

Parties brace for verdict; EC promises transparency

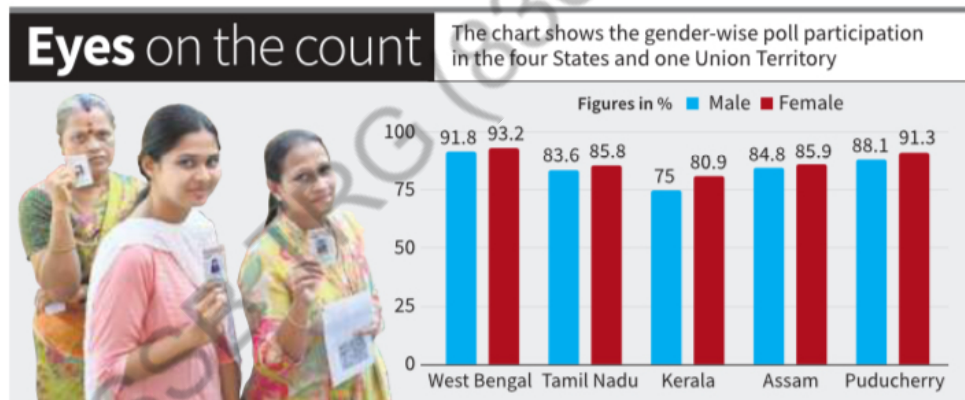
Heavy security as counting of votes polled for elections to the Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, T.N., West Bengal, Puducherry, and bypolls to seven Assembly seats in five States will be taken up today

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission on Sunday said it would uphold the “highest standards of transparency, security and efficiency” when votes polled in the elections to the Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, and Puducherry and the bypolls in seven Assembly constituencies in five States are counted on Monday.

For West Bengal, the EC had deployed 165 additional counting observers to assist counting observers and 77 police observers to conduct “a secure, peaceful, intimidation-free, and transparent environment”.

Exuding confidence, the political parties and fronts are watching the counting



preparations closely.

In Assam, the Congress-led front of six parties hopes to shed the Opposition tag by preventing the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) from scoring a hat-trick of wins. Both the alliances are confident about bagging at least 64 seats, the majority mark in the 126-member Assembly. While the Chief

Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma-helmed BJP has predicted close to 100 seats for the NDA, the Gaurav Gogoi-steered Congress is confident of a similar number for the Asom Sommlito Morcha to return to power after 10 years.

With just hours left for the counting of votes polled in the April 9 election, Kerala's voter turnout

was updated provisionally to 79.7% on Sunday as election officials factored in 20,028 postal ballots of service voters polled till May 1. The leaderships of all three fronts were confident about the results.

CONTINUED ON

» **PAGE 10**

RELATED REPORTS ON

» **PAGES 5, 11**

'I am one of the six victims,' says Vinesh Phogat ahead of WFI event at Brij Bhushan's hometown

The Hindu Bureau
GURUGRAM

Making a startling revelation that she was among the six women wrestlers allegedly sexually harassed by former Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, three-time Olympian wrestler Vinesh Phogat on Sunday said she won't be able to give her "100%" at the upcoming WFI ranking tournament scheduled in his hometown, Gonda, in Uttar Pradesh.

Ms. Phogat had led protests at Delhi's Jantar Mantra against the six-time former BJP MP in 2023, accusing him of sexual harassment of women wrestlers. Mr. Singh has denied the charges.

In a video of over four minutes posted on her X



Protracted row: Vinesh Phogat had led the protests at Delhi's Jantar Mantra against Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh in 2023. AFP

account, Ms. Phogat raised strong objections to the tournament venue, saying it is being held at a place where Mr. Singh has "a house and a private college".

Ms. Phogat, now the Congress MLA for Julana in Haryana, had announced her retirement from wres-

ting in 2024 after being disqualified from the 50-kg category in the Paris Olympics finals, but decided to return to the sport four months ago.

In a poignant video, Ms. Phogat said competing in Gonda would put her under extreme pressure.

"You can think for your-

self about me going to his house... his college... where every person will be related to him, and competing in such a difficult situation. I don't think I will be able to give my 100% there," she said. "It is very difficult for a girl to compete in such a situation," she added.

