 7, the whole world saw this pledge turn into reality. Indian forces attacked terror hideouts in Pakistan and their training centres with precision. The terrorists had never imagined that India could take such a big decision. But when the country is united, strong decisions are taken and results achieved.

When India's missiles and drones attacked terrorist bases in Pakistan, not only the buildings of terrorist organisations but their courage was also shaken badly. Terrorist bases, like Bahawalpur and Muridke, are universities of global terror. The big terrorist attacks of the world, be it 9/11, be it London Tube bombings, or the big terrorist attacks which have happened in India, their roots are connected to these hideouts. The terrorists had wiped out the sindoor of our sisters and India responded by destroying their headquarters. More than 100 dreaded terrorists have been killed. Many terrorist leaders were roaming freely in Pakistan who used to conspire against India. India killed them in one stroke.

Pakistan was deeply disappointed and frustrated by this action of India, and in its bewilderment, it did another cowardly act. Instead of supporting India's strike against terrorism, Pakistan started attacking India itself. Pakistan targeted our schools, colleges, gurdwaras, temples and houses. Pakistan targeted our military bases. But in this act, Pakistan itself got exposed. The world saw how Pakistan's drones and missiles fell like straws in front of India. India's strong air defence system destroyed them in the sky. Pakistan had prepared for an attack on the border, but India struck at its heart. India's drones and missiles attacked with precision. They damaged those airbases of which Pakistan was very proud. India caused heavy damage to Pakistan in the first three days, which it had never imagined. That's why after India's aggressive action, Pakistan started looking for ways to escape. Pakistan was pleading to the world to ease tensions. And after suffering heavy losses, Pakistan's army contacted our DGMO on the afternoon of May 10. By then, we had destroyed the infrastructure of terrorism on a large scale, and terrorists were eliminated. Therefore, when Pakistan appealed and said that it will not indulge in any sort of terror activities or military audacity



further, India considered it. And I am repeating again, we have just suspended our retaliatory action against Pakistan's terror and military camps. In the coming days, we will measure every step of Pakistan on the criterion that what sort of attitude Pakistan will adopt ahead.

India's forces are constantly on alert. After the surgical strike and air strike, now Operation Sindoor is India's policy against terrorism. Operation Sindoor has carved out a new benchmark in our fight against terrorism and has set up a new parameter and new normal.

First, if there is a terrorist attack on India, a fitting reply will be given. We will take strict action at every place from where the roots of terrorism emerge.

Secondly, India will not tolerate nuclear blackmail. India will strike precisely and decisively at the terrorist hideouts developing under the cover of nuclear blackmail.

Thirdly, we will not differentiate between the government sponsoring terrorism and the masterminds of terrorism. During Operation Sindoor, the world has again seen the ugly face of Pakistan, when top Pakistani army officers came to bid farewell to slain terrorists. This is strong evidence of state-sponsored terrorism. We will continue to take decisive steps to protect India and our citizens from any threat. We have defeated Pakistan every time

Quote unquote

“Today every terrorist, every terror organisation knows the consequence of wiping out the Sindoor of our sisters and daughters”

“This is certainly not the era of war, but this is also not the era of terrorism. Zero tolerance against terrorism is the guarantee for a better world”

“India's stand is very clear... terror and talks cannot go together... terror and trade cannot go together... water and blood cannot flow together”

Edited excerpts from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to the nation on May 12

The Days of War

A mix of military and political moves forced Pakistan to ask for a ceasefire

PRICE FOR TERROR

April 22

26 people killed in Pahalgam terror attack



May 7

India launches precise and targeted Operation Sindoor on terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan



May 9

India destroys Pakistan's air defence system in Lahore. At night, Pakistan launches a swarm of drones, loitering munitions, and missiles targeting 26 locations along the border. India strikes multiple Pakistani locations

April 23

India puts Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance, cancels visas for Pakistanis



May 8

India thwarts Pakistan's drone and artillery attacks in J&K and Punjab, and retaliates



