

# Brazil Prez to convene Brics members' meet on Trump tariffs

Brazil's Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva is convening a virtual meet of Brics members next Monday to discuss US Prez Donald Trump's trade policy, according to people familiar with the plan. The Brazilian president wants to discuss trade tariffs imposed by US govt and rally fellow heads of major emerging market nations in support of multilateralism, according to two Brazilian govt officials, sources said, on condition of anonymity, as details of the call haven't been officially announced yet.

Trump thrust Brazil into the middle of his global trade war in July, threatening to impose higher tariffs unless the country's Supreme Court immediately halted a trial in which former President Jair Bolsonaro faces charges of attempting a coup. Latin America's largest economy is now subject to 50% tariffs, although US has exempted hundreds of goods such as airplanes and orange juice.

US has set different tariffs for different Brics nations, however, making it difficult for them to agree on a joint statement, according to Brazilian officials. Moreover, Lula does not want the meeting to turn into an anti-US summit, they said. BLOOMBERG

# Amid tariff tensions, US & India kick off largest-ever Army exercise in Alaska

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**New Delhi:** Far away from the raging bilateral tariff tensions, India and US on Monday kicked off one of their largest-ever Army 'Yudh Abhyas' exercise in Alaska, even as planning is underway to conduct the top-notch Malabar naval exercise among 'Quad' countries off Guam in Western Pacific in Nov.

India-US ties may have plummeted after President Donald Trump imposed 50% tariffs on New Delhi but defence officials say the bilateral strategic partnership built over last two decades, with defence cooperation being its cornerstone, is in no danger of unravelling as yet.

"It's early days yet... though mutual trust has taken a big hit, there is too much at stake," an official said. Just in terms of defence acquisitions, the delivery of 99 GE-F404 turbofan engines by US firm General Electric, which HAL contracted for \$716 million in Aug 2021 to power the all-im-



**'YUDH ABHYAS' BEGINS**

portant indigenous Tejas Mark-1A fighters, has just about begun after a two-year delay. India is also getting set to sign another deal with GE for 113 more such engines for \$1 billion.

Apart from other deals, India is also slated to receive 31-armed MQ-9B 'Predator' high-altitude, long-endurance drones, ordered from the US for \$3.8 billion in Oct last year, in the 2029-30 timeframe.

US has bagged lucrative Indian defence deals worth over \$25 billion

since 2007, though there might be a rethink on future arms deals if the downward trajectory in bilateral ties continues amid the ongoing geopolitical churn unleashed by Trump.

India, in pursuit of its "strategic autonomy", of course, has already accelerated its re-engagement with China despite the continuing trust deficit on the border, while steadfastly sticking to its long-standing strategic-defence ties with Russia.

In 'Yudh Abhyas' exercise in the subarctic climate of Fort Wainwright in Alaska, over 450 Madras Regiment soldiers will undertake a spectrum of high-altitude tactical drills with troops from 5th Infantry Regiment "Bobcats" of Arctic Wolves Brigade Combat Team, 11th Airborne Division of the US, till Sept 14.

Parallely, India, US, Australia and Japan are finalising operational details for upcoming 29th edition of Malabar naval exercise off Guam. The Malabar began as a bilateral endeavour between India and the US in 1992 but includes all 'Quad' countries now.

# SCO condemns Pahalgam attack, concurs with India



PM Modi along with other world leaders at SCO meet.

TIANJIN (China), Sept 1 (PTI)

**THE** Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) on Monday strongly condemned the Pahalgam terror attack and concurred with India's position that "double standards" in the fight against terrorism are unacceptable.

The influential grouping listed its strong resolve to combat terrorism in a declaration that was unveiled at the end of its two-day annual summit at the Chinese port city that was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chinese President Xi Jinping,

Russia's Vladimir Putin and many other global leaders.

The SCO member states also condemned the military strikes by Israel in Gaza as it has led to numerous casualties among the civilian population and a catastrophic humanitarian situation in the Strip.

The declaration mentioned ways to enhance regional security and identified combating terrorism as a major challenge.

"The member states strongly condemned the terrorist attack in Pahalgam on April 22," it said.

The SCO member states  
*(Contd on page 5)*

# PM Modi meets Putin, calls for ending Ukraine war

■ Russian President Putin is set to travel to India in December for summit talks with Prime Minister Modi

TIANJIN (China), Sept 1 (PTI)

**PRIME** Minister Narendra Modi on Monday conveyed to Russian President Vladimir Putin that it is humanity's call to end the Ukraine conflict as soon as possible.

Modi and Putin met on the margins of the annual summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) against the backdrop of possibly the worst phase in India-US relations in

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over two decades, with the strain exacerbated by President Donald Trump's tariff policy and constant criticism of New Delhi by his administration.

The Prime Minister and the Russian President also deliberated on bilateral cooperation in sectors such as economic, financial, and energy and expressed satisfaction with the sustained growth in bilateral ties in these areas, according to an Indian readout.

We welcome all recent efforts to bring peace to Ukraine and  
*(Contd on page 5)*



PM Narendra Modi talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping at

## Putin shares limousine with PM Modi

TIANJIN, Sept 1 (PTI)

**PRIME** Minister Narendra Modi was offered a lift by Russian President Vladimir Putin in his AURUS limousine to reach the venue of their bilateral talks on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit here on Monday.

"The two leaders continued their  
*(Contd on page 5)*

