W Asia conflict: Jaishankar reaches out to GCC nations

ARCHIS MOHAN
New Delhi, 8 July

India has over the last few days continued to reach out to the leaderships of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, with External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar visiting Qatar, Bahrain and Kuwait, and slated to be in Oman later this week.

New Delhi is also in contact with the Iranian authorities to secure safe passage for at least nine tankers laden with oil and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) awaiting transit through the Strait of Hormuz. Nearly a million Indians live and work in West Asia, and the region is key to India's energy security.

The outbreak of hostilities between the United States (US) and Iran on Wednesday morning could impact efforts to resume fuel shipments via the Strait of Hormuz, and also make the safety of ships and sailors uncertain. Six vessels headed for destinations including India attempted to cross the Strait of Hormuz just hours after Tuesday's strikes. According to reports, at least one Indian-flagged supertanker, the Lila Vadinar, reversed course after reaching the tip of Oman's Musandam Peninsula.

On Wednesday, the US revoked a licence authorising the sale of Iranian oil in retaliation for what it said were Tehran's attacks on ships in the Strait of Hormuz, and launched missile strikes on Iran. Tehran retaliated with strikes on Bahrain and Kuwait. The crossfire came during the funeral for Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei that concludes on Thursday. He was killed on February 28 in a US-Israeli strike.



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar with Kuwait's Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Sabah PHOTO: PTI

Jaishankar will be in New York on July 13 to launch India's official campaign for the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) tenure 2028-29. Ensuring the safety of its seafarers stranded near the Strait of Hormuz is a priority for India. At least three ships with Indian seafarers were attacked by the US military in June in which one Indian was killed. It had led to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) summoning the US Chargé d'Affaires Jason Meeks twice within 48 hours last month.

On Wednesday morning, Jaishankar met Kuwait's Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Sabah, and discussed bilateral ties between the two countries. In a social media post, Jaishankar thanked the Kuwaiti Crown Prince for sharing his perspectives on developments in the Gulf. Jaishankar also met his Kuwaiti counterpart Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, and discussed the latest regional and international developments. On Tuesday, the EAM met Kuwait's Deputy Foreign Minister Hamad Suleiman Mashaan Al- Mashaan.

INDIA IS IN CONTACT WITH IRANIAN AUTHORITIES TO SECURE SAFE PASSAGE FOR AT LEAST NINE TANKERS LADEN WITH OIL AND LPG AWAITING TRANSIT THROUGH THE STRAIT OF HORMUZ

Jaishankar was in Bahrain on Tuesday, where he met its Deputy Prime Minister Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, and discussed the situation in West Asia.

He also met Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and Crown Prince and PM Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa. He thanked the King for ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the Indian diaspora in Bahrain. Jaishankar also met Bahrain's Foreign Minister Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani.

In Qatar earlier this week, Jaishankar met its Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani. The two reviewed bilateral cooperation in energy, trade, investments, connectivity, security, and people-to-people ties, and "explored new opportunities for deepening our strategic partnership", Jaishankar said in a social media post. The Qatari leader shared his assessments on the West Asia conflict and its impact with Jaishankar.

MRPL cancels West Asia vessel charter

Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) has cancelled a vessel charter it had booked for loading crude oil from Iraq, two shipping sources with knowledge of the matter said.

One of the people said MRPL has cited "technical reasons" for not going ahead with the chartering of the Afrmax tan-ker Jasmin Joy.

It was not clear whether the chartering failed due to heightened tension in the Strait of Hormuz, the sources said. REUTERS

SC seeks audit of disciplinary mechanism in Bar Council

BHAVINI MISHRA
New Delhi, 8 July

The Supreme Court has directed the Bar Council of India (BCI) to carry out a comprehensive audit of the disciplinary systems operated by it (the council) and State Bar Councils, saying the legal profession's autonomy must be accompanied by greater accountability, transparency and effective regulation.

