

Complete waiver of crop loans up to Rs. 75,000: Chief Minister Vijay orders

Chennai
Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay has ordered a 100 percent complete waiver of crop loans for micro, small and other large farmers who have taken crop loans of up to Rs. 75,000 through co-operative banks. In a press release issued by the government regarding this, it was stated that "Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay announced a crop loan waiver scheme on May 25, 2026, completely

waiving crop loans for small and marginal farmers who have taken crop loans of up to Rs. 50,000. Requests were received from various quarters from across the state to reconsider this farm loan waiver. In accordance with the order of the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to consider the above requests with sincerity, a review meeting was held at the Secretariat on June 15 to review the above crop loan waiver scheme.



In this review meeting, led by Chief Minister Vijay, the issue of crop loan waiver for farmers was reviewed with the ministers and officials of the Agriculture - Farmers Welfare Department, Cooperatives De-

partment, Finance, Planning and Development Department. In accordance with the Reserve Bank of India's Model Operating Procedures for Government Loan Waiver Schemes dated November 28, 2025, the govern-

ment should fully disburse the entire amount of crop loan waiver within 45 to 60 days, and considering the current financial position and financial resources of the Tamil Nadu government, and in this difficult situation, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has ordered a waiver of approximately Rs. 6,000 crore to 14.43 lakh farmers who have taken crop loans from cooperative banks from May 1, 2025 to

February 28, 2026, as follows. The discount details are as follows: Discount for micro, small and other large farmers (in rupees) - Full (100%) loan amount will be waived for those who have received up to 75,000. A discount of Rs. 35 thousand will be given to small, marginal and other large farmers who have taken loans of more than Rs. 75,000. Through this, all farmers who received crop loans

in the last financial year will receive a cash benefit of a maximum of Rs. 75,000 and a minimum of Rs. 35,000. This crop loan waiver will be of great benefit to farmers who wish to obtain loans for the upcoming cultivation season. 8,33,773 marginal farmers to receive Rs. 3,599.67 crore in rebate. Rs. 1,995.42 crore rebate for 5,16,183 small farmers 93,548 other large farmers to receive

a rebate of Rs. 337.15 crore. Thus, the proposed crop loan waiver amount for an additional 14,43,504 farmers is Rs. 5,932.23 crore. "Under this crop loan waiver scheme, 14,43,504 farmers who have taken crop loans from cooperative banks from May 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026 will benefit. This will result in an additional expenditure of Rs. 5,932.23 crore to the government," the press release said.

Nayinar Nagendran's surprise meeting with actor Rajinikanth

Chennai
Tamil Nadu BJP president Nainar Nagendran suddenly met actor Rajinikanth today. In his X post, he said, "Today, at Poes Garden in Chennai, we respectfully met Indian film superstar Rajinikanth, who has received the Dadasaheb Phalke Award, Padma Bhushan, along with Arvind Menon, the national secretary of the Bharatiya Janata Party and the in-charge of the Tamil Nadu BJP. At that time, we were pleased to present to Prime Minister Narendra Modi special books published



to highlight the major development projects implemented during the last 12 years of his people's welfare rule and the country's journey of progress. "Bharatiya Janata Party State Secretary Karate Thiyaakaran and State Campaign

Unit Organizer Pandiaraj also participated in the event," he said. Former Tamil Nadu BJP leader Annamalai recently left the party and started a movement called 'We the Leaders'. He has also said that he will soon

start a political party. In this context, Rajinikanth's wife Latha has also started a movement called 'People's Platform'. In this context, BJP leader Nainar Nagendran has met Rajinikanth, which has created expectations.

Do you think I shouldn't ask for anything for 6 months? MK Stalin's question to CM Vijay

Chennai
DMK leader M.K. Stalin has questioned Chief Minister Vijay, saying, "Do you think I should not ask for anything for 6 months, even when the lives of people and the safety of children are at stake?" In a social media post he posted about this, he said: "I have appointed efficient officers" and "I have formed a lioness army." After seeing these news, didn't the Chief Minister hear the cries of the parents who are mourning the loss of their children? When



will the 'call sheet' be issued for public safety issues? What steps have been taken to prevent criminals from committing crimes without any fear? When will the one who has given

up the challenge and the fight, come out of Silent Mode? Do you think I should not ask anything for six months, even when the lives of people and the safety of children are at stake?

No, do you expect a big struggle from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam? MK Stalin has raised a series of questions. A Bihar youth has been arrested in connection with the sexual assault and murder of a 3-year-old girl in the Pudupettai area near Gummidipoondi. In this context, when the lives of people and the safety of children are at stake, do you think I should not ask for anything for six months? DMK leader M.K. Stalin has questioned Chief Minister Vijay.

