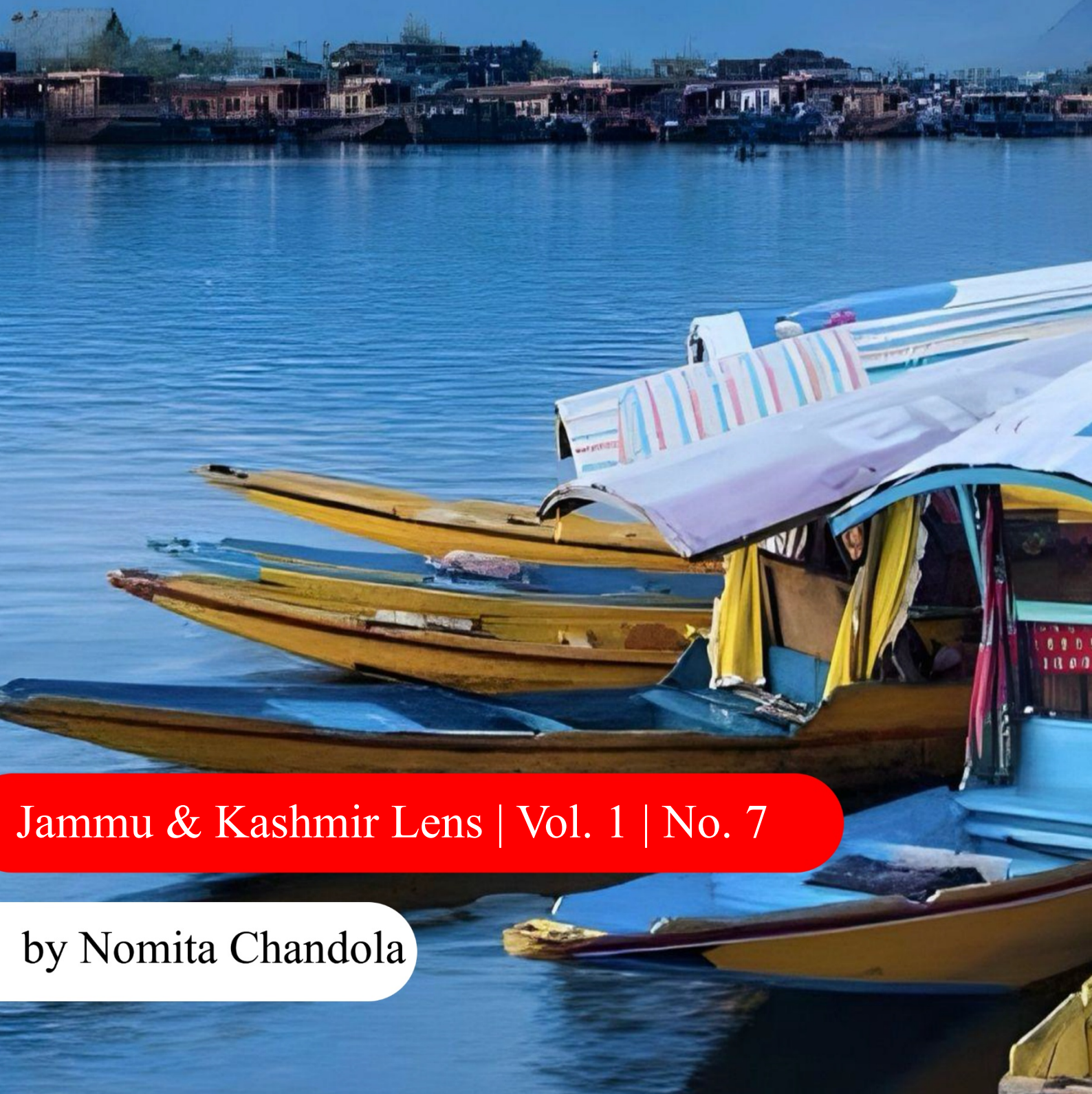


CLAWS Newsletter



Jammu & Kashmir Lens | Vol. 1 | No. 7

by Nomita Chandola

PAHALGAM ATTACK HIGHLIGHTS

1. Trauma among border villagers ([The Tribune, 2nd May 2025](#))

Renewed ceasefire violations by Pakistan over the past week have triggered fear and anxiety among residents of villages along the LoC and International Border in Jammu division. Once enjoying relative peace since the 2021 ceasefire agreement, these communities are now haunted by memories of past violence, forced displacements, and shelling. The recent escalation, following the Pahalgam terror attack, has disrupted daily life, with villagers in Jammu, Kathua, and Samba prematurely harvesting crops and preparing bunkers that had long been abandoned. Locals fear a return to the volatile days before the ceasefire, as uncertainty and danger grip the region once more.

