

## Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu S. Joseph Vijay presented a cheque for a substantial incentive of ₹50 lakh to Grandmaster Praggnanandhaa to win the Norway Chess

chennai.JUN.08

Today (June 8, 2026), at the Secretariat, the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru S. Joseph Vijay, presented a cheque for ₹50 lakh—a significant incentive from the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu—to Grand master R. Praggnanandhaa. Praggnanandhaa had achieved a historic milestone by becoming the first Indian to win the Norway Chess 2026 tournament held in Oslo, Norway. During the event, Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa displayed the trophy he had won at



the tournament and received the Chief Minister's congratulations. The Government of Tamil Nadu is undertaking various proactive measures to make the state the best in India for sports. These initiatives include providing appropriate

training to enable athletes from Tamil Nadu to participate and succeed in national and international competitions, as well as upgrading sports infrastructure for medal winners. In this context, Chess Grandmaster Praggnanandhaa is already

receiving an annual financial assistance of ₹30 lakh under the 'ELITE' scheme (Special Financial Assistance Scheme for Elite Athletes) implemented by the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu. Under the leadership

of the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru S. Joseph Vijay, the State Government operates with the vision of sports as a powerful tool for social change. The Government's primary objective is to channel the energy

of the youth into constructive avenues, promote a healthy lifestyle, and bring about positive social change. The Government of Tamil Nadu is committed to fostering a sports culture rooted in cleanliness, integrity, and ethical values.

To this end, a dedicated chess academy named "Home of Chess" has been established at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Chennai through the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu. The academy offers structured training camps, performance monitoring, international-level exposure, and advanced training utilizing modern tools and simulation software. Furthermore, emphasis is placed on mental conditioning, strategic planning, and the holistic intellectual development of the players. This initiative aims

to encourage players of all ages—particularly young talent—and pave the way for them to achieve prestigious chess titles such as International Master (IM) and Grandmaster (GM). The event was attended by the Hon'ble Minister for Public Works and Sports Development, Thiru. Adhav Arjuna; the Member Secretary of the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. J. Meghanatha Reddy, I.A.S.; the parents of Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa; and senior government officials

## Powerful 7.8-magnitude earthquake hits Philippines - Tsunami warning issued

Manila.JUN.08

A powerful earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale struck the southern Philippines this morning (June 8). A tsunami warning was issued following the quake. Information from the field has been received that an earthquake was felt in the Mindanao island region of that country. Following this, electricity and telecommunications were cut off in that area. Furthermore, people living in low-lying areas along the coast were advised to move to higher ground due to the threat of a tsunami. The German Institute for Geosciences said the quake



struck at a depth of about 10 kilometers in the Mindanao region. It was initially reported as 7.3 to 8.2 on the Richter scale. The German research institute later confirmed it as 7.8. The Philippines, Indonesia and some international agencies issued tsunami warnings, and people living along the coast were advised to move to higher ground. Officials said waves could reach up to one meter above nor-

mal sea level in the area affected by the earthquake. Smaller waves could be expected in areas including Taiwan, Japan, Guam, and Papua New Guinea. People in their homes rushed to evacuate after the earthquake struck. It has been reported that items including televisions, chairs, and tables fell from homes, offices, and commercial buildings in the area where the earthquake was felt.

In this context, officials have conducted field work to assess the damage caused by the earthquake. Official information on whether anyone has been injured or whether buildings have been damaged has not yet been released. However, it has been reported that cracks have appeared in some buildings. A video of the earthquake was posted on social media, showing a commercial building collapsing and traffic lights shaking at a traffic signal junction. At the same time, authorities are continuing to monitor the coastal area and are ensuring that people in the area are evacuated to safer places.



The Chairperson of the Tamil Nadu State Human Rights Commission, retired Justice Thiru S. Manikumar, met the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru S. Joseph Vijay, at the Secretariat.



Mr. Vijay Sankar, Chairman of the Sanmar Group, met the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. S. Joseph Vijay, at the Secretariat.

## Minister Shahjahan confirms That the Waqf Amendment Act will not be implemented in TN

Chennai.JUN.08

The Waqf Amendment Act has not been implemented in Tamil Nadu so far and will not be implemented in the future. We will consult with legal experts and take a decision on this," said Minority Affairs Minister Shahjahan. The government honored those who returned from Hajj at the Chennai airport. Later, while speaking to reporters, Minister Shahjahan said, "The new Waqf Act has not been implemented in any state in India. The Waqf Amendment Act has not been implemented in Tamil Nadu and will not be im-



plemented in the future. We will consult with legal experts and take a decision on this. There are many challenges in uploading Waqf properties on the Unit portal. The authorities have uploaded as much as possible. Appropriate arrangements will be made to upload the missing ones. We will oppose various clauses

in the Waqf Amendment Act. We will also pass a resolution for that," he said. Waqf properties are those donated by the prominent figures of the Islamic community, the wealthy, and the people in the name of mosques, dargahs, and madrasas in their area for the benefit of God. They are movable and immovable properties. To monitor

these properties and ensure that no mistakes are made in them, the government enacted the Waqf Acts in the country in 1954. Subsequently, Waqf Boards were established in all the states in 1958. These laws were later expanded and supplemented in 1995, and they are administered and monitored under the provisions of those laws. It was in this context that the Central Government brought amendments to the Wakfu Act to improve the administrative efficiency of the Wakfu Board and to address the issues related to the Wakfu Board.