Electricity tariff hike

Measures to ensure that the public is not affected - Minister Nirmal Kumar informs

Chennai
"The policy brought by the DMK government that electricity tariffs can be increased by a maximum of 6% per year is wrong. This affects everyone. The Chief Minister will be consulted regarding the electricity tariff hike and steps will be taken to ensure that the people are not



affected," said Power Minister Nirmal Kumar. Speaking to reporters, he said,

"The order issued in 2022 states how electricity tariffs should be increased annually. Steps will be taken to ensure that the people are not affected by the increase in electricity tariffs. A decision will be taken after consulting the Chief Minister and officials on this. The policy brought by the DMK gov-

ernment that electricity tariffs can be increased by a maximum of 6% per year every year is wrong. This affects everyone. "There have been complaints that unnecessary transfers are taking place in prisons. Action will be taken regarding this. Transfers will now take place with transparency," he said.



Mr. Sali S. Nair (Managing Director and CEO), Mr. M.D. Vincent (Executive Director), Mr. P.R. Ashok Kumar (Executive Vice President), and Mr. Venkatesan (Chennai Regional Manager) of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank met with the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. S. Joseph Vijay.



Mr. Vivekanand Choubey, Chief General Manager (Chennai) of the State Bank of India, along with General Managers Mr. M.V.R. Muralikrishna and Mr. Ravikumar, as well as other bankers, met with the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. S. Joseph Vijay.



The Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru S. Joseph Vijay, inaugurated the training program for the Members of the 17th Legislative Assembly by lighting a traditional lamp at the Kalaivanar Arangam in Chennai, in the presence of the Honorable Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Thiru J.C.D. Prabhakar.



Public Grievance Redressal Day meeting held at the District Collector's office, government officials—in the presence of Tiruvannamalai District Collector Mrs. Vandana Garg, IAS—took the pledge for the 'Day Against Elder Abuse' on behalf of the Department of Social Welfare and Women's Rights



Tiruvannamalai District Collector Mrs. Vandana Garg, IAS, distributed assistive devices (15.06.2026) after taking immediate action on the petitions submitted by persons with disabilities seeking such equipment during the Public Grievance Redressal Day meeting held at the Welfare Office for the Differently-Abled within the District Collector's office.

2-month-old baby girl sold for ₹50,000

6 people, including the couple who bought her for ₹13 lakhs, arrested

Ambur, June 16

An incident near Ambur in Tirupattur district, where a biological mother sold her two-month-old baby girl for ₹50,000, has caused shock. The infant, who had passed through several hands, was rescued in Namakkal district; police have arrested and imprisoned six individuals—including the couple who purchased the child—in connection with the sale. Shabeer, a differently-abled man, and his wife Jabeena, hailing from the Tharaikadu area of Pernambut in Vellore district, had been wandering and begging in the Nariyambattu area near Ambur. Jabeena gave birth to a baby girl two months ago. At that time, Rasheed Ahmed, a construction supervisor from the same area, approached Jabeena and offered money in exchange for the baby. It is reported that



Jabeena subsequently handed the baby over to Rasheed last month after accepting ₹50,000, without her husband's knowledge. Later, noticing the baby was missing, her husband questioned her about it. Frightened by his threat that he would not let her live with him unless she produced the child, Jabeena approached Rasheed again and demanded the baby's return. When the baby was not returned, Jabeena lodged a complaint with the Umarabad police station. Following this, a special team was formed under the orders of Tirupattur District Superintendent of Police Akshay Anil Makare to investigate the matter. Police investigations

revealed that the baby had changed hands through several middlemen and was eventually sold for ₹13 lakhs to a childless couple in Kumarapalayam, Namakkal district. Subsequently, the police traveled to Namakkal and safely rescued the baby from the couple, Sathishkumar and Harini. The police arrested six individuals—Jabeena, Rashid Ahmed, Pugazhendhi, Uma Maheswari, Sathishkumar, and Harini—in connection with the sale of a baby. The police are also investigating another person involved in the incident. The sale of a two-month-old baby for money has caused great shock in the Ambur area.

District Collector welcomes visiting Minister Ranjith Kumar and plants saplings.

Tirupathur, June 16 – District Collector K. Ravikumar welcomed Forest Minister R.V. Ranjith Kumar with a bouquet upon his arrival at the District Collector's office complex in Tirupathur. Subsequently, at an event held within the complex, Forest Minister R.V. Ranjith Kumar, District Collector K. Ravikumar, and Tirupathur MLA Dr. N. Thirupathi planted sap-



lings together and emphasized the importance of environmental conservation. District Superintendent of Police Akshay Anil Makare, District Forest Officer Mahendran, and

officials from various departments participated in the event. This tree-planting program was conducted as part of initiatives aimed at increasing the green cover in the district.



