

Institutional Research

Morning Buzz

International News

Trump intensifies trade war with threat of 30% tariffs on EU, Mexico

President Donald Trump on Saturday threatened to impose a 30% tariff on imports from Mexico and the European Union starting on August 1, after weeks of negotiations with the major U.S. trading partners failed to reach a comprehensive trade deal. In an escalation of a trade war that has angered U.S. allies and rattled investors, Trump announced the latest tariffs in separate letters to European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum that were posted on his Truth Social media site on Saturday. The EU and Mexico, both among the largest U.S. trading partners responded by calling the tariffs unfair and disruptive while pledging to continue to negotiate with the U.S. for a broader trade deal before the deadline.

SpaceX to invest \$2 billion in Musk's xAI startup, WSJ reports

SpaceX has committed \$2 billion to xAI as part of a \$5 billion equity round, deepening the ties between tech billionaire Elon Musk's ventures as his artificial intelligence startup races to compete with rival OpenAI, the Wall Street Journal reported on Saturday. The investment follows xAI's merger with X and values the combined company at \$113 billion, with the Grok chatbot now powering Starlink support and eyed for future integration into Tesla's Optimus robots, the report added. Despite recent controversies involving Grok's responses, Musk has called it "the smartest AI in the world," and xAI continues to spend heavily on model training and infrastructure.

US online spending surges \$24.1 billion as steep discounts boost sales, Adobe says

Online spending soared \$24.1 billion across U.S. retailers during the stretch from July 8 to 11 – dubbed "Black Friday in Summer", outpacing Adobe Analytics' prior forecast, as eager shoppers rushed to snap up deep discounts on back-to-school essentials. Retailers recorded online sales growth of 30.3% during events that included Amazon Prime Day, Adobe said on Saturday, compared with its projections of 28.4%. The Prime Day event has also been cemented as a "back-to-school" shopping moment, as consumers jumped on early deals to stock up on essentials and get ahead of the back-to-school rush, Adobe said. Amazon.com extended its sales window to 96 hours, up from the typical 48, featuring aggressive promotions on categories ranging from apparel to electronics.

Iran says it would resume nuclear talks with US if guaranteed no further attacks

Iran's foreign minister said Saturday that his country would accept a resumption of nuclear talks with the US if there were assurances of no more attacks against it, state media reported. Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said in a speech to Tehranbased foreign diplomats that Iran has always been ready and will be ready in the future for talks about its nuclear programme, but, "assurance should be provided that in case of a resumption of talks, the trend will not lead to war." Referring to the 12-day Israeli bombardment of Iran's nuclear and military sites, and the US strike on June 22, Araghchi said that if the US and others wish to resume talks with Iran, "first of all, there should be a firm guarantee that such actions will not be repeated. The attack on Iran's nuclear facilities has made it more difficult and complicated to achieve a solution based on negotiations."

EU's von der Leyen warns of countermeasures if U.S. 30% tariffs go ahead

The EU is prepared to take the necessary steps to safeguard its interests if the U.S. proceeds with imposing a 30% tariff on European goods starting Aug 1, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said on Saturday. Von der Leyen, who heads the EU's executive arm, said in a statement that the bloc remained ready "to continue working towards an agreement by Aug 1". "Few economies in the world match the European Union's level of openness and adherence to fair trading practices," she continued. "We will take all necessary steps to safeguard EU interests, including the adoption of proportionate countermeasures if required."

U.S. senators warn Nvidia CEO Huang about his upcoming China trip

A bipartisan pair of U.S. senators sent a letter to Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang on Friday regarding an upcoming trip to China, warning the CEO to refrain from meeting with companies suspected of undermining U.S. chip export controls. The letter from Republican Senator Jim Banks of Indiana and Democratic Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts asked Huang to also abstain from meeting with representatives of companies that are working with the People's Republic of China's military or intelligence bodies. The senators also asked Huang to refrain from meeting with entities named on the U.S. restricted export list. "We are worried that your trip to the PRC could legitimize companies that cooperate closely with the Chinese military or involve discussing exploitable gaps in U.S. export controls," the senators wrote. Huang planned to visit China on Friday.



