

September 13, 2026 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

I. Adoption of the New Delhi Declaration & West Asian War Resolution

(i) At the 18th BRICS Summit held in New Delhi, leaders unanimously adopted a 45–page document titled the Delhi Declaration, comprising 140 key points.

- The declaration expressed serious concern over the ongoing West Asian war, noting its adverse global impacts and the continued attacks on civilians and public infrastructure.
- Member states called for an immediate halt to all actions escalating the conflict, exercising restraint, ensuring civilian safety, and achieving a negotiated solution through dialogue and diplomacy.

(ii) Gaza Ceasefire & Two–State Solution

- The declaration urged strict compliance with Gaza ceasefire agreements and unimpeded access for humanitarian aid.
- It reaffirmed support for a Two–State Solution, recognizing an independent Palestinian state based on the 1967 borders.

(iii) Reforms in the UN Security Council

- BRICS emphasized the necessity of reforming the UN Security Council (UNSC) to adapt to modern realities and amplify the voice of the Global South.
- Permanent UNSC members China and Russia endorsed strengthening the roles and contributions of India and Brazil in the UN Security Council.

(iv) Multilateral Trade & Opposition to Unilateral Taxation

- The grouping condemned unilateral trade tariffs and non–tariff measures enacted outside World Trade Organization (WTO) rules that disrupt global commerce.
- BRICS supported admitting Iran and Ethiopia into the WTO and backed China's initiative to offer tariff concessions to 53 African nations.
- It called for the immediate, delay–free appointment of members to the WTO Dispute Settlement Appellate Body.

(v) Financial Sector Reforms & Cross–Border Payments

- The summit demanded increased representation for developing nations in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, along with the immediate rollout of the new IMF quota allocation system.
- To simplify trade, BRICS agreed to explore fast, transparent, and secure cross–border transaction mechanisms among member countries.

(vi) Uncompromising Stance Against Terrorism

- BRICS strongly condemned the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir (which resulted in

26 deaths), calling for zero tolerance against all forms of terrorism, cross-border terrorism, and terror financing.

- The alliance rejected double standards in counter-terrorism and stressed that terrorism should never be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization, or ethnic group.

(vii) Opposition to Carbon Border Taxes & Climate Action

- The declaration reaffirmed commitment to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement.
- It strongly opposed unilateral, discriminatory measures like the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) proposed by the European Union and the UK, noting that it weakens climate adaptation efforts in developing nations.

(viii) Digital Governance, Women Leadership & Public Health

- Called for establishing a global AI governance model to ensure safe, trustworthy AI applications while promoting Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI).
- Recognized women as vital leaders and decision-makers, expressing enthusiasm for the upcoming BRICS Women Parliamentarians' Meeting scheduled for October 2026.
- Endorsed the BRICS Action Plan (2026–2029) to promote healthy lifestyles and combat obesity and non-communicable diseases.

2. Saudi Arabia shuts down its main oil pipeline

(i) Incident Overview & Pipeline Shutdown

- Saudi Arabia temporarily shut down its primary "East-West" crude oil pipeline as a precautionary measure following a targeted drone attack.
- Constructed in the 1980s, the East-West pipeline serves as Saudi Arabia's critical alternative export route to the Red Sea, bypassing potential maritime blockades in the Strait of Hormuz.

(ii) Origin of Attack & Iraqi Government Actions

- The Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported that the attacking drones were launched from within Iraqi territory.
- The Iraqi Government confirmed that the drone strikes originated from within its borders and launched an immediate high-level investigation.
- Iraqi Prime Minister Ali Al-Sudani dismissed the military commander of the Maysan province (bordering Iran) and temporarily closed two major border transit checkpoints with Iran—Shalamchah and Shasabe.
- Saudi Arabia announced it would refrain from immediate retaliatory strikes to allow Iraqi authorities time to conduct their investigation and enforce measures.

