



**BAJIRAO IAS ACADEMY**

# THE HINDU ANALYSIS

**23 JUNE 2025**



**US BOMBS IRAN'S  
NUCLEAR FACILITIES**





# Indian Economy amidst global Troubles

## *Steering the Indian economy amidst global troubles*

**T**he global economy is undergoing a significant transformation, marked by shifts in trade policies and continuing geopolitical tensions. We see a return of trade wars, the review of tariffs by countries as well as a surge in negotiations for bilateral trade agreements. These have led to heightened uncertainties, impacting not just trade but also financial markets and economic growth prospects.

With global trade dynamics evolving rapidly, it could lead to a structural realignment of global trade with long-term implications for trade and investments. Businesses will have to weigh the short-term challenges as well as long-term opportunities. Industry has to re-strategise amid rising costs, disrupted supply networks, and asymmetric information. The United States is India's largest export destination accounting for nearly one-fifth of India's merchandise exports. Therefore, uncertainties in the tariff regime in this market severely impact the business of Indian exporters. For certain sectors such as marine, apparel, carpets, gems and jewellery, pharmaceuticals, auto components, and electronics, India's dependence on the U.S. market is very high. Additional tariffs would erode margins of these exporters, particularly Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and make their exports unviable.

### Possible issues

However, the imposition of the U.S.'s reciprocal tariffs itself remains uncertain given the possibility of interim deals and trade agreements that the U.S. is negotiating with many countries (including India) and also the recent order of the U.S. Court of International Trade challenging the imposition of reciprocal tariffs. Under such uncertain scenarios, one cannot even accurately assess whether Indian exporters will get any relative tariff advantage vis-à-vis competing countries such as China, Bangladesh or Vietnam that was considered a high probability in the initial assessment when reciprocal tariffs were



**Harsha Vardhan Agarwal**

is President, The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)

Industry needs to re-strategise amidst rising costs, disrupted supply networks and asymmetric information

announced. Experts and economists have highlighted that the direct impact of these tariffs (if implemented) on the Indian economy is expected to be limited due to India's resilient external economy, particularly rising contribution of services exports, high remittances, adequate forex reserves and low current account deficit. However, the uncertainties surrounding the tariffs are detrimental for exporters planning new orders and also their impact on decision making. In addition, there is a risk of increased threat of dumping into India by China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations looking to redirect their surplus production.

### Medium- to long-term opportunity

Despite the global headwinds, India stands to benefit with the right strategy. The global restructuring of trade offers India an opportunity to become an integral part of the renewed global supply chains. India needs a three-pronged strategy – to manage external shocks; to ensure domestic economic resilience and to leverage a window of opportunity to enhance its global exports. These key policy actions can be considered. First, India has taken a proactive approach by engaging early in Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) negotiations with the U.S. Being the first to conclude such an agreement could give India a first-mover advantage. The BTA must be crafted to ensure zero tariffs on sectors critical to India's interests, while cautiously opening up areas without compromising national priorities. India's service exports to the U.S. remain robust and it must be ensured that these are not impacted. Liberalisation of tariffs with the U.S. should be approached on a strictly bilateral basis. Addressing non-tariff barriers (NTBs) will be critical. Possibilities of mutual recognition agreements must be explored. A swift yet balanced trade deal will be key.

Second, the conclusion of an FTA with the U.K. is a huge positive. India must now pursue other key FTAs with equal vigour. The early conclusion

of an FTA with the European Union, Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement with Australia and other important partners will offer Indian exporters enhanced market access in alternative markets.

Third, strengthening import monitoring mechanisms becomes important in wake of a greater risk of dumping into India. Trade remedial measures should be deployed swiftly to protect domestic industries from economic damage.

Fourth, sustaining public capital expenditure is vital in maintaining growth momentum amid global headwinds. Continued public capex will ensure that the domestic economy remains resilient and also help to crowd-in private investments over the medium term.

Fifth, monetary policy should continue to remain accommodative. With inflation currently under control and projected to be lower in coming quarters, further rate cuts by the Reserve Bank of India will help propel growth.

