

Hezbollah denies role in India, Thailand, Georgia attacks

BEIRUT: Hezbollah chief Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah denied Thursday his group was involved in several recent security incidents in India, Georgia and Thailand against Israeli diplomats.

"We, in Hezbollah, played no part in these incidents," Nasrallah said during a televised speech on the annual occasion commemorating slain Lebanese resistance leaders.

Israel has accused this week Iran and the resistance group of being involved in botched plots targeting Israeli officials in these countries. Iran has denied the charges.

Nasrallah also vowed his group would avenge the killing of Imad Mughniyeh, one of Hezbollah's top security officials who was killed in a mysterious car bomb explosion in Syria in 2008.

"Our revenge will not be against Israeli soldiers or diplomats; it is actually offensive for Hezbollah to avenge a great leader by killing regular Israelis," Nasrallah said.

"But those who are the real targets know themselves and they are taking measures and I say to them: stay this way because as long as blood runs through the veins of Hezbollah's members there will come a day when we will avenge Imad Mughniyeh's killing in an honorable way," he added.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned Wednesday that the aggression against Israel might spread to other countries.

"If this aggression isn't halted, ultimately it will spread to many other countries," Netanyahu said in Israel's parliament.

Netanyahu's office reported that the prime minister convened a Security Cabinet to discuss "terrorism against Israel" and Iran's involvement in repeated attempts to attack Israeli targets.