





# रोमांटिक और साहसिक गंतव्य : पहलगाम की यात्रा

जिस वक्त मैंने दिल्ली की धूल भरी सड़कों को अलविदा कहा, ठीक उसी वक्त मेरे मन में पल रहा एक सपना एकदम से हकीकत के करीब खड़ा दिखाई दिया। यह सपना था पहलगाम घूमने और इस जगह पर स्थित पर्यटन स्थलों को देखने का। लेकिन यह सपना इतने जल्दी हकीकत में बदल जाएगा, मुझे भी नहीं मालूम था। वह जगह कश्मीर की लिदर घाटी में बसी है, जहाँ हरे-भरे मैदान, बफीली चोटियाँ और लिदर नदी की मधुर ध्वनि एक जादुई दुनिया रचती हैं। यह यात्रा केवल एक पर्यटन स्थल की सैर नहीं थी, बल्कि यह प्रकृति, आध्यात्मिकता और मानवीय जज्बे की कहानी थी।

मेरी यात्रा सुबह की एक उड़ान से शुरू हुई। दिल्ली के हवाई अड्डे से श्रीनगर तक का 1.5 घंटे का सफर हिमालय के बफीले शिखरों की झलक के साथ बीता। श्रीनगर में उतरते ही ठंडी हवा ने मेरे चेहरे को छुआ और डल झील की चमक ने मेरे मन को तरोताजा कर दिया। यहाँ से मैंने एक टैक्सी किराए पर ली, जो मुझे पहलगाम तक ले गई। रास्ता हरे-भरे खेतों, छोटे गाँवों और लिदर नदी के समानांतर चलता था। हर मोड़ पर प्रकृति का एक नया रंग दिखता। कभी पेड़ों की छाँव, कभी पहाड़ों की ऊँचाई। पहलगाम पहुँचकर ऐसा लगा कि हम एक स्वर्गल दुनिया में आ गए हैं। मैंने लिदर नदी के किनारे एक कटिज में ठहरने का फैसला किया। रात में नदी की आवाज मेरे लिए लोरी बनी और सुबह सूरज की किरणों ने मुझे जगाया। पहलगाम की शांति ने मुझे पहले ही दिन इसका दीवाना बना दिया। मैंने नदी के किनारे टहलना शुरू किया, जहाँ पानी इतना साफ था कि तल में पत्थर चमकते दिखते थे। स्थानीय मछुआरे मुझे देखकर मुस्कुराए और उनकी गर्मजोशी ने मेरे मन को छू लिया। मैंने वाटर रफ्टिंग का मजा लिया। नदी का तेज बहाव और आसपास के पहाड़ों का नजारा मेरे लिए एक रोमांचक अनुभव था। शाम को मैंने नदी के किनारे पिकनिक मनाई, जहाँ कश्मीरी चाय और स्थानीय नमकीन ने मेरे दिन को और खास बना

## युगवकड़ की पाती



दिया। अगले दिन मैं बैसरन घाटी की ओर बढ़ा, जिसे मिनी स्विट्जरलैंड कहते हैं। 5-6 किमी की यह यात्रा घुड़सवारी के साथ और भी मजेदार थी। हरे-भरे मैदान, जंगली फूल और बफीली चोटियाँ, बैसरन एक परीकथा की तरह थी। मैंने यहाँ कुछ देर बैठकर प्रकृति की शांति को महसूस किया। एक स्थानीय नागरिक ने बताया कि पहलगाम का इतिहास प्राचीन काल से जुड़ा है। इसका नाम कश्मीरी भाषा में पुहेअल (चरवाहा) और गाम (गाँव) से आया, जिसका अर्थ है चरवाहों का गाँव होता है। कुछ मान्यताओं के अनुसार, इसे बैलगाम कहा जाता था, जो अमरनाथ गुफा की ओर जाने वाले नंदी से संबंधित है। प्राचीन काल में, यह चरवाहों और पशुपालकों का प्रमुख केंद्र था, जो गर्मियों में अपने मवेशियों को यहाँ की घासभूमियों में चराने लाते थे।

17वीं और 18वीं सदी में, कश्मीर पर मुगल शासकों का प्रभाव बढ़ा। मुगल बादशाह विशेष रूप से जहांगीर कश्मीर की प्राकृतिक सुंदरता के दीवाने थे। 19वीं सदी में ब्रिटिश शासन के दौरान, पहलगाम एक हिल स्टेशन के रूप में

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**संजय शेकड़**  
नई दिल्ली



SCAN ME

- हमें अपना फीडबैक, सुझाव या टिप्पणियाँ देने के लिए दिए गए बार कोड को स्कैन करें या मेल करें।
- आप हमें अपनी रचनाएं, कविता या आलेख भी भेज सकते हैं। जिसे हम अपने आने वाले अंक पर प्रकाशित करेंगे।

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उभरा। ब्रिटिश अधिकारी गर्मियों में यहाँ शीतलता और शिकार के लिए आते थे। 20वीं सदी में, अमरनाथ यात्रा ने पहलगाम को धार्मिक महत्व दिया। यह यात्रा का प्रमुख पड़ाव बन गया, जहाँ से श्रद्धालु 32 किमी की पैदल यात्रा शुरू करते हैं।

**बाँबी और बेटा की हुई थी शूटिंग**  
1950 के दशक से, भारतीय पर्यटकों और फिल्म निमाताओं ने पहलगाम की खोज की। बॉलीवुड फिल्मों जैसे बेटा और बाँबी ने इसके दृश्यों को लोकप्रिय बनाया। 2000 के दशक में पर्यटन



**बर्फ महोत्सव का अलग आकर्षण**

हालाँकि मैं गर्मियों में पहलगाम गया लेकिन स्थानीय लोगों ने मुझे बर्फ महोत्सव के बारे में बताया, जो जनवरी-फरवरी में होता है। स्कीइंग, स्लेजिंग और घुड़सवारी जैसे खेलों की तस्वीरें देखकर मैंने मन ही मन सपनों में लौटने का फैसला किया। यह महोत्सव पहलगाम को सर्दियों में जीवंत बनाता है। ट्रैकिंग के लिए पहलगाम एक स्वर्ग है। मैंने अरु घाटी और तुलियन झील तक की यात्रा की।


अरु की हरी-भरी वादियों और तुलियन झील का नीला पानी मेरे लिए अविस्मरणीय था। तुलियन तक का रास्ता चुनौतीपूर्ण था, लेकिन झील के किनारे की शांति ने सारी थकान मिटा दी। मैंने कोलाहोई ग्लेशियर की ओर भी एक छोटी ट्रैकिंग की जहाँ बर्फ और चट्टानों का मेल देखकर मैं दंग रह गया। घुड़सवारी और कैपिंग ने मेरे साहसिक अनुभव को और समृद्ध किया।

**फिल्म से पड़ा घाटी का नाम**

मैंने बताव घाटी भी देखी जिसे बॉलीवुड फिल्म बताव ने मशहूर किया। यहाँ के रंग-बिरंगे फूल और हरे मैदान किसी चित्र की तरह थे। ममलेश्वर मंदिर, 12वीं सदी का एक शांत स्थल, मेरे लिए आध्यात्मिक सुकून का ठिकाना बना। यहाँ की शांति और नदी की आवाज ने मेरे मन को शांत किया। पहलगाम की यात्रा के दौरान मैंने एक सामुदायिक सभा में देखा कि लोग संगीत, नृत्य और कश्मीरी खाने के साथ एक-दूसरे का हासला बढ़ा रहे थे। पहलगाम की यह यात्रा मेरे लिए एक सपने की तरह थी। लिदर नदी की मधुर ध्वनि, बैसरन की हरियाली, अमरनाथ यात्रा की आध्यात्मिकता और ट्रैकिंग

का रोमांच, सब कुछ मेरे साथ हमेशा रहेगा। लेकिन इस यात्रा ने मुझे यह भी सिखाया कि खूबसूरती के पीछे कितनी जटिलताएँ छिपी होती हैं। पहलगाम एक ऐसी जगह है, जो न केवल आपको प्रकृति के करीब लाती है, बल्कि आपको मानवीय संघर्ष और उम्मीद के बीच के तनाव को भी समझाती है। जब मैं वापस लौटा तो मेरे साथ पहलगाम की यादें थीं। उसके नजारे, उसके लोग और उनकी अदृढ़ उम्मीद। मैंने एक वादा किया कि मैं फिर लौटूंगा क्योंकि पहलगाम न केवल एक जगह है, बल्कि एक भावना है जो हर यात्री को अपने साथ जोड़ लेती है।

**कविता**



**नरेश अग्रवाल**  
जमशेदपुर

**नहीं देखा महात्मा गांधी जैसा**

मैंने हर शहर में महात्मा गांधी मार्ग देखा चित्र देखे, उन पर माल्यार्पण देखा नहीं देखा किसी को चरखा चलाते सूत कातते नहीं देखा वैसी ऐनक लगाकर छूत-अछूत को एक भाव से देखते	साबरमती आश्रम में रखी हुई सौ किताबों वाली इस रचनावली को चित्रों के साथ सजे हुए देखकर भारत का हर पथ महात्मा का बनाया नजर आता है कितना अच्छा साफ सुथरा मार्गदर्शन देने वाला
सभी जगह महात्मा थे कोर्ट परिसर से संसद तक बच्चे-बच्चे तक जानते थे उनके अधगंशे शरीर और सहारा देती लाठी को	असंख्य जिसके पीछे चल रहे निरंतर लाभाश्रित होते हुए
नहीं जाना किसी ने कैसे जीता था यह शरीर कितना काम लिया गया था इससे चलने का पांवों से लिखने का हाथों से बोलने का मुख से सोचने का दिमाग से	अनेक बुरे भी शामिल अपने पद-चिह्न बनाने के लिए महात्मा के पथ को मिटाने की कोशिश करते
	हर कोशिश के बावजूद महात्मा का पथ जिंदा है भले बदल कर नाम अंग्रेजी में एम. जी. रोड हुआ!

## त्यंग्य ■ बर्बरीक

मशहूर शायर जनाब निदा फाजली साहब का एक शेर है- 'कोशिश भी कर, उम्मीद भी रख, रास्ता भी चुन, फिर इसके बाद थोड़ा मुकदर तलाश कर'। मगर विज्ञापनों की दुनिया में तो हर काम तुरंत-फुरत होना चाहिए। 1. मसलन अगर आप टू जी, श्री जी और कॉमनवेल्थ खेल घोटालों से दुखी और परेशान हैं। आप चाह कर भी कुछ नहीं कर पा रहे हैं, तो बस रेगुलर टाटा की चाय पीयें, इससे आपके मुंह का स्वाद बदले या न बदले मगर देश जरूर बदल जाएगा। 2. 'रहिमन पानी राखिए, बिन पानी जग सून'। कविवर ने पानी की महत्ता उस युग में बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण बताई थी। भले ही पानी के मसले पर सिंधु जल समझौता तोड़ने पर भारत और पाकिस्तान युद्ध के मुहाने पर खड़े हों। मगर देश के अंदर आपकी प्यास को तभी कायदे से बुझा हुआ माना जाएगा, जब आप पानी की जगह कोका कोला या पेप्सी से अपनी प्यास बुझाएं। 3. आम तौर पर इस देश में सदियों से यह माना जाता है कि रगड़-रगड़ कर नहाने से लोग कम बीमार पड़ते हैं, लेकिन डेटॉल वाले यह गारंटी दिला देते हैं कि जिस घर में डेटॉल का प्रयोग होता है, वहां लोग कम बीमार पड़ते हैं। 4. वैसे तो हमारे देश में पुरुषार्थ और मर्दानगी के तमाम उच्च मानदंड माने जाते रहे हैं, मगर विज्ञापनों की दुनिया आपके एतबार पर सदेह पैदा करा देती है कि अगर आपने लक्स कोजी बिग शॉट बनियान नहीं पहनी है तो आपको मर्द कहलाने का हक कदाचित ही हो। 5. अमूमन कहीं ऊंचाई से जब कोई कूदता है, तो पैराशूट लेकर ही कूदता है, ताकि वह व्यक्ति सुरक्षित नीचे पहुंच सके। मगर, माउटेन ड्यू पीकर आप माउटेन (पर्वत) से कूद जाइए। इस कोलड्रिंक को बनाने वाली कंपनी वाले आश्वासन देते हैं कि आपको कुछ नहीं होगा 6. आम हिंदुस्तानी दिन रात अपनी रोजी-रोटी की जरूरतें पूरा करने में पिसा रहता है। तीज-त्योहार पर एक तोला सोना भी नहीं खरीद पाता। लेकिन, फिल्मस्टार सलमान खान के अनुसार अगर कोई बंदा महीने भर का व्हील डिटर्जेंट ले आए, तो कई किलो सोने का मालिक बन सकता है। फिर, उस बंदे को रोजी-रोटी का उद्यम



**दिलीप कुमार**

करने की कोई जरूरत नहीं पड़ेगी। 7. भारत में आम तौर पर युवक-युवतियां एक-दूसरे के गुण, सौंदर्य पर आकर्षित होकर विवाह करते हैं। मगर, फिल्मस्टार सैफ अली खान और अभिनेत्री करीना कपूर ने शादी जैसा महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय आपस में एक-दूसरे के सिर का ड्रैड्रफ देख कर किया था, एक सार्वजनिक इशतिहार में ऐसा उन दोनों को बताते देखा गया है। 8. आम तौर पर बाथरूम बेहद निजी स्थान माना जाता है। लोग बेडरूम जैसी जगह में तो साथ रह लेते हैं, मगर हर व्यक्ति बाथरूम अकेले ही जाता है। हर व्यक्ति बाथरूम में अपनी पूर्ण सुरक्षा और निजता सुनिश्चित भी करता है। परन्तु, विज्ञापन में यदि किसी को आपके टूथपेस्ट में नमक की उपस्थिति पता लगानी हो, तो वह बाथरूम का दरवाजा तोड़कर आपके टूथपेस्ट में नमक होने की तत्काल दरयापत कर सकता है। विज्ञापन वाले आपके बाथरूम का दरवाजा खोलकर बाहर आने का इंतजार नहीं कर सकते। 9. मोबाइल फोन मनुष्यों को एक-दूसरे से सम्पर्क एवं संवाद के लिए बनाए गए हैं, जो भारत की करीब-करीब पूरी आबादी प्रयोग करती है, अपनी सुविधा एवं हैसियत के अनुसार। लेकिन, टीवी पर आने वाला विज्ञापन स्पष्ट मेसेज देता है कि मानवों के लिये सैमसंग गैलैक्सी र3 फोन ही उचित है। बाकी फोन का प्रयोग करने से मनुष्य के दोबारा मानव से बंदर बन जाने की संभावना से इंकार नहीं किया जा सकता। अर्थात, सभ्यता के विकास की गाड़ी रिवर्स गियर में आ सकती है।

