

October 19, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. India's Jyoti Surekha won the bronze medal at the Archery World Cup Finals in China.
 - i. She created the record of becoming the first Indian athlete to win a medal in the compound category in this competition.
2. India's Tanvi Sharma advanced to the final of the Junior World Badminton Championships.
 - i. With this, she became the third Indian player in the history of the tournament to advance to the final. It is worth remembering that Aparna Bobad and Saina Nehwal had previously advanced to the final.
3. A bandh was observed in Telangana to protest against the High Court's interim stay on the 42 percent reservation for Backward Classes (BCs) in the local body elections.
4. The Union Minister for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh inaugurated a solidarity rally in Jammu to mark the 150th birth anniversary of the country's first Home Minister, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
5. The US Chamber of Commerce has filed a lawsuit against the administration led by US President Donald Trump, which increased the new H-1B visa fee to Rs.8.8 million (\$100,000).
 - i. The US Chamber of Commerce filed a petition in this regard in the District of Columbia Court.
 - ii. It said, "The decision by the Trump administration is wrong and illegal. The President of the United States has specific authority to impose restrictions on the entry of non-citizens into the United States." However, that power is limited by law and cannot be in direct conflict with laws enacted by Parliament.
6. The West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee wrote to Prime Minister Modi expressing dissatisfaction over the appointment of retired IPS officer Pankaj Kumar Singh as mediator to discuss the problems of the Gorkha community living in the Darjeeling hills, Terai and Dooars.
 - i. The letter stated that the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) is functioning as an autonomous body covering districts including Darjeeling. The GTA was formed to protect the ethnic identity of the Gorkhas and to ensure the area's social and economic development.
 - ii. In this situation, the Central Government has appointed retired IPS officer Pankaj Kumar Singh as mediator to discuss the problems of the Gorkha community living in the Darjeeling hills, Terai and Dooars areas. This appointment was made without any consultation with the West Bengal Government.
 - iii. Any arbitrary decision taken in this matter would be against the peace and harmony of the region. Therefore, She demanded that Pankaj Kumar Singh's appointment be cancelled.
7. The Supreme Court has issued notices to the Central Government and the Central Investigation Agency (CBI) seeking their response on the steps taken to curb the increasing digital arrest scams in the country.

- i. The notice was prompted by a letter written to Chief Justice B.R. Gavai by a 73-year-old woman from Ambala, Haryana, who lost Rs.1.05 crore to fraudsters through an impersonation-arrest scam. The bench comprising Supreme Court Justices Surya Kant and Jayamalya Bakshi took suo motu cognizance and issued the notice comprised.
8. The Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath flagged off the first batch of missiles manufactured at the state-of-the-art BrahMos Aerospace facility in Lucknow for use by the armed forces.
 - i. The Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated a titanium and superalloy metal manufacturing plant in Lucknow. At that time, he emphasized the need to domestically produce rare earth minerals used in sectors including defense, aerospace, and electronics.
9. Due to flooding in the Moola Vaigai River in Theni district, the water inflow to the Vaigai Dam increased and the dam water level rose by 3 feet in a single day.
 - i. Flooding in the Moola Vaigai River in the Varushanadu area of Andipatti taluk, Varushanadu, in the catchment area of the Varushanadu hill region. Heavy rains caused flooding in the Moola Vaigai River.
 - ii. 1,400 cubic feet per second of water was released from the Mullaip Periyar dam to the Tamil Nadu area, and the inflow of water to the Vaigai dam increased due to the widespread rains in the district due to the flooding of the Mola Vaigai River, Mullaip Periyar, Kotakudi River, Varaghanadi River and Kattaru streams.
 - iii. The water level of Vaigai Dam was 62.47 feet at 6 am (the total height of the dam is 71 feet). At that time, the water inflow into the dam was 2,268 cubic feet per second.
10. Following the 'rule curve' principle, water was released from the Mullaperiyar Dam to the Idukki Dam in Kerala at a rate of 7,000 cubic feet per second.
 - i. The inflow into the Mullaperiyar dam has increased due to the northeast monsoon. The inflow into the dam increased to 17,828 cubic feet per second, from 2,749 cubic feet per second on Friday.