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Trump claims Iran agreed to no nuclear weapons amid reports of 'tougher' terms sent to Tehran

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NEW YORK: United States President Donald Trump said he had secured guarantees from Iran that it would not develop nuclear weapons, as reports emerged he had sent a tougher peace proposal back to Tehran.

Any tweaks to the proposal could prolong even further an agreement to formally end the Middle East war and open the Strait of Hormuz maritime route after weeks of efforts to secure a deal despite fractious rhetoric and the occasional flare-up of armed conflict.

The New York Times and Axios media outlets reported on Saturday that Trump had sent back a new framework to be considered by Iran with "tougher" terms, though it was not immediately clear what that entailed.

Trump has said his priorities for any deal include stopping Iran from any nuclear weapon development and re-opening the blockaded Strait of Hormuz.

"The one guarantee that I have to have is that there will be no nuclear weapons. They've agreed to that, and it was very interesting," he told his daughter-in-law Lara Trump in an interview broadcast on her Fox News programme on Saturday night.

But Tehran has previously cast doubt on Trump's assertions and the parties appeared far apart on their key priorities.

Iran has said it requires the release of \$12 billion in frozen assets before it moved to substantive talks on issues such as its nuclear programme.



Pakistan's Hajj return operations began on Saturday night as the first flight carrying 117 pilgrims arrived in Islamabad.

Islamabad stays in frame for US-Iran deal signing

PEAK POINT



diplomatic sources said.

Diplomatic sources at the United Nations and in Washington told Dawn that prospects for a final agreement remained high despite delays in completing the draft.

"Nine out of 10," a senior diplomat said when asked to assess the likelihood of a final agreement being signed. "But I cannot say when it will happen."

Another senior diplomat said Islamabad's role in facilitating the initial contacts between Washington and Tehran had strengthened its credentials as a possible host.

"Iranians cannot come to Washington, and Americans cannot go to Tehran because the two countries do not have diplomatic relations," the diplomat said. "If the signing takes place in a third capital, Islamabad would be a natural choice because it hosted the first round of talks." The assessment comes as reports in major US

WASHINGTON: Islamabad remains a leading contender to host the formal signing ceremony of a possible US-Iran peace agreement if negotiators succeed in finalising a deal,

US must accept Iran's rights or continue war, says IRGC deputy

PEAK POINT



Speaking to IRNA News Agency, IRGC Deputy for Political Affairs

Yadollah Javani said the enemies had wrongly assumed they could achieve a quick victory by imposing war on Iran. He said their strategic objectives included destroying Iran's nuclear capabilities, eliminating its missile defence capacity, and ultimately overthrowing the Islamic Republic. Javani added that those goals have failed, resulting in a shift in regional equations in Iran's favour. He further said the United States must choose between accepting the rights and conditions of the Iranian people or continuing the war. Iran will not accept any agreement to end its conflict with the US unless there is certainty that the rights of the Iranian people are secured, Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf said on Sunday, according to state media.

"There is no trust in the enemy's words and promises. Our only criterion is to achieve tangible results before we fulfil our commitments in return," he said after taking the oath of office as the re-elected speaker of parliament alongside members of the parliamentary presidium. Trump says Iran has agreed to no nuclear weapons.

IRAN: A senior Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) commander has said Iran's enemies have made a strategic miscalculation in assessing the country's capabilities and resolve, arguing that Tehran has emerged in a stronger position while the United States faces decline and failure.

First batch of pilgrims arrives in Islamabad after Hajj

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Hajj return operations began on Saturday night as the first flight carrying 117 pilgrims arrived in Islamabad, officials said.

Airport Manager Aftab Gilani received the pilgrims upon arrival at Islamabad airport.

The return flights started after more than 1.7 million Muslims from 165 countries completed the annual Hajj pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia amid intense heat.

Thousands of pilgrims began leaving Makkah after the pilgrimage rituals, including the stoning ritual in Mina and the farewell tawaf at the Grand Mosque.

This year's Hajj was held in scorching weather, with Saudi authorities introducing heat-mitigation measures after more than 1,300 pilgrims died during the 2024 pilgrimage, when temperatures rose above 50°C.

