

December 8, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. As part of the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of the composition of the country's National Song, 'Vande Mataram', the Prime Minister Narendra Modi will start a 10-hour special debate in the Lok Sabha.
2. Japan has strongly condemned China's radar tracking of its fighter jets in an attempt to attack them.
 - i. China claims Taiwan as its territory. The incident comes after Japanese Prime Minister Sane Takaichi said last month that the Japanese military would intervene if China attacked Taiwan.
 - ii. Japanese Defense Minister Shinjiro Koizumi said that a J-15 military aircraft that took off from the Chinese province of Liaoning, located near the island of Okinawa, targeted Japanese F-15 fighter jets twice.
 - iii. The target was set for three minutes in the afternoon and 30 minutes in the evening on Saturday. Following this, the Chinese fighter jets were followed by Japanese fighter jets at regular intervals. However, no attack was carried out on those planes. No one was injured or any damage was caused in this incident.
3. The wordings "Russia as a direct threat to the United States" has been removed from the new US National Security Policy. This is considered a new recognition given to Russia by the Trump administration.
 - i. Earlier, when Russia occupied the Crimea region of Ukraine in 2014, the US security policy stated that "Russia was a direct threat to the United States". Subsequently, the US, which actively supported Ukraine, imposed various serious economic sanctions against Russia.
 - ii. The current President Trump administration is relaxing this position. Russia has welcomed the new US Security Policy. This sudden move by the US has come as a shock to Ukraine and to European countries that have actively supported Ukraine in the Russia-Ukraine war.
 - iii. It said that India is a key US ally in the Asian region. We need to strengthen trade and bilateral relations with India. We need to increase India's contribution to the security of the Indo-Pacific region. The US Security Policy states that efforts should be made through the 'Quad' organization, which includes the US, Australia, Japan, and India.
4. The British McLaren driver Lando Norris (26) was crowned the current Formula One (F) champion.
 - i. Retired Dutch driver Max Verstappen won the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, the last race of the current season. Australian McLaren driver Oscar Piastre finished second and Norris third.
 - ii. However, Norris, who was already leading the current season points table, took the lead in this race with 423 points overall and became the Champion. Norris, who entered the season as the current champion, finished second with 421 points, while

Piastre finished third with 410 points.

5. A new, state-of-the-art Indian Consulate building was inaugurated in China's largest commercial city, Shanghai.
 - i. This is the first time in 32 years that the Consulate General in Shanghai has been relocated.
 - ii. The new building of the Indian Consulate in Shanghai, which is important for catering to the needs of the Indian business community in the eastern regions, including the commercial and industrial hubs of China, was inaugurated by Indian Ambassador to China Pradeep Kumar Rawat. The new building will be fully operational from Monday (Dec. 8).
 - iii. The recently launched direct flights between India and Shanghai will further strengthen bilateral trade, travel and business ties. He expressed confidence that the new building will serve as a vibrant hub for friendship, business and cultural exchanges between India and the eastern China regions.
6. The Vice-President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, today launched the Silver Jubilee Year celebrations of the Om Shanti Retreat Centre (OSRC) of the Brahma Kumaris in Gurugram.
7. 'Armed Forces Flag Day' was observed on December 7 with the aim of honoring the service of the armed forces who protect the country and ensuring public support and participation in their welfare programs.
8. The Government has formed a Special Committee to study ways to prevent wild animals from entering the Valparai tea estates.
 - i. A Committee has been formed under the leadership of Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ramasubramanian with a view to preventing human-animal conflict. The Committee includes the Deputy Director of Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR), the sub-collector of Pollachi, a representative of the Nature Conservation Foundation, the Municipal Commissioner of Valparai, and the Assistant Commissioner of Labour (Plantations)(Estates - Valparai Zone).
 - ii. The Members of this group will monitor and ensure security measures in the Valparai tea estate areas. It also states that they will assess the situation and submit a report and recommendations to the Government within two weeks.
9. The Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said that India's domestic military production has reached Rs 1.51 lakh crore.
 - i. The inauguration ceremony of 125 projects worth Rs 5,000 crore completed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) was held in Leh, Union Territory of Ladakh. The projects were inaugurated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
 - ii. These projects have been implemented in the Union Territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir and in 7 states - Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Mizoram.
10. The 'Tamil Nadu Growing Investors Conference-2025' was held Madurai. The Chief Minister M.K. Stalin presided over the event and said:

