

# India gifts 15 EVs to Nepal

KATHMANDU, May 11 (ANI)

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As a significant gesture of friendship and goodwill, Ambassador of India to Nepal, Naveen Srivastava, handed over 15 electric vehicles to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of Nepal, Arzu Rana Deuba.

As per the Indian Embassy in Kathmandu, it is "a gift of India for logistical support to the Government of Nepal for facilitating the effective organisation of the first edition of the 'Sagarmatha Sambaad' in Kathmandu on 16-18 May 2025 on the theme of 'Climate Change, Mountains and the Future of Humanity'."

These vehicles are being handed over at the request of the Government of Nepal and would prove to be useful in further augmenting the logistical arrangements for conducting the Sambaad.

Speaking at the handover ceremony, the Ambassador noted that these vehicles would help facilitate the movement of guests and officials during the Sambaad. He recalled similar logistical support extended by the Government of India to the law enforcement agencies and the Election Commission of Nepal for the conduct of federal and provincial elections in 2022.

# US-Iran 4th round of nuke talks end in Oman, next round to be announced

**Dubai:** Fresh talks between Iranian and US negotiators to resolve disputes over Tehran's nuclear programme ended in Oman Sunday, with further negotiations planned, officials said, as Tehran insisted on continuing uranium enrichment.

Though both have said they prefer diplomacy to resolve the decades-long nuclear dispute, they remain deeply divided on several red lines that negotiators will have to circumvent to reach a new nuclear deal and avert future military action.

Iranian foreign ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei said the "indirect talks were difficult but useful to better understand each other's positions". A US official said: "We are encouraged by today's outcome and look forward to our next meeting, which will happen in the near future." Iran's FM Abbas Araqchi and Trump's West Asian envoy Steve Witkoff held the talks in Muscat through Omani mediators. REUTERS



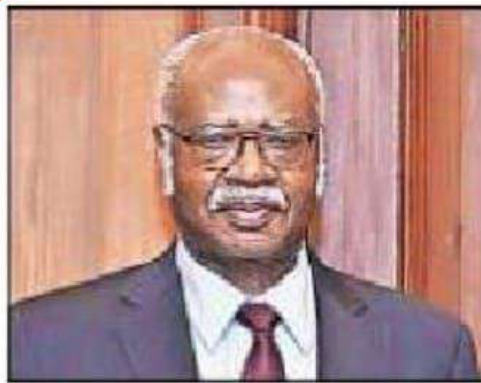
# Ceasefire agreement reflects India, Pakistan commitment to regional peace: UNGA President

UNITED NATIONS, May 11 (IANS)

UNITED Nations General Assembly President Philemon Yang has said the cease-fire agreement between India and Pakistan reflects their commitment to regional peace.

Welcoming the ceasefire, he said on Saturday, "It is a meaningful step towards de-escalation reflecting the commitment of both nations to regional peace and stability."

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres sees the ceasefire agreement between India and Pakistan



Philemon Yang

as a "positive step" towards easing tensions and hopes it will contribute to "lasting peace," according to his Spokesperson

Stephane Dujarric.

India and Pakistan reached a cease-fire agreement on Saturday. However, hours after the agreement, Pakistan violated the ceasefire. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said that the Indian Armed Forces have been responding adequately to the ceasefire violations.

Speaking at a press briefing, Misri said the Government has taken a serious note of the Pakistani actions. "This is a breach of understanding. The army is monitoring the situation closely," he said.



# After 3 years of war, Putin wants direct peace talks with Ukraine

## After Trump Nudge, Zelensky Says Ready For Meet In Istanbul On May 15

**Kyiv:** Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said he would agree to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin in Turkey on Thursday after US President Donald Trump told him to immediately accept Putin's proposal of direct talks.

Zelensky had responded guardedly earlier on Sunday after Putin, in a night-time televised statement that coincided with prime time in the US, proposed that Ukraine and Russia hold direct talks in Istanbul next Thursday, May 15.

It was not clear that Putin had proposed to attend in person, however. "I will be waiting for Putin in Turkey on Thursday. Personally, I hope that this time the Russians will not look for excuses," Zelensky wrote on X.

Earlier on Sunday, Zelensky had welcomed Russia's offer for direct peace talks, but insisted there must be a full, temporary ceasefire in place before negotiations can start. Zelensky, writing on X, had said "the very first step in truly ending any war is a ceasefire. We expect Russia to confirm a ceasefire—full, lasting, and reliable—starting May 12th, and Ukraine is ready to meet."

