

December 6, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. India and Russia have finalized a 5-year economic plan till 2030 to further expand economic and trade relations between the two countries at the 23rd Annual Summit held in Delhi.
 - i. This 5-year economic plan between the two countries has gained importance as the United States is taking steps including imposing an additional 25 percent tax on Indian imports, taking the total to 50 percent, due to buying more crude oil from Russia, which is waging war on Ukraine.
 - ii. At the Annual Summit, the two countries finalized the 5-year economic plan till 2030 and signed various agreements to further expand cooperation in various sectors such as health, transport, and people-to-people exchange.
 - iii. Both sides decided to quickly finalize the Free Trade Agreement between India and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), which includes 5 countries – Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Armenia, and Kyrgyzstan.
 - iv. An agreement was signed to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the 7,200 km long International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC), the Northern Sea Route and the Chennai-Vladivostok Economic Corridor, which are being developed by India, Russia, Iran, Central Asia and Europe. Accordingly, the two sides will work together to train Indian sailors to navigate ships in the Arctic Ocean.
 - v. The Prime Minister Modi also said that a free 30-day electronic tourist visa (e-tourist visa) and a 30-day group tourist visa will be introduced soon for Russian citizens visiting India.
2. The Chief Minister M.K. Stalin inaugurated a glass manufacturing factory for electronic devices at a cost of Rs.1,003 crore in the Pillaipakkam SIPCOT area near Sriperumbudur and started production.
 - i. In the Pillaipakkam SIPCOT area near Sriperumbudur in Kanchipuram district, Corning International Corporation of America and Optiemus Infracom Limited of India have jointly set up a Bharat Innovative Glass Technologies Private Limited factory for the production of glass products for electronic devices at a cost of Rs.1,003 crore.
 - ii. The Tamil Nadu Government is taking various initiatives to create more jobs for the youth of Tamil Nadu and attract the necessary investments to grow the economy of Tamil Nadu to 1 trillion US dollars by 2030.
 - iii. Corning International, headquartered in the US, is one of the Fortune 500 companies. It is a manufacturer of reinforced Corning Gorilla Glass used in mobile phones, laptops and handheld computers. Optiemus Infracom is an experienced company in the manufacturing of mobile phone accessories and laptops in India. Bharat Innovative Glass Technologies is a joint venture between Corning International Corporation and Optiemus Infracom Limited.
 - iv. The company has set up a front cover glass manufacturing plant with modern technology in the Pillaipakkam SIPCOT Industrial Park, Kanchipuram district with an

investment of Rs. 1,003 crore, providing employment to 840 people. The Chief Minister said that the products manufactured at this company will be the first of their kind in the country using this technology.

3. The country has been embroiled in controversy over the US military's attacks on boats in international waters, claiming they are linked to drug trafficking. The attacks are criticized as violations of international law and for causing the deaths of innocent people.
 - i. Since September, the Government's "war on drugs" led by President Donald Trump has carried out 22 attacks in the Caribbean and Pacific Oceans, killing 87 people. Many of the victims were innocent fishermen, their families and independent observers allege. The issue has been investigated by not only the opposition Democratic Party but also a congressional committee from the ruling Republican Party.
 - ii. Under international law, survivors of a shipwreck must be rescued; attacking them, even if they are enemies, is a war crime. Therefore, Democrats and some Republicans have criticized the second attack on and killing of those who were fighting on the part of the sunken boat during the attack as a war crime.
 - iii. Legal experts say that 'drug trafficking is not an armed conflict. Therefore, attacking those who come with illegal drugs is not a military action. It is murder. In particular, it is criticized that carrying out such attacks without the authorization of Congress is against the US Constitution.
4. The German Parliament has approved a law to introduce a voluntary military service program for young people of legal age.
 - i. The bill, which aims to strengthen Germany's national security after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, was passed by 323 votes to 272.
 - ii. Germany reduced its military strength after the end of the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union. This is the biggest change the country has made to its military since then.
 - iii. Following the enactment of the bill, from January 2026, all young men and women who have reached the age of 18 will be sent a questionnaire asking if they want to serve in the military. It will be mandatory for men.
 - iv. The law aims to increase the strength of the army to over 200,000 soldiers. However, instead of compulsory military service, which was discontinued in 2011, young people will now be recruited on a voluntary basis.
5. The Indian Olympic Association treasurer Sahadev Yadav will be Chef de-mission for the Indian delegation for the 2026 Asian Games, while Table Tennis player Sarath Kamal will be deputy Chef de-mission.
6. With the services of India's leading airline IndiGo severely affected, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has relaxed the new working hours rules for pilots. As a result, the Aviation Ministry has assured that flight services across the country will be normalised in a day or two.

- i. To ease the fatigue of pilots, the revised Flight Duty Time Limitations (FDTL) Rules for pilots came into force from November 1. According to these rules, weekly rest and annual leave should be considered separately. That is, vacation should not be compensated in lieu of 48 hours of weekly rest.
 - ii. As IndiGo did not plan adequately for these rule changes, there was a shortage of pilots and daily flight services were affected for the past few days.
7. In 2024, road accidents increased by 2.3 percent to 1.77 lakh deaths. That is, 485 people died every day, the Central Government informed the Parliament.
 - i. Based on the World Road Statistics for the year 2024, the road accident death rate per lakh population is 4.3 in China and 12.76 in the United States. The rate in India is 11.89.
 - ii. He said that the Central Government is formulating a multi-pronged plan to improve road safety based on 4 pillars: Education (awareness), Engineering (road and vehicle development), Enforcement of rules and Emergency treatment.
8. The Central Government has informed that there are 4,855 vacancies of judges in District Courts and Subordinate Courts across the country. In response to a question raised in this regard during the Question Hour in the Rajya Sabha, Union Law and Justice Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal said:
 - i. The sanctioned posts of judges in District and Subordinate Courts across the country are 25,886. Out of which 4,855 posts are currently vacant.
 - ii. In 16 states, the vacancies of District Court judges are filled through the State Public Service Commissions and in other states by the High Courts. Accordingly, filling up the vacancies of judges in district and subordinate courts is the responsibility of the State Governments and the High Courts. The rules for these appointments are framed by the respective State Governments in consultation with the High Courts under Articles 233, 234, and 309 of the Constitution.
 - iii. In the Malik Mazhar Sultan case, the Supreme Court in January 2007 had fixed a time limit for filling up the vacancies of District and Subordinate Court Judges. He said that this order should be followed by the State Governments and High Courts.
 - iv. Due to shortage of judges, as on December 1, 4,80,42,720 cases were pending in the subordinate courts across the country.