# 'इशतिहार-ए-इश्क'



10. आम भारतीय मां-बाप अपने लड़कों को बचपन से ही डराते रहते हैं कि पढ़-लिखकर किसी काबिल बन जा। नहीं तो, तुझे विवाह करने के लिये कहीं लड़की नहीं मिलेगी। मगर टीवी पर आने वाला कोलड्रिंक उन भारतीय माताओं-पिताओं की समस्या का निजात करने का दावा करता दिखता है। टीवी का विज्ञापन बताता है कि स्प्राइट नामक कोलड्रिंक लड़के में इतनी कार्बिलियत भर देगा कि वह किसी लड़की के योग्य बन सकता है और लड़की उस पर आकर्षित हो जाएगी। 11. अमिताभ बच्चन अपने ब्रॉग पर बताते रहते हैं कि वह पिछले तीन दशक से मोटे से परहेज कर रहे हैं, मगर फेडबरी डेयरी मिल्क का पैकेट हाथ में लिए अक्सर वह लोगों को उकसाते रहते हैं कि 'कुछ मोटा हो जाये'। 12. सरकारें अब इस बात की पहल कर रही हैं कि बिजली को लोगों का मौलिक अधिकार बना दिया जाए। क्योंकि, शहर हो या गांव, बिजली न होने पर हर जगह जन-जीवन ठप हो जाता है। लोग अपने घर की बिजली बचाने और बिजली के न कटने के लिए तरह-तरह के उपाय करते हैं, लेकिन यदि आप हैप्पीडेंट चबा रहे हों तो भले ही आपके घर की बिजली कट जाए। तो भी आप अपने घर

की बिजली से जुड़ी परेशानियों को भूले रहेंगे। हैप्पीडेंट चबाइए और बिजली का कनेक्शन कटवा लीजिए 13. भले ही आपके परिवार वाले आपके सुख-दुख की फिक्र कम करते हों। सात फेरे लेकर सात जन्म तक साथ निभाने वाला आपका जीवनसाथी आपकी फिक्र में कोई कोताही कर सकता है, मगर टीवी का विज्ञापन बताता है कि आपका इश्योर्स एजेंट आपकी फिक्र आपके माता-पिता और जीवनसाथी से भी ज्यादा करता है। 14. आपके पड़ोस में लगने वाली फलमंडी से ज्यादा पौष्टिक व शक्तिवर्धक फल आपके शैम्पू की शीशी में होते हैं, टीवी के विज्ञापन इसकी गारंटी लेते रहते हैं। 15. आप अपने ड्राइंगरूम को साफ-सुथरा और चमकदार रखें या न रखें, मगर अपने टॉयलेट को चमकमाता हुआ जरूर रखें। क्योंकि, पता नहीं कब अभिनेता अक्षय कुमार हार्पिक और कैमरा लेकर आपके टॉयलेट की सफाई का सजीव प्रसारण करना शुरू कर दें। यह भी संभव है कि भविष्य में कोई सिनेमा का सुपरस्टार आपके घर पधारे तो सबसे ड्राइंगरूम में बैठने की बजाय आपके बाथरूम की सैर पहले करना चाहें।

16. पढ़ाई-लिखाई और विद्या के निरंतर अभ्यास करने वाले व्यक्ति समाज और मोहल्ले में बुद्धिमान माने जाते हैं। लेकिन, अगर आप औसत बुद्धि के व्यक्ति हैं और अल्प शिक्षित हैं और चाहते हैं कि आपका मोहल्ला आपको बुद्धिमान समझे। तो बस अपना घर एशियन पेंट से रंगवा लीजिए। कंपनी का विज्ञापन बताता है कि ऐसा करने पर आप मोहल्ले में सबसे ज्यादा बुद्धिमान माने जाएंगे। 17. बेटे को अगर रामानुजम जैसा तेज दिमाग और महेंद्र सिंह धोनी जैसा शांत दिमाग का बनाना है तो कुछ खास करने की जरूरत नहीं है। बच्चा अगर बर्बरीक पीता है तो कभी भी मंदबुद्धि नहीं होगा। टीवी के इशतिहार अब इश्क जैसे दिलफेब और छलिया हो चले हैं। उस्ताद शायर बशीर बद्र साहब ने अपनी एक नज्म में फरमाया है झ 'मुझे इशतिहार सी लगती हैं ये मोहब्बतों की कहानियाँ, जो कहा नहीं वो सुना करो, जो सुना नहीं, वो कहा करो'। यकीन जानिए साहिबान, इश्क और इशतिहार,दोनों के प्रभाव से बचना नामुमकिन है।



## मजदूर नहीं, मालिक बनकर राज्य के किसान करें काम : शिल्पी नेहा तिकरिया

हैं। इन पुरस्कारों का उद्देश्य आरपीएफ के जवानों की मेहनत और समर्पण को मान्यता देना है, जो भारतीय रेलवे की सुरक्षा और यात्रियों की भलाई के लिए निरंतर प्रयासरत रहते हैं। रेलवे सुरक्षा बल के महानिदेशक ने इन जवानों की बहादुरी और समर्पण की सराहना करते हुए कहा कि उनका योगदान रेलवे सुरक्षा के क्षेत्र में मील का पथर साबित होगा। यह पुरस्कार समारोह भारतीय रेलवे की सुरक्षा में आरपीएफ के महत्वपूर्ण योगदान को उजागर करता है और अन्य जवानों को भी प्रेरित करता है कि वे अपनी जिम्मेदारियों को और भी बेहतर तरीके से निभाएं। इन जवानों की बहादुरी और समर्पण भारतीय रेलवे की सुरक्षा को और मजबूत बनाएंगे और यात्रियों के लिए सुरक्षित यात्रा सुनिश्चित करेंगे।











# मां धरती पर विधाता की प्रतिनिधि यानी देवतुल्य है



ललित गर्ग

मदर्स डे, उन उल्लेखनीय महिलाओं का सम्मान करने का एक हार्दिक उत्सव है जो हमारे जीवन को प्यार, ज्ञान और असीम शक्ति से भर देती हैं। माँ का प्यार किसी भी ताजे फूल से अधिक सुंदर है। एक माँ की खुशी एक प्रकाश स्तंभ की तरह होती है, एक प्रकाशगृह यानी लाइट हाउस, जो भविष्य को रोशन करती है लेकिन प्यारी यादों के रूप में अतीत पर भी प्रतिबिंबित होती है।

'मदर्स डे' या मातृ दिवस एक ऐसा महत्वपूर्ण एवं संवेदनात्मक दिन है जो हमें अपनी माताओं के प्यार और बलिदान के लिए धन्यवाद देने और उन्हें सम्मान देने का अवसर देता है। जननी के प्रति कृतज्ञता ज्ञापन का तथा मातृशक्ति की अभिवंदना का यह एक स्वर्णिम अवसर है। माँ की महिमा को उजागर करने का ऐतिहासिक दिन है। सेवा और समर्पण की साक्षात् प्रतिमूर्ति मातृ-शक्ति ने केवल अपनी संतान को ही नहीं, बल्कि समाज और राष्ट्र को सृजनात्मक एवं रचनात्मक दिशाएँ दी हैं। अपने त्याग और बलिदान से परिवार, समाज और राष्ट्र की अस्मिता को बचाने का हर संभव प्रयत्न किया है। यहाँ तक कि परिवार संस्था की आधारभित्ति भी मातृ-शक्ति के इर्द-गिर्द ही टिकी हुई है। माँ एक चलता-फिरता चमत्कार है। माँ के प्रभाव से अधिक शक्तिशाली कोई प्रभाव नहीं है। मातृ दिवस मनाने की अनेक विचारधाराएँ एवं मान्यताएँ हैं। विश्व के विभिन्न भागों में यह अलग-अलग दिन मनाया जाता है। मदर्स डे का इतिहास करीब 400 वर्ष पुराना है। प्राचीन ग्रीक और रोमन इतिहास में मदर्स डे मनाने का उल्लेख है। 16वीं सदी में इंग्लैण्ड का ईसाई समुदाय ईशु की माँ मरमेरी को सम्मानित करने के लिए यह त्योहार मनाने लगा। इस दिवस को आधिकारिक बनाने का निर्णय पूर्व अमरीकी राष्ट्रपति वूड्रो विलसन ने 8 मई, 1914 को लिया। कुछ लोगों का मानना है कि मदर्स डे कि शुरुआत एक अमेरिकन एंक्टिविस्ट एना जार्विस से होती है। एना जार्विस को अपनी माँ से खास लगाव था। माँ के गुजर जाने के बाद एना ने माँ से प्यार जताने के लिए मदर्स डे की शुरुआत की। तब से हर साल मई माह के दूसरे रविवार को मदर्स डे मनाया जाता है। माँ का प्रेम अपनी संतान के लिए इतना गहरा और अटूट होता है कि माँ अपने बच्चे की खुशी के लिए सारी दुनिया से लड़ लेती है। एक माँ का हमारे जीवन में बहुत बड़ा महत्व है, एक माँ के बिना ये दुनिया अधूरी है। मदर्स डे सामान्य रूप से माताओं, मातृत्व और मातृ संबंधों को मान्यता देता है, साथ ही उनके परिवारों और समाज में उनके सकारात्मक योगदान को भी दर्शाता है।

मदर्स डे, उन उल्लेखनीय महिलाओं का सम्मान करने का एक हार्दिक उत्सव है जो हमारे जीवन को प्यार, ज्ञान और असीम शक्ति से भर देती हैं। माँ का प्यार किसी भी ताजे फूल से अधिक सुंदर है। एक माँ की खुशी एक प्रकाश स्तंभ की तरह होती है, एक प्रकाशगृह यानी लाइट हाउस, जो भविष्य को रोशन करती है लेकिन प्यारी यादों के रूप



में अतीत पर भी प्रतिबिंबित होती है। एक माँ शक्ति और गरिमा से सुसज्जित होती है, भविष्य के बारे में बिना किसी डर के हँसती है। प्रख्यात वैज्ञानिक और भारत के पूर्व राष्ट्रपति डॉ.ए.पी.जे. अब्दुल कलाम ने कहा है कि जब मैं पैदा हुआ, इस दुनिया में आया, वो मेरे जीवन का एकमात्र ऐसा दिन था जब मैं रो रहा था और मेरी माँ के चेहरे पर एक सन्तोषजनक मुस्कान थी।' एक माँ हमारी भावनाओं के साथ कितनी खूबी से जुड़ी होती है, ये समझाने के लिए उपरोक्त पंक्तियाँ अपने आप में सम्पूर्ण हैं। मां का त्याग, बलिदान, ममत्व एवं समर्पण अपनी संतान के लिये इतना विराट है कि पूरी जिंदगी भी समर्पित कर दी जाए तो मां के ऋण से उच्छ्रण नहीं हुआ जा सकता है। मां के साथ बिताये दिन सभी के मन में आजीवन सुखद व मधुर स्मृति के रूप में सुरक्षित रहते हैं। इसीलिये एच. डब्ल्यू. बीचर ने कहा कि मां का हृदय बच्चे की पाठशाला है।' भारतीय संस्कृति में मां का स्थान सर्वोपरि माना गया है। मां को देवतुल्य माना गया है। इसीलिये 'मातृ देवो भव।' यह सूक्त भारतीय संस्कृति का परिचय-पत्र है। ऋषि-महर्षियों की तपः पूत साधना से अभिसिंचित इस धरती के जर्ज-जर्ज में गुरु, अतिथि आदि की तरह माँ भी देवरूप में प्रतिष्ठित रही हैं। महर्षि वाल्मीकी की यह पंक्ति- 'जननी जन्मभूमिश्च स्वर्गादपि गरीयसी' जन-जग के मुख से उच्चारित है। प्रांभः से ही यहाँ 'मातृशक्ति' की पूजा होती आई है। वैदिक परंपरा

दुर्गा, सरस्वती, लक्ष्मी के रूप में, बौद्ध अनुयायी चिरंतन शक्ति प्रज्ञा के रूप में और जैन धर्म में श्रुतदेवी और शासनदेवी के रूप में माँ की आराधना होती है। लोक मान्यता के अनुसार मातृ वंदना से व्यक्ति को आयु, यश, स्वर्ग, कीर्ति, पुण्य, बल, लक्ष्मी पशुधन, सुख, धन-धान्य आदि प्राप्त होता है। ऐसा कहा जाता है कि भगवान हर किसी के साथ नहीं रह सकता इसलिए उसने माँ को बनाया। एक माँ हमारे जीवन की हर छोटी बड़ी जरूरतों का ध्यान रखने वाली और उन्हें पूरा करने वाली देवदूत होती है। कहने को वह ईसान होती है, लेकिन भगवान से कम नहीं होती। वह ही मन्दिर है, वह ही पूजा है और वह ही तीर्थ है। तभी ई. लोगोव ने कहा है कि इस धरती पर मां ही ऐसी देवी है जिसका कोई नास्तिक नहीं। यही कारण है कि समूची दुनिया में मां से बढ़कर कोई ईंसानी रिश्ता नहीं है। वह सम्पूर्ण गुणों से युक्त है, गंभीरता में समुद्र और धैर्य में हिमालय के समान हैं। उसका आशीर्वाद वरदान है। जरा कभी मां के पास बैठो, उसकी सुनो, उसको देखो, उसकी बात मानो। उसका आशीर्वाद लेकर, उसके दर्शन करके निकलो। फिर देखो, जो चाहोगे मिलेगा- सुख, शांति, शोहरत और कामयाबी। ध्यान रहे, मां का दिल दुखाने का मतलब ईश्वर का अपमान है। संसार महान् व्यक्तियों के बिना रह सकता है, लेकिन मां के बिना रहना एक अभिशाप की तरह है। इसलिये संसार मां का महिमामंडन करता है,

## संपादकीय

### जंग की भाषा

भारत द्वारा पाकिस्तान के आतंकी ठिकानों पर की गई कार्रवाई से झुंझलाए पाक ने ड्रेन, मिसाइलों और लड़ाकू विमानों से पलटवा दिया। जम्मू-कश्मीर, पंजाब और राजस्थान के नागरिक इलाकों समेत सैन्य ठिकानों पर हमले करने के दुश्मन के प्रयासों का भारतीय सेना ने मुहंतीड़ जवाब दिया। उनकी सभी मिसाइलें और ड्रेन मार गिराए। चीन निर्मित एफ17 और अमेरिकन निर्मित एफ16 जैसे विमानों को भी मार गिराया। रक्षा मंत्रालय के अनुसार, लाहौर में एयर डिफेंस सिस्टम को नष्ट करने की भी जानकारी है। इन ड्रेनों का मलबा विभिन्न स्थानों से बरामद किया जा रहा है। हालांकि ऑपरेशन सिंदूर शुरू करते हुए भारत ने स्पष्ट किया था कि वह पाक के सैन्य प्रतिष्ठानों को निशाना तभी बनाएगा जब वह जवाबी कार्रवाई के लिए उकसाएगा। जम्मू-कश्मीर के पुंछ, कुपवाड़ा, बारामूला, उरी और राजौरी में मोर्टार तथा भारी तोपों का प्रयोग किया गया। इनमें ड्रेन से पटानकोट, अमृतसर, कपूरथला, जालंधर, लुधियाना, बठिंडा, भुज आदि स्थानों पर हमला करने की कोशिशें भी शामिल हैं। हालांकि उसने इससे साफ इंकार करते हुए कहा कि



