

#### **Daily Current Affairs**

(31st July 2025)

#### International

### US imposes a sweeping 25% tariff on all goods imported from India.

US President Donald Trump has announced that the United States will impose a sweeping 25% tariff on all goods imported from India, effective August 1, 2025. This sudden move affects nearly all Indian exports to America. In addition to the tariff, Trump also mentioned an unspecified penalty linked to India's ongoing trade with Russia, particularly in oil and arms. The United States is one of India's largest export destinations, the new tariff hits nearly \$87 billion worth of annual goods sold to the American market.

# 8.8 magnitude earthquake in Russia triggers tsunami warnings around the Pacific.

A very powerful magnitude 8.8 earthquake off Russia's Far Eastern Kamchatka coast has triggered tsunami warnings as far away as French Polynesia and Chile, and was followed by an eruption of the most active volcano on the peninsula. The shallow quake damaged buildings and injured several people in the remote Russian region, while much of Japan's eastern seaboard - devastated by a 9.0 magnitude earthquake and tsunami in 2011-was ordered to evacuate, as were parts of Hawaii. By the evening, Japan, Hawaii and Russia had downgraded most tsunami warnings.

#### UK to recognise Palestinian State.

UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer has announced that Britain will recognise a Palestinian state unless Israel takes steps to relieve suffering in Gaza, where starvation is spreading, and reaches a ceasefire in the nearly two-year war with Hamas. Starmer told ministers that the UK would support Palestinian statehood ahead of the United Nations General Assembly if Israel fails to meet a set of conditions. These include ending the ongoing military operations in Gaza, halting plans for annexation in the West Bank, and committing to a peace process aimed at a two-state solution.

#### National

## <u>India launches NASA-ISRO earth</u> observation satellite.

The NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite was successfully launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.

The Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV)-F16 rocket carrying the earth observation satellite lifted off from the second launch pad of the space centre at 5.40 p.m. Eighteen minutes later, it injected the satellite into a sun-synchronous orbit.

#### India, UAE sign agreement on Maritime Security and Safety Cooperation.

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and the United Arab Emirates National Guard Command signed an agreement on Maritime Security and Safety Cooperation in New Delhi. It is aimed at enhancing bilateral maritime cooperation and contributing to a safe, secure, and sustainable maritime environment in the region. This is the 10th such agreement with Coast Guard agencies of Friendly Foreign Countries (FFCs), prepared to strengthen professional linkages between the two Coast Guards across core functions, including Maritime Search and Rescue (Mcombating transnational maritime crimes, Maritime Law Enforcement (MLE), Marine Pollution Response (MPR) and Joint capacity building.

### IPS officer Sanjay Singhal, new SSB Director General.

Sanjay Singhal, a 1993-batch IPS officer from the Uttar Pradesh cadre currently serving as Special Director General of the BSF, has been appointed as the new Director General of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). He will assume his new role on September 1, 2025, succeeding Amrit Mohan Prasad, and will continue until his superannuation on December 31, 2028.

# LS approves statutory resolution regarding extension of President's rule in Manipur.

The Lok Sabha has given its approval to the statutory resolution regarding the extension of President's rule in Manipur for a further period of six months with effect from 13th of August 2025. Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai has moved the resolution seeking approval of the House for the extension of President's rule which was imposed in Manipur on 13th February 2025.



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### <u>Indigenously built 5th fast patrol vessel</u> 'Atal' launched for Coast Guard.

Goa Shipyard Ltd (GSL), a premier Defence Public Sector Undertaking (DPSU), launched Atal, the fifth of eight Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) being built for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). The 52-metre-long vessel, with a beam of 8 metres and a displacement of 320 tonnes, is equipped to perform coastal patrol, surveillance, anti-smuggling, anti-piracy, and search and rescue operations. It will play a crucial role in safeguarding fishermen, island territories, and India's Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ).

### Centre aims to open 25k Jan Aushadhi Kendras by March 2027.

Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilisers Anupriya Patel, has stated that a total of 16 thousand 912 Jan Aushadhi Kendras have been established under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana scheme as of 30th June this year. Ms Patel underlined that the government has set a target to open 25 thousand Jan Aushadhi Kendras by March 2027.

