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India- US Trade Deal

India-US interim trade deal framework: Key highlights
India-US interim trade deal: The United States and India have agreed on an interim trade pact framework, aiming to lower tariffs and boost economic cooperation. This deal includes India reducing duties on U.S. industrial and farm goods, while the U.S. will apply reciprocal tariffs on certain Indian products, with plans for future removal. Both nations also commit to strengthening supply chains and digital trade.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-us-interim-trade-deal-framework-key-highlights/articleshow/128015617.cms

Indian textile exporters may get zero-duty US access, easing B'desh impact
Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has indicated India may secure zero-duty textile access to the US, matching a tax relief granted to Bangladesh that has put Indian exporters under pressure. A deal is expected to be signed by the end of March. According to four industry sources, Goyal told industry leaders in a meeting at Vanijya Bhawan in New Delhi on Wednesday evening that India is exploring with the US a similar arrangement given to Bangladesh.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-textile-sector-may-get-zero-duty-us-access-says-goyal-126021200466_1.html

Trump hails trade deal with India as historic, says US coal exports to rise
US President Donald Trump has hailed the trade deal with India as "historic" and said America will increase its coal exports dramatically to the country and to others with which it has trade agreements. "And under our leadership, we're becoming a massive energy exporter. In just the past few months, we've made historic trade deals with Japan, Korea, India and others to increase our coal exports dramatically," Trump said Wednesday during an event titled 'Champion of Coal'.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/trump-hails-trade-deal-with-india-as-historic-says-us-coal-exports-to-rise-126021200106_1.html

India-US trade deal to boost exports, jobs; farmers' interests safeguarded: Rajnath Singh
Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday hailed the interim framework for the US-India trade agreement, underscoring the benefits, including expanded exports, strengthened labour-intensive sectors, and job creation. Rajnath Singh also assured that farmers' interests are safeguarded in this deal, emphasising the government's commitment to the country's economic empowerment.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/rajnath-singh-on-us-india-deal-will-expand-export-opportunities-attract-high-quality-investments/articleshow/128020041.cms

Piyush Goyal says, India's exports of USD 44 bn to US to get zero reciprocal tariffs under trade pact
India's exports worth about USD 44 billion to the US will enter the American market at zero reciprocal tariffs under the first phase of the bilateral trade agreement, which is expected to be signed by mid-March, Commerce

and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Saturday. The two countries have announced that they have reached a framework for an interim trade agreement under which both sides will reduce import duties on a number of goods to boost two-way trade.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/piyush-goyal-says-indias-exports-of-usd-44-bn-to-us-to-get-zero-reciprocal-tariffs-under-trade-pact/articleshow/128034721.cms

India-US trade deal: New Delhi's trade surplus with Washington may cross $90 billion within a year, says SBI Report
India's trade surplus with the United States may cross USD 90 billion annually, supported by a sharp rise in exports and higher import potential, according to a report by SBI. As per the report, Indian exporters may increase their exports of the top 15 items to the US by around USD 97 billion in a year. Including the remaining items, the export potential may easily cross the USD 100 billion mark annually.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-us-trade-deal-new-delhis-trade-surplus-with-washington-may-cross-90-billion-within-a-year-says-sbi-report/articleshow/128234862.cms

US may refund small penalties on India over Russian oil buys
The United States may partially refund the penalty imposed on India over imports of Russian crude oil after February 7, when President Donald Trump's executive order withdrawing the 25% additional levy on Indian imports for purchases of the commodity came into force, said people familiar with the matter. The quantum of the possible refund is not clear.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/us-may-refund-small-penalties-on-india-over-russian-oil-buys/articleshow/128127175.cms

Other Free Trade Agreements

India seeking higher product coverage in Asean-India FTA
India’s aim is to liberalise trade in 80% of the tariff lines and product-specific Rules of Origin in the review of Asean India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) which it hopes will conclude in the next few months, a senior official said Sunday. “Our broad objective is to overall achieve liberalisation of trade in 80% tariff lines. At every country level minimum 70% tariff line liberalisation should be achieved. The discussions are on,” Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs P Kumaran said.
https://www.financialexpress.com/policy/economy/india-seeking-higher-product-coverage-in-asean-india-fta/4135600/

