

**P.L.RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY****Building Bureaucrats Since 2006****August 13, 2026 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits**

1. A resolution opposing the Delimitation Bill and urging the Union Government to retain the number of Lok Sabha members at 543 was passed by voice vote in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.

- I. The resolution, moved by Chief Minister S. Joseph Vijay, was supported by the DMK, Congress, VCK, IUML and other parties. The AIADMK, BJP, PMK and DMDK opposed it.
- II. Chief Minister Joseph Vijay moved the resolution demanding that the number of Lok Sabha constituencies continue to remain at 543 and that 33 per cent reservation for women be implemented.
- III. The resolution was passed by voice vote.

2. The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) Amendment Bill was referred to a 31-member Joint Parliamentary Committee for scrutiny. A resolution to this effect was passed by both Houses of Parliament.

- I. The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, which seeks to tighten Government oversight of NGOs and their foreign contributions, was introduced in the Lok Sabha in March.
- II. The Bill proposes setting up a special authority to manage the assets of an organisation if it loses its FCRA licence. Opposition parties have strongly alleged that several provisions of the Bill are targeted at minority charitable organisations.
- III. Reports had emerged that the Union Government planned to discuss and pass the Bill during the ongoing Monsoon Session of Parliament, prompting the Opposition to intensify its protests.
- IV. When the Lok Sabha convened on Wednesday morning, Union Minister of State for

Home Affairs Nityanand Rai moved a resolution to refer the FCRA Amendment Bill to a Joint Parliamentary Committee amid Opposition protests. The resolution was passed by voice vote amid the uproar.

- V. Under the resolution, a Joint Parliamentary Committee comprising 31 members will be constituted, with 21 Lok Sabha MPs and 10 Rajya Sabha MPs. The members will be nominated by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and Rajya Sabha Chairman C. P. Radhakrishnan.
- VI. The committee has been asked to submit its report by the last day of the first week of the forthcoming Winter Session of Parliament.

3. A Parliamentary inquiry committee report tabled in Parliament has stated that the allegations against Justice Yashwant Varma were proved in connection with the incident in which bundles of partially burnt currency notes were found at his residence in Delhi.

- I. On the night of March 14, 2025, when Yashwant Varma was serving as a judge of the Delhi High Court, a fire broke out at his residence. Firefighters who arrived at the scene found bundles of currency notes in the house in a burnt condition. The incident triggered a major controversy. Subsequently, he was transferred from the Delhi High Court to the Allahabad High Court.
- II. The incident sparked widespread criticism of judges across the country. Subsequently, more than 200 MPs signed and submitted a motion in Parliament in July last year seeking the removal of Justice Yashwant Varma from office. Following this, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla constituted a three-member inquiry committee to investigate the allegations against him.
- III. After the removal motion was submitted in Parliament, Justice Yashwant Varma resigned from his position. However, the Union Law Ministry has not yet issued any official statement regarding his resignation.
- IV. Meanwhile, the three-member inquiry committee that investigated the

allegations against Yashwant Varma submitted its report to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla in May. The committee also submitted documentary evidence and oral testimonies.

- V. The report was subsequently submitted to the Secretaries-General of the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha.
- VI. The report stated that the allegations against Justice Yashwant Varma—including possession of unaccounted cash, destruction of evidence and an evasive explanation—had been established. It also stated that Justice Varma had failed to provide a satisfactory explanation regarding the presence, source and ownership of the cash found at his residence, and that his response was unclear.
- VII. The Supreme Court has previously ruled on the resignation of Supreme Court and High Court judges. According to the ruling, a judge can resign by submitting a letter of resignation to the President and making a copy of it public; the resignation does not require formal acceptance by the President. Accordingly, since Yashwant Varma has already resigned, the removal motion brought against him in Parliament has become ineffective.

4. N. Chandrasekaran announced that he would step down as Chairman of Tata Sons.

5. The 16th Men's and Women's Hockey World Cup will be held in Belgium and the Netherlands from the 15th of the coming month.

- I. As far as the Indian men's team is concerned, it progressed from winning bronze in its first World Cup appearance in 1971 to silver in 1973 and then went on to become champions and win the gold medal in 1975. However, after that, the Indian men's team lost its position and has struggled to return to the World Cup podium for the past 51 years.
- II. Although India has won medals in various international competitions during this

period—including the Olympics, Asian Games, Asian Cup, Champions Trophy, Asian Champions Trophy, Pro League, Hockey World League and Commonwealth Games—the Hockey World Cup medal has remained elusive for India.

6. British Prime Minister Andy Burnham has appointed Indian-origin strategist Gautam Rangarajan as an expert adviser in his Government.

- I. Burnham assumed office as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and leader of the Labour Party last month. He has since been making several changes to implement his Government's agenda. As part of this, he appointed Gautam Rangarajan to the newly created position of Expert Adviser for Structure and Process.
- II. Gautam Rangarajan is a former strategist at the BBC television network and is also a musician.
- III. The British Prime Minister's Office stated that Gautam Rangarajan has significant experience in corporate strategy and implementing organisational transformation, and that he would take charge of his new role this week.