

September 19, 2026 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. An aircraft carrier has been formally inducted into the Indonesian Navy for the first time.

(i) Italy has gifted the vessel, named Giuseppe Garibaldi, to Indonesia to strengthen bilateral defence cooperation. The ship served in the Italian Navy for 41 years before being retired in 2024.

(ii) With this, Indonesia has become the second Southeast Asian country after Thailand to possess an aircraft carrier.

(iii) At a time when Indonesia's economy is facing a slowdown, opposition parties in the country have criticised the maintenance costs of the ageing vessel.

(iv) In this context, the Indonesian government has stated that the ship will be used not for combat purposes but as a mobile command centre for disaster relief and maritime security operations.

2. The first summit of the new eight-region grouping called "Carpathian 8" has begun in Ukraine.

(i) Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy inaugurated the summit to enhance cooperation in trade, security and energy within the European Union framework. The summit is being held in Ukraine's western Ivano-Frankivsk region, with the leaders of Ukraine, Romania, Serbia, Poland, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Austria and Hungary, along with representatives of the European Union, participating.

(ii) Trade and investment agreements worth around €1 billion are expected to be signed at the summit.

(iii) While the summit was underway, two people were killed and two others injured in Russian overnight attacks in Ukraine's Zhytomyr region.

(iv) €3.3 billion financial assistance to Ukraine:

- Ukraine has stated that it has received €3.3 billion in financial assistance under the European Union's support fund.
- The funds will be used for priority defence needs, including the procurement of missiles and drones to counter Russia.

3. Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) has signed an agreement to establish a new shipbuilding facility at Duggarajapatnam in Tirupati district, Andhra Pradesh, with an investment of ₹15,000 crore.

(i) The agreement between the Andhra Pradesh Government, 'NSHIP-AP', a joint shipbuilding company of Visakhapatnam Port, and MDL, a public-sector undertaking under the Union Ministry of Defence, was signed in the presence of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. Under the agreement, a shipbuilding centre with an accompanying port is planned to be established at Duggarajapatnam. According to the project report, the shipbuilding and repair facility will be developed at a cost of ₹29,254 crore, while the port will be developed at ₹9,513 crore.

(ii) The project, which is scheduled to be implemented over the next five to seven years, is expected to create around 45,000 new employment opportunities. The Andhra Pradesh Government has assured that

it will expedite the provision of land, infrastructure and statutory approvals required to establish the facility to international standards.

(iii) Earlier, MDL had signed an agreement to establish the country's largest shipbuilding facility at Dighe Port in Raigad district, Maharashtra, with an investment of ₹27,000 crore.

4. Warren Buffett (96), one of the world's leading investors, has stepped down as chairman of Berkshire Hathaway, an investment company valued at \$1 trillion.

(i) After holding the position for more than five decades since 1970, Buffett has stepped down as chairman but will continue on the board of directors as Chairman Emeritus. He has been succeeded by his son, Howard Buffett, who has been a member of the board of directors since 1993.

(ii) Originally a small textile mill company, Berkshire Hathaway was transformed through Warren Buffett's investment strategies into an influential force in the U.S. stock market. In 2024, it became one of the first non-technology companies to reach a market capitalisation of \$1 trillion.

(iii) Under Warren Buffett's leadership, the company achieved a compound annual growth rate of 19.9%, nearly twice the 10.4% return of the S&P 500 index, which tracks 500 leading companies in the U.S. stock market.

(iv) Accordingly, Warren Buffett, widely known in international financial markets as the "Oracle of Omaha," has had a significant impact on global markets whenever he disclosed details of his investments. A renowned philanthropist as well, he has donated shares worth approximately \$66 billion since 2006.

5. The 20th Asian Games officially begin in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, on Saturday (September 19).

(i) More than 10,000 athletes from 45 countries are participating in the 22-day sporting event.

(ii) They will compete in a total of 43 sports across 71 disciplines. The sporting extravaganza will be held in Aichi-Nagoya until October 4.

6. Tejas combat training aircraft inducted into the Air Force

(i) Indigenously manufactured Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) trainer jets, HTT-40 basic trainer aircraft, and Dhruv NG helicopters produced by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) were officially inducted into the Indian Air Force for training. The induction ceremony was held in Bengaluru on Friday.