A Bench of Justice Pamidighantam Sri Narasimha and Justice Alok Aradhe said the BCI should constitute a committee to evaluate how it and the State Bar Councils discharged their statutory responsibility of regulating professional conduct and discipline under the Advocates Act, 1961. The BCI has been asked to consider the committee's findings and file an affidavit detailing the action proposed or taken. The directions came while allowing an appeal by advocate Ajay Vijh, whose name had been included in the caution list of the Indian Banks' Association over an allegedly negligent legal opinion.

After setting aside his inclusion in the list, the court expanded the scope of the judgment to address broader concerns over regulation of the legal profession.

The Bench observed that complaints about delays in disciplinary proceedings, mounting pendency, inconsistent practices across State Bar Councils, and the absence of publicly available information on the status and outcome of disciplinary cases persisted for years.

The court said the data to assess whether the statutory framework was functioning effectively was insufficient.

GRAPHITE INDIA LIMITED
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CIN: L10101WB1974PLC094602
Website : www.graphiteindia.com

Notice of 51st Annual General Meeting and E-voting Information

Notice is hereby given that the Fifty First Annual General Meeting (51st AGM) of the Company will be held on **Tuesday, the 4th day of August 2026 at 10.45 a.m. through Video Conference ("VC") / other Audio Visual Means ("OAVM")** to transact the business, as set out in the notice of the AGM as permitted by Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) circulars no. 09/2024 dated September 19, 2024 read together with other relevant Circulars including General Circular No. 03/2025 dated September 22, 2025 issued by MCA in this regard (collectively referred to as **"MCA Circulars"**) and Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CFD-PoD-2/P/CIR/2024/133 dated October 03, 2024 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (**"SEBI"**) read together with other previous Circulars issued by SEBI in this regard (collectively referred to as **"SEBI Circulars"**).

The Notice of the AGM along with the Annual Report 2025-26 has been sent on 08.07.2026 only by electronic mode to those Members whose e-mail addresses are registered with the Company/ Depositories in accordance with the aforesaid MCA Circulars. A letter providing a web-link for accessing the Annual Report has been sent on 08.07.2026 to those members who have not registered their E-mail IDs. Members may note that the Notice of the AGM and Annual Report 2025-26 will also be available on the Company's website: **www.graphiteindia.com** and websites of the Stock exchanges i.e. BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at **www.bseindia.com** and **www.nseindia.com** respectively.

Facility for e-voting provided by MUFG Intime India Private Limited (MIIPL) (formerly Link Intime India Private Limited) is available for members to enable them cast their vote by electronic means on all the resolutions set out in the Notice of AGM.

In accordance with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management & Administration) Amendment Rules, 2015, the Company has fixed **Friday, July 28, 2026** as **"cut-off date"** to determine the eligibility of Members to vote by electronic means or at the AGM. A person whose name is recorded in the Register of members of the Company or in the Statement of Beneficial Owners maintained by the depositories as on the cut-off date, i.e. **July 28, 2026**, only shall be entitled to avail the facility of e-voting or vote at the AGM.

The remote e-voting period commences on Saturday, August 1, 2026 (9.00 a.m. IST) and ends on Monday, August 3, 2026 (5.00 p.m. IST). During this period, Members may cast their vote electronically. The remote e-voting module shall be disabled by MIIPL thereafter. Those Members, who shall be present in the AGM through VC / OAVM facility and had not cast their votes on the Resolutions through remote e-voting and are otherwise not barred from doing so, shall be eligible to vote through remote e-voting system during the AGM. Detailed procedure for remote e-voting/e-voting during AGM is provided in the Notice of the AGM.

The Company has fixed Monday, July 20, 2026 as the 'Record Date' for determining entitlement of members for dividend for the financial year ended March 31, 2026, if approved at the AGM.

Pursuant to the relevant SEBI Circulars, with effect from April 1, 2024 dividend shall be paid through electronic mode to Members holding shares in physical form only if the folio is KYC compliant. A folio will be considered as KYC compliant on registration of all details viz. full address with pin code, mobile no, email id, bank details valid PAN linked to Aadhaar of all holders in the folio etc.

