

NYMUN 2025

HISTORIC ALL-INDIA POLITICAL PARTIES MEET



MEETING POST 26/11 ATTACK

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Members,

We are thrilled to welcome you to the simulation of All India Political Parties Meet (AIPPM). We hope this experience will be rewarding and enriching for all of you.

This study guide is just the beginning of your research. We encourage leaders to explore new aspects of the agenda and bring them to the committee. The combination of thorough research, strong argumentation, and factual representation is key to success. Your fluency, diction, or oratory skills are less important than the content you deliver. So, focus on your research and speaking, and your ideas will make sense.

We are eager to learn from you and hope that you will have a fulfilling experience as well. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us. We will do our best to answer your queries to the best of our abilities.

We look forward to an exciting and interesting committee, and we are confident that the pervasive nature of the issue will help us achieve success. As members of the Executive Board, we hope to learn from you and contribute to the committee.

All the Best!

Executive Board

Tanay Musale

Moderator

Yugant Rane

Co- Moderator

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BACKGROUND OF THE AGENDA

THE 26/11 MUMBAI ATTACKS

The attacks were carried out by 10 gunmen who were believed to be connected to Lashkar-e-Taiba, a Pakistan-based terrorist organization. Armed with automatic weapons and hand grenades, the terrorists targeted civilians at numerous sites in the southern part of Mumbai, including the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj railway station, the popular Leopold Café, two hospitals, and a theatre. While most of the attacks ended within a few hours after they began at around 9:30 pm on November 26, the terror continued to unfold at three locations where hostages were taken—the Nariman House, where a Jewish outreach centre was located, and the luxury hotels Oberoi Trident and Taj Mahal Palace & Tower.

By the time the standoff ended at the Nariman House on the evening of November 28, six hostages as well as two gunmen had been killed. At the two hotels, dozens of guests and staff were either trapped by gunfire or held hostage. Indian security forces ended the siege at the Oberoi Trident around midday on November 28 and at the Taj Mahal Palace on the morning of the following day. In all, at least 174 people, including 20 security force personnel and 26 foreign nationals, were killed. More than 300 people were injured. Nine of the 10 terrorists were killed, and one was arrested.

THE ATTACKERS

Amid speculation regarding the identity of the terrorists, an unknown group calling itself Mujahideen Hyderabad Deccan claimed responsibility for the attacks in an e-mail; however, the e-mail was later traced to a computer in Pakistan, and it became obvious that no such group existed. The way the terrorists had reportedly singled out Western foreigners at both of the luxury hotels and at the Nariman House led some to believe that the Islamic militant group Al-Qaeda was possibly involved, but this appeared not to be the case after the lone arrested terrorist, Ajmal Amir Kasab, provided substantial information regarding the planning and execution of the attacks. Kasab, a native of Pakistan's Punjab province, told investigators that the 10 terrorists underwent prolonged guerrilla-warfare training in the camps of Lashkar-e-Taiba. He further revealed that the team of terrorists had spent time

at the headquarters of a second and related organization, Jamaat-ud-Dawa, in the city of Muridke before traveling from Punjab to the port city of Karachi and setting out for Mumbai by sea.

After first traveling aboard a Pakistani-flagged cargo ship, the gunmen hijacked an Indian fishing boat and killed its crew; then, once they were near the Mumbai coast, they used inflatable dinghies to reach Badhwar Park and the Sassoon Docks, near the city's Gateway of India monument. At that point the terrorists split into small teams and set out for their respective targets. Kasab—who was charged with various crimes, including murder and waging war, later retracted his confession. In April 2009 his trial began.

The lone alive captured terrorist, Ajmal Kasab, was sentenced to death by hanging, after his ultimate remedy of a Mercy petition was rejected by the Hon'ble President of India. Ajmal Kasab was hanged to death in the Yerwada in the early hours of 21st November 2012.

Till date, the body of terrorist Ajmal Kasab lies buried in the depths and soil of Yerwada Jail in Pune, Maharashtra, India.

