

Trump trade envoy pick says universal tariffs should be 'considered'

AFP, WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump's trade envoy nominee Jamieson Greer told his confirmation hearing Thursday that universal tariffs should be "studied and considered" as a potential way to reverse off-shoring and deficits.

On the campaign trail, Trump had floated the idea of across-the-board tariffs on all US imports and Greer would be a crucial figure in implementing the president's trade and tariffs agenda if confirmed as US trade representative.

Trump has also imposed an additional tariff on Chinese imports taking effect this week, while threatening broad tariffs on Canada and Mexico.

Addressing the Senate Finance Committee, Greer said US workers ought to have a "level playing field" to compete globally, and stressed the need for the world's biggest economy to have a "robust manufacturing base."

Greer, a partner at law firm King & Spalding, served as chief of staff to Trump's former trade representative Robert Lighthizer during his first presidential term.

During that time, Greer helped to see through a



JAMIESON GREER PLAYBOOK

- Suggested universal tariffs should be 'studied and considered' to reverse off-shoring and reduce trade deficits
- Emphasised the need for a robust manufacturing base and a level playing field for US workers to compete globally
- Promised to enforce compliance with the 2020 Phase One trade deal with China and address unfair trade practices
- Warned of a short window to reform the global trade system to better serve US interests

trade deal between the United States, Mexico and Canada -- although Trump has since annulled and paused fresh tariffs on both neighbors as talks continue. Greer told lawmakers

Thursday that the United States should be a "country of producers," as he faced questions by lawmakers on trade.

He also noted that the United States needs to "gain

market access where things have been closed," calling for the use of "all the tools at our disposal" in order to do so.

He added there is a "relatively short window of time" to restructure the international trade system to better serve US interests.

Beyond the issue of reciprocity with Beijing, Washington has to have a "balanced relationship" overall with China, Greer said.

He added that if confirmed, he would swiftly assess and enforce China's compliance with a Phase One trade deal Washington and Beijing inked in 2020, marking a truce in the trade war between both sides.

Greer additionally said he was committed to looking at other unfair trade practices if confirmed as USTR.

During Trump's first term from 2017 to 2021, the United States introduced tariffs on billions of dollars worth of imports -- notably on China but also America's allies.

In particular, the first Trump administration imposed levies on some \$300 billion in Chinese goods as Washington and Beijing engaged in an escalating tariff war.

New Attorney General Bondi orders review of Trump cases

AP, WASHINGTON: New Attorney General Pam Bondi on Wednesday ordered a review of the federal prosecution of Donald Trump as she unveiled a series of directives designed to overhaul a Justice Department the president claims is biased against conservatives.

Hours after she was sworn in at the White House, Bondi called for the creation of "weaponization working group" that will examine the work of special counsel Jack Smith, who charged Trump in two criminal cases. The group will also review the "pursuit of improper investigative tactics and unethical prosecutions" stemming from the Jan. 6, 2021 riot at the US Capitol, among other things, according to the memo.

The memo satisfies the longstanding contention of Trump and his allies that the Justice Department under the Biden administration had become "weaponized" against conservatives, even though some of its most high-profile probes concerned the Democratic president and his son and there's been no evidence to support the idea that the prosecutions against Trump were launched for a partisan purpose.

Bondi herself had shadowed the working group's creation by asserting in her confirmation hearing last month that the Justice Department had "targeted Donald Trump."

Protesters in US against Trump's policies, Project 2025, Musk



Several hundred demonstrators rally against President Donald Trump outside the California State Capitol

AP, WASHINGTON: Demonstrators gathered in cities across the US on Wednesday to protest the Trump administration's early actions, decrying everything from the president's immigration crackdown to his rollback of transgender rights and a proposal to forcibly transfer Palestinians from the Gaza Strip.

Protesters in Philadelphia and at state capitols in California, Minnesota, Michigan, Texas, Wisconsin, Indiana and beyond waved signs denouncing President Donald Trump; billionaire Elon Musk, the leader of Trump's new Department of Government Efficiency; and Project 2025, a hard-right playbook for American government and society.

"I'm appalled by democracy's changes in the last, well, specifically two weeks -- but it started a long time ago," Margaret Wilmet said at

a protest outside the Statehouse in Columbus, Ohio. "So I'm just trying to put a presence into resistance."

The protests were a result of a movement that has organized online under the hashtags #buildtheresistance and #50501, which stands for 50 protests, 50 states, one day. Websites and accounts across social media issued calls for action, with messages such as "reject fascism" and "defend our democracy."

Outside the state Capitol in Lansing, Michigan, a crowd of hundreds gathered in freezing temperatures.