पाकिस्तान हमला करेगा तो सब को पता चलेगा परंतु उसका आरोप है कि लाहौर, गुजरावाला, रावलपिंडी, मिरांवाली और कराची में घुसपैट के प्रयास करने वाले ड्रेन्स को उन्होंने तबाह किया है। भारत का दावा है कि स्थिति बिगाड़ने का काम पाकिस्तान ने किया है, इसलिए तनाव को कम करने की जिम्मेदारी भी उसी की है। इस दरम्यान अमेरिका ने कहा है कि दोनों देशों को एक-दूसरे पर हमले बंद करने चाहिए। उसने तनाव कम करने के प्रयासों में शामिल होने की बात भी कही है पर युद्ध में शामिल होने से स्पष्ट इंकार किया है। बहरहाल, पाकिस्तान आंतरिक कलह से भी कम नहीं जुझ रहा है। जंग और हिंसा किसी समस्या का समाधान नहीं हो सकता। जंग की भाषा सिर्फ मारकाट, मौतें और विध्वंस ही होती है। इससे देशों की अर्थव्यवस्था तो ढुलमुलाती ही है, आम नागरिकों की बिला-वजह मौत भी हो जाती है। गोलाबारी के चलते सीमावर्ती इलाकों के रहवासियों को अपना सब कुछ छोड़-छाड़ कर आनन-फानन भागना पड़ा, सो अलग। बेहतर हो कि दोनों मुक्त कूटनीतिक तौर पर सहमति बनाते हुए आतंकवाद से लड़ने की रणनीति बनाएं जिससे समूची दुनिया वास्तव में लड़ने को राजी है। आतंकवादियों को दिया गया प्रश्रय कभी सार्थक नहीं हो सकता।

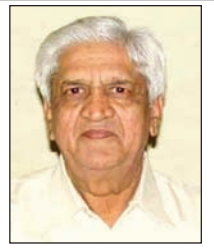
#### चिंतन-मनन

### वर्तमान में जिएं

मुनि ने सेठ की पुत्रवधू से पूछा, श्वसुरजी कहाँ हैं? उसने कहा, जूते की दुकान पर गए हैं। श्वसुर उस समय आराधना-कक्ष में आराधना कर रहा था। उसने सुना, वह तत्काल आया और बोला, महाराज! मेरी पुत्रवधू ने असत्य कहा है। मैं आराधना कर रहा था। इसने जानते हुए भी असत्य कहा है।

मुनि ने सेठ से कुछेक प्रश्न पूछे। पूछते-पूछते एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में सेठ ने कहा, धर्म की आराधना तो चल रही थी, किन्तु एक बात मन में चक्कर लगा रही थी कि आराधना पूरी होते ही मैं दुकान पर जाकर जूते खरीदूंगा। जूते फट गए हैं, अच्छा नहीं लगता। कब आराधना पूरी हो और कब मैं जूते वाले के यहाँ जाऊँ। इसी विचार से आराधना पूरी कर अब बाहर आया हूँ।

मुनि बोले, सेठजी! तुम्हारी पुत्रवधू ने सत्य ही तो कहा था। तुम्हारा शरीर आराधना-कक्ष में था, पर चित्त जूते की दुकान के चक्कर लगा रहा था। बिना चित्त के आराधना कैसी? प्रत्येक आदमी की आज यही दशा है। उसका चित्त किसी और दिशा में जा रहा है और शरीर किसी भिन्न दिशा में है। हमारा शरीर स्नायविक क्रिया के आधार पर काम करता है। कोई व्यक्ति जब पहले दिन सीढ़ियों पर चढ़ता है, तब सावधानी से पैर रखता है। दस-बीस बार उन सीढ़ियों पर चढ़ चुकने के बाद पैर अभ्यस्त हो जाते हैं। इसी प्रकार हमारे शारीरिक स्नायुओं को अभ्यास हो जाता है, फिर काम के साथ चित्त को जोड़ना नहीं पड़ता। काम यंत्रवत् पूरा हो जाता है। हमें पता ही नहीं चलता। एक सफल सूत्र है-वर्तमान में जीना।



ओमप्रकाश मेहता

ऑपरेशन सिंदूर के माध्यम से भारतीय सेना ने एक बार फिर अपने सटीक और संयमित प्रहार से यह सिद्ध किया कि शौर्य केवल रणभूमि की चीख नहीं अपितु विवेक और चेतन्य मूल्यबोध की गर्जना भी हो सकता है, यह ऑपरेशन किसी जाति, धर्म या भू-भाग के विरुद्ध नहीं था, यह उस षष्ठ्याचार के विरुद्ध था जो जेहाद के नाम पर मासूमियत का गला घोटता है। भारतीय सेना की दूरदर्शिता, संवेदन शीलता तथा साहस स्तुत्य है, यह केवल बंदूक की जीत नहीं यह उस मर्यादा की जीत थी जो युद्ध के क्षण में भी मानव सीमाओं का उल्लंघन नहीं करता। भारत का गौरव बढ़ाने वाले इस परिध्व के लिए भारतीय सेना की जितनी भी तरीफ की जाए, वह कम है। इस ऐतिहासिक कार्यवाही की नाँव में प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र भाई मोदी की दूरदर्शिता और नेतृत्व क्षमता स्पष्ट झलकती है, उनके दृढ़निश्चय और दृष्टिकोण ने सेना को मनोबल और राजनीतिक सम्बल प्रदान किया, जिसके चलते इस प्रकार का राजनीतिक कस्म संभव हो सका। यह सिद्ध करता है कि जब निर्णय लेने वाला निष्ठावान हो तो राष्ट्र स्वयं की सुरक्षित महसूस करता है। भारत ने यह सिद्ध किया है कि उसे पाकिस्तान की जनता से कोई नाराजी या विरोध नहीं है बल्कि विकृत राजनीति और चरमपंथी



ललित गर्ग

महेंद्र सिंह धोनी के बाद देश के दूसरे सफलतम कप्तान रोहित शर्मा ने एकाएक टेस्ट क्रिकेट से संन्यास लेकर सभी को चौंका दिया है। चयनकर्ता रोहित शर्मा से बातचीत करने के दौरान बता चुके थे कि वह किसी युवा को कप्तान बनाना चाहते हैं, इसलिए बहुत संभव है कि उन्होंने इस संबंध में विचार किया हो। पर भारतीय कप्तान की गुत्थी इतनी आसानी से सुलझने वाली नहीं है। इसकी वजह कप्तान बनाने समय ध्यान रखना होगा कि जून में शुरू होने वाले इंग्लैंड दौरे की टेस्ट सीरीज से ही अगली विश्व टेस्ट चैंपियनशिप की साइकिल शुरू होने वाली है। वैसे भी इंग्लैंड का दौरा खासा कठिन होता रहा है।

रोहित ने पिछले कुछ दिनों में इस तरह के बयान दिए थे कि वह इंग्लैंड दौरे के पहले दो टेस्ट खेलने के बाद अपने टेस्ट कैरियर को लेकर कोई फैसला करने के इच्छुक हैं। पर अजित अगरकर की अगुआई वाली चयन समिति रोहित के पिछली दो सीरीजों में ऑस्ट्रेलिया और न्यूजीलैंड के हाथों हारने के साथ



सोच से है, जिसने इस भू-भाग को अपने ही रक्त से सींच दिया है। यह भी सिद्ध हो गया है कि जब तक पाकिस्तान की सरकारों सेना या धार्मिक कठपुतलियों के लिए खिलौना बनी रहेगी, जब तक वहाँ स्थायित्व व शांति की कोई संभावना नहीं नजर नहीं आती इस घटना के संदर्भ में सारी दुनिया ने यह महसूस किया है कि भारत एक जिम्मेदार और स्वाभिमानी राष्ट्र है, रक्षामंत्री राजनाथ सिंह का यह कथन कि' हमने उन्हीं को मारा जिन्होंने हमें मारा' यह केवल सरकार की एक प्रतिक्रिया नहीं बल्कि भारत के बदलते रणनीतिक दृष्टिकोण की प्रविध्वनि है, ह्यऑपरेशन सिंदूरह के माध्यम से भारत ने एक बार फिर स्पष्ट कर दिया है कि अब देश न सिर्फ आतंकवाद या मुकाबला करेगा,

बल्कि उसे जड़ से उखाड़ने के लिए सीमा पार तक जाकर ठोस कार्यवाही करेगा। वैसे यहाँ यह भी उल्लेखनीय है कि यह ह्वायर स्ट्राइकह्व भारत में आए निर्णायक अंतर को भी दर्शाती है, जहाँ पहले की सरकारें रणनीतिक धैर्य की नीति पर चलती थी, वहीं अब की नीति 'स्ट्रेटेजिक रिस्पांस' की है और वह भी बिना बेगुनाहों को नुकसान पहुंचाए। 'ऑपरेशन सिंदूर' केवल एक सैन्य कार्यवाही नहीं है, यह एक कूटनीतिक संदेश भी है भारत न सिर्फ अब युद्ध झेलेगा बल्कि जवाब भी देगा और वह भी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मानदंडों का पालन करते हुए। भारत की अब तक की यह मूल धारणा रही है कि पूरा विश्व बिना किसी भेद-भाव के शांति से जिये, और

पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री पं. जवाहरलाल नेहरू के मूल सिद्धांत 'जीयों और जीने दो' का ईमानदारी से पालन करें, किंतु किया क्या जाए, भारत के पड़ोसी चीन व पाकिस्तान जैसे देश अब तक इस संदेश के मर्म को समझ नीह पाए और अपनी आक्रामक विध्वंसकारी कब्जा करें की नीति पर चल रहे हैं, भारत आखिर अब इन्हें समझाए तो कैसे? कुल मिलाकर हमारा देश पिछले कई दशकों से पूरे विश्व को युद्ध, महावीर और गांधी जी का 'शांति' का संदेश देता आया है, अब यह देशों की बुद्धिमत्ता पर निर्भर है कि वे इसे किस अंश तक स्वीकार कर इसका अनुसरण करते हैं?

## क्रिकेट: रोहित की जगह कप्तान कौन

उनके बेहद लचर प्रदर्शन के बाद उनके नेतृत्व में टीम भेजने को तैयार नहीं थी। इस मामले में उसके बीसीसीआई से भी विचार नहीं मिलते थे क्योंकि बीसीसीआई रोहित को कप्तान बनाए रखने की पक्षधर थी। चयनकर्ता रोहित को बिना कप्तान बनाए दौरे पर भेजना चाहते थे लेकिन रोहित संन्यास की घोषणा कर देंगे, इसका अंदाजा उन्हें भी नहीं था। पर रोहित ने सोचा होगा कि पिछली दो सीरीजों में प्रदर्शन को देखते हुए कप्तान न रहने पर टीम में उनकी जगह बनती ही नहीं है, इस कारण उन्हें टेस्ट कैरियर पर विराम लगाने का फैसला कर लिया। सवाल यह है कि इस दौरे के लिए चयन समिति किसके कंधों पर कप्तानी की जिम्मेदारी देगी। मुख्यतः: दो खिलाड़ी हैं, जिन्हें कप्तानी का दावेदार माना जा रहा है। इन चार नामों में शुभमन गिल, ऋषभ पंत, जसप्रीत बुमराह और केएल राहुल हैं पर इनमें सबसे आगे शुभमन का नाम माना जा रहा है। इसकी एक वजह तो यह है कि चयन समिति किसी युवा को यह जिम्मेदारी सौंपना चाहती हैइह्व इस पर गिल 25 साल के होने से एकदम से खरे उतरते हैं। यह सही है कि उन्हें अभी टेस्ट ही नहीं वनडे में भी कप्तानी करने का अनुभव नहीं है। पर वह भारतीय टी-20 टीम की कप्तानी कर चुके हैं। वह आजकल आईपीएल में गुजरात टाइटंस की अच्छी कप्तानी कर रहे हैं। भारतीय टीम के मौजूदा कोच गौतम गंभीर भी किसी युवा को कप्तानी सौंपने के पक्षधर हैं। ऐसा वह इसलिए सोचते हैं कि विश्व टेस्ट चैंपियनशिप की तीन साल की नई साइकिल में एक ही कप्तान रहे, यह सोच भी गिल को आगे करती है। केएल राहुल भी कप्तानी के प्रमुख दावेदार माने जा रहे

थे। पर उन्होंने पिछले दिनों दिल्ली केपिटल्स की कप्तानी करने में दिलचस्पी नहीं दिखाई, इससे लगता है कि वह अपने प्रदर्शन को प्रभावित होने से बचाने के लिए कप्तानी का भार नहीं उठाना चाहते हैं। वहीं जसप्रीत बुमराह पिछले कुछ समय से टेस्ट टीम में रोहित के उपकप्तान रहे हैं। वह तीन टेस्ट में कप्तानी करके इसमें से एक को जीत भी चुके हैं। लेकिन उनके कार्यभार को ध्यान में रखते हुए, लगातार पांच टेस्ट में शायद खिलाया भी न जाए। ऐसी सूरत में उन्हें कप्तान बनाना न्यायोचित नहीं होगा। ऋषभ पंत भी एक समय कप्तान बनने के प्रमुख दावेदार रहे हैं पर इस सत्र में उनका बल्ला रूठा हुआ है और कप्तानी भी रंग जमाती नहीं दिख रही है। वैसे वह टीम के लिए अहम हैं, इसलिए उन पर कप्तानी का दवाब शायद ही डाला जाए। रोहित से आईपीएल कमेंट्री के दौरान एक साक्षात्कार में पूछा गया कि किस युवा को कप्तानी की जिम्मेदारी सौंपनी चाहिए। उनका कहना था कि टेस्ट टीम की कप्तानी करना खासा मह'वपूर्ण होता है। इसे अपने प्रदर्शनों से हासिल किया जाए तो बेहतर होगा। यह किसी को सौंपी नहीं जानी चाहिए। इस पर भी शुभमन ही सबसे ज्यादा खरे उतरते हैं। इसकी वजह गुजरात टाइटंस की कप्तानी करने के दौरान गेंदबाजों का अच्छा इस्तेमाल कर रहे हैं और उनका बल्लेबाजी प्रदर्शन भी निखार पर है। पर आईपीएल टीम की कप्तानी करना और टेस्ट टीम की कप्तानी करने में खासा फर्क है। वैसे भी टाइटंस के फैसलों में कप्तान से ज्यादा कोच आशीष नेहरा सक्रिय नजर आते हैं। वैसे भी हर अच्छा खिलाड़ी अच्छा कप्तान नहीं



होताइह्व यह बात सचिन तेंडुलकर की कप्तानी से साबित हो चुकी है। शुभमन को कप्तान बनाने का फैसला बैकफायर भी कर सकता है। भारत में क्रिकेटरों का दर्जा हीरोज वाला रहता है पर क्रिकेटरों को विदाई टेस्ट के साथ विदा नहीं किया जा पा रहा है। यह अच्छी परंपरा नहीं है। रोहित को इंग्लैंड में एक टेस्ट खेल कर विदा लेने के लिए मनाया जाता तो बेहतर होता पर लगता है कि कप्तान नहीं बनाए जाने के फैसले से आहत होने की वजह से उन्होंने संन्यास की घोषणा कर दी। यह खिलाड़ियों और प्रबंधकों में संपर्क की कमी का मामला ज्यादा लगता है। वैसे बीसीसीआई को तमाम उपलब्धियाँ दिलाने वाले क्रिकेटरों को सम्मान के साथ विदा करने की कोई नीति बनानी चाहिए।



## Role of air power in crossing the Rubicon again

India's armed forces have upped the ante against Pakistan a day after Operation Sindoor was launched. An air defence system in Lahore has been neutralised. India has targeted air defence radars and systems at a number of locations in Pakistan.It is clear that there will be no let-up in India's measured but strong military response to the Pahalgam massacre.The Pakistani media are conceding that Indian drones fell on Lahore, Attock, Gujranwala, Chakwal, Rawalpindi and Bahawalpur in Punjab province, as well as on Sukkur's Miano, Umerkot's Chhor and near Karachi in Sindh.eace in India has never been easy, having to live with Pakistan, a neighbour born out of bitterness and an unfulfilled Kashmir aspiration. It is these very aspects which continue to be fostered and leveraged by Pakistan's duplicitous, self-serving military leadership to remain in power.Having lost all its wars and failed to wrest Kashmir, the use of terror as a strategic instrument of statecraft has been a deliberate choice employed against India for years. Pakistan's cultivated terror groups have taken many innocent Indian civilian lives in the past attacks, but a line was crossed in the targeted Pahalgam killings that uncannily echoed the vitriolic words of its Islamist military chief.India's enormous patience has been bitterly tested periodically, forcing punitive responses in Uri and Balakot, to drive home the lesson that terror will come at a cost.The strong, well-deliberated, multi-pronged military response, which has been initiated in concert with all elements of comprehensive national power, underscores India's rise towards great power and the acceptance that it will often come at a cost. Its integrated and escalated controlled kinetic action has for the first time struck deep into the heartland of Pakistan, the home of its power brokers.