Federal Reserve quietly responds to Trump administration attacks over renovation

As the Trump administration escalates its criticisms of the Federal Reserve and Chairman Jerome Powell, the central bank is quietly pushing back with a new "Frequently Asked Questions" page on its website defending the central bank's \$2.5 billion renovation project. The page, last updated on Friday, directly responds to some of the administration's criticisms of the renovation project of the Fed's headquarters, which came under attack this week from Office of Management and Budget Director Russell Vought. Vought on Thursday claimed that Powell "has grossly mismanaged the Fed" and took aim at what he called "an ostentatious overhaul" of the Fed's renovations, which seeks to modernize the campus for the Federal Reserve, including by renovating three buildings overlooking the National Mall.

Russia's Lavrov meets North Korea's Kim, praises ties as 'invincible brotherhood'

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov met North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in the coastal city of Wonsan on Saturday, where he described the two nations' relations as "an invincible fighting brotherhood", Russia's foreign ministry said. The ministry quoted Lavrov as saying that the visit represented the continuation of "strategic dialogue" between the two sides inaugurated by Russian President Vladimir Putin's visit to North Korea last year. In a message passed on by Lavrov, Putin said that he hoped for more direct contacts in future, TASS news agency reported. Lavrov arrived in Wonsan on Friday from Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur following the ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting. Home to a newly opened seaside resort, Wonsan is also known for its missile and naval facilities.

Aid shipments have been restored: Zelenskyy confirms resumed US aid

Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelenskyy has confirmed that US military aid shipments to Ukraine have resumed, following a temporary suspension earlier this month, RT reported. "We have received political signals at the highest level, good signals, including from the United States and from our European friends. According to all reports, aid shipments have been restored," Zelenskyy said in his daily video address on Friday, as quoted by RT. RT reported that the weapons shipments had been paused for nearly two weeks after the Pentagon halted deliveries, reportedly due to concerns over depleting stockpiles.

Corporate News

Adani Green allots 1.08 crore shares to Ardour via warrant conversion, raises ₹1,209 crore

Following the allotment, Adani Green's issued, subscribed, and paid-up equity share capital has increased from 1,624.71 crore to 1,635.60 crore. The promoter group's shareholding has gone up from 61.91% to 62.17%. Shares of Adani Green Energy Limited ended at 994.60, down by 1.00, or 0.10%, on the BSE. Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL) on Saturday (July 12) said it has allotted 1.08 crore equity shares to Ardour Investment Holding Ltd, a promoter group entity, through the conversion of share warrants, raising 1,208.59 crore. The allotment was approved by the Management Committee of the board on July 12, 2025. Each share has a face value of 10 and was issued at a premium of 1,470.75, in line with the terms set during the initial warrant allotment on January 25, 2024.

Reliance Infrastructure plans fundraising initiative through equity, debt instruments

Reliance Infrastructure Limited has announced plans to raise long-term capital through multiple financial instruments, signaling a significant fundraising initiative as the company seeks to strengthen its financial position and fuel growth plans. Reliance Infrastructure aims to bolster its financial standing. The company will raise long-term capital through various financial instruments. A board meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2025, to discuss the capital raising strategy. This includes equity shares, equity-linked securities, and Non-Convertible Debentures. The company is targeting institutional investors. This announcement precedes the Q1 FY2026 financial results. The Mumbai-based infrastructure company has called a Board of Directors meeting for Wednesday, July 16, 2025, to deliberate on a comprehensive capital raising strategy.

IIFL Home Finance gets \$100 million from AIIB

IIFL Home Finance, a company focused on the affordable housing segment, on Saturday said it has secured a USD 100 million (about Rs 858 crore) financing from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). The partnership aims to significantly enhance access to affordable housing finance for economically weaker sections and lower income groups (EWS/LIG), while also promoting the adoption of green building standards across the housing sector, the company said in a release. On the demand side, IIFL Home Finance Ltd (IIFL HFL) will extend home loans to families, primarily from EWS and LIG segments, to purchase or construct their own homes in urban and semi-urban locations. On the supply side, the release said the company will finance affordable housing developers, with a focused thrust on projects that integrate green certification standards, helping reduce the environmental footprint and enhance sustainability.

