

## September 16, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. At the World Athletics Championships, Swedish pole vaulter Armand Duplantis became champion for the third time, setting a world record of 14 times by clearing 6.30 meters.
2. Indian Grandmaster R. Vaishali became the champion in the women's category of the FIDE Grand Swiss Chess Tournament held in Uzbekistan.
3. The second indigenously built anti-submarine warfare ship 'Anthrod' was handed over to the Indian Navy.
  - i. Built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilding Company in Kolkata, West Bengal, the ship is expected to play a key role in countering Chinese dominance in the Indian Ocean.
  - ii. A press release issued by the Indian Navy said, "The second ship, INS Androth, built under the project to manufacture 8 indigenous anti-submarine ships, has been handed over to the Indian Navy." This marks a milestone in enhancing self-reliance in the defence sector. The 77-meter-long anti-submarine warfare ship will be equipped with torpedoes and anti-submarine missiles.
  - iii. It was reported that the dependence on imports in shipbuilding has changed with 80 percent of components being manufactured domestically under the Atmanirbhar Bharat vision.
  - iv. Naming the warship after Androth Island in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep demonstrates the importance India attaches to securing its maritime territories.
4. It has been revealed that the 50 percent tariff imposed by the US will affect Andhra Pradesh's shrimp exports by Rs. 25,000 crore. Therefore, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has said that the Central Government should provide appropriate assistance.
5. In a bid to promote the swadeshi movement and ensure that the country achieves self-reliance, the Central Government has decided to impose import restrictions on 100 heavily import-dependent items, including chemicals.
  - i. The Central Government is taking this step in the context of the US imposing a very high 50 percent tariff on goods imported from India.
  - ii. The Ministry has identified 100 items for which the Centre should impose import restrictions to reduce import dependency and improve efficiency or utilization of domestic resources. In particular, various sector-specific items have been identified, including chemicals, plastics, and pharmaceuticals.
  - iii. The list of these 100 items subject to import restrictions will be published by the end of this month or in October.
6. The Supreme Court has ordered an interim stay on three important provisions of the Waqf Amendment Act brought by the Central Government.
  - i. The Waqf Board manages lands and properties donated by Muslims. With a view to streamline the administration of Waqf properties, the Central Government brought and passed the Waqf Amendment Act, 1995, to amend the Waqf Act.

- ii. 73 petitions were filed in the Supreme Court questioning the constitutional validity of this amendment. The Supreme Court, which selected 5 of these petitions, titled the case 'Review: Waqf Amendment Act 2025', stayed the three provisions included in the act.
  - a) The amendment prohibits only those who have been practicing Islam for at least 5 years from donating property to the Waqf Board.
  - b) Prohibition on the power given to the District Collector to determine whether a Waqf property is government land.
  - c) The number of non-Muslim members in the Central Waqf Council should not exceed four, and in the State Waqf Boards this number should not exceed three.
- 7. India-US bilateral trade agreement talks resume.
  - i. The talks will be held between US Deputy Trade Representative for South and Central Asia Brandon Lynch and Special Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce Rajesh Agarwal.
  - ii. The Trump administration's 50 percent tariff on Indian goods, which took effect on the 27th of last month, has caused a rift in bilateral relations.
  - iii. As a result, the US trade delegation's planned visit to India from August 25 to 29 to hold the 6th round of talks to finalize the bilateral trade agreement has been cancelled.
  - iv. In this context, Trump said last week that the relationship with India is excellent and that trade talks with India will be held soon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi welcomed Trump's comments.
  - v. The ministry also stated that a decision regarding the finalization of the agreement is likely to be reached during these talks.
- 8. The President Donald Trump has hinted that an agreement has been reached with the Chinese Government to ban the TikTok app in the United States. In a post on his Truth Social media account, he said: The meeting between American and Chinese officials was smooth.
  - i. At that time, Trump mentioned in the post that an agreement had been reached regarding a specific institution that the country's youth deeply care about and want to protect.
  - ii. Trump is believed to have made this statement in an indirect reference to ByteDance, the Chinese company that owns the TikTok app.