

Iran's bid for the bomb

Iran has more than 14,600 gas centrifuges spinning uranium hexafluoride gas to separate and enrich the isotope uranium-235. Weapons-grade uranium contains 90% purity U-235

■ **2006:** Iran begins producing enriched uranium-235 at Natanz using single cascade of 164 IR-1 centrifuges

■ **2010:** Stuxnet computer worm attacks six cascades at Natanz, destroying almost 1,000 IR-1 centrifuges

■ **2013:** Iran installs IR-2m and IR-6 centrifuges at Natanz

■ **2015:** Iran, U.S. and five other world powers, plus EU agree **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)**.

Iran agrees to not enrich uranium above **3.67%** for 15 years and not to stockpile more than **300 kg** of enriched uranium

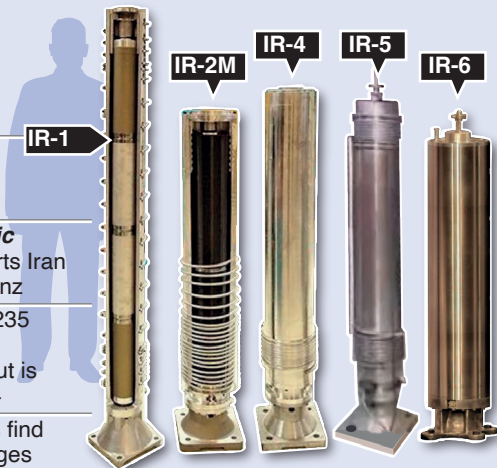
■ **May 2018:** U.S. President **Donald Trump** withdraws from JCPOA

■ **2021:** **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)** reports Iran has 5,408 centrifuges at Natanz

■ **2022:** Fordow enriches U-235 to **60%**. 522 IR-6 centrifuges installed at Natanz. IR-6 output is double that of IR-2m and IR-4

■ **Jan 2023:** IAEA inspectors find two cascades of IR-6 centrifuges at Fordow can enrich U-235 particles to **83.7%** purity

■ **Mar 2024:** Production of 60% enriched U-235 at Fordow and Natanz estimated at **440kg/month**



■ **Centrifuges:** IAEA reports Iran is now operating **7,266** older-model IR-1, **3,754** IR-2m, **2,466** IR-4, **27** IR-5 and **1,092** IR-6 centrifuges at Natanz and Fordow