Sixth, anchor potential foreign investments across sectors looking to diversify their supply chains from China, Vietnam and other countries. A focused approach would be required to target global companies to set up shop in India.

### Expedite reforms

Finally, work towards next generation reforms and regulatory reforms – as proposed in the last two Union Budgets – must be expedited. Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes must be expanded to include other potential sectors (e.g., hearables and wearables, IoT devices, battery raw materials). These will help scale up manufacturing, attract investment in critical sectors, and build self-reliance.

While global uncertainties pose undeniable challenges, they also offer an opportunity for India to emerge as a global manufacturing hub and be an integral part of the global supply chains. Through strategic trade negotiations and structural reforms, India can weather the storm and emerge stronger.

## Why in the News?

- ❑ The **global economy** faces a transformative phase marked by **trade wars, tariff revisions, and geopolitical tensions**.
- ❑ India must strategize to navigate uncertainties and leverage opportunities to secure growth and resilience in this evolving landscape, particularly through its **trade policy and FTAs (Free Trade Agreements)**.
- ❑ The focus on **India FTAs and trade liberalization** has become crucial for maintaining **economic growth prospects**.

## GLOBAL SHIFTS IN TRADE DYNAMICS

- ❑ **Escalating trade wars** and tariff reviews are reshaping global trade patterns, introducing volatility in **financial markets**, impacting business confidence and **economic development** across emerging markets. This has led to significant **supply chain disruptions** affecting various sectors.
- ❑ Rapid growth in **bilateral trade agreements** and **international trade agreements** creates a structural realignment, compelling India to reassess its **trade policy** and engagement with global supply chain ecosystems.
- ❑ The **United States**, India's largest export destination, contributes nearly one-fifth of merchandise exports, making **tariff uncertainties** in the US market critical for Indian exporters. This highlights the need for diversifying **export destinations**.
- ❑ Sectors such as **marine products, apparel, gems and jewelry, auto components, pharmaceuticals, and petroleum products** remain highly dependent on the US market, facing severe risks from additional tariffs and **customs duties**.
- ❑ Businesses face **rising costs, disrupted supply chains**, and **asymmetric information**, demanding agile strategy shifts to balance immediate challenges with long-term opportunities in the context of evolving **preferential trade agreements** and **FTAs**.

## POSSIBLE ISSUES AND UNCERTAINTIES

- ❑ **Uncertainty over reciprocal tariffs** from the US, pending legal challenges and potential interim deals, complicates exporters' market strategy and limits accurate competitive assessments. This affects **export growth** and **export competitiveness**.
- ❑ India's **external economy** remains resilient due to **service exports, high remittances, foreign exchange reserves**, and **low current account deficits**, cushioning against tariff impacts.
- ❑ However, monitoring the **balance of payments** and other **economic indicators** is crucial for maintaining **economic resilience**.
- ❑ **Chinese** and **ASEAN** economies may reroute surplus production to India, raising concerns about **increased dumping** that could destabilize domestic markets and potentially widen the **trade deficit**.
- ❑ This situation is exacerbated by India's **import dependency** on **crude oil imports**.

## POLICY ACTIONS TO SEIZE OPPORTUNITY

- ❑ India's **early engagement in Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA)** talks with the US could secure **first-mover advantage** and safeguard critical sector interests.
- ❑ Protecting India's strong **services exports** to the US is vital; bilateral liberalization should ensure minimal disruption while addressing critical **non-tariff barriers (NTBs)**.
- ❑ Swiftly concluding **free trade agreements** with the **EU, UK, Australia**, and other partners will diversify market access and reduce dependency on any single bloc.
- ❑ These FTAs should also consider provisions for **double taxation avoidance** and **investment protection**.
- ❑ **Public capital expenditure** must remain robust to maintain domestic growth momentum and attract **foreign direct investment** despite turbulent global conditions.
- ❑ This is key to improving **logistics performance** and **port infrastructure**.

