

International

Donald Trump declares 25% tariff on all imported vehicles entering US.

US President Donald Trump has declared a 25% tariff on all imported vehicles entering the United States. The new import taxes will go into effect on April 2, the same date he plans to announce reciprocal tariffs aimed at the countries responsible for the bulk of the U.S. trade deficit. The wide-ranging measure aims to incentivise car manufacturers to establish more production facilities within US borders.

The announcement threatens to escalate trade tensions with key automotive manufacturing nations, including European countries, Japan, and South Korea.

Brazil's Supreme Court rules former Prez Jair Bolsonaro will stand trial for conspiring to overthrow the govt.

In Brazil, the Supreme Court has ruled that former President Jair Bolsonaro will stand trial for allegedly conspiring to overthrow the government after he lost the 2022 election. A five-judge panel decided unanimously to put Bolsonaro on trial. If found guilty in the court proceedings expected later this year, Bolsonaro could face a long prison sentence.

A week after President Lula da Silva's inauguration, on 8 January 2023, thousands of Bolsonaro supporters stormed government buildings in the capital, Brasilia.

UN lauds India's efforts and progress in reducing child deaths.

India's efforts and progress in reducing preventable child deaths has been lauded as 'exemplar' by the United Nations, which cited the example of health initiatives such as Ayushman Bharat. The report highlighted that since 2000, India achieved an under-five mortality reduction of 70 per cent and a neonatal mortality reduction of 61 per cent.

UAE: New insurance scheme for Indian blue-collar workers.

A comprehensive insurance scheme launched to provide a safety net to millions of Indian blue-collar workers living in the UAE has been expanded.

The group Life Protection Insurance plan – introduced by the Consulate of India last year – has won the support of two more companies, Dubai National Insurance and Nexus Insurance Brokers. The coverage provides life insurance, disability benefits and repatriation services. The insurance product can be purchased by businesses in the UAE on behalf of their employees.

World Theatre Day 2025 celebrated on March 27.

World Theatre Day 2025 is observed on March 27 every year. It is an annual celebration that highlights the importance of theatres as a form of entertainment throughout history. It was established in 1961 by the International Theatre Institute.

National

DRDO & Navy successfully test fired indigenously developed Short-Range Surface-to-Air Missile.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Navy carried out successful flight-test of indigenously developed Vertically-Launched Short-Range Surface-to-Air Missile (VLSRSAM) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha. The flight-test was carried out from a land-based vertical launcher against a high-speed aerial target at very close range and low altitude. It has established the Near-Boundary-Low Altitude capability of the missile system.

Lok Sabha passes Tribhuvan Sahkari University Bill 2025.

The Lok Sabha has passed the Tribhuvan Sahkari University Bill 2025 which will empower the rural economy and help in creating self-employment and the development of small entrepreneurs. Through this bill, innovation and Research and development will get a push in the cooperative sector. The Bill seeks to establish the Institute of Rural Management Anand, as a University to be known as the Tribhuvan Sahkari University and to declare it as an institution of national importance. The institution will impart technical and management education and

training in the cooperative sector and will promote cooperative research and development to attain standards of global excellence in order to realise the vision of Sahakar Se Samriddhi. The Tribhuvan Sahkari University has been named after Tribhuvan Bhai Patel who laid the foundation of Amul Company in Gujarat.

Parliament passes Banking Laws Bill, increasing option for nominees to four from one.

Parliament has passed the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill 2024 with the Rajya Sabha approving it. The Lok Sabha has already passed the bill. The bill seeks to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act 1934, the Banking Regulation Act 1949, the State Bank of India Act 1955, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act 1970 and the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking) Act 1980. The Bill seeks to increase the option for nominees per bank account to four, from the existing one. The bill also proposes to redefine substantial interest for directorships, which could increase to two crore rupees instead of the current limit of five lakh rupees. The Bill empowers banks to decide the remuneration of their auditors.

Centre to help states to procure pulses at MSP.

In order to increase domestic production of pulses, encourage farmers and reduce dependence on imports, the centre has approved procurement of tur, urad (black gram), and lentil under Price Support Scheme (PSS) at 100% of State production for the procurement year 2024-25.

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said 100% of the production of tur, urad, and red lentil will be procured till 2028-29 to achieve self-sufficiency in the country. The procurement of *tur* (*arhar*) has been approved in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh under the Price Support Scheme during the Kharif 2024-25 season.

Centre procures Nag Missile system to enhance defence capabilities.

The Ministry of Defence has inked a 2,500 crore rupees contract for the procurement of the

Nag Missile System (NAMIS), an anti-tank weapon platform, and 5,000 light vehicles. NAMIS (Tr) is one of the most sophisticated anti-tank weapon systems against enemy armour, with a fire-and-forget anti-tank missile and sighting system for enhanced firepower and lethality.