New Delhi.JUN.08

The BJP has criticized the India Alliance as a mere fantasy and as lacking a firm stance on the ground. The BJP has strongly criticized the India Alliance of opposition parties, which met today. In a post published by the party's national spokesperson, Shehzad Poonawalla, he said, "Due to the Congress party's conflict with DMK, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha, Left parties, and Aam Aadmi Party, there is division and confusion in the India Alli-



ance. The Aam Aadmi Party has advised regional parties that the only reason for the Congress party to join hands with them is to strengthen itself, not to strengthen the country. Therefore, the India Alliance will not join. In reality, there is no such thing as an India alliance. It is just a fantasy. There are meetings in name

only, but there is never any real, firm stand on the ground. The India alliance never had any purpose. There was only confusion, a lust for power, and division. Those divisions are now becoming apparent every day. Even when these parties came together, they did not come together on the basis of firm trust. Rather, they came together for their own convenience. The regional parties do not trust the Congress party because it will use and throw away the regional parties. The

DMK has said that the Congress party has betrayed them and will not work with the party. Jharkhand Mukti Morcha is in a fight with Congress, saying that the Congress party did not even ask them for the second Rajya Sabha seat from Jharkhand. Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena and other parties have the idea that Congress will use them and then throw them away. India alliance exists only on paper, in headlines and in appearance. It never exists in reality," he criticized.

## Kandoori Festival in Keelakarai

KEELAKARAI.JUN.08

The 852nd Kandoori festival was celebrated with great spiritual fervor at the “18 Valiyargal Shaheed Oliyullah Dargah,” located on Salai Street in Keelakarai, Ramanathapuram district. The Dargah premises were packed with a large gathering of devotees, and the event featured the recitation of \*Mawlid\*, special \*Dua\* prayers, and Islamic musi-



cal performances. A musical performance by Dr. Tajudeen Faizi was a highlight of the festival and greatly captivated the devotees. Prizes were awarded to students, and the event concluded with

the distribution of approximately 1,000 kilograms of ghee rice to the public. The MRF Association and the Odaikarai Mosque Jamaat Administrative Committee jointly organized the festival.



**Ajith Kumar, who won the gold medal at the International Silambam Championship held in Thailand, received an enthusiastic welcome yesterday at the Gudiyatham bus stand from students of the ‘Ajith Silambam Group,’ as well as parents and friends, who garlanded him and set off firecrackers. Ajith Kumar has been awarded the ‘Form 1’ certificate and the ‘International Master’ certificate.**



**Under the orders of Ranipet District Superintendent of Police Sibin, Panavaram Police Inspector Nagendran, accompanied by an assistant and police personnel, conducted a foot patrol in Polipakkam village, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Panavaram police station. During the patrol, they advised the public on safety—encouraging them to step out without fear—and raised awareness regarding women’s safety, the prevention of substance abuse, and the dangers of gambling.**

## Elderly man raped 5-year-old girl Arrested under POCSO Act

PATAPAI.JUN.08

A 60-year-old man has been arrested under the POCSO Act for allegedly raping a 5-year-old girl in Salamangalam area near Patapai near Tambaram. Krishnakumar (60), a resident of Salamangalam, works as an electrician. He allegedly sexually as-

saulted a 5-year-old girl who was alone while he was working on electrical work at a house. After the girl informed her parents about the incident, the police of the Kuduvancheri All Women Police Station arrested Krishnakumar under the POCSO Act and lodged him in jail as per the court order.

## Water Connections Laid Under AMRUT

viruthunar.JUN.08

For this purpose, the road was dug up, causing damage to the existing surface. When residents petitioned the Town Panchayat office to repair the road, they were informed that the road would be laid only after the AMRUT scheme works were fully completed. Mohamed Yasir, a resident of Koomapatti, submitted a petition regarding this issue to both the Central Government’s grievance redressal system and the Chief Minister’s grievance cell, requesting the repair

of the road and the installation of paver blocks. In response, the Town Panchayat Executive Officer stated that works worth ₹1.55 crore are currently underway in the S. Kodikulam Town Panchayat under the 2025–2026 Kalaigarnar Urban Development Scheme. The response claimed that the roadworks in the area are nearing completion. However, residents are shocked by this statement, as road construction work has not even begun in Wards 9 and 10 of the S. Kodikulam Town Panchayat.

## Public Shocked: Town Panchayat Claims

## Roadwork Nearing Completion Despite No Repairs Being Done

Vathirairuppu.JUN.08

Residents are shocked after the Town Panchayat administration claimed that road construction work in Koomapatti—near Vathirairuppu—is in its final stages, even though the damaged road remains unrepaired. More than 500 families reside in the Koomapatti area (specifically along Pallivasal Street, Rice Mill Street, and Quaid-e-Millath Street), which falls under Wards 9 and 10 of the S. Kodikulam Town Panchayat. Work to provide drinking water pipeline connections to

households under the AMRUT scheme was carried out in this area. For this purpose, the road was dug up, causing damage to the existing surface. When residents petitioned the Town Panchayat office to repair the road, they were informed that the road would be laid only after the AMRUT scheme works were fully completed. Mohamed Yasir, a resident of Koomapatti, submitted a petition regarding this issue to both the Central Government’s grievance redressal system and the Chief Minister’s grievance cell, re-

questing the repair of the road and the installation of paver blocks. In response, the Town Panchayat Executive Officer stated that works worth ₹1.55 crore are currently underway in the S. Kodikulam Town Panchayat under the 2025–2026 \*Kalaigarnar Urban Development Scheme\*. The response claimed that the roadworks in the area are nearing completion. However, residents are shocked by this statement, as road construction work has not even begun in Wards 9 and 10 of the S. Kodikulam Town Panchayat.

