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# Trump Increases US Tariffs on South Korean Imports to 25%

## Description

US President Donald Trump has announced a significant increase in tariffs on imports from South Korea, raising them to 25%. This decision comes after he accused South Korea of failing to honour a trade agreement made last year.

In a statement on social media, Trump explained that tariffs on various products, including automobiles, lumber, and pharmaceuticals, would rise from 15%. He expressed frustration over the slow progress of South Korean lawmakers in approving the deal, while claiming the US had acted quickly to lower its tariffs as agreed.

South Korean officials responded by stating they had not received official notice about the tariff increase and are seeking urgent discussions with the United States. The country's Industry Minister, Kim Jung-kwan, who is currently in Canada, plans to travel to Washington soon to meet with US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick.

Following the announcement, shares in some South Korean companies dropped, with car manufacturer Hyundai seeing a decline of about 2.5%. Stocks related to pharmaceuticals and timber also fell.

Last October, South Korea and the US agreed on a deal requiring South Korea to invest \$350 billion (£256 billion) in the US, particularly in shipbuilding. The agreement was submitted to South Korea's National Assembly on 26 November and is expected to be passed in February.

Tariffs are fees paid by businesses that import goods. In this case, US companies will face a 25% tax on products imported from South Korea. Trump has used tariffs as a tool in foreign policy throughout his presidency, and international reactions continue to unfold.

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## Vocabulary List:

1. **Tariffs** /'tærɪfs/ (noun): Fees paid by businesses that import goods.
2. **Imports** /'ɪmpɔːrts/ (noun): Goods brought into a country for trade.
3. **Agreement** /ə'ɡri:mənt/ (noun): A negotiated and typically legally binding arrangement between parties.
4. **Frustration** /frʌs'treɪʃən/ (noun): The feeling of being upset or annoyed due to inability to change or achieve something.
5. **Progress** /'prɒɡres/ (noun): Forward or onward movement toward a destination.
6. **Decline** /dɪ'klaɪn/ (verb): To become less in amount quality or strength.



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## Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice

1. What was the percentage increase in tariffs on imports from South Korea according to President Trump?  
Option: 10%  
Option: 15%  
Option: 20%  
Option: 25%
2. Which of the following products were mentioned to have increased tariffs by President Trump?  
Option: Electronics and appliances  
Option: Automobiles, lumber, and pharmaceuticals  
Option: Clothing and accessories  
Option: Food and beverages
3. Who is the South Korean industry official planning to meet with in Washington regarding the tariff increase?  
Option: President Trump  
Option: US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick  
Option: UN Secretary-General  
Option: Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau
4. Which South Korean company saw a decline in shares following the tariff announcement?  
Option: Samsung  
Option: Hyundai  
Option: LG  
Option: Kia
5. The deal between South Korea and the US required South Korea to invest \$350 billion in which sector in the US?  
Option: Technology  
Option: Oil and Gas  
Option: Finance  
Option: Shipbuilding



6. What action did the South Korean officials take in response to the tariff increase announcement?

- Option: Imposed retaliatory tariffs on US imports
- Option: Requested urgent discussions with the United States
- Option: Formed a trade alliance with China
- Option: Ignored the announcement

### True-False

7. South Korea had already honoured the trade agreement made with the US last year.
8. The US had requested South Korea to invest in shipbuilding as part of the trade deal.
9. Kim Jung-kwan, the South Korean Industry Minister, is currently in the US for discussions on tariffs.
10. Stocks related to automobiles surged following the tariff increase announcement.
11. The tariff increase affects US companies importing goods from Japan.
12. Tariffs are a tool regularly used in foreign policy by President Trump.

### Gap-Fill

13. The tariff on imports from South Korea increased from 15% to \_\_\_\_\_ % according to President Trump.
14. The South Korean National Assembly is expected to pass the trade agreement deal in \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Tariffs are fees paid by businesses that \_\_\_\_\_ goods.
16. The South Korea-US deal required South Korea to invest \$350 billion in the US, particularly in \_\_\_\_\_.
17. President Trump expressed frustration over the slow progress of South Korean lawmakers in approving \_\_\_\_\_.



the trade agreement, claiming the US had acted quickly to lower its tariffs as \_\_\_\_\_ .

