

Middle East at Threshold

The Middle East is precariously witnessing the abrim of full-scale regional war as Israel has started ground-offensive military operations in Lebanon. The recent raining of ~~Iran's~~ missiles on Israel by Iran has further pushed the region towards unending war. Iran has retaliated in the wake of killing of Hamas leader on Iranian soil, assassination of Hassan Nasrullah, and many other top commanders by Israel's strikes and spy operations. Although the Iranian missiles were predicted by several security experts, yet the timing and strength was quite unpredictable. The USA and other western allies of Israel condemned the Iranian attack; the UN official also appealed to witness restraint. It is quite obvious that Israel will respond heavily, furthering the dynamics of war. PM Netanyahu hinted of attacking Iranian nuclear installations and oil facilities. The US and G7 countries supported the right of self-defence of Israel and asked PM Netanyahu to

retaliate in ~~calculated~~ calculated way. It

is no gainsaying the fact that Israeli attack on Iranian oil facilities will boost the oil prices and likely to create global energy inflation. The Strait of Hormuz is controlled by Iran which the main passage of oil export. Moreover, the Gulf of Aden is also under at critical juncture because of Houthi's influence there.

Recently, the attacks on ~~sub-marines~~ oil ships by Houthi's deeply shocked the global energy supply chain.

Therefore, there are two approaches to judge the ~~stakehood~~ likelihood of Israel retaliation. Firstly, Israel will attack in the heavier blow to Iranian oil facilities to expand his ~~regional~~ desire of regional hegemony. However, the USA and allies will never let the Israel to attack there and create global energy inflation. Secondly, Israel may retaliate in calculated way just to show its deterrence and defense capabilities. The later approach is more likely.