

Tamil Nadu will not be affected by the new arbitration Minister Anand's explanation on the Meghedathu issue

Chennai

“We have put forward the request for a new arbitration panel as an excellent approach to curb the arbitrary moves of the Union government in the Meghalaya issue and to establish Tamil Nadu's rights over the surplus Cauvery water. The formation of a new arbitration panel will not harm Tamil Nadu in any way,” Minister Anand explained. Some political parties have opposed the government's proposal to set up a new tribunal in the Meghedathu issue. Speaking in the Assembly today, Minister Adhav Arjuna said, “The request for a new tribunal has been included in the resolution as per the advice of legal experts. Karnataka has changed its strategy on the Cauvery issue. The Cauvery Management Authority is working in support of Karnataka by asking



it to submit a project report. “Therefore, if the Cauvery Management Authority continues, it will pave the way for the construction of the Mekkedathu Dam across the Cauvery. Due to this, we have lost faith in the Cauvery Management Authority. Karnataka has changed its strategy. Therefore, we have also demanded in the resolution to set up a new arbitration panel,” he said. Following this, Minister N. Anand, who gave a detailed explanation about the Meghedathu issue in the Tamil Nadu Leg-

islative Assembly, said, “On May 25, Chief Minister Vijay discussed the action to be taken against Meghedathu with the Attorney General, Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court and high-ranking officials. After that, the Chief Minister wrote to the Prime Minister on May 26 and met the Prime Minister in person on May 27, urging him not to give any permission to the Meghedathu project. As per the Chief Minister's order, a petition was filed on May 27 on behalf of the Tamil Nadu government in

the main session of the National Green Tribunal in New Delhi against the Meghedathu project. In this context, on June 18, the ministers, after consulting legal experts, decided to propose a resolution opposing the Meghedathu project and seek the support of the members for it. In this resolution, Opposition Leader Udhayanidhi Stalin requested that the proposal sent by the Tamil Nadu government to the Union government on March 4 to set up a new arbitration panel on the Meghedathu

issue be included. Accordingly, a resolution was passed unanimously on June 19, urging the establishment of an arbitration panel, a copy of which was sent to the Prime Minister by the Chief Minister through his personal letter on the same day. This government is taking all measures to thwart the mega-project. However, some people feel that requesting the appointment of an arbitrator is not the right approach. In order to put an end to the misunderstanding spread by some parties, I would like to clarify the government's sound approach in the House. On November 13, the Supreme Court dismissed our case against the Meghedathu Dam project, saying that the project was in its infancy. The verdict stated that the states can use the water allocated to them in any way

they want. We were determined that Karnataka and Kerala should not arbitrarily take up unauthorized projects, using this to their advantage. On December 25, the Union Government had spontaneously issued guidelines for the evaluation of Cauvery water projects. Furthermore, in a letter from the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti in May, it was revealed that the Central Water Resources Commission had given its technical comments on the DPR of the Karnataka Government's Meghedathu project and was waiting for the next step. However, the Tamil Nadu Government had written a letter on June 9 strongly opposing these guidelines. Considering this situation, when the Prime Minister met with him on May 27, the Chief Minister had written a letter stating

Tamil Nadu's legitimate concerns on the Meghedathu issue. No new tribunal can change the water allocation confirmed to Tamil Nadu by the Supreme Court verdict of 2018. Therefore, there will be no change in the 177.25 TMC that Karnataka has to give to Tamil Nadu. There is no scope in the law to reopen an issue that has already been resolved under Section 4(1) of the River Water Disputes Act, 1956. The 2018 verdict did not accurately calculate the surplus water, so the Karnataka government filed an original case in the Supreme Court. Our argument in the Supreme Court is that under the River Water Disputes Act, 1956, only a new tribunal can resolve such a new river water issue. It is completely wrong to say that the Cauvery Management Authority has

completely rejected Karnataka's detailed project report. The Cauvery Management Authority has not rejected Karnataka's project report. Instead, it has sent it back to the Central Water Resources Authority without any comment. Therefore, the danger is not over yet. We cannot sit idly by while the Union Government and the Karnataka Government are trying to implement the Megathattu project indirectly under the new guidelines. In that regard, we have put forward the request for a new arbitration as an excellent approach to curb the arbitrary moves of the Union Government and to establish Tamil Nadu's rights over the surplus water. We would like to inform you that the formation of a new arbitration will not cause any harm to Tamil Nadu,” he said

Illegal amendment to the Mekethatu resolution” - EPS explanation after the walkout

