

Improvised Explosive Device (IED)

November 11, 2025 • vajiramandravi.com



Improvised Explosive Device Latest News

J&K Police recently arrested seven locals linked to a terror module, seizing 2900 kg of IED-making materials and arms.

About Improvised Explosive Device

- An IED is a type of **unconventional explosive weapon** that can **take any form** and be **activated in a variety of ways**.
- IEDs are **used by criminals, vandals, terrorists**, suicide bombers, and insurgents.
- Because they are improvised, IEDs can **come in many forms**, ranging from a small pipe bomb to a sophisticated device **capable of causing massive damage and loss of life**.
- The **extent of damage** caused by an IED **depends on its size, construction, and placement** and **whether it incorporates a high explosive or propellant**.
- IEDs can be carried or **delivered in a vehicle; carried, placed, or thrown by a person**; delivered in a package; or **concealed on the roadside**.

- The **term IED came into common usage during the Iraq War** that began in **2003**.
- IEDs are **inexpensive** and can be **easily manufactured**, concealed and detonated.
- Further, IEDs can be **manufactured by using commonly available material or chemicals**.
- **Elements of an IED:**
 - It consists of a variety of components that include an **initiator, switch, main charge, power source, and container**.
 - IEDs may be surrounded by or **packed with additional materials** or “**enhancements**” such as **nails, glass, or metal fragments** designed to increase the amount of shrapnel propelled by the explosion.
 - An IED can be initiated by a variety of methods depending on the intended target.
- **Materials Used as Explosives in IEDs:**
 - Many commonly available materials, such as **fertilizer, gunpowder, and hydrogen peroxide**, are **used as explosive** materials in IEDs.
 - Explosives must **contain a fuel and an oxidizer**, which provides the oxygen needed to sustain the reaction.
 - A **common example is ANFO, a mixture of ammonium nitrate**, which **acts as the oxidizer, and fuel oil (the fuel source)**.

Source: TH

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-an-improvised-explosive-device-ied/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.