Congress Takes Aim at Modi Government Over Foreign Policy and Alleged Secrecy

In a sharp political salvo, Congress leader Pawan Khera on Monday criticized Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, raising concerns over alleged lapses in national security and foreign policy transparency. His remarks centered around U.S. President Donald Trump's past claim that PM Modi had sought his mediation for a ceasefire between India and Pakistan—a statement Khera described as deeply concerning and diplomatically damaging.

Khera further escalated his critique by accusing the government of remaining silent during what he termed as behind-the-scenes dealings. Using the Hindi phrase "sindoor ka sauda hota raha aur pradhan mantri chup rahe," he implied that covert arrangements were being made while the Prime Minister chose not to speak out. He demanded clarity on the government's engagements with major powers like the United States and China, suggesting that hidden agendas were harming India's national interests.

The issue gained momentum after Congress MP Rahul Gandhi shared a video of Jaishankar stating that Pakistan had been warned during the early stages of Operation Sindoor. Gandhi questioned the reasoning and authority behind such a move, asking how many Indian Air Force aircraft were lost as a consequence of what he described as a grave strategic error.

Responding to these allegations, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) dismissed the Congress's accusations as a distortion of facts. In a formal statement, the MEA clarified that the warning to Pakistan occurred during the early phase after the operation began—not before, as suggested. The ministry emphasized that any claim to the contrary was a deliberate misrepresentation.

As the political exchange intensifies, the episode has reignited debates over accountability, national security, and the conduct of foreign relations at the highest levels of government.