

INTERNATIONAL

China seeks
'more stability'
as it confirms
Trump-Xi meet

AFP, Beijing

Beijing said yesterday it was ready to work with the United States in pursuit of "more stability" and confirmed that Donald Trump will visit China this week, the first US president to do so since 2017.

Washington and Beijing have been at loggerheads over key issues ranging from trade tariffs to the Middle East war and Taiwan, which China claims as part of its territory.

Top trade negotiators from both countries will meet in Seoul a day before Trump's summit with Chinese leader Xi Jinping to iron out details on trade and economic issues, a sign of the trip's high stakes.

The White House announced Trump's visit several weeks ago, and China's foreign ministry has now confirmed it will go ahead from Wednesday until Friday.



The US leader was originally meant to visit in late March or early April, but postponed his trip to focus on the US-Israel war with Iran.

"Top level diplomacy plays an irreplaceable strategic guiding role in China-US relations," Beijing's foreign ministry spokesman Guo Jiakun told a regular news briefing.

"China is willing to work with the United States in the spirit of equality, respect, and mutual benefit, to expand cooperation, manage differences, and inject more stability and certainty into a volatile and intertwined world," he said.

This is the first visit by a US president to China since Trump's previous visit in 2017, and is expected to include a tour of the Temple of Heaven in Beijing and a lavish state banquet.

The White House has said it is of "tremendous symbolic significance", and promised that Trump will "deliver more good deals" for Americans.

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent will set up the visit during talks with Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng in Seoul on Wednesday.



Rescuers work at the site of an Israeli strike in Kfar Jouz, Lebanon, yesterday. The Israeli military issued new threats to southern Lebanon, warning residents in nine areas to leave ahead of attacks.

PHOTO: REUTERS

US fight with Iran offers
China lessons

Experts say adversary always has a big say in the outcome

AGENCIES

As the war in Iran enters its third month, it's providing a window for China into how US military capabilities work under fire, and a useful reminder that, on any battlefield, the adversary always has a big say in the outcome.

CNN spoke with a range of experts in China, Taiwan and elsewhere about how the last two months of fighting in and around the Persian Gulf can inform what might happen in any possible conflict that would pit Beijing against Washington.

They warned of China misreading its own strengths, lack of experience and holding on to a too-narrow view of the conflict and its consequences.

Fu Qianshao, a former colonel in China's air force, said his major takeaway from the fighting so far is that the People's Liberation Army (PLA) can't forget about

its defenses, noting how Iran has found ways around US anti-missile systems like the Patriot or Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense (THAAD).

"We need to devote significant efforts to identify weakness in our defensive side to ensure we remain invincible in future wars," Fu told CNN.

The PLA has rapidly expanded offensive firepower capacity in recent years, adding missiles with hypersonic glide vehicles that can evade interceptors and the platforms that can launch them.

The PLA Air Force is adding fifth-generation stealth fighters at a rapid rate and will field around 1,000 J-20 jets – the rough equivalent of US F-35s – when performing in a long-range precision strike mode, according to the British think tank RUSI. China has a long-range stealth bomber, similar to the US B-2 or the B-21, in the works.

But its defenses are another matter.

Analysts note Iran was able to penetrate US air defenses in the Persian Gulf with relatively primitive technology, including low-cost Shahed drones and lower-cost ballistic missiles.

Meanwhile, the US unleashed an air campaign on Iran with much more sophisticated weaponry, like F-35s and B-2s, and mixed it with cheaper, less high-tech guided munitions dropped from B-1s, B-52s and F-15s. They've knocked out everything from missile launchers to naval vessels to bridges.

It's a mix that Beijing must plan for, Fu said. "We have to delve deeper to effectively guard our key sites, airfields and ports against attacks and raids," he said.

Another lesson to be learned from Iran is that wars at this level, involving a great power and a lower tier one, can't always be tidy operations that end when a president is snatched by special forces in the middle of the night.

Migration politics may hurt
thaw in Dhaka-Delhi ties

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However, after the BNP assumed office, signs of a thaw in relations became evident. The two countries have since been working to reactivate institutional mechanisms, including border management, consular services and Joint River Commission meetings.

South Asian affairs analyst Altaf Parvez said BJP governments in Assam and West Bengal are likely to use irregular migration as a tool in domestic politics. He added that India may also use the issue to exert pressure on Bangladesh.

"Despite signs of improvement, this remains a cloud over Dhaka-Delhi relations," he said.

He further said Dhaka must clearly convey to New Delhi that irregular migration is India's internal issue and should not be used as a political tool for the sake of stable bilateral relations.

However, the matter remains dominant in politics across the border.

In an interview with India's ABP News aired on April 15, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, referring to the controversial National Register of Citizens process, said that 1.7 million "infiltrators" had been identified prima facie.

He said more than 1,400 people had been pushed back this year following a Supreme Court judgment.

He claimed the ruling last year allowed a district magistrate to pass an eviction order if a person was believed not to be Indian.

Asked what "push back" meant, Himanta said, "It

means you take them to a convenient place and practically push them."

