

Meeting with Indian team probing 'Pannun plot' productive, says US

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State dept spokesman Matthew Miller said the meeting with the visiting Indian team probing the alleged plot against pro-Khalistan separatist Gurpatwant Pannun was "productive".

The individual, identified as CCI in the US indictment, is reported to be a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) officer, Vikram Yadav, on deputation to Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW). According to US accounts, CCI allegedly recruited Nikhil Gupta, an Indian national, to hire a hitman to eliminate Pannun. The hitman turned out to be an undercover US agent.

Gupta was arrested in Prague earlier this year and extradited to the US, where he has pled not guilty ahead of an expected trial. India has said it does not sanction or condone transnational killing amid suggestions that some players may have gone rogue. At the same time, New Delhi has also pushed back at US and Canada for adopting a benign attitude — all in the name of political freedom — towards violent Khalistani extremists who have attacked Indian diplomatic missions and threatened Indian diplomats and officials.

Pannun, a dual citizen of US and Canada, has a free run in both countries and continues to openly threaten Indian officials, most recently sending out an email showing India's ambassador to the US, Vinay Kwatra, in the crosshairs of a rifle in a visual, with the message "Wanted: Enemy of Sikhs".

While Washington has kept engagement with New Delhi on the issue fairly low-key, Canada has ele-

Trudeau lying to distract from his party's revolt, says his main opponent & Conservative leader

Canadian PM Justin Trudeau has come under attack back home, with his main opponent, Conservative Party's Pierre Poilievre, accusing him of lying and winning two elections with China's help while making misleading claims about India's interference in Ottawa's internal affairs.



Responding to Trudeau's allegation about links of Conservative MPs to foreign powers, Poilievre said the PM had not responded to his message to reveal the names of MPs who collaborated with "foreign interference".

"Justin Trudeau is doing what he always does: he is lying. He is lying to distract from a Liberal caucus revolt against his leadership and revelations he knowingly allowed Beijing to interfere and help him win two elections," said the Conservative politician who enjoys nearly a double-digit lead in ratings over Trudeau in the build-up to polls next year.

Poilievre also revealed that Trudeau, who through his senior aides conveyed to him serious allegations of India's interference in Canada's internal affairs, had not backed up the charge though the law allows him the leeway to share the specific details. "I was briefed on Oct 14 by Nathalie Drouin, national security and intelligence advisor to the PM; David Morrison, deputy minister of foreign affairs at Global Affairs Canada; and Daniel Rogers, director of CSIS; about the matter of foreign interference from India," Poilievre said, adding that Trudeau's team did not share details with him by taking the stand that they could not put any MP in a "tough position" without giving them due process. Poilievre said the stand of Trudeau's aides was just an excuse as "CSIS Act allows the govt to offer any information to any Canadian about specific risks of foreign interference without forcing them into sworn secrecy or controlling what they say".

He also said it was the first time Trudeau's team had made the claim about India's interference and its links to Conservative MPs. The timing, Oct 14, of the Trudeau team's visit to Poilievre is also significant: it came on the eve of the deposition of the PM and members of PMO before the Foreign Interference Commission, the coincidence set to strengthen India's suspicion that the dispensation in Ottawa fired the second volley of allegations to distract attention from the hearings into charge that Trudeau allowed the Chinese a free run of his country.

"If Trudeau has evidence to the contrary, he should share it with the public. Now that he has blurted it out in general terms at a commission of inquiry, he should release facts. But he won't, because he is making it up," Poilievre said. **THE**

replete with charges that PM Justin Trudeau has stirred up the matter for political survival since his govt is dependent on support from Sikh politicians, many of whom are pro-Khalistan separatists. (US correspondent for TOI)

Canada 'safe haven' for criminals wanted in India

Bees Indifferent To Extradition Pleas Since '03: Officials

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Trudeau addresses a press conference in Ottawa on Oct 14. Even in the 1980s, his father, then PM Pierre Trudeau, harboured Khalistani terrorists

New Delhi: Canada may have taken the plea of free speech and cited legal requirement for more proof to act against pro-Khalistan extremists' alleged political persecution to find sanctuary in its territory, but the country has failed to act on India's requests even for extradition of fraudsters and those accused of drug dealing, domestic violence and rape. This has turned the country into a "safe haven" for criminals wanted in India, govt sources said.

