



TERROR TRACKER

Newsletter by Counter Terrorism Centre



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



SEVERAL KILLED IN KABUL AIRPORT NEW YEAR BLAST

China Lodges Complaint with Taliban Over ISIS-K Hotel Strike

TWO CHILDREN AMONG SIX KILLED IN J&K ATTACKS

Terrorist's Two-Storey Illegal House Demolished

INDIA-CENTRAL ASIA MEET OF NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISORS

India & US Reaffirm Counter Terrorism Cooperation

+ MORE NEWS & ANALYSES

SEVERAL KILLED IN KABUL AIRPORT NEW YEAR BLAST

MORE EXPLOSION HEARD IN AFGHAN CAPITAL SINCE: TALIBAN SILENT



A mushroom cloud rises from an explosion that killed several people at Kabul's military airport on 1st of January 2023. — Picture from social media

ISIS Khorasan (ISIS-K) has claimed responsibility for a bombing near a checkpoint at the Afghan capital's military airport that killed and wounded several people. ISIS-K said in a statement that the 1st of January 2023 attack on the checkpoint in Kabul was carried out by the same member who took part in an assault on a hotel in the capital in mid-December (read that story in the inset). According to some news sources at least 10 people were killed and eight others seriously injured in the explosion, although the precise number of casualties has not been ascertained yet.

ISIS-K identified the attacker as Abdul Jabbar, saying he withdrew safely from the attack on the hotel after he had run out of ammunition. It added that he later detonated his explosives-laden vest targeting the soldiers gathered at the checkpoint in the 1st of January attack.

The military airport is around 200 meters from the civilian airport and close to the Interior Ministry, itself the site of a suicide bombing last October that killed at least four people. Abdul Nafi Takor, a spokesman at the Taliban-run Interior Ministry, said the explosion left "several" people dead and wounded, without providing figures or further information. He said details of an investigation will be shared later.

Meanwhile, several explosions rocked Kabul after the military airport blasts, although Taliban officials have not issued any statement on these attacks.

The latest round of blasts in Kabul came barely three days after the deadly New Year explosions at the Kabul military airport. — [AP](#), [India TV](#)

CHINA LODGES COMPLAINT WITH TALIBAN OVER ISIS-K HOTEL STRIKE



View of the hotel following the ISIS-K terrorist attack. - Social media pic

On 12 December 2022, ISIS Khorasan (ISIS-K) terrorists attacked the Longan hotel in central Kabul. Local residents claimed that they heard rounds of gunfire following a heavy explosion. The assault ended after three gunmen were killed by the Taliban forces.

China lodged a stern complaint with Afghan rulers about this attack in which five of its citizens were wounded. Foreign ministry spokesperson, Wang Wenbin, stated: "This terror attack is abominable, and China is deeply shocked.. —

[Hindustan Times](#)

TERRORIST'S TWO-STORY ILLEGAL HOUSE DEMOLISHED



JeM Terrorist Ashiq Nemroo

On 10 December 2022, J&K's district authorities demolished a two-storey building in Pulwama belonging to a notorious Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) terrorist, Ashiq Nengroo. According to officials, Nengroo was involved in the 2019 Pulwama attack and had forcibly taken over the land on which the house was constructed. The house was built from illicit proceeds of terror funding, at a time when Nengroo was an active terrorist in the valley. The Union Home Ministry invoked the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and designated Ashiq Nengroo, 34 a terrorist.

Intelligence reports suggest he is currently living in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

Nengroo was running a terror syndicate in Kashmir" and is believed to have helped JeM chief Masood Azhar's nephew Idrees to infiltrate into J&K.

— [The Print](#), [NDTV](#)

TWO CHILDREN AMONG SIX KILLED IN J&K ATTACKS

18 CRPF COMPANIES RUSHED TO POONCH AND RAJOURI DISTRICTS



Indian Army personnel during a search and cordon operation after the killings of civilians in Dhangri village in Rajouri, Jammu and Kashmir. — PTI

Six persons, including two children, were killed and many more injured in two separate terror attacks in Upper Dangri village in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district on the 1st and 2nd of January 2023.

In the first attack, two armed terrorists barged into three homes separated by a distance of around 50 metres from each other on the evening of 1st of January 2023 and opened indiscriminate fire. The attack led to the killing of four civilians and injuries to six others.

In the second terror attack, two children were killed and several others injured after a suspected Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast went off on the morning of 2nd of January 2023.

Officials said that the explosion took place near the house where four civilians had been killed and many more injured by terrorists on 1st of January 2023.

The office of LG Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha has announced a compensatory amount of ₹ 10 lakh and a government job to the family of those killed in the firing incident. A National Investigation Agency (NIA) has also visited the village where security has been enhanced.

Meanwhile, the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) will send additional 18 companies to Jammu and Kashmir in the wake of killings, sources familiar with the development said. — [ANI](#)

INDIA-CENTRAL ASIA MEET OF NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISERS

FOCUS ON SECURITY THREATS EMANATING FROM AFGHANISTAN



Indian National Security Adviser Mr. Ajit Doval along with NSAs of Central Asian states at the first India-Central Asia meeting of the National Security Advisers/Secretaries of Security Councils in Delhi on 6 December 2022.

New Delhi hosted the first edition of the India-Central Asia National Security Advisors' meeting on 6 December 2022. All Central Asian countries, barring Turkmenistan, which its ambassador in the capital city represented, sent their NSAs to participate in the event.