## Ex-Serviceman Dies in Head-on Bike Collision in VK Puram

VK Puram.JUN.08

An ex-serviceman tragically lost his life in a head-on collision between two motorcycles while he was out to buy food for his daughter, who was visiting for the post-wedding ceremony (\*Maruvadu\*). Shankar (55) was a resident of South Agasthiyarpuram within the VK Puram municipality limits. A retired army veteran, he was currently employed as a security guard at the ESI Hospital in

Vannarpettai, Nellore. He is survived by his wife, Jenita, a son, and a daughter. Shankar’s daughter had been married just two days prior, and the newlyweds were visiting his home for the post-wedding ritual. Yesterday afternoon, Shankar set out from his home on his motorcycle towards ‘Thana’ via Ambur Main Road to purchase food for them. While riding along the main road near South Agasthiyarpuram—specifically near a TASMAL

shop—his bike collided head-on with an oncoming motorcycle. Shankar was thrown from his vehicle and died on the spot. Upon receiving the information, VK Puram police rushed to the scene, recovered Shankar’s body, and sent it to the Nellore Government Hospital for a post-mortem examination. The police have registered a case regarding the accident and are conducting an investigation.

## Three Fishermen from Cuddalore Rescued After Drifting at Sea for Six Days

Cuddalore.JUN.08

Three fishermen—Ramesh, Manohar, and Nagaivel—had set out to sea on June 3rd in a fishing boat owned by Veeravel, a fisherman from the Indira Nagar fishing village in Cuddalore district. When they failed to return by the following day as expected, concerned locals alerted the Cuddalore District Collector and Fisheries Department officials, fearing the men had met with an accident. Although



the Coast Guard and district administration launched an intensive search operation, no information regarding their whereabouts was found. However, early this morning, information was received that the men were adrift at sea near

Nallavadu; they were subsequently rescued by fellow fishermen. Found in a semi-conscious state after six days without food or water, they have now been admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at the Cuddalore Government Hospital.

## Welfare Assistance Worth Rs. 9.16 Lakhs Distributed to Persons with Disabilities

Ramanathapuram, June 8:

A consultative meeting with representatives of associations for persons with disabilities was held at the Ramanathapuram District Collector’s office conference hall, organized by the District Differently-Abled Welfare Department. Collector Sivaguru Prabhakaran presided over the meeting. Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Rajeev, received petitions from the associ-

ation representatives and stated, “Appropriate measures will be taken to conduct special camps to address the key demand of persons with disabilities regarding the issuance of medical certificates. Requests will be fulfilled through special camps organized across all unions and municipal areas of the district. Similarly, swift action will be taken to facilitate bank loans enabling persons with disabilities to start their own businesses.” Subse-

quently, special petrol-operated vehicles fitted with attachment wheels, valued at Rs. 9,16,200, were distributed to nine persons with disabilities. District Revenue Officer Sankaranarayanan, Additional Collector Divyanshi Nigam, District Differently-Abled Welfare Officer Chandran, along with various government officials and members of associations for persons with disabilities, participated in the meeting.

## Residents Protest with Empty Pots Laying Siege to Muthupettai Panchayat Over Lack of Drinking Water Supply

Tiruvavur.JUN.08

Hundreds of residents live along the railway line in Ward 5 of the Muthupettai Town Panchayat in Tiruvavur district. It is reported that the drinking water supply to the area was halted six years ago, forcing residents to fetch water from nearby streets. How-



ever, residents state that even this limited access has been disrupted in recent months, causing severe hardship. Despite lodging complaints with officials, no ac-

tion was taken; consequently, residents have now laid siege to the Muthupettai Town Panchayat office with empty pots to stage a protest. Police arrived at the scene upon receiving the information and are currently holding talks with the residents, creating a tense atmosphere in the area.

## Special Camps to Enroll Members in ‘We the Leaders’ Movement Intensive Drive to Enroll 4 Million People in 10 Days

Chennai.JUN.08

Supporters of Annamalai are conducting special camps in villages, towns, and crowded public areas to enroll members in his ‘We the Leaders’ movement. They are engaged in intensive fieldwork to recruit 4 million members into the movement within a span of 10 days. Annamalai, the former Tamil Nadu BJP State President, has stepped down from the party to launch a new political movement named ‘We the Leaders’. Following this, several prominent func-

tionaries who held key positions within the Tamil Nadu BJP have resigned from their posts and are joining Annamalai’s movement en masse, accompanied by their supporters. Notably, following the likes of Karu. Nagarajan and Sumathi Venkatesan, many others—including State Executive Committee member Manoharan and State Secretary Alisha Abdullah—have left the BJP to join ‘We the Leaders’. Against this backdrop, Annamalai’s new movement is gaining sig-