M. Rajaselvan assumed office today as the District Public Relations Officer of Dindigul.

Pledge Against Elder

Abuse Taken in Tirupattur on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day



Tirupattur

On the occasion of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, government officials took a pledge against elder abuse at the Tirupattur District Collector's office conference hall, presided over by District Collector K. Ravikumar. Also present were District Revenue Officer J. Narayanan, Special Deputy Collector (Social Security

Schemes) Booshanakumar, Assistant Director of Panchayats (South) Mahadevan, Additional Personal Assistant to the Collector (Land) Murugesan, Assistant Commissioner (Excise) Vediappan, District Adi-Dravidar Welfare Officer Thamaraimanalan, District Tribal Welfare Project Officer Senthilkumar, and officials from the concerned departments.

TVK functionaries distributed school bags, notebooks, of Arasamarapettai, Vellore.



Vellore, June 17

On the occasion of the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's birthday, functionaries of the 34th Ward distributed school bags, notebooks, and school supplies to approximately 300 students in the Arasamarapettai area (part of the

Vellore West District's 34th Ward). The event was held under the leadership of Vellore West District Secretary R. Velmurugan and in the presence of Vellore MLA M.M. Vinoth Kannan; numerous district-level functionaries also participated.

A.C. Karthikeyan Appointed as New SP of Tiruvannamalai

Dr. M. Sudhakar (IPS), who served as the Superintendent of Police (SP) for Tiruvannamalai district, has been transferred to the post of SP for the Non-Resident Indians (NRI) wing at the Chennai DGP office. Consequently, A.C. Karthikeyan (IPS), currently the Deputy Commissioner of



Adyar, Chennai, has been appointed as the new Superintendent of Police for Tiruvannamalai district.



A mega free general medical camp was jointly organized by the Lions Club and Salem Sri Chellappa Multi-Specialty Hospital at the Panchayat Union Primary School premises in Manalurpet, Kallakurichi district.

Petition to Tirupathur Collector Alleges

Private Schools Collect 175% Fees Through RTE Misuse

Tirupathur, June 16 –

Sureshkumar, a resident of the Kakkangarai area near Tirupathur, submitted a petition today during the public grievance redressal meeting held at the Tirupathur District Collector's office. The petition highlights that while the government allocates funds to private schools to provide free education to underprivileged students under the Right to Education (RTE) Act—specifically covering 25% of the student intake—pri-



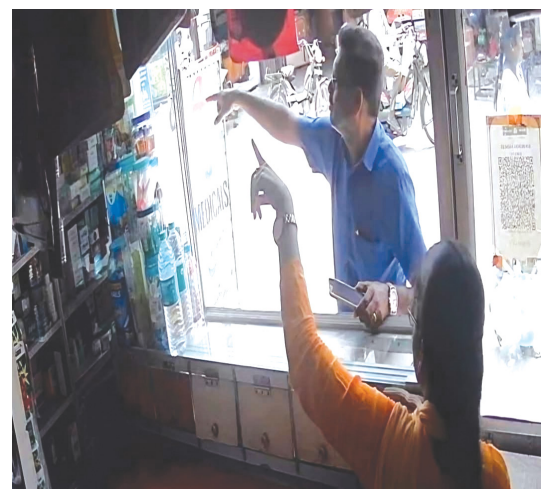
vate educational institutions conceal this fact. They mislead parents by claiming that only 25% of the tuition fee is waived. Furthermore, even though the government pays the full fee amount for RTE students, these schools also collect 75% of the fee from the parents. Consequently, private schools are

engaging in exploitative practices by securing 100% of the payment from the government while simultaneously collecting 75% from the students' parents. The petition urges authorities to inspect private schools involved in such fraudulent practices and take appropriate action against them

Cell phone stolen from female pharmacy employee in Vaniyambadi using a ruse; CCTV footage goes viral.

Vaniyambadi, June 17

CCTV footage showing a man stealing a cell phone from a female pharmacy employee in Vaniyambadi, Tirupattur district, using a clever ruse has gone viral on social media, causing a stir. Mohankumar runs a pharmacy on Kacheri Road in Vaniyambadi. On the day of the incident, he had stepped out of the shop for work-related reasons, leaving the young female employees alone at the pharmacy. An unidentified man arrived, pretending to be a customer looking to buy medicine. He claimed that a relative had been admitted to a nearby hospital for treatment and asked



the female employee for her cell phone to contact them. Trusting him, the employee handed over her phone. The man pretended to make a call for a short while; seizing the moment when the employee was occupied with other customers, he fled the scene with the phone. Pharmacy owner Mohankumar has lodged a complaint

regarding this incident at the Vaniyambadi Town Police Station. Acting on the complaint, the Vaniyambadi Town police have secured and are examining the CCTV footage recorded at the scene. They are also conducting an intensive investigation to identify the unidentified man who fled with the phone.