# Quantum Communication

## India could achieve quantum communication using satellite by 2030, says IIT-Delhi Professor

**Jacob Koshy**  
NEW DELHI

India could be technologically capable of “quantum communication” using satellites in the “next half a decade”, Professor Bhaskar Kanseri of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Delhi told *The Hindu* in an interview. His team recently reported an instance of quantum key distribution one kilometre apart – the farthest such transmission in India, without connecting cables.

This, however, would require large teams of well-funded multidisciplinary experts and the involvement of start-ups which are specifically geared towards such ends, Professor Kanseri said.

Safe quantum communication requires enabling a sender and receiver to



Safe quantum communication requires enabling a sender and receiver to get ‘quantum keys’.

get “quantum keys”, which are made of streams of photons – the carriers of light. Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) employs principles of quantum mechanics: the incompletely understood principles underlying the behaviour of atomic and sub-atomic particles, including photons.

While there are a couple of approaches in using QKD, one of them – said to

be the most secure but technically harder to implement – uses quantum entanglement. Pairs of photons are naturally ‘entangled’, in a way that a change in one instantaneously reflects in the other. Applying this to encryption means that even the mere attempt by a potential hacker into a QKD-secured transmission of information becomes apparent to those communicating, thus allowing preventive measures.

While generating such secure keys can be done through physical networks, including fibre optic cables, the goal is to be able to do it in “free-space” or without such intervening wires. This is because the cost of such transmissions using cables rapidly rises once the sender and receiver are hundreds of

kilometres apart. Thus the ideal step would be to involve satellites, which can act as an intermediary between any two points even if they are thousands of kilometres apart.

However, using fibre optic cables provides a stable channel for quantum communication which free-space channels do not. Atmospheric disturbances such as turbulence, air flow, pollution, etc., particularly in a city such as the Delhi National Capital Region, made it more “challenging” to demonstrate free-space quantum communication.

“The photon beam of quantum channel diverges and wanders due to these disturbances and results in more errors. Owing to these reasons, the error rates are generally higher than the fibre ones. Ho-

wever, with better beam control and optimisation, there is a scope to reduce these errors,” Professor Kanseri said.

China had demonstrated satellite-based quantum communication nearly one decade ago, as they had a head start in quantum communication activities since the early 2000s, he surmised.

As an academic institute, IIT-Delhi’s experiments in quantum communication so far were “proof of concept (POC) nature” conducted with a small team of four to five students, he explained.

In 2017 and 2020, researchers at the University of Science and Technology of China, during multiple instances, generated quantum keys involving a satellite and ground stations 1,000 and 1,700-km apart.

- ❑ Professor **Bhaskar Kanseri** projects India could achieve **satellite-based quantum communication** within **five years**, showcasing India’s progress in cutting-edge technologies and potential for enhanced network-centric warfare capabilities.
- ❑ His team achieved **quantum key distribution (QKD)** over **1 km** without cables – the **farthest** in India so far, demonstrating significant advancements in quantum communication.
- ❑ Scaling this requires **funded multidisciplinary teams** and **start-up collaboration**, highlighting the need for a collaborative approach in India’s quantum technology development.

## How Quantum Communication Works

- ❑ **Quantum keys:** Streams of **photons** generate secure **quantum keys** for communication, ensuring unbreakable encryption.
- ❑ **Quantum entanglement:** Paired **photons** instantly reflect each other's state, alerting users to any **hacking attempts**, providing a foundation for secure network-centric warfare capabilities.
- ❑ **Transmission modes:** While **fiber-optic cables** offer stability, **free-space transmission** via satellites is ideal for **long distances**, enabling global quantum communication networks.
- ❑ **Current challenge:** Atmospheric **disturbances** increase **error rates** in free-space QKD, unlike stable **fiber networks**, presenting obstacles for satellite-based quantum communication.