nificant momentum in its membership drive. Within the first 10 hours of the launch of Annamalai’s movement, 10 lakh people joined. By yesterday—the third day—membership enrollment had crossed the 16-lakh mark. Meanwhile, his supporters are conducting special camps to further boost membership numbers. Speaking about this, Manoharan—a former BJP state executive committee member who has joined Annamalai’s movement—said, “From the Chennai West dis-

trict alone, 80 percent of BJP functionaries and cadres have left the party to join Annamalai’s movement. People are gravitating towards this movement in search of dynamic, young leadership. Rural residents and the general public are showing great interest in joining the ‘We the Leaders’ movement. However, since many do not know how to join online, we are taking active steps to organize special membership enrollment camps in all rural areas for their convenience. Similar-

ly, special camps are also planned for key urban locations where the public gathers in large numbers.” “These camps have already been successfully launched in many locations. With the membership count having crossed 1.6 million in just three days, we expect another 2 million people to join over the next seven days. Therefore, we are working intensively with the target of enrolling at least 4 million members into the movement within ten days,” he said.



Devakottai.JUN.08

A special event for the distribution of free textbooks and notebooks provided by the Tamil Nadu government was held at Chairman Manickavasagam Middle School in Devakottai, Sivaganga district. Presided over by Headmaster Le. Chokkalingam, the event saw the distribution of free textbooks and notebooks—provided by the state government for the new academic year—to all students. Office bearers of the Parent-Teacher As-

sociation—Ranjitha, Saravanan, Joseph, and Ponmani—participated in the event and distributed the books and notebooks to the students. They remarked that the welfare schemes implemented by the government for educational development significantly contribute to the academic progress of the students. Teacher

Sridhar and teachers Muthulakshmi and Pandiselvi made excellent arrangements for the event. A large number of school staff, parents, and students attended, making the occasion a success. The event, which marked an enthusiastic start to the new academic year, was well-received by both students and parents.

# Two Arrested Under POCSO Act for Gang-Raping 14-Year-Old Girl

Vellore.JUN.08

K h a d e r Badsha (47) and Idayathulla (22), both painters, are residents of a village near Anaikattu. Khader Badsha took a 14-year-old girl—a relative of his—to the area behind his house under the pretext of buying her chocolates and snacks, and sexually assaulted her. Subsequently, Idayathul-

la, who worked with Khader Badsha, joined him; together, they allegedly threatened the girl and gang-raped her. It is reported that both men sexually assaulted the girl repeatedly from October of last year until a few weeks ago. Meanwhile, the girl fell ill recently and was taken to the Vellore Government Hospital for treatment. Doctors ex-

amined her and revealed that she was four months pregnant. Shocked by this news, the girl’s parents questioned her, and she revealed that her relative Khader Badsha and Idayathulla were responsible for the pregnancy. The Vellore All-Women Police registered a case under the POCSO Act and arrested both Khader Badsha and Idayathulla.

## Weekend and Auspicious Day

# Devotees Throng Thiruttani Murugan Temple 3-Hour Wait for Darshan

Thiruttani.JUN.08

A large number of devotees flocked to the Thiruttani Murugan Temple—renowned as the fifth abode of Lord Murugan—on Sunday, which coincided with the weekend and an auspicious day (\*Subha Muhurtham\*). Crowds surged from early morning until evening. With the temple’s permission, 15 weddings were conducted in the halls of the hilltop temple. Ad-



ditionally, over 50 weddings took place in various private halls across Thiruttani. Devotees visiting for worship, along with newlywed couples and their families and relatives, gathered

at the hilltop temple. Consequently, devotees in both the general queue and the Rs. 100 special entry queue had to wait for approximately three hours to offer prayers. Many also fulfilled their vows by offering jewelry and cash into the temple \*hundis\* (offering boxes). At night, the processional deity (Utsavar) of Lord Murugan was taken out in a procession around the temple streets on a golden chariot.

## Three intoxicated youths arrested

# for assaulting tea shop owner over unchilled water bottle

Gudiyatham.JUN.08

U m a p a t h i runs a tea shop opposite the Gudiyatham Government Hospital. Yesterday, three youths arrived at the shop in an intoxicated state and purchased a water bottle. They then got into an argument with Umapathi, questioning why the water bottle was not chilled. During the altercation, the three

intoxicated youths brutally assaulted Umapathi. He sustained severe head injuries and is currently undergoing treatment at the Gudiyatham Government Hospital. Upon receiving the information, the Gudiyatham Town police examined the CCTV footage from the shop and discovered that the youths had been loitering

in the area. Subsequent questioning revealed their identities as Santhosh alias Thamilarasan (25) from Sithathur village near Gudiyatham, Vasudevan (25) from Sunnambu Pettai, and Vicky (23) from Thazhaiyatham. The three were subsequently arrested, charged under four sections of the law, and remanded to prison.

