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This week's issue of "Our Economy and the World" includes:

Key Global and Regional Developments over the Past Week

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 125% in latest escalation of trade war
- Reuters: India central bank cuts rates, changes stance to 'accommodative' as US tariffs add to growth risks
- Reuters: China's premier vows more proactive macroeconomic policies amid 'external shocks'
- Reuters: BOJ sticks to rate-hike stance but signals pause on US tariff risks

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Key Global and Regional Developments over the Past Week

CNN: Xi says China 'not afraid' as Beijing raises tariffs on US goods to 125% in latest escalation of trade war

Chinese leader Xi Jinping has said his nation is "not afraid," in his first public comments on the escalating trade war with the United States, as Beijing raised tariffs on US goods to 125%. The tariff hike is the latest in a tit-for-tat battle between the world's two largest economies, after Trump raised tariffs on China to 145%. However, China has indicated it does not intend to go higher than 125%, saying it would be meaningless to engage in further escalation. "The successive imposition of excessively high tariffs on China by the US has become nothing more than a numbers game, with no real economic significance," a spokesperson for China's Commerce Ministry said in a statement Friday.

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Reuters: India central bank cuts rates, changes stance to 'accommodative' as US tariffs add to growth risks

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lowered its key repo rate on Wednesday for a second consecutive time and changed its monetary policy stance signalling room for more cuts ahead, as it seeks to boost the sluggish economy in the face of fresh U.S. tariffs. India became the second central bank after the Reserve Bank of New Zealand to cut interest rates since the wide-ranging trade levies were announced.

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Reuters: China's premier vows more proactive macroeconomic policies amid 'external shocks'

China needs to implement more proactive macroeconomic policies and roll them out in a timely manner as "external shocks" have put pressures to China's economic stabilisation, Premier Li Qiang said on Wednesday, according to state media. During a symposium with economists and entrepreneurs, Li stressed that the country's economic work in the second quarter is especially important and all work must be stepped up and more forceful.

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Reuters: BOJ sticks to rate-hike stance but signals pause on US tariff risks

Bank of Japan Governor Kazuo Ueda said the central bank must scrutinise "without preconception" whether the economy is on track to meet its projection, suggesting the chance of a pause in interest rate hikes as U.S. tariffs jolt markets. While still below the central bank's 2% target, Japan's underlying inflation is gradually accelerating as wage hikes continue, Ueda said on Wednesday, adding that economic and price conditions were moving roughly in line with its forecasts.

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Special Analysis

<u>Time: Was Trump's Stock Tip—Telling Followers to 'Buy' Hours Before He Lifted Tariffs—Legal?</u>

When Donald Trump offered some financial advice Wednesday morning, stocks were wavering between gains and losses. But that was about to change.

"THIS IS A GREAT TIME TO BUY!!! DJT," he wrote on his social media platform Truth Social at 9:37 a.m.

Less than four hours later, Trump announced a 90-day pause on nearly all his tariffs. Stocks soared on the news, closing up 9.5% by the end of trading. The market, measured by the S&P 500, gained back about \$4 trillion, or 70%, of the value it had lost over the previous four trading days.

It was a prescient call by the president. Maybe too prescient. "He's loving this, this control over markets, but he better be careful," said Trump critic and former White House ethics lawyer, Richard Painter, noting that securities law prohibits trading on insider information or helping others do so. "The people who bought when they saw that post made a lot of money."

The question is, Was Trump already contemplating the tariff pause when he made that post?

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Developments in Financial and Commodity Markets in the Past Week

Reuters: European shares down for third week after tariff whiplash

European stocks lost ground on Friday, with the STOXX 600 down for a third week, after a surge in volatility in response to abrupt U.S. tariff shifts that deepened fears over the economic impact of a trade war. The pan-European STOXX 600 edged 0.1% lower, after China raised tariffs on U.S. goods to 125% from 84% in an escalation of the trade tensions between the world's two largest economies.

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AP: US stocks jump and the bond market swings to cap Wall Street's chaotic and historic week

U.S. stocks jumped Friday in another manic day on Wall Street, while the falling value of the U.S. dollar and other swings in financial markets suggested fear is still high about escalations in President Donald Trump's trade war with China. The S&P 500 rallied 1.8%, after veering repeatedly between gains and losses, to cap a chaotic and historic week full of monstrous swings.

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