

October 18, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. ISRO is working hard to implement India's dream project, Gaganyaan, to send humans into space, by 2027, its Chairman V. Narayanan said. After participating in a function held at Vadakankulam Private University in Tirunelveli district, he told reporters:
 - i. ISRO is working hard to implement India's dream project to send humans into space, Gaganyaan. According to this project, ISRO plans to send humans into space by 2027.
 - ii. More than 80,000 tests have been conducted for this. We are going to test 3 rockets. After that, we will send humans into space in 2027.
 - iii. The Indian Meteorological Department has launched a large number of satellites, which enables it to obtain very accurate weather information in advance.
 - iv. India accounts for 2 percent of the world's commercial use of space rockets. We are working to increase this to 10 percent. We have now successfully launched rockets carrying 6 satellites weighing 10,000 kg. Permission has been granted to manufacture the rockets required to launch a 40,000-kilogram satellite. Based on that, work is underway to manufacture it.
 - v. He said that a rocket that can carry an 80,000 kg satellite needs to be made for the Gaganyaan project. Efforts and plans are underway for that.
2. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has directed all food manufacturers to immediately stop using the term "ORS" (oral rehydration solution) on food labels and advertisements.

This ban was imposed in an order issued by FSSAI on the 14th.

 - i. Thus, using the word 'ORS' as a trademark or as an additional name on food products is a violation of the Food Safety and Quality Control Act, 2006. Mislabeling of goods and misleading consumers will result in punishment under this Act.
 - ii. Furthermore, FSSAI has stated that the advisories issued in July 2022 and February 2024 – which allowed food products to be labeled with the term "ORS" provided they carried a warning that the product was not prepared according to the World Health Organization–recommended "ORS" method – are being withdrawn by this order.
3. India's Zorawar Singh Sandhu won a bronze medal at the Shotgun World Championship in Greece.
 - i. It is noteworthy that this is his first medal at the World Championships and also India's first medal at this competition.
4. The 23rd Men's Football World Cup 2026 will be held in 16 cities across three countries: Canada, Mexico, and the United States, from June 11 to July 19 next year. A total of 48 teams will participate.
5. The Union Defense Minister Rajnath Singh has said that our goal is to increase domestic military equipment production to 100 percent.
 - i. He inaugurated the production of Tejas Mk1A Light Combat Aircraft in Nashik, Maharashtra. Hindustan Aeronautics is set to manufacture 24 Light Combat

Aircraft by launching a unit to manufacture Tejas fighter jets.

6. The Sri Lankan Prime Minister Harini Amarasooriya met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and discussed various issues.
 - i. Harini Amarasuria met Modi at his residence in Delhi. The two leaders discussed various issues including development cooperation and the welfare of Indian fishermen.
7. Major parties in Bangladesh have signed a charter to ensure democratic reforms will be introduced after elections due next year.
 - i. The reform charter was created after the Government of the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was toppled following intense student protests last year.
 - ii. Despite being signed by the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party and the Islamist Jamaat-e-Islami, the exclusion of the National Citizens' Party (rally started by the students who brought Hasina's rule to an end) has caused tensions.
 - iii. Mohammad Yunus – The Chief Adviser to the Government of Bangladesh.
8. India, the world's largest importer of edible oils, meets its palm oil needs from Indonesia and Malaysia. India imports soybean oil from Argentina, Brazil, and Russia, and sunflower oil from Russia and Ukraine.
9. The Chief Minister M.K. Stalin announced in the Legislative Assembly that the Tamil Nadu Government will enact a new law to prevent honor killings.
 - i. He also said that a Commission will be formed under the Chairmanship of the retired High Court Judge K.N.Basha to make the necessary recommendations for the enactment of this law.
10. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Tamil Nadu and Italy at the ongoing Frankfurt International Book Festival in Germany for literary and cultural exchange.
 - i. The world-famous Frankfurt Book Festival began in Germany last Wednesday (Oct. 15). A team of 10, including the Principal Secretary of the School Education Department, P. Chandramohan, participated on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government and set up a special stage.
 - ii. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Chennai International Book Fair (CIBF), Tamil Nadu and Bologna Children's Book Fair, Italy for exchange of literature and culture on the second day of the festival.
 - iii. Through this, efforts will be made to bring the best Tamil books to readers around the world. The book fair in Bologna will feature selected books in Tamil; discussion programs related to them will be held.
 - iv. Additionally, officials from the School Education Department said that Italy's Bologna Children's Book Fair will make significant contributions to the International Book Festival to be held in Chennai next year.
11. At the inaugural event of the Geoscience Technology and Innovation Conference 2025 held at the National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai, briefing about the "Blue

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Economy” was done by Balaji Ramakrishnan, Director, National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai.

- i. Also present were Balakrishnan Nair, Director of the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services, R. S. Kankara, Director of the National Centre for Coastal Research, M. V. Ramanamurthy, Director of the Deep Ocean Mission, and P.K. Srivastava, scientist of the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences.

