



# TERROR TRACKER

*Newsletter by Counter Terrorism Centre*



MANOHAR PARRIKAR INSTITUTE FOR  
DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES  
मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान



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# INDIA, US PLEDGE TO BRING TERROR PROXIES TO JUSTICE

QUAD ISSUES STRONG MESSAGE AGAINST PAK 'CROSS-BORDER TERROR'



PROXIES OF TERROR: Dawood Ibrahim, Masood Azhar, Hafiz Saeed and Zakiur-Rahman Lakhvi - File pics

Following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US in September 2021 and his bilateral discussions with US President Joe Biden, India and the US released a joint statement on their 'Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership' that included the denunciation of countries that use 'terror proxies' and said that Afghanistan should not become a safe haven for terrorism again.

The leaders reiterated their commitment to combat terrorism, which included bringing to justice those responsible for the 26/11 Mumbai attacks. In a seeming reference to Pakistan, the statement noted that "They (Prime Minister Modi and President Biden) denounced any use of terrorist proxies and emphasized the importance of denying any logistical, financial or military support to terrorist groups which could be used to launch or plan terror attacks."

The India-U.S. statement also stated that Afghanistan's territory should not be used to "threaten or attack any country or to shelter or train terrorists, or to plan or finance terrorist attacks," consistent with United Nations Resolution 2593, which was passed at the end of August during India's presidency of the Council.

Prime Minister Modi also participated in the first in-person Quad Leaders' Summit in Washington D.C., on 24 September 2021. On Afghanistan, Quad agreed to deepen their cooperation in counter-terrorism and called on the Taliban to abide by UNSC Resolution 2593, which calls for taking action against individuals and entities designated as terrorist, pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The leaders also denounced cross border terrorist attacks. — [The Hindu](#), [MEA](#)

PAKISTAN NO 'FIREFIGHTER' BUT TERROR 'ARSONIST', INDIA AT UNGA



Young IFS Officer Sneha Dubey blasting Pakistan PM's claims at the UNGA

In a blistering retort after Pakistan Prime Minister Khan presented his country as a 'victim' of terrorism in his address to the UN General Assembly, India called Pakistan a terror "arsonist" disguising itself as a "fire-fighter" at the world stage.

In the Right to Reply to Pakistan prime minister's remarks at the UN General Assembly, India's First Secretary at the UN, Sneha Dubey responded on 24 September 2021 by saying that "our region, and in fact the entire world, has suffered because of their (Pakistan's) policies."

"On the other hand, they (Pakistan leaders) are trying to cover up sectarian violence in their country as acts of terror," she said. — [The Economic Times](#)

## US CONDEMNS TALIBAN FOR AMPUTATIONS, EXECUTIONS



Afghan folk singer Fawad Andrabi, whose recent killing by the Taliban, has revived fears of the 1990s persecution of musicians.

An Afghan folk singer Fawad Andrabi was dragged from his home and killed by the Taliban, north of Kabul, which has reignited fears that the harsh rule of the militant group as witnessed 20 years ago, which included a clampdown on music, would be revived again. In another recent move, the Taliban hung four dead bodies of kidnappers in public in the city of Herat. Taliban says it did so as a lesson for other potential criminals.

Meanwhile, the US State Department spokesperson Ned Price has strongly reacted to recent statements of Taliban over implementing laws on amputations and execution of criminals. “We are not only observing the statements of the Taliban, but also their actions”, Price said.

The US official was responding to Mullah Nooruddin Torabi, new head of Afghanistan’s prisons, who said that the laws of the 1990s, including executions and amputations, would be implemented soon. – [CNN](#), [Times of India](#),

# 35 TALIBAN KILLED, INJURED IN JALALABAD BLASTS: IS-K

SHARP SPIKE IN TERROR ATTACKS IN PAKISTAN SINCE AUGUST 2021



One of Taliban's vehicles gets blown up in one of Jalalabad blasts last month- File pic

Islamic State-Khorasan (IS-K) has claimed responsibility for a series of bomb blasts in Jalalabad, the capital of Afghanistan’s Nangarhar province, the IS-K’s Amaaq News Agency stated on its Telegram channel on 20 September 2021.

The Amaaq News Agency claimed that four bomb attacks targeted Taliban vehicles and “more than 35 Taliban militia members were killed or wounded, in a series of explosions that took place,” it said. The Taliban has made no comment about the death toll in the blasts or about its casualties in Jalalabad. The IS-K was highly active in Nangarhar until early this year, when Afghan armed forces and then Taliban drove them out of the province.

Meanwhile, terrorist attacks in Pakistan has increased dramatically since the time Taliban has seized control of power in Afghanistan. The Bloomberg news agency has reported that Pakistan witnessed at least 35 terrorist attacks that killed 52 civilians in the month of August, a new high since February of 2017.

Many of these attacks have been attributed to the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) which is said to have grown stronger in recent months, after bringing its splinter groups together. Thus, the IS-K and TTP are fast emerging as major security threats for the Af-Pak region and beyond. — [The Hindustan Times](#), [Bloomberg](#)

# PAK-ORGANISED TERROR MODULE LINKED TO DAWOOD GANG BUSTED

ARRESTS LEAD TO CONCERNS OVER POSSIBLE INCREASE IN TERROR PLOTS



(Clockwise from top left) Mohd Abu Bakar, Jan Mohammed Sheikh, Osama, Mohd Amir Javed, Zeeshan Qamar, Moolchand

Foiling a major terrorist plot targeting India, the Delhi Police Cell in coordination with other state police departments has busted a terror module organized by Pakistan, by arresting six suspects including two Pakistan-trained terrorists on 14 September 2021.