Sources here pointed out that no action has been taken against one Gurcharan Singh, accused in a cheating case, although a request was made in 2003. Similarly, Omkar Mal Aggarwal, accused of criminal conspiracy and cheating in a property case, has been wanted since 2016, while India sought the extradition of Jasvinder Pal Singh Walia in 2022 in a case related to gang rape and blackmail of a female employee of his spa during 2014-15, which is pending. Last year, a plea was made against Ravinder Singh for cruelty against his wife, after he fled the country.

Sources said there are formal and informal channels via which information is exchanged but a common thread is there — reluctance on part of Canadian authorities.

On several occasions, India has suggested that the Canadian govt check the antecedents of individ-

als who enter the country illegally and later seek asylum, but the suggestion has been ignored. Even the caution that the "open door" policy is a recipe for disaster, as those who have profited from crime are going to ply their dark trade in their new home, has not been heeded. "Nor have the instances vindicating the warning," said a senior source.

In the case of terrorists and criminals, Indian authorities have shared call details and even the location of suspects and suggested that action could be taken under Canadian laws but complained that they have always hit a wall.

Sources also dismissed the grounds of "higher bar" and "due process" refrained by Canadian agencies to justify their action against terrorists entering the country camouflaged as "dissenters who are facing prosecution for political reasons" as just an alibi, saying the concerns have never come in the way of tough action against operatives and sympathisers of IS and their family members. "The indifference and re-

sistance to our requests... has been visceral and has been the norm since 2003," said the source.

In fact, after years of informal sharing of information and dossiers, which Canada said didn't meet their legal requirements, a formal arrangement was worked out between NIA and RCMP but there has not been much headway.

Even in the 1980s when militancy was at its peak in Punjab, Canada under then PM Pierre Trudeau, Justin's father, harboured Khalistani terrorists, including those involved in murders and bombings, including that of Kanishka that killed hundreds of passengers.

In recent years too, as Sikh extremists decided to make Canada as their base for anti-India activities, govt repeatedly flagged its concern and shared evidence, including links with Pakistan, but has not met with much success. What has raised further eyebrows in New Delhi is how many extremists accused of serious terror charges have even been given official assignments.

Gap between actions and words: MEA on Trudeau's comments

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We have shared security-related charges with Canadian authorities, including those of Lawrence Bishnoi gang, and have requested them to arrest them or take due action as per law. So far, no action has been taken by the Canadian side," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, listing out names of criminals whose extradition has been pending with Canada for long.

"This is very serious. We find it very strange that the people who we asked to be deported, RCMP is blaming the Indian side for these people committing crimes in Canada. This is a contradiction that we don't understand," he told reporters.

The comments came a day after Trudeau's admission that he attacked India for the killing of pro-Khalistan terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar without "evidentiary proof". Trudeau had claimed Wednesday that there was a

no action has been taken. There is a gap between actions and words here," he said.

Responding to queries on Trudeau's deposition Wednesday in which he admitted not sharing "evidence" about India's complicity in Nijjar's killing, Jaiswal said, "We have made our position very clear. Since Sept 2023, Canada has not shared any shred of information with us... we refute the false imputations against our diplomats." He said the Trudeau govt's baseless allegations have only precipitated matters. "The responsibility for the damage that this cavalier behaviour has caused to India-Canada relations lies with PM Trudeau alone," Jaiswal added.

Regarding the diplomatic fallout, MEA stated that India had summoned Canada's acting high commissioner and conveyed concerns about the safety of Indian diplomats. "We had conveyed that we had no faith that the Canadian govt will look after the safety of our diplomats and

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Rehabilitation Council of India
A Statutory Body of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan),
Government of India
B-22, Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi - 110016

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For more details regarding eligibility criteria, age, etc and other details please visit: www.rehabcouncil.nic.in

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Member Secretary, RCI

Government of Tamil Nadu
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department
Mayiladuthurai District

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- The bid document can be downloaded at free of cost from www.intenders.gov.in from 17.10.2024 to 25.10.2024 - 3.00 P.M.
- Last date and time
I. 25.10.2024 - 3.00 PM
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III. Date and time of online opening of Bid documents: 25.10.2024 - 4.00 P.M.

District Collector,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Mayiladuthurai

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Rehabilitation Council of India
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Legal Consultant	One (01)	Consolidated Remuneration of Rs.70,000-1,00,000/- p.m.
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