

1. India Proposes Retaliatory Duties Against US Auto Tariffs at WTO



India has threatened to impose retaliatory tariffs against the United States at the world trading organization (WTO), regarding the US safeguards, which imposes duty on Indian automobile parts and cars at a 25 % increment. This action comes after India had failed in her efforts to talk to the US regarding the tariffs. The suspension of concessions proposed is to ensure that the Indian exports which may be affected due to these new tariffs will be balanced economically.

Context

- India has reported to the WTO that it is willing to retaliate against the US due to the 25 % import tariff on Indian auto parts and vehicles.
- This is in response to the safeguards taken by the US and failure by India to negotiate on fair competition of trade practices in the market.

Key Details:

The US Tariff Measures:

- In March 2025, the US added a tariff penalty of 25 % on imports of passenger and light trucks and parts of some automobiles that emanated in India.
- These are safeguard tariffs that will come into effect in May 2025 and have not yet been notified to the WTO by the US.

India's retaliatory tariffs

Pros



- Economic balance
- WTO compliance
- Trade leverage

Cons



- US-India relations
- Trade war risk
- Economic impact

India's Response:

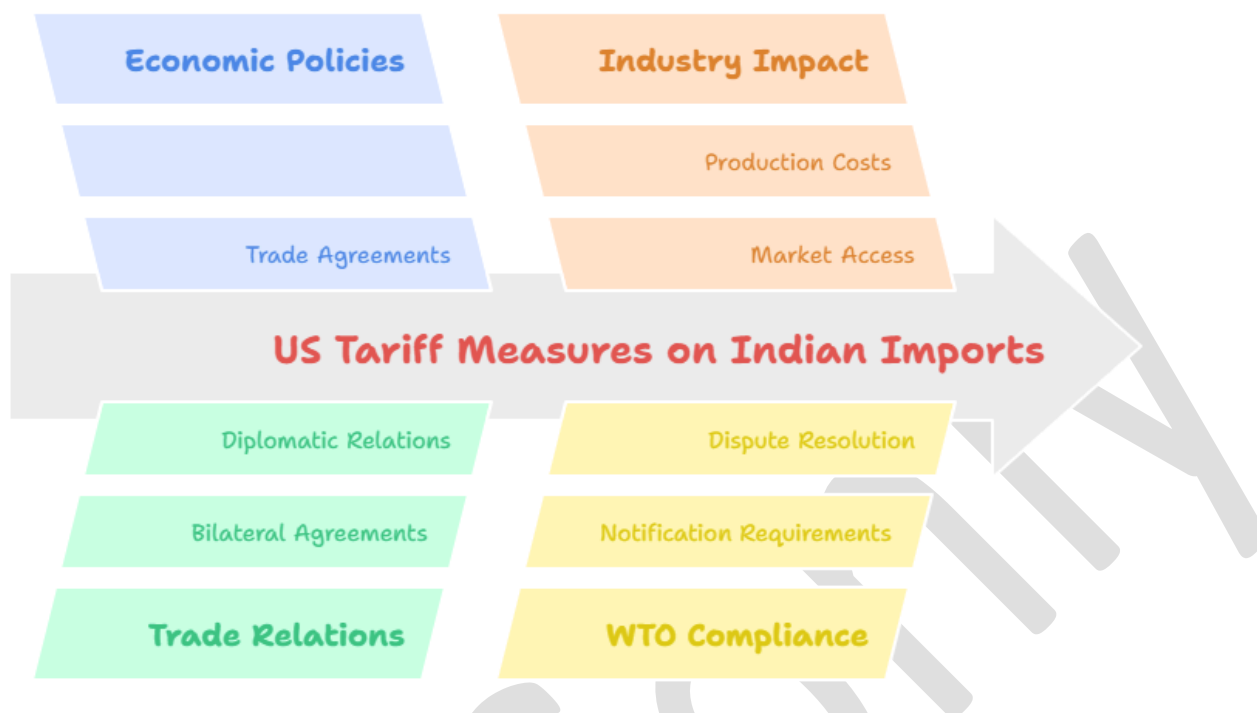
- India has suggested that concessions or WTO compliances should be suspended through higher tariffs on some of the US products.
- The compensatory obligations would amount to the same as the US tariffs, whereby India was to obtain the same sum of USD 723.75 million on US exports.

