

## **August 13, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits**

1. The National Sports Governance Bill and the National Anti-Doping Amendment Bill (2025) were passed in Parliament.
  - i. Both bills will now be sent to the President for his assent. After his approval, a notification will be issued to implement them into law.
  - ii. There are already 20 countries worldwide that have specific laws for the sports sector. India will now join the list as the 21<sup>st</sup> country.
  - iii. Through the new bills, the sports industry will operate in a competitor-centric manner.
2. The Indian Ports Bill, 2025 was introduced by Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sharwanand Sonowal.
  - i. This bill promotes coordination for port development and facilitates ease of doing business.
  - ii. Empowering State Maritime Boards to strengthen efficient development and organized growth of ports other than major ports, and it also leads to the establishment of a Maritime State Development Council with Central-State Government representatives.
3. The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2025, was introduced amidst protests by the opposition parties and passed by voice vote after a brief debate.
  - i. The National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) directs its funds to be used for the exploration and development of minerals not only within India (including offshore areas) but also abroad.
  - ii. To rename the National Mineral Exploration Trust to National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust to reflect its expanded scope, it also provides for an payment to the Trust by lessees from currently 2% of the royalty payable to 3% of the royalty payable.
4. The Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman expressed confidence in Parliament that raising the foreign direct investment limit in insurance companies to 100 percent will create employment.
  - i. Earlier, on February 1, Nirmala Sitharaman, who presented the Budget in Parliament, announced that the Foreign Direct Investment limit in Indian insurance companies would be increased from 74 percent to 100 percent.
5. The new Income Tax Bill has been passed in both the Houses of Parliament.

- i. The bill, which replaces the Income Tax Act of 1961, was introduced in the Rajya Sabha by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
  - ii. Speaking at the time, she said that some parts of the Income Tax Act of 1961 had become obsolete. Therefore, a new law is needed.
  - iii. No new income tax rates have been introduced in this bill.
  - iv. She said that this bill was brought with the aim of simplifying the wording in the new Income Tax Act.
6. Amidst US tariffs, the recent Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement with Britain has opened up new opportunities for Indian textile exporters, an official from the Ministry of Commerce said.
  - i. This new trade agreement provides duty-free treatment for Indian textile exports in Britain. This will make Indian companies exporting home textiles, carpets, and handicrafts to Britain more profitable. With the tax burden removed, they can compete with regional rivals like China and Bangladesh.
  - ii. This agreement could increase India's share in the UK textile market from 6.6 percent to 12 percent.
  - iii. Overall, India (6.6 percent) is the fourth largest supplier of textiles to the UK, after China (25.4 percent), Bangladesh (19.9 percent) and Turkey (7.9 percent). Industry experts have suggested that exporters should take advantage of this agreement to overcome the impact of US tariffs and promote the growth of the Indian textile sector.
7. US President Donald Trump has announced that he will postpone the 30% tariff announced on China for another 90 days (until November 10).
  - i. The US, which has already imposed a 25% tariff on India, has announced that a further 25% tariff on crude oil purchases from Russia, will come into effect from the 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - ii. Trump has signed an order postponing the retaliatory tariffs for 90 days on China, which were set to take effect on August 12.
8. The Government has allocated Rs.35.92 crore for the 'Mudhalvarin Thayumanavar' scheme, which provides ration items to the homes of senior citizens and differently-abled people.
  - i. Through this scheme, 20,42,657 beneficiaries from 15,81,364 family cards comprising senior citizens above 70 years of age belonging to 34,809 fair price shops will be covered. Arrangements have been made to distribute ration items to a total of 21,70,454 people, including 1,27,797 differently-abled people on 91,969 family cards, at their homes.

- ii. This project will be implemented on the second Saturday and Sunday of every month.
- 9. China announced it was cutting off all ties with Czech President Petr Pavel for meeting the Dalai Lama.
  - i. China announced it was cutting off all ties with Pavel. On the 27<sup>th</sup> of last month, Petr Pavel met the Dalai Lama, whom China accuses of inciting secession in Tibet.
- 10. Indian surfers have qualified for the Asian Surfing Championships to be held in Japan next year.