Amber Enterprises board approves enabling resolution to raise up to ₹2,500 crore

In a regulatory filing, the company stated that the proposed fundraise will be subject to the necessary statutory and regulatory approvals, as well as approval from shareholders at the upcoming 35th Annual General Meeting. On Friday (July 11), shares of Amber Enterprises India Ltd ended at ₹7,463.50, down by ₹282.60, or 3.65%, on the BSE. Appliance maker, Amber Enterprises India Limited, on Saturday (July 12), said its board of directors has approved an enabling resolution to raise funds up to ₹2,500



crore through the issuance of permissible securities. The decision was taken at the company's board meeting held on July 12, 2025. In a regulatory filing, the company stated that the proposed fundraise will be subject to the necessary statutory and regulatory approvals.

India strong in auto manufacturing but lags in EV tech: Bosch India President Guruprasad Mudlapur

Bosch India President and MD Guruprasad Mudlapur, in an interview with Business Standard, expressed optimism about manufacturing in the Indian auto industry but mentioned that it still needs to catch up with electric vehicle (EV) technologies like Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS). He said that technology alone isn't the only factor; insufficient infrastructure also plays a role. Moreover, significant progress is still required on the supply chain front, particularly in batteries and critical components. Additionally, he said India is currently highly competitive in auto components and exports around 9–10% of its production, with a goal to double that by 2030.

Kolte-Patil Q1 Sales Dip 13% to Rs 616 Cr

Real estate company Kolte-Patil Developers Ltd's sale bookings declined 13 per cent to Rs 616 crore in the first quarter of this fiscal year on lower volumes and average price realisation. Its sale bookings or pre-sales stood at Rs 711 crore in the year-ago period. In a regulatory filing on Saturday, the company informed that its sales volume in April-June FY26 fell 12.5 per cent to 0.84 million square feet from 0.96 million square feet in the corresponding period of the preceding year. Sales realization also dipped marginally to Rs 7,337 per square feet from Rs 7,407 per square feet. In June, global investment firm Blackstone acquired 14.3 per cent equity stake in the company. Established in 1991, Kolte-Patil Developers has constructed over 68 projects including residential complexes, integrated townships, commercial complexes and IT Parks covering a saleable area of more than 30 million square feet across Pune, Mumbai and Bengaluru.

Neogen Chemicals board approves ₹200 crore fundraise via NCDs

The tenure of the NCDs will be up to 36 months, with interest payable monthly. The debentures will be listed on BSE Limited and secured by a subservient charge through hypothecation and mortgage. On Friday (July 11), shares of Neogen Chemicals Ltd ended at ₹1,583.60, down by ₹10.40, or 0.65%, on the BSE. Speciality chemicals maker, Neogen Chemicals Limited, on Saturday (July 12), announced that its board of directors has approved raising up to ₹200 crore through the issuance of fully paid, secured, listed, rated, redeemable, rupee-denominated, non-cumulative, non-convertible debentures (NCDs) on a private placement basis. The tenure of the NCDs will be up to 36 months, with interest payable monthly. The debentures will be listed on BSE Limited and secured by a subservient charge through hypothecation and mortgage.

Industry & Economics News

Urban consumers ditch labels, rural shoppers stick to big FMCG brands

India's FMCG market is witnessing a clear divergence in consumer preferences between urban and rural areas. In cities, shoppers are increasingly experimenting with unbranded products and new-age digital-first brands. Meanwhile, rural consumers are showing greater loyalty to established names such as Nestle, Dabur, and Hindustan Unilever (HUL), Times of India reported. Though unbranded goods have traditionally had a large presence in rural markets, the tide appears to be turning. Thanks to their vast distribution networks and deep rural push, legacy brands are gradually capturing a bigger share of the market in villages. Digital-first brands, on the other hand.