To avoid delay in receiving dividend, members are requested to update their KYC, bank details with their Depository Participants, in case the shares are held in dematerialised mode and with MUFG Intime India Private Limited, in case the shares are held in physical mode.

For the process and manner of e-voting (both remote e-voting and voting at the time of AGM) and also for attending the AGM through VC / OAVM, members may go through the instructions in the Notice convening AGM. In case you have any queries or issues regarding e-voting, you may send an email to **enotices@in.mpms.mufg.com** or contact on: - Tel: 022 - 4918 6000.

Members facing any technical issue in login for attending AGM may contact INSTAMEET helpdesk by sending a request at **instameet@in.mpms.mufg.com** or contact on: - Tel: 022 - 4918 6000 / 4918 6175.

Those persons who have acquired shares and have become Members of the company after the despatch of notice of the AGM by the Company and whose names appear in the Register of Members of the Company or in the Statement of Beneficial Ownership maintained by Depositories as on cut-off date i.e. **July 28, 2026** can view the Notice convening the AGM on the website of the Company viz. **www.graphiteindia.com** and on the website of MIIPL viz. **https://instavote.linkintime.co.in**. Such shareholders can exercise their voting rights through e-voting by following the procedure as mentioned in the said Notice under instructions for "Voting through electronic means" or by voting at the AGM.

For **Graphite India Limited**
Sanjeev Marda
Company Secretary
M No. - 14360

Date: 9th July, 2026

DBS Bank India Staff Cooperative Thrift and Credit Society Ltd., XC-125

No.10, Station View Road, Kodambakkam, Chennai - 600024 – 24845885 / 24845886 email : lvbsociety@yahoo.com

ELECTION GENERAL BODY MEETING NOTICE

Present: Tmt. S. Malathi Helan, I.A.S., District Collector/Returning Officer

By virtue of the power vested with me as Returning Officer upon appointment by the Cooperative Election Authority vide their Order Election No. 5/2026-27 dated 15.04.2026, it is hereby notified that there will be an Election General Body Meeting of the Society to Elect 11 (Eleven) Directors for the term 2026–2031 which will be held on 24th August 2026 at DBS Bank India Staff Co-operative Thrift and Credit Society Limited, No.10, Station View Road, Kodambakkam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600024, as per schedule. All the members are requested to attend the General Body meeting and they are eligible to contest and vote in the Election as per conditions laid down in MSCS Act 2023 and Society Bye-laws.

Attachment of the Order No. CEA-12011/470/2025 dated 15.04.2026 for conduct of Election.

(A) GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Multi State Co-operative Thrift and Credit Society	DBS Bank India Staff Co-operative Thrift and Credit Society Limited, No.10, Station View Road, Kodambakkam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600024.
Registered No.	Regd No.L-11016/8/79-L&M Dated 21.04.1980
Returning Officer	District Magistrate/Collector, Chennai.
Post for which Election being held	Board Members -11 (General – 08, SC/ST- 1& Women-2) Office Bearers -2 (Chairman -1 & Vice-Chairmen 1)
Area of Operation	10 (Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Pondicherry, New Delhi, Maharashtra, Gujarat, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh)
Regular Member	889 individual members
Polling Booth	1Polling Booth at Chennai, Tamil Nadu DBS Bank India Staff Co-operative Thrift and Credit Society Limited, No.10, Station View Road, Kodambakkam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600024