498 Petitions Registered at the Public Grievance Redressal Meeting Held at the Tirupattur Collector's Office

Tirupattur

A public grievance redressal meeting was held at the Tirupattur District Collector's office conference hall, presided over by District Collector K. Ravikumar. During the meeting, petitions containing various requests were received from the general public and persons with disabilities. The District Collector instructed officials from all departments to ensure immediate resolution of petitions received under the Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu's flagship scheme, "Chief Minister in Your Constituency" (Ungal Thoguthiyil Mudhalvar). Furthermore, the Collector received a total of 498 petitions covering a wide range of issues—including matters related to the Revenue, Police, Rural Development, Agriculture, Municipal Administration, Town Panchayat, and Forest departments;

land *patta* grievances and transfers; free house-site *pattas*; old-age pensions; cooperative loan assistance; housing requests via the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board; electricity-related grievances; welfare assistance for persons with disabilities; the Health Department; general village issues; drinking water facilities; and other matters of public interest. He handed these petitions over to the respective departmental officials, ordering them to conduct proper inquiries and take immediate action on all eligible requests. Subsequently, at the public grievance redressal meeting, District Collector Ku. Ravikumar distributed government welfare assistance worth a total of ₹71,360 to seven differently-abled individuals on behalf of the Department for the Welfare of Differently-Abled Persons. The assistance included

hearing aids (worth ₹3,285 each) for two individuals, wheelchairs (worth ₹8,000 each) for two individuals, a mobile phone (worth ₹14,490) for one individual, a prosthetic leg (worth ₹24,800) for one individual, and a special chair (worth ₹9,500) for one individual. District Revenue Officer J. Narayanan, Special Deputy Collector (Social Security Schemes) Booshanakumar, Assistant Director of Panchayats (South) Mahadevan, Additional Personal Assistant to the District Collector (Land) Murugesan, Assistant Commissioner (Excise) Vediappan, District Adi-Dravidar Welfare Officer Thamaraimanalan, District Tribal Welfare Officer Senthilkumar, District Differently-Abled Welfare Officer Kanan, government officials from various departments, and others participated in the meeting.

TODAY RASI PALAN

16 JUNE 2026, TUESDAY



ARIES:

A positive day with good energy and enthusiasm. You may receive appreciation for your efforts. Financially stable. Avoid anger.



TAURUS:

Focus on your goals and stay consistent. Good time for financial planning. Family support will bring happiness.



GEMINI:

Communication will be the key to success. You may meet important people. Avoid overthinking.



CANCER:

A productive day at work. You may solve an old problem. Take care of your health and avoid stress.



LEO:

You will feel confident and motivated. Good time for career growth. Respect elders and maintain relationships.



VIRGO:

Plan your tasks carefully. Financial gains are possible. Students may achieve good results.



LIBRA:

Maintain balance in all areas of life. Good time for business deals. You may enjoy some relaxing moments.



SCORPIO:

You may overcome a challenge. Support from friends will be valuable. Avoid unnecessary expenses.



SAGITTARIUS:

A day of progress and opportunities. Long pending work may get completed. Stay positive.



CAPRICORN:

Hard work will bring good results. Financial position improves. Spend quality time with family.



AQUARIUS:

New ideas and plans will bring success. Be clear in your communication. Good day financially.



PISCES:

Your intuition will be strong today. You may receive good news. Focus on your health and well-being.

Have faith in yourself and keep moving forward. A positive mind brings a positive life.

Natural Body-Cooling Porridge for a Healthy Summer!

A traditional millet-based drink that cools the body, boosts energy, and supports digestion



This nutritious porridge mix made with millets, pulses, nuts, and spices helps regulate body heat and boosts energy levels during the hot summer months. It is easy to digest and can be customized to suit different tastes and needs.

INGREDIENTS

- Ragi (Finger millet) – 1 cup
- Samai (Little millet) – ½ cup
- Kambu (Pearl millet) – ½ cup
- Moong dal (Split yellow moong) – ½ cup
- Whole green gram – ½ cup
- Almonds – 10
- Cardamom – 4

These wholesome ingredients work together to provide essential nutrients, cooling effect, and sustained energy.

