

September 27, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. The President Donald Trump has announced a 100 percent tariff on drugs imported into the United States. The tariff will take effect on October 1.
 - i. Pharmaceutical industry experts said that this tax will not have a major impact on India.
 - ii. In a post on the Truth social media platform regarding the tax on imported drugs, Trump said, "Medicines will be taxed at 100 percent starting October 1st." This tax is applicable to branded and patented pharmaceutical products of any company.
 - iii. However, this tax does not apply to companies that have begun construction of a pharmaceutical manufacturing plant in the United States.
 - iv. Similarly, a 25 percent tax is imposed on all heavy vehicles imported from foreign countries. This action is being taken to protect American industries by reducing the dominance of imported heavy-duty vehicles in the US domestic market.
 - v. This will greatly benefit American companies such as Peterbilt, Kenworth, Freightliner, and Magtrucks.
2. The Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Patrushev met the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Delhi. At that time, the two discussed further enhancing bilateral cooperation in sectors of mutual interest, including agriculture, fertilizers, and food processing.
 - i. The President Trump recently imposed a 50 percent import tariff on India for purchasing crude oil from Russia, defying US warnings. He has also been expressing concern about India's energy ties with Russia. The US's imposition of high tariffs on India has had a negative impact on relations between the two countries.
 - ii. In this context, Russian President Vladimir Putin will visit India in December to participate in the 23rd annual India-Russia summit. As part of the preparations for his visit, a Russian delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Patrushev has arrived in India.
 - iii. Imports of fertilizers, yellow peas, sunflower seeds and soybean oil from Russia have increased in the last few years. It is noteworthy that fertilizer imports from Russia increased by 26 percent in the last period 2023-24.
3. The Italy's Deputy Prime Minister Antonio Tajani has said that his country supports the finalization of a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between India and the European Union.
 - i. In a post on the X website, he said, "The meeting with Indian External Affairs Minister Jaishankar and Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal is important." India-Italy relations continue to be strong politically and economically. Efforts will be made to further enhance this during my visit to India.
 - ii. It is because of the priority we give to India that I request you to support Italian export companies by providing Rs.51,800 crore (500 million euros). "At the same time, I assure you that Italy will support the early conclusion of the India-European Union Free Trade Agreement," he said.

4. "The MiG-21 fighter jet is the pride of the nation. It is a testament to the deep relationship between India and Russia," said Defence Minister Rajnath Singh with pride.
 - i. He made this comment while speaking at an event marking the complete retirement of this Russian-made aircraft from Indian Air Force use.
 - ii. The Minister Rajnath Singh said that the MiG-21 fighter jet played a key role in the 1971 war with Pakistan, the 1999 Kargil War, and the 2019 Balakot strike.
5. As per the Supreme Court verdict, the Cauvery Water Management Authority ordered Karnataka to release 20.22 TMC of water from Cauvery to Tamil Nadu in the month of October.
 - i. The Supreme Court delivered its verdict in 2018 on the dispute over the sharing of Cauvery river water between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, which had been ongoing for many years. At that time, the Supreme Court, through its ruling, determined how much water Karnataka should release to Tamil Nadu in which months.
 - ii. The Supreme Court set up two bodies, the Cauvery Water Management Authority and the Cauvery Water Regulatory Commission, to implement the judgment and monitor the distribution of Cauvery water.
 - iii. Accordingly, these two bodies meet from time to time and issue orders in accordance with the Supreme Court verdict regarding the sharing of Cauvery water.
 - iv. In this context, the 44th meeting of the Cauvery Water Management Authority was held in Delhi. The meeting was held at the Cauvery Water Management Authority office in person and via video conferencing under the chairmanship of the Authority, S.K. Haldar.
 - v. On behalf of Tamil Nadu, Water Resources Secretary J.Jayakanthan and Cauvery Technical Committee Chairman I. Subramaniam participated in this meeting via video conferencing from the Chennai headquarters.
 - vi. During the meeting, Water Resources Secretary J. Jayakanthan said that the current (25.09.2025) water reserve of Mettur Dam is 92.105 TMC. He said that the water inflow to the dam is 8,419 cubic feet per second. 9,033 cubic feet of water per second is being released from the dam for agricultural, drinking water and industrial use.
 - vii. Moreover, the water reserves and inflows of Karnataka's dams continue to be significant. He further urged the order to be strengthened to ensure that Karnataka supplies 20.22 TMC of water to Tamil Nadu in October this year, as required, noting that Karnataka's reservoirs are sufficiently full and inflows continue to be substantial, and that Karnataka should therefore provide the water at Billigundulu as directed by the High Court.
 - viii. Subsequently, the Cauvery Water Management Authority ordered Karnataka to release 20.22 TMC of water to Tamil Nadu in October as per the Supreme Court verdict.
6. TVS Racing's Aishwarya Pissay became the first Asian woman to qualify for the World

Rally-Rapid Championship motorbike event.

- i. With a total of 5 races taking place in this championship this season, she will be competing in the 4th round of the BP Ultimate Rally - Rapid race in Portugal. In this race, which will run until the 28th, competitors will cover a total of 2,000 km in 5 stages on a challenging track.
 - ii. She will next participate in the Morocco Rally and said her goal is to qualify for the 2026 Dakar Rally.
7. India won medals in two categories at the Junior World Cup shooting competition in New Delhi.
 - i. In the men's 10m air pistol individual event, Jonathan Gavin Anthony won gold with a score of 244.8 points.
 - ii. In the women's individual category, Rashmika Sahagal won silver with 236 points.
8. The term of Attorney General of India (Chief Advocate of the Central Government) R. Venkataramani has been extended for another 2 years.
 - i. Appointed as Attorney General for a three-year term in 2022, his term is set to end on September 30. In this situation, the Union Law Ministry announced that his term has been extended for another 2 years.
 - ii. The Attorney General is a constitutional post. The Attorney General is appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Central Government. The Attorney General has the right to appear as a lawyer in any court of law in the country. The holder of this position handles government cases and advises the government on complex legal issues.
9. Palestine has applied to join the BRICS group, Palestinian Ambassador to Russia Abdel Hafez Nofal said.
 - i. The BRICS grouping consists of the five core countries of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS), along with additional member countries of Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, the United Arab Emirates, and Indonesia.
 - ii. Palestine has applied to join the group of major developing countries. The move comes after Canada, Australia, Portugal and Britain recently recognized Palestine as a state.
 - iii. China welcomes Palestine's application to join the BRICS grouping.
10. The Prime Minister Modi launched the 'Chief Minister's Women Employment Scheme' (Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana) via video conferencing, which will provide financial assistance of Rs.10,000 each to 75 lakh women in Bihar to start their own businesses.
 - i. The Chief Minister's women's employment scheme launched in Bihar will reinforce the central government's Lakhpati Sakhi program. Under this funding support, Bihar women can open grocery, utensil, beauty products, and toy shops. They can also take up livestock rearing and poultry farming.
11. Police arrested climate activist Sonam Wangchuk, who was protesting for statehood and Sixth Schedule status for the Union Territory of Ladakh.