26 JANUARY 2025

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Chennai

LEA Watch.

Celebrating a United & Empowered Bharat!

Happy Republic Day

On this historic day, as India celebrates its 76th Republic Day in the year 2025, we proudly unveil '**LEA-Watch**', a fortnightly e-newspaper with a mission to build a more secure world rooted in the power of truth, the honor of our worldview and compassion for people. Guided by these ideals, **LEA-Watch** aims to inform, inspire, and engage readers with developments that matter to Bharat—stories that empower responsible action, foster meaningful outcomes and reflect the principles of truth, honor, and compassion.

From reporting the latest developments in geopolitics and national security to delivering in-depth analyses, we are committed to transparency and integrity, echoing the democratic values we celebrate today. Join us on this journey to redefine journalism, where advance knowledge becomes a beacon for security and stability for society, both of which are essential for human progress.

Welcome to **LEA-Watch**.

Let us Learn, Engage and Act together as we shape a brighter, more secure tomorrow.

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Bharat's Transformative Milestones & Strategic Evolution

Bharat (India) has emerged as a pivotal global player during 2024-25, marking significant achievements across economic, geopolitical, and defense sectors. The nation's strategic positioning and policy implementations have reinforced its status as a rising power in the international arena.

Economic Resurgence

India's economy has demonstrated remarkable resilience and growth, maintaining its position as one of the world's fastest-growing major economies. The manufacturing sector has seen substantial expansion through the successful implementation of Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes, attracting major international corporations to establish manufacturing bases in India. The country's digital economy has flourished, with UPI transactions reaching unprecedented volumes and digital infrastructure penetrating deeper into rural areas.

The services sector has maintained its robust growth trajectory, with IT exports continuing to be a major foreign exchange earner. The startup ecosystem has matured significantly, with several unicorns emerging in sectors ranging from clean technology to space technology. The government's focus on infrastructure development through initiatives like PM Gati Shakti has accelerated project implementation and improved logistics efficiency.

Defence Modernization

India's defence landscape underwent a revolutionary transformation in 2024, emerging as a pivotal year for military modernization, indigenous capabilities, and strategic autonomy.

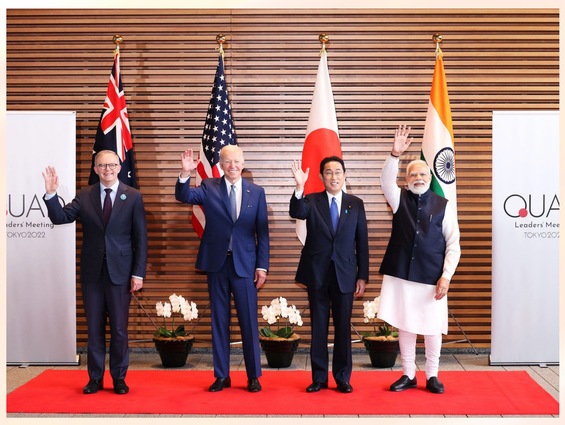
The synergy between policy initiatives, technological advancement, and diplomatic breakthroughs positioned India as an increasingly influential player in global defence dynamics.

Aircraft and Aviation

- TATA Aircraft Complex inauguration for C-295 manufacturing
- Full induction of LCH Prachand by IAF
- First batch of Weapon Systems branch cadets completed training
- Contract for AL-31FP Aero Engines (Rs 26,964.41 crore)
- Procurement of RD-33 engines for MiG-29 (Rs 5,249.72 crore)

Land Systems

- The Indian Light Tank (ILT) 'Zorawar' successfully completed trials in high-altitude regions, demonstrating its operational effectiveness in challenging terrains.
- Advanced Light Helicopters procurement (34 units, Rs 8,073.17 crore)
- BrahMos missiles acquisition (Rs 19,518 crore)
- Su-30 MKI aircraft procurement (12 units, Rs 13,500 crore)
- The deployment of Laser-based Drone Detection Systems and Electronic Warfare technologies enhanced the ability to detect and neutralize drone threats.



Geopolitical Influence

Bharat's diplomatic influence has expanded considerably during this period. As a key member of multiple international forums including the Quad, G20, and BRICS, India has successfully balanced its relationships with both Western powers and the Global South. The country's stance on major international issues has gained increased attention and respect, particularly its advocacy for climate action while protecting developing nations' interests.

The nation has strengthened its strategic partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region, deepening defense and economic cooperation with countries like Japan, Australia, and Southeast Asian nations. India's role as a mediator in various international conflicts has enhanced its diplomatic stature, while its push for reforms in global institutions has gained broader support.

India has emerged as a pivotal global player during 2024-25, marking significant achievements across economic, geopolitical, and defense sectors. The nation's strategic positioning and policy implementations have reinforced its status as a rising power in the international arena.

Naval Advancements

- The **INS Arighaat**, the second Arihant-class submarine, was commissioned into the Indian Navy on August 29, 2024.
- **INS Tushil**, a multi-role stealth-guided missile frigate, was commissioned on December 9, 2024, in Russia, further strengthening India's naval capabilities.
- The **Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) Prachand** was fully inducted by the IAF in February 2024, marking a significant addition to India's defence arsenal.
- **INS Vagsheer** submarine, the sixth among a French license-built Kalvari (Scorpene)-class conventional diesel-electric submarines
- 63 out of 64 warships under indigenous construction
- INS Vikramaditya refit contract (Rs 1,207.5 crore)

India's Digital Leap

In 2024, AI significantly transformed India's financial and banking sectors by improving efficiency and enhancing customer experiences. AI was used for credit scoring and risk management, enabling better loan approvals, especially for underserved populations.

Fraud detection systems powered by AI identified fraudulent activities in real time, improving security. Chatbots and virtual assistants streamlined customer service, offering personalized financial advice and automating queries. In digital payments, AI improved security, transaction speed, and user experience. Robo-advisors offered automated, personalized investment advice, while AI-driven tools promoted financial inclusion by extending credit to those without traditional credit histories.

AI is playing major role in the Maha Kumbh Mela for crowd management, safety, traffic control, and personalized services, ensuring smooth logistics and enhanced security.

Budget and Production

- Record budget allocation of Rs 6.22 lakh crore for FY 2024-25
- Indigenous defence production reached Rs 1,26,887 crore (16.7% growth)
- Defence exports soared to Rs 21,083 crore (32.5% increase)
- Implementation of fifth Positive Indigenisation List with 346 items

Operational Readiness

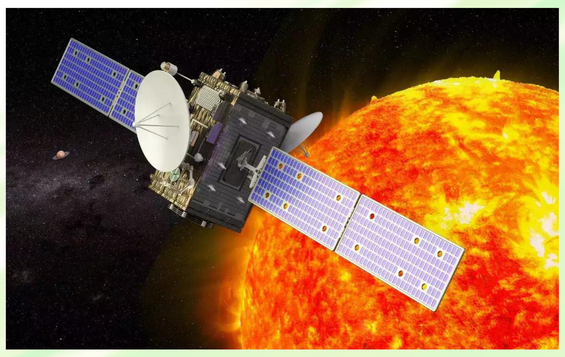
- Enhanced security infrastructure along LAC and LOC
- Improved situation in Jammu and Kashmir
- Creation of first new operational branch in IAF since Independence
- Strengthened counter-terrorism capabilities
- Advanced maritime security measures
- 62 additional naval vessels in final approval stages
- Expanded indigenous weapons and sensors development
- Enhanced focus on self-reliance in critical technologies
- Strengthened public-private partnerships in defence manufacturing

Space and Technology Integration

ISRO has achieved several key milestones, showcasing its growing capabilities in space exploration and technology in 2024:

- XPoSat Launch (January 1, 2024): India's second X-ray polarimetry mission, aimed at studying black holes and neutron stars.
- **Aditya-L1** Solar Mission (January 6, 2024): India's first solar mission, successfully reaching its halo orbit to study solar activities affecting Earth.
- **Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV)** Tests: Successful tests in March and June 2024 demonstrated autonomous landing and advanced navigation systems, marking a significant step toward reusable spacecraft.
- First Analog Space Mission (November 2024): A mission in Leh to simulate space conditions and prepare astronauts for future interplanetary missions.
- INSAT-3DS Satellite Launch (February 17, 2024): A weather satellite enhancing India's weather forecasting and disaster relief capabilities.