Dairy, sugar kept out of New Zealand FTA
Under the free trade agreement (FTA) with New Zealand, India has offered tariff concessions on 70.03% of its tariff lines, while the remaining 29.97% have been placed on the exclusion list, largely covering domestically sensitive products. Major exclusions include dairy products; vegetable products; sugar and sugar confectionery; and animal, vegetable or microbial fats and oils.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/dairy-sugar-kept-out-of-new-zealand-fta/articleshow/128005922.cms

Exports may hit $1 Tn in FY27 on new trade deals, tariff cuts
Buoyed by its new trade agreements, India's goods and services exports in FY27 could rise to a record $1,000 billion in 2026-27, exporters said, as they expect orders to flow in with the US lowering tariffs on India to 18% from 50%. "Orders have begun coming in for chemicals, shoes and marine products. We expect more orders to come in the next 10-15 days. India's exports in FY27 could rise to $1,000 billion," said S C Ralhan, president, Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO).
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/exports-may-hit-1-tn-in-fy27-on-new-trade-deals-tariff-cuts/articleshow/128127523.cms

India negotiating new FTAs
India is negotiating trade agreements with Australia, Chile, Peru, the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) and Sri Lanka, and is reviewing existing agreements with ASEAN and South Korea. New Delhi has also signed terms of reference (ToR) to enter trade pact negotiations with Israel, the Maldives, the Philippines and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-negotiating-new-ftas/articleshow/128006103.cms

FTA to boost Indian textiles, pharma, chemicals, agri exports as EU remains key trade partner: ICRA

India's recently concluded Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the European Union is expected to deliver significant gains for several Indian sectors, including textiles, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, agriculture, leather, and marine products, as the EU remains one of India's largest and most important trading partners. The India-EU FTA, finalised in January 2026 after long negotiations, eliminates tariffs on over 90 per cent of goods traded between the two sides.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/fta-to-boost-indian-textiles-pharma-chemicals-agri-exports-as-eu-remains-key-trade-partner-icra/articleshow/128020644.cms

India-EU trade agreement: Organic exporters showcase products at Germany's Biofach amid new market opportunities

With India and the EU announcing the conclusion of a trade agreement, exhibitors from as many as 20 Indian states, including Assam, Meghalaya, and Kerala, are here to showcase their organic food products at the world's leading trade fair Biofach Germany, the commerce ministry said on Tuesday. It is expected to help promote India's exports of organic goods in the European nations.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-eu-trade-agreement-organic-exporters-showcase-products-at-germanys-biofach-amid-new-market-opportunities/articleshow/128144992.cms

Social security pact inked with UK to boost workforce mobility

India and the UK on Tuesday signed an agreement to avoid double social security payments of their nationals on short-term assignments in each other's country. The agreement forms part of the bilateral trade deal and is slated to come into effect together with the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), planned for implementation in the first half of 2026. The agreement seeks to avoid double social security deductions for employees of both countries on assignments in each other's territories for up to 36 months. It is aimed at supporting mobility and continued social security coverage of employees on short-term overseas assignments.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/social-security-pact-inked-with-uk-to-boost-workforce-mobility/articleshow/128174188.cms

Bilateral Trade

India's imports from China dip in multiple sectors in 2024-25: MoS Prasada

India's imports from China have declined in multiple sectors such as fertilisers, chemicals, iron and steel and man-made yarn in 2024-25, Parliament was informed on Friday. In a written reply to the Rajya Sabha, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada said mobile phone imports have decreased from ₹48,609 crore in 2014-15 to ₹3,710 crore in 2024-25.

https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-s-imports-from-china-dip-in-multiple-sectors-in-2024-25-mos-prasada-126020600901_1.html

India, Egypt officials discuss 'entire gamut of bilateral strategic partnership' at Cairo

India and Egypt reviewed the 'entire gamut of bilateral strategic partnership' during the 14th India-Egypt Foreign Office consultation at Cairo, Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said on Monday. Secretary (South) Dr.Neena Malhotra co-chaired the meeting along with the Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt Tamim Khallaf.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-egypt-officials-discuss-entire-gamut-of-bilateral-strategic-partnership-at-cairo/articleshow/128095482.cms

