

Trump pushes for fair trade deal with China

REUTERS, Aboard Air Force One

US President Donald Trump on Sunday said the US was meeting with many countries, including China, on trade deals, and his main priority with China was to secure a fair trade deal.

Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One that he had no plans to speak with Chinese President Xi Jinping this week, but US officials were speaking with Chinese officials about a variety of different things.

Asked if any trade agreements would be announced this week, Trump said that could “very well be” but gave no details.

He suggested that he did not expect to reach an agreement with some countries, but could instead be “setting a certain tariff” for those trading partners in the next two to three weeks.

It was not immediately clear if he was referring to the reciprocal tariffs announced on April 2, which are due to kick in on July 8 after a 90-day pause.

Trump repeated his claim that China had been “ripping us for many years” on global trade.



Activists and members of Pasban-e-Hurriyat, a Kashmiri refugee organisation, shout slogans beside burning tires during an anti-India protest in Muzaffarabad, the capital of Pakistan-administered Kashmir, yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Risks multiply in any potential Indo-Pak conflict

Say experts as both nations upgraded their military capabilities since the neighbours clashed in 2019

REUTERS, Islamabad/New Delhi

India and Pakistan have significantly upgraded their military capabilities since the nuclear-armed neighbours clashed in 2019, posing increased risks of escalation even in a limited conflict, former military officers and experts say.

Pakistan says India plans a military incursion after New Delhi blamed Islamabad for a deadly attack on domestic tourists in Indian Kashmir last month. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi has vowed to punish the backers of the attack “beyond their imagination”.

Pakistan has denied involvement in the attack but has warned it will hit back if it is targeted.

In 2019, India carried out air strikes inside Pakistan after the bombing of an Indian military convoy in Kashmir and said it destroyed “terrorist camps”. Pakistani jets conducted a retaliatory air strike and shot down an Indian aircraft during actions spread over two days.

The neighbours have fought



three wars - in 1948, 1965 and 1971 - and clashed countless times since gaining independence, mostly over the Kashmir region which both claim. Both acquired nuclear weapons in the 1990s and Kashmir is considered one of the most dangerous flashpoints in the world.

Military experts say neither side will consider nuclear weapons unless pushed to the wall, but even a limited conflict would carry high risks of escalation.

They say such a conflict is likely to involve aircraft, missiles or

drones, where India and Pakistan are considered closely matched, although India's far greater resources would come into play over a longer period.

“Decision makers in both states now have a higher risk appetite for conflict initiation and escalation than prior to 2019,” said Frank O'Donnell, a non-resident fellow at the South Asia Program at the Stimson Center, a think-tank in Washington, as they had managed then to clash without nuclear weapons being used.

“But without a clear mutual sense of the precise actions, that could trigger inadvertent escalation,” he added.

Both sides have acquired new military hardware since 2019, opening up new conventional strike options.

“Each side will think they are in a better position than last time,” said Muhammad Faisal, a South Asia security researcher based at the University of Technology, Sydney. “It is only when we see actual combat that we will find out.”

Pakistan

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terrorist and their backer” who carried out the attack at Pahalgalam last month, and will “pursue them to the ends of the Earth.”

Pakistan's government has denied any involvement in the shooting and vowed that “any act of aggression will be met with a decisive response”.

Indian police said they are seeking at least two Pakistani citizens they say are among the alleged gunmen who killed 26 tourists in Pahalgalam.

International pressure has been piled on both New Delhi and Islamabad, which have fought several wars over the disputed Kashmir region.

US Vice President JD Vance has called on India to respond to the attack in a way “that doesn't lead to a broader regional conflict”.

Vance also urged Pakistan to “make sure that the terrorists sometimes operating in their territory are hunted down and dealt with”.

Meanwhile, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) was set to hold closed consultations yesterday to discuss the escalating tensions between India and Pakistan. The Greek Presidency had scheduled the meeting for yesterday afternoon after a request for “closed consultations” from Islamabad.