Looking ahead, ISRO is working on the Next Generation Launch Vehicle and the **Gaganyaan Mission** for crewed spaceflights. These achievements reinforce ISRO's growing global presence in space exploration.



India's journey of growth and achievement is a testament to the resilience, innovation, and determination of its people. From overcoming challenges to embracing opportunities, the nation continues to shine on the global stage, setting new benchmarks in every field. As we look to the future, the collective spirit of unity, progress, and ambition will undoubtedly propel India towards even greater heights, inspiring the world with its remarkable story of transformation

The Power That Didn't Seek Power: India's Geopolitical Gravity

In a transformative paradigm shift, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's realpolitik approach has catapulted India from regional stakeholder to global hegemon, fundamentally recalibrating the international power equilibrium through astute diplomatic maneuvers and geoeconomic initiatives.

Modi's strategic doctrine has positioned India as an indispensable counterweight in the Indo-Pacific theater, leveraging its $3.7 trillion economic prowess to emerge as a pivotal force in the contemporary multipolar world order.

His deft orchestration of diplomatic rapprochement across 65 nations has yielded unprecedented geoeconomic dividends, securing $168 billion in strategic investments while maintaining sovereign autonomy in global affairs.

The architect of India's strategic autonomy doctrine has masterfully navigated the complex geopolitical chess board. Despite Western sanctions regimes, India's strategic hydro-carbon partnership with Moscow generated $27 billion in savings while simultaneously deepening strategic convergence with the QUAD alliance. This demonstration of strategic flexibility has established India as the

quintessential power broker in contemporary great power politics.

P M Modi's government has skillfully leveraged this attention without abandoning India's core principle of strategic autonomy. When Russia faced isolation, India maintained energy imports. When Western technology sanctions hit China, India positioned itself as an alternative manufacturing hub.

As Europe seeks to diversify supply chains, India emerges as a preferred partner.

New India's military modernization doctrine and indigenous defense matrix have yielded strategic dividends. With defense exports reaching $3 billionacross 75 nations and reduced strategic dependency on foreign imports by 21%, India's hard power projection capabilities have expanded significantly.

The operationalization of INS Vikrant and nuclear triad capabilities have amplified India's strategic deterrence architecture.

In the technological domain, Modi's $10 billion semiconductor initiative directly challenges existing supply chain hegemony. The Digital India framework, particularly the UPI revolution, has redefined financial sovereignty for 1.4 billion citizens, establishing India as a digital superpower.

His crisis management doctrine during international contingencies has reinforced India's credentials as a responsible stakeholder in global governance.

From executing strategic evacuations during the Ukraine conflict to vaccine diplomacy across 150 nations, Modi's administration has demonstrated India's capacity for global leadership.

The ambitious $110 billion Middle East- Europe infrastructure corridor epitomizes Modi's geoeconomic vision. His stewardship of the G20 and championship of Global South interests have transformed India from policy adherent to policy architect in the international system.

While socio- economic challenges persist, Modi's strategic vision and doctrine of multialignment continue to propel India's ascendancy as the pivotal force in shaping the emerging world order and regional security architecture.

Strategic Leap: India Invests $4 Billion in US-Made MQ-9B Predator Drones

India has signed a $4 billion agreement with the United States to acquire 31 MQ-9B Predator drones, advancing its defense modernization and strengthening its strategic partnership with the US. Developed by General Atomics, these High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) drones can operate for up to 40 hours at altitudes of 50,000 feet, providing unmatched surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities.

Equipped with advanced sensors and real-time monitoring systems, the MQ-9B enhances intelligence and situational awareness. With a payload capacity of 1,700 kilograms, it can carry precision-guided missiles and bombs, though India plans initial deployment in unarmed configurations. The deal includes 15 Sea Guardian drones for maritime security and anti-submarine warfare, and 16 Sky Guardian drones for land-based surveillance, with deployments planned for key bases like Sarsawa and Gorakhpur. This ensures effective coverage of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

An indigenous Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) facility will be established to support these drones, fostering local expertise and reducing dependency on foreign services. Strategically, this acquisition enhances India's capability to monitor borders and maritime zones, addressing security challenges posed by China and boosting operational readiness.

This deal not only strengthens India's defense infrastructure but also underscores growing Indo- US defense collaboration, paving the way for technology transfer, joint military exercises, and industrial partnerships. With these drones, India is poised to enhance its strategic deterrence and play a pivotal role in ensuring security in the Indo-Pacific region.

India's Tech Growth: A Digital Revolution Unleashed

India's Digital Story

India's technology sector is experiencing unprecedented growth, driven by a robust startup ecosystem and digital transformation initiatives.

The country's IT exports reached $194 billion in 2023, while its digital economy is projected to hit $1 trillion by 2025. Major tech hubs like Bengaluru and Hyderabad are attracting global investment, with sectors like fintech, SaaS, and AI leading innovation.

Government initiatives like Digital India further accelerate this tech revolution, positioning India as a global technology powerhouse.

How the power shift in Syria affects India

The Assad regime ruled Syria for 50 long years. The presidentship passed on to Bashar Al-Assad in 2000 after his father passed away post an almost three-decades' long rule.

8th of December 2024 proved momentous in the political history of Syria. The Islamist militant group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) and allied rebel factions spearheaded a major offensive and led to the collapse of the Assad regime.

In its wake, Syria finds itself hung in the middle of a transition with countries world over keeping an eye on the evolving dynamics in the region. India is no exception.Assad's ouster is bound to have implications- both directly and indirectly- over India's internal security.

First and foremost, the success of rebel forces in Syria has certainly emboldened the pro-Jihad Islamist agenda of terrorist outfits around the world.

Indian agencies are already anticipating a swell in recruitment drive for these extremist groups, thus thwarting their counter-terrorism and de-radicalisation efforts. There is the danger of Indian Muslim youth getting radicalised andgaining access to weapons training; a rise in lone wolf attacks being a dangerous outcome.

Between 2013 and 2014, a faction of erstwhile Indian Mujahideen (IM) pledged allegiance to the Islamic State (IS) and shifted base to Iraq and Syria. This time onwards the numbers of Indian youths joining ISIS as foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) swelled up.

The deep connections between ISIS and Al-Qaeda and how inter-banner recruitment of youths for terror purposes takes place is well established. Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), the group leading the offensive is a former Al-Qaeda affiliate.

For all purposes, all Islamic terror outfits have essentially strong internal connections with shared arms & ammunitions and fighter base. It further adds weight to the strong possibility of aggressive push to radicalisation cum recruitment drives in the Indian Subcontinent.

Secondly, Turkey is another country which supported theHTS and other rebel groups. The regime overthrow has certainly emboldened Turkish influence on the regional and international geopolitics. The President Recep Erdogan's pro-Caliphate agenda is open knowledge,along with how turkish State sponsored bodies and NGOs facilitate terror funding for such groups as the Hamas, Hezbollah and ISIS besides the Syrian opposition.

