

Canadian attitude towards extremists is permissive: EAM

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External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Friday said Canada had a “permissive attitude” towards terrorists and extremists who openly advocate violence and such people have been given “operating space” in the country.

Jaishankar said that the Canadian allegations with regard to the death of a Khalistani separatist were discussed during his meeting with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken a day earlier and noted that the two delegations came out better informed after the meeting.

The Canadian Prime Minister, he said, made some allegations initially privately and then publicly. “Our response to him both in private and public was that his allegation was not consistent with our policy. And if he had, his government had anything relevant specifics, we would look into,” he said.

“We were open to looking at it now. That’s where that conversation is at this point of time,” Jaishankar said.

He said that for India, Canada has become a country where organised crime from India mixed with trafficking in people, mixed with secessionism and violence which is a very toxic combination of issues that people who have found operating space.

He acknowledged that there has been a lot between India and Canada on this issue preceding the remarks of the Canadian prime minister.

In the last few years, the issue of Khalistan has come back very much into play, because of what “we consider to be a very permissive Canadian attitude towards terrorists, extremists, people who openly advocate violence and they have been given operating space in Canada because of the compulsions of Canadian politics.” “For us, it has certainly been a country where organised crime from India, mixed with trafficking in people mixed with secessionism, violence, terrorism. It’s a very toxic combination of issues and



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Canada committed to ‘closer ties’ with India, says Trudeau

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has said Canada is “very serious” about building closer ties with India as it is a growing economic power and important geopolitical player, but wants New Delhi to work with Ottawa to ensure that they get the full facts about the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar. Tensions flared between India and Canada following Trudeau’s explosive allegations of the “potential” involvement of Indian agents in the killing of Khalistani extremist Nijjar on his country’s soil on June 18 in British Columbia. India

had designated Nijjar as a terrorist in 2020. India angrily rejected the allegations as “absurd” and “motivated”.

Trudeau said despite “credible allegations” against India, Canada is committed to building closer ties with it, *The National Post* newspaper reported.

Speaking at a press conference in Montreal,

Trudeau said that he thinks it is “extremely important” that Canada and its allies continue to engage “constructively and seriously” with India given its growing

importance on the world stage. PTI



people who have found operating space there,” Jaishankar said. The US side shared its assessments on this whole situation and he explained to the Americans a summary of India’s concerns.

Meanwhile, Blinken has urged India to “cooperate fully” with the ongoing Canadian investigation into the killing of a Khalistani separatist, a senior state department official said on Friday.