18. South Korean officials responded by stating they had not received official notice about the tariff

increase and are seeking urgent discussions with the \_\_\_\_\_ States.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. 25% 2. Automobiles, lumber, and pharmaceuticals 3. US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick 4. Hyundai 5. Shipbuilding 6. Requested urgent discussions with the United States

**True-False:** 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. False 11. False 12. True

**Gap-Fill:** 13. 25 14. February 15. import 16. shipbuilding 17. agreed 18. United

## Vocabulary quizzes

### Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )

1. What form of public expression focuses on raising awareness about social issues?

- Option: Protests
- Option: Immigration
- Option: Coalition
- Option: Healthcare

2. What is a tax imposed on imported goods?

- Option: Frustration
- Option: Tariffs
- Option: Collaboration
- Option: Decline

3. Which industry produces electronic components?

- Option: Mitigate
- Option: Semiconductor
- Option: Complex
- Option: Significance

4. What term describes a decrease or reduction in progress or quality?

- Option: Commute
- Option: Progress
- Option: Decline



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Option: Coalition

5. What is the advancement towards achieving a goal or improving a situation?

Option: Stressed

Option: Progress

Option: Condemned

Option: Opulent

6. Which term means to make something less severe or painful?

Option: Mitigate

Option: Autonomy

Option: Complex

Option: Fluctuations

7. What is a formal decision or commitment made between two or more parties?

Option: Collaboration

Option: Agreement

Option: Frustration

Option: Commute

8. Which word describes something that is composed of many interconnected parts?

Option: Dynamics

Option: Complex

Option: Commute

Option: Coalition

9. What refers to the contamination of the environment with harmful substances?

Option: Import

Option: Pollution

Option: Agreement

Option: Opulent

10. Which sector provides medical services to individuals?

Option: Healthcare

Option: Cost of living

Option: Condemned

Option: Stressed

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. The protesters were \_\_\_\_\_ by the authorities during the demonstration.



12. The city faced heavy \_\_\_\_\_ due to the road construction.
13. The agreement was non-\_\_\_\_\_ meaning it did not hold parties to specific actions.
14. The industry sector involved in production is known as \_\_\_\_\_.
15. There was widespread \_\_\_\_\_ regarding the feasibility of the new policy.
16. The daily \_\_\_\_\_ to work often takes a toll on one's energy and time.
17. The palace was a symbol of wealth and \_\_\_\_\_ design.
18. The stock market experiences regular \_\_\_\_\_ in prices.
19. Teamwork and \_\_\_\_\_ are crucial for the success of the project.
20. The company granted its employees more \_\_\_\_\_ in decision-making.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. The workers were due to the tight deadlines and high workload.
22. The political parties formed a _____ to gain majority support in parliament.
23. The discovery of a new species in the forest has great ecological _____.
24. The repeated delays in project completion led to _____ among the team.
25. The country introduced new policies to control and regulate the influx of foreign nationals.
26. Efforts are being made to _____ the impact of climate change through sustainable practices.
27. The country heavily relies on goods to meet consumer demands.
28. Understanding the social _____ is essential for effective community engagement.
29. Access to affordable and quality _____ remains a major concern for citizens.
30. The nature of the situation required a comprehensive analysis before making a decision.



## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Protests 2. Tariffs 3. Semiconductor 4. Decline 5. Progress 6. Mitigate 7. Agreement  
8. Complex 9. Pollution 10. Healthcare

**Gap-Fill:** 11. confronted 12. congestion 13. binding 14. manufacturing 15. skepticism 16. commute 17.  
opulent 18. fluctuations 19. collaboration 20. autonomy

**Matching sentence:** 1. stressed 2. coalition 3. significance 4. frustration 5. immigration 6. mitigate 7. import  
8. dynamics 9. healthcare 10. complex

## CATEGORY

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