The Saudi Red Crescent said it had provided emergency services to more than 83,000 people since the beginning of the Hajj season.

Hajj flight operations from Pakistan had begun last month, when the first batch of 160 pilgrims departed from Karachi at via a private airline.

Under the Road to Makkah Project, one-time immigration for pilgrims was completed at Karachi airport before departure.

Muharram likely to begin on June 17

PEAK POINT

LAHORE: Muharram-ul-Haram 1448 AH is likely to begin in Pakistan on Wednesday, June 17, as the new moon is not expected to be visible anywhere in the country on the evening of June 15, according to astronomical calculations. Khalid Ejaz Mufti, Secretary General of the Ruet-e-Hilal Research Council, on Sunday said the new moon will be born at 7:54am Pakistan Standard Time (PST) on June 15. However, by sunset on the same day, the moon's age will be less than 12 hours across Pakistan, significantly below the minimum age generally required for crescent.

'Strict action' taken, says power minister after Khawaja Asif's claim of Lesco employees' corruption

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Power Minister Awais Leghari on Sunday said that "strict action" had been taken against a Lahore Electric Supply Company (Lesco) line superintendent after Defence Minister Khawaja Asif complained of financial corruption.

In an X post on Saturday, Asif said he had sought a former official's help for the repair of a transformer in the village of his domestic employee.

The minister alleged, "[Lesco] employees took Rs80,000 to repair the transformer. The villager collected donations to pay the Lesco employees, but they were not given a receipt.

"You can imagine the rest. This happens even conference in Islamabad today, Leghari referred to



when a former power minister, who is currently a cabinet member, intervenes. What will a common consumer be facing?" He reiterated that while the villagers had paid the amount, "Lesco refuses to give them a receipt". Addressing a press

Asif's statement and said, "The tweet is a source of pride for us as we believe in self-accountability." He added that "strict action" has been taken against the relevant line superintendent after Asif's post. "This is a part of our self-accountability. It's the public representa-

tive's job to highlight people's problems [...] Even if anyone raises questions from within our cabinet, we address them publicly and will continue trying to improve our performance in the future," he added.

When a reporter remarked that almost all common people faced this kind of corruption, Leghari denied it emphatically.

"It is absurd and totally wrong to say that everybody goes through this".

Leghari also acknowledged that while corruption existed within Discos, "the prevalence cannot be more than 10-15 per cent". He added that the ministry had a complaint system and "will improve with time".

EU foreign policy chief Kallas to visit Pakistan for strategic dialogue today

PEAK POINT



ISLAMABAD: European Union High Representative on Foreign Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission Kaja Kallas will visit Islamabad on June 1 for bilateral engagements and the eighth round of the EU-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue, the EU said in a statement. The eighth EU-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue will be co-chaired by Kallas and Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar. The dialogue is expected to review cooperation across a range of areas and discuss the future direction of ties between Pakistan and the European Union. According to the EU, the meeting will provide an opportunity for both sides to assess bilateral relations under the Strategic Engagement Plan.



SPORTS



Pakistan eye series victory in second ODI against Australia in Lahore



PEAK POINT
LAHORE: Pakistan and Australia are set to meet in the second match of their One Day International series on 2 June at Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium, with the hosts carrying a 1-0 lead into the contest.

file fixture have entered their final phase at the Nishtar Park Sports Complex, where arrangements for both teams' training sessions are being completed. Officials said cleaning and maintenance work is continuing at the stadium's entry and exit points to ensure smooth access for play-

ers, officials and spectators. Additional lighting has also been installed along nearby roads to facilitate the movement of cricket fans attending the match. The upcoming fixture is expected to attract significant interest as Pakistan seek to extend their advantage in the series, while

Australia aim to level the contest and keep their hopes alive ahead of the remaining matches. With preparations nearing completion and both teams finalising their training plans, attention is now turning to what promises to be an important encounter in the three-match ODI series.

ICT Police treats martyrs' children to Pakistan-Australia match under 'Jashan-e-Cricket' initiative



PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police arranged a special "Jashan-e-Cricket" event for children of police martyrs, enabling them to watch the Pakistan-Australia cricket match live and share moments of joy and excitement.

