



# 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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# GOVT BANS PFI, 8 AFFILIATES; NATIONWIDE CRACKDOWN

NIA, ED AND POLICE CONDUCT RAIDS IN 102 LOCATIONS ACROSS 15 STATES



Police attempt to control PFI and Social Democratic Party of India workers during a protest against raids by the NIA, in Karnataka's Hubballi on September 22, 2022. — PTI

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has banned the Popular Front of India (PFI) and its associates, including the Rehab India Foundation (RIF) and Campus Front of India, for five years under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). Meanwhile, over a hundred people belonging to PFI were detained or arrested in the second round of raids on the premises of the organisation and its functionaries in different parts of the country as part of what has been described as the largest ever crackdown against the group.

The crackdown on the PFI began since September 22 when a pan-India operation was launched by the National Investigation Agency (NIA). In the first round of raids, a total of 108 PFI functionaries, including its chairman OMA Salam were arrested. The raids have been carried out by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in coordination with the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and state police forces at 102 locations across 15 states on charges of terror funding charges. Apart from Karnataka, where over 70 members are reported to have been held, raids have also been carried out in Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana, other states.

In its statement banning the organization, the MHA has said the PFI has “been pursuing a secret agenda to radicalize a particular section of the society working towards undermining the concept of democracy.” — [The Hindustan Times](#), [The Deccan Herald](#), [The BBC](#)

## KERALA PFI SAYS OUTFIT 'HAS BEEN DISSOLVED'



PFI KERALA STATE GENERAL  
SECRETARY ABDUL SATTAR

On 28 September 2022, the Kerala state general secretary of the Popular Front of India (PFI), A. Abdul Sattar, said in a press release that the organisation had been dissolved. He asked cadres to halt political activities and organisation work.

“All PFI members and the public are informed that the PFI has been dissolved. MHA has issued a notification banning PFI. As law-abiding citizens of our great country, the organization accepts the decision,” Sattar said in the press release. He was on the same day taken into custody by the police from Puthiyakavu in Karunagapally and then handed over to the National Investigation Agency (NIA). However, PFI office bearers in Kerala were not available for comment on the matter. — [The Hindu](#)

## INDIA SLAMS PAK PM AT UN OVER CROSS BORDER TERRORISM



Mijito Vinito, First Secretary,  
India Mission to the UN

Indian diplomat Mijito Vinito slammed Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif after the latter's address at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) for making anti-India remarks.

In his Right to Reply, Vinito said: "A polity that claims it seeks peace with its neighbours would never sponsor cross border terrorism." However, he pointed out that Islamabad continues to "shelter planners of the horrific Mumbai terrorist attack, disclosing their existence only under pressure from the international community".

Asking Pakistan to introspect, he added: "When young women in the thousands from the minority community are abducted as an SOP, what can we conclude about the underlying mindset (in Pakistan)?" – [WION](#)

# PAK-AFGHAN SPAT OVER TERRORISM INTENSIFIES

DON'T DEFAME US JUST TO GET SOME MONEY: TALIBAN TELLS PAKISTAN



Various Afghan factions have united in their condemnation of Shehbaz Sharif's (left in picture) remarks at the UNGA on Afghanistan becoming a base for terrorism, with the ruling Taliban (spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid in the middle), former President Hamid Karzai (right) and the TTP openly expressed their outrage against the Pakistan government. — [hindustannewshub.com](#)

On 22 September 2022, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif made critical remarks against Afghanistan in his speech at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), which widened the rift between Islamabad and Kabul. In his speech, Sharif told the UNGA, "Pakistan shares the key concern of the international community regarding the threat posed by the major terrorist groups operating from Afghanistan, especially Islamic State Khorasan (ISIS-K) and Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), as well as Al-Qaeda, East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM) and Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU)".

In harsh condemnation of Shehbaz Sharif's remarks, Taliban Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Sher Mohammed Abbas Stanekzai said: "If Pakistan has an economic problem and is placed on the black list of International Monetary Fund, no one takes their call to give them money. If you (Pakistan) are not given a loan, it is your problem — find your way through any way you can, but don't talk about the dignity of the people of Afghanistan and don't defame Afghanistan just to get some money".

In response to Islamabad's recent letter to Kabul to arrest Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar, Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said: "Jaish-e-Mohammad chief is not in Afghanistan. Such organisations can operate on Pakistan's soil and even under official patronage."

For his part, former President of Afghanistan Hamid Karzai said: "Pakistan government has been for decades nurturing and using terrorism against the people, culture, and heritage of Afghanistan. Continuing to use propaganda and extremism to undermine the wellbeing of the people of Afghanistan is not in the interest of Pakistan; conducting a civilised relationship is". —

[ANI News](#), [India Today](#), [India Narrative](#)

# GOVT ADVISORY FOR INDIANS AS HATE CRIMES GROW IN CANADA

PAKISTAN HAND SUSPECTED IN INSTIGATING SO-CALLED 'KHALISTAN VOTE'



Pakistani diplomat Janbaz Khan, wearing a green headband, addresses members of Guru Nanak Gurdwara in Surrey (in Vancouver) with photographs of top Khalistani leaders behind him. — *The Hindustan Times*

