Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah addresses inaugural session of two-day counter-terrorism conference in New Delhi

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, we have adopted ‘Zero Tolerance’ policy towards terrorism, and this policy is yielding positive results

Following the killing of Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorist Latif Bhat, Kashmir is now free of locally recruited terrorists born in India, this marks a major milestone in the fight against terrorism

We are building a system in which all police stations across the country will work on a unified strategy to combat terrorism

Hallmark of a successful agency is its ability to apprehend terrorists and put them behind bars before they can carry out a terrorist attack, all state police forces should study this model and implement it

To completely eliminate terrorism, organized crime, and drug-related problems, it is essential to bring offenders hiding abroad back to India, since 2019, 303 fugitives have been brought back to India from 36 countries

It is essential to dismantle entire terror financing network, to achieve this, better coordination with agencies responsible for financial investigations is necessary

Success cannot be achieved without launching a simultaneous assault on the entire terror network

We will not succeed in fight against terrorism unless we have a shared objective and clearly defined accountability at every stage of process to achieve that objective

We need to strengthen the concept of a proactive offensive approach in our counter-terrorism policy, with a greater emphasis on enhancing structural and operational capabilities

Once a case comes to light, investigation must continue until the entire network is dismantled, ATS has a crucial role to play in this process

Every state's ATS should strengthen its cyber expert unit

By expanding the scope of MAC to include cyber security, narco-terrorism, and emerging radicalisation hotspots, and by establishing a National Memory Bank, we have laid a new foundation for strengthening our preparedness

Not only have legal powers of NIA been enhanced, but its national presence has also been expanded, approval has been granted for 16 new branch offices and two zonal offices simultaneously

NIA has been empowered to conduct investigations to protect the interests of Indians residing abroad

Dismantling of PFI network is a significant example of how effective coordinated operations by police forces across India can be

In a single night, police forces from 11 states, along with central agencies, jointly dealt a major blow to PFI network, this operation is now a case study for the entire world

Shahzad Bhatti network has been designated a terrorist organisation under UAPA, more than 40 of its modules have been dismantled across the country, over 100 cases have been registered, and more than 271 arrests have been made

Union Home Minister released NIA publication ‘Fail-Safe Investigation’, laid the foundation stone for NIA office complex in Chandigarh, and inaugurated residential complex at Maidan Garhi i