India, Seychelles sign $175 million special economic package & other MoUs

India and Seychelles announced a Special Economic Package of $175 million to support the developmental needs of Seychelles, especially in the fields of public housing, mobility, infrastructure, capacity building and maritime security. The two countries signed multiple Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) in the presence of Prime

Minister Narendra Modi and Seychelles President Patrick Herminie. The two countries agreed to continue exploring new opportunities to further strengthen economic cooperation.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-seychelles-sign-175-million-special-economic-package-other-mous-defence-mou-patrick-herminie/articleshow/128104329.cms

India eyes Middle East, Asia to diversify steel exports
India is exploring new markets for steel exports in the Middle East and various Asian nations, an official said. Several agreements are also expected with Indian companies in the next six months in this regard, the official said. "...predominantly, our exports were focused on Europe, but we (government is) are trying to diversify exports...," the official told PTI.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-steel-exports-eyes-middle-east-asia-to-diversify-alloy-dispatches-overseas/articleshow/128153007.cms

India, Hungary review bilateral ties in 11th round of Foreign Office Consultations
Secretary (West) of the Ministry of External Affairs, Sibi George, on Wednesday held the 11th round of India-Hungary Foreign Office Consultations with Hungarian State Secretary Boglarka Illes. George and Illes reviewed the entire spectrum of engagement, including political affairs, trade & investment, defence, science & technology, etc.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-hungary-review-bilateral-ties-in-11th-round-of-foreign-office-consultations/articleshow/128184215.cms

India's Russian oil imports likely to halve after White House trade order
India's imports of Russian oil could almost halve from already weaker recent levels, according to people with direct knowledge of the purchases, after US President Donald Trump issued an order detailing some terms of a trade deal between the two nations. All state-owned and private refiners, with the exception of Nayara Energy Ltd., had paused buying any spot cargoes since Trump first mentioned the deal in a social media post about a week ago, according to the people, who asked not to be named discussing sensitive information. While India confirmed the trade deal, it has not commented on details including oil.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/india-s-russian-oil-imports-likely-to-halve-after-white-house-trade-order-126020900532_1.html

Sectoral Updates

India's tea exports touch all-time high at 280.40 million kg in 2025
India witnessed highest-ever tea exports in 2025 due to strong buying from Iran and Iraq, besides a pickup in demand from China. Provisional data from the Tea Board of India shows that India exported 280.40 million kg during the January-December period in 2025, up from 256.17 million kg in the same period the previous year. Export earnings during the period at Rs 8,488.43 crore were also higher than Rs 7,167.41 crore in January-December 2024.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/indias-tea-exports-touch-all-time-high-in-2025-126020900317_1.html

India's palm oil imports in January jump 51% m/m, trade body says
India's palm oil imports in January jumped about 51% from December to 766,384 metric tons, the Solvent Extractors' Association of India (SEA) said on Friday. Imports of soyoil decreased over 44% to 278,888 tons and sunflower oil imports fell 23.8% to 266,575 tons, the industry trade body said.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/commerce-ministry-set-to-roll-out-8-export-push-steps-next-week/articleshow/128293112.cms

India's vegetable oil imports jump 20% on year in Jan-26
The Solvent Extractors Association of India (SEA) has released import data for vegetable oils (edible & non-edible) for January, 2026. Imports during the month totalled 1,339,375 tons compared to 1,119,893 tons in January., 2025 i.e. up by 20%. This includes 1,311,847 tons of edible oils and 27,528 tons of non-edible oils. In first quarter of the oil year 2025-26(Nov25-Jan.26), total vegetable oil imports reached 3,960,102 tons, down by 2% from 4,046,423 tons in the same period last year.

https://www.business-standard.com/markets/capital-market-news/india-s-vegetable-oil-imports-jump-20-on-year-in-jan-26-126021300688_1.html

