

International

Trump announces 90-day 'pause' on reciprocal tariffs for all but China.

President Donald Trump has dropped new tariff rates on imports from most U.S. trade partners to 10% for 90 days to allow trade negotiations with those countries. His sudden backtracking came less than 24 hours after sharp new tariffs kicked in on imports from multiple trade partners. He also raised the tariffs imposed on imports from China to 125% effective immediately.

Bangladesh inks 'Artemis Accords' with NASA on non-military space exploration.

Bangladesh has inked the 'Artemis Accords' as the 54th country with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), focused on non-military space exploration. The Artemis Accords, established in October 2020, are a set of non-binding agreements designed to promote peaceful and cooperative civil exploration of outer space. As of January 21, 2025, 53 countries have signed the accords.

Roof collapse at Dominican Nightclub kills 124.

At least 124 people have been killed and more than 150 injured after a roof collapsed at a nightclub in the Dominican Republic's capital, Santo Domingo. The incident happened in the early hours yesterday at a concert by popular merengue singer Rubby Pérez at the Jet Set nightclub. Hundreds of people were inside the venue, and some 400 rescuers are still searching for survivors. There are fears the death toll will rise further.

BIMSTEC agriculture ministers meet to discuss status, challenges, collaboration.

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Agriculture Ministers-level meeting is taking place in Kathmandu. India's Ministers for Agriculture, Shivraj Singh Chauhan is representing India. The meeting discusses matters related to the status and challenges of agriculture, and collaboration among the member countries.

World Homeopathy Day being observed globally.

World Homeopathy Day is being observed across the globe on April 10 to commemorate the Birthday of Dr. Hahnemann, the Founder of Homeopathy. Homeopathy is the world's second-largest medical system. It offers a holistic approach to health care, attracting millions of people worldwide for its natural, non-invasive methods. According to the Ayush Ministry, over 100 million people in the country trust homeopathy for their health needs.

National

New Aadhaar app launched with eye on stronger privacy.

The Central government has rolled out a new Aadhaar app, enabling users to verify their Aadhaar details digitally without the need for physical cards or photocopies. The new app has its features like Face ID authentication and the ability to share data securely with user consent. This app, built in collaboration with the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), features QR code-based instant verification and real-time face ID for authentication.

India to procure 26 Rafale Marine jets for Navy.

India's Cabinet Committee on Security has approved a nearly Rs 64,000 crore deal with France for 26 Rafale-Marine fighter jets for INS Vikrant. The agreement includes 22 single-seat and four twin-seat trainers, along with weapons and support. Delivery is expected within 37 to 65 months.

With the induction of Rafale Marine aircraft, the strength of the Navy will increase manifold, and these fighter aircraft will be deployed on aircraft carriers like INS Vikramaditya and INS Vikrant. Rafale will be equipped with advanced weapon systems and missiles.

Rajesh Unni gets National Maritime Varuna Award.

Mumbai Leading shipmanager Synergy Marine Group said that its founder Rajesh Unni has been awarded the National Maritime Varuna Award, which is India's highest individual recognition in the maritime sector.

The National Maritime Varuna Award, given by DGS, recognises sustained and extraordinary contributions that have significantly shaped the country's maritime landscape.

Synergy Group is a leading third-party ship manager of Indian-flagged vessels and provides end-to-end maritime solutions.

Business and Economy

RBI cuts repo rate by 0.25%.

The Reserve Bank of India reduced the repo rate by 25 basis points to 6%, with its Monetary Policy Committee voting unanimously to reduce the policy rate in a bid to support growth and bring down the interest burden on home, auto, and other loan borrowers. However, this will also reduce the interest earned on savings by depositors.

It has also decided to slash the GDP growth to 6.5 per cent in 2025-26 from 6.7 per cent projected earlier. Retail inflation is expected to be 4 per cent in 2025-26.

RBI permits NPCI to enhance transaction limits in UPI for P2M payments.

