



Bengaluru court convicts Prajwal Revanna in rape case



Chinese envoy rejects US accusations over Ukraine crisis

New US tariffs to take effect on August 7



Washington (UNI)
The new tariff plan, authorized by an executive order signed by US President Donald Trump, will take effect on August 7, six days after the previously announced deadline, CNN reported on Friday.
On Thursday evening, Trump signed a decree imposing tariffs ranging from 15% to 41% on goods supplied to the US from more than 60 countries. The new tariffs were expected to take effect on Friday, August 1.

CNN reported that the tariffs would go into effect on August 7 to allow the US Customs and Border

Protection enough time to make the necessary system changes.
However, the 35% tariffs on Canadian goods not covered under a pre-existing free trade agreement are an exception and will take effect on Friday, the report said.
On April 2, Trump signed an executive order imposing 10% "reciprocal" tariffs on imports, with higher rates for 57 countries starting April 9, based on US trade deficits. After over 75 countries sought negotiations instead of retaliation, the 10% base rate was applied for 90 days until July 9.

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Right to respond on that matter rests with the White House: Randhir Jaiswal

New Delhi: In a measured yet forceful response to recent US tariffs and statements from the Trump administration, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal declared that India will take all necessary steps to safeguard its national interests.
During a weekly press briefing, Jaiswal addressed the contentious issue of tariffs, stating that the Indian government has already issued a formal statement on the matter. When pressed about comments emanating from the White House, Jaiswal delivered a sharp rejoinder, "When it comes to statements from the White House, the right to respond should also belong to the White House itself."



F- 35 not needed India Rejects US Offer for F-35 Jets, Prioritizes

New Delhi: In a move that highlights its commitment to domestic manufacturing, India has reportedly declined an offer from the United States to purchase F-35 fighter jets. The decision, which emphasizes the 'Make in India' initiative, is believed by some to be a key reason behind the recent US tariff decisions.
The revelation came to light on Friday during a session of the Lok Sabha. In response to a question, Minister of State Kirti Vardhan Singh stated that there had been no formal discussions on the matter. This statement followed a joint declaration by India and the US in February, where America had agreed to review its policy on releasing fifth-generation fighter jets, including the F-35, and undersea systems to India.
The question was raised by Member of Parliament Balwant Baswant Wankhede, who had inquired about any official proposals from the US regarding the sale of F-35 fighter aircraft. While no official proposal was accepted, India's stance remains clear: it is prioritizing self-reliance and domestic production in its defense procurement. This push for 'Make in India' is seen as a strategic choice to boost the country's defense industry and reduce dependency on foreign suppliers.
F-35 fighter jet key features

- Stealth technology: Not visible on radar, invisible to enemy.
- Speed: 1.6 Mach (about 1930 km/h)
- Operational capability: Range of up to 2,200 km on a single takeoff
- Weapons: 25 mm gun, air-to-air and air-to-ground missiles
- Pilot helmet system: 360 degree view, night vision and HUD display

Three variants of F-35

- 1. F-35A: Conventional takeoff/landing (for Air Force)
- Price: About \$80 million

India rejects UK Parliamentary panel report on TNR

New Delhi: India today dismissed a UK Parliamentary Committee report that included India as among the countries involved in transnational repression (TNR), and said the claims stem from unverified and dubious sources, namely the proscribed Sikhs for Justice group.
In a statement, the Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said:
"We have seen the references to India in the report and categorically reject these baseless allegations.
"These claims stem from unverified and dubious sources, predominantly linked to proscribed entities and individuals with a clear, documented history of anti-India hostility.
"The deliberate reliance on discredited sources calls into question the credibility of the report itself," the spokesperson said.
The UK Joint Committee on Human Rights in its report has included India along with Bahrain, China, Egypt, Eritrea, India, Iran, Pakistan, Russia, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates which are all accused of perpetrating Transnational Repression or TNR in the UK.
The UK Government has described TNR as "certain foreign state-directed crimes against individuals".

MUSTREAD

Two coaches of Jan Sadharan Express derail at Kanpur-Tundla section

Kanpur: Two coaches of 15269 Muzaffarpur-Sabarnati Jan Sadharan Express derailed at Kanpur-Tundla section in Prayagraj Division on Friday, officials said. No casualties have been reported in the incident. According to railway officials, the 6th and 7th coaches from the engine derailed on the loop line of the station. Officials said that restoration work is underway, and railway officials of Kanpur have reached the site.