Effect on bilateral Trade:

- Imports to the US by India add up to USD 2.9 billion per year, which are affected by the US safeguard regulations.
- India claims that tariffs imposed by the US do not allow the WTO agreements, especially the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994.



Analyzing US Tariff Measures on Indian Imports



Indian Strategic move:

- The action of India can be regarded as both a legal and a strategic move in the context of international trade practices.
- Through the Safeguard Agreement of WTO, India is countering the retaliatory measure of the US by claiming it the right to retaliate in proportion against the US its preliminary rights to protective trade measures.

Implementation in doubt:

- Although the retaliatory proposal displays the interest of India to take any action, it is not clear whether or not it will go through, since nobody pursued a similar retaliatory act against US steel tariffs in the past.

Conclusion

The fact that India has made a proposal to offer retaliatory tariffs against the goods brought by the US to India should be noted as a major step as the two countries are still engaged with the trade negotiations that actually indicate a success. Although this action is necessary and shows the desire by India to safeguard its trade interests that are based on international law, the real practical use of these tariffs might largely hinge on the overall geopolitical situation and the course of the bilateral trade negotiations.

2. Russia Grants Official Recognition to Taliban

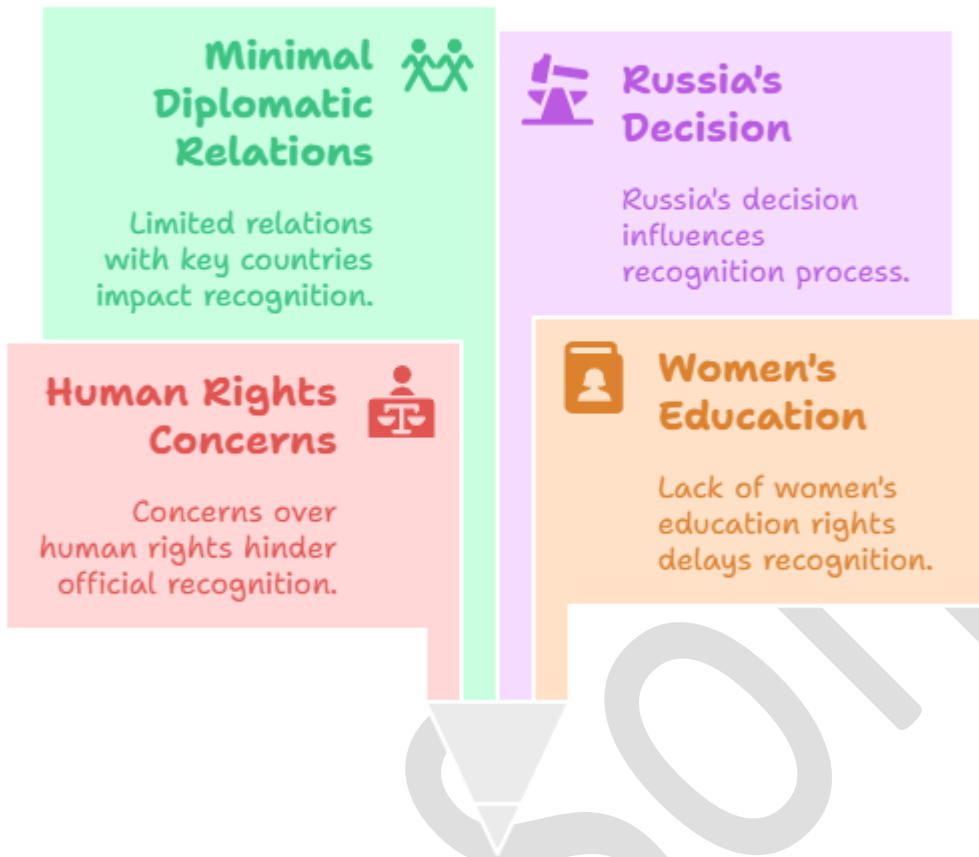


Russia has since July 3, 2025, recognized the Taliban government in Afghanistan as the first nation to accept the Taliban government after returning to power in Afghanistan in 2021. The step envisages the acceptance of diplomatic credentials of the Taliban-appointed ambassador and the removal of the parallel by the group from the list of banned organizations in Russia. Moscow considers it as a move that will assist in developing productive bilateral relationships as well as stabilization of the region. The Taliban called it a course that would be remembered in history, and hoped other nations would emulate. This evolution changes the geopolitics of the Asian region meritoriously in terms of closing the isolation of Afghanistan, the security of the region, and the strategic interests of India.