She highlighted that the government has launched the scheme to make quality generic medicines available at affordable prices to all.

#### **Business and Economy**

# IDBI Chairman T N Manoharan passes away.

T N Manoharan, the chairman of IDBI and former president of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, passed away. He previously served as chairman of Canara Bank. In the past, he also served as a director at the instance of RBI in Sahara India Finance Corporation to protect the interests of depositors and winding up of the business and was appointed as Special Director by the Indian government on the Board of Satyam Computers Services Ltd.

For his role in the Satyam revival team, he was awarded the Business Leadership award and Indian of the year 2009, and was also conferred with the "Padma Shri", which is India's prestigious civilian award.

### Centre pegs 9.4% growth in FY26 cess, surcharge collections at ₹5.91 lakh crore

The central government has budgeted to collect about ₹5.91 lakh crore from cess and surcharge in the current fiscal, a 9.43% growth over the collections in FY25, the Parliament was informed.

As per data shared by the government in the Rajya Sabha, the Centre has budgeted to collect about ₹4.18 lakh crore from cess and ₹1.72 lakh crore from surcharge in FY26. This is higher than FY25 cess and surcharge collection of ₹3.87 lakh crore and ₹1.53 lakh crore, respectively.

### Procter & Gamble names operating chief Shailesh Jejurikar as CEO.

India-born Shailesh Jejurikar is all set to become Procter & Gamble's next chief executive officer, with its current Procter & Gamble CEO Jon Moeller stepping down in a surprise move just after four years with the company.

Mr. Moeller, who had been at the helm since 2021, will become executive chairman and will provide advice and counsel to the CEO on company matters.

### RIL sets up JV with ONGC, BP for exploration off western coast.

Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) has entered into a Joint Operating Agreement with Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and BP Exploration (Alpha) Ltd. (BP) for the exploration Block GS-OSHP-2022/2 (Block). ONGC will operate the block, awarded under the Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy. The consortium aims to assess and develop the hydrocarbon potential of the 5,454 square kilometre offshore area.

#### <u>India logs 65,000 crore digital</u> transactions worth 12,000 lakh crore.

Over 65,000 crore digital transactions were recorded in India between the Financial Year 2020 and 2025, amounting to more than 12,000 lakh crore rupees. Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said this in a written reply in the Lok Sabha.



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He said the government has been working closely with stakeholders, including the RBI, NPCI, fintech companies, banks, and state governments, to boost digital payment adoption, particularly in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities. To further this effort, the RBI launched the Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) in 2021 to incentivise the deployment of digital payment acceptance infrastructure in Tier-3 to Tier-6 cities, the northeastern states, and Jammu & Kashmir.

As of May 31, 2025, around 4.77 crore digital touchpoints had been deployed under the PIDF initiative.

#### **Sports**

# Satwik-Chirag return to top 10 in BWF rankings.

Asian Games gold medallists Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty have returned to the top 10 in the BWF men's doubles World Rankings, climbing three spots following their semifinal finish at the China Open last week. The former world No. 1 duo, now ranked 10th, lost to the Malaysian pair of Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik 13-21, 17-21 in the semifinals.

This was their third semifinal appearance on the BWF Tour this season, having earlier reached the last four at the Singapore Open and India Open.

In men's singles, top-ranked Indian Lakshya Sen moved up two places to No. 17 with 54,442 points.

In women's singles, Sindhu remained static at No. 15 and continues to be the highest-ranked Indian in women's singles. While 17-year-old Unnati Hooda rose four spots to a career-best No. 31.

### WCL 2025 match called off as India refuses to play with Pakistan.

The organisers of the World Championships of Legends have called off the semifinal clash between the Indian Champions and the Pakistani Champions after the Indian players refused to play against Pakistan. The Indians, who had started the tournament by forfeiting their league match against Pakistan because of the country's support of terrorists and its role in the Pahalgam terror attack, pulled out of the game owing to the tremendous pressure and sentiments against the neighbouring country and conveyed their decision to the organiser.