PREPARATION METHOD

Wash all the grains thoroughly and let them dry completely.

Lightly roast each ingredient separately. Once they have cooled down completely, grind them into a fine powder in a mixer, processing each type separately.

Mix the ground powders together, allow the mixture to cool, and store it in an airtight container.



BENEFITS



Reduces body heat and provides a natural cooling effect.



Helps replenish energy and reduces fatigue in both children and adults.



An excellent food for the sluggish digestion often experienced during summer; it also helps regulate digestive issues.



Can be given to children over eight months old. Start with a liquid consistency.

USEFUL TIPS



It is better to use jaggery instead of white sugar.



Diabetics can consume it as a morning meal by mixing it with buttermilk and salt, without adding sugar.



You can enjoy it hot, at room temperature, or chilled according to your preference.

NUTRITION NOTE

Millets and pulses are rich in dietary fiber, plant-based protein, vitamins, and minerals.

They help maintain hydration, improve gut health, and support overall well-being.

This traditional recipe is a perfect addition to your summer diet for a healthy and active lifestyle.



NEWS BRIEFS

CITY

Municipal authorities have announced plans to improve drinking water supply in several wards ahead of summer.

EDUCATION

Schools are gearing up for the new academic year with a focus on skill development and digital learning initiatives.

HEALTH

Doctors advise people to stay hydrated, eat light and nutritious food, and avoid excessive sun exposure during peak hours.

AGRICULTURE

Farmers are encouraged to adopt mulching and drip irrigation techniques to conserve water and improve crop yield.

BUSINESS

Local markets show increased demand for millets and healthy food products as awareness about nutrition grows.

SPORTS

The local team secured a promising victory in the state-level tournament, bringing pride to the community.

Dust storm hits Delhi winds gust up to 92 kmph

New Delhi

A severe dust storm hit Delhi yesterday, as the India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a ‘red alert’ for all parts of the city. Light to moderate rain with thunder and lightning is likely to occur in some parts of the capital, along with strong winds gusting to 60-80 kmph. Winds gusting to 92 kmph were reported in Palam and Dwarka districts as of 2:30 pm yesterday. Earlier, an ‘Orange Alert’ was issued in many parts of Delhi, indicating that light rain with thunder and



lightning is likely. The Meteorological Department has predicted that light rain will occur in parts of Delhi, including Fatchabad, Jind, Sonipat and Rohtak, following the dust storm. Delhi also received light rain yesterday morning. The rainfall was caused by a sudden western disturbance in the Himalayan region.

However, experts say that the temperature in the capital will gradually increase from Tuesday as the influence of this system starts to wane. The IMD has said that due to a severe western disturbance, rains will continue in northwest India till June 19. The rains will provide relief to the people from the intense heat wave.

Husband arrested for chaining and torturing wife

Gilchipur

Sardar Singh Tanwar is from Madhya Pradesh. He is an alcoholic. On the night of the 10th, he returned home drunk and had an argument with his wife Mangi Bai. When the argument escalated, he beat and kicked his wife. After saying that he was going to file a complaint with the police, his wife left the house at night. The husband forcibly brought her home, tied her to a pillar with an iron chain and locked her. Then, he heated the iron rod in a gas stove and applied it to several places on his wife’s body. No one came forward to help her. She remained tied to the iron chain for a whole



day. Sardar Singh called his villagers to the panchayat to try to stop his wife from filing a complaint with the police. When the husband went outside, he picked up a nearby stone, broke the lock, and cut the iron chain. He then walked 6 km to the police station at night. Seeing her walking around with a chain and a padlock around her neck, many thought she was mentally ill. Only one person

took pity on this woman and bought her food. At 10 pm, Mangibai entered the Kilchipuram police station. The police were shocked to see her condition. She told them that her husband, who was drunk, had beaten her and set her on fire. The police removed the iron chain and padlock from her neck, immediately registered a case, arrested Sardar Singh and produced him in court



Solomon Raja assumed charge a short while ago as the Inspector of Police at Vadaponparappi, near Sankarapuram in Kallakurichi district. All the police personnel at the station extended their best wishes to him.

Residents Seek Immediate Action

After Storm Damages Homes Near Sendurai



Ariyalur, June 17

Amidst rising temperatures in the Sendurai block of Ariyalur district, strong winds and rain accompanied by dark clouds swept through the area on Monday evening. In the nearby village of Perumpandi, multiple electricity poles and trees collapsed into residential areas, damaging the homes of residents including Kathirvel, Shanmugam, An-

jalai, Periyasamy, and Ilavarasan. Consequently, local residents are living in fear. With the poles toppled and power lines sagging dangerously low, the public has urged the district administration to immediately repair the infrastructure and restore the power supply to prevent accidents. They have also requested that steps be taken to address the damage caused to the houses.