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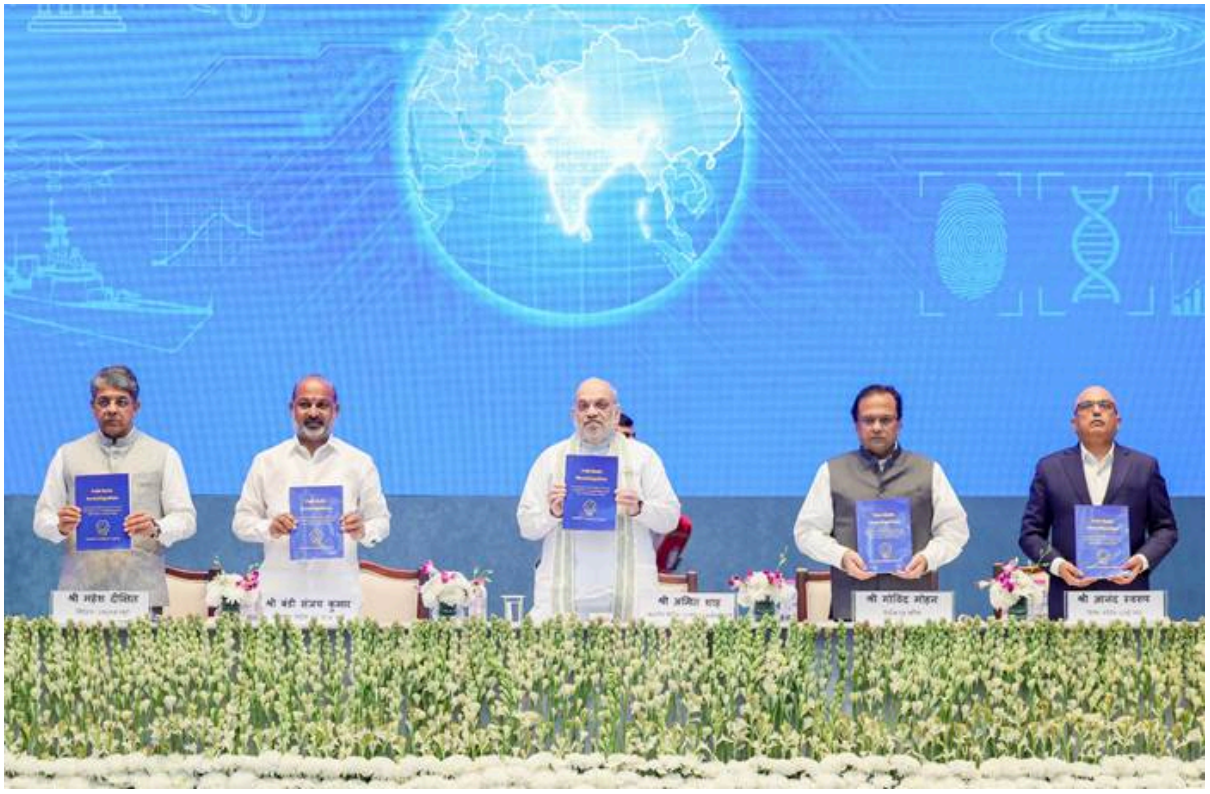
Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah today addressed the inaugural session of two-day counter-terrorism conference organised in New Delhi. On the occasion, Union Home Minister released the publication ‘Fail-Safe Investigation’ brought out by National Investigation Agency (NIA). He also laid the foundation stone of NIA office complex in Chandigarh and inaugurated NIA residential complex built at Maidangarhi in Delhi. In addition, Union Home Minister e-launched the NIA’s ‘Pushti’ portal and conferred decorations on seven officers and personnel of the National Investigation Agency.



On this occasion, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Union Home Secretary Shri Govind Mohan, Director Intelligence Bureau (IB) Dr. Mahesh Dikshit, Special Secretary (Internal Security) in the Ministry of Home Affairs Shri Anand Swarup, and Director General National Investigation Agency (NIA) Shri Rakesh Aggarwal, along with several other senior officers, were present. Senior police officers from the states and Union Territories, officers from counter-terrorism agencies, and experts from related fields including law, forensics and technology are participating in this conference.



Addressing the conference, Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah said that India has been a victim of terrorism and we have been confronting terrorism for a long time. He noted that police forces of different states had made various kinds of efforts, but a lack of coordinated action was clearly visible. Over time, during the tenures of successive governments, gradual efforts were made to overcome these shortcomings. Today, we can say with

satisfaction that in this vast country — from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and from Dwarka to Kamakhya — we are putting in place a system under which a uniform strategy to combat terrorism will operate right down to the level of every police station.

Shri Amit Shah said that some successful operations have recently been carried out against terrorism, which has strengthened the confidence of our country. He stated that just yesterday we achieved a significant milestone in the fight against terrorism. With the elimination of Lashkar terrorist Latif Bhat, the entire Kashmir has become free from the presence of India-born terrorists. Shri Shah noted that this situation has come about after 35 years.

Shri Amit Shah said that the Shahzad Bhatti network has been declared a terrorist organisation under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). More than 40 of its modules have been neutralised across the country. In the action taken against this network, over 100 cases have been registered and more than 271 arrests have been made. Shri Shah stated that the hallmark of a successful agency is to apprehend terrorists and put them behind bars even before they can execute a terrorist incident. He said that the police of every state should analyse this model, accept it, and implement it in their respective areas.

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah said that since 2019 we have launched a special drive to bring fugitives back to India, and so far 303 fugitives have been brought back from 36 countries, thereby strengthening the security of our nation. He noted that the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Ministry of Home Affairs have made special efforts in this regard. Our intelligence agencies have made outstanding efforts in bringing back fugitives living abroad through scientific methods. Shri Shah stated that if we are to completely eliminate the three menaces— terrorism, organised crime and drugs, it is essential to bring the culprits and masterminds who have taken shelter abroad before Indian courts.



