

## September 19, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. The Pakistani Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif, who recently visited Saudi Arabia, signed a security agreement with the country's Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman.
  - i. The joint statement stated that any military action taken against either country in Pakistan–Saudi Arabia will be considered as being taken against the other country as well.
  - ii. In the current international environment, no country other than India has launched a military attack on Pakistan. Therefore, it appears that Pakistan has entered into this agreement with the aim of allying Saudi Arabia against India.
  - iii. India has already warned that Operation Sindh will be relaunched if Pakistani terrorists try to attack India. In this context, the security agreement Pakistan has signed with Saudi Arabia has assumed significance.
2. Norway has said that its companies will invest \$100 million (about Rs. 9 lakh crore) in India over the next 15 years. A statement issued by the Norwegian Embassy in India regarding this said:
  - i. The trade and economic agreement between India and Norway comes into effect next month. Norway will invest \$100 million in India over the next 15 years.
  - ii. India and Norway have long been working together on environmental issues. Therefore, the statement expressed confidence that both countries will take decisive action to prevent the accumulation of plastic waste in the ocean.
3. The amount of carbon dioxide emitted by Indian power sectors has decreased by 1 percent in the first half of the current year 2025 compared to the same period in the previous year 2024. This is according to a study published by the British-based Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) for the Carbon Brief organization:
  - i. The amount of carbon dioxide emitted by India's power sectors in the six months from January to June was 1 percent lower than the same months in 2024. Moreover, it has decreased by 0.2 percent in the last 12 months. It is noteworthy that this is only the second time in 50 years that it has decreased.
  - ii. In the first six months of 2025, the increase in carbon emissions from fossil fuels and cement production is at its lowest rate since the Corona crisis of 2001.
  - iii. The report said that renewable energy generation capacity reached a new high of 25.1 GW in the first six months of 2025, a 69 percent increase compared to the same period the previous year.
  - iv. The study is based on monthly data on fuel consumption, industrial production and electricity generation, compiled from various official sources.
4. The President Donald Trump is planning to designate the anti-fascist movement, commonly known as 'Antifa' in the United States, as a terrorist organization. He made this decision following the shooting death of right-wing activist and ardent Trump supporter Charlie Kirk last week.

- i. Trump, who is currently on a tour of Britain, said: "I plan to designate Antifa as a major terrorist organization. It is a very, very bad, very dangerous, left-wing extremist movement."
  - ii. He said he would also order an investigation against those who provided financial support to that movement.
  - iii. However, it is said to be difficult to include Antifa on the US terrorist list, which includes numerous organizations such as the Islamic State (IS) and al-Qaeda.
  - iv. The reason is that Antifa is a general name given to various groups opposed to fascists and Nazi supporters. In particular, their members only come together during protests. The groups do not have a central operating center.
5. The Army Chief Upendra Dwivedi has urged the Army to focus on improving the performance of unmanned aerial vehicles.
  - i. Following the Operation Sindoor conducted on terrorist camps located in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, security forces are focusing intensely on the development of unmanned aerial vehicle (drone) technology.
  - ii. As part of this, the Army Chief visited the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Technology Centre in Likaballi, Arunachal Pradesh. A press release issued by the Army said:
  - iii. Speaking at the Likapalli Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Technology Centre, Chief of Army Staff Upendra Dwivedi stressed that the Army should focus on improving the performance of unmanned aerial vehicles.
  - iv. Such unmanned aerial technology centers have already been launched and are operational at leading military training institutions, including the Army Officers' Training School in Chennai and the Indian Military Academy in Dehradun.
6. The Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has said that there are no plans to export goods made in India to the US through the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
  - i. Speaking at the 13th India-UEA High Level Task Force on Investments Meeting held in Abu Dhabi, he said, 'We will not encourage exporters to export goods to the country through the United Arab Emirates, even if Indian goods are heavily taxed in the United States.
  - ii. He said that if Indian goods come to the UAE and are sent to other Asian countries or African nations, or other parts of the region, declaring that they are made in India, it will be a very welcome step.
7. More than 30 houses collapsed in severe landslides and floods in villages of Uttarakhand's Chamoli district.
  - i. The state of Uttarakhand, bordering the Himalayas, has been badly affected by rains and floods for the past few months. Due to heavy rains caused by cloudbursts, flooding and landslides continue in various places.
  - ii. Heavy rains in the Mok Valley area caused severe flooding in the Moksha River.
8. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar announced that unemployed graduates in the state will be provided with a monthly stipend of Rs.1,000.
9. The United States announced that it is withdrawing the economic sanctions waiver

granted to the Chabahar port in Iran.

- i. This is said to be detrimental to India, which is working on developing the Chabahar port, which will help connect Iran, Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Russia, Central Asia, and European countries.
- ii. In a press release from the U.S. State Department, it was announced that under President Trump's policy of isolating Iran, the economic sanctions waiver granted in 2018 for the Chabahar port will be revoked with effect from September 29. As a result, those operating the port will be subject to economic sanctions.
- iii. India is developing the Chabahar port to implement the 7,200 km long international North-South trade corridor project, which would bypass Pakistan and connect Afghanistan and Central Asia by road and rail. For this, India signed a 10-year project agreement with Iran in 2024, allocating Rs.100 crore.
- iv. In this context, it is said that the economic sanctions imposed by the United States will affect India's Chabahar port development project to expand trade with Central Asia.