# Two-person paddle boats introduced at the mangrove forest; tourists delighted

Tiruvavur.JUN.08

The mangrove forest in the Muthupet area of Tiruvavur district is the largest of its kind in Asia. Tourists from across Tamil Nadu, other parts of India, and abroad visit throughout the year to admire its beauty. With the current weekend holidays, there has been a significant influx of tourists. Amidst this, the Muthupet Forest



Department launched a two-person “Kayak” paddle boat service today at the Jambuvandai boat jetty. Forest Range Officer Sathish Kannan inaugurated the service in the presence of tourists, forest department personnel, and

boat operators. Tourists enthusiastically participated in the demonstration, trying out the two-person kayaks and enjoying the experience. A fee of ₹500 has been fixed for a one-to-one-and-a-half-hour ride for two people.

# Man killed in car collision near Walaja; police investigating

Ranipet.JUN.08

K r i s h n a -moorthy, a farmer, was a resident of Bhajanai Kovil Street in Esaiyanur (Arcot Taluk, Ranipet District). He was married and had three sons. His third son, Sridhar, serves in the Indian Army. Sridhar had come home on leave and was due to return to duty. Krishna-moorthy had dropped

his son off at the Walaja railway station on a two-wheeler. While he was riding back home and passing near the Government Arts College for Women, a speeding van (omni-van) struck him from behind. He sustained severe head injuries and fell unconscious. Passersby who witnessed the incident alerted the Walaja

police and arranged for Krishnamoorthy to be taken to the Walaja Government Headquarters Hospital by ambulance. Upon examination, doctors declared that he had died on the way to the hospital. The Walaja police have registered a case regarding the incident and are conducting an investigation

# harp Rise in Construction Material Prices in Tamil Nadu: Sand Lorry Owners Urge Action

Chennai.JUN.08

Price hikes in Tamil Nadu are often caused by intermittent shortages in the supply of construction materials. Currently, the supply of fuel from Gulf nations has been disrupted due to the ongoing conflict in West Asia. Consequently, the production of construction materials has been impacted by the rising costs of petrol, diesel, and gas. Against this backdrop, the prices of construction materials—including crushed stone (jelly), M-sand, and P-sand—have increased across several districts of Tamil Nadu. Specifically,



the price of a unit of crushed stone has risen by ₹500, moving from ₹3,300 to ₹3,800. Similarly, the price of a unit of M-sand has increased by ₹500 (from ₹4,000 to ₹4,500), and the price of a unit of P-sand has also gone up by ₹500 (from ₹5,000 to ₹5,500). The extent of the price hike varies slightly depending on the district. This increase is attributed to rising diesel prices

and a reduction in the number of operational quarries. Sand lorry owners have urged the Tamil Nadu government to take measures to curb these price hikes. The rise in the cost of M-sand—an essential material for construction—has imposed an additional financial burden on construction developers. Likewise, individuals building their own new homes are facing financial strain

# Public Protest: Government Bus Blockaded Near Salem

Salem.JUN.08

A tense situation arose near Omalur in Salem district as residents staged a road blockade with empty water pots to protest the lack of proper drinking water supply in Thekkampatti Panchayat. Alleging that there had been no water supply in the Karuppur-Thekkampatti area for the past 15 days, the public detained a government bus on the road as part of their protest. Claiming that



repeated appeals to officials had yielded no action, residents sat in front of the bus with their empty pots, blocking the road. People across various parts of Salem district have been staging continuous protests over the lack of regular drink-

ing water supply for the past month. Traffic was disrupted for about an hour due to the blockade. Officials from the Omalur Panchayat and the Karuppur police held conciliatory talks with the residents, following which the protesters dispersed.

# Cattle Roaming in Madurai Mattuthavani Vegetable Market Cause Distress to Public and Traders

Madurai.JUN.08

The public and traders are facing difficulties due to the large number of cattle roaming the Madurai Mattuthavani vegetable market. Thousands of members of the public, as well as wholesale and retail traders, visit the market daily. They are severely inconvenienced by cattle wandering across all areas of the market. There is a growing demand for the Corporation administration to take appropriate action to resolve this issue. Speaking on this matter, members of the public said: “Many of us who visit the vegetable market use two-wheelers. Often, after parking our vehicles to buy vegetables, we return to find them knocked over and damaged due to cattle fighting. Furthermore, the cattle suddenly cross our path while we are shopping or moving through the market, causing hazards. Therefore, appropriate measures must be taken to prevent cattle from roaming the market.” Also, FSSAI warns against wrapping food items in newspapers. Three fishermen from Cuddalore rescued after drifting



at sea for six days. SDPI urges Tamil Nadu government to take urgent action to upload the 30,000 Waqf properties not yet registered on the ‘Umeed’ portal. Anbumani Ramadoss urges the government to appoint Electricity Board gangmen as field assistants and wiremen. Public protest near Salem; government bus detained. Traders commented: “Many people from areas surrounding the Madurai market—such as Karumpalai, Managiri, and Vandiyur—raise cattle. Many of them bring their cattle to the market and leave them there.” They feed on the vegetable waste that accumulates here. Consequently, the owners avoid the expense of purchasing fodder—such as rice bran, oil cake, and straw—for the cattle they raise. These cattle knock down and damage vegetables that traders like us have

packed in bags; often, they even eat the produce directly from the sacks. Roaming in herds, they cause significant inconvenience to both traders and the general public. They also obstruct traffic on the roads surrounding the market, causing motorists to struggle and leading to accidents. The municipal corporation does take action to round up stray cattle in public areas and impose fines on their owners. However, as these measures are sporadic and seem intended merely to meet official quotas rather than being implemented comprehensively, the nuisance persists. Women and children are frightened when the cattle suddenly charge while they are shopping for vegetables, and there have been instances where people were attacked. Therefore, the municipal administration must take appropriate action to put an end to this problem.