Office bearers of the Tiruvannamalai District and Taluk units of the Tamil Nadu Government All-Department Pensioners’ Association met the newly appointed District Collector of Tiruvannamalai as a courtesy call and conveyed their best wishes.

9 people stranded at India-Bangladesh border as border forces of both countries deny permission

Guwahati

Nine people are stranded on the India-Bangladesh border due to confusion over which country they belong to. The Border Security Force (BSF) has intercepted nine people trying to enter India from Bangladesh at the South Salmara-Mankachhar district border in Assam. They have been advised to return to their country. However, the Bangladesh Police Force (BPF) has been refusing to

allow them in. The BPF says there is no evidence that they are Bangladeshi nationals. Since their citizenship is yet to be confirmed, the nine are unable to enter either country. They are stuck in the middle of the border between the two countries. A flag meeting is being held between the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) and the Bangladesh Border Security Force to resolve the issue. However, no deci-

sion was reportedly taken in the meeting. Tensions have been reported at the India-Bangladesh border in the Mankachhar sector after the nine people were found stranded on the border on Sunday. In a video circulating on social media, one of them is heard claiming to be Bangladeshi citizens and has come to India for work. Several other videos have also surfaced showing them crying, unsure about their future.

Secret camera on electric pole to monitor military base Two arrested for working on behalf of terrorists in Pakistan, Canada

Bathinda

Two people have been arrested for installing a secret camera on an electric pole to monitor a military base. Bathinda city in Punjab is home to the largest military base and the military headquarters. It is also home to the Bathinda Air Force Base. Police were investigating

a road accident in this security-sensitive area. At that time, a CCTV camera was installed on an electric pole on the road. It was confirmed that it was not installed by the police department. Later, when the CCTV camera was examined, it was found to be solar-powered and had a SIM card installed



in it. Its recordings were found to have been sent to anti-national forces in Pakistan and Canada. During the investigation into the person who bought the

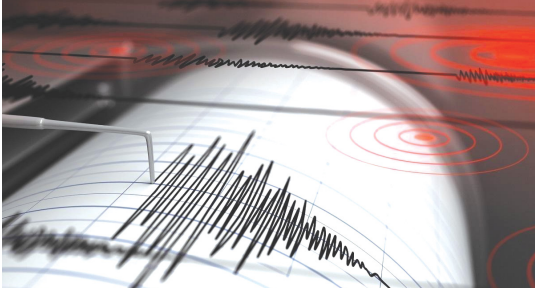
SIM card, a cook named Ashok Singh (40) from Sarai village in Amritsar district was arrested. He is the one who bought the CCTV camera and SIM card and installed it on the electricity pole along with an unemployed person named Akshdeep Singh (22). Both of them were arrested after this. The police

are looking for the mastermind and his accomplice behind this. They are involved in a conspiracy to send video recordings of military parades on Bathinda Road to extremist forces in Pakistan and Canada. Following this incident, security measures are being taken to strengthen security in the Bathinda area.

6.7 magnitude earthquake hits Indonesia

Jakarta

A 6.7-magnitude earthquake struck Indonesia this morning, followed by strong aftershocks. Residents fled their homes after an earthquake struck parts of Bali and Central Sulawesi on Tuesday morning. The aftershocks, which were followed by tremors, lasted for more than a minute. There was no immediate report of damage or casualties. The epicenter of the quake was 46 kilometers east-southeast of Bali, the capital of Central Sulawesi province, at a depth of about 10 kilometers, the US Geological Survey said.



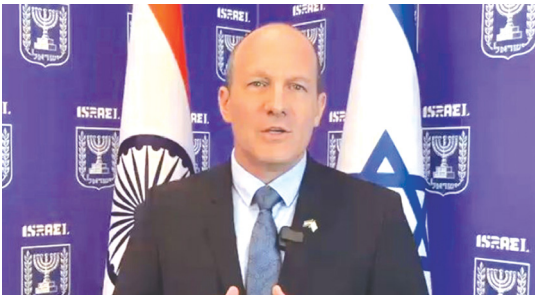
It was followed by another earthquake with a magnitude of 5.2. According to government officials, the tremors were felt strongly in the areas of Bali, Sigi, Tongla and Tojo Una-Una. It has also been reported that people moved from coastal areas to safer places as a precautionary measure against tsunami due to the series of earthquakes.

