

Insider trading!

US senator calls for probe into Trump over tariff pause

AFP, Washington

Several US senators have called for an investigation into whether President Donald Trump engaged in insider trading or market manipulation by encouraging people to buy stocks just before his dramatic reversal on global tariffs.

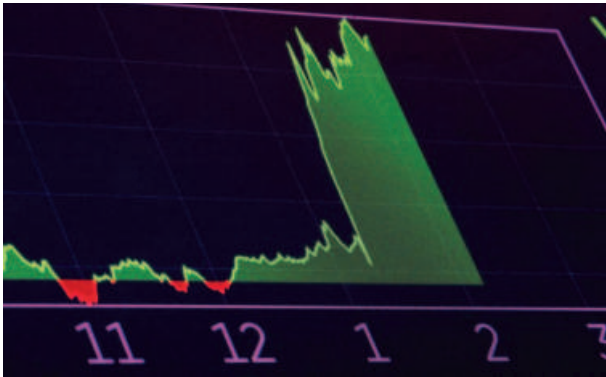
“Who in the administration knew about Trump’s latest tariff flip flop ahead of time? Did anyone buy or sell stocks, and profit at the public’s expense?” California Democratic Senator Adam Schiff posted on X on Wednesday.

“I’m writing to the White House – the public has a right to know,” he added.

Democratic members of the House Financial Services Committee wrote on X that “the President of the United States is literally engaging in the world’s biggest market manipulation scheme.”

The accusations came as Trump posted a few minutes after Wall Street opened that “IT’S TIME TO BUY”.

A few hours later, he announced a 90-day suspension of additional tariffs against dozens of countries, with the exception of China, triggering a historic stock market rebound.



After several days of collapse, the Dow Jones index ended Wednesday up 7.87 percent, its biggest gain since 2008, and the Nasdaq up 12.16 percent, the most since 2001.

Trump also signed his post on Truth Social with the letters “DJT” – both his initials and the stock market abbreviation for his media company, Trump Media & Technology Group. The company’s shares closed the day up 21.67 percent.

White House communications adviser Margo Martin posted a video on X late Wednesday showing Trump receiving Charles Schwab, founder and co-chairman of the Schwab asset management, in the Oval Office.

“This is Charles Schwab,” Trump said, introducing the 87-year-old billionaire to champion car racers.

“He’s not just a company, he’s actually an individual! And he made 2.5 billion (dollars) today,” he said.

Former White House ethics lawyer Richard Painter also felt there was a case for investigation.

“Presidents are not investment advisors,” said Painter, who had served under the administration of former president George W. Bush.

“This scenario could expose the president to charges of market manipulation,” he told NBC.

The White House said Trump only wanted to “reassure” the public.



Palestinians from Al-Hirsh family stand near the ruins of their houses after they were demolished by Israeli bulldozers in the village of Al-Rihaya, south of the occupied-West Bank city of Hebron yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

France may recognise Palestinian state ‘in June’

AFP, Paris

France plans to recognise a Palestinian state within months and could make the move at a UN conference in New York in June on settling the Israel-Palestinian conflict, President Emmanuel Macron said in an interview broadcast Wednesday.

“We must move towards recognition, and we will do so in the coming months,” Macron, who this week visited Egypt, told France 5 television.

“Our aim is to chair this conference with Saudi Arabia in June, where we could finalise this movement of mutual recognition by several parties,” he added.

“I will do it because I believe that at some point it will be right and because I also want to participate in a collective dynamic, which must also allow all those who defend Palestine to recognise Israel in turn, which many of them do not do,” he added.

Such recognition would allow France “to be clear in our fight against



those who deny Israel’s right to exist – which is the case with Iran – and to commit ourselves to collective security in the region,” he added.

France has long championed a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestinian conflict, including after the October 7, 2023 attack by Palestinian militants Hamas on Israel.

France’s recognition of Palestinian statehood “would be a step in the right direction in line with safeguarding the rights of the Palestinian people and the two state solution,” Palestinian minister of state for foreign affairs Varsen Aghabekian Shahin told AFP.

