

Netanyahu claims Israel and US fighting for entire world

Points To Attacks On Diego Garcia, Israeli Cities, Blocking Of Int'l Maritime Route



Smoke rises after an Israeli strike on a bridge near Qasmiyeh, Lebanon, on Sunday. Lebanese President Joseph Aoun slammed the strikes on infrastructure, calling such attacks a 'prelude to a ground invasion'



A drone view shows a damage in a residential neighbourhood in Dimona, Israel. Southern Israeli towns woke to widespread damage on Sunday after air defences failed to intercept two Iranian missiles overnight that injured scores of civilians in one of the worst attacks of the war so far on Israel

Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday said the recent missile attacks on Diego Garcia shows that Iran has the capacity to reach deep into Europe and poses danger to the entire world. Netanyahu was visiting the southern Israeli city of Arad which faced Iranian missile strikes Saturday when he also said his country and the US are fighting together on behalf of everyone.

"If you want proof that Iran endangers the entire world, the last 48 hours have given it. In the last 48 hours, Iran targeted a civilian area. They're using that as a mass murder weapon. Luckily, no one was killed, but that's due to luck, not their intention. Their intention is to murder civilians," he said. Pointing out that Iran fired an intercontinental ballistic missile on Diego Garcia, Netanyahu said, "That's 4,000km. I've been warning all the time. They now have the capacity to reach deep into

to Europe. They already have fired on European countries — Cyprus. They are putting everyone in their sights."

For the past two decades, Israel has been referring to the Iranian ballistic missile programme, arguing that such weapons with nuclear capabilities would pose a grave threat not only to itself but also to Europe.

Iran fired missiles at the UK-US air base on the island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean on Saturday.

Netanyahu also drew attention to the Iran's attack on Jerusalem right next to the holy sites of the three monotheistic faiths, the Western Wall, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Al Aqsa Mosque and said, "By dint of a miracle, again, no one was hurt. "The three sites were nevertheless the targets," he said. A fragment from a ballistic missile fired by Iran fell quite close to the Al Aqsa mosque and the Western Wall

on Friday. It was a second such attack during the recent escalation when Jerusalem, home to the three holy sites of the three faiths, was impacted.

Netanyahu also said Iran is stopping the maritime international route, energy route and "trying to blackmail the entire world." "What more proof do you need that this regime that threatens the entire world has to be stopped? Israel and the US are working together for the entire world," he claimed.

Calling upon the international community to come together in the fight against Iran, he said he is happy to see some of them beginning to move in that direction, but claimed that more is needed. "(US) President Trump's call to have the international community confront this terrorist, fanatic regime of zealots, that is a call not only for the security of America and the security of Israel, it's for the security of the entire

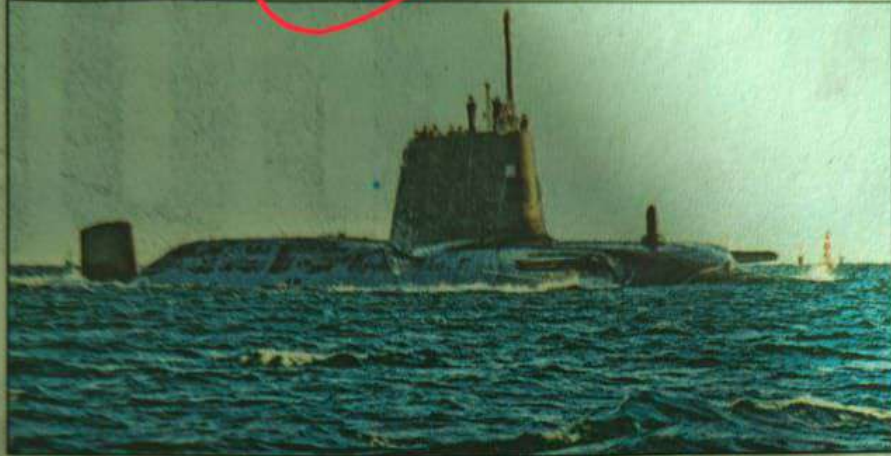
world. And it's time for them to act," he asserted. Responding to questions from reporters, Netanyahu said that Israel is responding to these attacks "with great force" but not targeting Iranian civilians.