The deliberate, selective and simultaneous targeting of nine terror hubs at depths ranging up to 100 km, once again displayed the enormous maturity and restraint in India's response strategy -- we believe that civilian lives matter.This controlled punitive escalation sends three clear signals — that India will continue to punish acts of terror; that punishment will encompass all instruments of India's growing comprehensive national power and the scale of the punishment will keep increasing in a calibrated manner.Whether the punishment will spill over into Pakistan's military and the nation as a whole, lies entirely in the hands of its elitist dysfunctional military and political leadership, as India has no intention of making Pakistan's deprived citizens pay the price. But this time around, the messaging is loud and clear: no more terror, period. The large coordinated strike is just the beginning of what is evidently a strategy reset with a long-term approach in India's response matrix.India's scale of the calm and collected military response has certainly created panic and disarray in Pakistan, triggering a predictable litany of rhetoric and false narratives in a desperate effort to save face.Predictable also will be the follow-on deliberate show of outrage, riding on threats of being forced into raising the nuclear ante, orchestrated to garner international pressure to get a "belligerent India" to back down from decimating an "innocent Pakistan". Even as the Pakistani establishment plays on international concerns of a potential “nuclear flashpoint.”

Unfortunately for Pakistan, having continued to pursue the use of terror, it is no longer able to generate sympathy and support for being an unwitting victim.The world has changed and moved on as India's true friends are showing firm support and the rest, concerned with a nuclear escalation and not wanting to pick sides, urge restraint from both sides. Even China, interestingly, has simply expressed concern and urged the return to peace in the neighborhood. For the moment it hasn't come out in open support of Pakistan, its all-weather ally.India's strategy reset has several unique facets. After having crossed the Rubicon in 2019 when it used offensive air power in conditions of no-war-no-peace to strike the Jaish-e-Mohammed training camp in Balakot, air strikes against terror have evidently become a significant part of the operational repertoire of the Indian Air Force as well as a kinetic response option of the nation.

## How political power is shaping National Herald narrative

In an age where ‘gossip is gospel’, must the accused be condemned in the public sphere before a definitive judicial finding of guilt?

THE charge-sheeting of the Gandhis and others by the Enforcement Directorate in the National Herald case for alleged money-laundering and criminal misappropriation of public property has invited countrywide protests by the Congress and its sympathisers. They see the criminal case as one without a basis in fact or in law and a brazen act of political vendetta. The protest by the principal Opposition party has elicited a counter-response by the ruling dispensation.Speaking through its former Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad at a special press conference, the BJP alleged that the accused had misappropriated public property through devious devices and were now seeking to intimidate the ED.The former minister, embarking upon an elaboration of the prosecution's case on the basis of selective leaks, was recently reported by the media as querying: "If public property worth thousands of crores is misappropriated, then why are you protesting and calling it vendetta?" The BJP spokesperson is also reported to have said that no one had a "license to loot." Another Cabinet minister in office has reportedly asserted: "It is an open and shut case of fraud, corruption and money laundering."Clearly, the accused have been condemned through the media, without trial and even without an opportunity of being heard at the time of cognisance of the chargesheet, which was fixed for May 8. The Special Judge trying the case has since held that "the right to be heard at any stage of the proceedings breathes life into a fair trial."Therefore, the usurpation of judicial function by the government's spokespersons to conclude at the inception of the trial itself that the accused had misappropriated property worth thousands of crores offends against the first principles of liberal democracy and constitutional justice.

Such assertions by senior representatives of the government against political adversaries facing criminal charges have fuelled an unrelenting trial of the accused in the print, electronic and social media, which could interfere with the course of justice in several ways.

peated claims by the BJP of cheating, fraud, misappropriation and money laundering by the accused, when the trial is at its initial stage, could create a hostile

public perception against them and influence the judgement of those charged with conducting a judicial trial.Extensive discussion in the media of selective parts from the prosecution complaint, of which judicial cognisance is yet to be taken and for which the case was adjourned to May 8, can cause presumptive prejudice to the accused, which is proscribed in several judgements of the highest court (Sahara, 2013 and Manu Sharma, 2010, etc). In Manu Sharma, the Supreme Court declared that the "presumption of innocence of an accused is a legal presumption and should not be destroyed at the very threshold through the process of media trial." And, the



Constitution Bench in Sahara has ruled that "the presumption of open justice has to be balanced with the presumption of innocence which is now recognised as a human right."The accusatory tone and tenor of senior members of the ruling party in their media interactions concerning the case impairs the fundamental right of the accused to fair trial and presumed innocence, apart from violating their sacrosanct right to reputation, privacy and dignity.Restraint in condemning leaders of political parties without a judicial finding of criminal culpability would ensure that political parties, the life blood of

democracy, and their leaders are not discredited without a trial in accordance with law (Article 21). This would afford minimal protection to all political parties against the retributive inclinations of those in power and enhance the quality of democratic engagement.Lest our democracy is wasted and weakened from within and the nation's founding ideals allowed to wither, the National Herald case should be a test of the republic's adherence to the ideal of equal justice for all. This case will test the inviolability of procedural justice, integrity of the judicial process and the constitutional promise of justice through fair trial,as against trial by accusation.

Indeed, media trials, especially in criminal cases, can adversely impact the liberty and freedom of individuals, a result that signals the "soulful requiem to liberty", as Justice DY Chandrachud reminded us in his eloquent dissent in the Bhima-Koregaon case.

The National Herald case raises several questions of seminal importance. In an age where "gossip is gospel", must the accused be condemned in the public sphere before a definitive judicial finding of guilt? Can unrestrained public conversations with media in cases of unproven criminal culpability of individuals be allowed to violate their right to justice and dignity? Should the principles of legal due process for discovery of truth in criminal trials be compromised to win the political battle of perception, in a trade-off between political expediency and the constitutional principle? What is the recourse, if any, for those who are punished by the oppressive processes of our criminal justice system and the endless trials that crush the accused even before the pronouncement of guilt?These questions must stay alive in the consciousness of the nation and spur us to civilise ourselves in the use of power.

Only then can we redeem the constitutional promise of a just society in which justice is not at the sufferance of the powers that be.The qualitative distinction of the democratic way is the taming of power to the community's sense of fairness and justice. The sanctity of legal processes depends likewise in ensuring that the rigours of law do not result in the mortality of justice.

Because events shape and define the future, the National Herald case will hopefully be an opportunity to reaffirm the nation's commitment to the rule of law and to draw the boundaries of partisan politics.

## Strikes to strategy

National resolve amidst rising tensions



misinformation campaigns. Lending equal weight to the day was Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's detailed briefing to an all-party meeting, where he confirmed the neutralisation of at least 100 terrorists. The Opposition, notably the Congress and the AIMIM,

displayed commendable maturity, putting aside political divisions to rally behind the national interest. This rare moment of bipartisan consensus sends a strong message to both domestic and international audiences: when India's sovereignty is challenged, its political fabric holds firm.However, the larger picture remains fraught. With India stating that it has no intent to escalate but is fully prepared to retaliate, strategic restraint must continue to be balanced with credible deterrence. The emphasis must now shift from tactical victories to strategic stability. In the days ahead, civilian protection, diplomatic messaging and internal security will demand unwavering focus. India must continue briefing global partners and maintain transparency with its citizens, without compromising operational security. Even as Operation Sindoor continues, the unified political posture and institutional alertness offer a template for democratic resilience in the face of external threats.

## Red alert for Pak on the terror front

Operation Sindoor has signalled key shifts in India's strategy for dealing with the neighbour

ON the night of May 6-7, India launched Operation Sindoor, comprising a series of military strikes against terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan. Nine terror camps were hit, which included five in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and four in the Punjab province. Among the most significant targets were Muridke and Bahawalpur.Muridke, about 40 km from Lahore, is the headquarters of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and its front organisation, Jamaat-ud-Dawa. The Resistance Front (TRF), which initially claimed responsibility for the Pahalgam massacre, is known to be affiliated with the LeT. Bahawalpur is home to the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), which operates from the Jamia Masjid Subhan Allah complex, also known as the Usman-o-Ali campus.

Operation Sindoor is significantly larger in scale and scope than the cross-border strikes in 2016 and 2019. The message that it sends out is also far more powerful and unequivocal. And in this message, there are some key shifts in India's future strategy for dealing with Pakistan.First, major terror attacks will meet with a punitive response. Since the limited strikes of 2016 and 2019 failed to deter Pakistan from using terrorism as an instrument of state policy, greater pain must be felt by those who are directly controlling the terrorist movement. If the Pakistani military is unwilling to rein in the terrorist leadership, then India will do so using the military instrument.India has long adopted a posture of strategic restraint. However, the shifting security environment, particularly after the gruesome Pahalgam attack, has triggered a recalibration. Targeting deeper locations like Bahawalpur and Muridke indicates that India no longer considers mere retaliation sufficient. The new approach seeks to alter cost-benefit

calculations for those orchestrating terrorism from across the border.At the government briefing after Operation Sindoor, a montage of past terror attacks (from the 2001 Parliament attack to Mumbai 2008, Uri 2016, Pulwama 2019 and the Pahalgam attack) was shown to underscore the toll of cross-border terror, after which the message “...No More” flashed. The presentation may have appeared dramatic, but it underlined India's resolve that it would no longer tolerate terrorism emanating from Pakistani soil.Second, there are two choices in front of the Pakistan Army. It must either dismantle the entrenched military-jihad complex it has long nurtured, or risk plunging the country into a ruinous conflict with India, one that could push Pakistan deeper into instability and peril.For decades, the Pakistan Army has treated jihadi groups as strategic assets, using them to bleed India while maintaining plausible deniability. With Operation Sindoor, India is making it clear that there is no distinction between the state and the proxies it sponsors. This blurring of lines is deliberate. By hitting targets in Punjab, India signals that safe havens are no longer immune, regardless of their political sensitivity.In his briefing to the press, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said India's “actions were measured, non-escalatory, proportionate, and responsible. They focused on dismantling the terrorist infrastructure and disabling terrorists likely to be sent across to India.” This was a subtle message to Pakistan that the escalation could be controlled if it restrains from any military retaliation, and in the long run, puts a check on terrorist activities. Whether the Pakistan Army heeds this message is uncertain.

Third, India is clear that space exists for a limited

conventional conflict below the nuclear threshold. Pakistan flashes its nuclear card at the very first opportunity whenever there is an India-Pakistan crisis. Minister Hanif Abbasi has stated that if India were to halt water supply to Pakistan by suspending the Indus Waters Treaty, Islamabad would be prepared to strike with nuclear weapons. Muhammad Khalid Jamali, Pakistan's Ambassador



to Russia, made a similar threat.India no longer sees itself as constrained by Pakistan's nuclear blackmail. It has gradually moved up the ladder in the use of conventional forces to target terror infrastructure in Pakistan. Operation Sindoor, with its strikes in the Punjab heartland, has set a new standard in the employment of airpower, once considered highly escalatory, in responding to terror attacks.Fourth, the clamour from some international quarters for providing direct evidence linking Pakistan to terror attacks in India has run its course. India has been the victim of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism for decades and is on firm

ground when it states that the fountainhead of terrorism lies in that country. The problem is not the foot soldiers who execute the attack, but the terrorist and army leadership in Pakistan that nurtures terrorism.The demand for irrefutable proof ignores the nature of proxy warfare. Terror outfits are designed precisely to offer deniability. The consistency of terror attacks in India, the identity of the perpetrators, their training grounds, ideological narratives and sources of funding all point to an ecosystem that cannot function without state patronage.Fifth, there is also a message for the international community. There is a level of frustration in India over the inability of global institutions like the United Nations to hold Pakistan accountable for its support to terrorism. Pakistan's Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar admitted in the National Assembly that he had worked hard to get the reference to the terror group TRF removed from the final text of the UN Security Council resolution condemning the Pahalgam attack.

While international opinion and diplomatic support are important, they are not key factors when deciding on India's options to respond to Pakistan's terrorism. Platitudes that seek to equate both countries and call on them to exercise restraint, irrespective of the nature of the provocation, will be ignored by India.Operation Sindoor sets new doctrinal benchmarks: that terror infrastructure will be struck; that nuclear deterrence will not shield proxy actors; that the global community's moral ambivalence will not override India's sovereign choices; and that the Pakistan Army must reckon with the consequences of its long-standing compact with jihadist groups.



# Businesses in border region brace for tough times ahead

## Govt to allocate satellite spectrum for five years; to charge AGR at 4%

**New Delhi.** The government will administratively allocate spectrum to satellite communication providers such as Starlink, Eutelsat Oneweb, and Jio Satellite Communications for five years, which can be extended for another two years.

According to the recommendation made by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on Friday, the companies will be charged 4% adjusted gross revenue (AGR) for both non-geostationary satellite orbit (NGSO) and geostationary satellite orbit (GSO) based fixed-satellite service (FSS) and mobile satellite service (MSS). The regulatory body released recommendations on "Terms and Conditions for the Assignment of Spectrum for Certain Satellite-Based Commercial Communication Services" to the Department of Telecommunication (DoT). "Satcom services, once available, can play a vital role in taking connectivity to underserved areas where telecom networks are not available. They also play a critical role in disasters, in rescue and relief operations," said TRAI Chairman Anil Kumar Lahoti. Lahoti also said satellite communication services are complementary to terrestrial networks. There is no ground for competition between the players. "There is no comparison on competition; these are complementary services," added Lahoti. Currently, India has two players: Bharti-backed Eutelsat Oneweb and Jio Satellite Communication, which have been granted a Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) licence to operate in India. The DoT issued a letter of intent to Elon Musk-led Starlink on Tuesday, and now the company needs to submit all the required documents within next 21 days, including the licence fee and approval from the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe), the space regulator.