In the context of India, Turkey openly criticised the revocation of Article 370. Turkish NGOs like TUGWA and IHH among others have long-standing ties with Pakistan's Jamaat e Islami and its branches in Bangladesh and Nepal. Despite Indian Jamaat e Islami Hind (JIH) vehemently denying links with its neighbouring counterparts, it is as steadfastly close to afore-mentioned Turkish State sponsored bodies. Bolstered by its success in Syria, Turkey is likely to engage more deeply with its Indian subcontinent partners and thus create harm for India.

Thirdly, the Kashmir issue can be another possible area of concern. The Syrian government under Assad maintained that Kashmir was India's internal matter. If the new regime doesn't do a complete flip on this policy matter, it is likely to remain the same. However with Turkey involved in the Syrian equation, a likely facilitation of terrorism in the Kashmir territories remains a serious security alarm.

Furthermore, as has been proven right with such territories as Afghanistan in the past, a country struck with power vacuum becomes a natural hot bed for organised crime, drug trafficking & arms smuggling among others.

Finally, the political turmoil poses a threat to the safety and security of the Indian diaspora in Syria. This is because HTS' Emir (head) Abu Mohammed al-Jawlani's previous statements guaranteeing minorities of their rights need to be cautiously seen within the framework of radical interpretation.

Recently Jawlani remarked that conducting fresh elections in Syria shall take next 3 to 4 years. This combined with HTS' brutal crackdown on Assad loyalists in controlled territories already raises questions on how these rebel groups plan to govern the multi-ethnic country; plunging the fate of Indians in Syria into a deeper misery.

The evolving ground situation in Syria is essentially a wait & watch scenario for India. Syria, in its current state, has all the makings of being a fertile land for breeding terrorism which the Indian security agencies need to keep a keen eye over.

How TUGVA is key to Turkey's anti-India campaign

Recep Erdogan's vision of a conservative Islamist Neo-Ottoman Turkey has translated into its use of Turkish State sponsored entities to expand its soft power over other countries including India. The Turkey Youth Foundation (TÜGVA) is one such key NGO, which is headed by Ibrahim Besinci and has Bilal Erdogan, the President's son sits on the high advisory board of the foundation. Indian agencies have expressed concerns in the past about TUGVA's anti-India activities.

TUGVA is one of Turkey's largest youth cum student organisations. The ideological base of TUGVA is driven by Nureddin Yıldız, a radical cleric who is close to the Turkish president and openly advocates armed jihad. Controversial Indian islamist preachers Zakir Naik and Salman al-Husseini al-Nadwi have shared stage with Yildiz in the past.The foundation's monthly magazine, Aktas has even gone on to argue that youth's responsibility is a constant struggle 'to establish a new world order'.

Incidentally, The foundation has close links with Pakistani agencies, including the ISI and Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan, in furtherance of pro-Caliphate agenda of Erdogan government. In October of 2023, Pakistan's Ambassador to Turkey Dr Yousaf Junaid attended a convention of international student organizations and civil society organized by TUGVA (Turkiye Youth Foundation) to observe Kashmir Black Day in Istanbul. TUGVA had also vehemently opposed the revocation of Article 370 in Kashmir in 2019.

On the operational front, TUGVA is responsible for selecting and admitting Indian students into Turkish educational institutions on a scholarship and assisting them with settling down. In the process, an alleged phased radicalisation program of these students is conducted through persistent contact and circulation of reading materials. Back in 2018, Haji Syed Salman Chishty, Gaddi Nashin of the Ajmer Sharif Dargah had also reported of his cousin Faiz Chishty qualifying for an interview for scholarship in Islamic Studies at a Turkish University.

In past few years, the number of Kashmiri students receiving scholarships by these organisations has significantly increased.

Within India, TUGVA incidentally has come to develop strong ties with Students' Islamic Organisation (SIO), the student wing of Jamaat e Islami Hind. SIO has a strong base in states like Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, New Delhi and Jammu and Kashmir. Islamic Students Circle (ISC), a subset of SIO, is believed to operate under Turkish influence.

Adding to the concerns is credible reports on nefarious schemes under pipeline which have been helmed by TUGVA. On September 29, 2016,the Nordic Monitor reported that TÜGVA's strategic coordination department had a draft plan to train and put experts on field,in India;their expertise slated to cover a range of areas from politics to history and from sociology to the societal dynamics of the countries that were targeted.

In 2021 a leaked TÜGVA internal memo revealed the foundation's covert intelligence gathering plans in foreign countries in close coordination with Turkey's spy agency, the National Intelligence Organization (Milli İstihbarat Teşkilatı, MIT) and other NGOs. To top it all, TUGVA's close links with other problematic entities adds to the critical need to monitor it's activities within India. It is partners with another Turkish NGO İHH İnsani Yardım Vakfi or IHH which has networked with such radical extremist Indian groups in the past as the Popular Front of India (PFI).Two key leaders of the PFI, E. M. Abdul Rahiman and Prof. P. Koya, members of the National Executive Council of the PFI, were privately hosted in Istanbul by the IHH in October 2018.

TUGVA is key to Turkey's agenda of spreading it's radical tentacles over India, thwarting which requires a proactive approach from Indian security agencies.

A new and concerning take on Islamic RadicalisationHizb-ut-Tahrir

Hizb-ut-Tahrir(HuT) is an international Islamist movement aiming at the re-establishment of the Islamic Caliphate with the Sharia law governing all,globally. It advocates embracing Jihad as just and natural to their cause. It catapulted to highlight in 2024 when first the UK and then India proceeded with declaring HuT as a terrorist organisation and banning it under their respective national anti-terror laws.

HuT was founded way back in 1953 by Sheikh Taqi al-Din al-Nabhani. That a group this extremist in terms of its ideology could spread its tentacles world over for decades without any major hindrance is alarming.

Recent crackdowns by Indian law enforcement agencies on HuT modules within India reveal astonishing details about the group's expanse and the sophisticated radicalisation program deployed by it.

First, Hizb has infiltrated the educational institutions. In December of 2024, Indian agencies flagged Sabbir Amir and Ridwan Manuf- two Bangladeshi individuals-with valid visas who have been conducting lectures and circulating radicalising material among students of colleges in Bengal. They dodged the radar initially by passing off as Islamic scholars. Incidentally, HuT's strong base among Bangladeshi students is already out in the open. Dhaka's elite North South University,has many of its students and faculty, including a former pro Vice Chancellor, linked directly to the terror outfit.

Additionally,the HuT has, since the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government in Bangladesh, become very active and has been holding rallies and meetings. Mahfuz Alam, an advisor and special assistant to Mohammad Yunus, the head of the interim government, is reported to have been linked to the HuT.

Second, HuT has a pick for its membership among the more prosperous, educated and professionally qualified sections of the society. Mohammad Waseem, who works for an NGO and is the son of a renowned social activist for Bhopal Gas victims was one of the key arrests made in the crackdown on Hizb modules in Madhya Pradesh. In fact, arrested chief of this module, Mohammad Salim aka Saurabh Rajvaidya was a professor at Asaduddin Owaisi-owned Deccan Medical College in Hyderabad.

Third, the group has gone on to succeed in converting several non-muslims and recruiting them for its nefarious cause. Besides Saurabh Rajvaidya, two other arrested accused in the Madhya Pradesh HuT module- Abdul Rehman and Mohammad Abbas were also originally Hindus who were brainwashed into converting to Islam. Abdul Rehman, a resident of Odisha was Devi Prasad Panda before he converted to Islam.

Similarly, Mohammad Abbas, a resident of Hyderabad was Bux Venu Kumar before he embraced Islam.

Fourth, all of the Hizb cells in India which have been unearthed so far have been revealed to be receiving extensive backing and support from handlers in neighboring Pakistan and Bangladesh. Bengal students being brainwashed by Bangladeshi agents posing as Islamic scholars is already a case in point.

