

New Delhi

Anti-US anger: India has lodged “a strong protest” with the US over the deaths of three of its nationals in a US strike on an oil tanker in the Gulf of Oman.

Washington has so far refused to apologise for the deaths of the Indian sailors, saying that it had targeted the engine room of the Palau-flagged MT *Settebello* because the ship had been attempting to transport Iranian oil, in breach of the US blockade of Iranian ports, and had ignored instructions to stop. With public anger in India mounting about the strikes and the US's response, PM Narendra Modi was criticised for failing publicly to condemn the attack. His government is trying to negotiate a trade deal with the US, and relations were already strained. He did, however, raise it in a speech at the G7 summit, where Donald Trump was present.