

(11th July 2025)

International

US President Trump announces fresh tariffs on imports from 8 nations.

US President Donald Trump has announced a fresh round of tariffs on imports from eight nations – Brazil, Sri Lanka, Algeria, Iraq, Libya, the Philippines, Moldova and Brunei. These tariffs will come into effect on August 1. Brazil got the highest tariff rate of the bunch, at 50 per cent. The US will impose a 30 per cent tariff on goods imported from Sri Lanka, Iraq, Algeria and Libya. Moldova and Brunei will face a tariff of 25 per cent, while the Philippines will face 20 per cent.

<u>Prajakta Koli becomes the only Indian</u> <u>on 2025 TIME100 Creators List</u>

YouTuber-turned-actor Prajakta Koli, popularly known as MostlySane, has recently been named the 100 most influential digital voices in the inaugural 2025 TIME100 Creators List. The honour positions Koli as the first and only Indian-born creator to be featured on this esteemed list. Today, she has over 7 million YouTube subscribers and 8 million Instagram followers.

The list that only features the world's most noteworthy digital content creators also featured global luminaries such as Jimmy Donaldson (Mr. Beast), Khabane Lame, Kai Cenat, and Mel Robbins to name a few in the prestigious list.

South Korea: Former President Yeol again jailed in martial law case.

Former South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol has been rearrested in connection with his last year's controversial decision to impose martial law. The decision triggered a major political crisis and ultimately led to his impeachment in April this year. A senior judge at Seoul Central District Court had issued an arrest warrant for Yoon, citing concerns he might tamper with or destroy evidence.

<u>US: SC allows President Trump to pursue</u> <u>mass federal job cuts.</u>

The U.S. Supreme Court gave President Donald Trump another major win, allowing his administration to move forward with sweeping federal job cuts. The ruling overrode lower court orders that had paused the layoffs, which are being driven by the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). By April 2025, DOGE-led efforts led to over 260,000 federal workers leaving their posts.

The Supreme Court has recently backed several Trump administration actions, including those permitting migrant deportations without hearings and banning transgender individuals from military service.

Three sites on the African continent removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The World Heritage Committee has removed three African heritage sites -- in Madagascar, Egypt and Libya -- from UNESCO's list of endangered sites, acknowledging successful efforts to mitigate threats and restore their cultural and ecological integrity.

The sites taken off the danger list are the Rainforests of the Atsinanana in Madagascar, Abu Mena in Egypt, and the Old Town of Ghadames in Libya.

World Population Day.

World Population Day is observed on the 11th of July every year to focus on the challenges and opportunities caused by the rising population. It is a reminder to address population-related concerns and work towards a sustainable future. In India, the young population is set to form tomorrow's workforce, with 65% of people under the age of 35.

The theme for World Population Day 2025 is "Empowering young people to create the families they want in a fair and hopeful world".

National

Indian Astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla to begin return journey to earth on July 14.

NASA has announced that the return journey for Indian Astronaut Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla and three other crew members of the Axiom-4 mission will begin on July 14. Group Captain Shukla did seven Indiaspecific experiments.

Group Captain Shukla is on a 14-day mission to the International Space Station(ISS). He became the first Indian to visit the ISS and the second Indian astronaut after Wing Commander Rakesh Sharma, who went to space in 1984.



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Railways sign MoU to install AI based inspection systems to ensure safety.

The Indian Railways has signed an MoU with the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL) to enhance train safety with the installation of Artificial Intelligence Machine Learning-based inspection systems. The MoU was signed for the installation of a Machine Vision-Based Inspection System (MVIS) for monitoring the health of rolling stock. MVIS is equipped with technologies that capture high-resolution images of the under-gear of moving trains and automatically detect any hanging, loose, or missing components. On the detection of anomalies, the system generates real-time alerts to facilitate prompt response and preventive action.

MEITY signs MoU with BITS-Pilani to launch cybersecurity program.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and BITS-Pilani have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to launch professional development programs cvbersecurity for professionals government, public sector and industry. The collaboration aims to address the growing demand for structured, high-impact capacity building in cyber security in view of the evolving digital threats and cyber security challenges. The program will begin on 19th July and is open to professionals.

Postage stamp and coin unveiled to commemorate 125th birth anniversary of Syama Prasad Mookerjee.

The Ministry of Culture has organized an exhibition and programme in New Delhi to mark the biannual commemoration of the 125th birth anniversary of Bharat Kesari Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee. Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Dr Jitendra Singh also unveiled a commemorative postage stamp and coin dedicated to Bharat Kesari Dr Mookerjee.

<u>Punjab tops national learning survey,</u> outshines Kerala in Parakh rankings.

According to the Parakh Rashtriya Sarvekshan-2024 released by the Union Education Ministry, Punjab has outperformed all other states in the evaluation of learning outcomes among students of Classes III, VI and IX. Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu and Chandigarh are the best performing States and Union Territories in school education.

PARAKH RS assessed the performance of 21,15,022 children in Grades 3, 6 and 9 from 74,229 schools in 781 districts of the country in the following subjects: language and mathematics (for Grades 3, 6, and 9), the world around us (for Grades 3 and 6), and science and social science (for Grade 9).

NITI Aayog launches roadmap for empowering States through Science.

