

Reactions from Indian Business Leaders on Trump Tariffs

• • • • •

147 views · 2 minute read

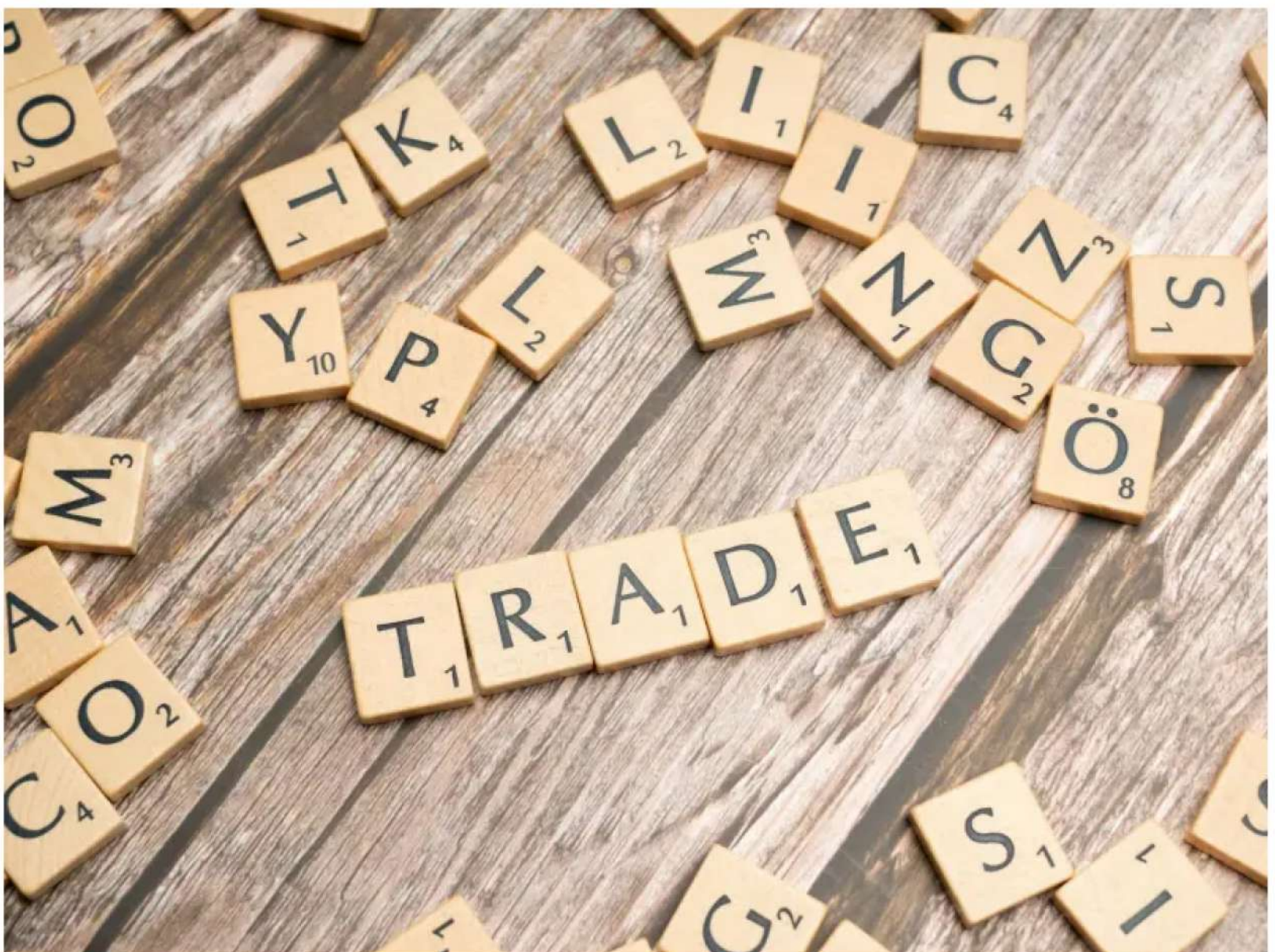


Photo by Markus Winkler on Pexels.com

Here are some of the thought leaders of India who have shared their reactions on tariffs announced by USA President Donald Trump.

By  ARAVIND SUNDARAM · April 7, 2025 · No comments

Tariffs on nearly 185 countries by the United States of America are creating ripple effects throughout the world. Bureaucrats, policymakers, and business leaders are giving mixed reactions on the same. Consequently, countries like China have responded with retaliatory tariffs too. On that note, here are some of the thought leaders of India who have shared their reactions on the move.

Dr. Malini Saba, Philanthropist and Founder, Saba Family Foundation

The 26% reciprocal tariff imposed by the U.S. on Indian exports is a reminder of the importance of strengthening India's self-reliance in global trade. While it presents immediate challenges, it also opens doors for India to enhance its manufacturing, invest in technological advancements, and explore untapped markets.

Historically, India has demonstrated resilience and adaptability, and this moment should serve as a catalyst for fostering innovation-driven exports that reinforce our nation's economic strength. Now is the time for businesses to embrace strategic collaborations, leverage India's entrepreneurial dynamism, and chart a path that positions India as a leader in global commerce. The future belongs to nations that turn challenges into stepping stones, and India is well poised to do exactly that.

Prashant Bora, MD & CEO of OTEK

It's clear that the US reciprocal tariffs will be a significant barrier for global free trade. However, if we consider the consumer electronics export to the US in recent years, the sector has witnessed a gradual rise since 2023. Yet, it remains minuscule when we compare it with the same from internationally competing countries like China, Japan, and South Korea. These tariffs will surely cause discomfort and will likely slow the growth of the consumer electronics industry. However, it is unlikely to become a driving factor considering the present export value from India.

Sonal Posé, Director of ModNexus.in

I see the US reciprocal tariff announcement as a dual-edged sword for Indian startups eyeing North American growth. The 26% tariff on Indian goods, effective April 9, 2025, may ripple through some sectors, raising costs and tightening budgets. Yet, our focus on custom AI and XR tech services—untouched by direct tariffs—gives us a unique edge to adapt and innovate. We're poised to collaborate closely with North American partners, delivering solutions that offset tariff pressures with efficiency and value.

For Indian tech startups like us, this shift opens doors: it levels the playing field against harder-hit competitors like China, boosts demand for cost-saving automation, and highlights India's growing tech prowess on the global stage. Like many tech service organizations, we view this as a chance to shine amid volatility. A tech-driven approach offers resilience, turning manageable risks into strategic wins. At ModNexus.in, we're not just navigating this complex trade shift—we're leveraging it to strengthen offerings, deepen ties, and build trust across borders, setting the stage for success in the US and beyond.