

International

The US imposes an additional 25 per cent tariff on imports from India.

The United States has officially issued a public notice imposing an additional 25 per cent tariffs on imports from India. The new duties will come into effect on August 27, 2025. The notice has been issued by the Department of Homeland Security through US Customs and Border Protection (CBP). In August this year, Trump slapped an additional 25 per cent tariff, raising the overall levy to 50 per cent on goods coming from India, as a penalty for New Delhi's continued purchase of Russian oil.

Spain faces record-breaking heatwave.

Spain is experiencing an intense heatwave this month, the most extreme on record, both in terms of temperatures and impacts. Temperatures during the August 3-18 period were 4.6 degrees Celsius above the seasonal norm, surpassing the previous record of 4.5 degrees Celsius set in July 2022. Spain has experienced 77 heatwaves since 1975. According to the government's Daily Mortality Monitoring System, this year's heatwaves have caused 1,149 deaths.

World Water Week 2025 held in Stockholm.

World Water Week 2025 is being held in Stockholm, Sweden, and online, from August 24-28, 2025. Organized by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), the event's theme is "Water for Climate Action". The conference focuses on how to address the intertwined issues of climate change, environmental degradation, and biodiversity loss by emphasizing water's crucial role in both mitigating climate impacts and enhancing resilience.

National

Indian Navy commissions stealth frigates Udaygiri, Himgiri.

The Indian Navy has commissioned two state-of-the-art Project 17A stealth frigates, Udaygiri and Himgiri, at Naval Base, Visakhapatnam. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh presided over the event, which marks the first-ever simultaneous commissioning of two

frontline warships built at different shipyards. Both vessels are follow-on variants of the Shivalik-class frigates, featuring enhanced stealth capabilities, advanced weaponry, and modern sensor systems.

Centre sets up panels to mark milestone birth anniversaries of Sardar Patel, Birsa Munda & A.B Vajpayee.

The Central government has set up three high-level committees to mark the 150th birth anniversaries of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and tribal icon Birsa Munda, as well as the birth centenary of Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair all three committees. The Centre has announced the constitution of the panels in three separate gazette notifications.

Ajay Kumar Bhalla takes oath as Nagaland Governor with additional charge.

Manipur current Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla was sworn in as the 22nd Governor of Nagaland at a function held at Raj Bhavan. Mr. Bhalla has been given the additional charge, following the demise of Governor La Ganesan.

SC collegium recommends Justices Alok Aradhe, Vipul Pancholi for top court.

The Supreme Court Collegium, headed by Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai, has recommended the elevation of Chief Justices of Bombay and Patna High Courts, Justices Alok Aradhe and Vipul Manubhai Pancholi, as apex court judges.

Justice Aradhe is ranked third in the list of High Court Chief Justices, and Justice Pancholi is 19th. Justice Aradhe's parent High Court is Madhya Pradesh, and that of Justice Pancholi is Gujarat.

SC collegium recommends Justice Shree Chandrashekhar as Bombay High Court Chief Justice.

The Supreme Court collegium has recommended the appointment of Justice Shree Chandrashekhar as Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court. Justice Chandrashekhar, who is presently serving as a judge in the Bombay High Court, has Jharkhand High Court as his parent court.

CISF launches its first all-women commando unit to boost gender parity.

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has launched its first all-women commando unit to boost gender parity. Training is underway at the Regional Training Centre in Barwaha, Madhya Pradesh, where 30 women personnel are undergoing an 8-week advanced course at the Centre. The programme includes physical fitness, weapons training, live-fire drills, rappelling, and survival exercises.

These commandos will be deployed in Quick Reaction Teams and Special Task Forces at high-security sites. At least 100 women from Aviation Security Groups and sensitive units will be trained in the first phase.

CISF aims to make this a regular part of its training and reach 10% women representation. Currently, women make up 8% of the force, with 2,400 more recruits expected next year.

Business and Economy

Fitch affirms India's sovereign rating at 'BBB-'.

Fitch Ratings has affirmed India's sovereign rating at 'BBB-', with a stable outlook, saying a strong record of delivering growth and improving fiscal credibility will drive improvements in structural metrics.

It forecasts India's GDP growth at 6.5% in FY26, unchanged from FY25 and significantly above the 'BBB' median of 2.5%.

Goldman to advise govt on stake sale in four banks.

The Central government has enlisted Goldman Sachs as the transaction advisor for divesting its stake in Indian Overseas Bank (IOB), Central Bank of India, UCO Bank, and Punjab & Sind Bank. The Centre currently holds more than 90% in each of the four banks.

Goldman Sachs will be tasked with identifying potential bidders for the government's stake in these banks and structuring suitable deals to ensure smooth execution.

State-run listed companies, including banks, have been granted an exemption from the 25% minimum public shareholding requirement until August 1, 2026.

Malaysia launches Ryt Bank -- The World's First AI-Powered Bank.

Malaysia has made history with the launch of Ryt Bank, the World's First AI-powered bank created by Malaysians, for Malaysians. Led by YTL Group in partnership with Sea Limited, Ryt Bank marks a bold leap into the nation's digital future – combining world-class AI innovation with the values, languages, and lifestyles that define Malaysia.

The centrepiece of the AI-powered bank is Ryt AI, a digital assistant powered by ILMU, Malaysia's first locally developed large language model.

Centre's stake in Bank of Maharashtra to come down to 75% post share sale: MD.

State-owned Bank of Maharashtra is confident of meeting the minimum public shareholding norm of 25 % after one more tranche of fundraising in the current fiscal, its Managing Director and CEO Nidhu Saxena said. Currently, the government holds 79.6 % stake in the Pune-headquartered bank.

The finance ministry has asked five public-sector banks to increase the public shareholding limit to 25 % by August 1, 2026.

This is in line with the Securities Contract (Regulation) Rules issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India, which mandate that all listed companies, including those in the public sector, must have a minimum public shareholding of 25 %.

Sports

MotoGP Hungarian GP 2025: Marquez registers seventh victory in succession.

Ducati's Marc Marquez has delivered a masterclass at the Balaton Park Circuit, winning the first Hungarian Grand Prix in 33 years to secure his seventh straight sprint-race double and stretch his championship lead to a commanding 175 points.

30th Commonwealth Weightlifting Championship: India bags gold medals on opening day.

India won two gold medals on the opening day of the 30th Commonwealth weightlifting Championship in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. In the

Daily Current Affairs

(26th August 2025)

women's 44kg-48kg category, Priteesmita Bhoi lifted 63kg in snatch and 87kg in clean and jerk, finishing with a total of 150kg. While in the men's 56kg-60kg category, Dharamjyoti

Dewghariya won India's second gold medal of the day by lifting 97kg in snatch and 127 kg in clean and jerk, finishing with a total of 224 kg.