

Raksha Mantri meets Russian Defence Minister on the margins of SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting in Qingdao, China

Key takeaways include supply of S-400 systems, Su-30 MKI upgrades & procurement of critical military hardware in expeditious timeframes

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Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh held a bilateral meeting with the Russian Defence Minister Mr Andrey Belousov on the margins of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers' Meeting in Qingdao, China on June 26, 2025. The two Ministers held in-depth discussions on a range of subjects covering current geopolitical situations, cross-border terrorism and Indo-Russian defence cooperation.

The Russian Defence Minister highlighted the long-standing Indo-Russian relations which have stood the test of time and expressed solidarity with India on the horrendous and cowardly terrorist act of 22nd April in Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir.



It was one of the most important recent meetings between the leaders of the two nations, being held in the backdrop of *Operation Sindoor* and the consequent necessity of augmenting defence production, especially in critical items such as air defence, air-to-air missiles, modern capabilities, and upgrades of air platforms. Supply of S-400 systems, Su-30 MKI upgrades, and procurement of critical military hardware in expeditious timeframes were some of the key takeaways of the meeting.

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