Lok Sabha passes Bill to modernise Immigration laws.

The Lok Sabha has passed the Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025. The Bill is intended to modernise the immigration laws and it has provisions to confer upon the Central Government certain powers with regard to passports, travel documents, visa and registration. The legislation has been brought to avoid multiplicity and overlapping of laws.

National Intellectual Property Awards 2024.

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal conferred the National Intellectual Property Awards 2024. The National IP Awards are conferred annually to recognize and reward individuals, institutions, organizations, and enterprises for their outstanding contributions to IP creation and commercialization. These were conferred across the following 13 categories:

Top Indian Individual - Patents: Sidramappa Shivashankar Dharane (Male), Dr. Swagatika Panda (Female)

Top Indian Individual – Designs: Dr. Anusha P. (Female)

Top Indian Academic Institution – Patents: Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

Top Public /Private Company for Patents Filing, Grant & Commercialization in India

a. Manufacturing Sector: Tata Steel Limited

b. Services Sector: Jio Platforms Limited

Top Indian Company /Organization for creating Brand in India and Abroad: Biocon Biologics Ltd.

Top Start-up for IP Filing, Grant/Registration and Commercialization: Numeros Motors Pvt. Ltd.

Top Indian Company/Organisation – Designs: Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

India now has the sixth-largest trademark filings globally, with patent grants reaching approximately 100,000 last year.

India's ranking in the Global Innovation Index has improved significantly, from 81 in 2015 to 39 in the latest ranking.

Business and Economy

IMF approves \$1.3 billion loan for Pakistan.

The International Monetary Fund had approved a loan of USD 1.3 billion for Pakistan to address climate change while also reaching a staff-level agreement on the first review of the already agreed USD 7 billion loan. The new agreement spans over 28 months under the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Facility which aims to help nations address climate challenges while committing to reforms.

JSW Steel becomes world's most valuable steelmaker with \$30.3 bn market cap.

JSW Steel Ltd. has emerged as the most valuable steel company globally, surpassing industry leaders such as ArcelorMittal and Nucor Corp. The Indian steelmaker now holds a market capitalisation of \$30.31 billion, exceeding its closest competitors by \$91 million to \$3 billion.

JSW Group operates integrated steel plants in Vijayanagar, Dolvi, and Salem, along with overseas operations in the United States and Italy. It currently has a steelmaking capacity of 35.7 million tonnes (MT) and aims to increase this to 43.5 MT by FY28 and 51.5 MT by FY31.

Future Generali India Insurance bags DI-verse Certification.

Future Generali India Insurance Company (FGII) said it has received the DI-verse - India's First Disability Inclusion Certification, for its initiatives in setting new benchmarks in corporate disability inclusion.

The DI-verse Certification Felicitation Ceremony, which was a key highlight of the Purple Fest 2025 hosted in Amrit Udyan at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, was hosted in collaboration with the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MSJE).

RBI imposes penalties on HDFC Bank, Punjab & Sind Bank.

The Reserve Bank of India has imposed penalties on HDFC Bank and Punjab & Sind

Bank for deficiencies in regulatory compliance. A penalty of ₹75 lakh on HDFC Bank has been imposed for non-compliance with certain directions issued by the RBI on 'Know Your Customer' (KYC).

It also levied a penalty amounting to Rs 68.20 lakh on Punjab & Sind Bank for non-compliance with certain directions of the CRILC rules.

CRILC is the Central Repository of Information on Large Credits. As per the RBI findings, the bank did not report certain borrowers with non-fund based exposure of Rs 5 crore and above to CRILC.

Wipro bags £500 mn strategic deal from Phoenix Group of U.K.

Wipro Limited, a technology services and consulting firm has won a £500 million, 10-year strategic deal with Phoenix Group, the U.K.'s largest long-term savings and retirement business. The 10-year deal with British insurance group will include platform-based, regulated Third-Party Administration.

Sports

Khelo India Para Games 2025 concludes.

The Khelo India Para Games 2025 concluded at JLN Stadium, New Delhi. The second edition of the Khelo India Para Games witnessed outstanding performances, with para-athletes securing more than 550 medals. In the medal tally, Haryana topped the chart with 34 gold, 39 silver, and 31 bronze medals. Tamil Nadu secured second place.

This eight-day Khelo India Para Games saw the participation of more than 1,300 para-athletes competing across six sports, including Para Archery, Para Athletics, Para Badminton, Para Powerlifting, Para Shooting, and Para Table Tennis.

India wins 1 silver, 2 bronze medals in wrestling at Senior Asian Championship.

In wrestling, India bagged one silver and two bronze medals at the Senior Asian Championship in Amman, Jordan. On Day 3 of the competition, the Indian women grapplers Reetika secured a silver medal, while Muskan and Mansi Lather each earned a bronze.

So far, India has won a total of five medals at the championship, including 1 silver and 4 bronzes.