All the five arrests in the Tamil-Nadu Hizb module case were in contact with their Pakistan-based HuT counterparts and propagated their newsletters / articles regarding violent cession of Kashmir with military assistance (Nusra) from Pakistan. They were provided articles that incite violence and published by the Central Media Office (CMO) of HuT.

It is pertinent to note that these HuT modules, in all likelihood, have been receiving support from their Indian terror counterparts as well. The parents of Saurabh Rajvaidya (Madhya Pradesh HuT module chief) had named one Dr. Kamaal as responsible for brainwashing their son into embracing Islam, describing him as an aide of controversial preacher Zakir Naik.

Furthermore, HuT's deployment of sophisticated technology towards recruiting youths is a cause of great concern. The Madhya Pradesh case had arrested members conduct secret training sessions in hand-to-hand combat and firearms in the forests of Madhya Pradesh, utilising encrypted communication platforms like Rocket Chat and Threema. The group's adaptability to modern technology is slated to complicating counter-terrorism efforts.

In coordinated response, Indian agencies have dismantled several Hizb-Ut-Tahrir modules across many Indian states. The group however with its aggressive modus operandi combined with its extremist Islamist ideology is a grave security concern. It is already banned in 16 nations.

Kashmir's Blooming Terrorists

The events unfolded with the Gagangair terror attack in Ganderbal district, Kashmir, where APCO Infratech was targeted. The company is engaged in constructing a tunnel to provide all-weather connectivity between Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The attack, which occurred on October 20, 2024, was coordinated across multiple locations within the construction site, leading to the deaths of a doctor and six construction workers.

On October 22, 2024, in response to this attack, the Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) conducted extensive searches across multiple districts in Jammu and Kashmir, including Srinagar, Ganderbal, Bandipora, Kulgam, Budgam, Anantnag, and Pulwama. These searches were conducted based on a warrant issued by the Hon'ble Court of Special Judge under the NIA Act, Srinagar. The operation uncovered a recruitment module operated by a newly established terrorist group, "Tehreek Labaik Ya Muslim" (TLM), believed to be an offshoot of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). The group is reportedly headed by a Pakistani terrorist handler identified as "@Baba Hamas."

The investigation revealed a broader conspiracy orchestrated by banned terrorist organizations operating within Jammu and Kashmir and across the Line of Control (LoC) under the guidance of Pakistani agencies.

These groups, in collaboration with Over Ground Workers (OGWs), supporters, facilitators, and sympathizers, are actively forming new terror cells. By exploiting various social media platforms, they lure Kashmiri youth through radicalization, instigation, and provocation, encouraging them to engage in unlawful and terrorist activities or join terrorist ranks.

Evidence gathered by CIK indicated that "@Baba Hamas," a handler for LeT, was planning to establish TLM in collaboration with Over Ground Workers (OGWs) and sympathizers, with the support of Pakistani agencies, to intensify terrorist activities in the Kashmir Valley.

It was also revealed that another Pakistani terrorist handler, "Gazi Hamas," was actively providing seditious material and instructions through encrypted social media platforms to radicalize and recruit youth for TLM. Notably, "Gazi Hamas", also identified as Illyas Kashmiri or Haider, a Pakistani resident of Bhawalpur, was charge-sheeted by CIK on September 6, 2024, for his role in a separate terror module. This module aimed to radicalize potential recruits via social media applications, including encrypted messaging platforms, to join organizations like LeT, AuGH, and JeM.

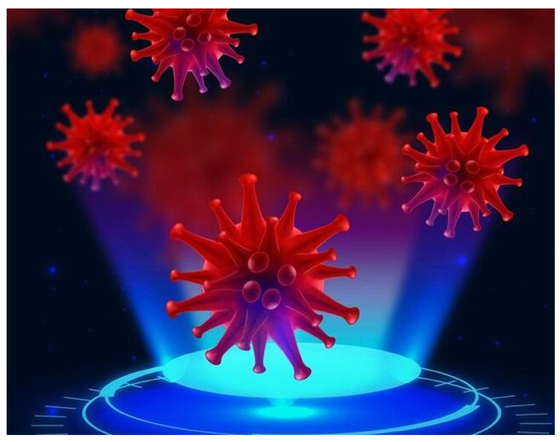
Search operations were conducted at ten locations across the Kashmir Valley. These resulted in the arrest of suspects and the seizure of incriminating materials, including digital devices, SIM cards, mobile phones, laptops, and seditious documents relevant to the investigation.

Recent incidents highlight, that the newly emerged terrorist organization has claimed responsibility for several attacks in the past, including a fire at the Panchayat Ghar in the Seer area of District Pulwama and another fire in a remote village of Doda (though this incident has not been corroborated on the ground).

Additionally, this group has been involved in pasting posters at various locations across South and Central Kashmir and on internet-based social media platforms. These actions appear to be aimed at glorifying terrorism and radicalizing youth to join this new terror outfit.

The investigation aims to dismantle the terror ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir. This includes identifying and prosecuting Over Ground Workers (OGWs) and others involved in supporting terrorism while ensuring legal action under the law.

China Faces New Viral and Bacterial Challenges



As of early 2025, a new virus, named Zhonghua Virus (ZHV), has been identified in China, along with a surge in fever cases linked to the outbreak. This virus, believed to have originated in rural areas, is causing concern due to its rapid spread in urban centers. Patients infected with ZHV display symptoms similar to those of influenza, including high fever, fatigue, and respiratory distress.

Health authorities are working to determine the exact mode of transmission, which is suspected to involve both human-to-human contact and zoonotic spillover. On the 7th that with multiple viruses spreading simultaneously and hospitals overcrowded

While the Zhonghua Virus is not yet classified as a pandemic, its increasing presence has led to heightened surveillance and precautions. China's health agencies, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), have initiated mass testing and contact tracing efforts.

Early findings suggest that the virus may be seasonal, leading to fears of more cases in the coming months. Public health experts emphasize the need for early detection, quarantine measures, and widespread vaccination campaigns to prevent further spread.

In addition to ZHV, China is also addressing outbreaks of Q fever in JiangSu, a bacterial infection caused by Coxiella burnetii.

The disease is often transmitted through livestock, and symptoms include fever, chills, and fatigue. Although Q fever is usually treatable with antibiotics, it poses a significant public health challenge in rural regions.

Sikhs for Justice Plans War on India's Economy and Diplomacy, Says Pannun in 2025 Message

In a new video released on January 1, 2025, Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, the leader of Sikhs for Justice (SFJ), has delivered a stark warning regarding the future of India. Pannun claimed that 2025 will mark a pivotal year for India, describing it as the "doomsday" for the nation. The message, shared across SFJ's social media platforms, outlined a series of threats to India's political and diplomatic stability.

Pannun announced that SFJ intends to launch a "plumbless war" targeting India's global influence, specifically focusing on undermining the nation's economy and its diplomatic ties around the world.

He emphasized that the organization's pro-Khalistan campaign, which seeks the liberation of Punjab through a Khalistan referendum, is gaining traction among Sikhs globally. The group claims that Sikhs living in the United States and Canada are not only committed to their host countries but are also willing to sacrifice their lives in the event of war.

Pannun's speech also criticized Indo-American and Indo-Canadian Hindus, accusing them of loyalty to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "violent Hindutwa ideology" and of working against the interests of the U.S. and Canada. He portrayed the alliance between India, Russia, and Iran as a "triangle of evil" and suggested that this alignment threatens both American and Canadian sovereignty.

The leader of Sikhs for Justice expressed intentions to collaborate with both the Trump and Trudeau administrations, advocating for the formation of a "Sikh brigade" within the U.S. and Canadian armed forces. According to Pannun, the Sikh community must rally behind this initiative to fight what he called "authoritarian regimes" led by India, Russia, and Iran. He called upon Sikh youth in North America to join these military brigades, describing it as an opportunity to learn from the "very best" in military training and uphold democratic values.

