

The Hindu SimplEified

Daily Highlights & Key Updates | Feb 24, 2026



No heavy words. Just the news.

Global Update: Brazil & India Team Up “Fighting Unfair Trade Taxes”

The Gist

Brazil wants developing nations to unite against high US trade tariffs. “Unionize” is the new strategy.

- **The Visit:** Brazil’s President Lula is in Delhi.
- **The Problem:** US imposed 50% tariffs (import taxes) on both nations.
- **The Proposal:** A ‘Union’ of countries to negotiate as a bloc.
- **Goal:** Permanent seats at the UN Security Council.

“Small countries negotiating individually always lose.”



World Watch: US Tariffs & Politics

Gist: Playfair Display

The US President is fighting his own Supreme Court over trade taxes.

Key Updates

Lato

1. **Supreme Court Ruling:** Ruled that the President cannot unilaterally impose tariffs without Congress.
2. **Trump's Reaction:** Threatened to raise global tariffs to 15% in retaliation.
3. **Greenland:** Trump offered a hospital ship (and to buy the island again). Greenland said "No thanks".
4. **Security:** Intruder apprehended at Mar-a-Lago estate.



National Politics: The AI Summit Clash



The Event: India AI Impact Summit 2026.

The Conflict

PM Modi criticized the 'shirtless' protest by Congress members, calling it 'shameless politics' and 'ideological bankruptcy'.

The Tech

On a positive note: The PM highlighted AI's role in preserving ancient Indian manuscripts and texts.

Development: Fast Trains & Connectivity

Delhi-Meerut RRTS Corridor (Namo Bharat)

Status: Inaugurated & Fully Operational

Route: Sarai Kale Khan (Delhi) <--> Modipuram (UP) 

Impact: Drastically reduced travel time; Integrated with Meerut Metro.



Diplomatic Diary: Modi to Visit Israel

The Gist: A diplomatic trip faces a snag due to internal Israeli politics.

Wednesday

PM Modi arrives in Israel.

The Complication

Opposition leader Yair Lapid may boycott Modi's speech.

The Reason

It's internal. The Israeli Govt excluded their own Supreme Court Chief from the event, angering the Opposition.



Conflict Tracker: Ukraine & The Neighborhood

Ukraine



Massive Russian missile/drone attack on energy & rail lines ahead of the war's 4th anniversary.

Pakistan



Air strikes launched along Afghanistan border. Claims 70 militants killed.

Internal Security: Alerts & Arrests



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Case File 1

Delhi Terror Module

8 arrests. Suspects from Bengal & Bangladesh planning a major attack.



Case File 2

Kashmir Operation

3 Jaish-e-Mohammed commanders neutralized in Kishtwar.



Case File 3

ED Watchlist

8 new focus areas including illegal online gambling and foreign assets.



State Update: Karnataka



The Big News

Digital Detox? Govt considers banning/restricting mobile phones for kids under 16.

A significant move for student welfare.

Crime

MLA arrested for bribery.

Politics

Internal Congress talks on leadership change.

Economy: The Apple Problem



The Gist: Trade deals are great for some, but Kashmir's farmers are worried.



The Deal: India signed trade pacts with US & EU.



The Consequence: Import tax on foreign apples dropped from 50% to ~20%.



The Fear: Cheap American apples flooding the market and hurting local farmer income.

Science & Innovation: Solar Sheep



Did You Know?

Solar Grazing (Australia):

- Sheep graze under panels.
- Panels provide shade.
- Sheep mow the grass for free.
- Win-Win for Energy & Agriculture.

Deep Tech Update

Quantum Tech: Proteins in cells can now act as Quantum Sensors to detect magnetic fields.

Sports Center: Cricket & Football



Cricket: South Africa beats India. A 'Dominant Display' by the Proteas.



T20 World Cup: West Indies set to face Zimbabwe.



Football: Manchester City wins 2-1, keeping pressure on Arsenal in the Premier League.

Culture & Arts: Global Wins



Cinema: Manipuri film 'Boong' wins a BAFTA Award in London. A huge moment for regional cinema!



Art: A massive mural of the **Mona Lisa** made from 100,000 plastic bottle caps unveiled in El Salvador.

Quick Bites: In Other News



Himachal Pradesh:
Govt releases funds for families with houses damaged by rain.



Odisha: 5 police personnel killed in a road accident.



Road Safety Report:
Urgent need for better helmet usage enforcement.



The Takeaway: What to Remember

1.

Global Trade: Brazil and India are pushing back against US Tariffs.

Playfair Display

3.

Economy: Lower import taxes on US apples are causing anxiety in Kashmir.

Playfair Display

2.

Diplomacy: Modi's Israel trip is happening amidst internal Israeli political drama.

Playfair Display

4.

Innovation: 'Solar Sheep' prove that agriculture and tech can work together.

Playfair Display

See you in the next update!