# NATIONAL QUANTUM MISSION

*Aims to put India among the top six leading nations involved in the R&D in quantum technologies*

■ *Presently, R&D works in quantum technologies are underway in the US, Canada, France, Finland, China and Austria* ■

» **Duration:** 2023-24 to 2030-31

» **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Science & Technology

» **Highlights of the Mission:**

- Four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) in different domains across the country
- Wide-scale applications ranging from healthcare and diagnostics, defence, energy and data security

- Strengthening of indigenously building quantum-based computer
- Help develop magnetometers with high sensitivity in atomic systems and atomic clocks
- Support design and synthesis of quantum materials

*A huge boost to National priorities like digital India, Make in India, Skill India, Stand-up India, Start-up India, Self-reliant India and SDGs*

# Strait of Hormuz

IRAN'S PARLIAMENT HAS OKAYED MOTION CALLING FOR CLOSURE OF STRAIT OF HORMUZ

## Strait of Hormuz closure: What's in store for energy markets, India's oil imports

SUKALP SHARMA  
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

FOLLOWING US airstrikes at Iranian nuclear facilities, Iran's parliament Sunday approved a motion calling for the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, a critical oil transit choke point in global energy flows. To be sure, it is up to Iran's Supreme National Security Council to decide on whether or not to go ahead to try and choke the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran has in the past threatened to close the Strait of Hormuz on multiple occasions, but has never actually done it. Notwithstanding that, the heightened risk of the closure is bound to raise concerns globally, including in India, particularly with regard to oil and gas supply security, and could lead to a jump in energy prices.

The global energy market has had its eyes set on the ongoing Israel-Iran conflict as the West Asian region is a critical cog in the international oil and gas flows. Indian refiners, too, have been watching the developments closely as the region accounts for a significant share of India's energy imports. Also, any major disruption in West Asian oil and gas exports could lead to a surge in oil and gas prices in the international market, which would also hurt India, which is counted among the world's largest oil and gas importers with high import dependency levels. To be sure, the conflict has so far not really disrupted physical oil and gas flows from the region, although shipping and insurance rates have gone up noticeably due to higher prospects of risk premium, according to industry sources. There are also reports that a few shipping lines are reassessing routes in the region. This could



Oil tankers passing through the Strait of Hormuz. Reuters file

further add to the transportation cost to and from the region.

As for oil prices, benchmark Brent crude was at \$77 per barrel on Friday, its highest level in nearly five months. It is likely that oil prices will surge when the markets open Monday over the possibility of the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. At May-end, Brent was languishing around \$63 per barrel. But oil prices rose sharply with Israel and Iran entering into a military conflict over the past couple of weeks. However, despite some energy infrastructure being hit in the conflict over the past few days, the most critical oil and gas supply infrastructure in the region is reported to be safe and export routes open and functional. Energy industry insiders, trade sources, and experts appear largely unanimous in the view that the trajectory of oil and gas supplies and prices take heed on and this conflict would largely depend on whether the critical Strait of Hormuz will indeed be closed by Iran, and whether oil and gas export infrastructure in the region would remain largely unharmed.

### Critical energy trade choke point

Strait of Hormuz is a critical narrow waterway between Iran and Oman, and connects the

Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. The

US Energy Information Administration (EIA) calls it the "world's most important oil transit choke point", with around one-fifth of global liquid petroleum fuel consumption and global liquefied natural gas (LNG) trade transiting the strait. Much of India's oil from key West Asian suppliers like Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE reaches Indian ports via the Strait of Hormuz. A bulk of India's LNG imports, which come predominantly from Qatar, also come through this vital choke point.

India is the world's third-largest consumer of crude oil and depends on imports to meet over 85 per cent of its requirement. The country is also among the top importers of LNG, depending on imports to meet around half of its natural gas demand. India's largest source of crude oil is Russia, followed by West Asian suppliers Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE. India also buys oil from other countries in the region like Kuwait, Qatar, and Oman. Indian refiners do not purchase Iranian crude as Iran's energy sector is under US sanctions.

According to tanker data analysed by The Indian Express, nearly 47 per cent of crude oil imported by Indian refiners in May

### 'India has oil for several weeks'

New Delhi: India has enough energy supplies to meet requirements for several weeks, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said in a post on X, he said government is "closely monitoring the evolving geopolitical situation in Middle East since past two weeks." PTI

was likely to have been transported via the Strait of Hormuz. The importance of the choke point for India's energy supply and security cannot be understated.