Imports from China fall across sectors in FY25; mobile phone exports surge
India's imports from China declined across multiple sectors, including fertilisers, chemicals, iron and steel, and man-made yarn, in 2024-25, the commerce and industry ministry told Parliament. Mobile phone imports fell to ₹3,710 crore in 2024-25 from ₹48,609 crore in 2014-15. In contrast, mobile phone exports rose to over ₹2,05,017 crore in FY25 from ₹1,566 crore in FY15.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/imports-from-china-fall-across-sectors-in-fy25-mobile-phone-exports-surge/articleshow/128005996.cms

State Updates

India-US deal will likely double Tamil Nadu garment exports to Rs 30,000 crore
Exporters at the textile town in Tiruppur on Sunday indicated that the shipping of garments to the United States would double to Rs 30,000 crore over the next three years following the signing of the India deal with the US. Tiruppur, located about 450 km west of Chennai, would also witness an increase of job creation to about 5 lakh during the period, Tiruppur Exporters' Association president K M Subramanian told PTI.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-us-deal-will-likely-double-tamil-nadu-garment-exports-to-rs-30000-crore/articleshow/128068670.cms

WTO

Commerce Secretary discusses priorities with WTO chief ahead of MC14
Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal on Friday held meetings with WTO chief Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala in Geneva and discussed issues pertaining to the forthcoming ministerial conference in Cameroon. The 14th ministerial conference (MC14) is scheduled at Yaounde, Cameroon, from March 26-29 this year. The conference is the highest decision-making body of the 166-member World Trade Organization (WTO).
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/commerce-secretary-discusses-priorities-with-wto-chief-ahead-of-mc14-126021300845_1.html

Global Trade

India in talks over critical minerals deals with Brazil, Canada, France, Netherlands: Report
India is in talks with Brazil, Canada, France and the Netherlands over deals to jointly explore, extract, process and recycle critical minerals, sources said, as it broadens its global outreach to secure supplies of key raw materials. The focus would be on lithium and rare earths, and India would also seek access to mineral-processing technologies, the sources said, declining to be identified because the discussions are confidential.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/indl-goods/svs/metals-mining/india-in-talks-over-critical-minerals-deals-with-brazil-canada-france-netherlands-report/articleshow/128145962.cms

US-Bangladesh trade agreement unlikely to dent India's auto exports
The United States and Bangladesh have finalised a bilateral reciprocal trade agreement aimed at deepening economic ties, but analysts say the deal is unlikely to materially impact India’s automotive and auto component exports, despite concessions granted to Dhaka on tariffs and market access. Under the revised framework, Bangladeshi exports to the US will attract a 19 per cent tariff, marginally lower than the 20 per cent imposed in August and sharply below the earlier reciprocal rate of 37 per cent.
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/us-bangladesh-trade-pact-unlikely-dent-india-auto-exports-126021001596_1.html

US shelves major tech curbs on China after Trump-Xi trade detente
The Trump administration has shelved a number of key tech security measures aimed at Beijing ahead of an April meeting between the two countries' presidents. The measures include a ban on China Telecom's US operations and restrictions on sales of Chinese equipment for US data centers, sources said. The US has also put on hold proposed bans on domestic sales of routers made by TP-Link and the US â internet business of China

Unicom and China Mobile along with another measure that would bar sales of Chinese electric trucks and buses in the US, four people said, declining to be named.
https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/us-shelves-major-tech-curbs-on-china-after-trump-xi-trade-detente-126021201150_1.html

Other Key Coverages

CBIC to roll out Eligible Manufacturer-Importer Scheme by March 1: Chairman
The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) is set to introduce the proposed Eligible Manufacturer-Importer scheme by March 1, with a draft framework to be released in five to six days for stakeholder consultation, a top official said on Thursday. Addressing a media interaction in Mumbai, CBIC Chairman Vivek Chaturvedi said the scheme will initially be introduced for two years, offering eligible manufacturer-importers a "preview" of the benefits under the new framework.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/cbic-to-roll-out-eligible-manufacturer-importer-scheme-by-march-1-chairman-126021201759_1.html