Choice of venue

Ms. Phogat said it seemed impossible and unlikely that any hardworking player would get their due in Gonda. "Which referee will judge which game, who is to be defeated, who is to be declared a winner – all will be controlled by Brij Bhushan and his people," she said. Ms. Phogat noted that as per Supreme Court guidelines, the identity of sexual harassment victims should not be revealed.

"But due to some compulsions, I want to tell you all what I did not want to speak about, because the matter is pending before the court," she said.

"I want to say that I am one of those six victims who had given that complaint and our testimony is going on in court."

"If any untoward incident happens to anyone, I want to state categorically that the Indian government will be responsible for it," Ms. Phogat said, adding that she was "not seeking any privilege or special treatment" but wanted "the decision on the mat" to be fair and an outcome that was not "dictated by any goons".

She urged sports lovers and the media to attend the event "so the entire country knows the truth".

Eyes in space: Indian startup launches a first-of-its-kind satellite via SpaceX rocket

Drishiti can take synchronous optical and radar images

Amitabh Sinha
New Delhi, May 3

A SpaceX rocket launched from California on Sunday carried a unique satellite from Indian start-up GalaxEye that is meant to fill a long-standing gap in earth observation capabilities from space. The satellite, aptly called **Drishiti**, is equipped to take optical as well as radar-generated images of the same place at the same time, something that has not been tried before.

Most earth observation satellites use either optical sensors, which capture reflected sunlight just like a conventional camera, or Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) systems that use microwave signals to generate images. Both of them have limitations. Optical sensors produce clear and intuitive images, just like any normal camera, but are blinded by clouds, smoke or darkness. SAR can make continuous observations because microwave signals effortlessly penetrate



The satellite rode on a Falcon 9 rocket by SpaceX from the Vandenberg Space Force Base in California as one of the 45 payloads on the CAS500-2 mission.

clouds, smoke or darkness, but these images are not like regular photographs and require expertise to interpret, something similar to an X-ray film.

Drishiti, which has been built entirely in India, seeks to eliminate this familiar trade-off in satellite imagery. It is the world's first satellite equipped with both optical sensors as well as SAR, and the two have been synchronised to take simultaneous images of the same place on Earth. For this reason, GalaxEye is describing its innovation as **OptoSAR** technology.

"When the optical sensors are unable to take images because of clouds or darkness or other similar reasons, we will use artificial intelligence to regenerate optical-like images from the SAR," Suyash Singh, one of the founders of GalaxEye, told *The Indian Express* in a recent interview.

Until now this problem used to be solved by attaining datasets from multiple satellites and integrating them. But that had its own problems. SAR and optical datasets were not taken at the same time, and the

E. EXPLAINED

Indian startups make a mark

GALAXEYE IS one among several Indian space startups that are beginning to make their presence felt. Agnikul Cosmos, another start-up from IIT Madras, has built the world's first 3-D printed rocket engine, while Skyroot has tested India's first privately built rocket. Companies like Pixxel, Dhruva Space and Bellatrix have been demonstrating impressive innovations in satellite technologies.

situation on the ground could have changed during the intervals. So, some details would invariably be missed.

"What we are trying to do is to make space imagery available all the time, and understandable to all kinds of users," Singh said.

Drishiti is the first satellite of GalaxEye, a company started by alumni of IIT Madras and incubated at the institute. The satellite rode on a Falcon 9

rocket by SpaceX from the Vandenberg Space Force Base in California as one of the 45 payloads on the CAS500-2 mission.

The launch, at 12.30 pm India time on Sunday, invited congratulatory messages from Vice-President C P Radhakrishnan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar among others.

"Mission Drishiti by GalaxEye marks a major achievement in our space journey. The successful launch of the world's first OptoSAR satellite and the largest privately built satellite in India is a testament to our youth's passion for innovation and nation-building. Heartiest congratulations and best wishes to the founders and the entire team of GalaxEye," Modi said in a message on X.

The capability of Drishiti can be immensely useful in Indian conditions. Singh said one of the reasons no one else built a satellite like Drishiti was that clouds and smoke was primarily a problem in the tropical countries. "Most of the satellite companies have traditionally been based in the western countries, and cater to the demands of those countries. Weather is relatively more predictable, and the skies are relatively clearer and clearer. They don't have the

same kind of issues with clouds that we in India face. We are trying to solve for problems in our part of the world," he said.

GalaxEye had to make important technological innovations to ensure that both the imaging sensors are put on the same satellite and operate in sync with each other to produce simultaneous imaging of the same place.

