

September 26 , 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. The Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has praised the global recognition received by India's first sea turtle sanctuary.
 - i. He posted this on the X site: The Dravidian Model Government has announced India's first sea turtle sanctuary in the Gulf of Palk in Thanjavur and Pudukkottai districts. This has received global recognition.
 - ii. The resolution commending this pioneering initiative was passed in an online referendum ahead of the upcoming Environment Conference in Abu Dhabi.
2. The Central Government has signed a contract with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to purchase 97 Tejas Mk-1A aircraft for the Indian Air Force at a cost of Rs.62,370 crore.
 - i. These fighter jets will be delivered to the Air Force from the financial year 2027-28.
 - ii. 64 percent of the components of these Tejas Mk-1A aircraft are indigenously manufactured. 67 new indigenously manufactured components have been incorporated.
 - iii. The aircraft is being built entirely in India. This light fighter aircraft is equipped with Swayam Raksha Kav technology. This protects the aircraft from enemy radar surveillance. In addition, there are improved control systems.
 - iv. This is the largest contract awarded by the central government to the public sector undertaking HAL. These aircraft are being added to replace the MiG-21 fighter jets that are being retired from the air force.
 - v. This high-altitude attack aircraft can be used to protect air and sea borders and to attack and destroy intruding enemy aircraft.
 - vi. This aircraft manufacturing will generate 11,750 direct and indirect jobs in India annually for the next 6 years. This will give a boost to the domestic aircraft manufacturing sector.
3. The Russian-made MiG-21 fighter jet, which has been in service with the Indian Air Force for over 60 years, is set to be completely retired.
 - i. The last MiG-21 fighter jet of the 23rd Squadron of the Indian Air Force, known as the 'Panthers', will be decommissioned at a ceremony to be held at the Air Force Station in Chandigarh on Friday (September 26).
 - ii. These aircrafts played a key role in the 1965 and 1971 wars against Pakistan. MiG-21 fighter jets also played a key role in the 1999 Kargil War and the 2019 Balakot strike.
 - iii. At the same time, the fighter jet has been involved in several accidents, raising doubts about its safety.
4. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the doors remain open for international investment in the Indian food processing sector.
 - i. He also emphasized that the industry should focus on innovations related to

environmentally friendly packaging.

- ii. The fourth annual 'World Food India' international exhibition began in New Delhi on Thursday (September 25) with the aim of positioning India as a global hub for food innovation and attracting international investment in the sector.
5. The Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan and Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to Deendayal Upadhyay on his 109th birth anniversary.
6. The Vidal Health, India's second-largest Third Party Administrator (TPA), has entered into an agreement with the Serum Institute of India, the world's largest vaccine manufacturer, to promote cervical cancer prevention and related awareness. In a press release issued by Vidal Health, it said that this agreement will come into effect from October 1.
 - i. The HPV vaccination services can be obtained easily and free of charge through the Vidal Health platform. Vidal Health will be the first platform to offer this service.
7. A French court has sentenced former President Nicolas Sarkozy (70) to five years in prison for conspiring to receive funds from Libya for his 2007 election campaign. It is the first time in recent times that a former French president has been sent to prison.
8. South Korea has accused North Korea of operating uranium enrichment plants, which are used as nuclear fuel, at four locations.
 - i. Uranium enrichment plants operate daily at four nuclear power plants in North Korea, including Yongbyon. Therefore, it is urgent to halt North Korea's nuclear programs.
 - ii. North Korea is currently estimated to have 2,000 kilograms of highly enriched uranium, several times more than its stockpile of highly enriched uranium, which was estimated to be between 250 and 500 kilograms in 2018.
9. Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced that a memorial will be built in Mysore for Kannada litterateur S.L. Bhairappa.
 - i. S.L. Bhairappa (94), who authored more than twenty novels, has passed away. His works have been translated into more than two dozen languages.
10. India is assured of 3 medals at the Para World Archery Championships in South Korea. Rakesh Kumar and Thoman Kumar have advanced to the finals in the compound men's individual open category. Sheetal Devi has reached the finals in the women's individual category.