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India imposes 12 % temporary tariff on steel imports

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Context

- India imposed a 12% temporary tariff, **locally known as a safeguard duty**, on some steel products to stem them from unbridled imports, a government notification said on Monday.
- **India, the world's second-biggest producer of crude steel**, said the tariffs would be applicable for 200 days with effect from Monday.
- "The safeguard duty imposed under this notification shall be effective for a period of two hundred days (unless revoked, superseded or amended earlier) from the date of publication of this notification," the Ministry of Finance said.
- India's steel tariff increase is **its first big trade policy move since U.S. President Donald Trump imposed a wide range of duties on countries in April**.
- New Delhi's tariffs are **primarily aimed at China, which was the second-biggest exporter of steel to India behind South Korea in 2024/25**.
- India was a **net importer of finished steel** for the second consecutive year in the 2024/25 fiscal year, with shipments reaching a nine-year high of 9.5 million metric tons, according to provisional government data.

Kamaraj IAS Academy

Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: **044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477** / Whatsapp : **09710729833**