Chennai

AIADMK members walked out of the Legislative Assembly today after they were not allowed to speak on the issue of violation of rights related to the Meghedathu case. Speaking to reporters after the walkout, Edappadi Palaniswami said, “We sought permission to raise a point of law on behalf of the AIADMK under Rule 220 of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. We had written to the Speaker to bring to the notice of the House the interlocutory amendment made in the separate resolution by Mekethatu. We have walked out as the Speaker did not allow us to speak on this during Zero Hour.” On behalf of the AIADMK, we supported only the draft resolution sub-



mitted to the members of the Assembly on June 18 on the Mekethatu issue. We did not support the amended resolution, which was not proposed under Assembly Rule 104 on June 19, with an insertion. If amendments are to be made to the draft resolution sent to the members under Assembly Rule 104, the government's amendments should be properly communicated to the House, and the Speaker's permission should be obtained to move an amended separate resolution in place of the resolution in

the draft, and the amended resolution should be proposed in the House. We raised this as an issue of violation of rights in the Assembly. He has included the amendment in the Chief Minister's reply speech in violation of the rules. This is highly condemnable. A separate resolution was given to the members of the Legislative Assembly on June 18. After that, a debate was held. Then they added this interlocutory amendment in the Chief Minister's reply speech. Therefore, we brought this

issue of violation of rights to inform that they did not bring this resolution as per the rules. Since the Speaker did not allow it, the AIADMK has walked out. The Cauvery river water is the source of agriculture and drinking water for Tamil Nadu. The tribunal has already given a permanent verdict. In that case, for what purpose are they asking for another tribunal? The Supreme Court has also given a clear verdict that the verdict should be implemented for 15 years. “The Supreme Court has clearly stated that the upper basin state cannot block, store or return Cauvery water without the permission of the lower basin states. In such a situation, we question why they brought the resolution to seek arbitration again,” he said.

CM Vijay's birthday: Prime Minister Modi, political party leaders wish him

Chennai

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has greeted Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay on his 52nd birthday. Similarly, DMK president M.K. Stalin, PMK leader Anbumani, MDMK general secretary Vaiko and others in Tamil Nadu have also extended their greetings. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and TDP leader Vijay is celebrating his 52nd birthday today (June 22). Since it is his first birthday after taking charge as the Chief Minister, TDP volunteers have planned and made various special arrangements to celebrate it in a grand manner across Tamil Nadu. In this situa-



tion, Prime Minister Modi has congratulated Chief Minister Vijay through a social media post. “Happy birthday to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay. I pray for his long life and good health,” Prime Minister Modi said in it. When the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly began this morning (June 22), Speaker J.C.T. Prabhakar and the members of the Legislative Assembly congratulated Chief Minister Vijay.

Speaker J.C.T. Prabhakar inaugurated the assembly with a birthday greeting. DMK leader Stalin wished Chief Minister Joseph Vijay on his birthday in a social media post. “I wish him happiness, physical and mental health, and continued service to the public,” he said. MDMK General Secretary Vaiko extended his birthday greetings to Chief Minister Vijay, saying, “I pray to Mother Nature for the blessings of Mother

Nature that this happy birthday is celebrated successfully and joyfully every year, that all your political endeavors are successful, that oppositions are reduced to dust, that you lead a good governance that guides the progress and progress of Tamil Nadu, and that you live to see twelve hundred moons with complete physical health and mental satisfaction.” PMK leader Anbumani Ramadoss said, “I extend my heartfelt greetings to Tamil Nadu Victory Party leader and Chief Minister Vijay on his 52nd birthday. I wish him a hundred years of good health and service to the people in public life.”



The Honorable Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, R. Vinoth, inspected the safe storage of paddy bags and the work being carried out to level low-lying areas by filling them with soil.



The Honorable Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Thiru P. Rajkumar, inspected the Water Resources Department projects and the Cuddalore Port expansion works.

Investiture Ceremony Held at Naahar Public School

Villupuram, June 20, 2025:

