



Indian security forces neutralize senior Laskhar-E-Taiba Commander, Musa aka Asif Fauji, in an intelligence-led operation in J&K

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Security Forces neutralized the three other members of the group in separate encounters of Junaid Bhat, Suleman and Yasir

Current encounter to neutralize Musa was part of an ongoing long-sustained 'Operation Sheruwali', started in May, 2026

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In an intelligence-led joint Security Forces operation, senior Lashkar-e-Taiba Commander, Musa aka Asif Fauji, was neutralized at Gurwatkalan, Khansahib PS of Budgam District, J&K. Security Forces were pursuing Musa for long, and, recently a specific all-stakeholder plan for his neutralization was put in place after technical and human intelligence about his movement and presence were received.

Neutralization of Musa by Indian security forces is a serious blow to LeT ecosystem in the UT of J&K. With Musa's killing, the entire group of four senior LeT Commanders operating in the UT since 2022, and responsible for sensational attacks, like Halan attack (Aug 2023), DKG attack (Dec 2023), Kandi attack (May 2023), Shahsitar attack (May 2024), Shiv Khori attack (June 2024), Gagangir attack (Oct 2024), Bootapathri attack (Oct 2024) and Baisaran attack (Apr 2025), stands neutralized. The three other

members of the group were neutralized by Security Forces in separate encounters of Junaid Bhat (Dec 03, 2024, Dachigam), Suleman (July 28, 2025, OP Mahadev), and Yasir (Sep 04, 2026, Op Asdhar). The current encounter to neutralize Musa was part of an ongoing long-sustained operation.

Over the past few years, all security agencies—such as the Jammu & Kashmir Police, the Indian Army, and the CAPF—have been conducting counter-terrorism operations in close coordination, yielding positive results.

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