

November 29, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit Bits

1. India's GDP growth rate has reached 8.2 percent in the second quarter of the financial year 2025-26 (July-September). This is the highest growth rate in the last 6 quarters.
 - i. Economists have said that this growth is possible due to increase in Industrial production and increase in consumption of goods due to reduction in Goods and Services Tax (GST).
 - ii. In this regard, National Statistics Office has informed that economic growth, which was 6.1 percent in the first half of the financial year 2024-25, has increased to 8 percent in the first half of the current financial year.
2. The Porunai Museum set up in Tirunelveli will be inaugurated by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Dec. 20, Municipal Administration Minister K.N. Nehru said.
 - i. The Porunai Museum has been set up at a cost of Rs. 56 crore to showcase the 3,200-year history of Tamil Nadu. Its construction work has been completed. Chief Minister M.K. Stalin will inaugurate the museum on Dec. 20.
3. Santiago Neiva has been appointed as the head coach of the Indian women's boxing team.
 - i. He has already worked with the Indian men's team from 2017 to 2022. During that period, Indian players participated in the Tokyo Olympics more than ever before and won 2 medals at the 2019 Men's World Championships.
 - ii. Neiva, a native of Sweden, has about 20 years of international coaching experience and has also held important positions in the World Boxing Organization. He most recently worked as the head coach of the Australian Boxing Organization.
 - iii. Santiago Neiva has said that his aim is to prepare the Indian team to win more than one medal at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics. Santiago Neiva has taken charge with several international competitions to be held next year, including the Asian Games and the Commonwealth Games.
 - iv. Boxing Federation of India president Ajay Singh said that Neeva's appointment will be a boost for Indian women's boxing.
4. The Commonwealth Games Commission formally announced on 26th that India will host the 2030 Commonwealth Games, a significant milestone in India's sporting journey.
 - i. The announcement comes as a global recognition of India's growth as a trusted and preferred venue for major International Sporting Events and a step forward towards its long-term goal of hosting the 2036 Olympic Games.
5. President Draupadi Murmu has expressed pride that our country's ideology of 'Vasudaiva Kutumbakam' (the world is one family) is very relevant today, in the current context where the world is facing unprecedented challenges.
 - i. The inaugural function of this year's concept of the Brahma Kumaris organization was held in Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh. Participating in this, Draupadi Murmu said:
 - ii. India's ancient civilization and cultural heritage have always had the ideology of 'Vasudaiva Kutumbakam', which is suitable for any time. In the current context

where the world is facing unprecedented challenges, this ideology is very relevant today.

6. The Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology, Ashwini Vaishnaw said that the Central Government is planning to invest Rs.4,500 crore in the development of the Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL) in the next three years.
 - i. SCL, which functions as an autonomous body under the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, is located in Mohali, Punjab.
 - ii. The Semiconductor production at SCL should be increased by 100 times. Major changes should be made in the technology.
7. The Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said that India is negotiating Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with 50 countries, including the US and the European Union. Piyush Goyal participated in the annual general meeting of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) held in Delhi. He said:
 - i. Nowadays, some countries use trade as a weapon. We all know the importance of trusted partners in this context.
 - ii. In that regard, India is constantly trying to improve trade relations with reliable countries to strengthen the economy.
 - iii. Accordingly, FTA negotiations are underway in various stages with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), which has 6 member countries namely Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates and Oman.
 - iv. While the FTA has already been signed with the UAE, work is underway to finalize the agreement with Oman.
 - v. Bahrain and Qatar are taking the initiative to hold talks with India.
 - vi. It is in talks with 50 countries including the US, New Zealand, the 27-member European Union and the 10-member ASEAN, Korea, Israel and Canada for an FTA. Talks on the deal with Canada will begin next week.
 - vii. The Southern African Customs Union (SACU), which has five members - South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho and Eswatini - and the Mercosur, which has Latin American countries including Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, are also interested in holding trade talks with India.
 - viii. In addition, talks have recently been initiated with the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), which has five members - Belarus, Russia, Armenia, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.
 - ix. India has already entered into FTAs with countries including Australia, the United Arab Emirates, Mauritius, Britain, and the four European countries that form the EFTA.
8. The Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that banks should provide financial assistance for the development of Amaravati district, which was formed after scientific consultations.
 - i. The foundation stone laying ceremony for 15 public sector banks and insurance companies, including State Bank of India (SBI), Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), was held in

Building Bureaucrats Since 2006

Amaravati, the capital of Andhra Pradesh, with an investment of Rs.1,328 crore.

- ii. Speaking at the ceremony, Nirmala Sitharaman said: Amaravati district was formed after scientific consultations. On that basis, the foundation stone of 15 financial institutions has been laid. Therefore, financial institutions should provide financial assistance considering the development of Amaravati.
 - iii. Banks should come forward to provide various other services, not only providing loans of Rs.2 lakh to farmers through Kisan Credit Cards. This is the first time in India that major public sector banks and insurance companies will be located on the same street in a state capital.
9. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced 'Operation Sagar Bandhu' to provide relief assistance to Sri Lanka, which was hit by Cyclone Ditwah.
- i. Accordingly, in the first phase, relief materials were sent on board the warships INS Vikrant and INS Udayagiri. Both these warships reached Colombo port to participate in the 75th anniversary celebrations of the Sri Lanka Navy on November 30.
10. Former Chief Justice of the Odisha High Court S. Muralidhar has been appointed as the Chairman of the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, by Israel.
- i. The Commission aims to investigate human rights violations in the Israel-Palestine conflict, to identify those responsible for them and hold them accountable for their human rights violations, and to ensure justice for the victims.
 - ii. The Commission, which was established by the UN Human Rights Council, will consist of 3 members.
 - iii. Brazilian jurist Paulo Sergio Pinheiro was the chairman of the commission, and S. Muralidhar has now been appointed as the chairman.