

NYT REPORT Trump blocked Israeli plan to strike Iran nuclear sites

AFP, Washington

US President Donald Trump scuppered an Israeli plan to strike Iranian nuclear sites, the New York Times reported on Wednesday, as Washington attempts to reach a deal to curb Tehran's weapons program.

The US and Iran are seeking a new nuclear deal after Trump pulled out of a landmark agreement during his first term.

US Special Envoy Steve Witkoff and Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi are due to meet in Rome on Saturday, a week after they held the highest-level Iranian-US nuclear negotiations since the collapse of a 2015 accord.

In March, Trump sent a letter to Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei urging talks but warning of possible military action if they failed to produce a deal.



Children gather near the remains of a tent shelter reportedly struck by an Israeli attack in Khan Yunis, located in the southern Gaza Strip, yesterday. Inset, a boy salvages flour amidst the aftermath of the strike on the tent shelter.

PHOTO: AFP



WARMING TIES Russia scraps Taliban's 'terror' label

AFP, Moscow

Russia's Supreme Court yesterday removed the Taliban's designation as a "terrorist organisation", a symbolic gesture aimed at building friendly ties with Afghanistan's de facto rulers.

The group seized power in Afghanistan in August 2021, when American forces supporting the country's internationally recognised government pulled out.

Moscow, which called the US withdrawal a "failure", has taken steps to normalise relations with the Taliban authorities since then, seeing them as a potential economic partner and ally in fighting terrorism.

The previously established ban on the activities of the Taliban - included on the unified federal list of organisations recognised as terrorist - has been suspended, Supreme Court Judge Oleg Nefedov said in a ruling, according to the TASS state news agency.

'Resist protectionism'

China's Xi tells Cambodia amid US tariff standoff

REUTERS

China's leader Xi Jinping urged Cambodia to "resist protectionism," as he arrived in Phnom Penh yesterday at the end of a three-nation tour of Southeast Asia, as US tariffs threatened the economies of both countries.

Cambodia is a major exporter of clothing and footwear to the United States, and was slapped with a rate of 49 percent, one of the highest globally, before "reciprocal" duties were paused until July for most countries, except those on China which faces combined tariffs of 145 percent.

In an article published yesterday morning in Cambodian media, Xi urged Phnom Penh to oppose "hegemonism" and "protectionism", repeating messages he sent earlier this week to Vietnam and Malaysia during the first two legs of his trip.

Phnom Penh is a close partner of China, which has invested billions of dollars in projects including roads and airports, and is the country's largest creditor.

"We expect more cooperation including on infrastructure development," Meas Soksensan, spokesman for the Cambodian finance ministry, told Reuters on



Cambodia expects more support on infrastructure
Phnom Penh seeks China backing for major Mekong canal project

the eve of Xi's arrival in the capital Phnom Penh.

He was answering a question about whether Cambodia expected Beijing to announce financial support for a 180 km (111.85 miles) canal, which is the country's most ambitious infrastructure project.

Xi, who has a road named after him on the outskirts of the capital, extolled the positive economic impact of past Chinese infrastructure projects, pledged to continue to "unswervingly support" Cambodia's

development, but mentioned no new specific project in his statements yesterday.

The Cambodian government has said China would pay for the Funan Techo Canal, which would run from the Mekong River, from a site near Phnom Penh, to the coast on the Gulf of Thailand, diverting water from the fragile rice-growing Mekong Delta and reducing Cambodian shipping through Vietnamese ports.

China has so far made no public financial commitment to the project, while Phnom Penh has changed its statements on Chinese engagement from covering 100 percent to 49 percent of total costs, estimated at \$1.7 billion, nearly 4 percent of Cambodia's annual gross domestic product.

Beijing signed no new loans to Cambodia last year, according to Cambodian official data, a marked contrast with previous years when it lent the country hundreds of millions of dollars.

The drop in funding came as China reduced overall overseas investments amid domestic economic woes and concerns over unsuccessful projects.

Xi's visit to Cambodia has been seen as a charm offensive in Southeast Asia, in the wake of the US tariffs that hit the region hard.

Myanmar towns hit by fighting amid quake truce

AFP, Yangon

Two Myanmar towns on a lucrative trade route to Thailand have been besieged by fighting despite a truce declared after last month's massive earthquake, residents told AFP yesterday.

A 2021 coup sparked a multi-sided civil war between Myanmar's military, pro-democracy guerrillas and ethnic rebel groups that have long been active in the country's fringes.

The junta and numerous opposition groups declared a ceasefire to ease relief efforts after a 7.7-magnitude quake hit central Myanmar on March 28, killing more than 3,700 people.

However, three eastern Myanmar residents told AFP fighting has been raging for days around the junta-held towns of Kyondoe and Kawkareik, which sit on a highway leading to the western Thailand border town of Mae Sot.

India SC halts several provisions of Waqf Act

Directs govt to maintain status quo till next hearing

TOI, New Delhi

India's Supreme Court yesterday put a hold on several provisions of the recently enacted Waqf Act for seven days and directed the central government to maintain the status quo till the next hearing.

The bench of CJI Sanjay Khanna and Justices Sanjay Kumar and KV Viswanth accepted solicitor general Tushar Mehta's assurance that the government will not make appointments to the Central Waqf Council and Auqaf Boards as per the 2025 Waqf Amendment Act and that properties already declared waqf by user and registered under the original 1995 Act will not be disturbed.

Further, the apex court also directed the government to file a response to the petitions within a week and allowed petitioners, challenging the amendment Act, to file a rejoinder in five days thereafter.

