

President meets Leader as he begins his third year in office



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian met with Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei as he began his third year in office. During the meeting, they discussed the country's economic and military affairs.

The talks covered people's livelihood needs, conditions and prospects of the US-Israeli war of aggression against Iran, military developments, and ways to secure resources and manage rial, foreign currency and energy expenditures, as well as economic engagement with foreign partners, Press TV reported.

The meeting comes amid prospects of further escalations between Iran and the United States after the latter failed to achieve its declared goals in an unprovoked war against Iran.

The US and Israel launched their second round of war against the Islamic Republic on February 28 by assassinating the former Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, and several top commanders and officials.

On July 6, 2024, Pezeshkian was elected president after winning the July 5 run-off of the 2024 presidential election. He was formally appointed as the president by Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei on July 28, 2024, and was sworn in before the Iranian parliament on July 30.

His election came months after former president Ebrahim Raeisi was killed in a helicopter crash.

Araghchi: No talks as long as US violates Islamabad understanding

Top security chief sets six conditions for reopening Strait of Hormuz

International Desk

Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Sunday stressed that Iran will not engage in new negotiations with the United States as long as it keeps violating a war-ending memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed between the two sides.

Araghchi made the remarks on the sidelines of a ceremony titled Muharram and Ashura in the Documents of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, saying there are currently no talks underway between Tehran and Washington, but messages are being exchanged through mediators.

"Some intermediary countries continue to make efforts to create the conditions for a resumption of negotiations. From our perspective, however, negotiations cannot resume unless and until the US ceases its violations of the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and takes appropriate steps to remedy the breaches that have occurred," he added.

The US and the Israeli regime launched their illegal war of aggression against Iran on February 28 by assassinating Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, along with senior military commanders.

However, forty days later on April 8, the enemies were forced to accept a ceasefire amid Iran's resistance, successful retaliatory operations, and powerful grip on the Strait of Hormuz.

Tehran and Washington signed the Islamabad MoU on June 17, but the US effectively violated the agreement by striking Iran.

In response, the Iranian armed forces have conducted devastating attacks against strategic American targets



across West Asia.

Araghchi was also asked about Iran's ongoing talks with Oman regarding new arrangements for maritime traffic through the Strait of Hormuz, which has remained under Iranian control since the early days of the criminal US-Israeli military assault. He said that the discussions, which are now in their final stages, will result in the replacement of the existing routes with new ones and that specialists are working on relevant charts and maps.

"This does not mean that the Strait

of Hormuz will be reopened. An agreement on these arrangements may be reached, but the reopening of the strategic waterway is contingent upon the fulfillment of other conditions that have already been conveyed to the US side through intermediaries," he asserted.

Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) Mohammad Bagher Zolghadr on Saturday laid out a list of demands for reopening the strait.

The conditions were for the US to refrain from threatening or insulting the



Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi speaks at a ceremony titled Muharram and Ashura in the Documents of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tehran on August 9, 2026.

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sacred beliefs of the Iranian nation, a permanent end of aggression on Iran and its regional allies, lifting the naval blockade and all sanctions on the country, returning its frozen assets, and paying compensation for damage resulting from the aggression.

Pezeshkian says enemies target scientists to hinder country's progress

National Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said on Sunday that Iran's enemies deliberately assassinate the country's scientists and prominent figures and target its scientific and research centers because they oppose the nation's technological capabilities.

President made the remarks during a ceremony marking the 46th anniversary of the establishment of the Academic Center for Education, Cul-

ture and Research (ACECR).

"The enemy knows whom it is assassinating," Pezeshkian said, adding that those targeted are people who solve society's problems.

He said Iran's scientific institutions are attacked because the enemies are against the country's capabilities.

Pezeshkian said placing greater trust in Iran's young people would ensure that no obstacle could stand in the way of the country's progress and development.

Referring to technological achievements unveiled by the center, he described the innovations as highly valuable and worthy of appreciation. The president said investment in advanced technologies is one of Iran's essential needs, arguing that expanding the sector would reduce reliance on oil and gas while making it harder for sanctions to hold back the country's growth and development. Iran, he said, needs scientists and innovators who can lead the way and help resolve the challenges facing

society.

Pezeshkian also criticized low salaries paid to talented young scientists, calling for wages that reflect living conditions and adequately support their livelihoods.

He said the government is ready to participate in technology projects led by the ACECR and proposed a separate meeting with the institution's scientists and experts to discuss challenges and explore avenues for cooperation with the government.

Pezeshkian also called for greater national unity to safeguard Iran, saying the country should move forward within the framework of the policies of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei and work to pave the way for growth and development. He added that efforts should be made to keep war and its shadow away from the country because, under such conditions, it would not be possible to pursue Iran's growth and advancement.

Yemen attacks Saudi refinery after kingdom signs defense pact with Turkey, Pakistan

International Desk

Yemen said on Sunday its armed forces attacked Saudi Aramco's Jazan refinery two days after the kingdom signed a defense pact with Turkey and Pakistan in response to growing regional instability.

Yemen's military spokesperson Yahya Saree in a post on X said the country's armed forces used a drone to target the refinery. Saree added that the attack on the Aramco's Jazan refinery was launched in response to incursions by drones from the Persian Gulf monarchy into northwest Yemen. The Saudi energy ministry said a fire had broken out at the refinery but was later extinguished with no



injuries and authorities were dealing with the incident.

In a separate statement, Saree said that Yemen's military carried out missile and drone strikes on the Yemeni Red Sea port city of Mocha. The historic port is controlled by Yemen's Saudi-backed government. He said Yemen targeted "Saudi enemy" troops and equipment in the area with missiles and drones. The attacks came days after Saudi

Arabia signed a security pact with Turkey and Pakistan to strengthen collective deterrence against any act of aggression. The alliance stipulates that an armed attack against any of the three countries would be regarded as an attack on all.

It was not clear whether or how either Pakistan or Turkey would join in any Saudi response to the latest attacks by Yemen.

Yemen declared a naval blockade against Saudi Arabia in the Red Sea last month in response to a Saudi siege on the Arab country. The blockade has threatened top oil exporter Saudi Arabia's ability to get its supplies to the world following Iran's blockade of the Strait of Hormuz, cutting off the kingdom's only other maritime route.



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