

+ India trying to reach understanding with US on issues that led to tariffs: Jaishankar

Our Bureau
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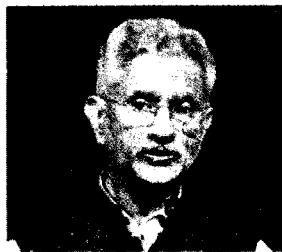
India has unresolved issues with the US which led to tariffs being imposed on its goods, but New Delhi is trying to reach an understanding with Washington, said External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.

New Delhi, however, will insist on its red lines being respected, said the Minister, alluding to sensitive areas such as agriculture and dairy.

"We have issues with the US and a big part of it because we have not arrived at a landing ground, and the inability to reach there has led to tariffs being levied," said the Minister at the Kautilya Economic Conclave (KEC 2025) on Sunday.

'TARIFFS UNFAIR'

Referring to the additional 25 per cent penalty imposed on India for buying Russian



External Affairs Minister
S Jaishankar

oil, on top of the 25 per cent reciprocal tariffs, the Minister said it was unfair. "In addition, there is a second tariff which we have said we regard as very unfair, which was put on us for sourcing energy from Russia when there are other countries that have done so, including countries that right now have a far more antagonistic relationship with Russia than we do...," he said.

At the same time, the Minister said the issue should not be disproportionately

viewed. "I don't think we should take it to a point as though this is going to percolate to every dimension of the relationship and there is something very fundamental at stake; I think we need to

see this in proportion," said Jaishankar.

Commenting on the geopolitical turbulence, he said the posture that India adopts is to have as many productive relationships as possible.

Focus on Atmanirbhar innovation, says Scindia

Jyotiraditya Scindia, Minister of Communications, said on Sunday that the Indian industry should prioritise *Atmanirbhar* innovation over imitation, and emphasised that the country must build indigenous technological capabilities in the age of AI and digital transformation. Speaking at the Kautilya Economic Conclave, he highlighted that India developed its own 4G stack within 22 months, breaking into a space long dominated by a few global players, and state-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd had already

started rolling out services based on these stacks.

He said the 4G towers will switch to the 5G network within the next 6-8 months.

"Today, India has entered the club with its own 4G standard. This is India's innovation capability and innovation enterprise. But we are not going to rest. Within the next six to eight months, we will be switching these 4G towers to 5G networks and provide end-to-end 5G network capability across the length and breadth of India," said Scindia.