Indonesia is a country prone to frequent earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. This is the second powerful earthquake to hit Southeast Asia in June. Earlier, a powerful 7.7-magnitude earthquake struck the Philippines on June 8. In January 2021, a 6.2-magnitude earthquake near the town of Mamuju on Sulawesi island killed 100 people.

We don't trust Pakistan Israeli ambassador openly

New Delhi

Israeli Ambassador to India Ruwan Azhar has said that we do not trust Pakistan. The war between the United States and Iran began on February 28. An interim ceasefire agreement was reached on April 8. Peace talks were held between the two sides. After some delay, the two sides have now finalized the peace agreement. The agreement will be formally signed in Geneva on Friday. Prior to this, the two sides signed the agreement virtually online. In this context, Israeli Ambassador to India Ruwan Azhar has said that he does not trust Pakistan. In an interview with a news agency, he said, "I have already said this in my various interviews. We do not trust Pa-



kistan or Pakistanis. "I find Pakistan's attitude and actions, including the comments made by the Pakistani Defense Minister against Jews, to be condemnable," he said. Last April, Pakistani Foreign Minister Khawaja Asif's comments on Israel on social media sparked controversy. He had said that Israel was a curse on humanity. Israel reacted to that at the time. In this context, Ruwan Azhar has now made this comment. Pakistan mediation Pakistan mediated the peace talks between the US and Iran,

which US President Trump confirmed. Similarly, the ceasefire in the Middle East, followed by talks between the Iranian and US leaders in Islamabad, are examples of this. Furthermore, Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had announced in a social media post that the peace agreement between the US and Iran had been finalized. It is noteworthy that at that time, Shehbaz Sharif had mentioned the names of countries including Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey as having been supportive in this process.

Israel will not be bound by 'US-Iran peace deal'

Israeli Defense Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir has said that the US-Iran peace deal created by Trump will not bind us. In a post on X, Ben Gvir wrote, "Trump's deal does not bind us. Israel will not submit to America. We are a free, sovereign nation. We have a duty to the citizens of Israel, to the soldiers of the Israeli Defense Forces, and to the Jewish people." It is our historic responsibility to provide protection in the Land of Israel for the Jews who have been exiled, persecuted, and murdered for thousands of years. Every time we bowed to international pressure without con-



sidering Israel's security, we paid the price in blood with interest. That was true in the Oslo Accords, the 2006 Lebanon Agreement, and every agreement on Gaza. We love America and are grateful to President Trump. Any drone or missile fired from Lebanon towards Israel will be responded to. We are not parties to this agreement, which does not guarantee our security and does

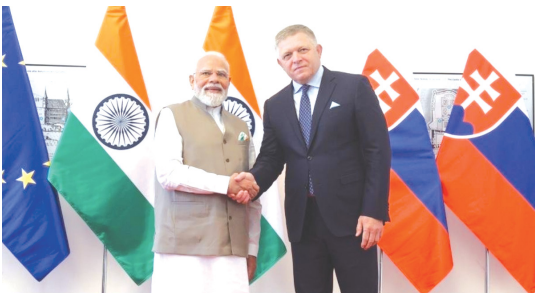
not restrict us in any way. We must not compromise on anything less than the elimination of Hezbollah. We must not return to a situation where thousands of terrorists sit on the fences of northern settlements. "The people of Israel are a people of 3,000 years. We are a people of strength and pride, a people who have returned to their homeland with strength. Israel

no longer intends to lower its gaze before its enemies. The days when Jews were beaten and kept silent are over," he said. The nearly three-month-long war between the United States and Iran is coming to an end. A peace agreement between the two sides has been finalized. It is noteworthy that the agreement will be signed in Geneva, Switzerland, on Friday.

Slovakian Prime Minister urges India to be given permanent seat in UN Security Council

Bratislava

Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico has stressed that India should be given a permanent seat in the UN Security Council. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who concluded his visit to France, arrived in Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, on Tuesday night. He met and spoke to the country's Prime Minister Robert Fico yesterday. Later, the two interacted with reporters. At that time, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said: The trade relationship between India and Slovakia is strengthening. In 2017, India launched Slovakia's first satellite into space. The Indian space sector is growing rapidly. I invite Slovak companies to invest in this sector. An important agreement on digital technology has been signed between the two countries. An



important agreement on Indian workers working in Slovakia has been signed. Both countries are committed to peace. In that way, we will work together for world peace. I invite Slovak Prime Minister Robert to visit India. He said this. Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico said: Slovakia is a member of the European Union. We wholeheartedly welcome the signing of the Free Trade Agreement between India and the European Union. Narendra Modi has the distinction of being India's longest-serving Prime Minister. His election victory is a global political miracle. India is a

