

November 16, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. The Chief Minister M.K. Stalin launched a program to provide free food to sanitation workers in the Chennai Metropolitan Corporation.
 - i. For the first time in the country, the Chennai Corporation's free food scheme for sanitation workers was inaugurated at the Kalaivanar Arangam.
 - ii. The Chief Minister M.K. Stalin participated and flagged off the vehicles for the food distribution project. Later, he also distributed safe food boxes to the sanitation workers.
 - iii. The Chennai Corporation will provide food to 31,373 sanitation workers daily. Rs. 64 crore has been allocated annually for this purpose.
 - iv. Food will be provided to sanitation workers working in the Greater Chennai Corporation on a rotating basis, morning, afternoon and night.
 - v. A total of 31,373 people will be provided with hygienic meals: permanent and self-help group sanitation workers, malaria prevention workers, sanitation workers employed by private companies, sanitation workers employed by private companies in Urban Habitat Improvement Board housing, cemetery sanitation workers, workers who clean toilets under public-private partnerships, workers employed in parks and sports grounds, and road workers engaged in fieldwork for the municipal corporation.
 - vi. Food parcels will be distributed through vehicles. Food prepared by a private company will be delivered in thermal bags and snack boxes.
2. A petition has been filed in the Supreme Court on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government against the President's refusal to give his assent to the NEET exemption bill.
 - i. A Committee headed by retired judge A.K.Rajan was formed to study the impact of NEET on students in Tamil Nadu. Based on the recommendations of the committee, the NEET Exemption Bill was passed in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on September 13, 2021 and sent to the Governor of Tamil Nadu for approval. However, the Governor returned the bill to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on February 1, 2022.
 - ii. Following that, the Tamil Nadu Government passed the NEET Exemption Bill again on February 8, 2022 and sent it back to the Governor. In this case, the Governor sent it for the President's approval.
 - iii. Meanwhile, last April, the President refused to approve the Tamil Nadu Government's NEET exemption bill.
 - iv. The Tamil Nadu Government has filed a petition in the Supreme Court against the President's decision. The petition states, 'The President has delayed taking any decision on the bill sent by the Tamil Nadu Government for more than 1,400 days.
 - v. Furthermore, he did not give any reason for rejecting the bill. This is contrary to the judgments already given by the Supreme Court. Furthermore, it has been requested that, since the Supreme Court had ruled that the

President must decide on the bills within a maximum of three months, It has been requested that the Supreme Court itself should approve the bill, rejecting the President's decision.

3. Natalie Buckley, the Deputy Commissioner General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), said that Israel is violating international law by continuing to restrict the flow of aid into Gaza.
 - i. UNRWA currently has the equivalent of 6,000 trucks of essential supplies, including food and tents. The trucks are of equal size. In the approaching winter season, famine continues to affect people. Therefore, all these goods should be allowed to enter Gaza immediately.
 - ii. Gaza requires 500 to 600 relief trucks every day. But even half of it is not allowed. Through this Israel violates International laws.
 - iii. He said that Israel, as an occupying power, does not abide by international humanitarian law and international human rights law.
 - iv. It is worth recalling that Israel has severed ties with the UN agency, alleging that the UNRWA organization has been infiltrated by Hamas forces and that its centers are widely used by terrorists.
 - v. UNRWA was established in 1948 to assist about 700,000 Palestinian refugees displaced during the war surrounding the establishment of the State of Israel. As of 2025, UNRWA provides medical, educational, social, and other services in the Gaza Strip and in countries neighboring Israel, where 5.9 million Palestinian refugees are registered.
4. The President Donald Trump has announced that he will remove additional tariffs imposed on a number of food products imported into the United States, including beef and coffee.
 - i. Since taking office for a second term, Trump has imposed steep additional tariffs on goods exported to the United States from other countries, claiming to protect the country's economy. This increased the price of imported goods. The prices of essential food items also rose sharply, causing hardship to the common people.
 - ii. In this situation, Trump has now announced the cancellation of additional import tariffs on various food products, including beef, coffee, and tropical fruits.
5. The tenure of the Public Sector Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) Chairperson and Managing Director of TAFE, Mallika Srinivasan, has been extended for another year.
 - i. Mallika Srinivasan was appointed as the Chairperson of the PESB in April 2021. It was the first time that a businessman from the private sector had been so appointed.
 - ii. Her term was initially set for 3 years. It was then extended in November last year. That term was due to end on the 18th, and now it has been extended again.
6. The Billie Jean King Cup is associated with Tennis sport.
7. The International Boxing Federation's World Cup Boxing Finals 2025 began in Greater Noida, near New Delhi.

- i. The finals are currently taking place following the World Championship held in 2023. The Indian team includes world champion Meenakshi Hooda, Preeti, Narendra Perwal, Ankush Panghal and others who are ready to showcase their skills on the first day.
 - ii. Boxing India President – Ajay Singh
8. The Indian Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi held consultations with senior US Navy officers.
 - i. At that time, discussions were held on improving cooperation between India and the United States in the Indo-Pacific region.
 - ii. The importance of the bilateral and trilateral naval exercises 'Malabar' and 'Milan' was also discussed during the consultation.
9. India stressed that the UN Security Council subsidiary bodies should function with transparency.
 - i. India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Parvathaneni Harish, who spoke during the debate on UN Security Council procedures, said: "The Security Council, as the central pillar of the UN system, plays a crucial role in maintaining international peace and security."
 - ii. The organization faces various challenges and issues worldwide. Therefore, it is essential that the Security Council and its subsidiary bodies function with greater transparency.
 - iii. This system, which has been operating for over 80 years, needs to undergo reforms in line with the times. The classification of Permanent and Non-Permanent members should be expanded to include countries that are not yet represented.
 - iv. India urges other bodies, including the UN General Assembly, to provide full cooperation to the UN Security Council. Accordingly, it would be beneficial to hold a detailed discussion on Security Council reports in the General Assembly, he said.