Israel orders destruction of homes near Lebanon border

Israel struck a main bridge linking Lebanon's south to the rest of the country on Sunday after ordering its military to destroy all crossings over Lebanon's Litani River and to step up the demolition of homes near the southern border. The destruction of bridges and homes marks a significant escalation in Israel's military campaign in Lebanon. International law generally prohibits militaries from attacking civilian infrastructure, and the UN human rights chief has criticised Israel's actions in Lebanon, particularly its use of widespread evacuation orders. AGENCIES

UK's nuclear-powered submarine positioned in Arabian Sea: Report

AFP/File



HMS Anson, armed with Tomahawk Block IV missiles and Spearfish torpedoes, left Perth, Australia, earlier this month and travelled roughly 5,500 miles (8,850km) to the region, says the report

A British nuclear-powered submarine equipped with Tomahawk cruise missiles has taken position in the Arabian Sea, giving Britain the capability to launch long-range strikes if regional conflict escalates, the Daily Mail reported on Saturday.

Reuters could not immediately verify the report. The British ministry of defence did not immediately respond to a Reuters request for comment.

HMS Anson, armed with Tomahawk Block IV missiles and Spearfish torpedoes, left Perth earlier this month and travelled roughly 5,500 miles to the region, the Daily Mail said.

The submarine surfaces periodically to communicate with the UK's Permanent Joint Headquarters in Northwood, where any launch order would be authorised by the prime minister and conveyed by the chief of joint operations, the report added. The deployment comes after Downing Street authorised the US to use British bases for strikes on Iranian sites threatening the Strait of Hormuz. REUTERS

No evidence Iran targeting Europe with missiles: UK

London: British cabinet minister Steve Reed said on Sunday that there was no assessment that backed claims Iran is planning to strike Europe with ballistic missiles.

On Saturday, the Israel Defence Forces posted on social media that Iran has missiles "that can reach London, Paris or Berlin". British housing secretary Reed told the BBC, "I'm not aware of any assessment at all that they are even trying to target Europe, let alone that they could if they tried."

In a separate interview with Sky News, Reed said that US President Trump spoke for himself when he threatened to "obliterate" Iran's power plants. Asked to define Britain's position, Reed said: "We're not going to be dragged into the war, but we will protect our own interests in the region. We will work with our allies to de-escalate the situation." REUTERS

Sri Lanka raises fuel prices by 25% as war bites

Sri Lanka raised fuel prices by 25% on Sunday, the second increase in two weeks, as the country prepared for more impact from the war.

Regular petrol was increased to Sri Lankan Rupees (LKR) 398 (\$1.3) per litre, up from LKR 317, while diesel, the fuel commonly used for public transport, rose by LKR 79 to LKR 382. Last week, govt ordered an 8% increase in retail fuel prices and introduced rationing to limit consumption.

"We hope to achieve a 15% to 20% reduction in fuel consumption with the latest increase," an official at the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation said. He said President Anura Kumara Dissanayake told them last week that the country must prepare for a prolonged conflict in West Asia. AFP

CCS recognises 'significant impact' of West Asia conflict

Discusses Diversifying Sources Of Import Of Various Industrial Sectors

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Recognising the "significant impact" of the conflict in West Asia on the global economy and its effect on India, the cabinet committee on security led by PM Narendra Modi on Sunday discussed steps to diversify the sources of import of chemicals, pharma, petrochemicals and other industrial sectors, while drawing comfort from the stock of fertiliser and coal.

"We had extensive discussions on short-, medium- and long-term measures, including ensuring continued availability of fertilisers for farmers, diversifying import sources for key sectors, promoting exports to new destinations and more. We are committed to safeguarding our citizens from the impact of the conflict," the PM posted on X after the meeting of the panel comprising the home, defence, finance and external affairs ministers.

The assessment was that there may not be a significant domestic impact in the immediate term, but there was a need to prepare for the medium and long term. Currently,



The effect on India was assessed and counter-measures, both immediate and long-term, were discussed, an official statement said

the challenge before policy-makers is that there is no clarity on when and how the conflict will end.

