

First India-Central Asia Summit hosted by PM Modi

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India and five Central Asian countries recently asserted that providing support, using proxies for cross-border terrorism and terror financing go against the basic principles of humanity, as they called for combating the menace comprehensively to achieve a “world free of terror”.

Key Highlights

- The assertion was made at the first India-Central Asia Summit hosted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi that was attended by five presidents — Kazakhstan’s Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Uzbekistan’s Shavkat Mirziyoyev, Emomali Rahmon of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan’s Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow and Sadyr Japarov of Kyrgyz Republic.
- A Delhi Declaration issued after the summit said the two sides acknowledged that defence cooperation constitutes an important pillar between India and the Central Asian countries.
- The presidents of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan expressed satisfaction over regular bilateral military counter-terrorism exercises with India.
- They also agreed to consider holding of joint counter-terrorism exercises between India and interested Central Asian countries, the declaration said.
- The leaders underscored the importance of regular dialogue between the security councils of their countries in view of the common challenges of terrorism, extremism and radicalisation in the region.

SOURCE: *The Indian Express, Business Standard*