Context

- None of the countries recognized the Taliban regime that came through power in August 2021, after American and NATO troops left Afghanistan.
- Though the Taliban has had minimal diplomatic relations with other countries such as China, UAE, Iran and Russia, no official recognition of the Taliban was given because of the issue of human rights and more particularly the rights of women and their rights to an education.
- Russia was acknowledging their April 2025 when they decided to pull the Taliban off the list of terrorists.
- The diplomatic recognition is just another step in the relationship with Afghanistan.

Pathways to Recognition



Russia's Motivations

- **Regional Stability**
 - Russia is afraid that the flow of terrorism and drugs would spread out of Afghanistan to Central Asia, which is its backyard.
- **Geopolitical Signaling**
 - In pursuit of confronting the Western freeze on western diplomacy with the Taliban and the extension of its power to South Asia.
- **Counterterrorism Engagement**
 - Moscow is of the opinion that there should be collaboration with the governing force to control threats of ISIS-K and other extremist organizations.
- **The Islamic World Use of Diplomatic Leverage**
 - Russia also intends to be a leader of the Global South diplomacy and counter influence of the West in Muslim-majority countries.

Implications to Afghanistan

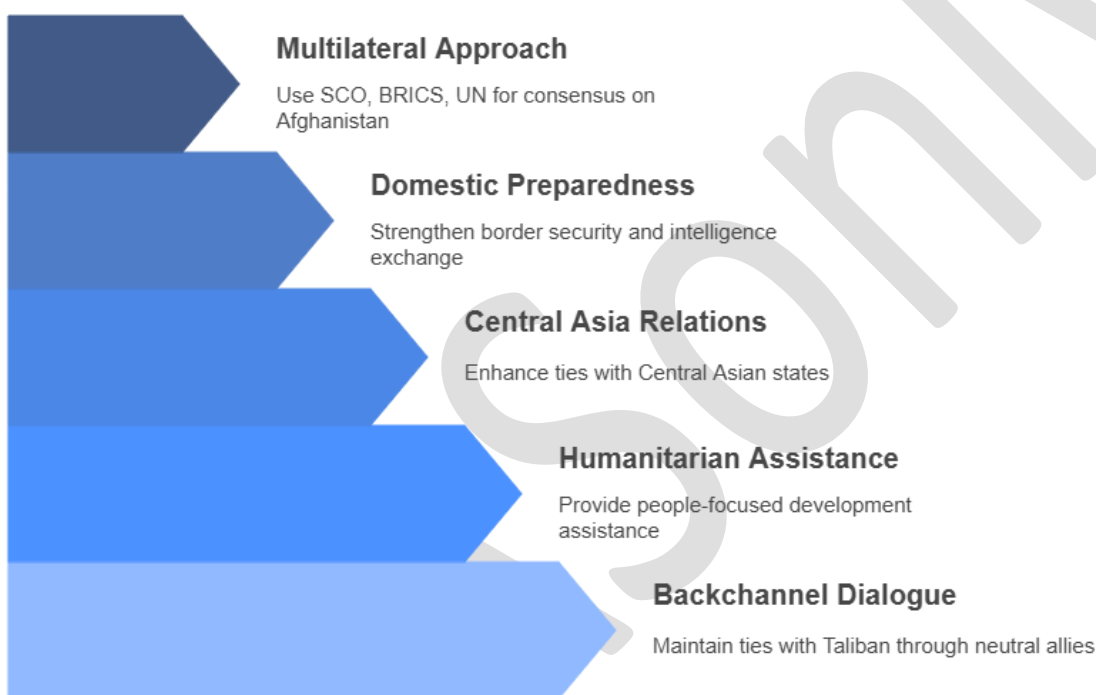
- Diplomatic Breakthrough: It sets an example of other countries to normalize relations.
- Increased legitimacy: It can enhance the internal and external trust in the Taliban rule.

- Economic Opening: Provides access to Russian trade, energy transactions as well as infrastructure collaboration.
- **Concerns Remain:** Human rights, particularly **women's education and employment restrictions**, continue to block broader recognition.