May 10

THE DAY OF CEASEFIRE: India repels Pakistan's drone and artillery attacks in Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab, and retaliates

Striking Deep

HOW INDIA SHIELDS ITS AIRSPACE

India's air defence system comprises multiple layers that work together to detect, track and neutralise aerial threats from aircraft, missiles and drones

THE LAYERS

Inner Layer

Systems tailored for short-range, low-altitude targets such as drones. Platforms like legacy L70 guns, ZSU-23 Shilka, MANPADS and counter-unmanned aerial systems (C-UAS) deployed for immediate defence

Second Layer

Pointed defence systems to protect specific strategic installations. These include short-range surface-to-air missile systems like the Spyder, OSA-AK and Pechora

Middle Tier

Medium-range surface-to-air missiles such as the indigenously developed Akash missile system and the Indo-Israeli MRSAM

Outer Layer

Long-range platforms including the S-400 Triumf air defence system and combat-ready fighter aircraft. Aim is to eliminate hostile assets well before they enter sensitive airspace

S-400 TRIUMF SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE SYSTEM

Range: 380 km

Deployment: 3 squads

USP: S-400 can lock two missiles on one target & also simultaneously hit 80 separate targets. Indian officials dub it as the 'Sudarshan Chakra'

What: Has three components – missile launchers, a radar and a command centre. The advanced radar allows it to offer 360-degree surveillance and counter-stealth capabilities

HOW S-400 TRIUMF WORKS

1

The long-range radar tracks and identifies aerial targets and relays the information to the command vehicle

2

The crew manning the command vehicle identifies the suitable missile and the launch vehicle to intercept the target and orders launch

3

The best-placed launch vehicle releases surface-to-air missiles

4

The engagement radar guides missiles towards target

LONG-RANGE SURVEILLANCE RADAR

COMMAND VEHICLE

ENGAGEMENT RADAR

LAUNCH VEHICLE

India's Air Defence Systems Shook World's Military-Industrial Complex

THE MAIN STORY How the country's multi-layered defence thwarted Pakistan's aerial onslaught. This strategy signals a new air defence theory that integration, not acquisition, trumps isolated tech.

Operation Sindoor proved to be bigger and bolder than the punitive military strikes that India carried out in 2016 and 2019. But one reason why Operation Sindoor stands out, and is now talk of the world's defence-military town, is India's effective use of its air defence systems.

THE NIGHT OF PRECISION

On the night of May 8-9, Pakistan launched coordinated strikes across northern and western India, deploying drones, cruise missiles, and ballistic missiles. India's air defence architecture sprang into action.

Rather than relying on a single system, India deployed a deeply integrated, four-layered shield combining Russian S-400s, Israeli Barak-8s, indigenous Akash and QRSAM missiles, and a suite of anti-aircraft guns and electronic warfare tools. Over two dozen drones, eight missiles, and possibly three Pakistani jets were neutralised, with no reported damage on Indian soil. The above graphic gives us a good peek into India's air defence shield.

WHY INDIA'S AIR DEFENCE MODEL WORKS

First, the focus on interoperability over isolation. Look at Akashteer's neural network which merged Indian Air Force and Army radar data into a single battlefield picture, enabling real-time prioritisation.



Similarly, hybrid tactics like kinetic strikes (missiles, guns) together with electronic warfare (jamming, spoofing) to disrupt Pakistan guidance systems paid dividends.

Second, cost-effective layering. India has modernised legacy systems with upgrades. For instance, upgrading 1960s Pechora systems with digital fire control extended their service life. This cost effectiveness is at the heart of the export

The World Wants it Too

- AKASH SYSTEM WAS exported to Armenia in a ₹6,000 crore deal
- THE PHILIPPINES HAS signed a \$375 million deal for supply of three BrahMos missile batteries
- INDIA IS ALSO SUPPLYING Pinaka rockets to Armenia

₹23,622 cr

was the value of India's defence exports in 2024-25

potential of India's defence systems too.