(B) ELECTION PROGRAMME FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

S. No.	Particulars	Date	Time
1	Publication of Provisional List of members/ Eligible to Vote	13th July, 2026 (Monday)	By Evening
2	Time Window for Raising Objection to the Provisional List	14th July, 2026 to 18th July, 2026 (Tuesday to Saturday)	11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
3	Scrutiny of Objection received to the Provisional List (if any)	20th July, 2026 to 24th July, 2026	11:00 AM to 3:00 PM (Monday to Friday)
4	Publication of Final List of Members / eligible to Vote	24th July, 2026 (Friday)	By Evening
5	Issue and Filing of Nomination Form	03rd August, 2026 to 05th August, 2026 (Monday to Wednesday)	11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
6	Publication of List of Nominations Received	05th August, 2026 (Wednesday)	By Evening
7	Scrutiny of received Nomination Forms	06th August, 2026 (Thursday)	11:00 AM Onwards
8	Publication of List of Valid Nominations	06th August, 2026	By Evening (Thursday)
9	Withdrawal of Nominations	07th August, 2026	11:00 AM to 3:00 PM (Friday)
10	Publication of Final List of Contesting Candidates	07th August, 2026 (Friday)	By Evening
11	Date of Polling, if Necessary	24th August,2026 (Monday)	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM and all those who have entered polling station at 4.00 PM or before should be allowed to cast vote
12	Counting of Votes	27th August, 2026	08.00 AM Onwards (Thursday)
13	Submission of Form 19M with recommendation for seeking approval of CEA before declaration of result of BOD	28th August, 2026 (Friday)	
14	Declaration of Result of Board of Directors	On or before 03rd September, 2026 (Thursday)	

(C) ELECTION PROGRAMME OF OFFICE BEARER (After declaration of Result of Board Members' Election)

1	Announcement of Election Schedule	08th September, 2026 (Tuesday)	
	I. Time Window for Filling Nomination	9.30 AM to 11.30 AM	
	II. Scrutiny of Nomination Papers	12.30 PM to 02.00 PM	
	III. Time Window and Date for Withdrawal	02.00 PM to 04.00 PM	
	IV. Display of List of the contesting candidate and schedule of election	By Evening	
2	Meeting of Newly Constituted Board & Publication of List for valid Nominations, Polling (if required)	09th September, 2026 (Wednesday)	11.00 AM Onwards
3	Declaration of Result of Election of Office Bearers	16th September, 2026 (Wednesday)	

This notice issued with the approval of Cooperative Election Authoirity

sd/-
S. Malathi Helan, I.A.S.,
District Collector/Returning Officer
Chennai District

Date: 09/07/2026

No evidence linking India to Nijjar killing: Canada police

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, 8 July

Investigators probing the 2023 killing of Sikh separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada have found no evidence linking Indian government officials to the murder, a senior Canadian police official said, directly contradicting previous allegations by the then prime minister Justin Trudeau that severely strained bilateral ties.

The remarks by Lisa Moreland, the Deputy Commissioner of Royal Canadian Mounted Police, came hours after the US authorities charged jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi and his aide Satinderjeet Singh alias Goldy Brar of ordering Nijjar's assasination. Under a coordinated hunt named 'Operation Hardball,' the law enforcement agencies of the US, Canada and Europe arrested 24 people for their alleged links to three India-based organised crime groups, including the Bishnoi gang.

The charges against them included orchestrating Nijjar's murder as well as various other cross-border organised crimes. Moreland said the Indian government extended cooperation to the investigation.

MODI SIGNS OFF INDONESIA VISIT



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accompanied by Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto, on Wednesday visited the centuries-old Prambanan Temple complex in Yogyakarta, marking the inauguration of a joint conservation project for the Unesco World Heritage Site. After concluding his three-day visit to Indonesia, Modi arrived in Australia on the second leg of his three-nation tour during which he will hold talks with his Australian counterpart, Anthony Albanese, and interact with the Indian diaspora PHOTO: PTI

Pvt sector enters India's critical minerals race with Indonesia deal

SHINE JACOB
Chennai, 8 July

In a move to secure long-term critical minerals and rare earth supply chains, India has brought in private players to tap overseas resources. Hyderabad-based Midwest became the first Indian private firm to secure mines abroad by sealing a deal with Indonesia's state-run PT Perusahaan Mineral Nasional (PERMINAS).