"The ongoing conflict in West Asia will have significant short-, medium- and long-term impact on the global economy and its effect on India were assessed and counter-measures, both immediate and long-term, were discussed," an official statement said.

Sunday's meeting was also attended by other ministers, including of agriculture, health, chemicals, power, shipping, civil aviation, commerce & industry, I&B, food & civil supplies and railways.

While Modi has been hold-

ing talks with his counterparts from other countries, particularly those in the Gulf region — home to a large Indian diaspora and the source of a large chunk of energy imports — this was the first meeting at the level of CCS to work out a strategy with an assessment that the impact of the conflict is going to last for some time.

The PM has suggested a dedicated group of ministers and a panel of secretaries to deal with the issue, with detailed stakeholder consultations lined up through sectoral groups. He has also asked the Centre to coordinate with states to check black-market-

ing and hoarding.

"PM said that the conflict is an evolving situation and the entire world is affected in some form. In such a situation, all efforts must be made to safeguard citizens from the impact of this conflict. PM instructed that all arms of govt work together to ensure least inconvenience to citizens," an official statement said.

It added that several measures proposed by different ministries would be prepared and implemented in the coming days.

At the meeting, cabinet secretary TV Somanathan made a presentation on the global situation, and the mitigation measures taken so far and those being planned by different departments. "The expected impact and measures taken to address it across sectors like agriculture, fertilisers, food security, petroleum, power, MSMEs, exporters, shipping, trade, finance, supply chains and all affected sectors were discussed. The overall macro-economic scenario in the country and further measures to be taken were also discussed," the statement said.

...at even thinking twice. We

Tankers with US LPG & Russian oil arrive at New Mangalore Port

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Amid the crisis in West Asia, two vessels — LPG tanker Pyxis Pioneer, carrying 16,714 tonnes of LPG from the US, and oil tanker Aqua Titan, carrying 96,099 tonnes of Russian crude — arrived at New Mangalore Port on Sunday.

Mangaluru has India's largest underground LPG storage facility of 80,000 tonnes, which became operational in Sept 2025.

Pyxis Pioneer, which left the Port of Nederland in Texas on Feb 14, is discharging the cooking gas. The port's authority has waived cargo-related charges for LPG and crude oil from March 14 to 31.

According to ship tracker Marine Traffic, the Cameroon-flagged Aqua Titan



Pyxis Pioneer brought 16,714 metric tonnes of LPG to Mangaluru

arrived at the port around 11.30am, barely four days after reports claimed that the Russian oil-laden tanker was originally headed for the Chinese port of Rizhao, but changed its course and headed to India.

What made it change course was unclear.

News agency Bloomberg, quoting data from Vortexa, had said at least seven tank-

ers, including Aqua Titan, carrying Russian oil had switched their destinations mid-voyage from China.

In response to a question last week, Rajesh Sinha, special secretary in the shipping ministry, had said Aqua Titan had been "chartered by Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited" and it was expected to arrive at New Mangalore Port.

Ulfa militants strike Assam police camp, 4 personnel injured

Attack Less Than 3 Weeks Before Apr 9 State Polls

Rajib Dutta | TNN

Dibrugarh: Four police commandos were wounded after anti-talks militant faction Ulfa-I launched a pre-dawn assault with rocket-propelled grenades (RPG) and automatic weapons on a camp at 10th Mile in Upper Assam's Tinsukia district Sunday, raising concerns over insurgent activity before the April 9 assembly elections.

The attack began around 2am in Jagun, over 550km east of Guwahati, when Ulfa-I militants fired at least five RPGs in quick succession, triggering multiple blasts that lit up the area. Gunfire from automatic weapons fol-

Manipur govt-Kuki talks signal thaw

A tentative outreach between Manipur govt and Kuki-Zo Council functionaries in Guwahati on Sunday marked the first direct engagement in nearly three years. No decisions or agreements, however, emerged from the meeting. **P 11**

lowed, drawing retaliatory fire from commandos inside. The exchange lasted about 45 minutes before the attackers slipped into nearby areas under cover of darkness.

The wounded commandos — Chittaranjan Mili, Debashish Bora, Rabi Garh and Jimbush Marak — were shifted to Assam Medical College and Hospital in Dibrugarh.

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