Geopolitical Implications

- Legitimizing Authoritarian Rulers: Important issue of concern worldwide is the lowering of human rights standards as an aid to strategic engagement.
- Eurasian New Axis: China, Russia, and Iran now make a triangle dealing directly with Taliban, which is not according to norms of the U.S.-led West.
- Multipolar Diplomacy: A response to increasing multipolarism in which the non-western world sets the rules.

India's Afghanistan Engagement Strategy



Impact on India

- Backchannel dialogue: Maintain ties with Taliban using neutral allies (e.g. Iran, countries of central Asia).
- Specialty in Humanitarian Assistance: Maintain development assistance that is people focused without official designation.
- Broaden relationships with Central Asia: Enhance Russia relations with other Central Asian states in order to counter the weight of Taliban.
- Domestic Preparedness: beef up security at the border and intelligence exchange, and act on counterterrorism.
- Multilateral Approach: Apply the platforms of SCO, BRICS, and UN to reach a consensus on engaging Afghanistan founded on human rights.

Conclusion

The recognition of the Taliban by Russia can be described as a geopolitical breakthrough that could transform the situation in South and Central Asia. It can be useful in the stabilization of Afghanistan but also puts trouble to other nations such as India which believe in democratic principles and female rights. India needs to maneuver in this new reality by taking strategic caution in regional relations, inhabit regional alliances as well as multilateral diplomacy by keeping both the security interest and the humanitarian consideration intact.

3. Krishna Sharma Wins Gold Medal in Boxing at World Police and Fire Games 2025



Sector: Sports & Civil Services Representation

Subject: International Achievement by Rajasthan Police Personnel in World Police & Fire Games 2025

- Krishna Sharma, a Sub-Inspector in Rajasthan Police and a resident of Chomu (Jaipur), has won a **gold medal in boxing** at the **World Police and Fire Games 2025**, currently being held in **Birmingham, Alabama, USA**.
- This marks the **third time** Krishna Sharma has clinched a **gold medal on foreign soil** in boxing, bringing pride to **Rajasthan and India**.
- In the **final match**, he defeated a **boxer from Mongolia** to secure the top position.
- Krishna Sharma is presently posted in **Jaipur city** as a Sub-Inspector.



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- He began his boxing training during his **college years in Jaipur** and has risen through dedication and consistent performance.
- His achievement highlights the growing participation and excellence of Rajasthan Police personnel in international sporting platforms like the **World Police & Fire Games**.

Detailed Explanation for RAS Mains Aspirants

- **About the Event:**
 - The **World Police and Fire Games (WPFG)** is an international multi-sport event held every two years.
 - It is open to active and retired law enforcement and fire service personnel from around the world.
 - The 2025 edition is being hosted in **Birmingham, Alabama (USA)** from **27 June to 7 July**.
- **Significance of Krishna Sharma's Achievement:**
 - Winning gold against an international opponent (Mongolia) demonstrates **physical excellence and competitive spirit**.
 - His repeated victories enhance the **global reputation of Indian police forces**, especially Rajasthan Police.
 - As an officer, Krishna Sharma becomes a **role model for youth**—balancing civil duty and sports.
- **Impact on Governance and Sports Promotion:**
 - Encourages **dual-career pathways** for police officers—service and sports.
 - Highlights the role of internal training, support, and motivation from the **Rajasthan Police Department**.
 - Reinforces the importance of **sports infrastructure** and scouting in Rajasthan, especially from college-level participation.
- **Broader Perspective:**
 - Such achievements aid in **nation branding** and increase India's visibility in non-mainstream international events.
 - Enhances morale within the police forces and can be used as a case study in **internal police motivation systems**.
 - Can be linked to government initiatives like **Khelo India, Fit India Movement**, and **Mission Youth Empowerment**.



राजस्थान पुलिस के सब इंस्पेक्टर कृष्णा शर्मा ने वर्ल्ड पुलिस एंड फायर गेम्स 2025 में जीता स्वर्ण पदक

- चौमू (जयपुर) निवासी व राजस्थान पुलिस के सब इंस्पेक्टर कृष्णा शर्मा ने अमेरिका के बर्मिंघम में आयोजित विश्व पुलिस एवं फायर गेम्स 2025 में बॉक्सिंग में स्वर्ण पदक जीता।
- यह उनका विदेशी धरती पर तीसरा स्वर्ण पदक है, जिससे उन्होंने राजस्थान ही नहीं, पूरे देश का गौरव बढ़ाया।
- फाइनल मुकाबले में उन्होंने मंगोलिया के मुक्केबाज को हराया।
- वर्तमान में वे जयपुर शहर में सब इंस्पेक्टर पद पर तैनात हैं।
- शर्मा ने बताया कि उन्होंने कॉलेज के समय से ही जयपुर में मुक्केबाजी का अभ्यास शुरू कर दिया था।