Nearly 150 countries recognise a Palestinian state. In May 2024, Ireland, Norway and Spain announced recognition, followed by Slovenia in June, in moves partly fuelled by condemnation of Israel’s bombing of Gaza that followed the October 7 attacks.

But France would be the most significant European power to recognise a Palestinian state, a move the United States has also long resisted.

“If necessary, absolutely. If it requires military, we’re going to have military. Israel will obviously be very much involved in that, be the leader of that.”

DONALD TRUMP on the possibility of military action against Iran

US and Russia exchange prisoners

AFP, Washington

Russia and the United States exchanged prisoners yesterday, the second such swap since US President Donald Trump returned to the White House as the two countries push for closer ties.

Moscow released US-Russian ballet dancer Ksenia Karelina, who had been sentenced to 12 years in prison on treason charges, with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio confirming early yesterday she was on a plane to the United States.

In exchange, the United States released Arthur Petrov, according to Russian state media, citing the FSB security service. The Russian-German citizen had been facing up to 20 years in a US prison for violating export controls.

Trump and Russian leader Vladimir Putin have since pushed for a restoration of closer ties between the two countries that were severely damaged by Moscow’s invasion of Ukraine.

Trump signs order to ‘make America’s showers great again’

AFP, Washington

US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order lifting water-pressure restrictions on showerheads, a move the White House said would “make America’s showers great again”.

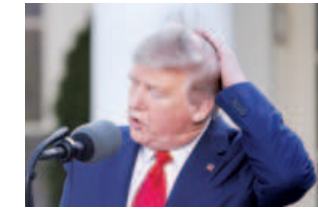
Trump has long complained about inadequate water pressure in American bathrooms, which he blames on federal water conservation regulations.

“In my case, I like to take a nice shower, to take care of my beautiful hair,” Trump told reporters as he signed the order in the Oval Office on Wednesday.

“I have to stand under the shower for 15 minutes till it gets wet. It comes out drip, drip, drip. It’s ridiculous.”

The order directs the Energy Department to roll back “radical green” regulations limiting the flow of showerheads to 2.5 gallons of water per minute.

The White House said the order “frees Americans from excessive regulations that turned a basic household item into a bureaucratic nightmare” and ends the “Obama-Biden war on showers”.



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Office of the Project Director
Strengthening Seed Supply Activities of BADC to the Farmer’s Level Project
www.badc.gov.bd

Memo No. 12.06.0000.290.07.063.2024-
Date: 09/04/2025

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited in e-GP (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by the Project Director, Strengthening Seed Supply Activities of BADC to the Farmer’s Level Project, Dhaka for the procurement of:

SL. No.	Tender ID No.	Tender publishing date, Closing Date & Time	SL. No.	Tender ID No.	Tender publishing date, Closing Date & Time	Type of Method
01	1096871	09-Apr-2025 17:15:00 01-May-2025 10:30:00	02	1097053	09-Apr-2025 17:30:00 01-May-2025 10:15:00	NCT, OTM

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tenders will participate in e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>)

Mohammad Mahmudur Alam
ID No.- 020170
Project Director
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BADC, Krishi Bhaban, Dhaka.
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GD-859

US could ‘revive’ Panama bases

AFP, Panama City

US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth floated the idea on Wednesday of US troops returning to Panama to “secure” its strategically vital canal, a suggestion quickly shot down by the Central American country’s government.

Hegseth suggested during a visit to Panama that “by invitation” the United States could “revive” military bases or naval air stations and rotate deployments of US troops to an isthmus the United States invaded 35 years ago.

He also said his country was seeking free passage through the canal for its Navy ships – which US President Donald Trump had said were “severely overcharged and not treated fairly in any way, shape or form.”

Trump, since coming to power in January, has repeatedly claimed that China has too much influence over the canal, which handles about 40 percent of US container traffic and five percent of world trade.

His administration has vowed to “take back” control of the strategic waterway that the United States funded, built and controlled until 1999.