Govt likely to roll out 8 components of export promotion mission next week
The commerce ministry is likely to roll out eight components of the Rs 25,060-crore Export Promotion Mission, including e-commerce, factoring services and warehousing, a senior government official said. In November last year, two schemes were approved by the Union Cabinet with a combined outlay of over Rs 45,000 crore -- Export Promotion Mission (Rs 25,060 crore) and the Credit Guarantee Scheme (Rs 20,000 crore).
https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/govt-likely-to-roll-out-8-components-of-export-promotion-mission-next-week-126021200484_1.html

Commerce Minister urges exporters to take full advantage of Free Trade Agreements signed with developed countries
Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has urged exporters and industry bodies to take full advantage of the series of Free Trade Agreements signed with developed countries maximise job creation and boost exports of goods and services. The minister met 35 Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) and key Industry Associations representing India's major export sectors. Industry leaders and association office bearers appreciated the government's trade-promotion initiatives during their interaction with the minister.
https://www.business-standard.com/markets/capital-market-news/commerce-minister-urges-exporters-to-take-full-advantage-of-free-trade-agreements-signed-with-developed-countries-126021200472_1.html

Govt to support steel exports hit by Europe's carbon tax: Steel secy
India's steel exports will continue to be impacted by the European Union's carbon tax and import quotas, and the government will take steps to help the sector, the federal steel secretary said on Monday. The comments come days after India and the European Union signed a trade deal, which slashed tariffs on several sectors but left the bloc's carbon border tariff, called Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, intact. Indian steel mills ship roughly two thirds of their total exports to Europe.
https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/govt-to-support-steel-exports-hit-by-europe-s-carbon-tax-steel-secy-126020900483_1.html

India floats draft Digital Trade Facilitation Bill for e-trade documents' legal recognition
The government Monday sought comments on the draft Digital Trade Facilitation Bill, 2026, a bill that seeks to provide legal recognition, validity and enforceability to electronic trade documents and to regulate the use, management and cross-border recognition of digital identity and trust services. The draft text, released by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), seeks to create a statutory framework for recognising electronic trade documents and digital signatures.
https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-floats-draft-digital-trade-facilitation-bill-for-e-trade-documents-legal-recognition/articleshow/128126962.cms

Trump admin reaches trade deal with Taiwan to cut tariffs, boost investment
The Trump administration has reached a trade deal with Taiwan, with Taiwan agreeing to remove or reduce 99 per cent of its tariff barriers, the office of the US Trade Representative said. The agreement comes as the US

remains reliant on Taiwan for its production of computer chips, the exporting of which contributed to a trade imbalance of nearly $127 billion during the first 11 months of 2025, according to the Census Bureau.
https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/trump-admin-reaches-trade-deal-with-taiwan-to-cut-tariffs-boost-investment-126021300061_1.html

Notifications by CBIC

Seeks to continue levy of anti-dumping duty on "Toluene Di-Isocyanate (TDI)" for 5 years pursuant to Sunset Review Final Findings issued by DGTR.
https://taxinformation.cbic.gov.in/view-pdf/1010583/ENG/Notifications

Notifications by DGFT

Request for comments on the draft of 'The Digital Trade Facilitation Bill, 2026' – regarding.
https://content.dgft.gov.in/Website/dgftprod/cb2fc214-b604-4cb8-a924-c3a439ad7a14/Trade%20Notice%2024%20dated%2009.02.2026.pdf

Implementation of NPCI-based Workflow for Bank Account Validation in IEC Applications and Modifications – regarding.
https://content.dgft.gov.in/Website/dgftprod/39b63e04-34c4-413d-95d1-2eddebfcf181/Trade%20Notice%20-%20Bank%20validation%20NPCI.pdf

Streamlining of Halal Certification Process for Meat and Meat Products - regarding.
https://content.dgft.gov.in/Website/dgftprod/25fb264d-cd73-40f5-851f-31b5263357ef/Notification%2059%20dated%2009.02.26.pdf

Amendment in Para 4.73(19) of Handbook of Procedure-2023.
https://content.dgft.gov.in/Website/dgftprod/ec3cee32-4a79-4556-bd55-e8316f2a5bca/Public%20notice%20No.26%20feb%20english.pdf