

# Aid Cut Linked To Terrorism: Nikki Haley

## 'Trump Is Singing India's Tune'

stan can do more to fight terrorism and we want them to step up and do that."

Asked if there was any particular incident that prompted the US President's Monday tweet, Sanders said: "This is something that the President has been following and has talked about back during August when he laid out his Afghanistan and South Asia strategy."

"And this is something the administration continues to watch on a daily basis," she said.

Sanders said that further action against Pakistan -- and other countries that did not side with the US on Jerusalem at the UN -- would be announced in the next 24-48 hours.

The White House's move to suspend military aid has been seen as the first step to implementing Trump's pledge to tighten economic restrictions on Pakistan.

Military aid to Islamabad was cut after Trump, in a tweet, accused Pakistan of being a "liar".

UNITED NATIONS: President Donald Trump will go all out to cut off aid to Pakistan if it continues to back terrorists, US Permanent Representative Nikki Haley has warned.

"The President is willing to go to great lengths to stop all funding for Pakistan if they continue to harbour terrorism," she told reporters here on Tuesday.

"The administration is withholding \$255 million in assistance to Pakistan" because its "double game" of working with



The Permanent Representative of the US at the United Nations Nikki Haley.

US at times and with terrorists at others "is not acceptable to this administration" she said.

"We expect far more cooperation from Pakistan in the fight against terrorism," she added.

In her meeting with the media to outline the US priorities for 2018, Haley, who represents the administration's hawkish positions, mentioned Pakistan's terrorist ties as the third area of concern after Iran and North Korea.

Haley said that withholding aid to Pakistan was not linked to Islamabad's support for the General Assembly resolution criticising Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel although she had suggested before the vote that those backing it could lose aid. It "has nothing to do with vote on Jerusalem. It is entirely connected to Pakistan's harbouring of terrorists," she said.

"However, as I said in December, we won't forget the Jerusalem vote," she added.

On Iran, Haley expressed support for those in Iran protesting against the government and said that she wanted to amplify their voices.

She said the US was calling for special sessions on the Iranian protests both at the UN headquarters in New York and at the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

Haley said that the US would never accept North Korea as a nuclear power and threatened more sanctions if it carried out any more nuclear or missile tests.

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Defence Minister Khurram Dastagir on Wednesday rejected the notion that the country has acted against Hafiz Saeed due to pressure from the US, saying that all action against the Mumbai terror attacks

mastermind was under the ambit of the country's own anti-terror operations.

Dastagir, in an interview with BBC Urdu, said that although a number of organisations have been banned internationally, Pakistan would assess the situation and take steps accordingly.

"It is not that we will take up arms against our own country, that time has passed," he said, adding that Pakistan will now take calculated decisions. Saeed is accused of masterminding the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks that left over 160 people dead.

Discussing the recent rift between Pakistan and the US, the Defence Minister termed Trump's tweet as a "point of view".

"Instead of learning counter-terrorism from Pakistan, the US is cursing us," he said.

ISLAMABAD: Reacting to US President Donald Trumps "lies and deceit" comments, Pakistan Foreign Minister Khawaja Asif on Thursday said he "is singing India's tune" and that the Islamabad's civil and military leaderships were on the same page.

Asif said the US government's claim of releasing a dispensation of \$33 billion in aid to Pakistan was also baseless, the Express news reported.

Speaking during a meeting here on Thursday of the Parliamentary Committee on National Security, the Foreign Minister said the Trump administration disregarded the facts presented by Pakistan about the situation in Afghanistan.

The Foreign Minister went on to say that the Trump stance disregards the many sacrifices Pakistan has made in the war against terrorism. "We will not make any deals when it comes to our honour," he added.

In the last four years, Asif said, "we have been forced to deal with the mess left behind in Afghanistan for so many decades.

He said the war in Afghanistan cannot be fought in Pakistan and "we need to find a peaceful solution to the issue".

"We shall take all decisions in this regard by taking into account only our national interests," he declared.

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