

Won't renegotiate nuclear deal because of Donald Trump, says Iranian President

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Tehran: Iranian President Hassan Rouhani has said that his government will not accept a renegotiation of its nuclear agreement even if the President-elect of the United States demands one.

File pic of Iranian President Hassan Rouhani

"We cannot reverse a deal whose signature required years of negotiations, article by article and word for word," Rouhani told reporters here on Tuesday.

Rouhani added that he believed Trump's critical views on the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), commonly known as the Iran nuclear deal, will not have much impact because it was not a bilateral agreement between Iran and the USA, but rather a multilateral one between several parties.

Trump has strongly criticized the deal struck in July 2015 with world powers, in which Iran agreed to curb its uranium enrichment in exchange for sanctions relief, but has not offered exact plans as to what to do about the agreement negotiated with seven nations.

Recently, Trump's appointee to lead the State Department, Rex Tillerson, had said that the deal needed to undergo a "full review".

Rouhani said that the lifting of sanctions has proven Iran's success in the nuclear deal, citing the removal of sanctions against the oil, gas and transportation industries.

The Iranian leader described the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action as a "political victory" for his country.

"We have told the world that Iranophobia was wrong, that Iran mustn't be feared, that Iran seeks peace for the region and that Iran doesn't deserve to be seen as a threat to international peace and security," Rouhani said.

The Iran nuclear deal is an international agreement on the nuclear program of Iran reached in Vienna on 14 July 2015 between Iran, the P5+1 (the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council -- China, France, Russia, United Kingdom, United States, plus Germany), and the European Union.

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