- i. A Tidal Park is being set up in Madurai district at a cost of Rs.314 crore. The Taiwanese "Pei Hai" group has come forward to establish a non-leather footwear manufacturing project in Madurai. This will provide employment to a large number of people.
 - ii. Similarly, the 'Madurai Master Plan 2044' prepared by the Urban Planning Directorate has a new urban design with a view to a population of 42 lakhs in the coming years.
 - iii. The 'Toy Manufacturing Policy' has been released to create new market designs and investment opportunities for the traditional toy manufacturing skills of artists from areas like madurai vilacheri and Amba Samudra.
 - iv. In order to develop the southern districts with Madurai as the center, a P.M.Mitra Integrated Textile Park is being set up in Virudhunagar district with an investment of Rs.1,894 crore.
 - v. Similarly, a common engineering park and a food park are to be developed on 424 acres in Theni district. An industrial park is to be developed on 108 acres in the Iluppaikudi area of Sivaganga district and 102 acres in the Kalanivasal area of Karaikudi.
 - vi. A 'Tidal Neo Park' is also being established in Sivaganga district. Tidal Neo Parks are planned to be established in Virudhunagar, Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari districts.
 - vii. Efforts are being made to set up a new airport in Ramanathapuram district.
 - viii. At the Madurai Investors' Conference, 91 MoUs were signed to attract investment of Rs. 36,660 crore and 56,766 jobs are to be created.
11. While obesity has recently become an international problem, its impact on people traveling in public buses in Tamil Nadu is greater. There is an expectation that the Transport Corporation should take urgent action to resolve this problem.
- i. The obesity rate in India is increasing compared to the last 10 years. In this regard, the Economic Survey presented in the Lok Sabha last June, it was pointed out that the obesity rate in the country, from youth to adults, has increased three-fold, and that India is the country with the highest increase in childhood obesity, after Vietnam and Namibia.
 - ii. Statistics show that about 57.9% of people in Tamil Nadu are affected by obesity, which is more compared to other Southern States. According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) data, during the period 2019-2021, the overweight and obesity rate among women, especially young women, increased in Tamil Nadu.
 - iii. In this regard, the obesity rate is 29.8 percent among urban men and 19.3 percent among rural men. Obesity among men aged 18 to 69 has increased from 18.9 percent to 22.9 percent and among women from 20.6 percent to 24 percent. Studies suggest that the prevalence of obesity in Tamil Nadu is 37 percent among men and 40.4 percent among women.
 - iv. People with obesity face difficulties in many ways in public places. In particular, they have been experiencing the worst conditions in bus travel for the past several years. Due to this, there is a situation where those sitting nearby also face difficulties.
 - v. About 20,260 buses are being operated on 10,125 routes through 8 divisions of the

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State Transport Corporation in Tamil Nadu. 1.76 crore people travel through these every day. Even with so many people traveling, the main problem they face is the size of the seats in the buses.

- vi. In general, obesity was not a big issue in the past. But now it is known that 40–60 percent of the people are obese. In this, there is no discrimination between children and young people. When the number of obese people was very low, the size of the seats arranged in the buses was sufficient.
- vii. These seats are arranged about one and a quarter feet, i.e. 15 inches (inches) wide. In this, only people with a waist size of 32 inches can sit comfortably. Currently, the waist size of about 50 percent of people is more than 36 inches. Due to this, most of the people cannot sit comfortably in the bus seats and travel with difficulty.
- viii. According to officials of the State Transport Corporation, low-floor buses have come into use with only 4 seats, 2-2, so that obese people and the elderly can sit comfortably. These have been well received. The Transport Ministry is considering the obesity problem. The Motor Vehicle Standards Act needs to be amended to increase the width of buses. But it is not easy. It is possible to increase the width of the seats and reduce the number to 4 per row. They said that consultations are underway in this regard.