TERROR ATTACKS AROUND THE GLOBE

9/11 ATTACKS

September 11 attacks, series of airline hijackings and suicide attacks committed in 2001 by 19 militants associated with the Islamic extremist group al-Qaeda against targets in the United States, the deadliest terrorist attacks on American soil in U.S. history. The attacks against New York City and Washington, D.C., caused extensive death and destruction and triggered an enormous U.S. effort to combat terrorism. Some 2,750 people were killed in New York, 184 at the Pentagon, and 40 in Pennsylvania (where one of the hijacked planes crashed into the ground after the passengers attempted to retake the plane); all 19 terrorists died (*see* Researcher's Note: September 11 attacks). Police and fire departments in New York were especially hard-hit: hundreds rushed to the scene of the attacks, and more than 400 police officers and firefighters were killed.

On September 11, 2001, groups of attackers boarded four domestic aircraft at three East Coast airports, and soon after takeoff they disabled the crews, some of whom may have been stabbed with box cutters the hijackers were secreting. The hijackers then took control of the aircraft, all large and bound for the West Coast with full loads of fuel. At 8:46 am the first plane, American Airlines flight 11, which had originated from Boston, was piloted into the north tower of the World Trade Center in New York City. Most observers construed this initially to be an accident involving a small commuter plane. The second plane, United Airlines flight 175, also from Boston, struck the south tower 17 minutes later. At this point there was no doubt that the United States was under attack. Each structure was badly damaged by the impact and erupted into flames. Office workers who were trapped above the points of impact in some cases leapt to their deaths rather than face the infernos now raging inside the towers. The third plane, American Airlines flight 77, taking off from Dulles Airport near Washington, D.C., struck the southwest side of the Pentagon (just outside the city) at 9:37 am, touching off a fire in that section of the structure. Minutes later the Federal Aviation Authority ordered a nationwide ground stop, and within the next hour (at 10:03 am) the fourth aircraft, United Airlines flight 93 from Newark, New Jersey, crashed near Shanksville in the Pennsylvania countryside after its passengers—informed of events via cellular phone—attempted to overpower their assailants.

EAST AFRICA US EMBASSY BOMBINGS

On August 7, 1998, at 10:30 am, truck bombs exploded at U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, killing more than 200 people and wounding more than 4,000. The attacks were later linked to the terrorist group al-Qaeda.

Suicide bombers parked trucks loaded with explosives outside each embassy and almost simultaneously detonated them. At the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, approximately 212 people were killed and an estimated 4,000 wounded. At the U.S. Embassy in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 11 people were killed and over 85 people injured.

Of those killed, 56 were U.S. government employees, contractors, and family members were killed.

In November 1998, the United States indicted Osama bin Laden and 21 other members of the al-Qaeda terrorist group for the bombings and conspiring to commit other acts of terrorism.

Baghdad Bombings by ISIS

The 18 April 2007 Baghdad bombings were a series of attacks that occurred when five car bombs exploded across Baghdad, the capital city of Iraq, on 18 April 2007, killing nearly 200 people. No group claimed responsibility for the attacks. US defense secretary Robert Gates, delivering remarks from Tel Aviv, claimed that Islamic State of Iraq might have perpetrated the attacks.

The **August 2009 Baghdad bombings** were three coordinated car bomb attacks and a number of mortar strikes in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, on 19 August 2009. The explosives were detonated simultaneously across the capital at approximately 10:45 in the morning, killing at least 101 people and wounding at least 565, making it the deadliest attack since the 14 August 2007 Yazidi communities bombings in northern Iraq which killed almost 800 people. The bombings targeted both government and privately-owned buildings.

OTHER ATTACKS IN INDIA

2001 PARLIAMENT ATTACK

The 2001 attack on the Indian Parliament was a terrorist attack that took place on 13th December 2001, when a group of armed militants attacked the Parliament of India in New Delhi. The attackers belonged to the Pakistan-based militant organizations **Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed**. The attack resulted in the **death of security personnel and government officials**. The attack exposed the **vulnerability of India's parliamentary democracy** to external threats and prompted a major overhaul of its security arrangements.