This event coincided with India's establishment of diplomatic ties with the regional countries and occurred ten months after the first India-Central Asia virtual summit was conducted.

During the event, the Indian NSA, Mr. Ajit Doval, emphasised the priority status accorded to the "extended" Central Asian neighbourhood and that a "peaceful, secure, prosperous" region is of mutual interest to all present.

Connectivity, terror finance, and security threats emanating from Afghanistan due to terrorist activities were some of the central themes discussed by the delegates. In an implicit jibe against Pakistan, Mr. Doval called on all the United Nations (UN) member states to carry out their obligations underlined in the various counter-terrorism conventions, including UN Security Council Resolution 1267, and not provide any form of support to groups carrying out terrorist acts.

The Afghan Taliban positively responded to the NSA meeting, throwing its weight behind establishing a secure, integrated, peaceful, and stable Afghanistan, a key point mentioned in the joint statement issued by the NSAs. – [WION News](#), [The Indian Express](#), [The Tribune](#)

INDIA & US REAFFIRM COUNTER TERRORISM COOPERATION



Mahaveer Singhvi, Joint Secretary for Counter Terrorism, MoE of India and Timothy Betts, Acting Coordinator for Counter Terrorism, US State Department led respective delegations at the meeting.

On 2 & 13 December 2022, India and the US conducted their 19th meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Joint Working Group and the 5th session of the India-US Designations Dialogue in New Delhi. The two sides stressed the need to disrupt air travel of terrorists and bring perpetrators of Pathankot and 26/11 attacks to justice. Reaffirming their strategic ties, they exchanged views about taking stringent action against UN-designated terror groups like JeM, al-Qaeda, LeT, ISIS, and al-Badr. [The Telegraph Online](#)

25 FAR-RIGHT EXTREMISTS HELD FOR PLANNING COUP IN GERMANY

Around 25 far-right extremists have been arrested from 11 German states for planning to violently overthrow the government, seize power, and install new leaders. The extremists have been reported to be conspiracy theorists, part of the Reichsbürger movement, who deny the legitimacy of the post-World War II republic. They are alleged to have established a military wing, a central council, and three critical ministries – foreign affairs, justice, and health – leading up to the attempted coup.

In one of the largest counter-terror operations in Germany, with approximately 3,000 officials involved, over one hundred properties have been raided, residential and military barracks included. An arrest has also been made in Austria and Italy, respectively. It is expected that the faction which attempted to stage a coup has over 50 members, initially came together in November 2021 and had collected a stockpile of weapons. Some lawmakers have called for tightening Germany's already stringent arms legislation in light of these events. As 19 of the arrested individuals are already in pre-trial detention, information has emerged about their profiles. — [BBC News](#), [DW](#)

J&K's computer emergency response team

The J&K government plans to launch a computer emergency response team to respond effectively to major cyber threats and incidents, exchange critical information with trusted partners, and potentially establish a think tank to procure relevant policy inputs. As per its cyber security policy, the administration has even outlined an agenda to provide cyber insurance and put together a group of cyber analysts to combat cyber attacks and terrorism and a centre of excellence to counter the emerging challenges in the contemporary era. — [The Tribune](#)

Alarm over crypto currency terror funding

Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Austrac), Australia's financial intelligence agency, has revealed alarming information about how organised criminals and terrorists operating in the country use cryptocurrency as “standard part of the money laundering kit.” Mr. John Moss, the agency's Chief, has explained that the use of cryptocurrency, primarily to transfer money outside the country, has become mainstream and is no longer deemed a “niche option.” He also warned about the surging exploitation of crypto-ATMs by criminal elements.

— [The Guardian](#)

Barber found guilty of terror funding

On 8 December 2022, Tarek Namouz, a barber from West London, was found guilty of terror financing on eight counts and possessing valuable information for terrorism on two counts. As per reports, he sent more than 11,000 sterling pounds to Syria and maintained contact with an ISIS sympathiser about the use of explosives and weapons against President Bashar al-Assad's government. He was initially arrested in May 2021.

— [My London News](#)

Terror module busted in J&K's Kishtwar district

On 4 December 2022, army and police officers conducted a joint operation in J&K's Kishtwar district in which a terror module was busted, and a huge cache of explosive materials and ammunition were recovered. A detonator, 56 rounds of General Purpose Machine Gun, a magazine of .303 rifle with 27 rounds, two hand grenades, a safety fuse, and two magazines of an AK-47 assault rifle with 109 rounds were discovered at the hideout. A spokesperson associated with this operation termed it as having “delivered a decisive blow” to the terrorists. —

[NDTV](#)

Four Pak police officers killed in KP

On 18 December 2022, four officers and four others were wounded during a terrorist attack on a recently constructed police station in the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan. The authorities revealed that terrorists were carrying hand grenades and rocket launchers with them into the assault. 60 on-duty police officers were involved in a 45-minute standoff with the attackers, who fled under the cover of darkness —

[The Print](#)

US lists three AQIS members 'terrorists'

On 1 December 2022, the U.S. designated three members of AQIS – Osama Mehmood (Emir), Atif Yahya Ghouri (Deputy), and Muhammad Maroof (responsible for recruitment) – and a member of TTP – Qari Amjad (Deputy Chief and responsible for overseeing operations in the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province) on its list of “Specially Designated Global Terrorists.” — [Al](#)

[Jazeera](#)