

September 17, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. Heavy rains lashed Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, triggering flash floods and landslides. The natural disaster has caused severe damage in both states.
 - i. The floods in the Tamsa, Ganga, and Yamuna rivers swept away many bridges. The famous Tapakeshwar temple on the banks of the Tamsa river was submerged in the floodwaters.
2. The Supreme Court, hearing a case seeking an order to take action to prevent pollution of the Palaru River, ordered the formation of an audit committee in this regard.
 - i. The Pala River, which flows through districts including Vellore, Ranipet, and Tirupattur in Tamil Nadu, has been severely polluted by waste discharged from tanneries.
 - ii. Therefore, a case was filed in the Supreme Court on behalf of the Vellore Environmental Monitoring Committee, seeking an order to close these factories and to take appropriate action to prevent pollution.
 - iii. The Supreme Court, after hearing this, issued an order on January 30th with various guidelines to the Tamil Nadu Government to take appropriate steps to prevent pollution of Palaru river.
 - iv. However, the Supreme Court, expressing dissatisfaction that the order was not being implemented properly, ordered the District Collectors of Vellore, Ranipet and Tirupattur to appear in court in person on the Palar river pollution issue.
 - v. Subsequently, the judges ordered the formation of a committee to investigate the Palaru pollution.
 - vi. A committee comprising two experts from IIT Chennai and environmental scholar Nagarajan has been formed. The judges have also ordered that the committee conduct an audit of the Palar river pollution and submit a report within 6 months.
 - vii. The judges also said that after reviewing the first report, a decision will be made on how often the next study should be conducted. Following this, the judges ordered adjournment of the case for 6 months.
3. Indonesia and Malaysia are India's major palm oil suppliers. India imports large quantities of soybean oil from Argentina, Brazil, and Russia, and sunflower oil from Russia and Ukraine.
4. The President Draupadi Murmu said that relations with Mauritius are expanding in the fields of space and information technology.
 - i. The Mauritian Prime Minister Naveen Chandra Ramcoolam paid a state visit to India from the 9th to the 16th.
 - ii. The Mauritius Prime Minister Ramkoolam met President Draupadi Murmu in Delhi. India-Mauritius relations have been steadily strengthening in all areas and have now developed into a strategic alliance.
5. The Italian Court of Appeal approved the extradition of Ukrainian Serhee Kuznyetzo to Germany, who was arrested last month on suspicion of blowing up North Stream undersea pipelines supplying gas from Russia to Germany.

- i. On September 26, 2022, a sudden leak occurred in the Nord Stream pipelines under the Baltic Sea, as Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky was pressuring European countries not to buy gas from Russia. It was later revealed during the investigation that it had been detonated.
6. Vaishali, the reigning champion in the women's category of the FIDE Grand Swiss Chess Tournament held in Uzbekistan, emerged victorious this time too.
 - i. She set a record by becoming the first competitor to win consecutive Champions Trophy titles in the women's division in major competitions. Furthermore, this victory also qualified her for the Candy Dates Chess Tournament next year.
7. The free electricity scheme for agriculture has been implemented in Tamil Nadu since 1989.
 - i. The Tamil Nadu Government provides the cost incurred by the Electricity Board for this as a subsidy every year.
 - ii. For the last 10 years, several lakh farmers have applied for free electricity connections and waited.
 - iii. Following this, the work of providing agricultural electricity connections began in 2021. More than 2 lakh electricity connections have been provided in the last 4 years.
 - iv. Meanwhile, as the Electricity Board was facing a severe financial crisis, there was a delay in providing agricultural electricity connections again. While the Electricity Board has taken steps to provide pending agricultural electricity connections, the Tamil Nadu Government has now approved the provision of 50,000 agricultural electricity connections.
8. The Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for 18 new industrial parks to be set up in Tamil Nadu. He also inaugurated 4 new industrial parks.
 - i. The New industrial parks have been set up in 4 places namely Kaverirajapuram in Thiruvallur district, Muthur in Tirunelveli district, Kadambadi village in Chengalpattu district, and Korukkai in Thiruvarur district. Through this, 5,200 people will get employment in Tamil Nadu.
 - ii. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the development of culture and tourism was signed with the Val de Loire region of France. The agreement was signed in the presence of Chief Minister M.K. Stalin. Through this agreement, the exchange of artists between France and Tamil Nadu will be facilitated. Collaboration and coordination will be established between artists, art institutions, and cultural institutions.