

## October 6, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. Talks between Israeli and Hamas representatives are set to take place in Egypt on Monday (Oct. 6).
  - i. US President Donald Trump proposed a 20-point plan to achieve a ceasefire in Gaza after talks with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the White House.
  - ii. Hamas accepted some aspects of the plan and agreed to release Israeli hostages. Trump then ordered Israel to halt its offensive in Gaza.
  - iii. Following this, Israel also agreed to release the Palestinians and Gazans it had detained and announced that it was preparing to implement the first phase.
  - iv. Meanwhile, talks between Israeli and Hamas representatives are set to take place in Egypt on Monday. Egyptian officials said that US envoy Steve Witkoff will participate in the talks.
  - v. The talks are seen significant as the war in Gaza approaches two years since it began on Oct. 7, 2023.
2. The Chief Election Commissioner, Gyanesh Kumar, said that the Election Commission will introduce 17 new measures in the Bihar Assembly elections.
  - i. To ensure smooth conduct and completion of the assembly elections in Bihar, 17 new procedures are to be introduced during the registration and counting of votes.
  - ii. In particular, the pay for village-level officers (PLOs), PLO supervisors, staff involved in voter registration and vote counting, Central Armed Police personnel engaged in election security, election monitoring teams, and election observers has been doubled.
  - iii. For the first time, an honorarium will be paid to Returning Officers (EROs) and Assistant Returning Officers (AEROs).
  - iv. Arrangements have been made to provide refreshments to employees engaged in election work.
  - v. A special center will be set up outside the polling station for voters to safely store their mobile phones.
  - vi. Additional polling stations are to be set up in apartment buildings and social housing areas to avoid voters having to wait in long lines to register their votes.
  - vii. Party candidates will be allowed to set up centers for distributing official and other identification cards to voters within 100 meters of a polling station.
  - viii. For the first time, the electronic voting machines will feature a color photograph of the candidate.
  - ix. The names of the candidates will be displayed in a way that voters can easily read on the voting machines.
  - x. 100 percent webcasting will be carried out at all polling stations on election day.
  - xi. A new guideline has been introduced to issue voter cards to new voters within 15 days of their registration.
  - xii. These new procedures, which will be introduced in the Bihar elections, will also be

implemented in other state elections to be held in the future.

3. Pakistani Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif has begun a three-day visit to Malaysia to improve bilateral relations.
  - i. At the invitation of Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, Pakistani Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif will visit Malaysia until Oct. 7.
  - ii. During this visit, Shahbaz Sharif will hold bilateral talks with the Malaysian Prime Minister and discuss key regional and international issues.
4. Bodoland People's Front (PPF) leader Hakrama Mohilari was sworn in as the Chief Executive Member of the Bodoland Regional Council (BTC).
  - i. The Bodoland Regional Council, an autonomous body, administers the Bodoland region, which comprises five districts of Assam: Kokrajhar, Sirang, Baksa, Udalguri, and Tamulpur.
  - ii. The election for this 40-member council was held on September 22. In the second election since the new Bodo pact with the central government in 2020, the Bodoland People's Front (BPF) won 28 seats.
5. The navies of India and Britain began an eight-day joint exercise in the Indian Ocean.
  - i. The British ships are participating in the exercise, led by the aircraft carrier HMS Prince of Wales. The exercise is named 'Exercise Konkan'.
  - ii. The Indian Navy said that the participation of the Indian and British navies in this joint exercise demonstrates the commitment of both countries to ensuring secure, open and free seas.
  - iii. The objective of this joint exercise is to enhance the maritime and aerial capabilities of the Indian and British navies at sea.
6. There is a severe shortage of judges in the country's High Courts. 330 judge posts in 25 state High Courts remain unfilled. The maximum number of vacancies for judges is 76 in the Allahabad High Court in Uttar Pradesh. Out of a total of 160 judges in that High Court, 76 posts remain unfilled.
  - i. According to the statistics of the Central Department of Justice and the National Judicial Data Framework (NJDG), the posts of judges have been fully filled only in the Sikkim and Meghalaya High Courts.
  - ii. All the judicial posts (34) in the Supreme Court have been filled, but the shortage of judges in the High Courts is delaying the delivery of justice. With a large backlog of cases already in the courts, the shortage of judges is making the situation even worse.
  - iii. There are a total of 1,122 judge posts in all the High Courts in the country, but only 792 judges are serving. There are 330 vacant judicial posts. These include 161 permanent and 169 additional judicial posts. They will be appointed for a term not exceeding 2 years. Former judges and legal experts said: If the vacancies in the High Courts are not filled immediately without delay, the justice system will continue to be adversely affected. This will increase the number of cases that are stagnant.

- iv. Pending the process of appointing judges will directly affect the completion of case trials. This will greatly affect the litigants. Unless the judiciary and the Central Government take urgent action on this issue, the delays in case trials will continue.
  - v. The workload of the current judges is high, which is affecting the efficiency and quality of the judiciary. They said that the appointment of judges should be planned based on the number of cases pending in each High Court.
  - vi. 67 lakh cases are pending: According to National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), more than 67 lakh cases are pending in the High Courts in the country. Despite the fact that all judicial posts in the Supreme Court have been filled, there are more than 60,000 pending cases there.
7. The Central Government is planning to create an online assistive technology portal to certify assistive technology devices for people with disabilities and monitor other related activities.
- i. The Central Government has drafted comprehensive technical guidelines (standards and accessibility) for integration, classification, certification, ensuring ease of access, and securing the use of technology in current health and social welfare schemes for persons with disabilities, to be implemented by 2025.
8. At least 23 people have died in landslides triggered by heavy rains in various parts of Darjeeling district in West Bengal. The Government is taking steps to rescue more than 1,000 tourists stranded in Darjeeling.
- i. Heavy rains lashed Darjeeling district, a popular tourist destination located in the northern part of West Bengal. This resulted in landslides in areas including Sarsali, Jasbir Khan, Mirik Basti, Dargaon, Nagar Ghat and Mirik Lake, killing 23 people.
  - ii. The National Disaster Response Force has reported that the roads connecting Darjeeling district and North Sikkim, as well as the iron bridge linking Siliguri, Mirik and Darjeeling, have been severely damaged, and that several areas are surrounded by floodwaters.