Out of the six terrorist suspects, two (by the name of Osama and Zeeshan) are alleged to be trained in Pakistan. Another suspect by the name of Sameer is reportedly a close associate of Anees Ibrahim (Dawood Ibrahim's brother). The Special cell also recovered explosives and firearms, including an IED, in a multi-state operation that covered Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra.

While questioning the militants, the investigative officers discovered that they were trained to use AK-47, build IEDs using easily accessible materials, and were tasked with carrying out attacks across the aforementioned three states.

The arrests have raised concerns within Indian security agencies that more attacks may be planned by enemies of the country as stated by Neeraj Thakur, Special CP (Special Cell, Delhi Police), "The arrested have stated that there were 14-15 Bangla speaking persons in the group who might have been taken for similar training. It looks like this operation was closely coordinated from across the border. There were two teams, one was being coordinated by Dawood Ibrahim's brother Anees Ibrahim. The team was also working towards organising funding through 'hawala' (transactions)." — [Republic World](#), [India Today](#)

## SIX J&K GOVT EMPLOYEES SACKED FOR TERROR LINKS



Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha

Six Jammu and Kashmir government employees, which includes two police constables, have been sacked for working as Over Ground Workers (OGWs) of terrorist groups. This is the third such incident in recent months.

The employees were dismissed through six separate General Administration Department (GAD) orders, issued on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of J&K, citing sub-clause (c) of the proviso to clause (2) of the Article 311 of the Constitution of India. Under its provisions, no inquiry is held and dismissed employees can only approach a high court for relief. — [India Today](#), [Greater Kashmir](#)

## HEARING FOR 9/11 MASTERMIND KHALED SHEIKH MOHAMMED RESUMES

The first phase of the pre-trial of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed (KSM), believed to be the mastermind of the 9/11 attacks, resumed on 7 September 2021 at Guantanamo Bay Prison. He was arrested in 2003 and faces the death penalty for 2,973 individual counts of murder. The trial motions were opened to the families who lost their kin in the 9/11 terror attacks and reporters covering the event. The actual trial is not expected to take place until April 2022, where the accused and his four accomplices will face the military court.

The pre-trial phase of KSM resumed along with that of four other high-profile detainees held at Guantanamo Bay Prison. The other four defendants are KSM's nephew Ammar Al Baluchi, Walid bin Attash, Ramzi bin Al-Shibh and Mustafa Al-Hawsawi. All 9/11 planners have been assigned military lawyers, in addition to civilian and human rights lawyers.— [The Guardian](#), [FOX News](#)

### **NZ, England End Pak Cricket Tour over Terror**

In a dual blow, the tours of New Zealand and England's cricket teams to Pakistan were cancelled in rapid succession, citing security threats. Fawad Chaudhary, Pakistan's Information Minister, has accused India of sending threatening messages to New Zealand's team hours before they were due to arrive in the country.

The cancellation of scheduled matches caused Ramiz Raja, Chairman of Pakistan Cricket Board, to criticise the West, who "used and binned" his country. The now-cancelled tours were intended to rejuvenate confidence among international teams to play in Pakistan after the terror attack on the Sri Lankan cricket team in 2009 in Lahore. — [NDTV](#), [ESPN](#)

### **ISIS Sleeper Cells in Kerala**

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a charge sheet and arrested three individuals in Kerala due to their involvement in terror-related activities, including disseminating online propaganda about the terror group ISIS.

These jihadists were found to be using platforms like Instagram and Telegram to promote violent extremist beliefs. — [The Hindu](#)

### **Cement company Lafarge 'funded' ISIS**

Recently unveiled documents highlight that Lafarge, a cement conglomerate, financed the operations of Islamic State (IS) in Syria's Celebiye region. In 2017, Lafarge was charged with supplying money, fuel, and cement to IS terrorists. It is also reported that French intelligence did not warn the company that they were committing a crime. — [Al Jazeera](#)

### **'ISIS Bride' Makes Plea to Return to UK**

Refuting claims that she was embroiled in terrorist activities while being married to an Islamic State fighter in Syria, the so-called 'ISIS' bride' Shamima Begum has appealed to the British government to reconsider its decision of revoking her citizenship.

However, the government has reiterated that its decision was taken to maintain the national security. To persuade the government, she has offered her services in contributing towards counter-radicalisation and consequently stop others from following in her footsteps. — [BBC](#)

### **Indonesian ISIS militant killed**

In an exchange of fire with security forces, Indonesia's most wanted militant with ties to the Islamic State (IS) has been killed. The military is celebrating this as victory for the counter-terrorism campaign against extremists in the jungles of Sulawesi island. According to Central Sulawesi province's military chief Brig Gen Farid Makruf, Ali Kalora was one of two militants killed in the shootout. — [WION](#)

### **Several Hurt in Lone Wolf Dhaka Attack**

Bangladesh witnessed its first terror attack after the Taliban takeover in Afghanistan. In what is being described as a lone-wolf attack, Delawar (a militant affiliated with Ansar Al Islam) launched an attack near the Thai embassy in Dhaka on 16 September. The perpetrator targeted a bus belonging to the American International University in which a few individuals have been wounded. PM Sheikh Haseena said that "during the erstwhile BNP rule, slogans like 'we are all Taliban and Bangla will become Afghan' were gaining traction. — [Economic Times](#)