Heavy rains likely in parts of Rajasthan

Rajasthan: The weather department has forecast significant rainfall activity across northern and north-eastern Rajasthan over the coming days, with heavy showers expected in select regions. According to the Meteorological Centre in Jaipur, the circulation system is currently positioned over Haryana and adjoining north-west Rajasthan, with the monsoon trough line passing through Ganganagar and Rohtak.

ED raids 10 places in Bengaluru, Mumbai

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday conducted searches at 10 premises connected to a builder group and its key management personnel at Bengaluru and Mumbai, officials said. The searches are still underway. ED's Bengaluru zonal office is conducting the search under Section 17 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The searches are being conducted on money laundering allegations against the company in its project in Devanahalli Taluk in Bengaluru, the officials said.

ED summons Anil Ambani in Rs 17,000-cr loan fraud case on Aug 5

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned industrialist Anil Ambani for questioning in connection with an ongoing investigation into an alleged Rs 17,000-crore loan fraud case, official sources said on Friday. Ambani has been directed to appear before investigators at the ED headquarters in New Delhi on August 5 in connection with the probe pertaining to suspected financial irregularities and possible violations under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

Sensex
BSE..... 80,599.91 (-585.67)
NSE..... 24,565.35 (-203.00)
Bullion
Gold..... 99,820 (24 carat 10gm)
Silver..... 1,13,000 (1kg)
USD(\$)/INR(Rs)..... 87.49

Weather			
Sunrise	Sunset	Day	Night
5:51	7:03	30.7	23.6

Vice President election to be held on Sept 9, result on same day



Agencies, New Delhi
The Election Commission on Friday announced that the polling to elect the Vice President of India will be held on September 9 and the counting will also take place on the same day.
The last day for filing nominations for the Vice Presidential post is August 21. The candidature can be withdrawn till August 25.
The post of Vice President was left vacant after Jagdeep Dhankhar resigned on the first day of the Monsoon Parliament Session on July 21, citing health reasons.

"To prioritise health care and abide by medical advice, I hereby resign as the Vice President of India, effective immediately, in accordance with Article 67(a) of the constitution," Dhankhar's resignation letter read.
On Thursday, the Election Commission of India informed that it has completed the preparation and finalised the electoral college list for the upcoming Vice-Presidential Election 2025.
In a post on X, the Election Commission shared, accordingly, the Commission has finalised the Electoral College list for the Vice Presidential Election, 2025. These members are listed in a continuous serial order, arranged alphabetically based on the State/Union Territory of their respective Houses.
The Electoral College list will be available for purchase at a counter set up in the Election Commission of India from the date of notification, which is likely to be announced soon, the post reads.

Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan takes charge as Vice Chief of Naval Staff



New Delhi: Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan, today assumed charge as the 47th Vice Chief of the Naval Staff (VC-NS). An alumnus of the 71st course National Defence Academy, Pune, Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan was commissioned into the Indian Navy on January 1, 1988, a Defence Ministry statement said.
A specialist in Gunnery and Missile Systems, he has held a wide range of command, operational and staff assignments over his distinguished naval career spanning more than three decades. At sea, Vice Admiral Vatsayan has served onboard various frontline warships, including as the commissioning crew of the guided missile destroyer INS Mysore, INS Nishank and pre-commissioning crew of Coast Guard OPV ICGS Sangam. He also served as the Executive Officer of INS Mysore.

Lt Gen Pushpendra Singh takes over as Vice Chief of Army Staff

New Delhi (UNI)
Lieutenant General Pushpendra Singh assumed charge today as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff.
The General Officer was tenantiing the appointment of Director General Operational Logistics & Strategic Movement at Army Headquarters, a Defence Ministry statement said.
Commissioned into the 4th Battalion of The Parachute Regiment (Special Forces) in December 1987, Lt Gen Pushpendra Singh has served in 'OP Pawan', 'OP Meghdoot', 'OP Orchid' and has had multiple tenures in 'OP Rakshak'.
During his illustrious career spanning 38 years, he has held numerous important command and staff appointments. He commanded a special forces unit in the Kashmir Valley and along the Line of Control. He later commanded an Infantry Brigade and a Mountain Division during 'OP Snow Leopard' along the Line of Actual Control.
He also served as the General Of-



ficer Commanding (GOC) of a Corps headquartered in Himachal Pradesh, and was responsible for sensitive Jammu, Samba and Pathankot areas. He has insightful knowledge and deep understanding of operational dynamics on both Western and Northern Borders.
For his distinguished service, Lt General Pushpendra Singh has been awarded Ati Vishist Seva Medal and Bar to Sena Medal.