Putin's proposal had come hours after major European powers demanded on Saturday in Kyiv that Putin agree to an unconditional 30-day ceasefire or face "massive" new sanctions, a position that Trump's Ukraine envoy Keith Kellogg endorsed on Sunday. Zelensky too had said Ukraine would be ready for talks with



British PM Starmer, French President Macron, Polish PM Tusk and German Chancellor Merz huddle with President Zelensky in Kyiv on Saturday

### Putin and Erdogan discuss talks on call

Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Turkish counterpart Tayyip Erdogan spoke by phone on Sunday, the Kremlin said, where they discussed Putin's proposal to hold Russia-Ukraine peace talks in Istanbul on May 15. The Kremlin said Erdogan told Putin he "fully supported" the proposal and was ready to host the talks. Erdogan also told Putin a comprehensive ceasefire would create the necessary environment for peace talks, a readout from Erdogan's office said. **REUTERS**

Russia, but only after Moscow agreed to the 30-day ceasefire.

But Trump, who has the power to continue or sever Washington's crucial supply of arms to Ukraine, took a different line. "President Putin of Russia doesn't want to have a Cease Fire Agreement with Ukraine, but rather wants to meet on Thursday, in Turkey, to negotiate a possible end to the BLOODBATH. Ukraine should agree to this, IMMEDIATELY," Trump wrote on Truth Social. "At least they will be able to determine whether or not a deal is possible, and if it is not, European lea-

ders, and the US, will know where everything stands, and can proceed accordingly!"

On Saturday, French President Emmanuel Macron, British PM Keir Starmer, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz and Polish PM Donald Tusk met with Zelensky in Kyiv and issued a coordinated call for the truce starting Monday. The plan has received backing from both the EU and Trump. In a social media post several hours after Putin's overnight remarks about peace talks, Trump said it was "a potentially great day for Russia and Ukraine!"

Macron said Sunday that Putin's offer of direct negotiations with Ukraine is "a first step, but not enough," signaling continued Western skepticism toward Moscow's intentions. "An unconditional ceasefire is not preceded by negotiations," Macron told reporters at the Polish-Ukrainian border, according to French media. Macron also warned that Putin is "looking for a way out, but he still wants to buy time."

Putin sent Russia's armed forces into Ukraine in Feb 2022, unleashing a conflict that has killed hundreds of thousands of soldiers and triggered the gravest confrontation between Russia and the West since the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis. With Russian forces grinding forward, the Kremlin chief has offered few, if any, concessions so far.

In his overnight address, he proposed what he said would be "direct negotiations without any preconditions". But almost immediately, senior Kremlin aide Yuri Ushakov told reporters the talks must take into account both an abandoned 2022 draft peace deal and the current situation on the ground. This language is shorthand for Kyiv agreeing to permanent neutrality in return for a security guarantee and accepting that Russia controls swathes of Ukraine.

Putin also dismissed what he said was an attempt to lay down "ultimatums" in the form of Western European and Ukrainian demands for a ceasefire starting on Monday. **REUTERS**



# Rajnath inaugurates BrahMos production unit



(L) Defence Minister Rajnath Singh virtually attends the inauguration of BrahMos Aerospace Integration and Testing Facility, in New Delhi on Sunday. (R) Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with Deputy Chief Ministers Keshav Prasad Maurya and Brajesh Pathak during the inauguration of BrahMos Aerospace Integration and Testing Facility, in Lucknow on Sunday .



## Ask Pakistanis about strength of BrahMos missile: CM Yogi

LUCKNOW, May 11 (PTI)

UTTAR Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday said a glimpse of the valour of the BrahMos missile was seen during Operation Sindoor and if that was not enough, one should ask Pakistanis about it.

He also said the time has come to deal a crushing blow to terrorism and to achieve it, the entire country has to unite under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony of the BrahMos Aerospace Integration and Testing Facility here, Adityanath said, "What is the BrahMos missile? You have seen a glimpse

of the valour of the BrahMos missile during Operation Sindoor. And if the glimpse was not visible, then ask Pakistanis about the strength of the missile."

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has declared that any incident of terror will be considered a war. And until we completely crush terrorism, there will be no solution to this problem. The time has come to crush it and for this, entire India, in one voice, has to unite under Modi's leadership," he added.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader said terrorism is a "dog's tail" that can never be straightened.

LUCKNOW, May 11 (PTI)

DEFENCE Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday virtually inaugurated the BrahMos Aerospace Integration and Testing Facility

at the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor here.