According to the recommendation, the TRAI has proposed that both GSO and NGSO-based FSS operators will be required to pay 4% AGR, with a minimum annual charge of ₹3,500 per MHz spectrum block. Additionally, operators offering services in urban areas would have to shell out ₹500 per subscriber annually.

## IT firms allow WFH option amid India-Pakistan conflict

**BENGALURU.** In light of the ongoing conflict between India and Pakistan, several global tech services firms, including major Indian IT companies, have allowed employees to work from home (WFH), particularly in northern regions.

While no IT company officially commented on any advisory sent to staff, sources familiar with the matter said, "All IT services companies are flexible when it comes to the WFH option, and in a situation like this, employees can work from home, especially those in Delhi, Gurugram, Noida and other northern regions." A source from the country's largest IT services firm noted that companies prefer not to cause panic among employees by issuing formal advisories, as the option to work from home is already available. "They don't want to panic employees by sending advisory asking employees to WFH as they have an option to do so, if required," the source said.

On Friday, HCLTech officially declared WFH for its offices in Chandigarh, Gurugram and Noida.

Deloitte India, meanwhile, has advised employees currently on assignment in border states affected by the conflict to return to their base locations at the earliest. "All non-essential domestic and international travel has been postponed. An all-India command centre hotline has been set up to support colleagues," said a source from Deloitte India.

## India—Pakistan tensions escalate. What's next for Dalal Street investors

**New Delhi.** Despite the escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, Dalal Street has managed to hold its ground, with investors staying calm even as geopolitical risks loom large. While the Sensex and Nifty ended over 1% lower in the previous session, experts suggest that the decline was far less than what could have been expected in such a volatile environment. They also agree that while the situation remains fluid, the underlying market sentiment is still supported by strong economic fundamentals. Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, pointed to sustained foreign institutional inflows and record GST collections in April as key factors buoying investor confidence. A sharp escalation in India-Pakistan tensions has not dampened the domestic market sentiment," he said, highlighting how the market has remained resilient despite the volatility.

### STRONG FII SUPPORT

Foreign investor sentiment has also been supported by a weaker US dollar, stable crude oil prices, and optimism around the India-UK Free Trade Agreement. Sectors such as textiles, automobiles, and IT have been key beneficiaries of this optimism.

On the global front, however, the outlook remains mixed. Nair adds that while the US Federal Reserve has expressed concerns over heightened tariffs exacerbating inflationary pressures, market sentiment has improved with encouraging signals from both the US and China about potential trade talks. Optimism surrounding a US-UK trade deal has also helped maintain a positive tone across global markets. Still, the escalating geopolitical tensions between India and Pakistan remain a key overhang. "Markets will closely monitor macroeconomic indicators, particularly CPI and WPI inflation data," Nair notes, adding that the consensus points to a softening of inflationary pressures in the coming months. The market largely expects the current geopolitical flare-up to subside, with India's military and diplomatic strength seen as crucial in stabilising the region.

## Sectors such as automobiles, travel & tourism, retail and real estate fear severe repercussions if hostilities between the two countries intensify further

**New Delhi.** Escalation in tensions between India and Pakistan over the past three days has begun to hamper businesses in border regions. Industry executives and experts interviewed by TNIE reported a fall in customer inquiries and footfall, as consumers prioritise spending on essential goods. Sectors ranging from automobiles, travel & tourism, and retail to real estate fear severe repercussions if hostilities between the two countries

intensify further.

"If the current conflict broadens, residential absorption in Delhi-NCR and other parts of north India may see a short-term dip of between 5–10%. Luxury housing buyers tend to delay purchases in periods of uncertainty. Demand for mid-income housing will be the first to recover once normalcy is restored," said Prashant Thakur, regional director & head – research, ANAROCK Group. A realty developer who has a strong presence in Punjab said enquiry level for their listed properties has come down to 70–80% in the past three days as there is a fear among consumers that the two countries may go to war. "In case of war, we will have difficulty in completing projects as this would result in shortage of labourers and make raw materials dearer," he said, requesting anonymity. Tensions have peaked in the region after Pakistan's missile strikes targeting several Indian cities. The missiles were intercepted by

Indian air defence units, but the escalation triggered blackouts in border towns and heightened fears of a full-scale war. Tours & travel sector, which took a hit from attack in Pahalgalam last month and subsequent closure of Pakistan



airspace, is expecting additional hurdles in the near future. Operations remain suspended till May 15 at many airports, including major hubs like Leh, Chandigarh, Amritsar, and Jodhpur. This has resulted in cancellation of about 430 flights alone on Friday. Rikant Pittie, CEO and co-founder, EaseMyTrip, said traveller sentiment remains cautious,

with concerns around safety and uncertainty. "Several airlines have cut or suspended operations, leading to a rise in cancellations and rescheduling across travel services," added Pittie. Karan Agarwal, director at Cox & Kings, said they have paused all new travel offerings to Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, and Turkey. "We advise Indian travellers to avoid any non-essential travel to these destinations until there is greater clarity and alignment in broader geopolitical environment," added Agarwal. An aviation industry executive said the four leading airlines are losing millions of dollars daily due to cancellations and closure of Pakistan airspace. "We are hopeful that the government will acknowledge the losses and provide support when situation eases," added the executive. Air India recently told the government that it is expecting \$600 million in additional costs if Pakistan airspace ban lasts for a year.

## Dixon to manufacture Alcatel smartphones in India

**New Delhi.** Dixon Technologies' wholly-owned subsidiary, Padget Electronics, has signed a Contract Manufacturing Agreement with NxtCell India to produce smartphones for the Alcatel brand under the 'Make in India' initiative.

"We are delighted to announce that Padget Electronics has entered into a Contract Manufacturing Agreement with NxtCell India to manufacture smartphones for the iconic brand Alcatel. This strategic association with NxtCell India will further strengthen our manufacturing excellence and execution capabilities," said Atul B Lall, vice chairman & managing director of Dixon Technologies (India) Limited. Dixon Technologies is India's largest home-grown, design-focused electronics manufacturer, catering to the consumer durables, lighting, and mobile phone segments. The company has been actively expanding its partnerships. On April 30, 2025, Dixon announced a joint venture with Taiwanese IT hardware major Inventec to form Dixon IT Devices Private Limited (60% Dixon, 40% Inventec), focused on manufacturing notebook and desktop PCs, servers, and



components.

Also in April, Dixon entered a 50:50 joint venture with lighting company Signify (formerly Philips Lighting) to manufacture LED bulbs, downlights, spots, and battens. In 2024, Padget Electronics began manufacturing HP laptops, desktops, and all-in-one PCs at its facility in Tamil Nadu.

### Stock Performance

As of May 10, 2025, Dixon Technologies' share price stood at ₹15,190, reflecting a 2.79% decline from the previous close. Over the past week, the stock has experienced a downward trend, influenced by broader market volatility and geopolitical tensions in the region. However, over the past one year, Dixon Technologies' shares have gained over 81% backed by strong financial performance. In the first 9-month of FY25, the company posted a 120% growth in revenue to Rs 28,600 crore, and 155% growth in net profit to Rs 696 crore.

**CHENNAI.** Investor wealth eroded by over ₹7 lakh crore over the past few sessions, as escalating geopolitical tensions between India and Pakistan triggered sharp volatility in Indian equity markets. Between May 2 and May 9, 2025, the markets witnessed heightened uncertainty, with geopolitical risks dominating investor sentiment.

### Market Performance Overview:

The week began with relative stability in the markets on May 2, and it saw even a modest uptick, with the BSE Sensex rising by 0.13% to 80,746.78, and ICICI Bank's stock gaining 0.26% to close at ₹1,435.35. However, the situation deteriorated sharply the next day. On May 8, India launched "Operation Sindoor," targeting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan-administered

Kashmir. In retaliation, Pakistan launched drone and missile strikes across several Indian cities, including Amritsar. The Indian military successfully intercepted these attacks using the S-400 missile system. As the situation turned worse, the markets reacted negatively to the heightened tensions on May 9. The Nifty 50 index fell by 1.18% to 23,983.3, and the BSE Sensex dropped 1.12% to 79,443.08. Small- and mid-cap indices declined by 1.8% and 1.2%, respectively. Volatility surged, with the VIX reaching its highest level in over a month, indicating increased investor fear.

### Sectoral Impact:

Defence Stocks: Companies like Bharat Electronics and Hindustan Aeronautics saw gains of 3.4% and 2.1%, respectively, due to increased defense

**NEW DELHI.** Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), India's largest oil refinery company, on Friday assured the public that it has adequate fuel stocks across the country and that all operational systems are functioning smoothly.

In an official statement released via social media, the company emphasised that there is no cause for concern, as petrol and diesel are readily available at all retail outlets.

"IndianOil has ample fuel stocks across the country and our supply lines are operating smoothly. There is no need for panic buying—fuel and LPG is readily available at all our outlets. Help us serve you better by staying calm and avoiding unnecessary rush. This will keep our supply lines running seamlessly and ensure uninterrupted fuel access for all," said the marketing



Sindoor,' a coordinated missile strike targeting terrorist infrastructure at nine locations in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

Panic buying was particularly evident

## In an official statement released via social media, the company emphasised that there is no cause for concern, as petrol and diesel are readily available at all retail outlets.

on Wednesday in several parts of Punjab, where residents, especially those in border areas, rushed to stock up on fuel and essential supplies. Many petrol pump owner border areas said that fuel sales had nearly tripled due to heightened public anxiety.

As of May 2025, IndianOil has an extensive network of over 37,500 fuel stations spread across India. This makes it the company with the highest number of petrol pumps in the country.

# US, China trade talks begin: A test for the power of Donald Trump's tariff hammer

## Any tariff war between the two of the biggest economies of the world can roil the global markets as the past few weeks have amply demonstrated. The competition to raise tariffs began with Trump slapping a 10% levy on Chinese imports in February and then quickly ramping it up.

**Washington.** The way President Donald Trump sees it, beating China in a trade war should be easy. After all, his logic goes, the Chinese sell Americans three times as much stuff as Americans sell them. Therefore, they have more to lose. Inflict enough pain, like the combined 145% taxes he slapped on Chinese imports last month, and they'll beg for mercy. Trump's treasury secretary, Scott Bessent has confidently compared

Beijing to a card player stuck with a losing hand. "They're playing with a pair of twos," he said. Somebody forgot to tell China. So far, the Chinese have refused to fold under the pressure of Trump's massive tariffs. Instead, they have retaliated with triple-digit tariffs of their own. "All bullies are just paper tigers," the Chinese Foreign Ministry declared in a video last week. "Kneeling only invites more bullying." The stakes are high between the world's two biggest economies whose trade topped \$660 billion last year. Bessent and Trump's top trade negotiator, Jamieson Greer, are heading to Geneva this weekend for initial trade talks with top Chinese officials. Trump suggested Friday that the U.S. could lower its tariffs on China, saying in a Truth Social post that "80% Tariff seems right! Up to Scott.? While businesses and investors welcome any easing of tensions, the prospects for a quick and significant breakthrough appear dim." These are talks about talks, and China may be coming to assess what's on the table—or even just to buy time," said Craig Singleton, senior China fellow at the Washington-based think tank Foundation for Defense of

Democracies. "There's no shared roadmap or clear pathway to de-escalation." But if the two countries eventually agree to scale back the massive taxes — tariffs — they have slapped on each other's goods, it would relieve world financial markets and companies on both sides of the Pacific Ocean that depend on US-China trade. "The companies involved in this trade on both sides just cannot afford waiting anymore," said economist John Gong of the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing. In a worst-case scenario, China could walk away from the negotiations if it feels the US side isn't treating China as an equal or isn't willing to take the first step to deescalate, Gong said. "I think if (Bessent) doesn't go into this negotiation with this kind of mindset, this could be very difficult," he said. For now, the two countries can't even agree on who requested the talks. "The meeting is being held at the request of the U.S. side," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian said Wednesday. Trump disagreed. "They ought to go back and study their files," he said. Trump's faith in tariffs meet economic reality What

seems clear is that Trump's favorite economic weapon — import taxes, or tariffs — has not proved as mighty as he'd hoped. For Trump, what's happened here is that the rhetoric of his campaign has finally had to face economic reality," said Jeff Moon, a trade official in the Obama administration who now runs the China Moon Strategies consultancy. "The idea that he was going to bring China to its knees in terms of tariffs was never going to work." Trump views tariffs an all-purpose economic tool that can raise money for the US Treasury, protect American industries, lure factories to the United States and pressure other countries to bend to his will, even on issues such as immigration and drug trafficking. e used tariffs in his first term and has been even more aggressive and unpredictable about imposing them in his second. He's slapped a 10% tariff on almost every country in the world, blowing up the rules that had governed global trade for decades. But it's his trade war with China that has really put markets and businesses on edge. It started in February when he announced a 10% levy on Chinese imports.



# Drones launched, a radar destroyed: How India responded to Pak's May 8 attack

Wing Commander Vyomika Singh said that in response to the Pakistani attack, India launched armed drones at four air defence sites in Pakistan and one of the drones was able to destroy an AD radar.

New Delhi. In response to Pakistan's drone and missile attack on Thursday, May 8, India launched armed drones at four air defence sites in Pakistan, the government said on Friday. In its latest press briefing over the unprovoked and failed attack by Pakistan, India said that the swarm of drones launched from Pakistan were intercepted. "In response to the Pakistani attack, armed drones were launched at four air defence sites in Pakistan. One drone was able to destroy an air defence radar," Wing Commander Vyomika Singh said on Friday. The Pakistan Army also suffered major losses in Indian retaliatory fire, Singh said.

Talking about the May 8 attack, the government said that Pakistan carried out artillery shelling across the line of control using heavy-calibre artillery guns and armed drones at Uri, Poonch, Mendhar,

Rajouri, Akhnoor and Udhampur. While a forensic investigation of the wreckage of the Pakistani drones is currently underway,



initial reports suggest that they are likely Turkish Asisguard Songar drones. "Around 300 to 400 drones were used to attempt infiltration at 36 locations. The Indian armed

forces shot down many of these drones using kinetic and non-kinetic means. The possible purpose of such large-scale aerial intrusions was to test air defence systems and collect intelligence. Forensic investigation of the wreckage of the drones is being done. Initial reports suggest that they are Turkish Asisguard Songar drones..." the Wing Commander added.

She also said that later, an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) of Pakistan attempted to target the Bathinda military station, which was detected and neutralised by the armed forces.

While talking about the possible reason behind the unprovoked attack by Pakistan last night, Singh emphasised that "the possible reasons for large area intrusions were to test the AD system and gather intelligence." Notably, Pakistan's bombardment of artillery fire, drone and missile attacks came a day after India conducted precision strikes at terror hideouts in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) under Operation Sindoor.

## India-Pakistan War: Pakistani Fighter Jets Shot Down in J&K, Pilots Yet To Be Located



New Delhi: India has reportedly shot down Pakistan's fighter jets between Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla-Budgam-Srinagar areas amid escalation between India and Pakistan. Search operations are underway to locate the pilots. Debris of a drone have also been found in a field at Muglani Kot village in Punjab's Amritsar district.