The Reserve Bank of India has permitted NPCI to upwardly revise transaction limits in UPI for person-to-merchant payments (P2M) based on evolving user needs. Currently, person-to-person (P2P) and person-to-merchant (P2M) payments are capped at one lakh rupees, except for a set of specific merchant payments that are capped at five lakh rupees. RBI has said that the Person-to-Person (P2P) transaction limit will continue to remain capped at one lakh rupees. RBI said appropriate safeguards must be in place to mitigate risks associated with higher limits.

National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is an umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India.

JUSPAY has officially become India's first unicorn of 2025.

The Bengaluru-based payments infra startup JUSPAY had raised \$60 million in a Series D round led by Kedaara Capital, with participation from SoftBank and Accel. Though it fell short of the anticipated \$150M, the raise

pushed Juspay past the \$1 billion valuation mark, making it India's first unicorn of the year. The company plans to invest heavily in AI-led productivity tools. Juspay aims to reduce manual work and enhance dashboards for merchants.

RBI mulls securitisation of stressed assets.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed introducing securitisation of stressed assets via market mechanism to ease the burden of stressed assets on banks. The policy will enable lenders with stressed assets to bundle them together into tradeable securities to share the risk of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs). This is in addition to the existing ARC (Asset Reconstruction Company) route under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002.

RBI proposes framework to expand co-lending.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has expanded the scope of co-lending pacts beyond priority-sector loans (PSL), allowing more regulated entities to structure deals that would route formal financing to smaller non-PSL businesses crucial for boosting both growth and jobs locally. The draft circular allows co-lending arrangements in two formats, co-lending arrangement and fee-based sourcing agreement. Regulated entities can now give loans in a pre-agreed proportion, involving revenue and risk sharing with or without sourcing and management arrangement. Currently, most co-lending agreements between banks and NBFCs work on 80:20 model, where minimum 20% of the direct exposure is on the books of NBFCs till maturity and balance on banks' books.

RBI named as the most innovative financial institution globally by Global Finance.

The Reserve Bank of India has been named as the Most Innovative Financial Institution globally in Global Finance's prestigious 2025 Innovators list. With this, the RBI becomes the first central bank to win this award. The award highlights the RBI's Unified Lending Interface (ULI), which has enhanced lender data access

and credit support, driving greater efficiency and inclusivity in India's financial ecosystem. Earlier this March, the RBI was selected for the Digital Transformation Award 2025 by the Central Banking of London.

RBI issues draft revised norms for non-fund based credit facilities.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had issued comprehensive draft norms regulating non-fund-based (NFB) credit limits such as letters of credit and guarantees across regulated entities (REs). The revision will also cover rules pertaining to partial credit enhancement (PCE) provided by REs to broaden the funding sources for infrastructure financing.

The credit policy of the REs should have provisions to issue NFB facilities that address aspects such as limits granted, credit appraisal, controls, fraud prevention, and the overall monitoring mechanism

REs will issue an NFB facility only on behalf of a customer having a business relationship with them

Bandhan Bank launches savings account for HNIs.

Bandhan Bank has launched a new savings account called 'Elite Plus', aimed at high net-worth individuals (HNIs). The account offers unlimited cash deposits and free RTGS, NEFT, and IMPS transactions. It also includes enhanced debit card insurance and a personal accident cover of up to ₹15 lakh.

Piyush Goyal launches Startup India Desk helpline for Indian entrepreneurs.

Union minister for commerce and industry, Piyush Goyal has launched a dedicated "Startup India Desk" — a helpline number for emerging entrepreneurs in India, Piyush Goyal made the announcement while speaking at the Startup Mahakumbh 2025. The helpline will be set up through the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). The helpline, a four-digit toll free number, will also be accessible in multiple regional languages

Sports

India wins bronze in men's compound team event at Archery World Cup 2025 Stage 1.

India opened its medal tally at the Archery World Cup 2025 Stage 1 with a bronze in the men's compound team event. The team of Abhishek Verma, Rishabh Yadav, and Ojas Deotale defeated Denmark 230-223 in the bronze medal match in Auburndale, USA. Earlier, the Indian trio edged past Guatemala 220-218 in the quarter-finals but narrowly lost to Italy in the semi-finals.