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Pakistani interior minister: 'Mumbai attack was equally painful for Pakistan'

By [Saurabh Shukla](#) **UPDATED:** 09:01 GMT, 24 January 2012



Showing support: Pakistani interior minister Rehman Malik said his country would not tolerate terrorism or terror-related acts

Pakistan's interior minister Rehman Malik has assured India of fast-tracking investigations into the 26/11 attack case.

Speaking exclusively to HEADLINES TODAY'S foreign affairs editor Saurabh Shukla, Malik said: 'We were equally pained at 26/11... All the conspirators have to be brought to justice. We will make an example out of them.'

However, Malik also asked the Indian Government to share the Samjhauta Express blast report with Pakistan. He also revealed that, for the first time, Pakistan had sacked two officials in Lahore for claiming that RAW was involved in a city blast. 'This is a pointer that we are becoming more mature...We don't indulge in blame game,' he claimed.

Striking a conciliatory note, Malik assured India that Pakistan's soil won't be used for terrorism or terror-related acts. Significantly, he said: 'We have warned the Indian Government about the growing religious extremism in India.'

Praising his Indian counterpart, home minister P. Chidambaram, he said: 'I appreciate his taking personal interest on the 26/11 judicial commission.' Denying there was any delay on the part of the Pakistan Government in bringing the Mumbai trial accused to justice, Malik said Pakistan was 'fully

committed' to bringing to justice the 26/11 perpetrators.



Tragic: Malik said Pakistan is committed to bringing justice to the 26/11 perpetrators

Addressing a wide range of issues, Malik said Pakistan Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani's appearance in their Supreme Court had defused the political crisis. 'It has certainly defused the situation. It proves that we are transparent... We followed the real parameters of democracy.'

He also scotched the rumours that the PPP-led government in Pakistan could collapse. 'These are false assumptions. The Pakistani people are with us,' Malik said, while blaming former Premier Nawaz Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League for conspiring against the Government.

On why Hafiz Mohammed Saeed was still roaming free in Pakistan, Malik said: 'There has to be credible evidence against the JuD... We need evidence that can stand in the court. We will not spare anybody involved in terrorism.'

On the dialogue process between the neighbours, the Pakistani minister said the core issues needed to be resolved first. 'But intent is important...some progress has happened. The instances of blame game have gone down. It's no longer a charged atmosphere but the leaders of the two countries need to meet more often,' he said.



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