

September 8, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. Shigeru Ishiba announced his resignation as Prime Minister of Japan. Taking responsibility for the setback suffered by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party coalition in the country's upper house elections held last July, he made this decision after pressure from his own party to resign.
 - i. Elections to the 248-seat upper house of the Japanese parliament were held last July. The ruling Liberal Democratic Party and its ally Komeito won only 122 seats, three short of the 125 seats needed for a majority.
 - ii. Following this, the ruling coalition led by Ishiba lost its majority in the National Assembly.
 - iii. Ishiba, who took office as Prime Minister in October last year, has announced resignation from office in 11 months. It has been reported that the election to select a new leader for his party is likely to be held in early October. It is noteworthy that the person who takes over as the leader of the party will also serve as Prime Minister.
2. Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich is visiting India for a 3-day visit from Monday (Sept. 8) to Wednesday. During this visit, he will meet Indian Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, and Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Manohar Lal Khattar. He will also visit Gift City in Mumbai and Gandhinagar.
 - i. The purpose of the visit is deepening Israel's economic and financial ties with India, also to reach a resolution on key agreements such as the Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) and the Free Trade Agreement (FTA), informed sources said.
 - ii. Bilateral trade between India and Israel, strategic partners, is around \$4 billion per year. From 2000 to last April, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from India to Israel was \$443 million. During the same period, FDI from Israel to India was \$334.2 million.
3. Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus, the reigning women's singles champion, retained the title at the US Open tennis Grand Slam tournament in the United States.
 - i. In the final, world number 1 Sabalenka defeated home-grown player Amanda Anisimova, ranked 8th, in straight sets 6-3, 7-6 (7/3).
4. Dutchman and Red Bull driver Max Verstappen won the Italian F1 race, his third victory of the season and his first since last May. It is noteworthy that earlier in the race, Verstappen completed a lap in 1 minute and 18.792 seconds, setting a 'lap record'.
5. Internet services have been disrupted in parts of Asia and the Middle East, including India, due to the disconnection of deep-sea internet supplies in the Red Sea.
 - i. Yemen's Houthi rebels have been carrying out a series of attacks on ships in the Red Sea in an attempt to pressure Israel to end the Israel-Hamas conflict.
 - ii. Netblocks, a company that monitors internet services, said that a series of undersea cable cuts in the Red Sea have caused internet connection speeds to

slow in several countries, including India and Pakistan. It said the cause was a fault in the 'SMW4' and 'IMEWE' cable systems near Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

- iii. Indian company Tata Communications operates the Southeast Asia-Middle East-Western Europe4 (S.M.W.4) cable. The IMEWE cable is managed by another international conglomerate, Alcatel-Lucent. Neither company has commented on the cable disconnection.
6. The Indian men's team won the gold medal in the compound event at the Archery World Championships in South Korea. This is the first time in the history of the competition that the Indian men's team has won gold.
 - i. In the men's compound team final, the Indian team of Rishabh Yadav, Aman Saini and Prathamesh fuge defeated the French team of Nicolas Girard, Jean-Philippe Boullech and Francois Dubois by a score of 235-233 to win the gold.
7. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah paid rich tributes to Bhupen Hazarika as the Assam Government launched a year-long celebration of the birth centenary of the music maestro Bharat Ratna.
8. CBIC Chairman Sanjay Kumar Agarwal said that if complaints are received to the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CB IC) that the prices of goods have not been reduced following the change in GST, it will be brought to the attention of industry bodies.
 - i. The GST Council meeting held last week decided to reduce GST on 375 items and reduce the GST levied at 4 rates to 2 rates.