Pannun also reaffirmed the importance of the Khalistan referendum campaign, which SFJ has been promoting as a political effort to free Punjab from Indian control. The first referendum of 2025 is set to take place at Los Angeles, California on March 23, 2025. The event is being marked as a significant moment in the battle against what Pannun referred to as Modi's Hindutwa ideology.

Amid these developments, it's important to note that the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Tribunal recently upheld a notification by India's Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), imposing a five-year ban on Sikhs for Justice and its leader, Pannun, for their involvement in promoting Khalistani terrorism.

As SFJ escalates its rhetoric, tensions between the organization and India continue to grow, drawing attention to the wider geopolitical implications for the region.

China Unveils Revolutionary Military 5G System Capable of Controlling Thousands of Combat Robots

China has achieved a significant breakthrough in military communications technology with the development of the world's first mobile military-grade 5G base station, designed specifically for battlefield deployment. The system, jointly developed by China Mobile Communications Group and the People's Liberation Army (PLA), represents a major advance in military communications capabilities.

According to research published in the Telecommunications Science journal on December 17, the new system can support up to 10,000 users within a three-kilometer radius, maintaining stable connections even in challenging battlefield conditions.

The project team, led by senior engineer Hou Jie from PLA Unit 31567, has demonstrated the system's ability to deliver impressive performance metrics, including a total throughput of 10 gigabits per second and latency under 15 milliseconds, even when forces are moving at speeds of up to 80 kilometers per hour through complex terrain.

A key innovation of the system is its drone-based relay platform, which can be mounted on military vehicles.

The platform houses three to four drones that can alternate duties as aerial base stations, with automatic handover capabilities and the ability to return to the vehicle for recharging. This solution effectively addresses the challenge of maintaining communications in areas without ground infrastructure or when satellite signals are compromised. The system has been specifically designed communication challenges, including electromagnetic interference from both enemy and friendly forces. The team has developed user terminals capable of transmitting data at up to 400 megawatts under electromagnetic suppression while maintaining efficient energy consumption.

The development leverages China's extensive civilian 5G infrastructure, which as of November 2024 includes approximately 4.2 million base stations—the largest such network globally. The military system incorporates modified versions of civilian automatic station opening tools, enabling seamless switching between aerial and ground-based stations.

This advancement positions China at the forefront of military communications technology, particularly in the context of unmanned warfare. The system's ability to coordinate thousands of autonomous combat platforms, including drones and robot dogs, could prove crucial in future military operations where unmanned systems are expected to outnumber human soldiers. The achievement stands in contrast to similar efforts by or Haider, a Pakistani resident of Bhawalpur, was charge-sheeted by CIK on the United States, which launched its own military 5G initiative in 2020. The U.S. program, despite collaboration between Lockheed Martin and Verizon, has reportedly faced technical challenges, with their 5G.MIL system currently achieving higher latency rates of up to 30 milliseconds over much shorter distances.

This development marks a significant milestone in the militarization of 5G technology and could have far-reaching implications for the future of warfare, particularly in the domain of autonomous combat systems.

Crossing Boundaries: The ISN and Its Network of Radical Islamists

Islami Sangh, Nepal (ISN), formerly known as Islami Yuwa Sangh, was founded in 1985. Based in Kathmandu, the organization's primary objective is to establish Islam in its entirety. ISN believes that Islam alone provides the most effective solutions to the challenges faced by humanity. Its ideology aligns closely with that of the Students Islamic Movement of India (SIMI).

The Islami Sangh has come under the close scrutiny of Indian intelligence agencies due to allegations of providing sanctuary to fugitive Indian terrorists. Reports from intelligence agencies, along with the Special Cell of Delhi Police, have identified a key member of ISN, Nizam Khan, who has been actively involved in offering logistical support to terrorists affiliated with the Indian Mujahideen. Two prominent terrorists, Tauqeer and Junaid, were reportedly among those who received assistance from Nizam Khan.

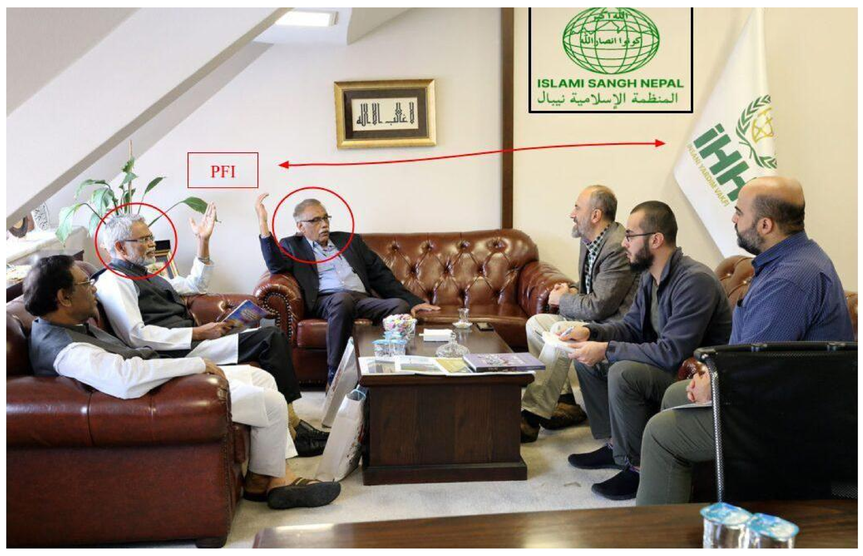
Both individuals are believed to have crossed into Nepal in the year 2008 following their involvement in a series of blasts and terror attacks in several major Indian cities. According to officials from the Special Cell, Nizam Khan is not acting alone but is part of a larger and more extensive network that operates under the protection and patronage of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI).

There is also information regarding an al-Qaeda-linked charity organization from Turkey, known as the Foundation for Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief (IHH), collaborating with ISN. The IHH has been actively running multiple projects in Nepal, particularly in regions near the Indian border.

The primary objective of these efforts is to expand their support base within Nepal's minority Muslim community and to enhance logistical operations in support of global jihadist networks. ISN has reportedly been receiving direct funding from Turkey to finance these projects and has been concentrating its activities in areas close to Nepal's border with India.

The IHH maintains direct ties with the Turkish National Intelligence Organization (MIT) and receives financial support from the Turkish government. In the past, the Turkish government has stood by the IHH during various anti-terrorism investigations.

The organization has been involved in constructing mosques, madrasas, Islamic centers, and orphanages across multiple cities. Looking ahead, the IHH plans to expand its activities into the Sunsari region, a location situated near the Indian border. The IHH is also reported to have an alliance with the Popular Front of India (PFI).



PFI members met with Al-Qaeda linked Turkish group IHH, claims European research body

Sources indicate that two prominent PFI leaders, EM Abdul Rahiman and Prof. P Koya, have held meetings with senior officials of the IHH.

The ties between ISN and radical Islamist groups extend beyond its association with the IHH. According to sources, ISN has been listed as a member of the Islamic World NGO Union (ISDB), an organization that serves as a front for the Turkish paramilitary group SADAT.

Adnan Tanriverdi, the head of SADAT, is a former military advisor to President Erdogan and is widely known for providing financial support to jihadist groups both within and beyond Turkish borders.

Turkey has been actively funding extremist groups in Kerala and Kashmir as part of its broader strategy to assert dominance in the Islamic world through its conservative agenda. The Turkish government is working to extend its influence over South Asian Muslims and has partnered with Pakistan to strengthen its foothold in the region. In pursuit of this goal, Turkey has maintained consistent contact with various Islamist organizations operating in South Asia.