To be sure, Tehran has over the years made such threats at various points, but has never actually closed the strait even when it fought its worst wars. That is also because given the importance of the channel for global energy trade, any such attempt could draw a strong response from regional powers and even the US. Also, given that Iran itself depends on the Strait of Hormuz for its trade, particularly oil exports to China, any blockade could impact Tehran considerably, experts pointed out. "First and foremost, such a blockade would disproportionately harm China, which sources 47% of its seaborne crude from the Middle East Gulf, including Iranian volumes. Iran's ability to maintain its sole major oil customer would be directly jeopardised. Additionally, Tehran has made deliberate efforts over the past two years to rebuild ties with key regional actors, including Saudi Arabia and the UAE, both of which rely heavily on the Strait for exports and have publicly condemned Israel's actions. Sabotaging their flows would risk unraveling these diplomatic

gains," commodity market analytics firm Kpler said in a note on June 18. "While the rhetoric may generate headlines, the fundamentals argue strongly against action," the Kpler note said.

"It's really hard to tell, but I would say it's very unlikely for that (blockade of the Strait of Hormuz) to happen. And we've seen in the past, whenever there were indications or even threats that Iran might be doing this, you would hear statements from the US Fifth Fleet that they would immediately intervene and they would unblock the strait. Of course, it's something that we need to flag as a risk," Kpler's head of Middle East energy, KOPPEC, insights had said in a webinar last week.

### To hurt energy import-dependent India

Given the fact that the Iranian parliament has recommended the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, the possibility cannot be dismissed. In fact, given that the regime in Tehran is perhaps fighting for survival, Iran might just attempt something that it has only threatened in the past.

If the critical water channel indeed is closed by Iran, Kpler said oil prices, which have been rather subdued for a few months now, could jump to over \$120 per barrel, or even touch \$150. Apart from supply disruption for India, the surge in international energy prices due to any such blockade would hit India due to its heavy reliance on imported oil. This makes India's economy vulnerable to global oil price fluctuations. It also has a bearing on the country's trade deficit, foreign exchange reserves, the rupee's exchange rate, and inflation rate, among others.

FULL REPORT ON  
[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

- ❑ The **Strait of Hormuz** is a narrow waterway that connects the Persian Gulf with the **Gulf of Oman**, eventually leading to the Arabian Sea.
- ❑ It serves as a crucial maritime passage for oil-exporting countries like **Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE**.
- ❑ It handles a significant portion of the world's oil trade.
- ❑ Its location in the territorial waters of Iran and Oman adds to its geopolitical sensitivity.

## Geographic Vulnerability

- ❑ At its narrowest, the strait is just 33 km wide, with a 3 km wide shipping lane in each direction.
- ❑ This limited space makes it highly vulnerable to blockades or attacks on passing vessels.

## Significance of the Strait of Hormuz

- ❑ The Strait of Hormuz is the world's most important oil and LNG transit route.
- ❑ In 2024–25, over 25% of global seaborne oil trade and 20% of global oil and petroleum consumption passed through it.
- ❑ Additionally, 20% of global LNG trade, mainly from Qatar, also transited the strait.



- ❑ Geographically, there is no direct sea route alternative to bypass the Strait.
- ❑ Any disruption would severely affect global oil and gas flows, causing sharp price hikes and broader inflationary impacts.

### **Iran to Block the Strait of Hormuz**

- ❑ Blocking or disrupting the Strait of Hormuz could involve laying sea mines, missile or bomb attacks on passing ships, detaining vessels, or launching cyberattacks on maritime systems.

### **Strategic and Diplomatic Constraints for Iran**

- ❑ Despite repeated threats, Iran has never actually closed the Strait, even during wartime.
- ❑ Experts say such action would harm Iran itself, especially its oil exports to China—its main customer—and strain recent diplomatic gains with Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

### **Global Consequences of a Blockade**

- ❑ A blockade would not only disrupt global energy markets, especially affecting China (which sources 47% of its seaborne crude from the Gulf).