RAS मुख्य परीक्षा हेतु संक्षिप्त विश्लेषण

- प्रतियोगिता का परिचय:
 - वर्ल्ड पुलिस एंड फायर गेम्स एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय बहु-खेल प्रतियोगिता है, जो हर दो वर्ष में आयोजित होती है।
 - इसमें विश्वभर के सक्रिय और सेवानिवृत्त पुलिस एवं अग्निशमनकर्मी भाग लेते हैं।
 - वर्ष 2025 का आयोजन बर्मिंघम, अमेरिका में 27 जून से 7 जुलाई तक किया जा रहा है।
- कृष्णा शर्मा की उपलब्धि का महत्व:
 - अंतरराष्ट्रीय मुक्केबाज को हराकर गोल्ड जीतना भारत की खेल प्रतिभा का उदाहरण है।
 - राजस्थान पुलिस बल की वैश्विक पहचान में वृद्धि।
 - युवा पीढ़ी के लिए रोल मॉडल।
- प्रशासन व खेलों में प्रोत्साहन:
 - पुलिस कर्मियों के लिए दोहरे करियर विकल्प का प्रोत्साहन।
 - पुलिस विभाग की आंतरिक खेल प्रोत्साहन नीति की सफलता।
 - राज्य में खेल प्रतिभाओं को कॉलेज स्तर से पहचानने और विकसित करने की आवश्यकता।
- व्यापक परिप्रेक्ष्य:
 - भारत की सांस्कृतिक और खेल शक्ति को वैश्विक मंच पर प्रदर्शित करने का अवसर।
 - पुलिस बल के मनोबल को बढ़ावा।
 - केंद्र और राज्य सरकार की योजनाओं जैसे "खेलो इंडिया", "फिट इंडिया", और "युवा सशक्तिकरण मिशन" से जुड़ाव।

MCQs

1. Who among the following won the gold medal in boxing at the World Police and Fire Games 2025 held in Birmingham, USA?



1. Dilip Malav
2. Krishna Sharma
3. Kachnar Choudhary
4. Rajeev Sharma

Answer: 2) Krishna Sharma

Explanation: Krishna Sharma, Sub-Inspector from Rajasthan Police, won gold in boxing defeating a Mongolian boxer in the final.

1. निम्न में से किसने अमेरिका के बर्मिंघम में आयोजित विश्व पुलिस और फायर गेम्स 2025 में मुक्केबाजी में स्वर्ण पदक जीता?

1. दिलीप मालव
2. कृष्णा शर्मा
3. कचनार चौधरी
4. राजीव शर्मा

उत्तर: 2) कृष्णा शर्मा

व्याख्या: राजस्थान पुलिस के सब इंस्पेक्टर कृष्णा शर्मा ने मुक्केबाजी के फाइनल में मंगोलियाई मुक्केबाज को हराकर स्वर्ण पदक जीता।

2. What is the significance of Krishna Sharma's victory in World Police and Fire Games 2025?

1. He was the youngest police officer in the team
2. It was his first ever gold medal
3. He won gold for the third time on foreign soil
4. He represented the Indian Army

Answer: 3) He won gold for the third time on foreign soil

Explanation: Krishna Sharma has previously won two international gold medals; this is his third gold abroad.

2. विश्व पुलिस एवं फायर गेम्स 2025 में कृष्णा शर्मा की जीत का क्या महत्व है?

1. वे टीम के सबसे युवा पुलिस अधिकारी थे
2. यह उनका पहला स्वर्ण पदक था
3. उन्होंने विदेशी धरती पर तीसरी बार स्वर्ण पदक जीता
4. उन्होंने भारतीय सेना का प्रतिनिधित्व किया

उत्तर: 3) उन्होंने विदेशी धरती पर तीसरी बार स्वर्ण पदक जीता

व्याख्या: कृष्णा शर्मा ने इससे पहले दो बार अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्वर्ण पदक जीते हैं, यह उनकी तीसरी जीत है।



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