Catie Miglietti, from the Ann Arbor area, said Musk's access to Treasury Department data was especially concerning. She painted a sign depicting Musk puppeteering Trump from his outsize arm -- evoking Musk's straight-arm gesture during a Janu-

ary speech that some have interpreted as a Nazi salute.

"If we don't stop it and get Congress to do something, it's an attack on democracy," Miglietti said.

Demonstrations in several cities piled criticism on Musk and the Department of Government Efficiency.

"DOGE is not legit," read one poster on the state Capitol steps in Jefferson City, Missouri, where dozens of protesters gathered. "Why does Elon have your Social Security info???"

Members of Congress have expressed concern that DOGE's involvement with the US government payment system could lead to security risks or missed payments for programs such as Social Security and Medicare. A Treasury Department official says a tech executive working with DOGE will have "read-only access."

voice of business

New I-T bill not to have provisos, explanations: Finance Secretary

Cabinet discussion likely today; to be introduced in Parl next week

PTI, NEW DELHI: The new income tax bill, to be introduced in Parliament next week, will not have long sentences, provisos and explanations, Finance Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey said on Thursday.

"We are also not changing policy in a big way. We do not want to create any unstable situation. Laws are not supposed to be meant for only legal professionals. It is for citizens to understand



— Tuhin Kanta Pandey, Finance Secretary

any unstable situation," Pandey added.

"The new law would be simple. 'Laws are not supposed to be meant for only legal professionals. It is for citizens to understand,'" Pandey added.

The new bill, which will replace the six-decade-old Income Tax Act, is likely to be discussed at the Cabinet meeting on Friday, sources said. The new bill, which was announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in

her Budget speech, will also incorporate the changes made in income tax rates, slabs and in TDS provisions made in the Budget for 2025-26.

"When you see next week a new income tax Bill, you will see a very different Bill. The way we write laws is undergoing a change... You will see

very less of those long sentences you will not see probably the proviso, explanations...." Pandey said at a PHD Chambers event here.

Pandey said the new bill will not put any new taxes, or any new burden.

"We are also not changing policy in a big way. We do not want to create

Bank of England cuts key rates to 4.50%

AP, LONDON: The Bank of England has cut its main interest rate for the third time in six months with the British economy struggling to post any meaningful growth.

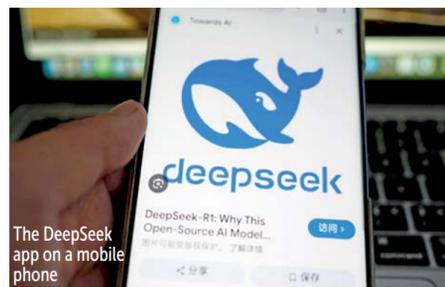
The bank said the Monetary Policy Committee lowered its main interest rate by a quarter of a percentage point to 4.50%, taking it to its lowest level since mid-2023. Seven of the members backed the cut, while the other two voted for an even bigger reduction of half a percentage point to 4.25%.

The latest cut reflects some concern about the outlook for the British economy, which has barely grown over the past six months. In forecasts accompanying the decision, the bank halved its growth projection for the British economy to 0.75%.

"It will be welcome news to many that we have been able to cut interest rates again today," said Bank Gov Andrew Bailey. "We'll be monitoring the UK economy and global developments very closely and taking a gradual and careful approach to reducing rates further. Low and stable inflation is the foundation of a healthy economy and it's the Bank of England's job to ensure that."

China cries foul over India, others imposing curbs on DeepSeek

PTI, BEIJING: After several countries, including India, clamped restrictions on officials accessing the newly-released Chinese AI tool DeepSeek, China on Thursday said such actions amounted to politicisation of trade and tech issues and vowed to protect the interests of its firms.



The DeepSeek app on a mobile phone

China has all along opposed moves to overstretch the concept of national security or politicise trade and tech issues, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun told a media briefing here while replying to a question on several countries either banning the use of DeepSeek or restricting its use by officials over suspicions of data leaks.

"We have never asked and will never ask any company or individual to collect or store data against laws," Guo said, referring to apprehensions concerning China's 2017 national intelligence law which gave the Chinese government powers over private companies.

"China has all along opposed moves to overstretch the concept of national security or politicise trade and tech issues. We will

firmly protect the lawful rights and interests of Chinese companies," Guo said.

India's Finance Ministry has directed its officers not to download or use AI tools and apps such as ChatGPT and DeepSeek in office computers and devices, saying they pose confidentiality risks to data and documents.

In a communication last month to all its departments, the ministry said AI tools and AI apps in office devices may be strictly avoided.

"It has been determined that AI tools and AI apps (such as ChatGPT, DeepSeek etc) in the office computers and devices pose risks for confidentiality of government data and documents," the Department of Expenditure under the ministry said in a note on

January 29.

South Korea has blocked its government departments from accessing DeepSeek. According to media reports, Italy, Australia, the US and Japan also blocked access to DeepSeek.