Hefazat seeks withdrawal of all 322 cases against it

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all cases, only 16 have so far been withdrawn in Dhaka.

“These cases include charges of terrorism, sabotage, obstruction of government work, and murder,” he noted.

“This is deeply regrettable. We are stakeholders in the anti-fascism movement. In this struggle, 84 of our brothers sacrificed their lives. A massacre was carried out against us at Shapla Chattar, yet the government has taken no meaningful steps to address our grievances.

“The cases must be withdrawn through mutual understanding. If not, and if public anger erupts, it could lead to disastrous consequences for both the country and the government.”

Twelve years back, on May 5, 2013, the incident led to widespread clashes across the capital and in several districts, including Narayanganj, Bagerhat, and Brahmanbaria.

Five days after the incident, the then government, in a press

note on May 10, said that a total of 11 people, including three pedestrians and a policeman, were killed on the day at different stages of clashes.

The human rights organisation Odhikar reported that 61 Hefazat members were killed in the law enforcement operation at Shapla Chattar.

Following the 2013 incident, the ousted Awami League-led government filed 83 cases in Dhaka and seven other districts. Police have so far submitted charge sheets in 21 of those cases and final probe reports in two.

Investigations into most of the remaining 60 cases are still ongoing.

In the 2021 unrest, violence spread beyond the capital to districts including Brahmanbaria, Hathazari in Chattogram, Narayanganj, Munshiganj, and Kishoreganj.

A total of 221 cases were filed in connection with those clashes.

Speaking to The Daily Star yesterday, Dhaka Metropolitan Public

Prosecutor Omar Faruq Faruqi said, “There are around 60 cases against Hefazat in Dhaka. The group applied for the withdrawal of these cases. So far, we have given opinions in 45 cases and sent them to the district administration.”

Since the Shapla Chattar incident, more than a thousand Hefazat leaders and activists had been arrested, according to its leaders.

Following the fall of the Awami League government on August 5, the jailed Hefazat members were released on bail.

Meanwhile, on August 18 last year, former prime minister Sheikh Hasina and 33 others were accused of “mass killing” in a case filed over the Shapla Chattar incident.

Two days later, on August 20, a complaint was filed with the investigation agency of the International Crimes Tribunal over the same incident, accusing Hasina and 23 others of committing crimes against humanity and genocide.

Bangladeshi man killed

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A follow-up meeting was scheduled for last night or this morning. However, it was not held till the filing of the report at around 9:00pm, he added.

According to the BGB official, BSF reportedly fired at the two near the border at night. Sakib collapsed after getting shot, and locals first took him to Cumilla, where doctors referred him to Dhaka for treatment. However, he died on the way.


The injured Indian national, identified as Sujon Barman, 35, from Tripura's Agartala, was receiving treatment at a hospital in Dhaka last night. BGB officials went to the hospital and detained him. Sujon was receiving treatment under their custody, said Lt Col Ziaur.

He was detained on charges of trespassing and handed over to Hatirheel Police Station by the BGB, Ziaur said.

Quoting Bayek Union Parishad Chairman Mohammad Billal Hossain, Kasba Upazila Nirbahi Officer Md Samiul Islam said Sakib and Sujon had gone to the border late at night to smuggle a motorcycle into Bangladesh.

BSF personnel patrolling the area reportedly opened fire on them during the attempt, he said.

