



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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US attacks Iran, strikes three nuclear sites

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Context

- Prompting fears of a wider regional conflict, the **United States inserted itself into Israel's war against Iran** early on Sunday by **dropping 30,000-pound bombs on a uranium enrichment site buried under a mountain**, a risky gambit that **aimed at destroying the Islamic Republic's nuclear programme after months of failed diplomacy**.
- The U.S. also fired dozens of missiles, and President Donald Trump said that the combination of strikes "completely and fully obliterated" three nuclear sites. However, U.S. defence officials said an assessment of the damage was ongoing.
- The Atomic Energy Organization of Iran confirmed that attacks took place on the **Fordow and Natanz enrichment facilities** as well as its **Isfahan nuclear site**, but it **insisted that its nuclear programme will not be stopped**.
- Both Iran and the UN nuclear watchdog said there were no immediate signs of radioactive contamination following the strikes.
- **Iran's parliament, the Majlis**, has reportedly **approved the closure of the Strait of Hormuz** in response to the attacks by the U.S. on Iranian nuclear facilities, the country's state-owned media PressTV reported on Sunday.
- The **Strait of Hormuz connects the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea**, and is one of the **world's most important oil trade routes**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke with the President of Iran, Masoud Pezeshkian, and called for "immediate de-escalation" on Sunday, hours after the U.S. struck three prominent nuclear sites in Iran.


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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