DeepSeek's latest AI offering has drawn global attention for its low-cost model -- at just \$6 million against global average of billions of dollars. Further, DeepSeek's R1 used a fraction of compute power as compared to established AI models like ChatGPT.

DeepSeek overtook ChatGPT as the top-ranked free app on Apple's Appstore, as the US tech industry -- that has long-justified injecting billions of dollars into AI investments -- watched in sheer disbelief last week.

CLASSIFIED CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

SITUATIONS VACANT

Aquatech- Leading Swimming Pool Firm, Looking for Young & energetic Project Sales Engineers. Diploma in Mech & Civil Engg. Two Wheeler with valid License is a must. Experience in project sales is preferred. Send CV on whatsapp 9923170709/ email: south@aquatech.in

2025004061

Aquatech- Leading Swimming Pool Firm, Looking for Young & energetic Plumbers & Electrician with 4-5 years experience. ITI/SSC. Two Wheeler with valid License is a must. Send CV on whatsapp 9923170709/ email: south@aquatech.in

2025004062

Wanted office assistant with excellent communication skills, MS office, email, Canva, online tenders, having a 2 wheeler bike for a laboratory in Panjim. Freshers can also apply. Contact 9822100140.

2025004067

Wanted a laboratory technician to work for a pathology lab in panjim with 2 wheeler bike . Contact 9822100140

2025004068

Female Pharmacy asst, counter sales staff part/ full time College students required for a pharmacy in Margao call 9923316973

2025004072

Urgent hiring for a well known restaurant in Guiridolim, Chandor Salcete Goa for the below mentioned position:- Goan Cook, Restaurant Supervisor & Waiters Interested candidates can share their CV via WhatsApp or call on 7057202408.

2025004073

Wanted 1 MTS/ Peon on contract basis having minimum Std X in St. Thomas Boys' Primary School, Aldona till the end of the Academic Year 2024 - 25. Walk-in- interview on 12/2/25 (Wed) between 10 am to 12 pm at St. Thomas Boys' High School, Aldona with Application & relevant testimonials.

2025004074

Urgently required waiters, for Restaurant in South Goa. Accommodation can be provided. 8975028868 / 9373822657

2025004075

Looking for tailor with basic stitching knowledge (part time) from in and around Mapusa/ Bastora/ Aldona/ Uccassaim. Contact:- 7775059729

2025004077

Wanted Sales Executive cum office Assistant with Computer knowledge for Construction Company. Contact with Biodata, passport size photograph Next to A.V. D'Costa Hospital, Fatorda, Margao, Goa. Whatsapp 9156779019 or Email: miconreators.in@rediffmail.com

2025004080

Wanted accountant for a showroom in Margao salary 15000 for fresher and 17000 for experienced .call 7756038377. email whatsapp cv pdworld11@gmail.com .T & C apply

2025004114

SITUATIONS VACANT

Require 1 "Office Admin" Male preferred Contact : 8007237070 (between 10am to 6pm) Email: margoadds@gmail.com

2025004081

Need Office Boy around Margao with Computer knowledge and 2 wheeler licence for a Printing Firm. Contact: 8087698513

2025004085

Wanted Data Entry Operators to work in North and South Goa send CV to goadataentry@yahoo.com.

2025004087

Wanted office boy and billing staff for Borkar Multispeciality Hospital, Abade Faria road Margao- Goa. Contact: 9561932487/ 9561562487 between 9.00am to 6.00pm

2025004135

Wanted Office Assistant (F) in Mapusa, 12th /Graduate having knowledge of MS Office/ Administration work etc. Contact: 9326129981 Send CV to trinityhomesandestates@gmail.com

2025004090

Wanted Telecaller to work for a office in Panjim. salary 17,000/- CONTACT: 8806448765

2025004091

"A real estate company based in Sangolda is looking to hire an executive for a field job. Candidates should have good communication skills and their own transportation .Preference will be given to candidates with prior experience in the same field. Salary: [25,000 +incentives. Interested candidates can send their resumes via WhatsApp: 8329898091.

2025004093

Required Experience candidates Male /Female to work for construction company at Socorro, Porvorim Goa, office assistant- Qualification: B.A/B.Sc/B.com/ M. com/12th pass or lawyer -Qualification: L.L.B/ L.L.M , Walk in Interview. Contact: 9822644081 / 9822645088, Email id: chacko1957@yahoo.com

2025004096

Wanted a Shop manager in Sports shop. Preferably with experience, even freshers can apply. With basic knowledge of sports items, sales, computers and social media. Whatsapp CV/ call- 7757973244

2025004098

Computer Female Typist required for M/s Casa Desai, Mapusa Contact: 8888788226

2025004102

Account Assistant having Tally knowledge wanted for jewellery shop in Mapusa. Contact: 9881467090

2025004103

Required for Gulf, Goan Cook, Restaurant Manager and Waitress. Contact on Whatsapp 0097339430698.

