

WORLD
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Terrorism, extremism a common concern with India: Saudi Prince

● **Modi agrees with Saudi Arabia to strengthen cooperation on counter-terrorism, naval and cyber security**

AFP | New Delhi, India

Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and Indian leader Narendra Modi vowed yesterday to increase pressure on countries that fuel terrorism.

Neither mentioned a target, but their accord came as Modi has stepped up warnings to Pakistan following a suicide attack in Kashmir that left at least 40 paramilitaries dead.

Modi again slammed the "barbaric attack" last week as he said: "To tackle this menace effectively, we agreed that there is a need to increase all possible pressure on countries supporting terrorism in any way.

"It is extremely important to eliminate the terror infrastructure and stop support to terrorists and their supporters."

Prince Mohammed, who arrived in Delhi from a two-day visit to Pakistan as the cross-frontier tensions heightened, had offered to help the neighbours end the showdown over the bombing.

"Terrorism and extremism is a common concern for India and Saudi Arabia," the crown prince said after talks with Modi.

"I want to state that we are ready to cooperate with India, including through intelligence sharing," he added.

Earlier, Prince Mohammed



Indian President Ram Nath Kovind (C) shakes hands with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (L) as Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi looks on during ceremonial reception at Presidential palace in New Delhi

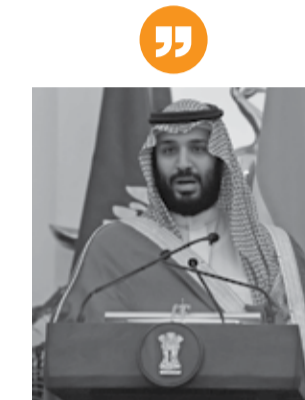
predicted "good things" will come out of talks with Indian leaders as he started a landmark visit to the world's largest democracy Wednesday.

"Today we want to be sure this relationship is maintained and improved for the sake of both countries," the crown prince

said in comments to reporters after full ceremonial welcome in Delhi.

"I am sure we can create good things for Saudi Arabia and India," he added after inspecting a guard of honour at the presidential palace.

The crown prince said the two



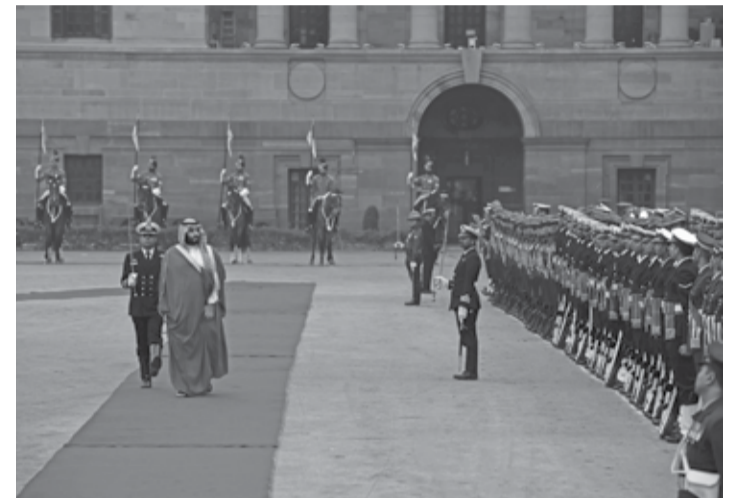
On the issue of extremism and terrorism, which is a common concern, we want to tell India that we will cooperate in every way, including intelligence sharing

CROWN PRINCE

\$100bn
will be earmarked by Saudi for investment in India over a period of next two years

countries were in each other's "DNA", highlighting the importance of Indian labour and experts in Saudi Arabia over the past 70 years as well as a longstanding Saudi presence in India.

Saudi officials have offered to help "de-escalate tensions"



Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (2nd L) inspects a guard of honour during a ceremonial reception at the presidential palace in New Delhi



Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (R) during a meeting with Indian Minister of External Affairs Sushma Swaraj

between the nuclear-armed neighbours.

Saudi minister of state for foreign affairs Adel al-Jubeir said in Islamabad on Monday that the delegation would "see if there is a path forward to resolving those differences peacefully".

Saudi Arabia currently supplies about 20 per cent of India's

crude oil and wants to definitively push aside arch-rival Iran as a source.

In Pakistan, the Saudi prince announced \$20 billion of investment for the Muslim country.

Prince Mohammed was expected to go on to China later Wednesday.

Saudi prince sees "useful returns" from \$100 billion investment

● **Saudi Arabia, India signed agreements on investment in infrastructure, housing sector and tourism**

● **Saudi Aramco said it was in talks with India's Reliance Industries Ltd**

Reuters | New Delhi

Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman said yesterday he saw investment opportunities of more than \$100 billion in India over the next two years as he began his first official visit.

"Today we expect the opportunities we are targeting in India in various fields to exceed \$100 billion in the coming two years... we want to work with you, Mr



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (R) speaks as Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman looks on during a joint press briefing at Hyderabad House in New Delhi

Prime Minister, to ensure these investments are made and to ensure useful returns for both countries."

The Crown Prince said in a joint press appearance after talks with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Giant petroleum and natural gas company Saudi Aramco said it was in talks with India's Reliance Industries Ltd for possible investments and was seeking other opportunities.

During the press briefing, Modi said he had agreed with the prince to strengthen cooperation on counter-terrorism and naval and cyber security.

The two countries signed agreements on investment in infrastructure, housing sector and tourism.

Modi has sought to use India's fast-growing economy to attract more investment from Saudi Arabia and other Islamic nations since he took office.



Crown Prince is greeted by Modi as President Ram Nath Kovind watches