

## US BOMBS IRAN NUKE SITES

### Tehran confirms attacks on the Fordow, Natanz enrichment facilities and the Isfahan nuclear site

AP, DUBAI: The United States joined Israel's war against Iran by dropping 30,000-pound bombs on a uranium enrichment site early Sunday, raising urgent questions about what remains of Tehran's nuclear programme and how its weakened military might respond.

Iran lashed out at the US for crossing "a very big red line" with its risky gambit to launch strikes on three Iranian nuclear sites with missiles and the bunker-buster bombs.

"The warmongering and lawless administration in Washington is solely and fully responsible for the dangerous consequences and far-reaching implications of its act of aggression," Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said, adding that he would immediately fly to Moscow to coordinate positions with close ally Russia.

The Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran confirmed that attacks took place on the Fordow and Natanz enrichment facilities as well as the Isfahan nuclear site. Both Iran and the UN nuclear watchdog said there were no immediate signs of radioactive contamination around the sites.

Amid fears of a wider regional conflict, the Trump administration sent a clear

### OPERATION MIDNIGHT HAMMER: US STRIKE THAT CRIPPLED IRAN'S NUCLEAR FACILITIES



#### WHAT ARE BUNKER-BUSTERS?

GBU-57A/B Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP): The most powerful non-nuclear bomb in the U.S. arsenal (~13,600 kg)

Designed to penetrate up to 60 metres of reinforced

concrete or rock - perfect for destroying deeply buried nuclear sites

Used in combat for the first time, targeting fortified facilities built to survive standard strikes

#### HOW OPERATION MIDNIGHT HAMMER WAS EXECUTED

7 B-2 Spirit stealth bombers flew from Whiteman AFB, Missouri - an 18-hour mission with multiple aerial refuels

30+ Tomahawk cruise missiles launched from U.S. submarines in the Arabian Sea - focused on disabling above-ground infrastructure like Isfahan

14 MOPs dropped on Fordow and Natanz, supported by electronic warfare aircraft, F-35s, and radar jamming platforms

Operation lasted 25 minutes, with all U. aircraft exiting Iranian airspace undetected and unchallenged

#### TARGETS AND IMPACT



**FORDOW:** Deep mountain-buried enrichment site; struck with multiple MOPs, collapsing key centrifuge chambers and rendering critical nuclear infrastructure inoperable

**NATANZ:** Both above-ground and underground segments hit; MOPs used to neutralise buried enrichment networks

**ISFAHAN:** Tomahawks took out surface-level fuel conversion facilities - crippling logistics but no bunker-busters used there

message that it wanted to restart diplomatic talks with Iran. Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth told re-

porters that the US "does not seek war" with Iran. But Tehran said the time for diplomacy had passed

and that it had the right to defend itself. President Donald Trump earlier warned there would be

additional strikes if Tehran retaliated against US forces.

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#### INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS

"We have completed our very successful attack on the three nuclear sites in Iran, including Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan. All planes are now outside of Iran air space. A full payload of BOMBS was dropped on the primary site, Fordow. All planes are safely on their way home. This is an HISTORIC MOMENT FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ISRAEL, AND THE WORLD. IRAN MUST NOW AGREE TO END THIS WAR. THANK YOU!"

- Donald Trump, US President

"Each member of the international community has the moral responsibility to end the tragedy of war, before it becomes an irreparable chasm"

- Pope Leo XIV during his weekly Angelus prayer at the Vatican

"The United States... has committed a grave violation of the UN Charter... outrageous and will have everlasting consequences... Iran reserves all options to defend its sovereignty"

- Abbas Araghchi, Iran Foreign Minister

"Irresponsible... flagrantly violates international law... Call for end to aggression"

- Russia Foreign Ministry

## Yet another heritage breach in Old Goa, this time near St Augustine Tower

### Action committee claims work being carried out without proper permissions and several trees have been felled

#### Team Herald

PANJIM: The members of the Save Old Goa Action Committee (SOGAC) and local residents are up in arms over the ongoing construction activity allegedly taking place in the buffer zone of the historic St Augustine Tower in Old Goa as they claim that the work is being carried out without proper permissions and several trees have been felled to pave way for the project.

Claiming that unchecked construction threatens the heritage and ecological value of Old Goa, they demanded immediate intervention from authorities to halt further encroachment and called on Chief Minister Pramod Sawant to urgently implement a master plan for Old Goa.

Speaking to reporters, Vincent D'Silva, from the Save Old Goa Action Committee, stated, "A new construction is coming up near the St Augustine Tower. We do not know who has granted permission for this project - whether it is the panchayat, the Forest Department, or the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). We have made it clear on multiple occasions

"A new construction is coming up near the St Augustine Tower. We do not know who has granted permission for this project - whether it is the panchayat, the Forest Department, or the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). We have made it clear on multiple occasions that no construction should be permitted within the buffer zone of this heritage monument"

- Vincent D'Silva of Save Old Goa Action Committee

that no construction should be permitted within the buffer zone of this heritage monument."

