

December 21, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. Three-time Grand Slam champion Stan Wawrinka of Switzerland has announced that he will retire after the 2026 season.
 - i. The 41-year-old Wawrinka has won three Grand Slam titles, defeating Rafael Nadal at the 2014 Australian Open, and Novak Djokovic at the 2015 French Open and the 2016 US Open.
2. The Indian team won the gold medal at the Rollball World Cup held in Dubai.
 - i. The 7th Rollball World Cup was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from the 14th to the 18th of this month.
 - ii. All 12 Indian team players, both men and women, participated and played exceptionally well to win the gold medal. Among them were Madhunitha from Tamil Nadu, Deepak Raja from Dindigul, and Mahathi from Coimbatore.
3. Veteran Malayalam film actor, renowned screenwriter and director Srinivasan (69) passed away in Kochi due to ill health.
4. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has clarified that the eggs sold in India are perfectly safe for consumption and the information claiming that they contain cancer-causing antibiotic residues are scientifically baseless.
 - i. A global ban was imposed on the antibiotic drug called Nitrofurans, which was used in livestock and poultry, after it was confirmed to contain carcinogenic elements.
 - ii. In this context, information spread on social media and in the press that eggs produced by a leading company in Karnataka contained traces of Nitrofurans, causing panic among the public.
 - iii. The European Union and the United States have banned the use of Nitrofurans in livestock. In India too, according to the Food Safety and Standards Regulations of 2011, the use of Nitrofurans is prohibited at all stages of poultry farming.
 - iv. The prescribed limit for Nitrofurans traces is one gram per kilogram. This limit is only for regulatory enforcement purposes and does not imply permission for the use of Nitrofurans. Traces detected below this limit do not indicate a violation of food safety regulations or pose a risk to health.
5. The Centenary Celebrations of the musician E.M. Haneefa were held at the Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University, Nagapattinam.
6. The second annual Literary Festival 2025 is being held at Auroville International City in Vanur taluk of Villupuram district.
7. The United States has launched an intensive bombing campaign against Islamic State (IS) terrorists in Syria. According to a press release issued by the US military's Central Command (CENTCOM):
 - i. An intensive attack, codenamed 'Operation Hawkeye Strike', was carried out targeting IS terrorist training camps and headquarters in central Syria.
 - ii. Syria's new Interim Government has expressed support for this US operation and stated its readiness to cooperate in eradicating IS terrorism.
 - iii. This attack is the largest military operation conducted by the United States in Syria since the fall of the

Assad regime.

8. 'To cope with the competition from countries including Bangladesh in the international textile and apparel export market, India needs to enter into a greater number of Free Trade Agreements,' said Vice-President C.P. Radhakrishnan.
 - i. In his address at the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) awards ceremony in Delhi, he said: In the past, India did not face much competition in the international textile export market. However, currently, Bangladesh, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, and African countries have emerged as serious competitors to India.
 - ii. The Free Trade Agreements that these countries have signed with other nations are a major advantage for them. Therefore, it is imperative that India also enters into such agreements.
 - iii. The target has been set to increase the value of India's apparel market to \$350 billion and exports to \$100 billion by 2030.
 - iv. Although geopolitical situations pose challenges to the textile sector, India is the 6th largest exporter globally. He added that textile manufacturers should identify new markets and prioritize environmental protection and waste management in their production processes.
9. The Prime Minister Modi inaugurated and inspected the second terminal at Guwahati International Airport, which serves as aviation hub of Northeastern India, and the gateway to Southeast Asia, built at a cost of Rs. 4,000 crore with state-of-the-art facilities.
 - i. Built over an area of 1.40 lakh square meters, this terminal, which reflects the diversity and cultural heritage of Assam and the Northeast region, has the capacity to handle 1.3 crore passengers annually. It holds the distinction of being the country's first airport designed with a nature-themed concept. 1.42 lakh metric tons of bamboo have been used in its interior design.
 - ii. Outside the airport, Prime Minister Modi also unveiled an 80-foot-tall statue of Gopinath Bordoloi, the first Chief Minister of Assam. This statue was designed by the renowned sculptor Ram Sutar, who recently passed away. An additional Rs. 1,000 crore has been allocated for the maintenance of the airport.
10. The Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has proudly stated that, Tamil Nadu stands as the leading state shaping India's intellectual future. The Chief Minister stated this, highlighting Tamil Nadu's 16 percent growth in Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) and its top ranking in patent filings.
 - i. The Reserve Bank of India recently released statistics on the development status of states. Tamil Nadu has set a new record in India with a growth of 16 percent in gross domestic product (GSDP).
 - ii. Subsequently, the data released by the Guidance Industry on December 18th regarding Indian patent registrations reveals that Tamil Nadu has shown tremendous growth; a new record has been set with a 23 percent growth, a significant margin ahead of other states.
 - iii. That is, Tamil Nadu has secured the top position in patent filings in India, reaffirming its status as the intellectual capital of the country. Of the total (68,201) patents applied for registration in India, Tamil Nadu alone has registered 15,440 patents. This is approximately 23 percent of the total number in the country.

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- iv. Tamil Nadu's strong research base, robust professional strength, and the close integrated environment between educational institutions and industries are the main reasons for this historic achievement. Through this continuous growth, Tamil Nadu has emerged as a major force in India's intellectual property and innovation sector.
11. The Chief Minister M.K.Stalin inaugurated the Porunai Museum, built at a cost of Rs.67.25 crore in Tirunelveli, to add glory to the Porunai civilization. The Porunai Museum has been established on an area of 13 acres and 54,296 square feet in the Reddiarpatti hills, next to Palayankottai, Tirunelveli.

