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India summons US diplomat after missile attack on oil tanker off Oman

New Delhi has condemned the strike on a commercial vessel in the Strait of Hormuz which left three Indian sailors missing

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Vessels pass through Strait of Hormuz (FILE PHOTO) © Shady Alassar/Anadolu via Getty Images

The Indian Foreign Ministry has condemned an attack on an oil tanker off the coast of Oman and called for an *"immediate de-escalation of tensions"* in the Strait of Hormuz.

New Delhi also summoned US Chargé d'Affaires Jason Meeks to protest the assault on the ship.

Three Indian crew members are missing following the attack on the vessel, which had 24 on board, New Delhi said.

The Palau-flagged products tanker MT Settebello issued a distress call on Wednesday, reporting a missile attack on its engine room, 20 nautical miles northeast of Sohar in the Gulf of Oman.

The US Central Command (CENTCOM) said in a [post](#) on X that "U.S. aircraft fired precision munitions into the ship's engine room after the crew repeatedly failed to comply with directions

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from American forces."

"We condemn the attack on the commercial vessel Settebello off the coast of Oman, earlier today," the Indian Foreign Ministry said. "Of the 24 Indian crew onboard, 21 Indians have been rescued thus far and three Indians are reportedly missing."

"The continuing incidents of attacks on shipping in the region are deeply worrisome and a direct result of the ongoing conflict in the region," the ministry said.

The Indian Embassy in Oman said it is monitoring the situation and *"proactively coordinating with the Omani authorities in the ongoing search and rescue operation."* The ship tracking website Marine Traffic has listed the ship's destination as Fujairah, UAE.

CENTCOM Confirms Strike on Commercial Tanker Off Oman Coast – Claims 'Disabled Non-Compliant Vessel'

Three Indian crew are reportedly missing following the strike, the  MEA stated earlier.

: **CENTCOM** <https://t.co/SJx3JKhj0Zpic.twitter.com/JYfYpeO6vn>

— RT_India (@RT_India_news) June 10, 2026

This is the second attack on a commercial ship with Indian crew members in the past three days. On Monday, the oil tanker MT Marivex was attacked by US forces south of the Strait of Hormuz. CENTCOM said that the Palau-flagged vessel was transiting international waters in the Gulf of Oman toward Iran when it was targeted. The ship was *"attempting to sail to an Iranian port,"* it said.

The sea lanes in and around the Strait of Hormuz have become a dangerous environment for merchant ships following the US-Israeli attack on Iran earlier this year.

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Iran has closed the strategic strait through which about a fifth of the world's energy passed before the conflict began, and the US Navy is blockading Iranian ports in retaliation.

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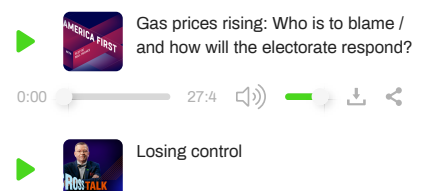


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US undermining World Cup with entry bans – Indian coach

FIFA's stance on immigration curbs on officials and humiliation of World Cup players is deplorable, Ranjit Bajaj tells RT India

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FIFA President Gianni Infantino and U.S. President Donald Trump during the FIFA World Cup 2026 official draw in Washington, DC. © Getty Images / Tasos Katopodis - FIFA/FIFA via Getty Images

The US treatment of teams and officials arriving for the 2026 World Cup amounts to racism and seriously undermines the integrity of the tournament, while football governing body FIFA is guilty of double standards, Indian coach Ranjit Bajaj has told RT.

The 2026 World Cup – co-hosted by the US, Canada, and Mexico – is set to get underway this week but has already been marred by controversy after a key Somali official was denied entry to the US and players from some countries were humiliated on arrival.

Iraq's star striker, Ayman Hussain, was reportedly detained for hours at Chicago's O'Hare airport, while the Senegal and Uzbekistan teams were subjected to intrusive screen checks upon arrival. Somalian referee Omar Abdul Qadir Artan will be

unable to officiate at the championship after being denied entry to the US.

“What happened with Senegal, the way they were put on the tarmac... They have not come to be disrespected, they’ve come there to represent their country,” Bajaj, the founder of the Minerva Football Academy, who promotes grassroots development of football, told RT India.

Bajaj also slammed the detention of Ayman Hussain, saying, *“It’s not a striker who’s just been born yesterday, who’s come to do espionage in your country.”* *“This is what racism is,”* Bajaj said.

The Minerva Football Academy has emerged as a beacon of hope for football in India, with its under-14 and -15 squads scoring a series of victories across the world – the latest being a 6-0 win against English giants Liverpool in the under-15 category at the Mediterranean International Cup last month. In stark contrast to its cricketing prowess, the nation of 1.4 billion people has qualified for the World Cup only once, in 1950. This time round, the Indian team was eliminated in the second round of Asian Football Confederation qualifiers.

FIFA's [response to the visa denial row](#) is that immigration is the host country's jurisdiction. *“Yes, it’s the host country’s right to issue visas... But if you are doing that and making countries weaker by taking their star strikers out... you are actually helping your own country,”* Bajaj said. He also called out FIFA's double standards, saying, *“If this was an event happening in India, they would have threatened us that we’ll ban you.”*



During the 2018 World Cup in Russia, FIFA was *“censoring Russia and telling Russia that, listen, you better get your act (together),”* Bajaj said. He added that Russia, South Africa, and Qatar had hosted *“the most successful World Cups in history.”*

Bajaj also blasted the US visa curbs on players, likening them to how teams lose strength when their star players are missing. *“If you have a Haaland missing in (the) Norway team or a Harry Kane missing in England, you’ve made it 50% weaker.”* He said the US tactics amount to undermining the merit of the tournament. *“That means they can actually fix the World Cup. That’s what’s happening.”*

Bajaj rued that the controversy is impacting the World Cup's