He said, "We have observed that poles have already been erected, the area is fenced with iron sheets, and construction work is underway. If all permissions were in place, there would be a mandatory display board at the site listing approvals from various departments - but no such board exists. Despite repeated objections, construction activities are continuing in the buffer zone. Previously, we opposed the building of the interpretation centre and the police station, and now this new project has begun."

D'Silva emphasised the need for comprehensive planning: "We want to reiterate that no construction

activity should be allowed in the buffer zone of the Basilica of Bom Jesus, a UNESCO World Heritage site. We urgently demand the formulation of a master plan for Old Goa. It is essential for protecting the sanctity and integrity of this historical area."

Caterina Peres, another member of the Save Old Goa Action Committee, questioned the lack of enforcement despite public assurances. "The Town and Country Planning (TCP) Minister, Vishwajit Rane, has publicly stated that no construction will be permitted in the buffer zone. Yet, the interpretation centre and the police station have already been built there - and now this new construction is underway."

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## June 18, when I was removed, was my happiest day: Gaude Refutes media reports that depicted him as being in 'revolt mode'

#### Team Herald

PONDA: Addressing a large gathering of supporters and well-wishers at his first public meeting at Khandola-Marcel, since being dropped from the cabinet, Priol MLA and former minister Govind Gaude claimed that his removal as minister on June 18 (Revolution Day) was the "happiest day".

Refuting media reports that depicted him as being in "revolt mode" or having lost constituency support, Gaude said today's public meeting proved these to be mere rumours.

Highlighting his 23-year struggle for tribal issues, questioning who would speak on these matters if not an MLA or minister, Gaude reiterated his commitment to fighting for the people and his willingness to sacrifice minis-

terial posts multiple times.

"For the past three-and-a-half years, I have been seeking an appointment with the BJP Central leadership through local channels, but without success. I have now officially written to the local BJP president to request such an appointment to discuss issues concerning the local population," he added.

Addressing recent interpretations of his speech on Prerna Din (May 25) by the media, he stated that rivals are spreading rumours to malign his image.

Pained at the immediate announcement of disciplinary action by some leaders based on these media reports, Gaude accused his rivals and some elements of conspiring against him due to his performance and development work in the government.

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## BACK TO OLD TIMES



Tourists take a horse ride at Sonamarg, in Ganderbal district, Jammu & Kashmir, on Sunday

## Pahalgam attack: NIA arrests two men for harbouring terrorists

PTI, SRINAGAR: In a major breakthrough, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested two men for harbouring the terrorists who had carried out the Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 people dead, the agency said on Sunday.

According to the NIA, the two men -- Parvaiz Ahmad Jothar from Batkote and Bashir Ahmad Jothar of Hill Park in Pahalgam -- have disclosed the identities of the three armed terrorists involved in the attack.

They have also confirmed that the assailants were Pakistani nationals affiliated to the proscribed terrorist outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

"Parvaiz and Bashir had knowingly harboured the three armed terrorists at a seasonal dhok (hut) at Hill Park before the attack," the NIA said.

The two men had provided food, shelter and logistical support to the terrorists, who selectively killed the tourists on the basis of their religious identity on April 22, making it one of the most gruesome terrorist attacks ever.

The NIA has arrested the duo under Section 19 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

Further investigations are going on. Meanwhile, Jammu and

Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Sunday said the efforts put in by him and his colleagues for the revival of tourism in Kashmir are bearing fruit, as tourists are returning to the Valley.

"The last time I was in Pahalgam, I cycled through a market that was all but deserted. Today, I came back to a Pahalgam that was bustling with activity. Tourists from various parts of the country competed for space with local picnickers who were enjoying the cool climate and rainy weather," Abdullah said in a post on X, expressing satisfaction over the revival of tourism in Pahalgam.

MAX. TEMP 32.4 °C  
MIN. TEMP 25.5 °C

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## Arrests near schools reveal expanding drug threat in Goa

### Police crackdown welcomed, but activists demand more stringent action against entrenched drug networks targeting youth

#### Team Herald

PANJIM: On 16 June, Pernem Police arrested 28-year-old Shivanand Gawade from Parcem, who was found with 732 grams of ganja worth ₹70,000 concealed in his scooter. Just two days later, Bicholim Police apprehended 19-year-old Harshadeep Ghanekar from Mayem with 29 grams of ganja

valued at ₹2,900. Both arrests were part of a special operation by the police targeting drug peddling near schools and colleges.

While the arrests have been welcomed, social activists and concerned citizens argue that such actions are merely cosmetic and do little to dismantle the deeper, organised drug networks operating across

the state.

During a drug-awareness event on 22 June, the Superintendent of Police, Anti-Narcotics Cell, acknowledged the scale of the issue, saying, "Illicit drug trafficking and drug use are rising, especially among the younger generation. It's destroying families and society and poses a national threat. This

menace must be eradicated."

Sabina Martins, Convenor of Bailancho Saad, raised critical questions about the nature of the arrests. "Selling ganja to students is deeply worrying. But were they caught selling or merely in possession? The legal consequences differ significantly," she told O Herald.

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