2002 GHATKOPAR BOMBING

At 18:45 IST on Monday, 2 December 2002, a bomb placed under a seat of a B.E.S.T. bus exploded near the busy Ghatkopar station. The bomb was placed in the rear of a bus near the station and killed two people and injured over 50. Ghatkopar being the final stop, all the passengers in the bus had just alighted and passengers for the return trip had not yet entered the bus. The people who were killed were in the busy station area. Later, the police defused an unexploded bomb from another BEST bus in SEEPZ industrial area at Andheri.

2003 BOMBINGS IN MUMBAI

- On 27 January 2003, a bomb placed on a bicycle exploded near the Vile Parle station in Mumbai. The bomb killed 1 and injured 25. The blast occurred a day ahead of the visit of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the then Prime Minister of India to the city.
- On 13 March 2003, a bomb exploded in a train compartment, as the train was entering the Mulund station in Mumbai. 10 people were killed and 70 were injured. The blast occurred a day after the tenth anniversary of the 1993 Bombay bombings
- On 28 July 2003, a bomb placed under a seat of a BEST bus exploded in Ghatkopar. The bomb killed 4 people and injured 32.
- On 25 August 2003, two blasts in South Mumbai – one near the Gateway of India and the other at Zaveri Bazaar in Kalbadevi occurred. At least 44 people

were killed and 150 injured. No group claimed responsibility for the attack, but it had been hinted that the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba was behind the attacks.

IC814 KANDAHAR HIJACK

The IC-814 hijacking refers to the seizure of an Indian Airlines Airbus A300 by five armed militants while en route from Kathmandu, Nepal, to New Delhi, India. The hijackers diverted the plane to Kandahar, Afghanistan, which was then under Taliban control. The week-long ordeal ended with the release of three high-profile terrorists in exchange for the safety of 176 hostages.

2005 DELHI BOMBINGS

The **2005 Delhi bombings** occurred on 29 October 2005 in Delhi, India, killing 62 people and injuring at least 210 others in three explosions. The bombings came only two days before the important festival of Diwali, which is celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains. The bombs were triggered in two markets in central and south Delhi and in a bus south of the city. The Pakistani Islamist terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba claimed responsibility for the attacks under the pseudonym of Islamic Inquilab Mahaz. The Indian Mujahideen is also suspected of involvement.

IMPACT OF TERRORISM

- **Human Lives Cost:** Deaths from terrorist attacks have resulted in a significant death toll. For instance, Lashkar-e-Taiba carried out the 2008 Mumbai attacks, which left over 300 people injured and over 160 dead.
- **Impact on Society:** Terrorist violence has a profound influence on social attitudes, including trust in governmental institutions and attitudes towards migration and civil freedoms. A complex range of negative emotions, such as anxiety, anger, sorrow, and a sense of vulnerability and helplessness, are experienced by citizens as a result of acts of terrorism.
- **Impact on the Economy:** The most obvious is the direct economic destruction of property and lives (especially of armed forces personnel). For instance, the 2016 Pathankot attack exposed weaknesses in vital infrastructure and caused damage to the Air Force installation. Terrorism has an indirect impact on the economy through increasing insurance claims, xenophobia, lost tourism, and market uncertainty.
- **Impact on International Relations:** The proof of terrorist attacks sourced from other countries leads to a strain in bilateral relations between two or more countries. For example, the 26/11 terrorist attacks were traced to Pakistan, because of which bilateral relations between the two states have been strained.
- **Deviation of Resources:** As terrorist attacks hamper national security, limited resources are diverted towards defence in the form of arms mobilisation, border management, armed force recruitment, etc.

RESPONSE FROM INDIA

India's response to the attacks of 26/11 has been fabled in different ways and recounted in multi opinionated structures. Several motivations fuel each individual's recount of India's response to the 26/11 attacks. Interestingly, in the aftermath of the whole 26/11 crisis, India's response would arguably become one of the most important aspects of the crisis.