Contrast these with Pakistan which relies on Chinese HQ-9/P and LY-80 systems, which lack integration with legacy platforms. This also created gaps that India exploited.

THERE IS MORE COMING

India's upcoming Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) Programme, featuring Prithvi and Advanced Air Defence (AAD) interceptors,

aims to counter ICBM (Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile) threats, something experts point to China as posing towards its southern neighbour. Coupled with plans to export Akash and Akash-NG, India looks poised to redefine modern aerial security-proving that resilience lies not in isolated marvels, but in orchestrated layers.

India's approach is now a global case study, buttressing the point that modern air defence is not about buying the latest missile, but about integrating diverse technologies into a responsive, layered shield. As threats evolve—from drones to hypersonic missiles—India's model demonstrates that real security comes from interoperability, agility, and constant innovation.

India showed that its strength lay not in the mere possession of advanced systems, but in their seamless integration. The Akashteer command network—dubbed, "India's Iron Dome", fused radar data from the Air Force and Army, enabling real-time tracking and coordinated interception of every incoming threat. This synergy allowed Indian forces to neutralise over two dozen drones and multiple missiles, with no reported damage to Indian soil.

These lessons are not limited to India or South Asia. They are applicable globally, especially as air threats diversify.

KEY MISSILE SYSTEMS

INDIA'S MISSILE ARSENAL

FROM BATTLEFIELD DETERRENCE TO LONG-RANGE STRATEGIC REACH, INDIA'S MISSILE CAPABILITY SPANS A WIDE SPECTRUM

India intercepted Pakistan's Fatah-II missile — its tactical precision weapon whose range places it in the same class as India's Pralay. Yet, India's arsenal remains broader, offering a layered mix of cruise and ballistic missiles across short, medium, and long-range classes. Here's a look at key missiles in India's diversified missile ecosystem.



PINAKA MULTI-BARREL ROCKET LAUNCHER (MBRL)

TYPE: Artillery Rocket System

RANGE: Up to 75 km

ROLE: Saturation attacks on enemy positions

FEATURES: Quick, sustained firepower; now upgraded with precision-guidance systems



PRALAY SHORT-RANGE BALLISTIC MISSILE (SRBM)

RANGE: 150–500 km

ROLE: Tactical battlefield strikes

FEATURES: High-precision navigation, rapid deployment capability



BRAHMOS SUPERSONIC CRUISE MISSILE

RANGE: 290–450 km

SPEED: Up to Mach 3

ROLE: Multi-platform system—land, sea, and air-launched

FEATURES: Precision targeting with supersonic velocity



AGNI BALLISTIC MISSILE SERIES (AGNI-I TO AGNI-V)

RANGE: 700 km (Agni-I) to over 5,000 km (Agni-V)

ROLE: Nuclear-capable strategic deterrent

FEATURES: Various

propulsion stages and improved accuracy with newer versions



PRITHVI MISSILE SERIES PRITHVI-I AND II

RANGE: 7, 150 km and 350 km respectively

ROLE: Tactical strike systems

FEATURES: Short-range delivery, with conventional and nuclear capabilities



DHANUSH MISSILE

TYPE: Ship-launched ballistic missile

RANGE: Approx. 350 km

ROLE: Naval strike capabilities

LINEAGE: A naval variant

of the Prithvi series

AKASH SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE SYSTEM

RANGE: ~25–30 km

ROLE: Air defence against aircraft, drones, and cruise missiles





PAKISTAN
PAYS FOR
PAHALGAM
EVEN AFTER
CEASEFIRE

THE WAR IS OVER FOR NOW, but it isn't just the missiles and drones that have hurt Pakistan



WATER AND
BLOOD CAN'T FLOW
TOGETHER

India's suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty may have far-reaching consequences for Pakistan's people and economy. Pakistan, as the lower riparian country, depends on the Indus system for 80% of its farmland, sustaining 237 million people and driving a quarter of its GDP. The treaty's suspension allows India full control over western rivers

TRADE AND
TERROR DON'T
GO TOGETHER
AS WELL



India closed the Attari-Wagah border and suspended all bilateral trade with Pakistan, halting exports of goods such as onions and restricting imports like cement and textiles.