Meanwhile, surface-to-air missile systems have been activated in Srinagar by armed forces, ANI reported quoting sources. Heavy engagement is going on with Pakistan over Srinagar and adjoining areas. The sources told the news agency that at least four airbases in Pakistan have been targeted by Indian strikes. In an immediate response to Pakistan's attack on 26 Indian locations on May 10, India launched retaliatory strikes. Smoke was seen rising after a loud explosion in the Dibber area of J&K's Udhampur. Houses and property were damaged in the Rajouri region following a continuous series of explosions. Loud explosions were heard in Rajouri and Akhnoor as well. Earlier in its statement, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) said, "Drones have been sighted at 26 locations along the International Border (IB) and the Line of Control (LoC) with Pakistan. These include suspected armed drones. The locations include Baramulla, Srinagar, Avantipora, Nagrota, Jammu, Ferozpur, Pathankot, Fazilka, Lalgarh Jatta, Jaisalmer, Barmer, Bhuj, Kuarbet and Lakhi Nala."

The MoD expressed regret for launching an armed drone, which targeted a civilian area in Ferozpur. The mishap resulted in injuries to members of a local family. The injured have been provided medical assistance and the area has been sanitised by security forces.

The Indian armed forces are maintaining a high state of alert and tracking aerial threats. They are also using counter-drone systems. "The situation is under close and constant watch and prompt action is being taken wherever necessary. Citizens, especially in border areas, are advised to remain indoors, limit unnecessary movement and strictly follow safety instructions issued by local authorities. While there is no need for panic, heightened vigilance and precaution are essential," said the ministry in its statement.

Four Pakistani Airbases Targeted Meanwhile, India has targets at least four airbases in Pakistan in the early hours of May 10, sources told ANI. India launched the retaliatory strikes immediately after Pakistan attacked 26 locations across India.

Intermittent firing is still going on at several places along the LoC. In Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur, smoke was seen rising after a loud explosion in the Dibber area. In the Rajouri region, houses and other property were damaged after a series of explosions. Loud blasts were also heard in Rajouri and Akhnoor.

Meanwhile, in Punjab, a drone-related explosion damaged a house in Kanganiwal village in rural Jalandhar. Surjeet Kaur, a local resident, described the moment of the attack, "A red coloured flash came above our house and there was a huge explosion. We got scared. Everything was dark. We came out of our houses after a short while and saw that the water tank above our houses and our neighbours' houses had exploded. There was a blackout at that time, and all the lights were off."

On May 9, a day after Indian air defences foiled an attempt by Pakistan to target civilian infrastructure along the LoC and the IB, Pakistani drones were again spotted in the Jammu, Samba and Pathankot sectors. On the night of May 7-8, Indian forces also successfully neutralised Pakistan's large-scale drone and missile attack aimed at several Indian military bases in northern and western parts of the country.

## 32 airports shut till May 14 as India-Pak tensions escalate

New Delhi. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has issued a series of Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs) announcing the temporary suspension of all civil flight operations at 32 airports across northern and western India. The closure will remain in effect from May 9 to May 14, 2025. The affected airports include: Adampur, Ambala, Amritsar, Avantipur, Bathinda, Bhuj, Bikaner, Chandigarh, Halwara, Hindon, Jaisalmer, Jammu, Jamnagar, Jodhpur, Kandla, Kangra (Gaggal), Keshod, Kishangarh, Kullu Manali (Bhuntar), Leh, Ludhiana, Mundra, Naliya, Pathankot, Patiala, Porbandar, Rajkot (Hirasar), Sarsawa, Shimla, Srinagar, Thoise, and Uttarlai. "All civil flight activities at these airports will remain suspended during this period," said the NOTAM.

On May 8, the airport authority closed the 24 airports and later extended the closure till May 15 in the wake of the India-Pakistan escalation. The NOTAM comes in the wake of escalating tensions in the region. It follows India's precision strike targeting reported terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, which led to retaliatory drone and missile attacks by Pakistan targeting areas in Jammu, Punjab, and Rajasthan. Although Indian defence systems successfully intercepted and neutralised the threats, aviation security has been significantly heightened.

Earlier, several airlines cancelled their flights to the affected locations. Air India confirmed flight cancellations to and from Jammu, Srinagar, Leh, Jodhpur, Amritsar, Chandigarh, Bhuj, Jamnagar, and Rajkot, offering impacted passengers either a full refund or a one-time rescheduling waiver. IndiGo also cancelled services to multiple cities covered under the NOTAM and has provided online links for customers to check flight status, rebook, or apply for refunds.

## What India said on Jaish group's link to US journalist's Karachi killing in 2002

New Delhi. Bahawalpur's Markaz Subhan Allah, the nerve centre of the Pakistan-based terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammed, was among the camps targeted and destroyed by India in its Operation Sindoor. Commenting on the operation, the government on Friday said that the Masood Azhar-led group was directly or indirectly involved in the 2002 murder of American journalist Daniel Pearl in Karachi. "Bahawalpur is the headquarters of the Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorist group, which is proscribed by the UN. Its leader, Masood Azhar, is a proscribed individual," Foreign Secretary Mishri said at a press briefing. Pearl, the South Asia Bureau Chief for The Wall Street Journal, was kidnapped and murdered



in Karachi while reportedly researching alleged links between Pakistan's spy agency ISI and Islamic militants. "You brought up the connection with the tragic death or killing of Daniel Pearl of The Wall Street Journal. The JeM was in some way directly or indirectly responsible for the death of Daniel Pearl," he said.

The Foreign Secretary added, "The real connection is through Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh, the British-Pakistani jihadi who was held in India but was released in 2000. He was the person who lured Daniel Pearl, eventually leading to his murder."

"So these are all obviously connected figures, connected individuals, connected institutions—and the attack on that facility of the Jaish-e-Mohammed in Bahawalpur is, I would imagine, a fitting part of this unfortunate incident," he added.

The foreign secretary's remarks came as tensions between the two countries soared significantly following India's strike on terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied-Kashmir under Operation Sindoor early Wednesday.

## Army destroys Pak posts, drone launch pads in precision strikes

NEW DELHI. The Indian Army has destroyed multiple Pakistani posts and terrorist launch pads near the Jammu region, which were being used to launch tube-launched drones into Indian territory, according to defence sources. The action comes amid heightened tensions along the border following repeated drone incursions and shelling from across the Line of Control.

Pakistan launched a series of drone attacks on Friday, targeting nearly 36 cities across Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Gujarat for the second consecutive day. Among the targets was an air base in Avantipora,



which, along with other attempted strikes, was successfully thwarted by Indian defence systems. Sources said that 15-20 blasts were heard during attempts to destroy the drone.

Multiple drones were reported over Jammu, Samba, Rajouri, Pathankot, Amritsar, Jaisalmer, Barmer, and Pokhran, while heavy artillery

exchanges were witnessed along the Line of Control in areas such as Kupwara, Poonch, Uri, Nowgam, and Handwara. In its latest press briefing over the unprovoked and failed attack by Pakistan, India said Pakistan had launched between 300 and 400 Turkish drones across locations from Leh to Sir Creek in its failed attempt to target Indian military installations.

"In response to the Pakistani attack, armed drones were launched at four air defence sites in Pakistan. One drone was able to destroy an air defence radar," Wing Commander Vyomika Singh said on Friday. The Pakistan Army also suffered major losses in Indian retaliatory fire, Singh said.

## Bangladesh woman granted bail after cops delay her court appearance upon arrest

New Delhi. The Bombay High Court has granted bail to a Bangladeshi woman arrested along with her one-and-a-half-year-old child for allegedly entering India illegally, citing that the Maharashtra Police failed to produce her before a magistrate within 24 hours of her arrest.

Justice Milind Jadhav, while granting bail, criticised the prosecution for violating basic legal procedures. "It is unfortunate that prosecution officers are indifferent to these elementary but statutory requirements regarding detention beyond 24 hours are not permissible unless the accused person is produced before the magistrate. This ground of breach of Section 50 of the Criminal Procedure Code and violation of the fundamental rights of the applicant go to the root of the matter and deserves immediate consideration even in the bail application," the judge said. The woman, Sabnam Suleman Ansari, was arrested by the prosecution on January 20, 2025, based on intelligence



received from a secret informant. She was accused of staying in India without valid documents and was booked under the Foreigners Act and Passport (Entry into India) Act at APMC Police Station. The prosecution alleged that Ansari entered India along an unauthorised route from Bangladesh without proper travel documents. She was caught while on patrol duty by officers who acted on the tip-off from an informant. At the time of arrest, Ansari had her young son with her, and both were lodged in prison following the arrest.

However, advocates Shubham Upadhyay and Aryan Kotwal, representing Ansari, argued that the

allegations were based solely on a confession made to the police and that she had several official documents to prove her Indian residence. "She has all documents; Aadhar Card, Pan Card, Election ID Card, Gram Panchayat confirming her Indian residence, Ration Card, marriage certificate for having married an Indian citizen and living in India for the past several years," they submitted. The defence also contended that Ansari was arrested at 12:30 pm on January 28, 2025, and was produced before the Magistrate only at 4:30 pm on January 29, 2025—well beyond the 24-hour limit mandated by law. The bench noted that the prosecution failed to explain the delay in producing Ansari before the court. "The production of the Applicant thus beyond the permissible limit of 24 hours, is in clear violation of the fundamental rights guaranteed under Articles 21 and 22 of the Constitution of India," the court said, adding that it is the duty of the bail court to intervene in such cases.

## India's air defence success: A saga of decade-long toil

It was a loss of face for Pakistan after India avenged Pahalgam terror attack.

NEW DELHI. The surgical precision with which India destroyed terror camps in Pakistan and its occupied territories in Kashmir not only asserted the country's status as one of the most forceful nations in counter-terror operations, but also exposed the vulnerabilities in Pakistan's defence network. It took over a decade for India to strategically strengthen its air defence system and enhance its combat power by incorporating cutting-edge warfare technologies. "Many experts believe the successful execution of Operation Sindoor has sent a clear and unequivocal message that India is no longer just capable of defending its skies—it now commands, dictates, and controls them," remarked a senior official. It was a loss of face for Pakistan

after India avenged Pahalgam terror attack. In a move to reclaim its lost image and shore up receding spirits, Pakistan escalated the situation in the border areas by launching missile strikes on Indian military installations across Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

However, every single missile was intercepted or neutralised. Despite the setback, Pakistan continued its reckless provocation by unleashing indiscriminate drone and missile attacks on the night of May 8 in several parts of India. Thanks to India's elaborate and robust air defence system, none of these attacks reached their intended targets.

Sources within the government said India's swift, coordinated response showcased the formidable strength of its air defence ecosystem—painstakingly developed over the past 11 years under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. According to information available in the publicly domain, a combination of technologies—including the Integrated Counter-Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Grid, S-400 Triumf Systems, Barak-8



missiles, Akash surface-to-air missiles, and DRDO's anti-drone Systems—came together seamlessly to form an aerial shield over India that held firm and thwarted every single attempt by the enemy to inflict damage on this side of the border.

Amid continuous cross-border provocations, India did not limit itself to defence. It retaliated swiftly with precision, inflicting significant destruction on the Pakistani side. Under 'Operation Sindoor,' the Indian Armed Forces demonstrated their sharpest and most accurate deep-strike capabilities, penetrating Pakistani territory and destroying a Chinese-supplied HQ-9 air

defence unit in Lahore, as well as damaging vital radar infrastructure.

Such preparedness is not the result of a single day's effort. Since 2014, the Modi government has systematically strengthened India's air defence architecture. Key acquisitions and developments include the Rs 35,000-crore deal for five S-400 Triumf squadrons—signed in 2018. Three squadrons are now operational along the borders with China and Pakistan. The deployment of Barak-8 Medium-Range Surface-to-Air Missiles (MR-SAM), part of a \$2.5 billion deal signed in 2017 with Israel, now actively defends key bases such as Bathinda.

There are also indigenous Akash missile batteries and DRDO-developed counter-drone systems that collectively form a robust shield against enemy manoeuvres. India's Man-Portable Counter-Drone Systems (MPCDS), installed in 2024 to jam and disable hostile UAVs, have also significantly enhanced modern warfare capabilities. Notably, 'Operation Sindoor' marked the combat debut of loitering munitions—so-called 'suicidal drones' ordered in 2021 and manufactured domestically.



NEWS BOX

Rubio dials Pakistan army chief, Indian External Affairs Minister, urges de-escalation

**world.** In another bid to defuse escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio spoke with Pakistan's Army Chief General Asim Munir on Friday, according to the US Department of State.Rubio also called Indian External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar.The calls came amid a dramatic surge in hostilities between India and Pakistan, marking their most severe confrontation in nearly three decades. “Secretary Rubio urged both parties to find ways to de-escalate and offered US assistance in initiating constructive dialogue to prevent future conflicts,” said State Department spokesperson Tammy Bruce. She emphasised Washington’s commitment to regional stability and its willingness to support peace efforts. The conversation took place just hours before Pakistan claimed to have launched a military operation against India early Saturday.According to Pakistani officials, the strikes targeted several Indian military installations, including a missile storage facility in northern India. The continuing escalation signals a dangerous turn in bilateral relations, raising concerns of wider regional instability.

The US has called on both Islamabad and New Delhi to exercise restraint and return to diplomatic channels, warning that continued military action risks spiraling into a broader conflict.

Rubio dials EAM Jaishankar

Secretary of State Marco Rubio spoke with Indian External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar. Secretary Rubio emphasized that both sides need to identify methods to de-escalate and re-establish direct communication to avoid miscalculation. He further proposed US support in facilitating productive discussions to avert future disputes.

Pak defence minister refutes reports of nuclear body meet amid India tensions

**world.** Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has said that no meeting of the National Command Authority, the country's top civil-military body overseeing its nuclear arsenal, is scheduled in the aftermath of India's overnight military strikes, Reuters reported on Saturday.This comes despite an earlier statement from Pakistan's military that the Prime Minister had called for a meeting of the authorities following a military escalation with India.According to Indian government sources, the latest flare-up began when Pakistan fired a long-range missile aimed at a strategic Indian target, which was intercepted and destroyed by India's air defence systems in the Western Sector.In response, India intercepted and destroyed drones and missiles after Pakistan tried to attack 26 locations across the border, ranging from Jammu and Kashmir to Gujarat. India also overnight successfully struck six key Pakistani airbases including Chaklala in Rawalpindi, Murid in Chakwal, Rafiqui in Shorkot, Rahim Yar Khan, Sukkur and Chunian.India's Ministry of Defence said no major damage was reported on its side, crediting the swift action of defence systems, including S-400s and Akashteer units, which successfully neutralised incoming threats.

Cinnamon May Reduce Effectiveness Of Some Prescription Drugs: Study

**world** Cinnamon, when consumed in large dosages, particularly as nutritional supplements, may reduce the efficacy of several prescription medications, according to a new study.

The study, published in the June edition of the Food Chemistry: Molecular Sciences journal, looked at how cinnamon and its primary ingredients affected the body's capacity to metabolise drugs. The Washington Post reported.It noted concerns regarding cinnamon's potential interactions with medicines and the shortage of scientific data on the spice's effects on human metabolism.