2. Deportation orders shatter families ([Middle East Eye, 2nd May 2025](#))

In the wake of the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, Indian authorities have issued deportation notices to over 150 Pakistani women married to former Kashmiri militants who returned under a 2010 rehabilitation policy. Families like that of Bashir Ahmad Najar in Bandipora, who returned from Pakistan in 2011 and have lived peacefully since, now face forced separation. Despite holding Indian IDs, domicile certificates, and having integrated into Kashmiri society, women like Najar's wife Zahida and their children born in Pakistan have been ordered to leave. The move follows India's downgrading of ties with Pakistan and has sparked public outcry, with politicians and families calling it inhumane. As deportation looms, affected families are left desperate, fearing permanent separation and the loss of stability they fought hard to build.

3. Ignored warnings ([India Today, 4th May 2025](#))

Despite prior intelligence warnings of possible tourist attacks near Srinagar, security forces failed to prevent the April 22 Pahalgam massacre, where 26 tourists were killed. The attack, involving local and Pakistani militants, is believed to have aimed at disrupting PM Modi's postponed railway inauguration and inciting communal tension. Officials warn against using tourism as a peace indicator and raise alarm over the use

of advanced weapons by militants, possibly sourced from Afghanistan. Protests erupted across Kashmir, echoing the scale of past national outrages.

4. Ceasefire Violation for 12th consecutive night ([The Hindu, 6th May 2025](#))

For the 12th straight night, Pakistani troops carried out unprovoked firing across eight sectors along the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir, including Kupwara, Baramulla, Poonch, and Rajouri. The Indian Army responded proportionately. These violations follow the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26, triggering a sharp escalation in tensions. Pakistan's actions have undermined the 2021 ceasefire agreement, with further fallout including airspace closure, trade suspension, and threats over the Indus Waters Treaty.

5. India rebukes Chinese Media ([NDTV, 7th May 2025](#))

India strongly criticized Chinese state media *Global Times* for spreading misinformation regarding Operation Sindoor, India's cruise missile strikes targeting terrorist hubs in Pakistan and PoK. The Indian embassy in China called out the outlet for using old images of aircraft crashes unrelated to the operation and urged it to verify facts. India reiterated that the strikes were in retaliation to the brutal April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, where Lashkar-e-Taiba-linked terrorists killed 26 civilians, including a Nepali national. India also highlighted the use of fake visuals online and Pakistan's lack of action against terror infrastructure. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh lauded the armed forces for targeting nine terror-linked sites, including Muzaffarabad, Bahawalpur, and Neelum Valley.

6. NIA seeks public help ([DD News, 7th May 2025](#))

The National Investigation Agency has appealed to tourists, locals, and visitors to share any photos, videos, or information related to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 tourists. The NIA, now officially leading the probe, is reviewing media and eyewitness accounts to identify clues about the attackers. People can contact the agency through provided phone numbers, and a senior official will follow up. NIA teams remain stationed in Pahalgam to gather evidence and question witnesses.

7. Drone attacks on key J&K Airbases ([The Economic Times, 9th May 2025](#))

Indian forces foiled drone attacks on Srinagar airport and Awantipora air base amid heightened tensions after strikes on terror camps in Pakistan and PoK. Drones were also seen over Baramulla, Jammu, and other areas, triggering blackouts and countermeasures. The action follows the April 22 Pahalgam attack that killed 26 civilians.

8. India-Pakistan tensions escalate after op Sindoor ([Live Mint, 9th May 2025](#))

On the night of May 7–8, Pakistan launched a coordinated attack using drones and missiles on Indian military installations in Jammu, Pathankot, and Udhampur, also attempting to target Jammu airport. The strikes caused blackouts and triggered sirens, but Indian forces successfully neutralised the threats using advanced systems, including the S-400 missile defence. In retaliation, India targeted Pakistani air defence systems, reportedly disabling one near Lahore. Cross-border shelling intensified along the LoC in Kupwara, Baramulla, Uri, and other J&K sectors, escalating regional tensions.

9. Mehbooba, Mufti calls for de-escalation ([The Indian Express, 9th May 2025](#))

Following deadly cross-border shelling that killed a woman in Uri and injured others, former J&K CM Mehbooba Mufti and Mirwaiz Umar Farooq called for immediate de-escalation between India and Pakistan. Highlighting civilian suffering, including children killed on both sides, Mufti urged political dialogue over military action. She referenced PM Modi's past call for peaceful conflict resolution and appealed for direct talks to prevent further loss of innocent lives. Mirwaiz echoed the appeal, warning that J&K residents bear the worst of rising hostilities and urged both nations to avoid a path of destruction.