NITI Aayog has launched a roadmap for strengthening state science and technology councils in New Delhi. This roadmap outlines a strategic vision for strengthening the role and functioning of state S&T councils across India. It captures the structural gaps, opportunities, and reform priorities necessary to transform state S&T Councils into robust enablers of regional innovation, scientific advancement, and sustainable development.

India's renewable energy capacity stands at 227 Giga Watt.: Union Minister Piyush Goyal.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has highlighted that India has seen 4 thousand percent increase in installed solar capacity. Addressing the 11th India Energy Storage Week (IESW) 2025 in New Delhi, Mr. Goyal noted that the country's renewable energy capacity now stands at a robust 227 Giga Watt. He said India is likely the first G20 nation to have met its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement.

SC permits ECI to proceed with SIR in Bihar

The Supreme Court has permitted the Election Commission to proceed with its Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in poll-bound Bihar. However, the Court asked the Election Commission that, in the interest of justice, it should also consider accepting key identity documents such as Aadhaar, Ration Card, and Voter ID card during the revision process.



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While observing that revision of Electoral Rolls by the Election Commission in Bihar is within the mandate of the constitution, the court questioned the timing of SIR.

Centre approves financial assistance of over 1066 cr to six disaster-hit states.

The Central Government has approved the release of over one thousand 66 crore rupees to flood, and landslide-affected states of Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Kerala, and Uttarakhand. According to the Home Ministry, over 375 crore rupees has been sanctioned for Assam, more than 29 crore rupees to Manipur, over 30 crore rupees to Meghalaya, more than 22 crore rupees to Mizoram, over 153 crore rupees to Kerala, and over 455 crore rupees to Uttarakhand.

These states have been affected due to extremely heavy rainfall, floods and landslides during the south-west monsoon.

Business and Economy

Nvidia tops \$4 trillion as U.S. stocks.

Nvidia became the first company to touch \$4 trillion in market value on Wednesday i.e. on July 9, a new milestone in Wall Street's bet that artificial intelligence will transform the economy.

Shortly after the stock market opened, Nvidia vaulted as high as \$164.42, giving it a valuation above \$4 trillion. The stock subsequently edged lower, ending just under the record threshold.

Priya Nair to be CEO and MD of Hindustan Unilever Limited

Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) has announced that Priya Nair, currently President, Beauty and Well-Being, Unilever, will be appointed Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, HUL, effective August 1, 2025. She will be the first woman CEO and MD of the FMCG major.

Rohit Jawa will step down as CEO and MD on July 31, 2025.

Equity MF net inflows up 24% in June: AMFI data.

Net inflows in equity mutual funds increased 24% to ₹23,587 crore in June, according to data from the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI). Net inflows had dipped 22% to ₹19,000 crore in May, which was the lowest in about a year.

NBFCs must ensure fair, empathetic loan recovery; avoid financial exploitation: FM Sitharaman

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has highlighted that the loan recovery practices of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) must be conducted in a fair, empathetic and respectful manner, as well as strictly aligning with the RBI's Fair Practices Code. She stated this while addressing the NBFC Symposium 2025 in New Delhi.

She added that lending should be based on the genuine needs and repayment capacity of customers. Ms Sitharaman noted that loans should not be aggressively marketed and pushed onto individuals, and interest rates should be reasonable.

India making fastest payments globally due to massive UPI adoption: IMF.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) note has emphasised that India is making faster payments than any other country in the world because of the massive adoption of Unified Payments Interface (UPI).

IMF in the note remarked that UPI has transformed the digital payments landscape in India. Since its launch in 2016, UPI now processes more than 18 billion transactions per month.

<u>IndiGo arm closes ₹450-crore fund,</u> invests in <u>Jeh Aerospace</u>.

IndiGo Ventures, the corporate venture capital arm of air carrier IndiGo has announced the first close of its maiden fund at ₹450 crore.

The firm has also approved its first investment in Jeh Aerospace, a Hyderabad-based aerospace startup focused on high-precision aerospace and defence manufacturing.

India's fish production more than doubled in 11 years because of 'Blue Revolution'

India's fish production has more than doubled in 11 years—from 95.79 lakh tonnes to 195 lakh tonnes, reflecting the success of the country's 'blue revolution' launched by the Centre. Announcing this on National Fish Farmers Day in Bhubaneswar, Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Rajiv Ranjan



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Singh highlighted a 140 percent growth in inland fisheries and aquaculture.

He said, seafood exports surpassed 60,500 crore rupees, with India retaining its global lead in shrimp exports.

The Minister also launched the Key initiatives including new Fisheries Clusters, ICAR Training Calendar, and seed certification guidelines.

Sports

Wimbledon: Amanda Anisimova of America enters her maiden Grand Slam final

American Amanda Anisimova of USA has stunned top seed Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus in the women's singles semifinal to enter her maiden Grand Slam final. She defeated Sabalenka, 6-4,4-6,6-4 in the semifinal clash.

<u>India to host two world-class shooting events.</u>

India has won the hosting rights of two worldclass shooting events. The combined World Cup will be held in 2027, and the Junior World Championships in 2028. The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) awarded the rights to New Delhi during its executive committee meeting.

India had hosted the ISSF World Cup in Pistol/Rifle and Shotgun in 2021 ahead of the Tokyo Olympics.