

# **India's Costly Misadventure:** A War of Pride, Paid by the People



# What did India really gain from military escalation against Pakistan?

#### **The Economic Shockwave**

Within 2 Days: What India Lost

# **USD 83 Billion**

Stock Market Value



>100% of the total 2025-26 defence allocation



7 times more than India's national health budget



times more than the education allocation



## Military & Sectoral Losses

#### The Price of Escalation



IAF Equipment Loss + Ops:

### USD 1 Billion



Civil Aviation, IPL, **Logistics Disruptions** 

USD 1+ Billion



**Macroeconomic Output** Loss (4 Days):

**USD 3 Billion** 



**Emergency Financing, Cybersecurity & Repairs:** 

USD 500+ Million

#### Militarised Ambitions, Marginalised Masses



India's 2025-26 **Defence Budget:** 

USD 77.4 Billion

Already up 9.5% >

**IMPACT:** Cuts in social spending, rising taxes, long-term poverty entrenchment

1% of India's Defence Budget Could educate millions of children or build dozens of hospitals

### **Fallout Beyond the Battlefield**

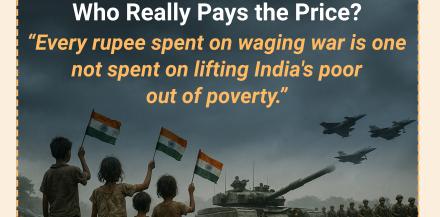
Investor Confidence: Down ▼ -Risk premiums rising

Job Market: Stagnation expected in manufacturing sector

Migration: Talent drain as skilled individuals seek peace abroad

Diplomacy: Regional trust deficit + weakened global standing





Analysis: Zahra Niazi, Research Associate, Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies, Islamabad Sources: CASS, IPRI, Stimson, SIPRI, Al-Jazeera, Reuters | Design Curator: Hira Mumtaz