An official told on Sunday that the initiative was organized on the special directions of Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi as part of ongoing welfare measures for families of police martyrs.

The official said children of martyrs were taken to the cricket stadium where they enjoyed the match, spent memorable moments and experienced the vibrant atmosphere of the game. SP Headquarters Pari Gul Fareen and Director Special Initiatives Shams-ul-Haq Durrani also accompanied the children and spent time with them during the event.

IGP Rizvi said the smiles of martyrs' children were the greatest tribute to the sacrifices rendered by the force's heroes.

Seeing happiness on the faces of martyrs' children is our biggest honor, he said, adding that while the sacrifices of martyrs could never be repaid, caring for their children and families remained a responsibility of Islamabad Police.

Malaysia edge Pakistan 3-2 in thrilling U-18 Asia Hockey Cup clash



PEAK POINT
JAPAN: Malaysia defeated Pakistan 3-2 in a thrilling encounter of the Men's Under-18 Asia Cup 2026 being played in Kakamigahara, Japan. The tournament, organized by the Asian Hockey Federation, is being held from May 29 to June 6.

In a closely contested match, Malaysia secured a hard-fought 3-2 victory over Pakistan. Malaysia took control of the match early and built a commanding 3-0 lead by halftime, putting Pakistan under significant pressure. The Pakistani side responded strongly after the break, producing an improved performance and scoring twice in the final two quarters to reduce the deficit. However, Malaysia managed to preserve their narrow advantage and claim all three points. For Pakistan, Muzammil opened the scoring in the 42nd minute, while Muhammad Farhan netted the second goal in the final minute of the match.

Malaysia's Dhiresh played a key role in his team's success by scoring two consecutive goals, while Israf added another to complete the victory. Despite the loss, Pakistan remain in contention in the tournament and will look to bounce back in their final group-stage match against Bangladesh on Wednesday. Pakistan had opened their campaign with an impressive 3-0 victory over China, but Sunday's defeat leaves the team needing a strong performance in their last group fixture to strengthen their chances of progressing further in the competition.



LAHORE: President of the Pakistan Olympic Association Arif Saeed and others address a news conference regarding Fun Run in 20th Asian Games here on Sunday.

Sports scandals rock Pakistan: Federation chiefs banned, athletes sanctioned over misconduct

PEAK POINT
ISLAMABAD: Serious governance failures, doping violations, financial irregularities and administrative misconduct across Pakistan's sports federations came under the spotlight in the National Assembly, where the government disclosed details of sanctions, suspensions and bans imposed on athletes and sports officials. The revelations emerged during a question-answer session in the National Assembly, where the Ministry of Inter-Provincial Coordination acknowledged that governance challenges continue to plague several National Sports Federations (NSFs), despite ongoing reform efforts by the Pakistan Sports Board (PSB). According to the ministry, weak institutional capacity, poor compliance mechanisms and the tendency of some officials to seek protection under claims

of federation autonomy and international sports regulations have hindered effective oversight and accountability. The government informed lawmakers that the PSB has introduced a series of governance reforms, including the

revisions, including Karate, Baseball, Taekwondo, Judo, Basketball and Sailing, have already aligned themselves with the new governance framework. The House was informed that disciplinary action was taken against



Pakistan Code of Ethics and Governance in Sports, an independent adjudication mechanism and the National Sports Federations (Tenure) Rules, 2025. Under the new rules, office-bearers can serve a maximum of two four-year terms and cannot continue beyond the age of 70. Officials said several fed-

weightlifters Sharjeel Butt, Abdul Rehman, Ghulam Mustafa and Farhan Majeed over doping-related violations. Former Pakistan Weightlifting Federation president Hafiz Imran Butt and coaches Irfan Butt and Waqas Akbar were also suspended in connection with the case.



LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Sports Faisal Ayub Kokar is being briefed by officials during visit to Sports Complex Doobi Gath Murree on Sunday.

President stresses collective duty against tobacco risks

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari stressed that it was their shared responsibility to protect current and future generations from the harms of tobacco products.