"SAR and optical sensors are designed in different ways. They look at the Earth at different angles. So, if they are placed side by side, for example, the optical sensor might be looking at Bengaluru while SAR is capturing Dubai at that instant. So, we had to come up with a technology stack that synchronises the functionalities of these two technologies, enabling them to look at the same location at the same time. This is our proprietary technology. This does away with the need of the users to manually align and synchronise the datasets from two different satellites which might have taken images of a place at totally different times. The situation on the ground could have changed during this time, so that data from SAR is not entirely translatable into optical data. Drishiti will eliminate these complications entirely," Singh said.

Congress demands discussion on Great Nicobar Project in Parliament

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Countering the Union government's claim that the Great Nicobar Island Development Project will be undertaken with "due diligence", the Congress on Sunday said the government had failed to address concerns surrounding the project, and called for a parliamentary review of the initiative.

Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh claimed that the Centre, rattled by Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi's "hugely impactful" visit, issued a clarification three days later in an attempt at "damage control". Underlining the ecological uniqueness of Great Nicobar, Mr. Ramesh, in a four-page statement, said the government's claims



The government's claim that only 1.82% of the total land of the island group is being used for the project is irrelevant and misleading. It ignores the ecological and biological richness of the Great Nicobar ecosystem, which is unique both in the island group and in the world

JAIRAM RAMESH
Congress general secretary
(communications)



that only 1.82% of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands's land area was being used for the project were "irrelevant and misleading". He said that Great Nicobar was ecologically distinct and biologically rich.

Institutions like the Wildlife Institute of India and Zoological Survey of India were literally coerced to play a key role in environmental clearance and related processes for the pro-

ject, Mr. Ramesh said.

Mr. Ramesh said the Nicobarese tribal community had repeatedly expressed concerns about the project's impact on their forests and way of life. He raised questions about consent from the Shompen, a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG). The Shompen are a primarily uncontacted community with no non-Shompen speakers among them. "It

is not clear then how the project authorities have taken their informed consent," Mr. Ramesh said.

Mr. Ramesh pointed out that key documents including Forest Advisory Committee deliberations and Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) field studies were not made public.

He also countered the government's claim that the project is strategically crucial, citing a recent piece by former Navy chief Arun Prakash that security concerns for Andaman and Nicobar must be separated from developments under the Great Nicobar project. Mr. Ramesh accused the government of trying to "muzzle genuine debate" by hiding behind "security considerations". "These considerations must, at the very least, be discussed and debated in Parliamentary forum," he said.

Govt. on major diplomatic outreach in May

Modi, Jaishankar to host counterparts from BRICS, Quad, Africa, Europe, and the Indian Ocean Region, and travel to different parts of the world this month; outreach efforts follow the 11th Heads of Missions meet where envoys were urged to improve India's image through 'positive messaging'

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Days after a major conference of India's Ambassadors and High Commissioners, where they were urged to be more "proactive" in projecting India's message worldwide, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar are kicking off a busy summer season, with travels to different parts of the world and hosting a number of their counterparts from BRICS and Quad groupings, Africa, Europe, Asia, and the Indian Ocean Region, all in this month alone.

On Sunday, Mr. Jaishankar arrived in Kingston, Jamaica, at the start of his own nine-day visit to the Caribbean "CARICOM" grouping of countries, and he will also travel to Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.

At the 11th Heads of Missions conference last week, the Prime Minister addressed India's envoys worldwide, urging them to improve India's image

through more proactive and "positive messaging". According to a number of officials present, who asked not to be identified, Mr. Modi expressed concern over the "slow speed" in communication, in projecting stories about India, and in reacting to developments in their host countries. Putting a special emphasis on India's neighbourhood, Mr. Modi referred to his decision to appoint a politician, Dinesh Trivedi, as the next High Commissioner to Dhaka and indicated that he was seeking more "anubhavi" (experienced) hands in nearby countries.

A post by the Prime Minister on social media said the discussions focused on "strengthening India's global engagement through advancing trade, technology and strategic partnerships, while deepening the connect with our diaspora".