The bench, on the other hand, said it was impossible to deal with a number of pleas on the issue and clarified it would only five of them while asking lawyers to decide among themselves who would argue. The petitioners, the bench said, could file their rejoinders to the Centre's reply within five days of the service of the government's response.

Over 130 students in US join federal lawsuit over revoked visas

AFP, Washington

More than 130 international students across the United States have joined a federal lawsuit accusing the Trump administration of unlawfully canceling their visas, jeopardising their legal status in the country, court documents show.



The students allege the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency abruptly and illegally terminated their status in the government's Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) database, putting them at risk of arrest, detention and deportation.

The initial complaint was filed by 17 students on April 11 in the state of Georgia.

Since then, 116 more have joined them as the administration of US President Donald Trump pursues a wide-ranging immigration crackdown that has targeted foreign students, among many others.

Across campuses in the United States, international students have been scrambling as they have discovered their visas have been revoked, often for little or no reason, according to court documents and media reports.



Chattogram City Corporation

Tigerpass, Chattogram
www.ccc.gov.bd

Memo No:46.11.1600.002.36.25-422 Dated:16.04.2025

e-Tender Notice-CCC/XEN-2/2024-25/01

This is an online LTM (Limited Tender method) where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents of following packages from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered Bank branches up to 11.00 AM, 04-May-2025.

Sl no	Package No	Name of works	Tender ID	Last date & Time of selling Documents	Last date & Time of submission Documents
1	CCC/SE-1/Z-2/W-01/2024-25	Development of Mia khan nagar, Ratu peshkar road and char chaktai school by lane at 19 no ward	1077393	04-May-2025 11:00	04-May-2025 12:00
2	CCC/SE-1/Z-2/FW-02/2024-25	Repair and maintenance works of Building under Zone-2 of Chattogram City Corporation by Framework Contracting for fiscal year 2024-2025	1077080	04-May-2025 11:00	04-May-2025 12:00
3	CCC/SE-1/Z-2/FW-01/2024-25	Repair and Maintenance works of road, drain and other infrastructure by Framework Contracting under Zone-2 of Chattogram City Corporation for fiscal year 2024-2025	1077078	04-May-2025 11:00	04-May-2025 12:00

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (<http://www.helpdesk.eprocure.gov.bd/>)

CCC/PRD-78/24-25 (7x4)

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গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

শ্রম ও কর্মসংস্থান মন্ত্রণালয়
কলকারখানা ও প্রতিষ্ঠান পরিদর্শন অধিদপ্তর
শ্রম ভবন, ১৯৬, শহিদ সৈয়দ নজরুল ইসলাম সরণি
বিজয়নগর, ঢাকা

খিন ফ্যাক্টরি অ্যাওয়ার্ড-২০২৫

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নিরাপদ ও শোভন কর্মপরিবেশে পরিবেশবান্ধব প্রযুক্তি ও দক্ষ জনশক্তি ব্যবহারের মাধ্যমে উৎপাদনশীলতা বৃদ্ধি ও টেকসই উন্নয়নে অবদানের স্বীকৃতিস্বরূপ গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের শ্রম ও কর্মসংস্থান মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক প্রতি বছরের ন্যায্য এবারও দেশিয় বিভিন্ন শিল্প সেक्टरের কারখানাসমূহকে 'খিন ফ্যাক্টরি অ্যাওয়ার্ড-২০২৫' প্রদান করা হবে। এ লক্ষ্যে এ বছর ২৩টি শিল্প সেक्टर চিহ্নিত করা হয়েছে যথা: ১. তৈরি পোশাক (ওভেন), ২. তৈরি পোশাক (নিট), ৩. টেক্সটাইল, ৪. চামড়া শিল্প (ফিনিশড গুডস), ৫. চামড়া শিল্প (ট্যানারি), ৬. ফার্মাসিউটিক্যাল ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ, ৭. খাদ্য প্রক্রিয়াজাতকরণ কারখানা (ফুড এন্ড বেভারেজ), ৮. চা শিল্প, ৯. প্লাস্টিক কারখানা, ১০. সিমেন্ট কারখানা, ১১. টাইলস এন্ড সিরামিক ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ, ১২. ইলেকট্রিক এন্ড ইলেকট্রনিক্স পণ্য প্রস্তুতকারক ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ, ১৩. স্টিল মিল, ১৪. আইটি শিল্প, ১৫. রাইস মিল, ১৬. জুট মিল, ১৭. চিংড়ি শিল্প, ১৮. কেমিক্যাল ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ, ১৯. প্রসাধনী কারখানা, ২০. অটোমোবাইল ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ, ২১. শিপ বিল্ডিং এন্ড শিপ ব্রেকিং ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ, ২২. লাইট ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং এন্ড মোন্টিং কারখানা, ২৩. এক্সেসরিজ এন্ড ব্যাকগোর্ড লিংকেজ কারখানা। উক্ত কারখানাসমূহকে আগামী ৩০ এপ্রিল ২০২৫ তারিখের মধ্যে নির্ধারিত আবেদন ফরম যথাযথ নিয়মে (আবেদন ফরমে উল্লিখিত) পূরণপূর্বক আবেদনের হার্ড কপি নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী বরাবর (শ্রম ভবন, ১৯৬, শহিদ সৈয়দ নজরুল ইসলাম সরণি, বিজয়নগর, ঢাকা) এবং সফট কপি ই-মেইলে ig@dife.gov.bd অথবা jig.safety.dife@gmail.com থ্রেপের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। এছাড়া সংশ্লিষ্ট বিষয়ে বিস্তারিত তথ্য এবং সহযোগিতার জন্য নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তরে যোগাযোগের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

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