There are growing concerns regarding Bangladeshi Muslims, including Rohingya refugees, who are reportedly entering Nepal illegally and obtaining Nepali citizenship with assistance from local Islamic organizations. The ISN, along with other influential leaders within the Muslim community, has been accused of aiding these individuals in securing Nepali citizenship despite their unlawful entry into the country.

According to a report by intelligence agencies submitted to the Union Home Ministry, Rohingya Muslims residing in India have begun migrating to Nepal. Meanwhile, Pakistan's ISI has been actively establishing bases for terror groups such as Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammad along the Indo-Nepal border.

Considering ISI's activities in Nepal, the financial support provided to Rohingyas to facilitate their settlement in the country is suspected to be part of a larger anti-India conspiracy.

According to sources, the ISN plays a pivotal role in compiling lists of Bangladeshi Muslims and forwarding them to the Muslim Commission and its Chairman. Some experts are concerned that these actions may be part of a larger, more coordinated effort backed by foreign radical organizations, such as Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan, which is believed to have collaborated with the ISN.

In conclusion, the Islami Sangh Nepal has been linked to various controversial activities, including providing support to fugitive terrorists and collaborating with radical organizations. The ISN's connections with groups like the IHH and Pakistani intelligence further raise concerns about its role in advancing extremist agendas in South Asia. Allegations of assisting illegal migrants, including Rohingya Muslims, to acquire Nepali citizenship highlight potential national security risks. The involvement of foreign entities like Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan suggests a broader, coordinated strategy against India. As these activities continue to unfold, the implications for regional stability remain significant.

Tibet's Copper Bonanza:
Economic Promises and Geopolitical Perils

China's recent discovery of massive copper reserves on the Tibetan Plateau, exceeding 20 million metric tonnes, has far-reaching economic and strategic implications. This find, along with the region's existing 53 million tonnes of proven copper reserves, places China in a position to control a significant portion of the world's copper supply, a vital resource for modern industry.

Copper is integral to China's industrial machinery, from manufacturing and construction to powering its rapidly expanding electrical grid. The growing demand for copper is driven by the country's ambitions in renewable energy, electric vehicles (EVs), and high-tech infrastructure. As the largest global consumer of copper, China's needs have surged, making the new discovery in Tibet crucial for meeting its economic and technological goals.

Economically, securing a steady, domestic supply of copper helps China reduce its dependence on foreign imports, ensuring resource security and stability for its industries. With China's strategic mineral base increasingly focused on critical materials, this discovery bolsters its global position, reducing vulnerability to international supply chain disruptions.

However, the strategic significance of this discovery extends beyond economics. Mining operations in sensitive regions like Tibet raise environmental concerns, particularly regarding the impact on water systems that sustain billions of people downstream.

The balance between economic growth and environmental preservation will be a critical challenge as China navigates the consequences of its expanding copper mining operations.

China's copper find is a double-edged sword, offering both immense economic benefits and potential environmental risks that could affect regional stability.

- Water security and pollution risks
- Environmental degradation could affect downstream nations
- Increased military presence under the guise of resource protection
- Strategic advantage in controlling critical mineral resources

As mining operations expand, the true cost of this development – both environmental and political – will become clearer in the years ahead.

Arakan Army Captures Maungdaw, Heightening Regional Tensions

The Arakan Army's (AA) recent seizure of Maungdaw township and the last Border Guard Police outpost has escalated tensions in Myanmar's Rakhine state. Controlling 11 of Rakhine's 17 townships and the 271-km border with Bangladesh, the AA is advancing its push for autonomy amid the ongoing civil war since the 2021 coup. This takeover has forced 50,000 to 60,000 Rohingyas to migrate into Bangladesh, further straining the region.

India's Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project (KMTTP), crucial for connecting the northeastern region to the mainland through Myanmar, faces growing risks due to instability in Rakhine. The conflict threatens key infrastructure, delaying the project and undermining India's Act East Policy. Prolonged disruptions could significantly hinder India's connectivity ambitions in Southeast Asia.

With escalating tensions, cross-border movements, including insurgent activities and refugee flows, are becoming more likely. India's northeastern states, particularly Mizoram and Manipur, which share porous borders with Myanmar, are vulnerable. Insurgent groups may seek refuge in India, while the spillover of tensions could pose serious security challenges.

The forced displacement of Rohingyas has already driven tens of thousands into Bangladesh.

A worsening situation could exacerbate India's humanitarian and administrative challenges, especially in states bordering Myanmar. Past refugee influxes have stretched India's resources, and further escalation risks complicating internal security.

The conflict destabilizes the region and threatens India's strategic interests. Strengthening ties with regional players to counter China's influence in the Bay of Bengal and Indo-Pacific becomes more challenging with Myanmar's instability.

These growing security concerns highlight the need for India to engage proactively with Myanmar's neighbors and recalibrate regional strategies.

The AA's ban on Naf River navigation has disrupted trade routes critical to Bangladesh and Myanmar, indirectly impacting India.

Regional economic integration and trade objectives, including the Kaladan project, face delays. This undermines efforts to enhance India's economic connectivity.

Myanmar's conflict poses multifaceted challenges for India, from security concerns to humanitarian fallout. India must reassess its diplomatic and security strategies and work with regional partners to stabilize the region.

Operation Praghat: India Arrests ABT Militants Amid Heightened Security Concerns

By the end of 2024, Indian security forces have arrested more than 12 suspected operatives of the Ansarullah Bangla Team (ABT) in a series of coordinated operations across Assam, West Bengal, and Kerala as part of "Operation Praghat." This initiative, led by Assam's anti-terrorism squad with the help of Kerala Police, reflects an intensified effort to combat the growing threat posed by the Bangladeshi militant group with links to al-Qaeda.

This crackdown follows a high-profile jailbreak in Bangladesh, where over 2,200 prisoners, including several ABT militants, escaped from a high-security prison. Among the fugitives was Ikramul Haque, the group's operations chief for India. The escape has reignited concerns that ABT militants are regrouping and planning further attacks.

Further escalating the threat, the recent release of ABT leader Jashimuddin Rahmani on bail has raised alarms. Rahmani, who had been incarcerated for years, is known for his calls for violent jihad and the partition of India.

Following his release on August 25, 2024, he made statements urging the West Bengal Chief Minister to "declare independence from Modi's rule" and proclaimed that "Islamist flags will be hoisted over Delhi."

In light of these developments, Indian authorities have ramped up their efforts to combat ABT's infiltration, especially in northeastern states like Assam and Tripura. With the situation continuing to evolve, security agencies remain on high alert, anticipating further militant activities.

Threat to the Chicken's Neck: ABT's Presence in the Siliguri Corridor

The Ansarullah Bangla Team (ABT), a banned Islamist terrorist group from Bangladesh and an affiliate of Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS), has been establishing sleeper cells in India, particularly in West Bengal. Their operations have targeted the strategically vital Siliguri Corridor, commonly known as the Chicken's Neck.

This narrow stretch of land, just 60 kilometers wide, connects mainland India to its northeastern states and borders Nepal, China, Bhutan, and Bangladesh, making it a critical security point. The Indian Army heavily relies on this corridor for transporting arms and ammunition to northeastern states like Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, and Sikkim. Here India shares contentious borders with China and Myanmar.

The region is also home to several insurgent groups and faces cross-border threats, making robust military connectivity essential. The strategic importance of this corridor has only increased in the wake of rising tensions with China along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Arunachal Pradesh and

Sikkim. Any compromise in this area poses a severe threat to India's internal security.

The porous 4,096-kilometer India-Bangladesh border, characterized by rivers, dense forests, and hilly terrain, has provided ABT with easy infiltration routes. Rivers such as the Brahmaputra and Padma are frequently used for covert movements, while unguarded stretches of the border further facilitate their activities. ABT operatives have infiltrated India using forged identification documents like Aadhaar cards, ration cards,and voter IDs, often obtained through corrupt networks or local sympathizers. Many operatives disguise themselves as migrant workers or laborers to blend in with local communities.