(iii) Regional Condemnation & Market Risks

- The drone strikes were strongly condemned by Arab states, including Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Oman, and Egypt.
- The shutdown, combined with the presence of Iran-backed Houthi forces controlling strategic

vantage points around the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait in the Red Sea, creates severe risks of escalating global crude oil prices.

3. Tax on Solar cell Imports

(i) Scope of Import Tariffs and Targeted Nations

- The United States Department of Commerce has finalized anti-dumping margins and countervailing duties (CVD) on solar cells and panels imported into the US.
- The finalized trade duties apply to solar cell and panel imports originating from three nations: India, Indonesia, and Laos.
- The tariffs were formulated to counter unfair pricing strategies where foreign manufacturers sell solar equipment below normal market value or benefit from government subsidies, thereby threatening domestic US manufacturers.

(ii) Tariff Rates for Indian Solar Manufacturers

- The US Commerce Department set the anti-dumping duty rate for Indian solar manufacturers at 123.04%.
- To neutralize advantages derived from government subsidies, a countervailing duty rate of 126.09% was finalized for Indian solar producers.

(iii) Final Injury Assessment and Implementation Timeline

- The US International Trade Commission (USITC) will issue its final decision on October 14 regarding whether these imports cause or threaten material injury to domestic US solar producers.
- The finalized anti-dumping and countervailing duties will be officially imposed only if the USITC confirms that imports from India, Indonesia, and Laos have harmed or threaten the domestic US solar manufacturing sector.

4. Global Governance reform is the need of the hour

(i) Core Philosophy & BRICS Milestone

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted that BRICS is entering its 20th year, marking a phase of maturity and global responsibility.
- PM Modi emphasized that BRICS is not an alliance directed against any country, but rather a vital global coalition working toward solving pressing international challenges.
- He called on member states to draft an ambitious action plan for the next 20 years to effectively address global issues.

(ii) 10-Point Action Plan for Global Governance

- India proposed a 10-Point Action Plan for global governance reform, to be jointly formulated by BRICS nations before the next summit.
- The reform framework rests on three pillars: Representation, Accountability, and Rule-making.
- The initiative aims to transform countries of the Global South from being mere "rule followers" into active "rule makers" in global affairs.

(iii) Institutional Reforms (UNSC & International Financial Bodies)

- PM Modi urged that long-pending structural reforms in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) must no longer be delayed.
- He demanded immediate alignment of voting rights, executive leadership positions, and policy priorities in multilateral financial institutions (such as the IMF and World Bank) with modern economic realities.
- Nations driving global economic growth must be granted a fair and central role in shaping global economic policies and governance.

(iv) Replacing the "Pyramid of Privilege" with a Level Playing Field

- PM Modi described current global governance as a "Pyramid of Privilege," where power and decision-making are concentrated at the top, forcing nations at the bottom to suffer the consequences without having a say.
- The Global South stands at the front line of global crises (such as military conflicts and economic shocks), yet remains at the back line of global decision-making.
- He called for dismantling this privilege pyramid and replacing it with a cooperative, level playing field that guarantees equitable representation and participation for all nations.

(v) "Emergency Support Infrastructure" for Seafarers

- India proposed setting up a dedicated Emergency Support Infrastructure under BRICS to protect maritime seafarers during regional conflicts.
- The framework will integrate maritime authorities and embassies to provide real-time emergency warnings, medical care, family communications, and rescue operations.
- Out of 16 Indian casualties recorded since February due to the West Asian conflict, 10 were seafarers targeted in the strategic Strait of Hormuz, underscoring the urgent need for seafarer protection.

(vi) Safeguarding Developing Economies & Supply Chains

- A central goal of the reform plan is protecting developing and emerging economies from the economic spillovers of ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and West Asia.
- The proposal prioritizes securing resilient global supply chains for food security and energy supplies.

5. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Joseph Vijay flagged off the Le Mans Cup Silverstone car race in London, in which car racing driver and actor Ajith Kumar participated.