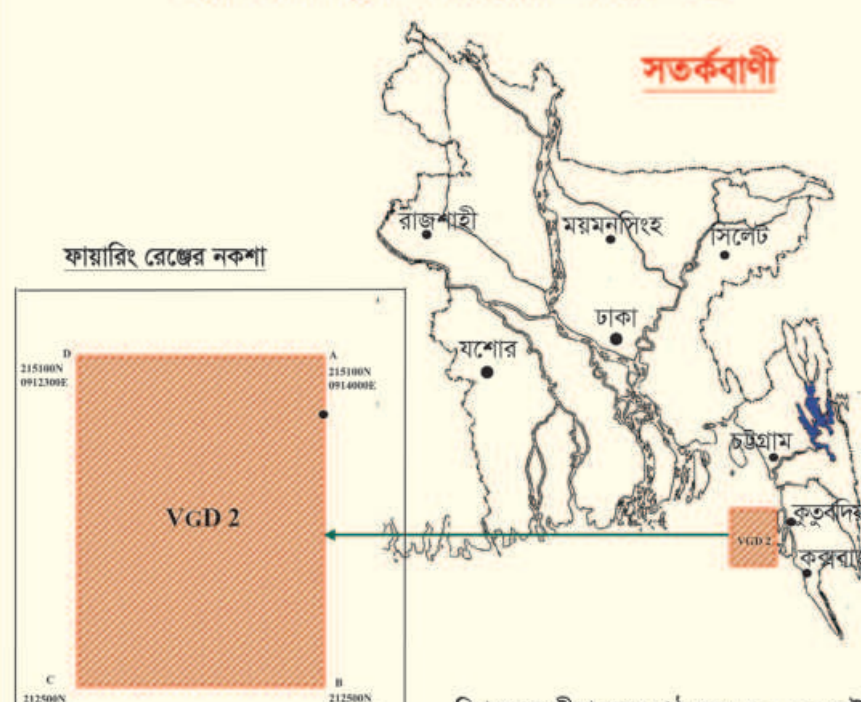
Sakib's body has been handed over to his family, OC Abdul Kader said.



কুতুবদিয়া ফায়ারিং রেঞ্জ VGD-2 এ বাংলাদেশ বিমান বাহিনীর যুদ্ধ বিমান কর্তৃক তাজা গোলা বর্ষণের জন্য

সতর্কবাণী

ফায়ারিং রেঞ্জের নকশা




বিপজ্জনক সীমা সমুদ্র পৃষ্ঠ হতে ৩০,০০০ ফুট

বাংলাদেশ বিমান বাহিনীর বিভিন্ন প্রকার যুদ্ধ বিমান কর্তৃক আগামী ০৭ হতে ১০ মে ২০২৫ পর্যন্ত প্রত্যহ সকাল ০৮০০ ঘটিকা হতে ১৭০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত প্রত্যহ ফায়ারিং রেঞ্জ VGD 2 (২১°৫১'০০" উঃ ০৯১°৪০'০০" পূঃ, ২১°২৫'০০" উঃ ০৯১°৪০'০০" পূঃ ২১°২৫'০০" উঃ ০৯১°২৩'০০" পূঃ এবং ২১°৫১'০০" উঃ ০৯১°২৩' ০০" পূঃ) আকাশসীমায় তাজা গোলা বর্ষণ প্রশিক্ষণ মহড়া পরিচালনা করবে। তাজা গোলা বর্ষণ চলাকালীন সময় বিমান, জাহাজ, ছোট ছোট নৌযান ও কুতুবদিয়া দ্বীপ সংলগ্ন জনসাধারণকে উপরোল্লিখিত এলাকা পরিহার করে নিরাপদ দূরত্ব বজায় রেখে চলাচলের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।


আই এস পি আর/৪৫

এটিএস পরিদপ্তর
বিমান বাহিনী সদরদপ্তর
ঢাকা সেনানিবাস

GD-1081



Institute of Health Economics
University of Dhaka
Executive Master in Health Economics (EMHE)



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Institute of Health Economics, University of Dhaka, invites application from national and foreign candidates in the prescribed form for admission into EMHE program for the session 2025-2026.

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- Candidate on service must apply through appropriate channel.
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- The application fee is BDT 1,500 to be paid at the time of application form submission

For detail information please visit IHE Website: <https://du.ac.bd/programDetails/IHE/449>

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