Madrassas in border areas have been exploited by ABT as recruitment and training centers, while some have acted as safe havens for operatives. The group has also collaborated with other extremist organizations like Jamaat- ul- Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) to strengthen its network within India. These collaborations have been particularly evident in Assam and West Bengal, though ABT has extended its reach to Karnataka and Kerala, attempting to establish sleeper cells in these states as well. Indian authorities have intensified efforts to counter

ABT activities. In December 2024, a major operation led by the Special Task Force (STF) of Assam Police, in collaboration with police forces from West Bengal and Kerala, dismantled a significant terror module. Eight individuals linked to anti-national activities were arrested, including four from Kokrajhar, one from Dhubri, two from West Bengal, and a Bangladeshi national apprehended in Kerala.

The group was reportedly operating under the guidance of Md. Farhan Israk, a close associate of ABT leader Nasimuddin Rehmani. Shortly after, the STF arrested another operative who was identified as the mastermind of several anti-national operations. Most of these arrests took place in areas like Murshidabad and Alipurduar, highlighting the group's concentrated activities in these districts. Adding to the concerns, Nasimuddin Rehmani, the leader of ABT, made a brief visit to West Bengal in late December 2024. Entering India through the Kasba border, he held a clandestine meeting with sleeper cell members at an undisclosed location before leaving the country.

This event underscores the continuing threat posed by ABT, particularly in border areas, and emphasizes the need for heightened vigilance to safeguard India's internal security.

Uncovering PFI's Financial Web

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is turning up the heat on the banned Popular Front of India (PFI), uncovering a massive international hawala network designed to fund the organization's extremist activities.

Authorities have identified over 13,000 suspicious bank accounts, with approximately 10,000 belonging to expatriates from Kerala. Investigators have traced funds flowing from the Gulf region into India, using these accounts to fuel PFI's anti-national agenda.

The crackdown has led to growing concern among those involved in the transactions. With the NIA and Enforcement Directorate (ED) sharing intelligence on these accounts, many of the accused, including individuals linked to controversial figures like Siddique Kappan, are stranded abroad, avoiding trips home to escape arrest.

The scale of the operation is staggering, with authorities claiming that large sums were funneled to various PFI operatives in key Indian states, particularly Kerala, Bihar, and Uttar Pradesh.

In a high-profile arrest, Mohammad Sajjad Alam, a key player in this hawala network, was apprehended as he arrived at Delhi International Airport from Dubai. Alam, an East Champaran native, is suspected of coordinating fund transfers through syndicates operating in the UAE and southern India.

He is now the 18th individual arrested in a case that was initially filed by Bihar's Phulwari Sharif police in 2022, focusing on PFI's radical activities. Alam's arrest underscores the growing reach of the PFI's operations, which are believed to be orchestrating efforts to disrupt national security by fueling communal tensions.

The NIA's investigation also highlights the PFI's long-term strategy, with the group's internal documents revealing a vision to establish Islamic rule in India by 2047. The agency's efforts have already led to multiple arrests, as it zeroes in on the money trail that underpins these terror plots.

With several more arrests expected, the PFI is facing its most serious challenge yet, as the government ramps up its efforts to dismantle the group's financial and organizational networks.

As the NIA continues to round up key operatives, many of those involved are reportedly seeking refuge abroad, leaving their families behind in a state of uncertainty.

As the investigation deepens, the agency has vowed to continue its relentless pursuit, sending a strong message that no one linked to such activities will go unpunished.

Growing Threat to India's Security as Rohingyas and Terrorists Receive Training in Bangladesh

Bangladesh is becoming a growing concern for regional security, with reports of Rohingya refugees and Islamist militants undergoing advanced training in camps across the country. This development coincides with the interim government of Muhammad Yunus fostering closer ties with Pakistan, increasing fears of a potential threat to India's national security.

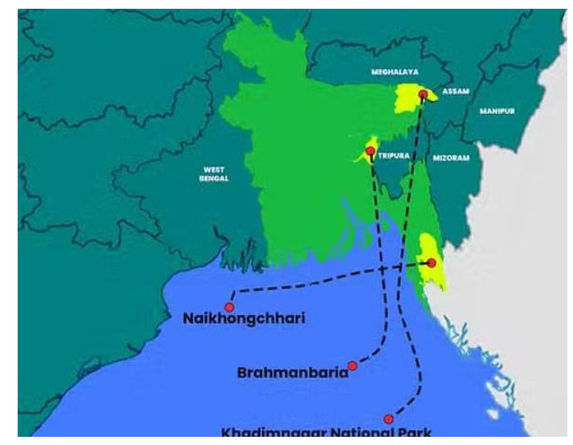
Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) is reportedly resuming covert operations in Bangladesh, rekindling ties with local terror networks. The ISI is believed to be overseeing the training of militants from groups like Ansarullah Bangla Team (ABT), Hizb-ut-Tahrir, and Rohingya refugees in camps across remote districts like Bandarban, Brahmanbaria, and Sylhet.

These camps are well-equipped training centers where militants and radicalized Rohingyas are being taught guerrilla warfare, arms handling, bomb-making, and sabotage techniques. The recruits, mostly young men, are being trained in subversion and infiltration, specifically targeting India's vulnerable border regions.

A training camp for Rohingya men, aged 18-30, is located in the Shali Hills of Naikhongchhari, Bandarban district, Bangladesh, about 23 km from the Kutupalong refugee camp. Led by at least 10 former Pakistani army officers and six ex-Bangladesh Army soldiers, the camp trains the Rohingyas in arms handling, IEDs, guerrilla warfare, terrain surveying, and subterfuge. The area, once home to the Marma people, has seen a significant influx of Rohingya refugees in the last five years, reducing the Marma population to just 17% of Bandarban's population. The camp, located in a hilly tract beside a stream, is off-limits to both the Marmas and Bengali-speaking Muslims, with strict police and paramilitary surveillance.

Around 15 cadres of the Ansarullah Bangla Team (ABT), linked to the Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami, are being trained at a remote camp near Masaura, Brahmanbaria, about 15 km west of the Indo-Bangladesh border in Tripura. The camp, accessible only by foot, is supervised by a former Pakistani Army major from the SSG, with retired Bangladesh Army soldiers also involved. The camp has makeshift structures and is being expanded to accommodate up to 55 people. The ABT cadres, aged 18-25, are receiving training in arms handling and combat skills, with sophisticated weapons. More cadres are expected to join.

A Hizb-ut-Tahrir training camp in Khadimnagar National Park, near Sylhet, Bangladesh, began in mid-November and is still under construction. Located near the



Jalalabad cantonment, it is supervised by a former Para Commando Brigade captain, with trainers from the Bangladesh Army and Pakistan's SSG. Ten cadres are currently training, with 30-40 more expected.

The camp is camouflaged with barracks, bunkers, and training equipment, and is under strict surveillance. Trainees are being taught arms handling, IEDs, sabotage, intelligence gathering, and infiltration techniques. The camp is supervised by a DGFI officer, with links to Pakistan and Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami under suspicion.

The return of the ISI to Bangladesh follows a political shift in the country. Since the appointment of Muhammad Yunus as head of Bangladesh's interim government in August 2024, there has been a shift towards closer ties with Pakistan.

This alignment extends beyond politics into security, with the ISI operating freely across the country. The resurgence of Pakistani influence, coupled with the complicity of senior Bangladeshi officials, poses a direct threat to regional peace.

