

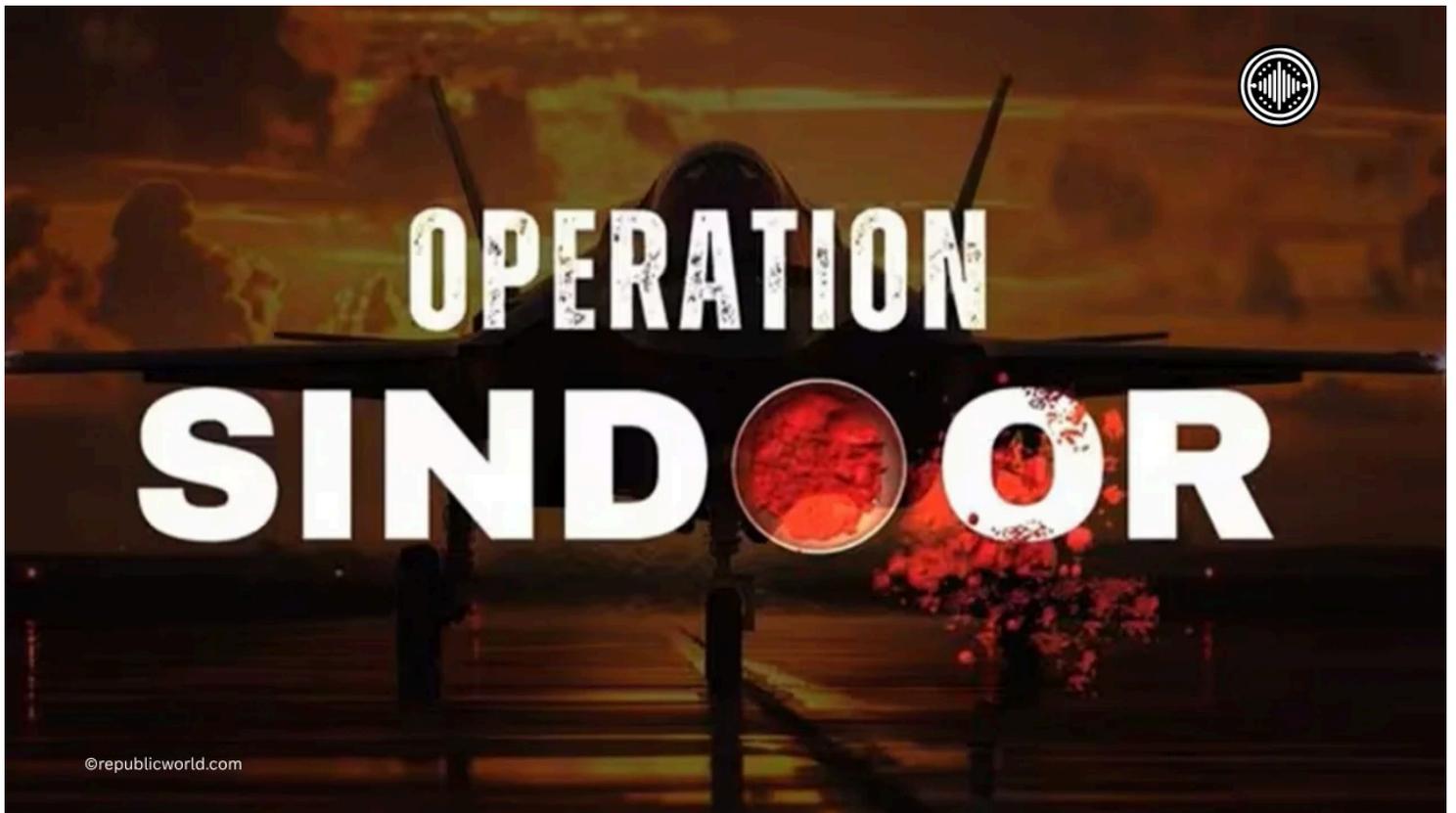
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Army Chief Declares Operation Sindoor a Strategic Triumph

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At the Kargil War Memorial in Drass, Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi described Operation Sindoor as a significant demonstration of India's evolving counterterrorism capabilities. The operation, launched in response to the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam, marked a swift military retaliation aimed at dismantling terror-linked sites across the Line of Control.

Addressing soldiers, veterans, and civilians gathered to honor the fallen heroes of the 1999 Kargil conflict, General Dwivedi emphasized that the operation reflected a shift in India's strategic posture. "Operation Sindoor was a message to Pakistan as well as a response to the Pahalgam terror attack, which was a deep wound for the entire nation," he said. "This time, India did not just mourn, it responded with precision and strength."

He noted that the operation was made possible by clear directives from the national leadership and strong public support, enabling swift decision-making by military commanders. He added that India would respond decisively to any future threats to its sovereignty.

General Dwivedi also highlighted the role of India's air defense systems in intercepting missile and drone threats during the May 8–9 period, describing them as highly effective in securing Indian airspace.

In a related structural update, the Army Chief announced the creation of the Rudra Brigade, a multi-domain formation that integrates infantry, mechanized, armored, artillery, special forces, and unmanned aerial platforms under a single command. "Rudra will be capable of rapid, joint-action response across different terrains and theatres," he said.

He further introduced a new artillery unit, the Shaktiban Regiment, tasked with developing capabilities for drone-based operations and counter-drone warfare, part of broader modernization efforts across the Indian Army.

The Army is also expanding the deployment of unmanned aerial systems to frontline units and accelerating domestic production of air defense platforms under the Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India) initiative.

Concluding his remarks, General Dwivedi paid tribute to the soldiers of the Kargil conflict, saying, "The nation is safe because of the selfless sacrifices of our heroes. We bow our heads in respect to those who gave their all so that we may live in peace and dignity."

The Kargil Vijay Diwas address emphasized the Indian Army's focus on readiness, reform, and technological advancement in confronting modern security threats.