

India exploring alternative mkts, says MEA official

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India is exploring new markets for its exports — goods and services — as a diversification strategy amid the US decision to slap additional tariffs on Indian exports, said Dammu Ravi, secretary (economic relations) at the Ministry of External Affairs.

Ravi called US decision to levy high tariff an unilateral step without logic. But said he was confident that the negotiations which are underway will lead mutually beneficial outcomes. Ravi was speaking on the media on sidelines of a conference on India-Brazil Relations in Mumbai.

US President Donald Trump on Wednesday announced the decision to levy an additional 25 per cent tariff on Indian goods sent to USA for importing Russian crude oil. These are duties over and above 25 per cent

announced earlier which come into from August 07, 2025. The additional 25 per cent duties would go into force in 21 days.

Ravi said the high tariffs at this point of time doesn't really pull back Indian industry. "We are looking at opportunities, but also new markets. So, if the US becomes difficult to export, then you will automatically look at other opportunities. Both within our own region, in South Asia and Africa, Middle East, Latin America. These are potential areas. I think it's very natural for countries to look for alternatives".

"It is a unilateral decision and I don't think there was any logical reason in the way it was done. US and India are very strong partners, strategic partners. We are having a complementary relationship all this while".

The leaders and the businesses on both sides are looking for opportunities.

