

October 10, 2025 – Dinamani Newspaper – Tit bits

1. A defence agreement worth Rs. 7,122 crore was signed between India and Britain. The agreement was finalized during extensive talks held in Mumbai between British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, who is visiting India, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
 - i. The British Ministry of Defence announced that this includes a Rs.4,150 crore contract for lightweight multi-role missiles (LMML) to further strengthen air defence capabilities, and a Rs 2,972 crore contract for procurement of electric propulsion engines for naval ships.
 - ii. The British Prime Minister Keir Starmer arrived in Mumbai on a two-day visit with 125 representatives, including business leaders, entrepreneurs, and university vice-chancellors. With free trade agreement between India and Britain signed last July, he undertook this trip to strengthen bilateral trade ties under that deal.
 - iii. In the talks, the two countries reiterated their commitment to building a comprehensive maritime security partnership in the Indo-Pacific, and decided to establish a Regional Maritime Advanced Security Center (RMSC) under the Indo-Pacific Ocean Security Initiative.
 - iv. A separate agreement on military training was signed between the two countries. Under it, it was announced that fighter pilots from the Indian Air Force will serve as trainers in the Royal Air Force of Britain.
 - v. Prime Minister Modi said that 9 British universities have offered to set up their academic campuses in India. The Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri later told reporters that these will be set up in Gurugram, Ahmedabad, Mumbai, and Bengaluru.
2. Hamas and Israel have agreed to release hostages and temporarily halt hostilities as part of the first phase of a 20-point peace plan proposed by US President Donald Trump.
3. India's coal imports increased by 23.4 percent in the financial year 2024-25.
 - i. The country's coal exports were recorded at 19.08 lakh tonnes in the last financial year 2024-25. This is 23.4 percent more than the previous year 2023-24.
 - ii. India exports coal to Nepal, Bangladesh, and Bhutan.
 - iii. India is seeking to achieve energy self-sufficiency by facilitating alternatives to imports by increasing coal exports and domestic production.
 - iv. The data suggests that this will lead to economic growth, job creation and increase government revenue.
4. The Afghan Foreign Minister Maulvi Amir Khan Muttaqi arrived in Delhi.
 - i. The Taliban took over Afghanistan after the Government led by Prime Minister Ashraf Ghani was overthrown in 2021. Following this, a Minister from the country is making his first visit to India.
 - ii. The UN Security Council has imposed sanctions on all leaders of the Taliban Government. Muttaqi was scheduled to visit India at the end of last month, but the trip was canceled due to the UN travel ban on him. In this situation, the UN Security Council Committee approved a temporary exemption from the travel ban

for Muttaqi to travel to India from October 9 to 16 on September 30. Following this, he embarked on a journey to India.

- iii. Informed sources said that Muttaqi is scheduled to meet and hold talks with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval during his 6-day visit.
 - iv. India's relations with the Taliban regime in Afghanistan are expected to take a new shape with Muttaqi's arrival.
5. The Chinese Foreign Ministry has said that the resumption of direct flights between India and China will be a very positive development in improving bilateral relations.
 6. The 2025 Nobel Prize in Literature has been awarded to Hungarian writer László Krasznahorkai (71).
 - i. The Royal Swedish Academy in Stockholm, which is one of the Nobel selection committees, said the prize was being awarded to him in recognition of how he affirmed the power of art amid severe terror.
 7. The Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has announced that a co-creation fund will be launched with an allocation of Rs. 100 crore to strengthen the startup environment in Tamil Nadu.
 - i. The World Innovation Conference-2025 is being held for two days at Kodisia, Coimbatore on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Innovation and Technology Movement. The conference was inaugurated by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin.
 8. Two years of war and acute food shortages have left some 55,000 children under the age of five in Gaza severely malnourished, with more than 12,800 of them in critical condition, according to the UN. A new study suggests that.
 9. Former Indian cricket team captain MS Dhoni inaugurated the international standard cricket stadium built by the Velammal Educational Group in Madurai on Thursday.
 - i. An international standard cricket ground has been constructed on an area of 11.5 acres near the Madurai Chintamani roundabout on behalf of the Velammal Educational Group. This stadium has been developed with the advice of cricket ground construction experts from Australia and Britain.
 - ii. The stadium is equipped with suites, net training facilities, a gymnasium, a press room, seating for dignitaries and more than 7,000 spectators. It is the second international cricket stadium in Tamil Nadu after the Chepauk Stadium in Chennai.
 10. The Election Commission of India (ECI) has warned against the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the Bihar Assembly elections.
 - i. With the help of artificial intelligence technology, many videos and photos are created that look like real ones. Such technologies are also used to spread slander. The Election Commission has warned that this will have a major impact on the election.