

**Ambassador's Remarks at the Special Press Briefing on the First Anniversary of Operation Sindoor**

*(Ashgabat, 13 May 2026)*

*Representatives of the Media in Turkmenistan,*

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*Namaste, Good Afternoon!*

Thank you for joining today's special press briefing on the first anniversary of "Operation Sindoor (Vermillion)", a limited military campaign launched by India on 7 May 2025, to dismantle the terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

2. As you are aware, a barbaric attack was carried out by the terrorists belonging to Lashkar-e-Tayyiba on 22 April 2025 in Pahalgam in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir in India. 25 Indian nationals and 1 Nepali citizen were identified on the basis of their religion and were shot dead in close range, in front of their families. This was clearly aimed at provoking communal discord in India and to disrupt the steady economic growth of Jammu and Kashmir, especially its booming tourism industry.

3. The heinous terrorist attack on innocent tourists had naturally generated deep anger in India and across the world. Several world leaders including the President of Turkmenistan H.E. Mr. Serdar Berdimuhamedov had unequivocally condemned the terrorist attack and expressed their solidarity with the people of India in the fight against terrorism. United Nations Security Council had issued a press statement on 25 April 2025, underlining the need to hold accountable and bring to justice the perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of this reprehensible act of terrorism.

4. The Government of India responded on 23 April 2025 by undertaking several measures including the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, closure of the integrated border check post at Attari, reduction in the

strength of Indian diplomatic mission in Pakistan etc. On the other hand, Pakistan continued to indulge in false allegations against India, while avoiding any demonstrable action on the terrorist infrastructure on its territory or the territory under its control. Acting on the intelligence reports about more such impending attacks, India launched “Operation Sindoor” in the early hours of 7 May 2025, in exercise of its right to respond, deter and pre-empt cross-border terrorist attacks. 9 carefully chosen terrorist locations in Pakistan and Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir were destroyed in a measured, non-escalatory and responsible manner. Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of India had informed his Pakistani counterpart on the same day that India did not target any military or civilian infrastructure in Pakistan nor does it seek an escalation.

5. However, over the next 3 days, Pakistan decided to side with the terrorists by undertaking reckless targeting of religious places, military and civilian infrastructure in India, even while keeping its airspace open for civilian aircrafts. India responded to these provocations in a proportionate and responsible manner, by attacking and inflicting heavy damages on 11 military bases in Pakistan and Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. As a result, on 10 May 2025, the DGMO of Pakistan called up his Indian counterpart and requested for an immediate end to military actions. Even after agreeing to the cessation of military actions, Pakistan continued to send drones into India in the night of 10 May 2025, which were successfully intercepted by the Indian Armed Forces.

6. Today, as we mark the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, I would like to highlight that the operation is still continues, on firm international legal and moral grounds. It is a clear reflection of India’s commitment to justice in the fight against terrorism and also of its resolve to use force when the very existence of humanity is threatened by senseless acts of terrorism. Operation Sindoor has set up a new normal by sending an unambiguous message to Pakistan that India will not tolerate its nuclear blackmail and any future terrorist attack emanating from Pakistan will be met with a swift, measured and proportionate response on India’s own terms. Thank you.

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