NO PEOPLE-
TO-PEOPLE
CONTACT

India also cancelled visa of all Pakistanis living in India and sent them back in the immediate aftermath of Pahalgam terrorist attack

SOFT
POWER
HURTS NO
LESS

India imposed a complete ban on Pakistani artistes, halting performances, screenings, music releases, and cultural collaborations. This ban extended to streaming platforms, cutting off Pakistan's cultural influence on India

India Soars to Akash, Exposing Chinks in Chinese Weaponry

AHEAD IN THE RACE In high-intensity warfare, Chinese air defence technology appeared ineffective. The below-par performance of Chinese equipment will have a bearing on strategic rivalry with India in the Indo-Pacific.

A Made in India Knock-out Punch

Operation Sindoor showcased India's homegrown defence industry, a stark contrast with Pakistan's almost complete dependence on Chinese and Turkish equipment.

BRAHMOS MISSILES

India's supersonic cruise missile made its debut in combat on May 10 when India targeted Pakistani airbases.

AKASH MISSILE SYSTEM

Developed by the DRDO and manufactured by Bharat Dynamics, Akash can engage four targets simultaneously at a range of 25 km.

SAMAR AIR DEFENCE

Developed by the IAF with Indian defence industries, the Samar is designed to counter low-flying threats, including unmanned aerial vehicles and drones.

D-4 – THE DRONE DESTROYER

A Drone Detect, Deter, Destroy (D4) system, it has the capability of disabling ordinary drones as well as unmanned combat aerial vehicles.



OPINION Sreemoy Talukdar

As the fog of war clears, the debate will inevitably shift to the proven underperformance of Chinese weapons systems. In the short yet high-intensity warfare, Chinese air defence technology appeared ineffective, unreliable and inferior. During Operation Sindoor, Indian projectiles and unmanned aerial vehicles invaded every part of Pakistan at will, cratering Pakistan's runways and China's credibility.

This raises significant concerns over China's reputation as an international arms supplier whose warplanes and weapons are the backbone of Pakistan's armed forces. The 'performance' of China's HQ-9 or HQ-16 SAM systems, which failed to detect, track and intercept multiple waves of Indian airstrikes, will be duly noted in the Global South where Beijing is pitting itself as a cost-effective competitor to traditional players such as the United States or Russia.

The below-par performance of Chinese equipment will also have a bearing on the broader strategic rivalry with India in the Indo-Pacific, with India's indigenous platforms such as Akash proving their worth during combat against Chinese and Turkish counterparts.

Through its loitering munitions such as kamikaze drones, India was easily able to neutralise Pakistan's air defence radars and systems, especially the HQ-9 SAM systems in Lahore. As New Delhi later stated in a release, the IAF "bypassed and jammed Pakistan's Chinese-supplied air defence systems, completing the mission in just 23 minutes, demonstrating India's technological edge".

New Delhi further pointed out that "Operation Sindoor also produced concrete evidence of hostile technologies neutralised by Indian systems: pieces of PL-15 missiles (of Chinese origin); Turkish-origin UAVs, named "Yiha"; long-range rockets, quadcopters and commercial drones... These were recovered and identified, showing that despite Pakistan's attempts to exploit advanced foreign-supplied weaponry, India's indigenous air defence and electronic

warfare networks remained superior."

India's indigenous capabilities married to seamless integration of air defence capabilities would draw global attention. In that respect, Operation Sindoor hasn't only been an emphatic and unambiguous military victory over Pakistan, laying down new strategic realities and red lines, but also a significant statement aimed at China. Beijing will head towards the drawing board.

