

Centre Emergency Evacuation Measures for Pahalgam Tourists

Why in News?

After the <u>Pahalgam terror attack</u>, the Union Civil Aviation Minister began monitoring the situation to **ensure quick help for affected tourists**. Four **special flights have been arranged from Srinagar**, with more on standby for evacuations.

Key Points

- Urgent Meeting with Airlines:
 - The Union Minister held an **emergency meeting with all airline operators**.
 - He firmly directed airlines to avoid surge pricing and maintain standard fares, ensuring passengers are not burdened during the crisis.
 - He also directed all airlines to ensure dignified and timely transportation of deceased victims to their home states.
- IndiGo Offers Relief Measures:
 - IndiGo announced waivers on rescheduling and cancellation fees for bookings made on or before 22 April, valid until 30 April.
 - The airline also introduced two special flights to support evacuation and travel needs.

Terrorism

- It is the deliberate and unlawful use of violence and intimidation, especially against civilians, to instill fear and achieve political, religious, or ideological goals.
 - It seeks to influence governments or societies by creating a climate of fear, disruption, and uncertainty.
 - India maintains a strong stance against terrorism with a "zero tolerance" policy.
 - However, there are no universally accepted definitions of terrorism, making it difficult to classify specific activities as terrorist acts.
- This ambiguity gives terrorists an advantage and enables some countries to remain silent and veto actions in global institutions.

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