## Impact on India

- ❑ India, the third-largest crude oil consumer, relies on imports for over 85% of its oil and about 50% of its natural gas.
- ❑ Nearly 47% of India's May crude imports transited through the Strait, making it a lifeline for supplies from West Asian countries like Iraq, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, and Oman.

## Price Volatility Is the Main Risk

- ❑ While India has diversified oil sources—including Russia, the US, Africa, and Latin America—a blockade of Hormuz would disrupt global supply chains.
- ❑ This, in turn, will cause oil and gas prices to spike, even if availability is not immediately compromised.
- ❑ A price surge would impact trade deficit, forex reserves, rupee value, and inflation, stressing the overall economy.

# US bombs Iran n-sites

## US enters war, bombs Iran n-sites

Not open-ended operation, US doesn't seek war, says Pentagon

DAVID RISING,  
JON GAMBRELL  
& FARNOUSH AMIRI  
DUBAI, JUNE 22

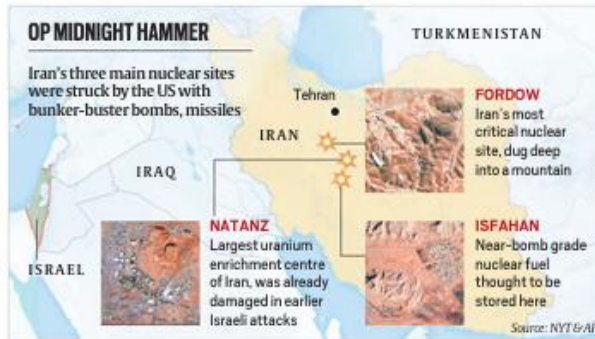
THE UNITED States inserted itself into Israel's war against Iran by dropping 30,000-pound bombs, from B-2 stealth bombers, on a uranium enrichment site early Sunday, raising urgent questions about what remains of Tehran's nuclear programme and how its weakened military might respond.

Iran lashed out at the US for crossing "a very big red line" with its risky gambit to launch strikes on three Iranian nuclear sites with missiles and the bunker-buster bombs.

"The warmongering and lawless administration in Washington is solely and fully responsible for the dangerous consequences and far-reaching implications of its act of aggression," Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said, adding that he would immediately fly to Moscow to coordinate positions with close ally Russia. He said while the "door to diplomacy" should always be open, "this is not the case right now."

The Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran confirmed that attacks took place on the Fordow and Natanz enrichment facilities as well as the Isfahan

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



### How Trump's gamble may affect region, world — and himself

CRAJA MOHAN  
SAN FRANCISCO, JUNE 22

IN A bold political gamble, US President Donald Trump has now entered the escalating conflict between Israel and Iran, after initially distancing himself from Tel Aviv's strikes on Tehran's nuclear infrastructure earlier this month.

Whether or not this was his original intent, Trump's intervention carries far-reaching implications — not just for US domestic politics and foreign policy, but also for the geopolitics of the

Middle East and broader Asia.

Trump's principal political challenge may not come from international criticism labelling his actions as illegal — a view echoed by the opposition Democratic Party — but rather from within his own support base, the "Make America Great Again" coalition.

A key element that propelled Trump back into the White House has been the solid support of the populist right-wing that has been vocal in its opposition to America's "endless wars" in the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

### As Tehran reaches out to Delhi, Modi calls for de-escalation, dialogue

SHUBHAJIT ROY  
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

HOURS AFTER President Donald Trump announced that Iran's three main nuclear sites had been "obliterated" in US strikes, Tehran reached out to Delhi, with President Masoud Pezeshkian calling up Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday.

In a post on X, Modi said he expressed "deep concern at the recent escalations", and reiterated India's call for "dialogue and



PM Narendra Modi; (right) Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian

diplomacy".  
"Spoke with President of Iran @drpezheshkian. We discussed in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

### India wary about Iran's n-project: Voted against in 2005, abstained in 2024

SHUBHAJIT ROY  
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

ALMOST 20 years after India voted against Iran's nuclear programme for the first time, Delhi's careful balancing act — between Israel and the US on one side and Iran on the other side — has come into play.