Significantly, the Heads of Mission conference was held almost annually in the previous decade. However, after a break during the COVID-19 pandemic, the



While S. Jaishankar is on a visit to the Caribbean, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will travel to Europe for a five-nation tour. FILE PHOTO

The Prime Minister has expressed concern over 'slow speed' in projecting stories about India

10th Heads of Mission meeting was held in October 2022, and the 11th conference was held in April 2026, nearly four years later. In the interim, the External Affairs Minister and Foreign Secretary addressed Regional Heads of Mission conferences in different parts of the world.

war and the Hormuz Strait blockades are expected to be at the top of the agenda.

When Mr. Jaishankar returns from the three-nation Caribbean tour, he will prepare for the BRICS Ministers meeting in May (14-15), where he has invited counterparts from Brazil, Russia, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, the UAE, and Indonesia. Previous rounds of BRICS meetings have been disrupted by the war in West Asia, and a joint statement was elusive at the meeting of Deputy Ministers and Special Envoys due to deep differences between the "parties to the conflict", Iran and the UAE, as well as opposition to India's moves on softening the language on the Israel-Palestine issues and the Gaza conflict.

The Prime Minister will then travel to Europe for a five-nation tour to the Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, Italy, and the Vatican (May 15-20). In Oslo, Mr. Modi will also attend the Nordic-India Summit with the leaders of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway,

and Sweden. With the European Free Trade Association in operation and the EU-India Free Trade Agreement finalised, both sides are discussing partnerships in strategic and defence areas as well.

However, the war in West Asia, the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict, and ties with the United States are expected to overshadow the meetings. Mr. Modi is also expected to stop over at the UAE, his first visit to the region since the war began.

Later this month, the outreaches will continue, with a visit from Cyprus President Christodoulides to Mumbai and Delhi (May 20-23). U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio is expected to travel to India for his first such visit as Mr. Jaishankar hosts the Quad Foreign Ministers Meeting (May 26). The India-Africa Summit, to be held after more than a decade, will be one of the year's major conferences (May 28-30), while later this year, India is due to host the BRICS summit and the Quad Summit as well.

Nepal raises Lipulekh issue; India says no 'historical' record

Kallol Bhattacharjee

NEW DELHI

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri's upcoming visit to Nepal came under a shadow on Sunday with Nepal expressing "concerns" to both India and China over the next season of Kailash Manasarovar Yatra through the Kalapani-Limpiyadhura-Lipulekh region. It reiterated that the region is part of Nepal's sovereign territory.

In response, the Ministry of External Affairs said that Nepal's claims on the Lipulekh Pass are not

based on "historical facts".

The Ministry had announced on April 30 the next round of Kailash Yatra would take place in coordination with China in June-August. Earlier, Mr. Misri's plans to visit Kathmandu were in focus because of uncertainties in securing a meeting with new Prime Minister Balendra Shah, who has refused to meet foreign envoys as he has been following a restrictive diplomatic protocol since taking charge in March.

CONTINUED ON

» PAGE 10

Nepal raises Lipulekh issue; India counters

In an announcement, Nepal's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said, "The Government of Nepal is completely clear and steadfast in the fact that Limpiyadhura, Lipulekh and Kalapani east of the Mahakali river are integral parts of Nepal since the Treaty of Sugauli of 1816."

The MoFA said Kathmandu has conveyed its opposition to the yatra through the region "to both India and China".

Responding to the Nepali remarks, Randhir Jaiswal, official spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, said late on Sunday, "...such claims are neither justified nor based on historical facts and evidence. Lipulekh Pass has been a long-standing route for the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra since 1954 and the pilgrimage through this route has been going on for decades."

"India remains open to a constructive interaction with Nepal on all issues in the bilateral relationship, including on resolving agreed outstanding boundary issues through dialogue and diplomacy," Mr. Jaiswal posted on X.

The development comes at a time when Indian and Nepali diplomats have been in consultation over the past three months about the way forward to further bilateral ties and accordingly, Mr. Misri's visit to Kathmandu was being planned.

Official sources here are maintaining a studied silence about the possibility of a meeting between Mr. Misri and Mr. Shah in the coming days, though diplomatic sources had earlier confirmed to *The Hindu* that the official visit was on track.

U.S. choices are impossible operation or bad deal: Iran

Agence France-Presse

TEHRAN

Iran's Revolutionary Guards on Sunday said the United States faced a choice between an "impossible" military operation or a "bad deal" with Tehran.

Negotiations between the two countries have been deadlocked since a ceasefire came into effect on April 8, with only one round of direct peace talks held so far.