As is common knowledge, India did not respond with weapons and armory on an immediate basis. Sufficient available information and data indicated and linked the attacks to our neighbouring country. Diverse information available with the agencies, not only could have thwarted the attack to some extent, but also could have helped in proving Pakistan's role in this crisis to the international fora.

Let's discuss the possible narratives as response to the attacks by India:

Please note that these narratives are devised from the available material and discussions on the Internet and documentation.

One of the foremost alternatives was *to launch a counter-attack on the Pakistani military*. Highly contested as an opinion, as certain pointed reasons are cited as possible reasons for the military narrative not taking place. Primarily, the global economic crisis had affected several sectors of International trade, which in turn had cast a huge shadow on the viability of rising markets and flourishing employment in the nation. It is quite often said that global depreciation was one of the reasons why a counter-attack leading to a possibility of war was avoided.

Another consideration was to develop a sound strategy to counter the attacks. After intense military brainstorming and consultations, the government adopted the diplomatic approach. India believed that a greater dent to Pakistan's credibility and value could be given only through a diplomatic approach by not converting it into any other India-Pakistan dispute. An aggressive counter-attack might simply shift the narrative from the suffering Indian state to a victimized Pakistani State. Also, the existence of numerous non-state terrorist actors in Pakistan made the response unpredictable.

Interestingly, several upheavals took place in the Pakistani governance. The Information Minister of Pakistan was sacked after her public admission that Ajmal Kasab was a Pakistani national. Many internal disagreements within the Pakistani administration made Pakistan's side look weaker in the International fora.

Domestically, India took several measures to research, analyse, and understand the drawbacks of the system to avoid the repetition of the same incident. The definition of the word terrorism under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act now gives power to designate individuals as terrorists and not just terrorist groups. Threats to India's economic security were also treated as terrorist activity. The National Investigation Agency was formulated through the Union Legislature. In terms of defence strategy, Operation Sagar Kavach was established to improve signals of connection and communication between the Indian Navy and the Coast Guard. Quantitative increments were brought in the strength of the Indian Navy. To ameliorate any risks to the fishing community, measures have been taken to mark all the fishing boats and track them.

The Maharashtra Government instituted an elite commando force, naming it Force One, and commanded it with the security training of the National Security Guards (NSG). A centralised National Grid was constituted to create a database of security-related information.

Kindly note that the information presented above might be a comprehensive summary in terms of information, but multiple layers of data need to be gone through to present suitable information in front of the Committee. Please make a note of the same.

HISTORIC COMMITTEES

In brief, Historic Committees are an uncommon simulation of any historical event or incident, whose simulation is valuable to the present dynamics to cogent upon. Historical committees bear the burden of analyzing the past, the dynamics of the event, and the interlude of events between the incident and the present day of discussion. Ideally, a timeline is provided in advance to ensure that the discussions remain structured and do not stray from the intended outcome. Indeed interesting, the committees also bear the burden of detailed research and pointed articulation.

The concept of valid resources shall be explained to the delegates during the Training sessions. In general parlance, the following examples are considered to be valid Resources for research and presentation:

- 1) Official Parliamentary Reports.
- 2) Press Notifications, Press Releases by official Government handles.
- 3) Notifications by the Union Government/ Individual ministries.
- 4) Recognized press reporting.
- 5) Recorded military channel communications.
- 6) Official government-sponsored reports.

❖ **Important Points to Remember:**

- Please note that the information provided in the guide is not the ultimate resource, and other data needs to be referred to present the best of your outcome and ability in the committee.
- A High-Level Committee Report instituted by the Government of Maharashtra and other notifications are advised to be referred to.
- The official timeline and the form of debate, and whether any crisis form is to be instituted, shall be made known to the delegates during the Training session or in future communication.
- The participants are requested to understand the gravity, and sensitivity of discussion and do quality research to present the most factual and qualitative outcome of the Committee.