India has taken strong objection to Canada allowing a “Khalistan Referendum” to occur in Brampton, Ontario, on 18 September 2022. Many Canadian Sikhs reportedly voted in the “vote” organised by the banned outfit Sikhs for Justice. Drawing attention to the history of violence associated with the Khalistan movement, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesman Arindam Bagchi said India had taken up the issue with Canada and would continue to press the Canadian government on this. He added: “We find it deeply objectionable that politically motivated exercises by extremist elements are allowed to take place in a friendly country.... The government of India will continue to press the government of Canada on this matter.” For its part, Canada continues to take the plea that being a democratic country; it cannot stop peaceful political activities. On 23 September 2022, MEA issued a travel advisory for Indians in Canada and students flying to the country about a “sharp increase in hate crimes, sectarian violence, and anti-India activities”, and urged them to “remain vigilant”. In what appears to be a bizarre response, Canada has also issued an advisory for its citizens to avoid all travel to the Indian states of Gujarat, Punjab, and Rajasthan, which share a border with Pakistan, due to the “presence of landmines” and “unpredictable security situation”. Meanwhile, the Pakistani Consul General Janbaz Khan visited two pro-Khalistan Gurudwara in Surrey in Vancouver on the day of the so-called Sikh Referendum in Brampton, Ontario. Incidentally, the President of the Gurudwara, Hardeep Singh Nijjar, carries a ₹10 lakh bounty on his head as he is wanted in four NIA cases. — [The Hindustan Times](#), [NDTV](#)

## CHINA BLOCKS LISTING OF LeT LEADER SAJID MIR AT UNSC



SAJID MIR – File picture

For a third time in three months, China blocked India’s attempt to put a Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) commander, Sajid Mir, on the UN Security Council’s 1267 list. The terrorist is not only wanted for the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks and attacks in the US and Denmark.

Currently lodged in a Pakistan jail after being convicted in a minor terror financing case at a hurried trial earlier this year, Sajid Mir’s case has been egregious as he is not only India’s UAPA most wanted list but also on the US FBI’s most wanted list. According to officials, the US had made a move, co-sponsored by India, but China put a hold on the procedure, which can stop each listing for up to six months, followed by an extension of another six months. — [The Hindu](#)

## 100 Children Killed in Suicide Bombing at Kabul School

At least 100 children are reportedly feared killed in a suicide bombing at an educational center in Kabul. According to a local journalist, mostly Hazara Shia students were killed in the explosion. The Hazaras are Afghanistan's third largest ethnic group. According to the BBC, the blast took place at the Kaaj education centre in the Dasht-e-Barchi area in the west of the city. A local journalist, Bilal Sarwary, tweeted, "We have so far counted 100 dead bodies of our students. The number of students killed is much higher. Classroom was packed. This was a mock university entrance exam so that students could prepare for the real one."

Recalling the horror, the journalist said one of the instructors at the education centre was busy picking up body parts, mostly hands, and legs. A video of some students in a class before the tragic incident at the education centre was also posted on Twitter. — [India Today](#)

### Pakistan accepts body of LeT Terrorist

For the first time in two decades, Pakistan accepted the body of a trained LeT terrorist on 5 September 2022. The terrorist had infiltrated into Jammu and Kashmir and died during treatment after he was captured along the Line of Control (LoC) in the Naushera sector of Rajouri district. The body of the 32-year-old Tabarak Ali, resident of Sabzakote in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, was handed over to Pakistan by the Indian Army in the presence of police and civil officers at Chakan Da Bagh at the LoC in the Poonch district, two days after he died of cardiac arrest at a military hospital in Rajouri.

Before dying, Hussein said that a Pakistani colonel had paid him 30,000 rupees to attack the Indian Army's forward posts. — [The Times of India](#)

### Three Terror Funding Raids in Poonch

The State Investigation Agency (SIA) of Jammu and Kashmir has conducted multiple raids to search the houses of suspected persons in connection with a terror-funding case in the Poonch and Rajouri districts.

Several teams carried out simultaneous search in different areas, including Dharati, Kuniyan, and Jhulas villages. Officers said that the search parties seized documents and some digital devices, which will be analysed for further investigation. — [The Tribune](#)

### Sticky bombs, magnetic IEDS recovered

In the first such instance in the Kashmir valley, security forces have recovered sticky bombs or magnetic IEDs from a hybrid terrorist in Sopore township of Baramulla district of the union territory, police said on Sunday. The suspect Saqib Shakeel Dar, with war-like stores, was apprehended in a joint operation by security forces based on a specific tip-off in Shangargund, Sopore. — [India TV](#)

### Nigerian forces kill 200 ISWAP terrorists

Over 200 members of the terrorist group Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), including five of their commanders, have been killed in joint air and ground operations of the Nigerian armed forces, it is reported. Nigerian ground troops and the Air Force conducted operations in early September on many locations infested by ISWAP terrorists, where the terrorists were neutralised near Bama in the central part of Borno State. — [Daily Trust](#)

### 2 Russian embassy staff killed in Kabul blast

Two Russian embassy staff in Kabul were among six people killed when a suicide bomber detonated explosives near the embassy entrance, in a blast that injured at least 10 others, the Russian Foreign Ministry and Afghan officials said on Monday.

The attack was claimed by the Islamic State militant group on its channel on Telegram.

Police said the attacker was shot dead by armed guards as he approached the gate, in one of the first such attacks since the Taliban took power last year. — [Reuters](#)

### 'Jihadi' Madrasa razed in Assam

Local residents of Pakhiura Char under Matia police station in Assam's Goalpara district demolished a madrasa on 5 September 2022 for its use for anti-national and 'jihadi' activities.

This is the fourth madrasa to be demolished in Assam in a few weeks, with the first three being pulled down by government authorities. The first one, Jamiul Huda Madrasa at Moirabari in Morigaon district, was demolished on 4 August by authorities.

On 29 August, authorities pulled down the Jamiul Huda Academy Madrasa in [Barpeta](#) district, while on August 31, the Markazul Ma-Arif Quariayana Madrasa in Bongaigaon district was razed. — [The Indian Express](#)