10. Heavy shelling by Pakistan ([The Wire, 10th May 2025](#))

Overnight artillery shelling by Pakistan across the LoC and International Border on May 9–10 resulted in multiple civilian casualties and widespread panic in Jammu and Kashmir. At least four civilians and Rajouri's Additional Deputy Commissioner Raj Kumar Thappa were killed, with many others injured. Residential areas in Jammu,

including near a prominent temple, suffered damage from shelling and suspected drone intrusions. Explosions were also reported near major defence and civilian airports. The shelling follows India's Operation Sindoor response to the Pahalgam attack, which has already seen at least 20 civilian deaths. Evacuations of border villages were underway as hostilities intensify.

11. India warns Pakistan, BSF destroys terror launch pad in Sialkot ([DD News, 10th May 2025](#))

India accused Pakistan of a "blatant escalation" after armed drones targeted civilian areas and religious sites, including Jammu's historic Shambhu Temple, on May 10. The Defence Ministry confirmed drone incursions in over two dozen locations along the western border, including Amritsar, Baramulla, and Pathankot. Indian air defence units intercepted the UAVs, calling the attacks a grave threat to sovereignty. In retaliation, the BSF destroyed a terror launch pad in Pakistan's Sialkot district, following unprovoked firing by Pakistan Rangers across the Jammu sector on May 9.

12. Explosions in Srinagar after ceasefire ([NDTV, 10th May 2025](#))

Hours after India and Pakistan announced a ceasefire, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah reported explosions in Srinagar, questioning the truce's credibility. Residents shared visuals of anti-aircraft fire targeting drones, suggesting active military engagement. Abdullah posted a video stating, "This is no ceasefire," as air defence units opened fire in central Srinagar. Reports of shelling and explosions later subsided by 9:52 pm, though tensions remained high.

13. J&K Minister assures food supply ([Ziraat Times, 10th May 2025](#))

Jammu and Kashmir's Food and Civil Supplies Minister Satish Sharma has urged the public to remain calm, assuring that there is no shortage of essential commodities, including food grains, LPG, and fuel, across the Union Territory. He stated that adequate stocks are maintained at all distribution points and the situation is being closely monitored. The minister thanked trader associations for helping maintain supply chains and warned against hoarding and overpricing. He also noted that public

transport is operational with fare regulations in place and urged citizens to avoid rumors and follow official advisories.

14. India opens dam gates ([The Tribune, 12th May 2025](#))

India has opened the gates of the Baglihar and Salal dams in Jammu's Ramban and Reasi districts, respectively, increasing the flow of the Chenab River into Pakistan. The move, attributed to heavy rainfall filling the reservoirs to capacity, comes amid ongoing tensions between the two countries following the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack. Despite a recent ceasefire, India has maintained its suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, signaling that punitive measures against Pakistan remain in effect. Government sources emphasized that the water release was to manage reservoir pressure and not necessarily a reversal of the post-attack water flow restrictions.

15. J&K sees calm ([The Economic Times, 12th May 2025](#))

After weeks of conflict, life in Jammu & Kashmir is slowly returning to normal following a ceasefire between India and Pakistan on May 10. No fresh violations were reported overnight. Residents began returning to affected areas, and markets and transport resumed in Srinagar. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and former CM Mehbooba Mufti visited injured civilians and border areas. So far, 27 people have died in the conflict.

16. Drones spotted after PM's address ([The Siasat Daily, 12th May 2025](#))

Soon after PM Modi warned that "terror and talks cannot go together," suspected Pakistani drones were seen over J&K's Samba and Punjab's Jalandhar. Air defences responded with explosions and tracer fire. Blackouts were enforced in several Punjab border areas as a precaution. Authorities urged calm, while PM Modi called the Pahalgam attack a personal pain and highlighted India's strong retaliation through Operation Sindoor.

17. Tourists shift to Patnitop ([The Economic Times, 12th May 2025](#))

Following the Pahalgam attack and rising India-Pakistan tensions, tourism in Kashmir has sharply declined. However, nearby Patnitop and Batote in Jammu have seen a

surge in visitors seeking safety, including many rerouted from Kashmir. Hoteliers report a revival in business, offering relief to the local economy. Tourists, like one from Gujarat, expressed feeling secure in Patnitop after disrupted plans in Srinagar.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR NEWS

18. High altitude sports centre to set up ([The Tribune, 2nd May 2025](#))

A High Altitude National Centre for Excellence (HANCE) is set to be established in Leh, as confirmed during a meeting chaired by LAHDC Leh Chairman Tashi Gyalson. The project, supported by the Sports Authority of India and local authorities, will focus on advanced sports training, athlete development, and future coaching skills. Key issues discussed included funding, athlete selection, manpower needs, and gender balance. Gyalson endorsed the signing of a tripartite MoU to move the project forward, highlighting its potential to transform Ladakh into a hub for high-altitude sports excellence.