Retired Pakistani military officers, including former members of the Special Services Group (SSG), alongside Bangladesh's Para Commando Brigade personnel, are playing a key role in the training programs. This points to a robust initiative to bolster terrorism across the Indo-Bangladesh border.

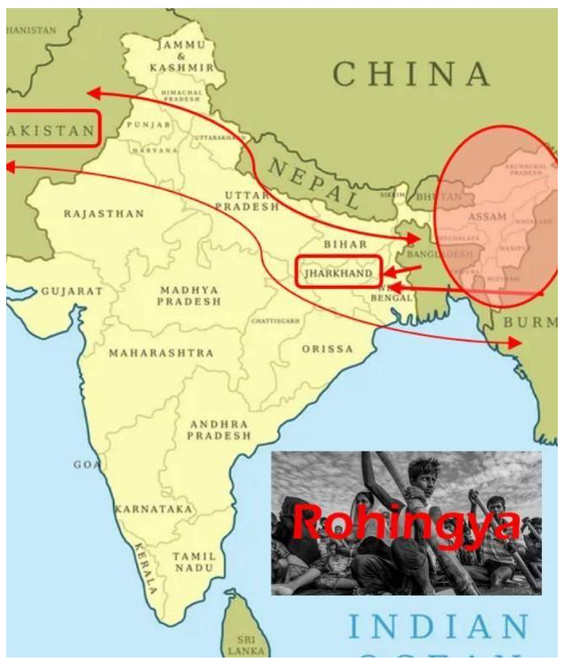
Security experts are raising alarms over the implications for India's border security. The camps in Bangladesh are preparing militants and radicalized Rohingyas for cross-border operations into India. India's northeastern states, including Mizoram, Tripura, and Meghalaya, have struggled with insurgent activities, and the porous borders with Bangladesh exacerbate the problem.

Experts suggest the training will take at least six months before operatives are ready for infiltration, placing the potential threat timeline around mid-2025. By then, a significant number of trained militants and refugees could attempt to cross the Indo-Bangladesh border, targeting sensitive regions like Assam, West Bengal, and the northeastern states. These infiltrations could further destabilize these areas, intensifying existing unrest.

The training of militants is part of broader regional instability, facilitated by Bangladesh's increasing support for terror groups and its military's ties to Pakistan. The presence of terror outfits like ABT and Hizb-ut-Tahrir, combined with the radicalization of Rohingya refugees, represents a direct challenge to India's national security. These camps could become breeding grounds for terrorist activities targeting India and destabilizing the South Asian region.

India faces a significant security threat from covert training camps for Rohingyas and terrorists in Bangladesh, backed by Pakistan's ISI and aided by Bangladesh's interim government. Strengthening border security and countering terrorism are urgent priorities for India.

Cross-Border Challenges: Rohingya and Bangladeshi Infiltration into India



A significant rise in Rohingya and Bangladeshi infiltration into India has raised serious security and demographic concerns. Using the India-Bangladesh border, Rohingyas are entering states like Assam, where over 130 individuals, including Rohingyas, were arrested for illegal entry recently. Initially concentrated in Northeast and North India, Rohingyas have now established camps in cities like Pune.

In Jharkhand, allegations of Bangladeshi and Rohingya infiltration have sparked political and security concerns, as the Jharkhand government has enabled illegal immigration for vote bank politics.

Further west, Haryana's Palwal district has exposed another layer of the problem. Investigations revealed Bangladeshi Rohingya women using forged Aadhaar cards with fraudulent addresses from Jharkhand and West Bengal to acquire property near Jewar Airport. These instances underscore the risks posed by document fraud, corruption, and the long-term consequences of unchecked infiltration.

On a larger scale, the ISI has flown in a few ex-soldiers of the Pakistan Army's elite Special Services Group to oversee the training of Rohingyas and Islamic terror groups.

In all probability, those Rohingya refugees are being trained to infiltrate into India and carry out subversive activities or even attack Indian security establishments. This means that Rohingya refugees are being trained for carrying out operations in India after pushing them through the Indo-Bangladesh border.

All this means that a number of well-trained and well-armed cadres of two Islamic terror groups as well as radical Rohingyas will be ready to enter India through many stretches of the border with Mizoram, Tripura, and Meghalaya, and even perhaps Assam and Bengal, six months from now.

AI-Driven Drones: China's Growing Threat and India's Nagastra Defense

China's strategic move to acquire one million kamikaze Suicide drones for the People's Liberation Army (PLA) by 2026 has raised alarms about the future of border security, particularly along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with India. These AI-powered drones are designed for precise strikes, able to evade current air defense systems, and may become part of China's plan to dominate future battlefields. Experts suggest that these drones could also pose a significant threat to Pakistan, given China's close ties with Islamabad.

In response, India is preparing its defenses with advanced technologies such as the Nagastra-1, a loitering munition system capable of carrying out surgical strikes. Developed by Solar Industries, the Nagastra is radar-resistant and offers GPS-enabled precision, similar to China's drones.

India has already deployed modern drones along the LAC and invested in laser-based Integrated Drone Detection and Interdiction Systems (IDD&IS) to enhance its defense capabilities.

Furthermore, India's counter-drone measures are bolstered by electronic warfare systems designed to protect key military installations. With both countries enhancing their drone capabilities, the threat of drone swarms, capable of overwhelming air defense systems, has become a critical concern.

The cost-effectiveness and maneuverability of FPV (First-Person View) drones, which can be equipped with anti-tank munitions, make them a versatile weapon for modern warfare.

As the landscape of conflict shifts toward AI-driven technologies and drone swarms, India's proactive defense strategies, including the development of indigenous systems, are crucial for staying ahead of these emerging threats.

Safeguarding installations along the LAC remains a priority as tensions continue to rise.

China's Tianshan Shengli-Tunnel Sparks Strategic Concerns in India

In a development that has caught the attention of strategic experts in New Delhi, China's construction of the Tianshan Shengli Tunnel in Xinjiang is raising concerns about its potential implications for India's security and economic interests in the region. The project comprises two traffic tunnels and a service tunnel running between them.

The tunnel, cutting through the formidable Tianshan mountain range, will dramatically reduce travel times in the region.

The project will slash the journey between the range's north and south from three hours to just 20 minutes. As part of the larger Urumqi-Yuli expressway project scheduled for completion by October 2025, it will connect Xinjiang's two largest cities – regional capital Urumqi and Korla – reducing travel time from seven hours to approximately three.

Defense analysts point out that the tunnel significantly enhances China's military mobility in the region, potentially reducing response times for troop deployments near sensitive border areas, including Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh.

"This infrastructure development dramatically improves China's ability to move military assets through previously challenging terrain," says a senior defense analyst, speaking on condition of anonymity. "When viewed alongside other infrastructure projects in the region, it forms part of a larger strategic network that could alter the military dynamics along the India-China border."

The tunnel's economic implications are equally significant. As a crucial component of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), it strengthens Beijing's trade routes to Central Asia and Europe. This development could potentially overshadow India's own economic corridors and trade ambitions in the region, according to economic experts.

Tunnel's role in enhancing China's access to strategic resources is very crucial. The improved connectivity not only facilitates access to Xinjiang's natural resources but also strengthens China's links with energy-rich Central Asian nations. This could potentially impact India's own resource security and economic interests in Central Asia.

However, Indian officials maintain a measured response. Sources within the defense establishment indicate that India has been systematically upgrading its own border infrastructure to maintain strategic balance. "While we monitor such developments closely, India's focus remains on enhancing our own capabilities and infrastructure," a senior official stated.

The Tianshan Shengli Tunnel's construction comes at a time of continued diplomatic tensions between India & China, adding another layer of complexity to the already intricate relationship between the powers. As the project nears completion, its true impact on regional dynamics remains to be seen, but its strategic significance cannot be understated in the evolving Indo-Pacific landscape.