



TERROR TRACKER

Newsletter by Counter Terrorism Centre



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



INDIA SLAMS HINDU WORKER'S LYNCHING IN BANGLADESH

BONDI TERROR ATTACK SHAKES AUSTRALIA

HOME MINISTER LEADS HIGH-LEVEL CT STRATEGY

+ MORE NEWS & ANALYSES

India Condemns Lynching of Hindu Worker in Bangladesh

India strongly condemned the lynching of Hindu garment worker Dipu Chandra Das in Bangladesh's Mymensingh district, calling continued attacks on religious minorities a matter of "grave concern."

Randhir Jaiswal, the official spokesperson of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs said extremists were targeting Hindus, Christians and Buddhists and demanded justice for the killing. Protests were held outside the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi, though India dismissed reports of threats to diplomats, saying the demonstrations were brief and peaceful.

Dipu Chandra Das (25) was killed by a mob over alleged blasphemy in December. Bangladeshi authorities later said no evidence supported the blasphemy claims. Police and the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) arrested multiple suspects, including factory officials accused of handing him over to the mob instead of

alerting authorities. The interim government in Dhaka condemned the killing, promising the perpetrators would be punished and stating there was no place for such violence.

Days later, another Hindu man, 29-year-old Amrit Mondal, was beaten to death by locals in Rajbari district. The interim government said the incident was not communal, but linked to alleged extortion and criminal activity, claiming Mondal had prior criminal cases and denying he was targeted for his religion.

Together, the two incidents have intensified scrutiny of Bangladesh's law-and-order situation during its political transition under the Muhammad Yunus-led interim government. Rights groups warn that minorities remain vulnerable, while authorities insist investigations are ongoing and legal action will be taken to prevent further mob violence.

- Jurist.org, The Hindu, News on Air, NDTV

Bondi's Anti-Semitic Terror Attack Shakes Australia

Australia has announced its largest gun buyback scheme since 1996 following the Bondi Beach mass shooting, the country's deadliest attack in decades.

The terrorist attack, inspired by Islamic State ideology, targeted a Jewish Hanukkah festival, killing 15 people and injuring dozens.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said the buyback will focus on newly banned, surplus and illegal firearms, alongside stricter licensing, limits on gun ownership, and the creation of a national firearms register.

The attack was carried out by a father-son duo. Sajid Akram (50) was shot dead by police at the scene, while his son Naveed Akram (24) survived and has been charged with 59 offences, including 15 counts of murder and terrorism.

Investigators say the pair had extremist links, with homemade IS flags found in their vehicle, and note that Naveed had previously been assessed by intelligence agencies but deemed not a threat.

A week after the shooting, thousands attended memorials across Sydney.

A candle projection ceremony was held at the Sydney Opera House, as Australia mourned the victims and debated rising antisemitism and gun access.

Albanese announced a review of federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to assess whether they have adequate powers and coordination to respond to evolving threats.

The nation has also rallied around Ahmed al-Ahmed, a Syrian-Australian shop owner who disarmed one of the gunmen before being shot multiple times.

Widely praised for his courage, al-Ahmed is recovering after surgery.

A public fundraiser in his support has raised \$2.5 million, which symbolises national solidarity amid widespread grief and calls for reform.

[News on Air](#), [NBC News](#), [The Guardian](#)

Home Minister Heads High Level Counter-Terror Strategy

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Anti-Terrorism Conference 2025 in New Delhi, organised by the National Investigation Agency (NIA). The two-day conference brought together senior police officers, central agencies and experts to review emerging terror threats and strengthen India's counter-terrorism framework. Mr Shah also unveiled the updated NIA crime manual, an Organised Crime Network Database, and a Lost/Looted and Recovered Weapons Database.

Addressing the gathering, Mr Shah said the conference reflects the government's zero-tolerance policy against terrorism under Prime Minister Narendra Modi and has evolved into a platform for actionable outcomes.

