

Pak bombs its own people, sanctions genocidal mass rape: India at UNSC

■ By Yoshita Singh

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 7 (PTI)

INA strong retort against Pakistan in the UN Security Council, India on Monday described its neighbour as a country that “bombs

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its own people” and conducts “systematic genocide”.

During his remarks to the UNSC open debate on “Women, Peace and Security”, India’s Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish said Pakistan conducted Operation Searchlight in 1971



Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations, Parvathaneni Harish delivers India’s statement at the UN Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security, in New York on Tuesday. (PTI)

and sanctioned a systematic campaign of genocidal mass rape of 4,00,000 women citizens by its

‘Pak conducted Operation Searchlight in 1971 and sanctioned a systematic campaign of genocidal mass rape of 4,00,000 women citizens by its own army’

own army. “Every year, we are unfortunately fated to listen to the delusional tirade of Pakistan against my country, especially on Jammu and Kashmir, the Indian territory they covet,” the Indian envoy said.

“A country that bombs its own people, conducts systematic genocide, can only attempt to
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Nirmala asks fintechs to boost risk management to **check misuse of AI**

MUMBAI, Oct 7 (PTI)

FINANCE Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday asked fintech firms to focus on risk management at a time when criminals are using AI to mimic voices, clone identities and create lifelike videos to manipulate people.

Speaking at the 6th edition of Global Fintech Fest 2025 here, the Finance Minister also said India has the potential of becoming the global hub for building various AI products and services.

During the event, Sitharaman launched the Foreign Currency Settlement System (FCSS) of GIFT IFSC designed to settle transactions in foreign currencies on a real-time or near real-time basis. With the operationalisation of the FCSS, GIFT IFSC joins a select group of global financial centres - including Hong Kong, Tokyo, and Manila - that have the infrastructure to settle foreign currency transactions locally.



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman greets gathering during the 'Global Fintech Fest 2025' in Mumbai on Tuesday. (PTI)

The Minister said India can also build AI products that fits diverse use-cases across the world. It can be a laboratory for developing and testing AI ideas.

India's domestic defence purchases reach Rs 1.20 lakh crore in 2024-25

NEW DELHI, Oct 7 (PTI)

INDIA procured military hardware and weapons worth Rs 1,20,000 crore from domestic sources by end of 2024-25 as it is increasingly focusing on boosting self-reliance to confront national security challenges, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Tuesday.

In an address at an event, Singh said the Government is fully aware of the changing dynamics of battle field, especially the importance of non-contact warfare such as use of drones, and preparing for it accordingly.

In this context, he underlined the importance of enhancing India's own defence industries to meet myriad security challenges.

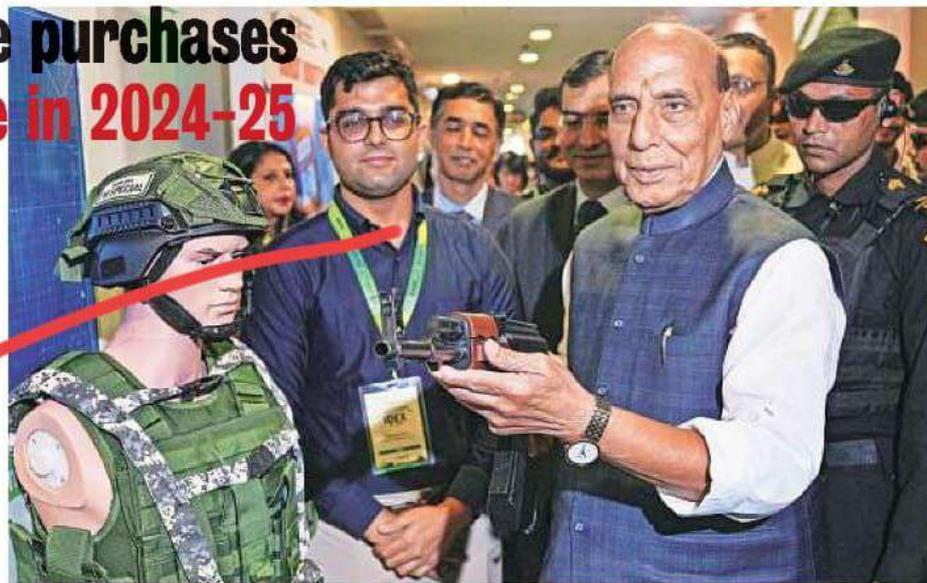
"In 2021-22, our capital acquisition from domestic sources was around Rs 74,000 crore, but by the end of 2024-25, the capital acquisition from domestic

sources has increased to approximately Rs 1,20,000 crore," he said. "This change is not just about data, but also about mindset," he said.

