

November 14, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. The longest-ever shutdown of US Government Departments has ended, after MPs disagreed on funding for those departments.
 - i. Opposition Democratic Party MPs opposed the bill to allocate funds to Government Departments for various reasons, such as the lack of a guarantee of subsidizing health insurance. As a result, Government Departments were shut down for an unprecedented 43 days.
 - ii. After some Democratic Party MPs came forward to accept the Appropriations bill with compromises, contrary to their party's position, the bill was passed in Parliament. The Government shutdown ended after President Donald Trump signed it.
 - iii. Funding for each Department in the United States is allocated through a bill passed by Congress each year. If the bill is not passed, all Government employees, except those performing essential services, will be given mandatory unpaid leave.
 - iv. The U.S. Postal Service, the Department of Health, Social Security payments, Air Traffic Control, Banks, Courts, Border Security Forces, Federal Law Enforcement, and Military Personnel will continue to operate as usual. Even though the military personnel are involved in this work, they are not paid.
 - v. National parks, visitor centers, tourism-related Government buildings, Government museums, and Government libraries will be closed. Thus, the shutdown of US Government Departments will result in billions of dollars in losses every day, and millions of Government employees will go unpaid.
2. The Supreme Court on Thursday (Nov. 13) dismissed the Tamil Nadu Government's petition against the Detailed Project Report of Mokedatu Dam Project, saying that the Central Water Commission (CWC) will take a decision on the Karnataka Government's Detailed Project Report on the check dam issue.
 - i. Karnataka has only filed a Detailed Project Report regarding the Mokedatu project. Therefore, the Supreme Court rejected Tamil Nadu's objection, saying that it is unacceptable to oppose it at an early stage.
 - ii. The Tamil Nadu Government filed a case in the Supreme Court in 2018 seeking a stay on the Karnataka Government's Detailed Project Report for the Mokedatu project.
 - iii. The Tamil Nadu Government argued that the purpose of the new dam is to stop the water from flowing into Tamil Nadu. Karnataka already has enough check dams across the Cauvery. Therefore, a new dam needs to be built.
3. Students in Bangladesh are protesting again.
 - i. They have accused Muhammad Yunus, the Chief Advisor to the Bangladesh Interim Government, of acting on the orders of religious fundamentalist organizations.
 - ii. In Bangladesh, student protests against the Government led by the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina last year led to a change of Government.

- iii. Sheikh Hasina subsequently fled the country and took refuge in India in August 2024. The Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus was appointed as the head of the Interim Government, that was subsequently formed.
 - iv. In this context, Muhammad Yunus recently withdrew the announcement issued regarding the appointment of music teachers and physical education teachers in Bangladeshi schools. Subsequently, the Bangladeshi students accused Yunus of being afraid of threats from religious fundamentalists.
 - v. Students are protesting in schools and colleges in various areas, including the capital Dhaka and Chittagong, demanding the reinstatement of these appointments. This has further increased tension in that country.
 - vi. Students participating in the protest said that religious fundamentalists were entering the education sector and trying to ban music. They also said that music is very important to preserve the cultural identity of Bangladesh.
4. The Indian External Affairs Minister Jaishankar participated in a briefing on energy security and rare earths held in Canada as part of the G7 Foreign Ministers' meeting.
1. The Foreign Ministers' Conference of the G7 group of countries, which includes Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Britain, and the United States, was held in the Niagara Region of Canada on Nov. 11 and Nov. 12. At the invitation of Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand, Jaishankar, who participated in this meeting, met her and discussed bilateral relations.
5. The United States has imposed sanctions on 32 companies and individuals from various countries, including India and China, for their involvement in Iran's ballistic missile program.
- i. The Foreign Ministry said the move was taken under the guidance of U.S. President Donald Trump to pressure Iran to curb its nuclear program and the production of missiles and other weapons.
 - ii. In a press release issued by the Ministry, the US is imposing economic sanctions on 32 companies and individuals from countries including Iran, China, Hong Kong, the United Arab Emirates, Turkey, and India. "This action is a continuation of the sanctions imposed on Iran by the UN last September for failing to properly comply with nuclear commitments," it was reported.
6. The Ministry of Defence signed a contract worth Rs.2,095 crore with public sector undertaking Bharat Dynamics Limited for the procurement of anti-tank missiles for the Indian Army. In a press release issued by the Ministry, it was stated that a contract worth Rs.2,095.70 crore was signed with Bharat Dynamics Limited for the procurement of INVAR anti-tank missiles. This laser-equipped weapon system was reported to be capable of accurately hitting targets.
7. The 'Trishul' war exercise, a joint defense exercise of the Indian Army, Air Force and Navy, concluded in Gujarat.
- i. The exercise, which was led by the Indian Navy and held for two weeks starting

from October 30 in states including Rajasthan and Gujarat, involved 30,000 military personnel, 25 ships and warships, and various fighter aircraft.

- ii. Specifically, during the Amphibex 2025 tri-service war exercise held off the Madhavpur coast in Porbandar, Gujarat, T-72 tanks, Jaguar combat aircraft, and Su-30MKI fighter jets took part and demonstrated their capabilities.
 - iii. Similarly, drones and anti-drone systems were also deployed in the exercise, reflecting modern warfare technologies. Joint intelligence, surveillance, electronic warfare, and cyber warfare were also clearly explained.
 - iv. Domestically manufactured defence equipment under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative was also showcased during the Trishul war exercise.
8. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has praised the decline in Tuberculosis cases in India since 2015.
- i. According to a report by the World Health Organization, the incidence of tuberculosis in India decreased from 237 per lakh population in 2015 to 187 per lakh population in 2024.
 - ii. The Union Health Ministry has said that the incidence of the disease in India has decreased by 21 percent, which is half the global average.
9. The Chief Minister M.K. Stalin inaugurated and inspected a modern vehicle at the Secretariat that can go to women's homes and diagnose diseases including cancer.
- i. This vehicle will be introduced for the first time in Kanchipuram district. 37 vehicles will be brought into use in other districts soon.
 - ii. Under the Cancer Prevention and Care Program, 38 mobile ambulances have been purchased at a cost of Rs.40 crore for women's welfare on behalf of the Public Health Department.
10. An agreement was signed at the Chief Secretariat in the presence of Chief Minister M.K. Stalin to set up a private textile manufacturing plant in Thiruvavur at a cost of Rs.50 crore.
- i. This agreement between the Department of Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce, Government of Tamil Nadu, and SCM Garments (The Chennai Silks Group) will provide employment opportunities to 2,500 people.