

Uncertainty in Global Economy

What is the issue?

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Uncertainty in the global scenario due to the tariff dynamic has to be handled by following an integrated strategy.

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What is the current global scenario?

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- The US President indicated his decision to raise tariffs on steel and aluminium imports into the US in line which his isolationist reforms.
- In response to his decision, US's trade partners have informed the World Trade Organisation about the retaliatory tariffs they intend to impose.
- India has also announced <u>retaliatory tariffs</u> on several imports from the US, such as nuts, apples, and motorcycles.
- Most of the <u>retaliatory tariffs</u> that have been declared by various countries are strictly proportional with the tariffs announced by the US.

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What are the concerns with this dynamic tariff scenario?

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- \bullet There is uncertainty regarding the pattern of world trade including that of services once the tariff dynamic kicks in. $\$
- Since, the retaliatory tariffs of US's trading partners will affect US equally, it is ambiguous how the US administration will react.
- The world economy is entering a deeply destabilising period where even the final 'real' value of currencies may change.

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 As not just changes to trade but vast changes to capital flows are being driven by reviving US growth, <u>US federal government</u> borrowing, and the stance of the United States Federal Reserve.

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How will in impact India?

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- \bullet If US now distorts and disobeys the rules, its ramifications will be manifold and it will affect the global economy and its strategic alliances. \n
- Therefore, companies that are globally integrated, including those in India, will have to re-examine and re-optimise their operations.
- But the Indian government is still unprepared to bring up the resources for an integrated and holistic response to these changes.
- India is far below its potential growth trend-line and thus it needs to work out pro-active rules defining international economic and strategic engagement as quickly as possible.

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Source: Business Standard

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