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed on Tuesday between both the companies, along with Midwest Energy and Non-Ferrous Materials Technology Development Centre (NFTDC). The deal was signed coinciding with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Indonesia. This comes at a time when Midwest Energy is expected to start manufacturing rare earth magnets by next quarter at its 500-tonne-per-annum facility in Hyderabad.

The companies are targeting to produce 5,000 tonnes of oxide that can create 20,000 tonnes of magnets from the Indonesian assets in the next four years, said Ram Kollareddy, chief executive officer of Midwest.

According to a statement by the Ministry of External Affairs, both Modi and Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto underscored the importance of further strengthening collaboration in critical minerals and rare earths with a focus on building diversified and resilient supply chains essential for the growth of domestic manufacturing industries towards reducing vulnerabilities and strengthening economic security. Leaders commended the growing collaboration between the two countries on rare earths and welcomed the signing of the MoU between NFTDC, Midwest, and PERMINAS, it said.

"We are looking at a possible production of 5,000 tonnes of oxides in the next four years. This will help both countries achieve a considerable volume of critical supply chains," Kollareddy said. At the consortium level, the expected oxide output may be valued at $750 million.

"We will contribute exploration, mine planning, environmental studies, mining and mineral processing operations, and the extraction and separation of rare earth elements, apart from downstream value addition through the manufacturing of permanent magnets in collaboration with Midwest Energy and NFTDC," he said.

US charges Lawrence Bishnoi, Goldy Brar for Nijjar's killing

The US has charged Lawrence Bishnoi, a gangster imprisoned in India, and his aide Satinderjeet Singh alias Goldy Brar for ordering the assassination of Khalistan separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada.

Nijjar, a Canadian citizen, was shot dead outside a gurdwara in Surrey, British Columbia, on June 18, 2023.

According to a federal indictment unsealed in Los Angeles on Tuesday, Bishnoi ordered the killing of 45-year-old Nijjar, mentioned as 'HSN' in court documents.

While Bishnoi is already in an Indian jail, the FBI announced a reward of $50,000 for information leading to the arrest of Singh 'Brar'. PTI

ALL IN A DAY

Panel to review Vizhinjam port stake sale

The Kerala Cabinet on Wednesday referred a proposal to transfer a 49 per cent stake in the Vizhinjam port project to the Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) to an empowered panel headed by the chief secretary for detailed examination. The decision comes a week after Adani Ports has announced a $1.4 billion deal to sell 49 per cent in the port concessionaire to MSC's terminal arm. Chief Minister V D Satheesan said a final decision would hinge on the panel's recommendations. PTI

UP CM defends Ram temple trust, says Oppn trying to malign Ayodhya

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday said the Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the alleged Ram temple donation theft found evidence against only eight of the nearly 150 people engaged in counting offerings, and the entire temple Trust cannot be defamed for the wrongdoing of a "handful" of individuals. He accused the Congress and the Samajwadi Party of trying to malign Ayodhya and insult the legacy of Lord Ram. PTI

Stay with party or join BJP, Mamata warns dissident TMC leaders

Former West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday attacked the dissident Trinamool Congress leaders, asking them to either remain with the TMC or openly join the BJP instead of "staying in the middle of the river". In a video message, Banerjee accused the rebel TMC MLAs and MPs of acting at the behest of the BJP and alleged that their "betrayal" had emboldened the saffron party to intensify attacks on Trinamool Congress workers. PTI

Cong slams govt after 4 aides of environment minister sacked

The Congress on Wednesday alleged a collapse of governance in the Union environment ministry after four close aides of Minister Bhupendra Yadav were "sacked" in two days. Congress leader Jairam Ramesh alleged that the "*Paryavaran Mantralay* has become a *Pravachan Mantralay*". According to separate official orders issued on July 3, the ministry simultaneously removed the private secretary to Yadav and two additional private secretaries. PTI