

September 9, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. The country's 17th Vice-Presidential election will be held on Tuesday (Sept. 9).
 - i. In this, C.P. Radhakrishnan (67) is contesting from the ruling National Democratic Alliance led by BJP, and P. Sudarshan Reddy (79) is contesting from the opposition 'India' alliance.
 - ii. In this election, which will be conducted by secret ballot, MPs will have to mark their preference against the candidate's name. In this election, which will be held under the secret ballot system, the Members of Parliament will not be bound by party whips to vote. Therefore, they can vote for the candidate of their choice.
 - iii. One MP seat is vacant in the 543-member Lok Sabha. Similarly, 5 MP seats are vacant in the 233-member Rajya Sabha. In addition, there are 12 nominated MPs in the Rajya Sabha.
 - iv. Accordingly, out of the total strength of 788 members of both the Houses, there are currently 782 members. A minimum of 392 votes is required to win.
 - v. The BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has 422 MPs, so its candidate is expected to win. On the other hand, the opposition parties see the election as an opportunity to show their unity.
2. 19 people were killed in police firing to disperse a protest by youths against the ban on 26 social media apps including 'YouTube', 'Instagram' and 'Facebook' in Nepal. More than 300 people were injured.
 - i. Subsequently, the government led by Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli ordered the army to bring the tense situation prevailing across the country under control.
 - ii. The Nepal Government banned 26 social media apps including YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp, and X on Thursday (Sept. 4).
 - iii. The Government stated that the above-mentioned apps were banned as they were not registered as per the rules of the Union Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology. The Government also explained that this action was taken to regulate social media platforms.
 - iv. However, the public and political leaders believe that the Government has taken this step to suppress freedom of expression and censor social media platforms.
 - v. Following protests by youth in Nepal, the Government announced the lifting of the ban on social media apps.
3. The current President Irfan Ali was sworn in for a second term as the President of the South American country of Guyana.
4. The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the State of Israel signed a Bilateral Investment Agreement to protect and promote investments.
 - i. The agreement includes measures such as provisions to safeguard investments against expropriation, ensure transparency, and enable smooth transfers and compensation for losses.



- ii. At the same time, officials said that the agreement has been designed to balance investor protection with the State's regulatory rights, preserving sufficient policy space for sovereign governance.
 - iii. The agreement was signed by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Israeli Minister of State for Finance Bezalel Smotrich..
5. Spanish player Carlos Alcaraz became the champion in the men's singles at the US Open Grand Slam tennis tournament. Alcaraz defeated the defending champion and world number 1 player Italian Yannick Cinner winning the US Open trophy and also snatching the world number 1 spot from Cinner.
6. The Chennai Export Processing Zone (MEPS) has approved 8 new projects for the industrial development of Tamil Nadu.
- i. Chennai Export Processing Zone promotes exports for the economic development of Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
 - ii. Accordingly, the MEPS Special Economic Zone has approved 8 new projects in Tamil Nadu in the fields of information technology, manufacturing, engineering, etc., with an investment of Rs. 800 crore.
 - iii. These new industrial projects are being launched in places including Kanchipuram district, Sriperumbudur Chipkot, Coimbatore ELCOT Special Economic Zone, and Pollachi in Coimbatore district.
 - iv. It is reported that this will provide employment to 3,500 people.
7. The Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that a coordinated relief package will be developed to support exporters affected by the 50 percent tariff imposed by the US on India.
- i. Companies exporting to the US are reporting to their respective departments or ministries about the impacts they have experienced due to the US tariffs. That information is being consolidated.
 - ii. The full extent of the impact cannot be predicted now. The extent of the impact will only be known after each departmental ministry has consulted the relevant departments. After that, a coordinated plan will be developed to provide them with relief.
8. Chinese President Xi Jinping called on BRICS countries to work together for mutual win-win to confront US President Donald Trump's trade challenges.
- i. He also criticized the United States' tax wars for severely disrupting the global economy and international trade rules.
 - ii. Chinese President Xi Jinping's speech through Video Conference at the BRICS leaders' meeting hosted by Brazilian President Lula da Silva –

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- iii. The world is changing rapidly. Trade and tariff wars waged by a few countries are disrupting the global economy and weakening international trade rules.
 - iv. At this critical juncture, BRICS, the leading organization of the Global South, must jointly uphold transparency, inclusiveness, win-win cooperation, and multilateralism.
9. The Government led by Prime Minister François Bayrou fell after he lost a confidence vote in the French Parliament.
- i. François Bayrou, who has a total of 577 members in the French Parliament, received 364 votes against Bayrou and 194 votes in favor. 19 members abstained from the vote.
 - ii. This leaves President Emmanuel Macron with the task of choosing his fourth Prime Minister in the last 12 months.
 - iii. France, Europe's second largest economy, has been plagued by political instability for the past year and a half. It is noteworthy that France is facing various challenges, including budgetary problems, the war in Ukraine and Gaza, and US taxation.