These takeaways were not immediately apparent for the most part due to the industrial scale disinformation campaign launched by India's adversaries. What muddled the waters even more were the dubious roles played by China and the West that acted as force multipliers for Pakistan in its fake news campaign, even if driven entirely by different motivations. It has been fascinating to watch China manipulate the domain of information warfare during the conflict. While Beijing officially remained tight-lipped, it unleashed an army of bots to run a concerted anti-India campaign on American social media platforms, exploiting the openness of Indian democracy during an active combat situation.

REVENGE

It wasn't Just Pahalgam that Pakistan was Made to Pay For...

OPERATION SINDOOR WAS ALSO A RESPONSE TO THE DECADES OF TERRORISM UNLEASHED FROM PAKISTANI SOIL



PAID FOR PAHALGAM

Several Lashkar and Jaish operatives linked to attacks in J&K were neutralised. Among those were: Mudassar Khadian Khas of Lashkar-e-Taiba who managed operations at Markaz Taiba in Muridke, Hafiz Muhammed Jameel of Jaish-e-Mohammed who was related to Maulana Masood Azhar (eldest brother-in-law), Mohammad Yusuf Azhar of JeM and Masood Azhar's brother-in-law responsible for weapons training programmes, Khalid of LeT who orchestrated multiple terror operations in J&K and Mohammad Hassan Khan, the son of JeM's PoK commander Mufti Asghar Khan Kashmiri.



PATHANKOT AND PARLIAMENT ATTACKS

Abdul Rauf Asghar, brother of JeM chief Masood Azhar, who was linked to Pathankot terror attack and the Parliament terror attack was among those killed.



26/11 MUMBAI ATTACKS

Operation Sindoor took out terror camps used to train Ajmal Kasab, David Headley and others involved in the carnage.

IC-814 HIJACKING



Abdul Rauf Asghar played a central role in orchestrating the hijacking of the Indian Airlines flight to Kandahar.

India's New Normal on Terror

THE THREE PILLARS that PM Modi listed as India's new security doctrine



1 Decisive retaliation

Terrorist attacks on India will be met with strong and resolute responses, with India retaliating on its own terms, targeting terror hubs at their roots

2 No tolerance for nuclear blackmail

Any terrorist safe haven operating under this pretext will face precise and decisive strikes

3 No distinction between terror sponsors and terrorists

India will no longer differentiate between terrorist leaders and the nations sheltering them



THE FACT PRESENTERS

THE SIX INDIANS who briefed India, and the world, about what was really happening between India and Pakistan on the ground and in the air.



VIKRAM MISRI

India's foreign secretary since 15 July 2024, Misri is one of the most experienced hands in diplomacy. He served as ambassador to China during the Galwan crisis, was on the Pakistan desk at MEA and has been private secretary to three prime ministers – I K Gujral, Manmohan Singh and Narendra Modi

DID YOU MISS THE MESSAGE?

The choice of a Kashmiri (Misri) and two women officers of different faiths was not just symbolism. If Pahalgam terrorists thought they were sowing seeds of social discord, India's message was clear

COLONEL SOFIA QURESHI



An officer in Indian Army's Corps of Signals she comes with years of experience in peacekeeping roles. In 2016, she became the first woman officer to lead an Indian Army contingent at a multinational field training exercise

WING COMMANDER VYOMIKA SINGH

A helicopter pilot in the IAF, she has flown choppers like the Chetak and Cheetah in high-altitude and difficult regions such as Jammu and Kashmir and the Northeast. She has over 2,500 hours of flying experience

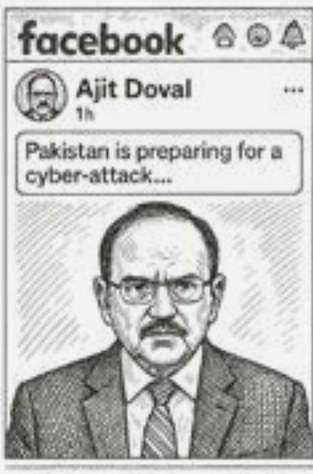
All That Rolled through Attari was Truckloads of Fake News

WHILE THE REAL WAR WENT ON ALONG THE BORDER, fake news became a battlefield too. Pakistan flooded social media with a string of misinformation. Sample these:



How do We Get Past India's S-400 Defence

Try social media. Several Pakistan-based handles circulated a 2023 picture of a fire at a military site in Moscow as one claiming that a Pakistani missile had hit an Indian S-400.