19. SC halts deportation ([CNBC TV, 2nd May 2025](#))

The Supreme Court has barred authorities from deporting a Kashmir-based family of six to Pakistan until their identity documents are verified. The family, whose son works in Bengaluru, allegedly overstayed their visa and was detained post-Pahalgam terror attack. The court, citing the human aspect of the case, allowed them to approach the J&K High Court if dissatisfied with the verification outcome. The Centre had earlier revoked visas of most Pakistani nationals following the April 25 notification after the attack.

20. Two arrested with Heroine in Samba ([State Times, 4th May 2025](#))

Two men from Badhori village, Mohd Mustafa and Usman Choudhary, were arrested in Samba district after police recovered 7.5 grams of heroin from them during a vehicle check at Vijaypur on the Jammu-Pathankot highway. They have been booked under the NDPS Act.

21. Kulgam youth death ([Greater Kashmir, 5th May 2025](#))

The death of 23-year-old Imtiyaz Ahmad Magray in Kulgam has sparked public anger and demands for a judicial probe. Police claim he died by suicide during an anti-terror operation, but his family alleges he was detained earlier and later found dead in a river. Political leaders, including Mehbooba Mufti and Sakina Itoo, have called for an impartial investigation, raising concerns over possible custodial abuse.

22. Terror hideout busted, Pak intruder held in Poonch ([The Tribune, 6th May 2025](#)) ([The Tribune, 7th May 2025](#))

Security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district averted a major tragedy by busting a terrorist hideout in the Surankote forest, recovering five IEDs packed in tiffin boxes and steel buckets, along with wireless sets and other equipment. The explosives were safely destroyed by a bomb squad. Meanwhile, a 26-year-old Pakistani national, Waqas from PoK, was arrested after he crossed the LoC into Chakan-Da-Bagh. His arrest comes amid rising India-Pakistan tensions and frequent ceasefire violations following the Pahalgam terror attack.

23. Jammu Traders cooperate ([Greater Kashmir, 7th May 2025](#))

Following deadly cross-border shelling, the Jammu Traders' Federation has reactivated war rooms to provide free ration and medicines to border residents. Assuring three months' stock, the federation urged calm amid panic buying. President Deepak Gupta hailed the success of Operation Sindoor and supported the suspension of trade with Pakistan, as tensions along the border remain high.

24. BSF thwarts major infiltration ([The Hindu, 10th May 2025](#))

The BSF thwarted a major infiltration attempt along the International Boundary in Samba, J&K, killing at least seven terrorists who tried to enter under cover fire from Pakistan Rangers. The attempt, detected by surveillance systems late on May 8, was part of a larger escalation that included over 400 drone incursions and intense shelling across border states. A Pakistani bunker near the Dhandhar post was also destroyed.

Civilian areas in Baramulla, Kupwara, and Poonch were heavily shelled, killing three, including two students. India remains on high alert, warning of firm retaliation.

25. Operation Keller ([India TV, 14th May 2025](#))

The Indian Army launched *Operation Keller* in the dense Keller forests of Shopian, Jammu and Kashmir, following specific intelligence about Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists. The operation, conducted by Rashtriya Rifles, resulted in the killing of three LeT operatives, including a local and two Pakistan-based terrorists. This mission came shortly after *Operation Sindoor*, targeting terror camps in Pakistan and PoK. Operation Keller reinforces India's intensified counter-terror campaign amid ongoing threats from Pakistan-sponsored terrorism.

26. Operation Nader ([The Economics Times, 15th May 2025](#))

Indian Army, Jammu and Kashmir Police, and CRPF launched *Operation Nader* in Tral's Nader area of Awantipora on May 15, 2025, following intelligence inputs about terrorist presence. The operation began after troops noticed suspicious activity, prompting heavy gunfire from terrorists and leading to a fierce ongoing encounter. This follows the recent success of *Operation Keller*, where three terrorists, including a local LeT/TRF commander, were killed in Shopian. The operations are part of a broader crackdown post-Pahalgam terror attack, with India recently executing *Operation Sindoor*, a precision strike on terror camps in Pakistan and PoK that eliminated nearly 100 operatives. The Resistance Front (TRF), linked to LeT, claimed responsibility for the Pahalgam attack that killed 26 people.

