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UK PM firm on trade deal: No US tariffs pact without National

benefit

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London, UK – Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer has stated he will only sign a trade agreement with the United States if it aligns with the UK's national interest, following the recent imposition of steep US tariffs under President Donald Trump.

Speaking during a visit to the Jaguar Land Rover factory in Solihull, the PM addressed growing concerns over the new 10% baseline import duty and a 25% tariff on British car exports. He reassured the public and industry leaders that there would be no deal "at any price."

"I will only strike a deal if it's in the national interest," Sir Keir affirmed. "That's my priority – strength abroad, security and renewal at home."

The UK government is exploring tax concessions on major tech firms to ease negotiations.

However, retaliation is not off the table. Officials have compiled a 400-page list of potential counter-tariffs on US goods, ranging from oil and firearms to bourbon whiskey.

To support British industry, the government announced a £2.3 billion investment to promote electric vehicle adoption and charging infrastructure. Additionally, a joint £600 million fund with the Wellcome Trust aims to enhance healthcare data access for medical research.

Farmers have raised concerns over potential compromises on food standards. NFU President Tom Bradshaw cautioned against trading away domestic agriculture under pressure from

Washington.

Meanwhile, political opponents weighed in. Lib Dem leader Ed Davey urged strength, not submission, in talks with the US. Conservative shadow minister Andrew Griffith accused Labour of stalling economic competitiveness.

With US markets tumbling amid recession fears, the UK continues talks on both tariffs and digital tax issues, while affirming its commitment to protect British jobs and industries.