A Facebook Account for Mr Doval

National Security Adviser Ajit Doval is not on Facebook, but that didn't prevent Pakistani handles from issuing a "statement" from his "Facebook account" suggesting Pakistan is preparing for a cyber-attack.

A Fake Letter From an Army Chief who Isn't

A letter shared on social media claimed "Chief of the Army Staff Gen V.K. Narayan" sent a confidential letter about military readiness. The letter was obviously fake but the fake news makers even got the writer wrong - General Narayan is not the current COAS.



Kabul came to Jammu, Lebanon to India

That was only on social media when Pakistani social media handles shared pictures of the Kabul Airport blast in August 2021 as one at Jammu air force base. Another video of 2020 explosive attack in Beirut was used to claim Pakistan had 'launched a missile attack on India'.



A Flight Of Fancy In China

China Daily claimed three Indian jets had crashed in Kashmir. The image it used was from another incident in 2019.



An ATM of Lies

It was spreading on WhatsApp - ATMs will shut for two to three days due to a "cyber-attack by Pakistan". India didn't take note, and obviously, no ATMs went down.



When Virtual Became Pak's 'Reality'

Pakistan desperate to show it has 'attacked' India dug out a three-year-old video game and claimed a multiple-launch rocket system attack.



Farm Fire Became a Drone Attack

Videos of farm fires look dramatic. So, one conveniently became a plug for another lie - a drone attack on Jalandhar, only to be busted.



Why isn't Gujarat in the Dock?

A video circulating on social media with the claim that Hazira Port in Gujarat was attacked turned out to be of an oil tanker explosion of July 7, 2021.

FUGITATIUM VOLESCIAE IDIGNIMUS

Hmm, You were Right, We Lied!

HOW ISLAMABAD'S LOSSES ARE COMING OUT, ONE ADMISSION AT A TIME.

Pakistan appears to have begun acknowledging the losses it suffered during India's Operation Sindoor. Here's a sample:

'MUNIR CALLED UP AT 2.30AM'



Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has formally acknowledged that the Nur Khan airbase in Rawalpindi was struck during the night of May 9-10, when India hit multiple Pakistani airbases. Earlier, Pakistan had denied the extent of damage on its airbases.

"On the night of May 9 and May 10, at around 2.30 am, the Army chief called me from a secure line that India through its ballistic missiles had attacked us. One missile hit the Nur Khan airbase and some others have hit other areas," Sharif said.

"ONE OF OUR AWACS"

Retired Air Marshal Masood Akhtar, former chief of the Pakistan Air Force, said that Pakistan lost an AWACS aircraft during Indian missile strikes on the night of May 9 and 10.

"They (Indian armed forces) fired four back-to-back BrahMos missiles...the (Pakistani) pilots rushed to secure their aircraft, but the missiles kept on coming and, unfortunately, the fourth one hit the hangar at Bholari (airbase), where one of our AWACS was standing. It was damaged and casualties were also reported..." he said in an interview.

"ONLY ONE AIRCRAFT"



On May 11, Pakistan's military said that one of its aircraft had suffered "minor damage" in the clash with India. The admission came after India stated it had shot down several Pakistani aircraft while responding to Pakistan's escalation following Operation Sindoor.

Speaking at a press briefing with air force and navy officials, Pakistan Army spokesperson Lt Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry said "only one aircraft" had sustained "minor damage". He did not share further information about the type of aircraft.

"OUR SOLDIERS DIED"



On May 13, Pakistan confirmed that 11 of its military personnel were killed during its confrontation with India.

This was the first time Pakistan admitted to losing air force personnel during India's 'Operation Sindoor'.

The acknowledgement gave credence to the Indian Air Force's statement that it brought down a few planes of the PAF.