While minimal intake may have health benefits, extended use may increase the risk of drug interactions, the study said, without specifying how much was excessive.According to researchers, "overconsumption" of cinnamon may cause the body to quickly flush out prescription drugs, affecting a person's capacity to absorb them.

Lead researcher Bill Gurley, chief scientist at the University of Mississippi's National Centre for Natural Products Research, told The Post, "We know there's a possibility for cinnamaldehyde to activate these receptors that can pose a risk for drug interactions."The researchers studied cinnamon oil and two of its chemical constituents, cinnamaldehyde and cinnamic acid, simulating human digestion to ascertain whether and how cinnamon influences drug metabolism.

They found that both cinnamaldehyde and cinnamic acid have the ability to trigger the body's xenobiotic receptors. These sensors aid in regulating how drugs are processed by the body.According to CNN wellness expert Dr Leana Wen, supplementing with cinnamon may help manage diabetes or aid in weight loss, per some studies, but further research is required to explore its potential advantages fully.

Cassia cinnamon may contain high concentrations of the blood thinner coumarin, and traces of coumarin may also be present in Ceylon cinnamon.

Thus, an individual taking anticoagulant drugs may be at higher risk of bleeding if they consume a lot of coumarin, said Mr Wen.How much is too much was not specified in the Food Chemistry study, but researchers cautioned that concentrated forms, such as supplements, are more dangerous.

Patients are advised to consult their physician before consuming supplements containing cinnamon or similar products.

European leaders arrive in Kyiv in show of solidarity against Russia

**KYIV.** The leaders of France, Britain and Germany arrived in Ukraine on Saturday for talks with President Volodymyr Zelensky, vowing to ratchet up pressure on Russia until it agrees a ceasefire the day after a lavish military parade in Moscow.

French President Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer arrived together by train from neighbouring Poland. Later, they were to be joined by Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk.It is the first time the leaders of the four European nations have made a joint visit to Ukraine.More than three years into Russia's invasion, the hugely symbolic show of European unity comes a day after President Vladimir Putin struck a defiant tone at a Moscow parade marking 80 years since victory in World War II.US President Donald Trump has proposed a 30-day unconditional ceasefire as a step to end the conflict. But Putin has resisted so

far."Alongside the US, we call on Russia to agree a full and unconditional 30-day ceasefire to create the space for talks on a just and lasting peace," the leaders said in a statement ahead of the visit.

"We are ready to support peace talks as soon as possible, to discuss technical implementation of the ceasefire, and prepare for a full peace deal," they added. "We are clear the bloodshed must end, Russia must stop its illegal invasion, and Ukraine must be able to prosper as a safe, secure and sovereign nation within its internationally recognised borders for generations to come".They warned: "We will continue to increase our support for Ukraine. Until Russia agrees to an enduring ceasefire, we will ratchet up pressure on Russia's war machine."In an interview with the ABC news channel on Saturday, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said arms deliveries from Ukraine's allies must stop before Russia would agree

to a ceasefire.

A truce would otherwise be an "advantage for Ukraine" at a time when "Russian troops are advancing... in quite a confident way" on the front, Peskov said, adding that



Ukraine was "not ready for immediate negotiations."

**Russia obstructing efforts'**

For Merz, who took office only this week, it will be his first visit to Ukraine as chancellor. Macron has not been to Kyiv

since June 2022 when he went with the Italian and German leaders of the time.

In the talks with Zelensky they will make their "steadfast commitment to Ukraine", the statement said."We, the leaders of France, Germany, Poland and the United Kingdom will stand in Kyiv in solidarity with Ukraine against Russia's barbaric and illegal full-scale invasion," they said."We reiterate our backing for President Trump's calls for a peace deal and call on Russia to stop obstructing efforts to secure an enduring peace," they added.After meeting Zelensky in the morning, they are to host a virtual meeting to update other European leaders on moves to create a European force that could provide Ukraine with security after the war.Such a force "would help regenerate Ukraine's armed forces after any peace deal and strengthen confidence in any future peace", the statement said.

Pakistan's Operation Bunyan al-Marsoos: Why the name, what it means

**world** Pakistan fired drones and missiles, including a Fattah-1 missile, at India in a pre-dawn strike on Saturday under what Pakistani media called Operation Bunyan al-Marsoos. The firing of the Fattah-1 ballistic missile came as Pakistan escalated the situation a day earlier targeting 26 locations in India with drones and missiles after India's Operation Sindoor."Pakistan has started 'Operation Bunyan-un-Marsoos'," reported Radio Pakistan.It's variants are Bunyan Ul Marsoos, Bunyan-un-Marsoos and Bunyanun Marsoos.Bunyan al-Marsoos is a verse from the Quran, the holy book of Muslims.According to Al Jazeera, "Bunyan Marsoos is an Arabic phrase which directly translates into 'a structure made of lead'."According to the Qatar-based Al Jazeera, the verse from Quran reads: "Truly Allah loves those who fight in His Cause in battle array, as if they were a solid cemented structure."With the name, Pakistan likely wants to portray itself as an impregnable wall or structure fighting

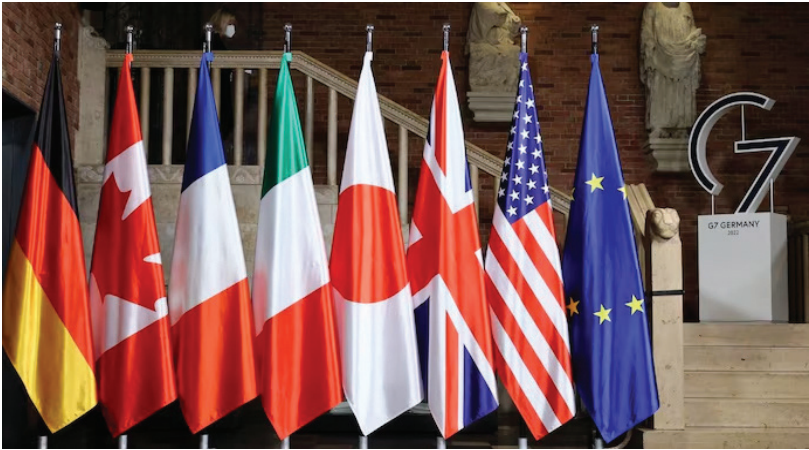
for a cause.Click Here For Operation Sindoor Live UpdatesThe massive escalation comes after India hit terror camps inside Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (POK) as part of Operation Sindoor after the April 22 Pahalgam terrorist attacksin which 26



civilians were killed.India attacked nine sites in Pakistan and POK as part of the aerial strikes on May 7.Pakistan must have named its military misadventure -- Operation Bunyan al-Marsoos -- because it has been breached.It was the first time since the 1971 War that India hit a target in Punjab province, deep in Pakistani territory. The terror camp in Pakistan's

Punjab was 100km from the border.The use of Quranic verse could also be part of the pattern of giving the attacks a religious tone.At Pahalgam on April 22, Pakistani and Pakistan-trained terrorists asked the tourists to read kalma to identify the non-Muslims, and shot them dead from point-blank range in front of their family members.The communal line in the attack also comes after the dog-whistling by General Asim Munir. "Our forefathers believed that we were different from Hindus in every possible aspect of life. Our religion is different. Our customs are different... That was the foundation of the Two-Nation Theory," said General Munir on April 16.This was perceived as a signal to the Pakistani terror assets, according to reports.Pakistan has been targeting gurdwaras, convents and temples in India with drones and missiles since Operation Sindoor. While India targeted only terror camps, Pakistan has tried to hit civilian and military areas.

G7 calls for 'immediate de-escalation' as India, Pakistan trade missiles



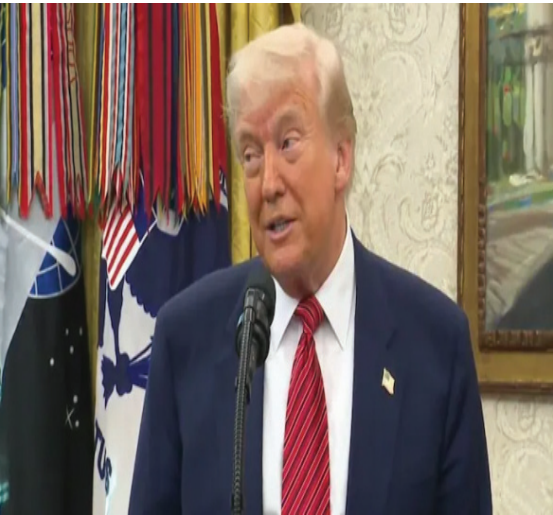
**world** The G7 nations on Friday urged immediate de-escalation amid rising tensions between India and Pakistan following alleged missile strikes.

In a joint statement, the bloc called on both nuclear-armed neighbors to engage in direct dialogue to prevent further conflict and ensure regional

stability.“We, the G7 Foreign Ministers of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America, along with the High Representative of the European Union, strongly condemn the egregious terrorist attack in Pahalgam on April 22 and urge maximum

restraint from both India and Pakistan,” the statement read.“Further military escalation poses a serious threat to regional stability. We are deeply concerned for the safety of civilians on both sides.”The statement added: “We call for immediate de-escalation and encourage both countries to engage in direct dialogue towards a peaceful outcome. We continue to monitor events closely and express our support for a swift and lasting diplomatic resolution.”

Tensions between the two nuclear-armed neighbours escalated sharply after the Indian Army conducted precision strikes on May 7, codenamed ‘Operation Sindoor’, targeting terror launchpads in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The operation was launched in retaliation for the April 22 terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, which claimed the lives of 26 people, most of them tourists.



American taxpayers billions and billions of dollars. What Biden did to this country can never be explained, will never, ever be accepted. Eventually, when the illegals are gone, it will save us trillions of dollars. However, if illegal aliens choose to remain in America, they’re remaining illegally, and they will face severe consequences," Trump said."Illegal aliens who stay in America face punishments, including significant jail time, enormous financial penalties, confiscation of all property, garnishment of all wages, imprisonment and incarceration, and sudden deportation. In a place and manner solely of our discretion. So, to all illegal aliens, book your free flight right now. We want you out of America, but if you’re really good, we’re going to try and help you get back in. Thank you," he added.

Pakistan shuts airspace amid escalation after India's retaliatory attacks

✈️ **Pakistan closed its airspace on May 10 amid rising tensions and attacks near its airbases, disrupting flights. Currently, no flights are operating within Islamabad's airspace.**

**world** The Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority announced on Saturday that the country’s airspace will be closed to all types of flights between 3:15 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. local time on May 10, 2025.The suspension, confirmed by the Pakistan Airports Authority, comes amid heightened regional tensions after Indian armed forces launched retaliatory strikes on at least four air bases in Pakistan in the early hours of



Saturday.The flight schedule at Islamabad Airport has been disrupted after a recent attack in Rawalpindi. Departures of both national and private airline flights from Islamabad Airport have been

delayed.Currently, no flights are operating within Islamabad’s airspace. Arrivals and departures at Lahore and Sialkot airports have also been affected.

On Friday, India criticised Pakistan for

keeping its airspace open during the initial offensive, accusing Islamabad of a deliberate attempt to use civilian aircraft as cover to deter an immediate counterstrike.At a press briefing, Wing Commander Vyomika Singh of the Indian Air Force (IAF) said, “Pakistan refrained from shutting down its civil airspace despite carrying out an unprovoked and unsuccessful drone and missile attack on Indian cities. This shows a clear and dangerous tactic of using civilian airliners as shields, fully aware that India’s air defense forces would respond robustly.”Tensions between the two nuclear-armed neighbours soared after the Indian Army on May 7 carried out precision strikes, codenamed ‘Operation Sindoor’, targeting terror launchpads in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), in retaliation for the April 22 terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, which killed 26 people, mostly tourists.



NEWS BOX

Ukraine's Kostyuk shakes hands with Kasatkina, praises anti-war stance

New Delhi. Ukrainian tennis player Marta Kostyuk shook hands with Daria Kasatkina following her straight-sets victory over the former Russian at the Italian Open on Friday.Kostyuk, ranked 27th in the world, defeated Kasatkina 6-4, 6-2 in the tournament's second round. But it was the handshake on the net - a gesture she has consistently withheld from Russian and Belarusian opponents since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022 - that drew immediate attention.Kasatkina, now competing under the Australian flag, is one of the few former Russian players who have publicly condemned the war. She came out as gay in 2022 and has not returned to Russia since, citing the country's increasingly repressive climate.Kostyuk acknowledged the significance of Kasatkina's stance in a message posted on Instagram after the match.

"Since the beginning of the war, I've chosen not to shake hands with Russian or Belarusian players," she wrote. "But when someone not only tells the truth - calling Russia the aggressor - but also acts on it, that deserves respect.""Daria Kasatkina has clearly spoken out against the war and made the decision to give up her Russian sports citizenship. That takes courage - and I acknowledge it," Kostyuk added. "I hope this is not the final step, but part of a deeper commitment. I stand with Ukraine. I stand



for truth, for dignity, and for those who choose to speak and act - when staying quiet would be easier."Kasatkina, currently ranked 15th in the world, has been an outspoken critic of Moscow's actions in Ukraine, and her decision to switch allegiances is seen as a rare and bold move in the world of Russian sports, where dissent is often met with severe repercussions.

Confused Rishabh Pant has forgotten his best game: Sanjay Bangar

New Delhi. Lucknow Super Giants captain Rishabh Pant has failed to have any impact on the Indian Premier League so far. Having scored just 128 runs after playing 129 balls in 9 matches, this turned out to be the batter's worst outing in the competition.Pant's struggles have had a direct result on LSG's performance this season as they have failed to win games where their top order has not fired. Former India cricketer Sanjay Bangar analysed the batter's technique in the tournament and said that Pant was confused and had forgotten his strengths."We have to recognise that he's still yet to totally understand the white-ball game - both formats, 50-over cricket as well as T20 cricket. A fabulous Test match batter, make no mistake about it, but here in this particular season, what I noticed is that he got out a number of times looking to play shots behind the wicket," Bangar said on Star Sports on Friday, May 9.The former India batting coach argued that Pant was at his best when he tried to hit down the wicket and then use his shots behind square as a variation to confuse the bowlers. Bangar based his argument on the matches that Pant had done



well in Test cricket, against Australia and England, both home and away. "Now, you pull out the best innings of Rishabh - where has he looked to score the runs? Drives through covers, step down the track and try to hit the sightscreen or go over midwicket, square. But here he was trying to play those reverse sweeps or shots that are very fine. So as a batter, I think probably he just got caught in that confusion and forgot that his best game, or that he plays at his best, is when he's looking to sere down the ground," Bangar said."If you do look to score down the ground a lot of times, then all those other areas open up. But if you're only looking to score behind.

IPL suspended for one week amid escalating tensions between India and Pakistan

Uncertainty loomed over the tournament's future after Thursday's Punjab Kings vs Delhi Capitals match in Dharamsala was halted midway due to air raid alerts in nearby Jammu and Pathankot.