PoK NEWS

27. Operation Sindoor, PoK Targets ([The Hindu, 7th May 2025](#))

India released high-resolution satellite images confirming precision missile strikes under Operation Sindoor, launched on May 7 in retaliation for the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26. The strikes targeted infrastructure linked to Lashkar-e-Taiba

(LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), and Hizbul Mujahideen across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

Nine key locations were hit by 24 missiles in a 25-minute operation. In PoK, targets included the Sawai Nala camp in Muzaffarabad (LeT training centre for terrorists involved in attacks in Sonmarg, Gulmarg, and Pahalgam), Syedna Bilal Camp (JeM staging and explosives training centre), Gulpur camp in Kotli (LeT base for operations in Rajouri and Poonch), Barnala camp in Bhimber (weapons and jungle warfare training), and Abbas camp in Kotli (LeT fidayeen training facility).

In Pakistan, strikes focused on LeT's headquarters in Muridke and JeM's base in Bahawalpur, along with other locations tied to terror activities. The Indian military also reported damage to Pakistani air defence systems and airfields.

28. MEA denies targeting Neelum-Jhelum Project [\(India TV, 8th May 2025\)](#)

India firmly rejected Pakistan's claim that it targeted the Neelum-Jhelum hydropower project in PoK, calling it a "fabrication and blatant lie." Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri stated India only struck terror infrastructure during Operation Sindoor and warned Pakistan against using false claims as a pretext for attacks. Wing Commander Vyomika Singh highlighted intensified Pakistani shelling across the LoC, which killed 16 civilians, and emphasized India's commitment to non-escalation unless provoked.

29. Bilal Mosque damaged in Indian strikes [\(Dunya News, 7th May 2025\)](#)

During India's Operation Sindoor on May 7, 2025, the Bilal Mosque in Muzaffarabad, the capital of PoJK, sustained damage from an Indian airstrike. The attack was part of a broader military operation targeting alleged terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan. The strike on the mosque highlighted civilian infrastructure being affected amid rising tensions between the two nuclear-armed neighbours.

30. PoK residents urge calm amid tensions [\(Dunya News, 10th May 2025\)](#)

Despite escalating cross-border hostilities between India and Pakistan, residents in Muzaffarabad called for calm, expressing trust in the army. In contrast, panic buying

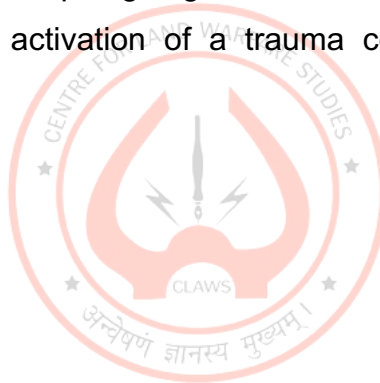
was reported in Lahore. Over 400 people were evacuated near the LoC, and officials warned businesses against price hikes as supplies dwindled in some border areas.

31. Indian claim of Skardu airport strike denied ([Pamir Times, 12th May 2025](#))

Claims by Indian Army officials about an alleged attack on Skardu Airport in Gilgit-Baltistan have been dismissed as false by local journalists and residents. No attack occurred, and the region remained peaceful despite being on high alert. Reports of drone sightings near the LoC were noted but did not lead to hostilities.

32. PoK PM visits LoC ([Dunya News, 14th May 2025](#))

PoK Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwarul Haq visited Bhimber's Samahni sector to boost troop morale and distribute relief cheques to victims of Indian shelling. He assessed damage to civilian infrastructure, pledged government support, and ordered enhanced medical facilities, including activation of a trauma center and additional staff at Bhimber DHQ Hospital.



About the Author

Nomita Chandola is a dedicated scholar in International Relations, with a strong academic foundation and a passion for understanding complex global issues. She recently earned her master's degree in International Relations from the University of Leeds, where she focused on modules such as global governance and climate security. Prior to this, she completed her bachelor's degree in Political Science with a minor in Economics from Kamla Nehru College, University of Delhi.

Currently, Nomita is a Research Assistant at the Centre for Land Warfare Studies, where she delves into critical issues of strategic affairs and geopolitical dynamics. Her primary area of interest lies in South Asian studies, emphasizing security dynamics and their intersections with global politics. She aspires to pursue a PhD to further explore these themes. With a keen eye for policy analysis and research, Nomita aims to contribute meaningfully to the academic and policy discourse on international security and regional stability.



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