While India has always tried to walk the diplomatic tightrope walk, its discomfort over Iran with a nuclear weapon was ap-

parent then. On September 24, 2005, India voted with 21 other countries on the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) resolution (GOV/2005/77) which found Iran in non-compliance with its safeguards agreement.

This was seen as a departure from the past, as India had voted with the US and the western bloc against Iran, which was in its extended neighbourhood and with whom it has a historical and civilisational relationship.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BUSINESS AS USUAL  
By UNNNY



FULL COVERAGE

'NEVER SAW US':  
IN AND OUT OF IRAN  
IN 90 MINUTES

HOW FORDOW WAS  
TARGETED  
PAGES 7, 10, 12

- ❑ The United States entered the **Israel-Iran conflict** by bombing three Iranian nuclear facilities using **advanced B-2 stealth bombers** and **bunker-busting bombs**, including a strike on the heavily fortified Fordow Uranium Enrichment Plant.



# Trump's gambit

The White House says the combination of strikes 'completely and fully obliterated' three nuclear sites in Iran

☀ **Fordow:** Iran's most heavily fortified nuclear site used for uranium enrichment, which is built deep beneath a mountain

☀ **Natanz:** Largest uranium enrichment facility in Iran

☀ **Isfahan:** Iran's largest nuclear research site, which was targeted by Israel 2 times since the crisis began on June 13



**War plans:** U.S. President Donald Trump and Cabinet members in the White House on Saturday night. AFP

## B-2 Spirit Stealth bomber



14 GBU-57 MOP 'bunker-buster' bombs used on at least 2 sites

A satellite image shows craters at Iran's Fordow facility after the U.S. strikes.

AFP/SATELLITE IMAGE ©2025 MAXAR TECHNOLOGIES

More than 2 dozen Tomahawk missiles

## Key Takeaways From the US Strikes on Iran's Nuclear Facilities

- ❑ US President announced a major military strike on three Iranian nuclear sites—**Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan**.
- ❑ The strikes, conducted using a full payload of bombs, mark the US's entry into the ongoing Israel-Iran conflict.

## US-Israel Alliance Reaches New Heights

- ❑ The US has transitioned from support to direct military involvement in Israel's offensive against Iran.
- ❑ Previously offering intelligence and defense assistance, the US now demonstrates **"iron-clad"** support through direct strikes, reinforcing Israel's claims that Iran poses an existential nuclear threat.

## A Shift from Trump's 'No Endless Wars' Doctrine

- ❑ President Trump, who campaigned against US involvement in foreign wars and promised military restraint, has taken a stark turn by ordering strikes on Iran.
- ❑ This contradicts his longstanding position, including his pledge to end the Ukraine conflict within 24 hours and avoid entanglement in the Middle East.



## **Strategic Victory for Israel**

- ❑ The US strike on Fordow has handed Israel a critical win, as it lacked the capability to destroy the deeply buried nuclear facility.
- ❑ This fulfills Israel's long-standing objective of degrading Iran's nuclear program and marks its strongest position against Iran since the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

## **A Humiliated and Weakened Iran**

- ❑ Iran is reeling under the impact of continuous Israeli assaults.
- ❑ With over 600 casualties in just over a week and the degradation of Iran-backed groups like Hamas and Hezbollah, the Islamic Republic is facing its weakest strategic moment in over four decades.

## **Erosion of the 'Axis of Resistance'**

- ❑ Israel's sustained offensive has significantly weakened Iran's regional proxies.
- ❑ The decline of Hamas and Hezbollah has not only isolated Iran but also paved the way for direct strikes on Iranian soil, with little resistance—a symbolic and strategic low for Tehran.



# Thank you

## Address

**B-47, Main Road Shivalik Enclave, Block-  
B, Shivalik Colony, Malviya Nagar, New  
Delhi-110017**

**Phone Number +91 8178833167**