He stressed the need to analyse terrorist incidents in India and globally, noting that the changing nature of terrorism driven by technology requires proactive preparation and anticipation of future threats.

He said precise intelligence and coordinated operations led to the neutralisation of terrorists of the Pahalgam attacks and sent a strong message to Pakistan. He also praised investigations into the Pahalgam and Delhi blast cases as examples of watertight, coordinated policing.

Mr Shah emphasised operational uniformity and urged all states to implement a common Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) structure.

He mandated greater use of platforms like NATGRID and NIDAAN, integration of data and technology across agencies, among others. – *[PIB](#)*, *[The Hindu](#)*

US Strikes ISIS in Nigeria

On 25 December, 2025, U.S. Africa Command, in coordination with Nigerian authorities, conducted strikes against ISIS-linked militants in Sokoto State, Nigeria. The operation reportedly killed multiple terrorists in ISIS camps, though specific casualties and details remain unclear. The strikes, delayed to coincide with Christmas, were carried out using drones and missiles launched from naval platforms in the Gulf of Guinea. Nigeria confirmed that Islamic State elements collaborating with the Lakurawa jihadist group and local “bandit” gangs were targeted, though debris from the strikes hit nearby villages, causing damage and local alarm.

The operation sparked confusion and diplomatic tensions, as the U.S. took public credit before Nigeria released official details, raising concerns over sovereignty and the operation’s focus. Analysts questioned why strikes occurred in the northwest, where jihadists are less concentrated, and criticised the symbolic timing. Despite the uncertainties, both countries indicated more counterterrorism strikes could follow as part of ongoing cooperation against IS-linked groups in the region. – [United States Africa Command, Le Monde](#)

ISIS Strikes amid Growing US–Syria Cooperation

A 13 December attack near Palmyra saw a gunman from Syria’s internal security forces open fire on a joint US–Syrian patrol, killing two US soldiers and a civilian interpreter before being killed himself. US and Syrian officials linked the attacker to ISIL, highlighting the group’s continued threat despite losing territorial control years ago. The incident came amid unprecedented cooperation between Washington and Damascus following the fall of Bashar al-Assad and Syria’s entry into the US-led anti-ISIS coalition, with analysts noting improved intelligence sharing and a sharp drop in ISIS attacks over the past year.

In response, the US launched large-scale strikes across central Syria, with Jordanian support, targeting ISIS fighters, infrastructure and weapons sites. President Donald Trump vowed “very serious retaliation,” while US officials stressed the goal was to prevent ISIS from regrouping and destabilising Syria. Analysts warn the Palmyra attack exposed weaknesses in Syria’s rapidly expanded security forces, including uneven vetting, which ISIS may exploit. While experts expect cooperation to continue and improve, further attacks could strain confidence in Syria’s ability to secure the country during its fragile transition. – [Al Jazeera, NBC News, PBS](#)

Undercover Operation Foils Planned Manchester Terror Attack

Two men, Walid Saadaoui and Amar Hussein, were convicted of planning a mass shooting targeting Jewish communities in Greater Manchester, described by police as potentially “the UK’s most deadly terrorist attack.” Saadaoui, inspired by Islamic State terrorist Abdelhamid Abaaoud (who orchestrated the 2015 Paris Terror Attacks), arranged to smuggle multiple AK-47s, handguns, and hundreds of rounds of ammunition into the country. An undercover operative, Farouk, posed as a co-conspirator, gathering crucial evidence while staying in significant personal danger, allowing authorities to control the operation and prevent civilian harm.

The plot involved targeting large gatherings, including an antisemitism march in 2023, and Saadaoui appeared prepared to die in the attack, even burying £74,000 in cash for his family. Saadaoui, Hussein, and Saadaoui’s brother Bilel, who was convicted of failing to report the plot, were arrested in May 2023 after police intercepted the weapons. The undercover operation was credited with preventing a devastating terror attack while securing convictions against all involved. – [BBC News](#)