

US Agriculture Secretary to visit Asia and Europe for tariff negotiations

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U.S. Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins will embark on a diplomatic tour to Japan, India, Vietnam, and several other countries in the coming weeks to address trade imbalances and negotiate solutions to new U.S. tariffs, according to reports from Tuesday. The trip comes in the wake of President Donald Trump's implementation of a global tariff regime affecting both allies and rivals, which has sparked tensions and trade disputes.

Rollins shared with reporters that the primary goal of the visit is to secure increased agricultural imports from major U.S. trading partners, as part of efforts to resolve long-standing trade disparities. "Deals are being negotiated right now. Next week, I'll be in England discussing these things. A few weeks after, I'll be in Italy, then soon after that, Vietnam, Japan, and India," Rollins said.

The countries involved, including Japan, India, and Vietnam, currently face U.S. tariffs of 24%, 27%, and 46%, respectively. Washington has rejected Japan's formal request for exemption from these tariffs. Despite ongoing talks, no breakthroughs

have been made, with Japan's top trade negotiator Ryosei Akazawa recently meeting with U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent in Washington without a resolution.

Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba remarked that while discussions have been "positive and constructive," significant gaps remain, and "maximum efforts" will be necessary to resolve the issues. Japan has reiterated its position that it will not compromise its national interests to reach a trade deal.