"The time has come that, besides other issues, our national parliament and provincial legislatures make laws and create effective enforcement mechanisms to protect our people and future generations and effectively resist the merchants of death," the president said in his message on 'World No Tobacco Day', being observed on May 31.

He said, besides, parliament and the government, parents, teachers, artists, poets, singers, musicians, actors, playwrights, healthcare professionals and community leaders all have a role in shaping awareness, discouraging the use of tobacco products and creating an ecosystem to protect our people.

"Change at the household and community level can contribute

meaningfully to national progress in public health," the President Secretariat Media Wing, in a press release, quoted the president as saying.

President Zardari observed that it had been almost four hundred years since early writings first drew attention to the health hazards of tobacco.

For decades, there had been a strong consensus in the scientific and health community that tobacco products posed serious health and economic risks, he said, adding the successive governments around the world, working with civil society, have taken a range of measures through regulation and awareness to reduce tobacco use. Yet it continued to pose a serious threat to public health and economic well-being across the world, including Pakistan.

"The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that tobacco causes more than 7 million deaths every year worldwide, including about 1.6 million deaths from second-hand smoke exposure. These figures

should compel us to reflect on the scale of a public health challenge that continues to affect millions of people and families," the president further noted.

He said children and young people remained particularly vulnerable. The tobacco and nicotine industry continued to target younger generations through evolving products and marketing approaches designed to create and sustain addiction. Early exposure to nicotine heightened the risk of lifelong dependence and adverse health outcomes.

The latest research showed that, globally and in Pakistan, the use of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vaping devices, nicotine pouches and other nicotine products presented growing public health concerns, he added.

The president said there was also evidence of concerning patterns of poly-substance use, where tobacco and nicotine products may coexist with other harmful substances, creating serious risks for young people and communities.

Govt. Leaders congratulate Fahad Shahbaz on Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia recognition

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Attaullah Tarar, Federal Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication, Shaza Fatima Khawaja, Chairman, Prime Minister's Youth Programme (PMYP), Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan, and Prime Minister's Media Coordinator Badr Shahbaz Warraich on Saturday congratulated PMYP Focal Person Fahad Shahbaz on being named to the Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia 2026 list, hailing the achievement as a proud moment for Pakistan and its youth.

In separate messages posted on the social media platform X, the leaders praised Fahad Shahbaz's inclusion in the prestigious global ranking, recognizing his contributions to youth empowerment and social impact.



ing his contributions to youth empowerment and social impact.

They said the achievement reflected the growing influence of Pakistani youth on the international stage and showcased the country's emerging leadership talent.

Information Minister Attaullah Tarar described the recognition as highly encouraging, saying it was a matter of pride to see young Pakistanis earning international acclaim through their talent, dedication and hard work.

Pakistan Ulema Council Chairman lauds Saudi leadership for successful Hajj 1447 AH

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: The Chairman of Pakistan Ulema Council, Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi has congratulated the leadership of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on the successful management of the Hajj season 1447 AH, describing it as an extraordinary achievement made possible through the grace of Almighty Allah and the visionary leadership of Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.

In a statement, Ashrafi said the success of this year's Hajj reflected the Saudi leadership's unwavering commitment to serving the Two Holy Mosques and the millions of pilgrims who travel annually to the holy sites from around the world.

He said the comprehensive planning, continuous supervision, and ongoing development of Hajj services under the guidance

of King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman had resulted in one of the most successful pilgrimage seasons in recent years.

"The successful organization of Hajj 1447 AH is a remarkable and well-deserved accomplishment. It is the result of Allah's blessings, the generous directives of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, and the vision, dedication, and around-the-clock oversight of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to continuously improve every aspect of the Hajj experience," Ashrafi said.

He particularly praised the crowd management strategy implemented during the pilgrimage, describing it as a model of international excellence.

"The operational plan for managing pilgrim movement represented a world-class example of effective crowd management. It was part of a comprehensive system that was executed with exceptional precision, professionalism.