## BUSSINESS VIEW

# Price of ornamental gold in Chennai drops by ₹1,040 No change in silver prices

The price of ornamental gold in Chennai has decreased by ₹1,040 per sovereign. Consequently, ornamental gold is currently being sold at ₹14,070 per gram and ₹1,12,560 per sovereign. It is common for geopolitical shifts in the international market to be reflected in gold prices, leading to continuous fluctuations. Last Saturday, the price of ornamental gold in Chennai fell by ₹1,840 per sovereign, selling at ₹1,13,600.

The price per gram dropped by ₹230 to ₹14,200, while the price of silver fell by ₹10 per gram to ₹27. Against this backdrop, the price of ornamental gold in Chennai has seen a sharp drop of ₹1,040 per sovereign today, bringing the rate to ₹1,12,560. The price per gram has decreased by ₹130 to ₹14,070. In the retail market, the price of silver remains unchanged, selling at ₹270 per gram and ₹2,70,000 per kilogram.

# Triumph Street Triple 765 RX



Triumph Motorcycles has launched the Street Triple 765 RX. It is powered by a 765cc, liquid-cooled, inline-triple engine that delivers a maximum power of 130 hp at 12,000 rpm and a peak torque of 80 Nm at 9,500 rpm. The bike features a 6-speed gearbox. It is equipped with 41mm Öhlins NIX 30 suspension at

the front and an Öhlins STX40 mono-shock at the rear. A 6-speed gearbox and a quickshifter (functional for both upshifts and downshifts) come as standard features. The company has stated that production of this bike will continue only until the end of 2026. Its ex-showroom price is approximately ₹13.91 lakh.

# Benz GLE and GLS Night Editions

Mercedes-Benz has launched the GLE and GLS Night Edition models in the Indian market. The GLE features a 2.0-litre, 4-cylinder diesel engine capable of delivering a maximum output of 270 hp and 550 Nm of torque; a 3.0-litre, 6-cylinder petrol engine variant is also available. The GLS is equipped with a 3.0-litre inline-6 petrol engine producing 380 hp, alongside a 3.0-litre inline-6 diesel engine variant that generates 367 hp. Stan-



dard features across these models include a 9-speed automatic transmission, 4MATIC all-wheel drive, and air suspension. The starting ex-showroom price for the GLE 300d 4MATIC Night Edition is set at approximately ₹1.05 crore, while the GLS 450 4MATIC Night Edition starts at around ₹1.41 crore.

# Cambodia becomes 9th country to introduce UPI

New Delhi.JUN.08

India has introduced the UPI payment system using QR codes. It has been expanded to Singapore, UAE, France, Mauritius, Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka. It has now been introduced in Cambodia, the 9th country. For this, the National Payments Corporation of India has entered into an agreement with ACLEDO Bank Public Limited. Through this, Indian tourists visiting Cambodia can spend money at 45 lakh shops there. Earlier, non-resident

tourists traveling abroad faced many difficulties in converting Indian rupees into foreign currencies and spending. Now that UPI is expanding to many countries, it has become easier for Indians to spend money. They can pay through their bank accounts knowing the equivalent rupee value of the goods they are buying. Now, for the first time, Indians are being introduced to Cambodia to spend money through UPI. Next, Cambodians will be able to spend money in India through UPI.

## Anti-Corruption Bureau raids house of Odisha government engineer who amassed huge assets

Bhubaneswar.**JUN.08**  
Vaikunta Nath Behra is working as an Assistant Executive Engineer at the Integrated Tribal Development Agency in Balikuda, Kandhamal district of Odisha. The Bhubaneswar Special Judicial Magistrate has directed the State Anti-Corruption Police to investigate the complaint that he has amassed assets by buying them. Following this, simultaneous searches were conducted at 9 plac-



es related to Behra in Bhubaneswar, Balasore, Jajpur and Baliguda the day before yesterday. In this, Rs. 2 crore cash was seized. Officials said, “During this search, we have found 5 multi-storey buildings related to the engineer and his

family. This includes a 4-storey building measuring about 10,500 square feet in Bhubaneswar. In addition, 4 houses in Bhubaneswar and Jajpur districts, 7 plots in prime locations in Bhubaneswar, and several plots in Jajpur and Paripa-

da, totaling 13 plots of land were found. “About Rs. 2 crore cash was recovered from the family’s bank lockers. Legal action will continue after assessing the total assets,” they said. Vaikunta Nath Behra joined the government service as a junior engineer in 1999 with a monthly salary of Rs. 6,000. It is noteworthy that he will be promoted to the post of assistant executive engineer early this year.