The Defence Minister said the Modi Government has taken several policy initiatives in the last 10 years to encourage indigenous design, development, and manufacturing of defence equipment in the country.

Under these initiatives, the highest priority is now being given to domestic sourcing in procurement of military hardware, he noted. "The Government of India is fully aware of the changing nature of modern warfare. Today's warfare has become completely technology-oriented. We have seen a demonstration of this in Operation Sindoor as well," he said.

"In this, we observed that the importance of non-contact warfare, such as drones, anti-



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh holds a rifle during the inauguration of a national-level conference on Opportunities of Defence Manufacturing in the country, at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on Tuesday. (PTI)

drone warfare, and air-defence systems, has significantly increased," he said.

Singh also listed goals in the defence sector to realise India's overall aim to become a devel-

oped country by 2047.

"First is that we must achieve a high degree of self-reliance in the critical defence capabilities. Second, we must become a prominent global exporter in the

defence sector," he said.

"Third, to take India forward in cutting-edge technology sectors, we must achieve advancements in some new niche technologies," he said.

'US to impose 25% tariffs on imported trucks from Nov 1'

NEW YORK, Oct 7 (PTI)

PRESIDENT Donald Trump on Monday announced that his administration will impose 25 percent tariff on all medium and heavy-duty trucks coming into the US from other countries beginning next month.

Trump, in a post on his social media platform Truth Social, said,

"Beginning November 1st, 2025, all Medium and Heavy Duty Trucks coming into the United States from other Countries will be Tariffed at the Rate of 25%."

The US trucking industry is a cornerstone of the national economy, moving roughly 73% of all domestic freight, according to the American Trucking Associations, 'Fox Business' reported.

Cabinet clears 4 railway projects covering 18 districts in 4 States

NEW DELHI, Oct 7 (PTI)

THE Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved four multi-tracking railway projects covering 18 districts in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh with a cost of approximately Rs 24,634 crore.

The projects will increase the existing network of Indian Railways by about 894 km and help in providing seamless connectivity for the movement of people, goods and services, an official statement said.

These projects are 3rd and 4th line between Wardha and Bhusawal covering 314 km in Maharashtra; an 84 km 4th line between Gondia and Dongargarh in Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh; 259 km 3rd and

4th line between Vadodara - Ratlam in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh; and 4th line covering 84 km distance of Ujjain-Bhopal-Bina in Madhya Pradesh.

"The approved multi-tracking project will enhance connectivity to approximately 3,633 villages, which have a population of about 85.84 lakh and two Aspirational Districts (Vidisha and Rajnandgaon)," the statement said. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, while briefing the media persons, said that the increased line capacity will significantly enhance mobility, resulting in improved operational efficiency and service reliability for Indian Railways.

He said that these multi-tracking proposals are poised to streamline operations and alleviate congestion.

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Rs 707 cr for Assam, Guj for floods; Rs 903 cr for Haryana, MP and Raj

NEW DELHI, Oct 7 (PTI)

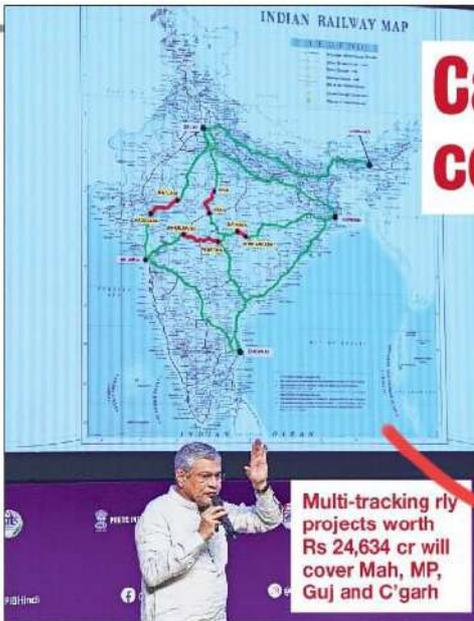
A HIGH-LEVEL committee headed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah has approved Rs 707.97 crore of additional central assistance for Assam and Gujarat that were hit by floods and landslides in 2024.

The committee has also approved Rs 903.67 crore for Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan from the

National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for the expansion and modernisation of the State fire services.

"A high-level committee, headed by the Union Home Minister, has approved Rs 707.97 crore of additional central assistance to Assam and Gujarat, affected by floods and landslides in 2024," an official statement said.

The assistance has been (Contd on page 5)



Multi-tracking rly projects worth Rs 24,634 cr will cover Mah, MP, Guj and C'garh

Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Ashwini Vaishnaw briefs the media on Cabinet decisions in New Delhi on Tuesday.

(PTI)

Mah Govt announces Rs 31,628 crore compensation for flood-hit farmers