2025004110

Wanted driver for a showroom in margao to drive bolero and dost .Age upto 40 years. Salary 18000 pm contact 9850071022 .T&C apply

2025004116

SITUATIONS VACANT

Require Security Supervisor. Graduate, good physique and possessing two wheeler to look after the security arrangements at the Hotel premises in South Goa. Interested candidate may contact: 8550998280 Email: goajobhr@gmail.com

2025004079

Urgently hiring female candidates fresher/ experienced at Margao finance office salary -15000-20000/- .Contact-7972921776 Interview 4-6pm

2025004120

Need part time Recruitment Managers, Earn more 20,000/-, Age 24-60, Qualification 12th and above. Contact: 7045018440.

2025004122

The Handy Goan Automation were hiring for ITI, Degree/ Diploma. Business Development Executive Contact on: 9604591042/ 8668549621 email: thehandygoan.office@gmail.com

2025004123

Wanted urgently Male student X or XII in around Margao for office assistant indoor or outdoor job. Having 2wheeler n 4wheeler driving licence is preferred. Free accommodation bachelor available. Call 9822150384.

2025004124

Wanted Staff in Office as a Accountant knowledge of Computer essential Contact- 9850470704/ 9850880704

2025004126

Wanted Indian Chinese Continental cook, stewards & utility boy, for Restaurant in Benaulim. Contact 9823878799.

2025004131

Wanted urgently for Pharmacy in Davorlim Margao hard working boys- 2 nos Exp/ without exp. PIs call 8208052247

2025004132

Wanted Ambulance Driver for Borkar Multispeciality Hospital, Abade Faria road Margao- Goa. Free food and accommodation will be provided in addition to salary Contact: 9561932487/ 9561562487 between 9.00am to 6.00pm

2025004134

Santana Beach Resort Dando Candolim requires urgently: Junior Accountant having knowledge of tally, min graduate, Waiters/ Roomboys min 10th pass experience bonus. Walkin interview with biodata 10am-6pm For queries call 9326102242/ 9371703526.

2025004113

Wanted smart female Office Assistant in Margao. Knowledge of Computer. Construction office. Whatsapp CV: 8007503363.

2025004144

Site Engineers. Leading waterproofing contracting company wants to recruit site engineers to monitor execution of waterproofing work in Goa. Candidates having relevant experience needs to apply with complete details on samaccounts@aol.com.

2025004146

SITUATIONS VACANT

Wanted All Rounder Tandoori Cook for Restaurant in Colva. Call 9370185636

2025004070

THANKSGIVING

MIRACLE PRAYER

Dear Sacred Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked for many favours, this time I ask You this special one (mention your favour).

Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it in Your own broken heart, where our Father sees it, then in His merciful eyes it will become Your favour, not mine, Amen

Say this prayer for 3 days and promise publication and the favour will be granted no matter how impossible. Never know to fail.

2025004076-1

TOURS & TRAVELS

Zion Tours- Holyland Pilgrimage- 16th March & 11th May 2025, Amazing Vietnam- 07th May 2025, Georgia- A Hidden Gem- 19th May 2025, Exotic Turkey- 27th April 2025. Contact: 7498023167/ 8208537106. Margao Office: 2739932, 7822969683Email: holyland@ziontours.net.in, www.ziontours.net.in

2025002803

VEHICLES AVAILABLE

NRI Wagon r Ixi (newshape) 2008 frost 76008km 20kmpl/p/steering, cd, c/locking new tyre rto passing 2028 excellent condition 9326811763.

2025004032

Lady driven KWID (Automatic) 2018 Maroon 46008km 20kmpl/p/steering, p/windows, cd, c/locking, new tyre excellent showroom condition 7769811804.

2025004033

ALTO 2008 Silver only 15008KM 20KMPL ALTO LXI 2009 Silver 75008km 20km/ltr. p/steering, cd, c/locking, new tyres excellent condition passing 2029 call 7769811804.

2025004035

2021 Maruti Vitara Brezza VXI for sale, 1,30,000 kms driven. Kindly contact 8010954515

2025004053

VEHICLES WANTED

We buy all Car's & Bike's. Maruti, Toyota, Hyundai, Honda (Vintage Car's) etc, even accidental and scrap car's. Spot payment-8381027157

2025001584

Required Yezdi Roadking Classic 250 Bike for purchase old model. Immediate purchase Margao Goa. Contact: 9850436276

2025003904

Wanted 2015 To 2020 model FOUR wheeler vehicle Wanted any good condition now agent only owner to owner please call me 7028704050

2025004136