pioneer in the world in artificial intelligence, information technology and digitalization. India is growing faster than developed countries in the world economy. Such a special India should be given a permanent seat in the UN Security Council. He said.11 Contract signing During the meeting, 11 agreements were signed between the two countries on employment of Indian workers in Slovakia, mutual cooperation in the defense sector, exchange of digital technologies, cooperation in higher education and research, audio-video production, AI presence on behalf of India

at the University of Kosice in Slovakia, quantum communication, natural medicine, cooperation between Indian-Slovak universities, circular economy, and science. They also decided to work together to counter extremism. In this regard, three announcements were made, including the establishment of a special task force between the two countries. Welcome with the song Vande Mataram This is the first time an Indian Prime Minister has visited Slovakia since India gained independence. Modi was given a traditional welcome with bread and salt in the capital Bratislava. Since bread symbolizes prosperity and salt symbolizes value, protection, and lasting friendship, it is a traditional custom to welcome guests to Slova-

kia with bread and salt. Slovak Foreign Minister Juraj Planiel welcomed Prime Minister Modi. Later, local artists sang Vande Mataram and performed folk dances. This impressed Prime Minister Modi a lot. After concluding his visit to Slovakia, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will return to France to participate in the G7 summit. Narendra Modi took office as the Prime Minister of India on May 26, 2014. He was re-elected as Prime Minister in the 2019 and 2024 Lok Sabha elections. During his first term, he made 49 foreign trips. During his second term, he went to 27 foreign countries. Now, in his third term, he has made 24 foreign trips, including Slovakia. In total, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made 100 foreign trips in the last 12 years.

US-Iran peace deal signed on June 19 End to 2-month-long standoff

Washington

The US-Iran peace deal will be signed in Geneva, Switzerland, on the 19th. The Strait of Hormuz will be opened immediately upon signing. The US Navy's presence there will also be immediately withdrawn. Iran refused to



Trump's greetings:

US President Trump said, "This agreement will bring peace and security to the entire region. I hereby give full authorization to open the Strait of Hormuz without restrictions, and I will immediately withdraw the US naval force. International shipping will continue. Oil supplies will continue to flow unhindered." US Vice President J.D. Vance, who was initially involved in the peace talks, said, "The newly announced ceasefire agreement could usher in a new era in the Middle East. The Gulf states, Pakistan and President Trump applaud the diplomatic efforts that helped bring about this agreement, in which we can say with confidence that Iran will never have a nuclear weapon."

sign the nuclear deal, and the US and Israeli forces launched an attack on the country. In this, many people, including Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, were killed. Many of Iran's military bases were destroyed. The war closed the Strait of Hormuz, affecting the flow of cargo ships. Hundreds of ships were stranded here, leaving sailors stranded. The US Navy also intervened here and blocked the flow of ships from the Iranian port. This has exacerbated fuel shortages worldwide and caused prices to

rise. Then, on April 8, Pakistan and Qatar joined efforts to broker a peace deal between the two sides to end the war. The United States set a deadline for Iran to either hand over its enriched uranium to the International Atomic Energy Agency or destroy it. Iran has not agreed to this. This led to a long delay in signing a peace agreement between the two sides. US President Trump warned several times that Iran would be completely destroyed if it did not sign the peace agreement. However, Iran

remained firm in its commitment and warned that if the US attacked, it would attack the Gulf countries. There were also small-scale clashes between the two sides from time to time. In this situation, the two-month standoff has now come to an end as Iran has agreed to give up its nuclear weapons program. The United States and Iran have agreed to sign a peace agreement. The peace agreement will be signed on the 19th in Geneva, Switzerland.

land. Iran has announced that Lebanon has also joined the agreement. US President Trump announced that the Strait of Hormuz would be opened to all shipping from the 19th after the signing of the agreement. At the same time, Iran announced that the US naval blockade would be lifted immediately. Following this, Trump posted on his Twitter page that ships had started to sail through the Strait of Hormuz last night, carrying oil. Key points: The Iran-US war will end immediately through a peace deal. The Strait of Hormuz will be opened to all shipping. The US naval presence will be withdrawn within 30 days. There will be an immediate and permanent end to war and military operations on all fronts, including Lebanon.

Welcome by PM Narendra Modi

The US-Iran ceasefire agreement has been finalized. In this regard, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a post on social media yesterday: The West Asian conflict has caused severe economic disruption across the world and led to loss of life in many countries. I wholeheartedly welcome the understanding reached between the US and Iran to end it. This agreement will help restore peace and stability in the region and ensure freedom of navigation. We look forward to reaching a final agreement in the negotiations on other issues. The Prime Minister said this. The agreement was welcomed by various countries, including Turkey and Qatar.