Iran's Foreign Ministry said Tehran had submitted a 14-point plan "focused on ending the war" and that Washington had already responded to it in a message to Pakistani mediators.

"We are reviewing this and will take whatever response is necessary regarding it," spokesperson Esmail Baqaei told state television.

Mr. Trump, however, had already dismissed the offer.



I will soon be reviewing the plan that Iran has just sent to us, but can't imagine that it would be acceptable in that they have not yet paid a big enough price for what they have done to Humanity, and the World, over the last 47 years

DONALD TRUMP
U.S. President



"I will soon be reviewing the plan that Iran has just sent to us, but can't imagine that it would be acceptable in that they have not yet paid a big enough price for what they have done to Humanity, and the World, over the last 47 years," Mr. Trump said on his Truth Social platform.

U.S. news website Axios reported that the proposal set "a one-month deadline for negotiations on a deal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, end the U.S. naval blockade and permanently end the war in Iran and in Lebanon".

In a statement on Sun-

day, the Revolutionary Guards sought to put the onus back on Mr. Trump, saying he must choose between "an impossible operation or a bad deal with Iran".

The day before, Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi told diplomats in Tehran that "the ball is in the United States' court to choose the path of diplomacy or the continuation of a confrontational approach".

Iran, he said, was "prepared for both paths".

SLEEPLESS IN TEHRAN

» PAGE 14

REPORTS SAY CARGO SHIP NEAR STRAIT OF HORMUZ ATTACKED BY MULTIPLE SMALL VESSELS

Received US response to our 14-point plan, says Iran; White House is quiet

Trump: Tehran has 'not yet paid a big enough price'

Reuters
Dubai, Florida, May 3

IRAN SAID on Sunday it had received a US response to its latest offer for peace talks, a day after President Donald Trump said he would probably reject Iranian proposal because they have not paid a big enough price.

Iranian state media reported that Washington had conveyed its response to Iran's 14-point proposal via Pakistan, and that Tehran was now reviewing it. There was no immediate confirmation from washington or Islamabad of the US response.

"At this stage, we do not have nuclear negotiations," state media quoted Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei as saying, an apparent reference to Iran's proposal to set aside talks on nuclear issues until after the war ends and the foes agree to lift opposing blockades of Gulf shipping.

On Saturday, Trump said that he had yet to review the exact wording of the Iranian peace proposal, but that he was

likely to reject it.

"I will soon be reviewing the plan that Iran has just sent to us, but can't imagine that it would be acceptable in that they have not yet paid a big enough price for what they have done to Humanity, and the World, over the last 47 years," he wrote on social media.

The United States and Israel suspended their bombing campaign against Iran four weeks ago, and US and Iranian officials held one round of talks. But attempts to set up further meetings have so far failed.

Iran handed over its latest proposal on Thursday, and a senior Iranian official confirmed on Saturday that Tehran envisions ending the war and resolving the shipping standoff first, while leaving talks on Iran's nuclear programme for later.

Though Trump initially said on Friday that he was not satisfied with the Iranian proposal, he said on Saturday he was still looking at it. "They told me about the concept of the deal. They're going to give me the exact wording now," he told reporters.

Asked if he might restart strikes on Iran, Trump replied: "I don't want to say that. I mean, I can't tell that to a reporter. If they misbehave, if they do something bad, right now we'll



A billboard with a graphic showing the Strait of Hormuz and sewn lips of US President Donald Trump in a square in downtown Tehran on Saturday. AP

see. But it's a possibility that could happen."

Meanwhile, a cargo ship near the Strait of Hormuz has reported being attacked by multiple small craft, the British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations centers said Sunday, marking at least two dozen attacks in and around the strait since the Iran war began.

All crew on the unidentified northbound carrier were safe after the attack off Sirik, Iran,

east of the strait, the monitor said. Iranian officials have asserted that they control the strait and that ships not affiliated with the United States or Israel can pass if they pay a toll.

The proposal to delay talks on nuclear issues until a later phase would appear at odds with Washington's repeated demand that Iran accept stringent restrictions on its nuclear programme before the war can end.

There was no immediate

claim of responsibility for the attack, the first reported in the area since April 22, when a cargo ship reported being fired upon, the monitor said.

Iranian patrol boats, some powered only by twin outboard motors, are small, nimble and hard to detect and have attacked several ships.

President Donald Trump last month ordered the US military to shoot and kill small Iranian boats that deploy mines in the strait.