The Rs 300 crore facility is a key part of the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor and represents India's commitment

to self-reliant defence manufacturing, the Ministry of Defence said.

"It includes not only missile production but also testing, integration, and a materials com-

plex for aerospace-grade components. A major leap toward #AtmanirbharBharat and a strategic boost to regional industrial growth," the Ministry of Defence said on X.

(PTI)



# India's eye in the sky to get big boost with ISRO's new radar imaging satellite

NEW DELHI, May 11 (IANS)

INDIA'S border surveillance capabilities and national security are poised to get a game-changing boost with the launch of the all-weather Indian Space Research Organisation's RISAT-1B radar imaging satellite, also known as EOS-09, from the Sriharikota space centre on May 18.

The RISAT-1B satellite is equipped with a State-of-the-art C-band synthetic aperture radar, which will enable it to capture high-resolution images of the Earth's surface under adverse weather conditions such as rain, fog, clouds, or at night. This is quite unlike optical camera satellites that struggle to record images when the weather turns bad or darkness sets in at night.

According to experts, coming just days after Operation Sindoor, RISAT-1B's launch assumes great significance as it will give the defence forces a vital edge in monitoring India's sensitive borders along Pakistan and China, as well as for safeguarding the country's vast coastlines.

RISAT-1B's radar technology is particularly crucial for defence purposes. It can track enemy movements, detect infiltrations, and support anti-terrorism operations, providing continuous, reliable intelligence.

RISAT-1B can play a key role in anti-terrorist operations as it can more accurately pick up suspicious movements on the ground as terrorists try to infiltrate across the border.



# Indian missile strikes damaged Rahim Yar Khan airbase: Pak

## 'Squadron Ldr Among 5 PAF Personnel Dead'

Omer Farooq Khan | TNN

**Islamabad:** A Squadron Leader was among five Pakistan Air Force (PAF) personnel killed at Bholari in Sindh while the Rahim Yar Khan airbase housed within the international airport of the same name in Punjab province suffered massive damage in coordinated Indian missile strikes targeting the country's air defence infrastructure, authorities confirmed Sunday after taking stock of the impact of India's "retaliatory" action early on May 10.

The missile fired at Rahim Yar Khan airbase caused a massive crater on a portion of the runway, the district deputy commissioner said.

Sources acknowledged that the attack in the dead of night had been timed to avoid civilian casualties. Although passenger flights to and from the airport have since resumed, the missile strike has severely limited military op-



The missile fired at Rahim Yar Khan airbase caused a massive crater on a portion of the runway, the district deputy commissioner said

erations from the airbase.

Pakistani officials emphasise Rahim Yar Khan's strategic role in southern air defences, close to India's Rajasthan border. They contested India's statement that a wave of drones launched from the airbase to attack border villages invited the strong missile retaliation.

The PAF casualties at Base Bholari in Sindh's Jamshoro district included Sq Ldr Usman Yousaf and four others in uniform. The base supports F-16 and JF-17 fighter jets, critical to Pakistan's southern air operations. Pakistani authorities didn't specify the material losses. Indian media reports, unverified by Pakistan,

suggest damage to aircraft and infrastructure.

Pakistani officials also confirmed simultaneous attacks on Nur Khan airbase at Chaklala in Rawalpindi, Rafiqui airbase at Shorkot in Punjab, Murid airbase in Chakwal, and Chunian airbase in Punjab. They mentioned damage to transport aircraft at Nur Khan and technical facilities at Chunian. India officially named eight PAF bases, including radar sites in Pasrur and Sialkot. Pakistan's "Operation Bunyan-ul-Marsoos" targeting Indian sites didn't cause significant damage, the Indian military said in its first official presser since a pause in military operations.

## Woman among 2 held for spying; drone arms drop foiled

Punjab police have busted espionage and arms smuggling operations linked to Pakistan, arresting two people and seizing a cache of explosives near the border, officials said on Sunday.

A 31-year-old woman, named Guzala, and her associate, Yameen Mohamad, both hailing from Malerkotla, were arrested for allegedly leaking classified military information to a Pakistan-based handler, said Punjab DGP Gaurav Yadav.

Guzala admitted to sharing troop movement details with an official at Pakistan's high commission in New Delhi in exchange for Rs 30,000 sent via UPI, according to Malerkotla SSP Gagan Ajit Singh.

Based on her disclosures, Mohamad was also taken into custody. Two mobile phones were seized.

Police registered a case under sections of BNS and Official Secrets Act. The diplomat has also been named in the FIR. TNN