MoS/SAPM Fahd Haroon shares spiritual reflections from Madinah

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Digital Media, Fahd Haroon has shared his spiritual reflections while visiting Madinah Al Munawwarah, describing the holy city as a place where worldly status and personal pride lose their significance.

In a recent post on social media platform X, Haroon wrote that there are "halls of power, and then there is Madinah Al Munawwarah," emphasizing the profound impact of standing at Roza-e-Rasool (PBUH).

He stated that in the presence of the Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) resting place, "every title fades, every ego falls away, and every heart remembers what truly matters."

The SAPM described Madinah as a blessed city whose spiritual influence cannot be fully expressed in words.

According to him, visitors leave the city with a deep sense of gratitude for being granted the opportunity to be there.

Bilawal to visit Skardu today as campaign for GB elections reach pinnacle

PEAK POINT

SKARDU: As electioneering in Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) is at its peak, PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari will visit Skardu today. He will hold meetings with the party candidates and office-bearers today, and will address a rally at Shigar tomorrow (Monday).

On the other hand, senior PML-N leaders, too, will address public gatherings at three different places. General elections for the GB Assembly (GBA) will be held on June 7.

As many as 5,000 Punjab Police personnel will be sent to GB to provide security during the elections. As many as 1,500 personnel of the Riot Management Force, 1,242 personnel of Punjab



Constabulary, 1,958 personnel of Punjab Highway Patrolling and 300 personnel of Lahore Police will perform duties.

In this connection, AIG Operations has written a letter to the SSP MT in which he has ordered him to arrange proper transport to send the personnel to GB.

On Friday, the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) released the final list of candidates for the 2026 Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly elections.

PTI 'seriously considering' exiting system over 'denial' of political space, warns Asad Qaiser

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) senior leader and former National Assembly speaker Asad Qaiser has warned that his party is "seriously considering" exiting the system, while stressing the need for a new Charter of Democracy in the country.

Qaiser's comments came hours after he claimed restrictions on his movement prevented him from reaching Islamabad airport in time, causing him to miss a flight to Skardu, where he was scheduled to take part in the Gilgit-



Baltistan (GB) election campaign. PTI leader said police detained him for 40 minutes and released him only after the flight had departed.

"Who will accept such an election? It is better to make a selection than holding such polls," Qaiser said, referring to the GB elections scheduled to take place on June 7.



LAHORE: US Consul General, Stetson Sanders called on the Chairman Senate, Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani.

China Window Emerging as Strong Symbol of Pakistan-China Friendship, Says DG MOFA

PEAK POINT

PESHAWAR: The Director General (China) of Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Muhammad Tariq Wazir paid a visit to China Window, the state-of-the-art Chinese cultural and information center in Peshawar, where he lauded the institution's remarkable contribution to promoting people-to-people contacts and deepening the historic friendship between Pakistan and China. During his visit, Muhammad Tariq Wazir toured the various galleries of China Window, which showcase Chinese history,

culture, technological advancement, tourism, education, and the enduring bond between the peoples of Pakistan and China. He expressed keen interest in the center's diverse exhibits and appreciated the efforts made to present China's rich civilization and modern achievements to the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The Director General also signed the Friendship Wall and recorded his impressions in the Visitors' Book, commending the vision and dedication behind the establishment of the cultural center. Speaking on the occasion,



he said he was delighted and excited to visit China Window, adding that he had heard much about the institution before coming to see it personally. "I would like to commend the organizers and everyone associated with this remarkable initiative. What has been achieved here is

truly impressive. China Window has already done wonders in promoting Pakistan-China friendship, and I am confident that its role will become even more significant in the years ahead," he remarked. He noted that a platform like China Window was greatly

needed in Peshawar and that its establishment had filled an important gap in cultural diplomacy and mutual understanding between the two countries. "An institution like this, based in Peshawar, was always needed. We believe its activities should be expanded in many directions

so that more people can benefit from learning about China and the longstanding friendship between our two nations," he said. The Director General emphasized that cultural exchanges and people-to-people connections remain the cornerstone of Pakistan-China relations. He assured the management of China Window of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' support in promoting collaborative initiatives that bring the people of the two countries closer together. "I assure you, on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Government,