Opposition demands Minister Vijay Shah's dismissal

Bhopal: Madhya Pradesh's legislative assembly was adjourned until Monday following a fiery protest by the Congress party, which demanded the immediate dismissal of Tribal Affairs Minister Vijay Shah.
The opposition accuses Shah of publicly insulting the Indian Army and Colonel Sophia Qureshi, a charge that the government has yet to address.
On the fifth day of the monsoon session, Congress legislators, led by Leader of the Opposition Umang Singhar, initiated a strong protest as soon as proceedings began.

Assembly adjourned till Monday

When their demand to speak on the issue was denied, the entire opposition bench staged a sit-in inside the house.
After a temporary walkout, the Congress members returned, unwavering in their demand for Shah's removal.
Faced with the persistent and vocal opposition, the Speaker was compelled to adjourn the session until Monday, August 4.
Speaking to the media, Singhar condemned the government's si-

lence on the matter.
"The insult to the army and a female Colonel is no small thing. Vijay Shah's statement is an insult to our disciplined forces and deeply hurts the sentiments of the entire nation," he stated.
"The government's continued protection of him proves that a minister and their vote bank are more important to them than patriotism. The Congress will not back down and will continue to fight until Vijay Shah is removed from his post."

PM to unveil Rs 2200-cr development projects in Varanasi today



New Delhi (UNI)
Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone and inaugurate projects worth about Rs 2,200 crore during his visit to his Lok Sabha constituency Varanasi on August 2. The projects span sectors like infrastructure, tourism, education, healthcare, urban development, and heritage conservation.
A statement from the Prime Minister's Office said that among the key highlights are road upgrades across rural and urban corridors, railway overbridges, and major works under

the Smart Distribution Project to strengthen the region's power infrastructure worth over Rs 880 crore.
To boost tourism and cultural heritage, the PM will inaugurate redevelopment works at eight riverfront ghats and Kalika Dham, as well as launch projects for preserving historic kunds like Durgakund and Ramkund. Restoration work at Karmadashwar Mahadev Temple and redevelopment of Munshi Premchand's ancestral home also feature prominently. To ensure access to potable water in rural areas, the Prime Minister will also inaugurate 47 Rural Drinking Water Schemes under the Jal Jeevan Mission, said the statement.
In the education sector, 53 municipal schools will be upgraded. New projects include a district library and rejuvenation of high schools. Furthering his vision of quality education for all, the Prime Minister will inaugurate the upgrading of 53 school buildings within the municipal boundary.

Rahul alleges EC involved in vote theft, claims evidence

New Delhi (UNI)
Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi today accused the Election Commission of being complicit in "electoral theft", claiming that the Congress party has "evidence" to back the allegation.
"We have evidence that the Election Commission is facilitating vote theft. I am saying this with 100% proof," Rahul Gandhi said while talking to reporters in the Parliament



EC dismisses Rahul's allegations on SIR in Bihar as 'rubbish'

Patna: The Election Commission today dismissed allegations of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in Bihar as "rubbish" and clarified that the Commission was working with complete transparency and impartiality.
Election Commission sources informed that a mail was sent to Gandhi on June 12, requesting him to come to the Commission to place his views about the allegations being levelled by him. A letter was also sent to Gandhi with the same request but he did not turn up even then.
"Gandhi never sent a letter to the Commission, and neither responded to its request to come personally to the Commission regarding his allegations," Election Commission sources pointed out and added that Gandhi had now started threatening the Commission and its staff, which was most deplorable. "We will continue to work with all responsibility and transparency ignoring the wild allegations of Gandhi," the Election Commission maintained.

House complex.
He asserted that once this evidence is made public, "the entire country will know" about the scale and seriousness of the alleged manipulation.
Gandhi accused the ECI of acting in favour of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), citing suspicions during several recent polls. "We had doubts during the Madhya Pradesh elections, the Lok Sabha elections, and the Maharashtra Assembly elections," the former Congress president claimed.
He said, "The Election Commission was not helping us, so we conducted our own investigation. What we have found is nothing short of an atom bomb".
Issuing a stern warning, Gandhi said those involved in the alleged "vote manipulation" would be held accountable.
"Those within the Election Commission who are stealing votes and we will not spare them. You are working against the nation, and that is treason. Even if you retire, we will find you."