## 3 fake doctors working in MP government hospitals arrested

Bhopal.**JUN.08**  
Three fake doctors working in Madhya Pradesh government hospitals have been arrested. Under the National Health Scheme, 783 Sanjeevani hospitals are being run by the Madhya Pradesh government across the state. There are more than 2,000 doctors on contract basis in Sanjeevani hospitals. They are being paid a salary of Rs. 80,000 per month. In this context, complaints were raised that fake doctors were working at the Sanjeevani Hospital operating in Damo Nagar. In this regard, the Madhya Pradesh Health Department and the Police jointly conducted a surprise raid at the Sanjeevani Hospitals in Damo area. At that time, Kumar Sachin Yadav, Rajpal Kaur, and Ajay Maurya, who were working as doctors in government hospitals, were found to be fake doctors. All three of



them were arrested. Health department officials said: The arrested fake doctors had obtained fake MBBS certificates by paying Rs. 10 lakhs. The 3 fake doctors had been working as government doctors for more than 2 years and treating patients. Following the Damo Bhaguti, a probe is underway into the doctors working in Sanjeevani hospitals across the state. In the initial investigation, 14 fake doctors were found working in Sanjeevani hospitals in 10 districts. Some of them suddenly resigned from their posts. Some did not report for work. All 14 of them are absconding. The search for them has been intensified. The MBBS certificates of 80 doctors across the state have been subjected to intensive scrutiny in the wake of the suspicion. This was stated by Madhya Pradesh Health Department officials. In this regard, Madhya Pradesh Police Senior Superintendent Alok Srivastava said: Based on the complaints filed by National Health Scheme officials, a case has been registered against the fake doctors. They have been preparing

fake MBBS certificates using the registration numbers of senior doctors. Some have studied Ayurveda and Siddha medicine and purchased fake MBBS certificates for Rs. 8 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh. We are conducting a thorough investigation into who prepared and issued fake MBBS certificates to them and who recruited them in the National Health Scheme. Strict action will be taken against all those involved in this scam. This was stated by senior police officer Alok Srivastava.

## Telangana youth shot dead in America

Hyderabad.**JUN.08**  
A 28-year-old Telangana youth was shot dead by unidentified persons in Philadelphia, USA. Anshul Kunja (28), a resident of Kundlapochamballi in Mettal Malkajgiri district of Telangana, was working for a multinational company in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. He used to deliver pizzas on weekends to supplement his income. In this situation, at around 12:30 a.m. last Friday, he went to deliver pizza to a secluded location in North Philadelphia. He was shot and killed by unknown individuals. Philadelphia Police Chief Inspector Scott Small said, “Three shots were fired from the scene. This shows Anshul being shot at close range. Surveil-



### Embassy’s response

Meanwhile, the Indian Embassy in New York issued a statement saying, “We are deeply saddened by the news of the death of Indian youth Anshul Kunja in Philadelphia. We express our deepest condolences to his family at this sad time. The Embassy is in touch with Anshul’s family and is providing them with all necessary assistance.”

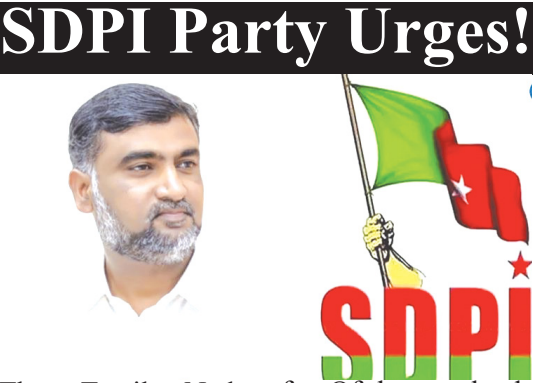
lance camera footage shows Anshul getting out of his vehicle and being followed by two men dressed in black. Nothing was stolen from Anshul.” Talking about the incident, Anshul’s sister Tanvi, who is in Telangana, said, “He was told to deliver

pizza at a dilapidated place. Anshul was summoned there and killed. Their motive is not known.” Anshul is very sweet. He is always happy. There is no compelling reason for him to go to America. But we sent him. So you should not send your

children to America,” he pleaded. He also said, “The central government should help bring Anshul’s body to India as soon as possible. Justice should be done for my brother’s death. Even though we don’t suspect anyone, those responsible for this should be identified and punished. Before this, Anshul’s chain, phone and money were stolen there. But he did not resist the life-threatening attack.” Meanwhile, Philadelphia police have announced a \$20,000 reward for information leading to the murder. No arrests have been made so far. The phone number of the person who placed the order is available. Police are investigating whether he is connected to the murder.

## Tamil Nadu Government Must Take War-Footing Measures to Upload the Waqf Properties Not Yet on the ‘Umeed’ Portal

Chennai.**JUN.08**  
A grave threat looms over Waqf properties in Tamil Nadu. The SDPI party has urged the Tamil Nadu government to take immediate, war-footing measures to upload the 30,000 Waqf properties that have not yet been registered on the Union Government’s ‘Umeed’ portal. In a statement regarding this matter, SDPI State General Secretary A.K. Karim said: “It is deeply shocking to witness the lethargic attitude of the Tamil Nadu government and the Waqf Board, even as a grave danger arises—due to the stringent provisions of the Union Government’s new Waqf Amendment Act—of losing thousands of Waqf properties in the state. To safeguard the more than 30,000 Waqf properties in Tamil Nadu that remain unregistered on the ‘Umeed’ portal, the state government and the Waqf Board must act on a war footing to secure additional time through the Waqf Tribunal and complete the registration process. Waqf properties are assets dedicated by our ancestors—seeking divine pleasure—for the educational, social development, and spiritual worship needs of the poor and the underprivileged.