He added, "We should push them back, but also create an atmosphere so that they leave Assam on their own."

On April 25, he posted on X that 20 undocumented migrants from Bangladesh had been apprehended and sent back. "Rude people don't understand soft language. We continuously remind ourselves of this prophetic line when we expel infiltrators from Assam who don't leave themselves. For instance, these 20 illegal Bangladeshis were PUSHED BACK last night. Assam will fight. Pushback WILL CONTINUE."

On April 30, Bangladesh's foreign ministry summoned Indian Deputy High Commissioner Pawan Badhe to flag the remarks, describing them as "disparaging".

According to an article published in The Hindu, India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) sent a note verbatim to Dhaka on April 30, stating that India had sent 1,137 diplomatic notes, verbales and 456 reminders since September 2020 regarding the repatriation of 2,868 suspected illegal Bangladeshi migrants, but had not received "an actionable response".

During a weekly media briefing on May 7, Indian MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said India's policy is that any foreign national living illegally in the country must be repatriated in accordance with laws, procedures and established bilateral mechanisms and arrangements.

"We expect Bangladesh

will expedite nationality verification so that repatriation of illegal immigrants can take place in a smooth manner," he said.

Asked about the issue, a foreign ministry official acknowledged the note verbatim of April 8 but said the matter is not "black and white".

The official, who requested anonymity, said that over the years, many Bangladeshis have been repatriated after verification of the nationalities of individuals listed by Indian authorities.

The procedure for nationality verification involves the Indian MEA sending a diplomatic note, after which the Bangladesh High Commission seeks consular access to prisons, meets those listed, and sends names to the home ministry in Dhaka for verification.

Following verification, the high commission issues travel permits for repatriation, he added.

The official said the Indian side often takes months to grant consular access, and even then, names listed are sometimes not found during visits. In some cases, Indian jail authorities delay the release of such detainees or inmates, citing legal process, further delaying the repatriation process.

In Assam, the official said, although the Indian MEA provides consular access, approval from the state government is also required. However, the Assam government has not granted access to the Bangladesh mission for over a year, making nationality verification impossible.

"It is not clear why the Indian MEA is speaking so publicly now when several mechanisms already exist to address border and migration issues. These could have been resolved through dialogue," the official added.

Meanwhile, West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari, in his first cabinet meeting yesterday, said the state government had approved the transfer of land to the BSF for fencing along the Bangladesh border and the immediate implementation of the census exercise in the state.

Asked about these developments, Prime Minister's Foreign Affairs Adviser Humayun Kobir said, "If we want to advance bilateral relations, the mindset of leadership should be to address challenges."

He added that as long as the door to dialogue remains open, there is scope for resolving issues, though some may take longer than others.

On irregular migration, Kobir said political parties sometimes use rhetoric, including extreme language, during elections.

"That is one thing, and governing is another. Let us see whether rhetoric and governance align in West Bengal," he told reporters at the foreign ministry yesterday.

"Our relationship is with the central government of India. We will not get involved in their internal politics," he said.

"If you believe in people-centric relations, you have to handle people humanely," Kobir added.

US SC should
be 'loyal' on
key casesTrump slams the
top court over
tariff decision

AFP, Washington

President Donald Trump on Sunday called on US Supreme Court justices to be "loyal" to his executive order banning birthright citizenship, while bashing the court's recent ruling against his tariffs.

Trump's post on Truth Social began by calling out two of the Supreme Court judges he appointed during his first term – Neil Gorsuch and Amy Coney Barrett – for the "devastating move" of siding against his tariff policy, adding that it's "loyal" to him in the future.


"They have to do the right thing, but it's really OK for them to be loyal to the person that appointed them," Trump said.

The Supreme Court, the highest court in the United States, is an equal and independent branch of government, intended to check and balance executive and congressional power in American democracy.

It's exceedingly rare for the White House to exert open pressure on the nine-judge panel, who are appointed to lifetime terms by the president and confirmed by Congress.

On the first day of his second term, Trump signed an executive order decreeing that children born to parents who were in the United States illegally or on temporary visas would not automatically become US citizens.

Lower courts blocked the move, citing the 14th Amendment's citizenship clause.



সিলেট গ্যাস ফিল্ডস লিমিটেড
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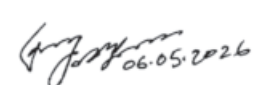
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following goods:

Sl. No.	Package No.	Description of Goods	Tender ID	Last Selling of Tender (Date & Time)	Tender Closing & Opening (Date & Time)
1	28.20.9153.142.14.010.26/5	Procurement of Pneumatic Pressure Controller and Pneumatic Valve Positioner at Haripur Gas Field under Sylhet Gas Fields Limited	1267514	02-Jun-2026 17:00 Hours	03-Jun-2026 13:00 Hours
2	28.20.9153.142.14.010.26/6	Procurement of Solenoid Valve and Pneumatic Switching Valve at Haripur Gas Field under Sylhet Gas Fields Limited	1268202	02-Jun-2026 17:00 Hours	03-Jun-2026 12:00 Hours

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Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).


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