India eases sulphur emission rules for coal power plants, reversing decade-old mandate

The union environment ministry late on Friday (July 11) issued a gazette notification that exempted 79% of the coal-fired power plants, outside a 10-km (6 mile) radius of populated and polluted cities, from the 2015 mandate. India has reversed a decade-old mandate to install \$30 billion worth of clean-air equipment, easing sulphur emission rules for most coal-fired power plants, a government order said. Reuters in December reported the government was reviewing 2015 norms that required nearly 540 coal-based power units to install flue-gas desulphurisation (FGD) systems that remove sulphur from the plants' exhaust gases in phases starting in 2027. The union environment ministry late on Friday (July 11) issued a gazette notification that exempted 79% of the coal-fired power plants, outside a 10-km (6 mile) radius of populated and polluted cities, from the 2015 mandate.

<u>Centre to provide technology to private factories to ramp up rare earth magnet production after China's decision to impose</u> <u>export controls</u>

The Centre is trying to make available technology in three to four months to different private factories to ramp up rare earth magnets production in India, said Union Minister for Coal and Mines, G Kishan Reddy. "We used to be 100% dependent on China for permanent magnets of the rare earths. But recently, China has refused to supply. With this view, the Indian government is making efforts for permanent magnet manufacturing," Kishan Reddy told ANI. "Our mining ministry's institute in Hyderabad has made efforts and prepared a permanent magnet processing unit with equipment. After three to four months, we will try to manufacture permanent magnets by giving the technology to different private factories. For this, the Indian government has also started some PLI schemes to encourage it. We are paying attention to this subject," he added.



NGT seeks response to Ganga Action Plan execution gaps in West Bengal

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed that deficiencies in the implementation of the Ganga Action Plan in West Bengal be specified by the state, NMCG and CPCB by way of affidavit. The NGT, while reviewing the status of Ganga pollution control measures in West Bengal, noted that partial action has been taken in the state to control the flow of polluting materials into the river, but untreated sewage continues to flow into it from several drains. Noting that several sewage treatment plants are either non-functional or not meeting the standards, the principal bench of the NGT, headed by chairman Justice Prakash.

Delhi govt grosses Rs 2,662 crore from Q1FY26 liquor sales: Data

Delhi government corporations sold about 16.96 crore liquor bottles in the first quarter of 2025-26, grossing over Rs 2,662 crore, officials said on Saturday. The figure was over 1 crore more than the number of liquor bottles sold during the same period last fiscal, they said. Delhi State Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (DSIIDC) recorded the highest sale of 5.29 crore bottles of different kinds of liquor from April to June, 2025. This was followed by sale of 5 crore bottles by Delhi Tourism and Transport Development Corporation (DTTDC), 3.65 crore bottles by Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation (DSCSC) and 2.91 crore bottles by Delhi Consumer's Cooperative Wholesale Store (DCCWS), showed official figures. In the current excise policy, retail liquor sale in Delhi is carried out solely by the government through its four agencies -- DSIIDC, DTTDC, DSCSC and DCCWS -- which operate over 700 vends.

FM Sitharaman lauds Meghalaya's inclusive growth, women's empowerment

Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday visited Laitkynsew Village, East Khasi Hills district and interacted with Women SHGs and Lakhpati Didis, and Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs). During her visit, she expressed her deep appreciation for the Government of Meghalaya's dedicated efforts in implementing Central and State schemes across the state. She emphasised the importance of inclusive development and grassroots empowerment to achieve the vision of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas." Meghalaya Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Ampareen Lyngdoh, was also present during the visit.



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(For Mid & Small cap stocks from 12 months perspective)

BUY Absolute Return >20%

HOLD Absolute Return Between 0-20%

SELL Absolute Return Negative

Apart from Absolute returns our rating for a stock would also include subjective factors like macro environment, outlook of the industry in which the company is operating, growth expectations from the company vis a vis its peers, scope for P/E re-rating/de-rating for the broader market and the company in specific.

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