(ii) Tejas LCA Trainer Aircraft Handover

- HAL officially handed over two Tejas LCA FOC (Final Operational Clearance) twin-seater trainer aircraft to the Indian Air Force.
- This handover marks the full completion of HAL's delivery obligations for twin-seater trainer aircraft under the FOC contract.

(iii) The Dhruv NG (Next Generation) is a 5.5-tonne class, lightweight, twin-engine, multi-role helicopter designed and built by HAL.

(iv) HTT-40 Basic Trainer Aircraft Capabilities

- The HTT-40 (Hindustan Turbo Trainer-40) was designed and developed by HAL's Aircraft Research and Design Centre to fulfill foundational pilot training requirements for the Indian Defense Forces.
- Powered by a proven turboprop engine, it features low-speed handling characteristics specifically designed to aid beginner pilots.
- Equipped with a modern cockpit and avionics, the aircraft supports comprehensive training operations—including aerobatics, general flying, instrument flying, navigation, night flying, and close formation flying.

7.A "Golden Week" for Indian Sports

(i) Building on established successes in cricket and chess, Indian athletes have recently achieved major triumphs in sports like hockey, badminton, and archery.

(ii) India celebrated a "golden week" in sports by securing consecutive international titles across multiple disciplines:

- Double titles in the Junior Asia Cup Hockey (Men's and Women's divisions).
- Title victory in the Women's T20 Asia Cup Cricket.
- Historic Gold medal in Archery.
- Championship title in Women's Badminton.

(iii) Women's T20 Asia Cup Victory

- The Women's T20 Asia Cup Cricket tournament concluded in Dubai on Sunday, where India defeated Sri Lanka in the final. This marks the Indian women's team's 8th Asia Cup title.
- India previously won the tournament in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2012, 2016, and 2022.

(iv) Historic Gold in Archery World Cup

- Indian archer Dhiraj created history by becoming the first Indian man to win a Gold medal in the Recurve category at the World Cup (Mexico)

(v) Junior Asia Cup Hockey Double Triumph

- The Junior Hockey Asia Cup was held in Moxi, China, from September 4 to September 13.
- A total of 10 teams competed, including India, Pakistan, China, Bangladesh, Chinese Taipei, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, and South Korea, alongside Indonesia in the Men's division and Hong Kong in the Women's division.
- The Indian Men's team defeated South Korea 4–1 in the final to take the title.
- The Indian Women's team defeated host nation China 1–0 in the final to claim the championship.

(vi) Olympic Track Record & Strategic Goal for 2028

- The Indian Men's Hockey team earned bronze medals at both the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and the 2024 Paris Olympics.
- Systematic planning and preparation are highlighted as essential for the Indian hockey team to win the Gold medal at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics and reclaim its historical dominance.

8. Drone Technology

(i) Breakthrough Achievement by Indian Engineering Students

- A startup founded by four young engineering students from Bengaluru developed an advanced drone capable of flying continuously for over 417 hours (approximately 17.4 days).
- This milestone challenges the traditional global market dominance held by countries such as Turkey, the USA, and Ukraine.
- Modern Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) technology has evolved significantly over time, expanding from early military applications to widespread commercial surveillance.

(ii) Evolutionary History of Drone Technology

- Early drone development originated from military requirements, utilizing large, aircraft-like structures rather than modern compact frames.
- Advances in technology led to remote-controlled aircraft, allowing operators on the ground to manage flight movements.
- The emergence of multi-rotor systems, particularly four-rotor quadcopters, popularized drones among the general public due to their compact size, ease of handling, and affordability.

(iii) Technological Features & Industry Applications

- Drones were enhanced with high-quality cameras, GPS, stabilization technology, and obstacle-sensing sensors, enabling high-resolution aerial photography and videography.
- Their operational scope expanded into sectors such as filmmaking, news reporting, agriculture, construction, land surveying, and environmental research.
- Modern drones incorporate artificial intelligence (AI), autonomous navigation, advanced sensors, and intelligent energy management, operating with minimal human intervention.

(iv) Policy Framework & Future Vision

- Government initiatives like "Make in India" and the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme provide special economic support to boost domestic manufacturing.
- With these policy measures, India is projected to become a global hub for drone manufacturing and innovation by 2030.