

Weekly News Bulletin

18th January – 24th January 2026

Reuters

[US aluminium consumers pay the spiralling cost of tariffs | Reuters](#)

LONDON, Jan 21 (Reuters) - American aluminium buyers are now paying an eye-watering 68% premium over the London Metal Exchange (LME) price to get physical metal.

This is of course a direct result of U.S. President Donald Trump hiking import tariffs from 10% to 25% in March and again to 50% [in June](#).

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[Analysis of import and export data for unwrought aluminium alloy in 2025](#)

The General Administration of Customs recently released import and export data for December 2025. Customs data showed that:

In December 2025, unwrought aluminium alloy imports were 93,100 tonnes, down 11.8 per cent y-o-y, but up 27.2 per cent m-o-m. Cumulative imports for the full year of 2025 reached 1.0084 million tonnes, down 16.9 per cent y-o-y.

In December 2025, unwrought aluminium alloy exports were 25,500 tonnes, up 20.0 per cent y-o-y, but down 16.8 per cent m-o-m. Cumulative exports for the full year of 2025 totalled 284,700 tonnes, up 17.5 per cent y-o-y.

Newsair

[NITI Aayog releases reports on green transition in cement, aluminium and MSME sectors | DD News On Air](#)

NITI Aayog has released the reports outlining decarbonisation roadmaps for the cement, aluminium and MSME sectors in New Delhi. During the event, Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog Suman Bery highlighted the critical role of the MSME sector and sustained economic growth in India's development journey.

Whalesbook

[Aluminium Stocks Surge: Global Cues Propel Vedanta, Hindalco, Nalco](#)

Shares of Vedanta, Hindalco Industries, and National Aluminium Company (Nalco) experienced substantial gains on Friday, outperforming a subdued market. Nalco and Vedanta hit fresh 52-week highs. The surge was primarily fueled by strong fourth-quarter results from global aluminium giant

Alcoa and an optimistic outlook for LME aluminium prices, bolstered by supply constraints and geopolitical trade factors.

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[Rio Tinto's 2025 scorecard: Record bauxite production despite uneven quarters reflects strong operational discipline](#)

Resilient operational and financial performance defines Rio Tinto's year-end report card for 2025. The London- and Melbourne-headquartered mining major closed the year with solid gains across its aluminium value chain, proving that deliberate strategy and disciplined execution are all it takes to offset market volatility and operational challenges. Rio Tinto's broad-based improvement in production despite intermittent quarterly softness was primarily built on three core pillars: operational excellence, disciplined project delivery, and capital control.

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[Global alumina output nears 143.5 Mt in 2025, leaving 0.8 Mt surplus - what's driving the shift and how are top producers adjusting?](#)

Global alumina production is increasing, although the drivers behind the rise are more layered than a straightforward growth story might suggest. Smelter-grade alumina output rose from 134.2 million tonnes in 2023 to 136.9 million tonnes in 2024, after which the curve steepened. For 2025, production is expected to reach between 143.3 and 143.6 million tonnes.

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[Aluminium import tariffs in Mexico: previewing upcoming changes](#)

Aluminium Import Duties in Mexico: Previewing Possible Upcoming Changes: Mexico's Chamber of Deputies has moved forward with reforms to its General Import and Export Tax Law, setting the stage for significant changes to aluminium import duties. The Commission on Economy, Trade and Competitiveness approved the revised draft in early December, lowering tariffs on hundreds of products while introducing new duties that could reshape trade flows and impact key industrial sectors. As of 11 December 2025, Beijing Time (10 December 2025 Mexico City Time), the Mexican Senate has also approved these changes to the import tariff law, effectively locking in the new tariff schedule for implementation from 2026.

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[US customs to auction 22,000 tonnes of seized aluminium in riverside, California](#)

More than 22,000 tonnes of high-grade aluminium alloys seized by US Customs and Border Protection in 2017 will be sold at public auction in Riverside. The aluminium, stored at the Amentum Consolidated Storage Facility, consists of approximately 279,000 spot-welded "pallets" made from AL356 and AL6063 alloys. Laboratory analysis confirmed the material is suitable for recycling and remelting for use in manufacturing across industries such as aerospace, construction, automotive

and transportation. The auctions, to be conducted by Amentum and CWS Marketing Group, will be held in two events.

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[EU wants aluminium and steel to power 20% of its economic growth - How real is the ambition?](#)

Aluminium is everywhere in Europe's economy, from power transmission and renewable energy systems to transport, defence, construction and packaging. Its importance has led the European Union to classify aluminium as a critical and strategic raw material. The challenge now is whether Europe's aluminium supply chain is keeping pace with the scale of that dependence. Europe also likes to point out that it produces aluminium more cleanly than almost anyone else. Recycling rates are high. Carbon intensity is low compared with the global average. On sustainability metrics, the region performs well.

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[Expansion projects, new launches and EV ambitions reshape aluminium's downstream landscape](#)

The global aluminium downstream sector, with further alignment with the end-use sector are undergoing some serious changes, driven by everything from major industrial expansions and strategic partnerships to fresh technology launches, policy shifts and market signals. This week's news highlights a trend towards deeper integration in the supply chain, a surge in investment activity, and shifting dynamics in trade and electric vehicles. These factors could subtly alter the competitive landscape across various value chains.

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[China challenges India's EV policies at WTO amid trade dispute](#)

China has recently escalated the issue of its trade disagreement with India by asking the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to establish a dispute settlement case against New Delhi's incentive schemes for cars, batteries, and EVs. The case came after a failure in bilateral consultations held on November 25, 2025, and January 6, 2026, which were intended to resolve this issue. China has thus formally requested the WTO, in a communication on January 16, to establish a panel and place the matter on the agenda of the next meeting in Geneva on January 27, 2026.