Hegseth suggested on Wednesday that the slew of former US military bases that dot Panama could be used again to host US troops.

Under current treaties, the canal is open to all nations, and all vessels must pay the same rates according to their capacity and cargo, regardless of their country of origin or destination.

DOMINICAN CLUB TRAGEDY Toll rises to 218

AFP, Santo Domingo

The death toll after a roof collapsed at a crowded nightclub in the Dominican Republic has climbed to 218, the head of rescue operations said yesterday.

Rescuers have worked frantically since the collapse in the early hours of Tuesday to dig out survivors from the rubble of the Jet Set club in Santo Domingo, the Caribbean nation’s worst disaster in decades.

189 people had been “rescued alive” since the collapse. Some 500-1,000 people had been inside the club at the time of the accident, local media had reported.

Among the dead were famed merengue singer Rubby Perez, who was performing on stage as the roof caved in, as well as two former Major League Baseball players and a local politician.

The government said it will open an inquiry into the disaster as soon as the rescue operations have been completed.

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Invitation for e-Tender

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following goods:

SL No.	Tender ID	Invitation Reference No.	Tender Description	Tender Closing Date & Time
01	1096026	JB/IT-Proc-20/LAN Setup-Biman Bhaban/2025	Tender for Procurement of Network Accessories for LAN Setup of Biman Bhaban (3rd Floor), 100 Motijheel (Supply, Installation & Commissioning) for Janata Bank PLC.	30/04/2025 02:30 PM

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in the national e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.
To submit e-Tender, registration in the national e-GP System portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.
Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP portal and e-GP Help Desk (Email: helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

SD/ (Mohammad Shakawat Hossain)
Deputy General Manager

GD-853

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
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Memo No. 35.01.1582.414.36.01.26.25-764
Date: 10-04-2025

e-Tender Notice

This is to notify for all concerns that e-Tenders is invited and published on 10 April 2025 in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for procurement of works for the following Tenders. Interested persons/firms can see details by visiting the website www.eprocure.gov.bd.

Sl.	Tender ID	Tender Reference No.	Name of work	Date & time
01	1092247	e-GP/EE/CSRD/PMP ROAD/01/2024-2025(Re-Tender)	Widening of Bazar Area, Construction of Drain, Bus-bay and DBS Overlay at Ch: 276+030 km. to Ch: 276+130 km., Ch: 296+610 km. to Ch: 297+060 km. (Padua Bazar) and Ch: 300+150 km. to Ch: 301+300 km (Lohagara-Amirabad) of Dhaka (Jatrabari)-Cumilla (Moinamati)-Chattogram-Cox's Bazar-Teknaf National Highway (N-1) under Chattogram South Road Division during the year 2024-2025.	Last selling: 27-Apr-2025 15:00 Closing: 28-Apr-2025 12:00

Pintu Chakma
ID No. 602219
Executive Engineer, RHD
Chattogram South Road Division
Dohazari, Chattogram

GD-860

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Inspector General
Bangladesh Police
Police Headquarters, Dhaka

Invitation for e-Tender

Memo No.44.01.0000.029.07.40.24-817
Date: 10 April 2025

For financial year 2024-25, e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of

S. No.	Description	Tender ID	Procurement Method	Scheduled Tender Publication Date & Time	Tender Opening Date and Time
1.	Iron TC Plain Fabrics (For District Police)	1096598	OSTETM	10-Apr-2025 23:00	12-May-2025 12:00
2.	Iron TC Plain Fabrics (For Metropolitan and Specialized Police)	1096599	OSTETM	10-Apr-2025 23:00	12-May-2025 12:00
3.	Coffee (Shale) TC twill fabric (For District Police)	1096600	OSTETM	10-Apr-2025 23:00	12-May-2025 12:00
4.	Coffee (Shale) TC twill fabric (For Metropolitan and Specialized Police)	1096601	OSTETM	10-Apr-2025 23:00	12-May-2025 12:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration on the e-GP system (www.eprocure.gov.bd) is mandatory.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branch.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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GD-858