How an insurgency threatens US mining ambitions in Pak

Elian Peltier, Zia ur-Rehman
Christiaan Triebert
& Pablo Robles
Quetta, May 3

STANDING IN the Oval Office in September, Pakistan's Army chief gave President Trump a wooden box filled with minerals and gems — a nod to the lucrative deals US companies could make in Pakistan, where mining has long been dominated by China. "A very great guy," Trump said of the Pakistani commander, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir.

Months later, the Trump administration announced \$1.3 billion in investments in the

Balochistan Province of Pakistan, home to large reserves of gold and copper. After partnerships in counterterrorism and crypto, Pakistani officials have successfully wooed the Trump administration with cooperation on mining.

In recent weeks, Pakistan has also inserted itself as a peacemaker between the United States and Iran.

But the US bet in Pakistan is on a collision course with one of South Asia's most lethal militant groups: the Baloch Liberation Army, or BLA, the flag-bearer of a separatist insurgency in the region straddling western Pakistan, eastern Iran and southern

Afghanistan.

The fight for an independent Balochistan is as old as Pakistan, and has motivated separatist attacks for decades.

But over the past few years, the BLA has carried out hundreds of increasingly sophisticated attacks, culminating on January 31 in a coordinated assault by 500 militants who struck at least 18 targets in 12 separate areas and killed at least 58 people.

Pakistani officials have played down the attacks, but videos verified by *The New York Times* show it was the most expansive attack by the BLA in years, and one that included

E. EXPLAINED

Balochistan's resource war

Pakistan's effort to transform Balochistan's vast gold and copper reserves into a strategic economic hub is under growing threat from the BLA insurgency. Rising militant attacks, disrupted supply lines and deep local grievances are making resource extraction inseparable from security and political stability.

not only military and police targets but multiple civilian targets — escalating the group's challenge to the Pakistani state.

"This kind of attack requires some type of public support, territorial control and firepower," said Abdul Basit, a Singapore-based expert on South Asian militancy.

"To pull this off in broad daylight without these components isn't possible," Basit added.

The attacks included several on the road to Balochistan's largest mining site, Reko Diq, and disrupted operations at the site — one of the world's largest untapped copper and gold reserves. It is poised to become

the flagship asset of the US-Pakistani mining partnership, according to Gracelin Baskaran, the lead expert on critical minerals at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

"The BLA is not a peripheral challenge," Baskaran said. "It is a primary, project-defining risk."

The US-Israeli war in neighboring Iran is adding another challenge: Pakistani officials fear that any power vacuum in Iran's east could allow groups like the BLA to replenish their ranks, move even more freely over the porous border and attack convoys carrying minerals, equipment and mining operators.

OPEC+ hikes oil production quotas without mentioning UAE pull-out

Agence France-Presse

VIENNA

Saudi Arabia, Russia and five other OPEC+ countries increased their oil production quota on Sunday in an expected move aimed at demonstrating continuity at the cartel after the shock withdrawal of the United Arab Emirates.

The seven major producers will add 188,000 barrels per day to their total production quota for June amid the price pressure unleashed by the West Asia war, as part of “their



Untapped OPEC+ reserves are mainly located in Gulf region.

collective commitment to support oil market stability”, according to a statement published by OPEC+.

The statement, following an online meeting of Al-

geria, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Oman, Russia and Saudi Arabia, made no mention of the United Arab Emirates, which quit the body on Friday, three days after announcing its withdrawal.

‘Tense relations’

Rystad Energy analyst Jorge Leon said that the silence on the UAE’s departure was a sign of tense relations.

Oil market analysts had widely expected the increase of 188,000 barrels, similar to the 206,000-bar-

rel daily increases OPEC+ announced in both March and April when the portion allotted to the UAE was subtracted.

But raising the quota on paper may not have much impact on actual production, which is already short of the limit.

Untapped OPEC+ reserves are mainly located in the Gulf region, and exports there are trapped by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz, imposed by Iran in response to the U.S.-Israeli strikes since February 28.

OTTAWA

Khalistan extremists declared a 'national security threat' by Canada



AFP

Canada has declared Khalistani extremists a “national security threat”, adding that the group uses institutions to promote its “violent extremist agenda” in the country. The report comes a year after the 40th anniversary of the bombing of Air India Flight 182, whose suspects were members of Khalistani extremist groups. PTI