The Tamil Nadu government must bear in mind that protecting these spiritual and social heritage assets—which have been in the collective use and worship of the Muslim community for centuries—and upholding their rights is a primary duty of a democratic government committed to maintaining social harmony.” Under the Union Government’s Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, it has become mandatory to re-register all Waqf properties—including mosques, dargahs, burial grounds, and commercial complexes—across the country on the official ‘UMEED’ portal. With the court-mandated deadline for this process having expired on June 6, the current functioning of the Tamil Nadu Waqf Board is a matter of grave concern. While approximately 45,048 Waqf properties were previously listed on the WAMSI portal, only 15,067 properties have been uploaded to the new UMEED portal so

Nadu Chief Minister Joseph Vijay must recognize the gravity of this issue and the underlying political risks, and immediately take action on a war footing to safeguard Waqf properties. The Tamil Nadu government must urgently secure an extension of time through the Waqf Tribunal and the courts to register all Waqf properties that were omitted from the ‘Umeed’ portal. Furthermore, special camps should be conducted through the Revenue Department to identify burial grounds, Dargahs, and mosques that have been in traditional use, and to issue the relevant land titles (pattas) and revenue documents without delay. The government administration itself should take the initiative to reconcile discrepancies between Tamil Nadu Waqf Board records and State Revenue Department land registers, and immediately upload the corrected data to the ‘Umeed’ portal. Additionally, on behalf of the SDPI, I urge the Tamil Nadu government to ensure complete legal protection for Waqf lands so that they are not adversely affected by any flawed digital documentation mandates imposed by the Union Government,” he stated in the release.

### TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

DATE

08.06.2026

MONDAY

AUSPICIOUS TIME

Morning : 6:00 AM - 7:30 AM

Evening : 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

RAHU KALAM

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

|                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ARIES</b><br>You will be full of energy and confidence today. Opportunities for financial gains are indicated. Avoid anger and handle situations with patience. | <b>LIBRA</b><br>You will maintain balance in your personal and professional life. Good time for agreements and partnerships. Finances look stable.   |
| <b>TAURUS</b><br>Your hard work will bring good results. Financial conditions will improve. You may receive support from family.                                   | <b>SCORPIO</b><br>Be cautious in your work and decisions. Avoid trust issues and stay alert. Health will be normal.                                  |
| <b>GEMINI</b><br>New contacts will be beneficial. Good time for learning and communication. Short trips may be on the cards.                                       | <b>SAGITTARIUS</b><br>A favorable day for new beginnings. You may receive good news. Students will perform well.                                     |
| <b>CANCER</b><br>You may spend on home and family needs. Avoid unnecessary expenses. Your health needs some extra care.                                            | <b>CAPRICORN</b><br>Work pressure may increase. Stay calm and focused to achieve success. Finances will remain steady.                               |
| <b>LEO</b><br>Today brings success in your efforts. Recognition and respect from others are likely. Confidence will take you forward.                              | <b>AQUARIUS</b><br>You will get support from friends and well-wishers. New ideas will bring positive changes. Control your emotions.                 |
| <b>VIRGO</b><br>Focus on your goals and stay disciplined. Financial gains through your own efforts. Avoid overthinking and stress.                                 | <b>PISCES</b><br>A good day for spiritual activities and self-reflection. Financial gains are possible. Maintain peace and harmony in relationships. |

★ Astrology shows the way,

★ but your efforts create your destiny.

★ Have a wonderful day!

## I drew inspiration from Hitler” - Telangana Chief Minister’s comment sparks controversy

Hyderabad.**JUN.08**  
Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy’s statement that he draws inspiration from the dictator Hitler has sparked controversy. During World War II, a secret scientific unit called Hydra operated within Hitler’s Nazi army. The unit was accused of engaging in various atrocities. In this context, Tel-

angana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy said at an event held in Bengaluru: Hitler’s Hydra organization had the ability to assassinate anyone it wanted. Inspired by Hitler, I named the Telangana government’s disaster relief and security organization Hydra. The Hydra project is being implemented in Hyderabad without any

problems. Telangana’s Hydra project can be followed in cities including Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Delhi. As encroachments are removed, flood control measures can be taken effectively, said Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. Regarding this, Union Minister and senior BJP leader Kishan Reddy posted on social

media, “The Congress party is like Hitler. The party’s emergency mentality has been revealed again. Revanth Reddy is also speaking in the style of Rahul Gandhi.” Leaders of the PRS party, one of the main opposition parties in Telangana, also expressed strong criticism of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy’s comments.

## Is Encephalitis Spreading in the Mannachanallur Area?

Samayapuram  
With a rise in cases of fever and sore throat among children in Tamil Nadu—attributed to seasonal changes—public concern has mounted regarding the possibility of an encephalitis

outbreak. Encephalitis is an inflammation of the tissues surrounding the brain and spinal cord. Doctors state that although early symptoms may resemble a common cold or fever, the condition can rapidly

cause severe damage to the nervous system within a matter of days. Two individuals in the region—a young married female graduate and a young man from Thiruppainjeeli village—contracted such a fever; the

young man passed away following intensive treatment. The young woman suffered neurological damage and is currently undergoing treatment in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of a prominent private hospital in Trichy.