

October 23, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. The Union Ministry of Information Technology has recommended amendments to further tighten IT rules to prevent misuse of Artificial Intelligence Technology.
 - i. In a statement issued by the Union Ministry of Information Technology in this regard, it was stated that, 'The Central Government is deeply committed to ensuring the provision of secure internet services.' Keeping this in mind, the Union Ministry of Information Technology has recommended amendments to the Information Technology Rules, 2021.
 - ii. Mandatory identification code: According to this, if recordings and videos are created using Artificial Intelligence, it must be mentioned on social media platforms (including Facebook, YouTube). Social media platforms must ensure that the identifier appears in at least 10 percent of the video's view. If this is a sound recording, the symbol must be included in 10 percent of the sound recording. It is mandatory that the symbol be included at the very beginning of the sound recording.
 - iii. To ensure that information uploaded to social media is not artificially created, social media platforms must obtain an undertaking from the user uploading it. These rules prohibit the removal of those codes.
 - iv. Only those with the rank of DGP or Joint Secretary can order the removal of illegal information. It has been stated that a meeting of a Secretary-level officer should be held every month to review the implementation of these orders.
2. Thenmozhi Soundararajan from the United States has been selected for the Tamil Nadu Government's Vaikom Award, which is given to those who work for the welfare of the oppressed.
 - i. The Vaikom Award is presented annually to individuals who have worked for the welfare of the oppressed in other states and made a significant difference. In this regard, Thenmozhi Soundararajan from California, USA, has been selected for this year's Vaikom Award. She is an American oppressed people's rights activist and a writer.
 - ii. She is the founder of Equality Labs, a civil rights organization that empowers racially oppressed people in the United States and around the world.
 - iii. The Vaikom Award consists of a cheque for Rs. 5 lakh, a certificate of appreciation and a gold-plated medallion.
3. The Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Upendra Dwivedi confer the insignia of honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel upon Olympic gold medallist javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra.
4. The Indian shooter and Olympic gold medalist Abhinav Bindra has been chosen as a torch-bearer for the Winter Olympics to be held in Italy in February next year.
5. The interim President Jose Jeri has declared a state of emergency in the capital Lima and the nearby port of Callao to control ongoing Anti-Government protests in the South American country of Peru.

- i. In a speech on state television, he said the state of emergency, which will take effect from midnight on Wednesday, will last for 30 days.
 - ii. Peru's Parliament has ousted elected President Dina Boluarte after weeks of protests against corruption and organized crime. Subsequently, Jose Jeri was appointed as Interim President.
 - iii. However, as the violent protests continue, he has now declared a State of Emergency to restore law and order.
6. India's total forest area has moved upto 9th place in the world and India has consistently maintained the 3rd position in annual forest gain as per the Global Forest Resources Assessment (GFRA) 2025 released by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.
 - i. According to the UN report, the world's total forest area is 4.14 billion hectares. Of this, just five countries - Russia, Brazil, Canada, the United States, and China - account for more than half (54 percent). India is ranked 9th, following Australia, the Republic of Congo, and Indonesia.
 - ii. In terms of Annual Forest Area increase between 2015 and 2025, China ranks first with 1.69 million hectares, Russia ranks second with 9.42 million hectares, and India ranks third with 1.91 million hectares.
 - iii. Following this, Turkey (118,000 hectares), Australia (105,000 hectares), France (95,900 hectares), Indonesia (94,100 hectares), South Africa (87,600 hectares), Canada (82,500 hectares), and Vietnam (72,800 hectares) have all seen significant expansions in forest area.
 - iv. Asia's key role: Globally, the annual rate of forest loss has been reduced from 10.7 million hectares in the 1990s to 4.12 million hectares now. The report also pointed out that forest expansion in Asia is playing a key role in mitigating global deforestation, with Asia being the only region to record an increase in forest area between 1990 and 2025.
 - v. The Ministry of Environment has proudly announced that the success of the Central Government's forest cultivation and community-centered forest protection efforts, led by Prime Minister Modi, is a key reason for this achievement for India.
7. At the Diwali celebration held at the White House, Indian Ambassador to the US Vinay Mohan Kwatra, Indian-origin FBI Director Kash Patel, And key business leaders including Adobe CEO Shantanu Narayan, Micron Technology CEO Sanjay Mehrotra, and IBM CEO Arvind Krishna participated.
8. The Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal stressed at the UN conference that the South should unite and raise its voice against global trade challenges.
 - i. In this regard, he spoke on Wednesday at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) held in Geneva, Switzerland: The world is currently volatile, marked by numerous uncertainties, challenges, and ambiguities in the global trading system.

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- ii. The Global South must come together to raise its voice against the global trade challenges caused by tax barriers, unilateral environmental restrictions, and barriers in the services sector.
- iii. These challenges affect less developed countries and developing countries the most because they are looking forward to development and have a plan of action for it. Therefore, he said, countries in the Global South must reinvent themselves and find a new path to achieve sustainable development goals and meet challenges.

