

Mission accomplished, assert armed forces

India's counter-attack on military bases forced Pak to go for ceasefire; eliminated terrorists including those behind hijacking of IC 814 and Pulwama blast

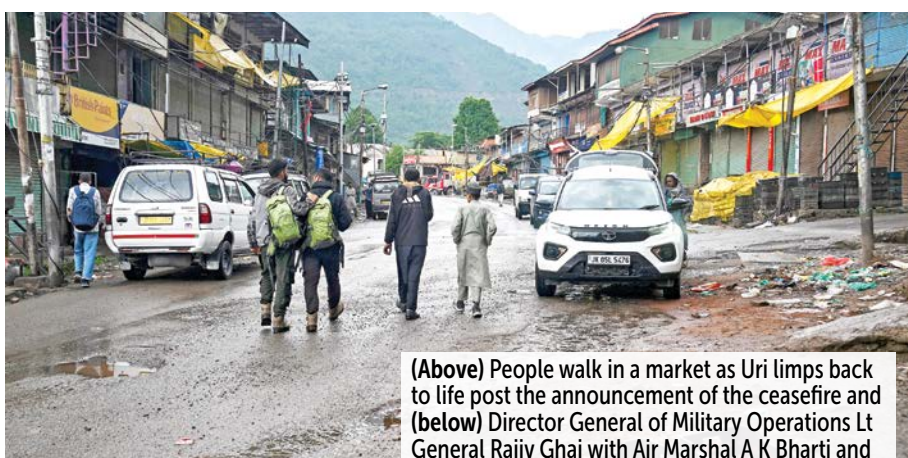
PTI, NEW DELHI: India on Sunday said it inflicted tremendous losses to the Pakistan military, including downing its fighter jets featuring latest technologies and damaging key military installations close to even capital Islamabad, during the three-day confrontation between the two sides.

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Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai said 35-40 Pakistani military personnel were killed in the combat and New Delhi achieved its desired objectives and that Pakistan will have to pay a very heavy price if it resorts to any misadventure.

At a media briefing, senior military officials of the Army, Indian Air Force and the Indian Navy provided details of Operation Sindoor, including how India repelled Pakistani attempts to target Indian military installations and civilian areas.

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(Above) People walk in a market as Uri limps back to life post the announcement of the ceasefire and (below) Director General of Military Operations Lt General Rajiv Ghai with Air Marshal A K Bharti and Vice Admiral AN Pramod during a press conference on 'Operation Sindoor', in New Delhi, on Sunday

SURGICAL PRECISION

■ Over 100 terrorists reportedly killed, including high-value targets like Yusuf Azhar, Abdul Malik Rauf and Mudasir Ahmed

■ Several military installations destroyed near Islamabad, including Rafiqi, Murid, Chaklala, Rahim Yar Khan, Sukkur and Chuniar

■ Indian Air Force stated it downed several Pakistani jets, though without confirming exact numbers. No Indian pilot was lost

■ Five Indian soldiers and civilians lost their lives while around 40 Pak military personnel were killed



HIGH BEAMS AND HIGHER DECIBELS

Anjuna nightclubs unfazed by Indo-Pak tensions

Despite court orders, mock drills and security alerts, there was no respite for locals battling loud music and bright lights from dusk to dawn

AUGUSTO RODRIGUES

VAGATOR: After putting up with persistent noise pollution in defiance of Supreme Court orders, residents of Vagator, Anjuna, and nearby areas found themselves facing another concern during the peak of India-Pakistan tensions: the use of high-powered light beams by nightclubs, which they feared could compromise security.

"Those high beams were a clear invitation



to the enemy (Pakistan) and made a mockery of

the security systems the Ministry of Home Affairs wanted to put in place," said Rajesh Sinary, a concerned citizen from Anjuna. "Even the BCCI called off the IPL which involves crores of rupees taking into account the safety of the people and here, they allowed all the clubs to play loud music in the open and to beam these lights from dusk to dawn," added Sinary.

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Putin proposes direct talks with Ukraine

PTI, MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin on Sunday proposed holding direct peace talks with Ukraine in Istanbul on May 15 without any preconditions, a move welcomed by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who insisted that Moscow must agree to a ceasefire first.

Putin said talks are intended to "eliminate the root causes of the conflict" and "reach the establishment of a long-term, durable peace."

"We would like to start talks immediately, already next Thursday, May 15, in Istanbul, where they were held before and where they were interrupted," Putin said in an address.

He emphasised the talks should be held "without any preconditions."

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Consumers feel betrayed as free water scheme gets the axe

Denounce abrupt termination of free water scheme as calculated betrayal of public trust

Team Herald

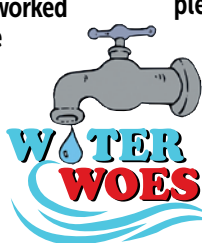
PANJIM: The State government's decision to withdraw the scheme providing 16,000 litres of water per month free (zero billing scheme) is likely to impact approximately 60,000 domestic consumers. The move has evoked sharp criticism from consumers, who benefited from this initiative, with some resorting to judicious use of water by limiting their monthly consumption to avoid the scheme.

Veteran journalist Jovito Lopes, a beneficiary of the scheme, questioned the rationale behind the withdrawal.

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“The government introduced the scheme after due analysis. Why is the government withdrawing it now? Obviously the government had not worked out its budget and the scheme was launched in an unprofessional manner. This is happening because the departments are run by unprofessional people and those in government service are not competent. Withdrawing the scheme is unacceptable – Jovito Lopes, veteran journalist & beneficiary of the scheme

“This move exposes the government's prioritisation of political expediency over genuine public welfare. While citizens grapple with rising living costs and inflation, the administration chooses to withdraw essential support, undermining the very people it pledged to serve. I call upon the government to immediately reinstate the free water scheme and to commit to policies that genuinely reflect the interests and welfare of the Goan people –Francis Coelho, AAP leader



“The 16 cubic metre free water scheme was launched to woo the voters ahead of 2022 Assembly polls. The BJP is known for giving assurances to woo voters and then withdrawing. Take the case of providing 10,000 jobs to unemployed youth and three free LPG cylinders per year per household which could not be fulfilled. The government is fooling the people – Rajesh Sawal, former Sankhali civic body chief

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