

August 29, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has stated that Tamil Nadu's knitwear exports have suffered a loss of Rs.3,000 crore annually due to the 50 percent tariff imposed by the United States, and has requested the Central Government for immediate action to rectify these losses.
 - i. The US announced an additional 25 percent tariff on goods imported from India, which came into effect from August 27. As a result, the tariff on Indian goods in the United States has increased to 50%.
 - ii. India exports \$11 billion worth of textiles and apparel to the US, accounting for 30 percent of India's total apparel exports. In particular, ready-made garments worth around Rs. 35,000 crore to Rs. 40,000 crore are exported to the US from Tamil Nadu every year.
 - iii. Similarly, 21 percent of India's leather goods exports go to the United States.
 - iv. Tamil Nadu plays a major role in the production and export of leather goods in the country. Due to the current additional tariff, US bookings for leather goods manufacturing companies in Tamil Nadu have been suspended.
2. Prime Minister Modi left for Japan on a 2-day (August 29-30) visit to participate in the 15th India-Japan Summit.
 - i. During this visit, Prime Minister Modi and Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba are scheduled to discuss the special strategic and global partnership between India and Japan in areas including security, trade, economy, and technology.
 - ii. Following this, Prime Minister Modi is scheduled to visit China for a 2-day (Aug. 31-Sept. 1) visit to participate in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit in Tianjin, China.
 - iii. The 10 member countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization are Russia, India, Iran, China, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Belarus. China holds the rotating presidency of the organization this year.
 - iv. Although the conference ends in two days, a grand parade of the Chinese military is scheduled to take place on September 3rd. Many leaders attending the conference are expected to participate in this event, which celebrates China's successful confrontation with Japan. China will be showcasing many of its modern weapons in this military parade.
3. A Central Government official expressed confidence that bilateral trade agreement negotiations with the United States will take place soon.
 - i. The 50 percent tariff, including the additional tariff imposed by the US on Indian goods, came into effect on August 27.

- ii. The Central Government is taking many steps to address the problems faced by exporters due to US tariffs, including increasing exports, implementing new Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), and strengthening the domestic market.
 - iii. In addition, the Central Government is also considering measures to ensure that exporters do not face financial burdens, such as an emergency financial assistance scheme for micro, small and medium-sized enterprise exporters and an extension of the loan repayment period.
 - iv. Steps are also being taken to soon implement the Rs.25,000 crore Export Promotion Plan (2025-2031) as announced in the budget.
4. France, Germany, and Britain announced that they have begun the process of reimposing UN sanctions on Iran over its nuclear program.
- i. The procedure, known as 'snapback', is a mechanism created by the world powers when they reached a nuclear deal with Iran in 2015.
 - ii. This procedure is designed in such a way that the permanent members of the UN Security Council cannot overturn it by using their veto power.
 - iii. If this process is completed, Iran's foreign assets will be frozen.
 - iv. Iran cannot enter into arms deals with any country.
 - v. Furthermore, Iran will be punished if it conducts a ballistic missile test.
 - vi. This will further affect Iran, which is already in economic crisis. This move by European countries will take 30 days to reimpose economic sanctions on Iran.
5. According to data from the Union Ministry of Education, the number of school teachers in the country crossed 1 crore for the first time in the 2024-25 academic year.
- i. Increasing the number of teachers is a key measure to improve the student-teacher ratio, ensure quality education, and address regional disparities in teacher recruitment.
 - ii. This number has been increasing steadily since 2022-23. In the last academic year 2024-25, the number of school teachers in the country crossed 1 crore for the first time.
 - iii. The National Education Policy recommends that there should be one teacher for every 30 students in schools.
 - iv. In this situation, the student-teacher ratio has improved significantly, with one teacher for 10 students in basic education, one teacher for 13 students in primary education, one teacher for 17 students in secondary education, and one teacher for 21 students in higher education.
 - v. This will lead to increased attention to each student, strengthening teacher-

student dialogue, contributing to an enhanced learning experience, and benefits in teaching and learning.

- vi. In Tamil Nadu, there is one teacher for 23 students.
6. At the National Squash Championships held in New Delhi, Anahat Singh, who was ranked number one in the women's singles competition, became the champion for the third consecutive time.
- i. In the men's singles, Velavan Senthilkumar won for the 2nd time. Velavan last won the title in 2023.
7. US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick said that US President Donald Trump is planning to make changes to the H1B visa program.
- i. Under the H1B visa system, workers are selected from all over the world and given high-paying jobs in the United States. Information Technology (IT) workers from India are benefiting the most from this program.
 - ii. Similarly, changes will also be made to the permanent residency card (green card) system, which is issued to allow permanent residence and work in the United States.
 - iii. It has been decided to make changes to both these schemes and replace them with a Gold Card. Opportunities will be provided to talented people from all over the world under the Gold Card Program.
 - iv. In addition, he said, there are plans to give priority to Americans in employment opportunities in all sectors of the United States.
8. The border talks between India and Bangladesh have been concluded. The talks have been held twice a year in New Delhi and Dhaka since 1993.
- i. In this situation, at the border issues talks held in the Bangladeshi capital Dhaka from August 25 to 28, the Indian delegation was led by Daljit Singh Choudhary, Director General of the Indian Border Security Force (BSF), and the Bangladesh delegation was led by Mohammad Ashrafuzzaman, Director General of the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB).
 - ii. In a press release issued by the BSF in this regard, it said that a complaint was made to the BSP regarding the attacks on BSF officers and Indian citizens by criminals and anti-social elements from Bangladesh.
9. Renowned physicist Ajith Kumar Mohanty, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary of the Central Department of Atomic Energy, has been given a six-month extension of service.
10. India's Ajay Babu Valluri won gold in the men's 79kg category at the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships in Ahmedabad, lifting 335kg.