Shri Amit Shah said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, we have adopted 'Zero Tolerance' policy against terrorism, and positive results of this are being achieved. He stated that, as part of continuous efforts in this direction, NIA Act was first amended on 2nd August 2019. New offences were brought under the jurisdiction of NIA and additional jurisdictions were granted to it. Shri Shah added that UAPA was amended on 14th August 2019, under which NIA was empowered to seize the properties of terrorists and a process was initiated to declare individuals as terrorists. Union Home Minister noted that in September 2019 a unified action plan was prepared to counter radicalisation, which was finalised in December 2019 after discussions with various ministries. In September 2022, PFI network was dismantled. He said that the destruction of PFI network is a striking example of how effective a joint operation by the Indian police can be. In a single night, coordinated action was carried out simultaneously in 11 states, completely dismantling the entire PFI network and breaking its backbone. By destroying the PFI network, we have preemptively eliminated several serious problems that the country could have faced in the future. He added that the dismantling of PFI network is the key to preventing many potential incidents that could have occurred in the times to come.

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah said that the functioning of the Multi-Agency Centre (MAC) has been reorganised. Cyber security, narcotics, organised crime networks and emerging radicalisation hotspots have been brought under the purview of the MAC. In 2023, the methodology of the MAC was restructured using state-of-the-art technology. A National Memory Bank was established and efforts were made to create a centralised database. He further stated that during this period, not only were the legal powers of NIA enhanced, but its national character was also expanded. Almost simultaneously, 16 new branch offices and two zonal offices were approved. NIA was empowered to conduct investigations for the protection of the interests of Indians residing abroad. A ban was imposed on the glorification of terrorism. A 25-point integrated action plan was formulated to control the funding of terrorists, and this is being effectively monitored.

Shri Amit Shah said, NIA officers have been trained to gain international exposure, and 70 new NIA Special Courts have been established across the country. He stated that peace had been established in three major hotspots, networks such as PFI and Shahzad Bhatti had been dismantled, and a scientific mechanism had been developed to bring back fugitives from abroad. He also highlighted the implementation of a new comprehensive approach to border security, the complete removal of illegal religious structures along the borders, and improved coordination among various agencies to strengthen economic security. Shri Shah stated that the government had worked simultaneously and effectively on all these fronts.

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah stated that we are moving forward with an ecosystem-based approach to combating terrorism through cooperation between the Centre and the States, and that this cooperation needs to be further strengthened. He said that we have strengthened the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) on the legal front, and that the flow of information needs to be made smoother and more robust at the institutional level. He emphasised that we must also change our work culture to achieve victory in this fight. On the operational front, agencies must enhance their capabilities while also undertaking modernisation. We must target the entire chain of

terror financing, which requires better coordination with financial investigation agencies. Shri Shah stated that we will not achieve success unless we strike at the entire terrorist network in a coordinated and comprehensive manner.



Shri Amit Shah stated that in the fight against terrorism, our approach must be based on shared and collective goals, along with clearly defined accountability. He emphasised that unless our goals are shared and accountability for achieving them is clearly established, success cannot be achieved. He further said that this conference must be made outcome-oriented, which will be possible only when all participants make concerted efforts in this direction.

Union Home Minister said that India needs to strengthen the concept of proactive action in its counter-terrorism policy, with greater emphasis on structural and operational capabilities. Shri Amit Shah stated that the entire terrorist network must be investigated and its capabilities dismantled. He said that by investigating the entire network, many incidents could be prevented before they occur. Shri Shah emphasised the need to develop a mechanism through which police station-level intelligence is transmitted through multiple levels to the Director General of Police (DGP), enabling the extraction of actionable intelligence. He also said that the Anti-Terrorism Squads (ATS) of every state need to strengthen their cyber expert units, as technology is increasingly being used in such crimes. Union Home Minister further stated that establishing a Quadrangular Regional Security Grid in Border States should be a key priority. He also stressed the need to enhance the capabilities of the ATS units across all states.

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