New Delhi. WITH tensions escalating between India and Pakistan, the ongoing edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) has ground to a halt, at least for the time being. The BCCI made the decision public after informing the franchises earlier on Friday morning. "The decision was taken by the IPL Governing Council after due consultation with all key stakeholders following the representations from most of the franchisees, who conveyed the concern and sentiments of their players, and also the views of the broadcaster,



sponsors and fans; while the BCCI reposes full faith in the strength and preparedness of our armed forces, the Board considered it prudent to act in the collective interest of all stakeholders," the statement read. This decision came less than 15 hours after the match between Punjab Kings and Delhi Captials in Dharamsala was called off

midway after a series off projectiles from Pakistan and a subsequent blackout in bordering states. The BCCI top brass met on Friday morning and the final decision was made.On Thursday night, Arun Dhumal, the IPL Governing Council chair, had told this daily that they are assessing the situation. BCCI vice-president, Rajiv Shukla, had said:

Mohammed Afsal breaks 800m national record in UAE Athletics Grand Prix

India's Mohammed Afsal set a new national record in the men's 800m race at the UAE Athletics Grand Prix 2025 in Dubai, clocking 1:45.61.

New Delhi. Asian Games silver medallist Mohammed Afsal on Friday broke the seven-year-old 800m national record while finishing second at the UAE Athletics Grand Prix event in Dubai.The 29-year-old Afsal clocked 1 minute and 45.61 seconds to erase the earlier national record of 1:45.65s set by Jinson Johnson in 2018.Afsal finished behind Kenya's Nicholas Kiplagat, who clocked 1:45.38s to win the race in the World Athletics Continental Tour bronze-level competition held at Dubai Police Stadium. He, however, could not breach the 2025 World



Championships automatic qualification time of 1.44.50s.Afsal won a silver in the 800m at the 2023 Hangzhou Asian Games with a time of 1:48.43s. National record holder Animesh Kujur won

the 200m race in a time of 20.45 seconds. He had clocked 20.40 seconds during the 2025 Federation Cup to break Amlan Borgohain's previous national record of 20.52 created three years ago.

India-Pakistan matches under spotlight

After the terror strike in Pahalgam last month and the subsequent Operation Sindoor launched by India against Pakistan, questions now hover on the scheduled matches between India and Pakistan later this year. What happens to those An explainer...

New Delhi. Is there any threat for those games?Officially, yes. But unofficially, a lot of the murmurs. There was some sort of reportage that the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had written to the ICC about asking the world body to keep the two teams in separate groups. One ICC insider has told this daily that there has been no sort of communication to the ICC. India coach, Gautam Gambhir, in his personal



capacity, has said India shouldn't play Pakistan.Why do ICC insist on pairing these two nations?This is where the cricket body differs from say, FIFA. The latter goes out of its way to ensure warring nations don't face each other in the group stages. But the ICC do the opposite. One of the reasons why they do this is the money on the table from a single India v. Pakistan match. These two nations have faced other in 11 back-to-back men's global events. With cricket having a lot of TV audience from this part of the world, it's understandable that this one match

generates a lot of revenue in terms of TV rights deal. Even if ICC sells rights deal for the entire package and not on a per match basis, broadcasters pay top dollar because of the guarantee of a single game inside that package. The ICC could lose out on a lot of revenue if that assumed guarantee is removed.Is there anyway of knowing the finances of a single India v. Pakistan game? It's very hard to put a number. For what it's worth, it has been communicated to this daily that the ICC have not even privately put a number for this game over the course of a rights circle. But one insider broke it down like this. "Hypothetically speaking, let's assume every men's ICC event is worth 100 crore. That one guaranteed game could be worth Rs 7.5-10 cr. You remove that 7.5-10 cr from every tournament and all teams will be financially hit."Which teams will bear the brunt?It will affect all teams on a pro rata basis but the acual effect will be felt inequally. For example, the loss of that proportionate revenue will not affect BCCI, Cricket Australia and the England an

"Today there were security concerns in Jammu and Pathankot, which were close to Dharamsala, that is why we called off the match. Tomorrow we don't know what will happen, based on that we will take a decision. We are arranging a special train tomorrow (Friday) for everyone to leave safely." With both militaries actively engaging, Pakistan have already moved their T20 league, Pakistan Super League, to United Arab Emirates (UAE). The BCCI, meanwhile, has decided to suspend the tournament for one week at the time being. On Friday, Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) were supposed to play in Lucknow but as things stand, teams will return to their respective bases until further notice. Multiple reports indicate that Cricket Australia have informed their players to return home in the days to come. Both CA and Cricket West Indies have released statements regarding the safety of their players and their well being.As things stand there is no clarity on what lies ahead for the IPL. One has to wait and see how things proceed from here and whether this has any impact on India's international schedule when they tour Bangladesh in August and are expected to play the Asia Cup In September.

India men's compound team wins gold at Archery World Cup Stage 2

New Delhi. India clinched a glorious feat at the Archery World Cup Stage 2 in Shanghai, with the compound men's team leading the charge in a memorable campaign that saw the country return with three medals, including a gold, on Saturday, May 10. The men's compound team—comprising Abhishek Verma and Ojas Deotale, alongside youngster Rishabh Yadav—delivered a composed and clinical performance in the final. They edged past Mexico 232–228 in a thrilling encounter to claim the gold medal, underscoring India's dominance in the compound discipline.It was an end-to-end battle against a strong Mexican side, but the Indian trio held their nerve with precise shooting in the final ends to secure a historic victory in Shanghai.In the women's compound team final, India's trio of Jyothi S re k h a V e n n a m , M a d h u r a Dhamangaonkar, and Chikitha Taniparthi put up a spirited fight but had to settle for silver after a 221–234 loss to a superior Mexican team that dominated the contest from the outset.Meanwhile, the Indian compound mixed team—featuring Abhishek V e r m a a n d M a d h u r a Dhamangaonkar—bounced back strongly



after missing out on the final. They secured a bronze medal by defeating Malaysia convincingly in the third-place match, adding yet another podium finish to India's growing archery credentials.These consistent performances are only the latest chapter in India's rising archery narrative. At Stage 1 of the Archery World Cup in the USA, India had already bagged four medals, including a silver in the men's recurve team event and a bronze by promising archer Dhiraj Bommadevara in the individual recurve category.With compound archery set to make its Olympic debut in the mixed team format at the 2028 Los Angeles Games, India's current trajectory offers genuine hope of clinching its first-ever Olympic medal in the sport.

BCCI, please convince him to stay: Fans on Virat Kohli's Test retirement indication

New Delhi. In news that has left cricket fans across the country shocked and emotional, former India captain Virat Kohli has reportedly informed the BCCI of his intention to retire from Test cricket ahead of the upcoming tour of England. Sources say Kohli is unlikely to feature in the five-match series starting June 20, as he considers stepping away from the longest format.The timing couldn't be more dramatic. Just days ago, Rohit Sharma announced his retirement from Tests, closing a significant chapter in Indian cricket. Both veterans had already stepped down from T20 internationals after India's World Cup triumph in Barbados last year, signalling a shift in their careers. Now, with Kohli likely to follow Rohit, Indian cricket faces a moment of transition few were ready for. A senior BCCI official has reportedly reached out to Kohli, urging him to reconsider. The selectors are due to meet soon to finalise the squad for the England tour, which also marks

the start of a new World Test Championship cycle. Losing Kohli at this juncture would be a major blow.Kohli has had a tough run this season. In the Border-Gavaskar Trophy against Australia, he managed just 186 runs in five Tests. He did score a century in the opening match in Perth, but his form faded after that. Still, his career numbers speak for themselves—8,895 runs in 105 matches, including 27 centuries. Even in a slump, he remains one of India's greatest.Unsurprisingly, fans flooded social media as the news broke. Many pleaded with the BCCI to do everything possible to keep Kohli in whites for a little longer.If Kohli does walk away, India will face a tough challenge. The middle order, already without Rohit, will suddenly look far less experienced. Players like KL Rahul, Shubman Gill, and Yashasvi Jaiswal will have to rise quickly to the occasion. But for fans, it's not just about runs or averages—it's about watching one of the game's modern greats bow out, and perhaps too soon.







# Ananya Panday

## On Growth From Student Of The Year 2 To Kesari 2: 'I'd Always Worry'

Ananya Panday is no longer the unsure debutante once seen in Student of the Year 2. With each passing project, the actress has steadily grown—both in terms of craft and confidence. Her most recent performance in Kesari Chapter 2 is being hailed as one of her most grounded roles yet, and in a new interview with Mid Day, Panday revealed how her early career was marked by overwhelming anxiety and self-consciousness. “When I first started acting, I constantly felt like everyone was watching and judging me,” Ananya admitted. “I used to worry about how I looked, what people were thinking, or how the final product would turn out. That made it very hard to stay present in the moment.”

It wasn't until she took on more challenging and diverse roles—like those in the web series Call Me Bac and the upcoming thriller CTRL—that she began to fall in love with the process of acting, rather than just the end result. “With these projects, I stopped fixating on the camera and started listening to my instincts,” she said. “I don't feel scared anymore.”

Reflecting on her role in Kesari Chapter 2, Ananya shared that portraying Dilreet Gill—a young lawyer assisting C Sankaran Nair in his legal battle against the British Empire after the Jallianwala Bagh massacre—was a turning point. “I had read about the massacre in school, but the film gave me a deeper, emotional understanding of what happened. Being part of that story felt important.” She found personal resonance in the quiet strength of her character. “Dilreet doesn't shout to be heard, but she's fierce in her own way,” Ananya explained. “I related to that. I may come across as soft-spoken, but there's a fire inside me too.”

Working alongside industry veterans like Akshay Kumar and R Madhavan was equally transformative. “Just observing them taught me so much. It reminded me that growth happens when you stop performing and start being.”



## Happy Birthday Sai Pallavi: Did You Know The South Actress Is A Trained Doctor?



The actress is known for portraying strong, complicated characters with ease. Sai Pallavi has received numerous accolades, including six Filmfare Awards South and two SIIMA Awards. Besides her acting, she also keeps winning fans' attention with her dancing skills and sartorial sense. But do you know, the Fidaa star was initially a medical student by profession? On her 33th birthday, take a look at her educational qualification as well as top movies, latest movies and upcoming projects.

One of the most-loved actress, Sai Pallavi was born in a Badaga family in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. After receiving her initial education in Coimbatore, she pursued medical studies at the Tbilisi State Medical University in Georgia. However, destiny had some other plans, and she has still not registered as a medical practitioner.

It was in 2014 when film director Alphonse Puthren approached her with the script for Premam, but she initially declined the offer. Later, Puthren managed to convince the actress, and she was roped in the role of Malar in the film. This marked her debut in the Malayalam film industry. She went on to win several awards that year, and eventually signed other projects.

Premam (2015): Sai Pallavi became widely recognised for her natural beauty and acting skills right from her debut film, where she plays the role of a teacher. This is also credited as the breakout film of her career.

Kali (2016): The next year, Sai Pallavi was approached to work in her second Malayalam romantic drama. Her character, and her chemistry with Dulquer Salmaan, etched a special place in the hearts of her fans.

Fidaa (2017): Sai Pallavi played the role of Bhanumathi, a doctor, opposite Varun Tej. She was immensely praised for her screen presence in the Telugu romantic drama.

Athiran (2019): Directed by Vivek, this movie features Sai Pallavi As Nithya Lakshmi, a mute girl. It showcased the diva's versatility and impeccable expressions.

Love Story (2021): A Telugu drama-romance, written and directed by Sekhar Kammula, stars Naga Chaitanya and Sai Pallavi in lead roles. The film revolves around a couple in an inter-caste relationship.

## Operation Sindoor: Palak Tiwari 'Happy' India Is 'Fighting Back' But Hopes For Peace



Bollywood actors Akshay Kumar, Kareena Kapoor Khan, Alia Bhatt and Katrina Kaif, among many others, took to social media and reacted to Operation Sindoor, India's military retaliation to the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam that claimed 28 lives. Many, in fact, lauded the two senior women officers—Colonel Sophia Qureshi of the Indian Army and Wing Commander Vyomika Singh of the Indian Air Force—who shared key operational details alongside Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, marking a historic moment for women in Indian military leadership.

Now, speaking exclusively to News18 Showsha, Palak Tiwari reacts to India's strikes against terrorism in the Pakistani-administered Kashmir. While she feels that war is never the answer, she praises the Indian government for taking a stand for its civilians. “It's really unfortunate and deeply, deeply saddening that it ever had to come to this because lives matter. But I understand that often in situations like this, we've to do what we've to do. With India's political stance, we wouldn't have [attacked Pakistan] if we didn't absolutely have to,” she states.

Speaking to us during the promotions of her upcoming release Romeo S3, Palak says that she recognises the efforts of our armed forces and prays for better times. “At the same time, it's innocent lives that are lost and that's never right. As happy as I'm that our country is fighting back, it's always sad. I truly hope that it doesn't escalate, for the betterment of our country and for the sake of our lives. Our soldiers are putting their entire lives at risk to protect us. And I wish for peace,” she adds.

Following Operation Sindoor, on the night of May 7-8, the Integrated Counter UAS Grid and Air Defence systems neutralised Pakistani drones and missiles that attempted to target northern and western India. Reacting to it, Palak's Romeo S3 co-star Thakur Anoop Singh of TV shows Ramayan and Mahabharat fame, says, “We're just reacting to the action caused earlier.

We've put our faith in the government and they know the best. We've no idea what the frontline officers at the borders are dealing with. I completely give credit to them.” Praising PM Narendra Modi and his measures to avenge the deaths of the tourists in Pahalgam, he remarks, “India's a country that wouldn't attack unless provoked. But how much will you tolerate? You can't come to our home and damage everything.”



# Ileana D'Cruz

## Never Wants Her Kids To Feel They 'Must Earn' Her Love: 'It's Worst Feeling'

Actor Ileana D'Cruz has shared a heartfelt note on parenting, expressing how she wants to raise her children with unconditional love. The actor, who confirmed her second pregnancy earlier this year in February, took to Instagram Stories to

for their response to our positive qualities but merely to nurture them so that people will turn to us on their own.”

Sharing the screenshot, Ileana responded with a deeply personal message: “I will never want my children to

feel that they need to ‘earn’ my love. That is by far the worst feeling I have ever experienced. Feeling ‘not good enough’. I want to raise happy, healthy, kind children (I am sure all parents do) and I will do my best to ensure to know how loved they are. These are, of course, my views and opinions. You do you.”

Ileana and her husband Michael tied the knot in a private ceremony in 2023. She first surprised her fans in April last year by announcing her pregnancy with a picture of a baby onesie and the caption, “Coming soon. Can't wait to meet you, my little darling.” The

couple welcomed their son in August, with Ileana sharing the news: “No words could explain how happy we are to welcome our darling boy to the world. Heart's beyond full.” On the professional front, Ileana was last seen in the romantic comedy Do Aur Do Pyaar, directed by Shirsha Guha Thakurta. The film also featured Vidya Balan, Pratik Gandhi, and Sendhil Ramamurthy.



respond to a fan's comment on her earlier post about love and parenting. In the fan's message, they wrote, “People, and especially kids, should be taught that being cruel, wicked, unkind or selfish are not lovable traits and you will not be loved and also should not reward love to those. Love has to be earned just like respect and happiness. And its not wrong to chase love... We just have to teach kids not to chase people