Naahar Public School (CBSE), Ayyur Agaram, Villupuram, celebrated its Investiture Ceremony with great pride and grandeur on June 20, 2025. The event marked the formal induction of the newly elected student leaders and aimed to instil a strong sense of responsibility, commitment and leadership among the students. The ceremony was graced by the school's Correspondent, Dr. Uma Maheshwari; Head of the School, Dr. M. Arasappan; and the Chief Guest, Mr. R. Mahadevan, M.A., Tahsildar and Taluk Magistrate of Vikravandi. The programme commenced with a solemn school prayer, followed by a Tamil invocation and a graceful cultural presentation,



setting a dignified tone for the occasion. The Correspondent, Head of the School and the Chief Guest conferred sashes and badges on the newly elected student leaders. Class Leaders and Assistant Class Leaders from Kindergarten to Grade XII were also awarded badges, symbolising their commitment to leadership and service. The Head Boy administered the oath, during which the student leaders pledged to uphold the values and responsibilities entrusted to them. The Head Girl delivered an inspiring acceptance speech, expressing gratitude and assuring her dedication to serving the school community. The programme concluded with a Vote of Thanks, followed by congratulatory addresses from the Chief Guest, Correspondent and Head of the School. They encouraged the young leaders to uphold discipline, integrity and a spirit of service. The Investiture Ceremony was a memorable occasion that reinforced the values of leadership and inspired students to serve the school with dedication, commitment and pride.

Hindu Makkal Katchi stages protest in Ranipet pressing for 10-point demands

Ranipet, June 22 –

A protest demonstration was held at the Muthukadai bus stand in Ranipet district by the Hindu Makkal Katchi to press for 10-point demands. The event was led by Vellore Divisional President Mohan, with the District President of the Spiritual Wing, Sri-dhar, presiding. Petitions outlining these demands will be sent to the Chief Minister through the District Collector's office. The demands emphasized are as follows: The Deepam (sacred lamp) at the Deepa Thoon (Lamp Pillar) in Thiruparankundram must be lit in accordance with court orders. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu should not continue the approach of the "Dravidian Model"—characterized as an "evil force" (DMK)—from the past. Condemnation of Minister Nirmal Kumar for announcing that the status quo from two years ago regarding the lighting of the Deepam at Thiruparankundram would continue. The felicitation ceremony held for Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker J.C.D. Prabhakaran and Minister Vanniyarasu appeared to encourage fraudulent religious conversions. Minister Vanniyarasu's demand that government concessions and reservations be extended to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST) individuals even after they have converted to another religion is contrary to the principles of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Condemnation of Minister Vanniyarasu for making statements that incite religious division. Condemnation of Minister Vanniyarasu for attempting to secure the release of the Coimbatore blast convicts—individuals responsible for kill-

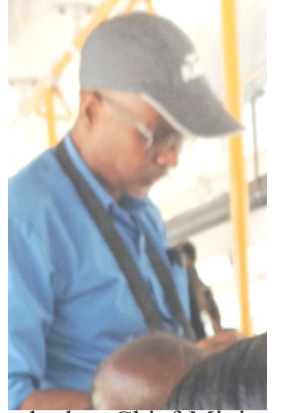


ing innocent people through bombings. Condemnation of the School Education Minister for stating that school students would be prevented from wearing Hindu religious symbols such as Thiruneeru (sacred ash), Kumkum, Thiruman, Rudraksha, and consecrated wrist threads. It is condemnable to ban Hindu religious symbols while permitting Muslim and Christian students to wear their respective religious symbols, such as skullcaps, Pardah, Burqa, and the Cross. Regarding the observance of Thiruvalluvar Day at the Raj Bhavan on the day of Vaikasi Anusham. The event was held featuring a depiction of Thiruvalluvar adorned with sacred ash (Thiruneeru) and Rudraksha beads. DMK poet Vairamuthu made remarks regarding this that disparaged the sacred ash and Rudraksha; we express our strong condemnation of this. Vairamuthu must apologize to the devotees of Lord Shiva. Cows must not be slaughtered or sacrificed in public places. We condemn the anti-social elements issuing death threats via social media to Surya, the youth wing leader of the Hindu Makkal Katchi, who secured a court order prohibiting such acts. Priority must be given to spiritualists and devotees when appointing trustees to temples in Tamil Nadu that fall under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&CE) Department. Politicians, atheists, and individ-

"I can issue a ticket only if you provide the paper slip"

Government bus conductor's stance

This morning (June 21, 2026), a journalist boarded a government bus (TN-57/2293) traveling from Theni to Cumbum. He indicated his destination—Uthamapalayam—to the conductor. When asked to show his card, he produced his press pass. However, the conductor insisted that he must provide the "paper slip" in order to issue the ticket. This demand is puzzling. It is unclear



whether Chief Minister Vijay has issued a new directive to the Transport Department regarding this; the department itself needs to clarify the matter.



A meeting of the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) was held at the District Rural Development Agency conference hall within the Tiruvannamalai District Collectorate. The meeting was presided over by Mr. M.S. Dhanavendhan, Chairperson of the committee and Member of Parliament (Arani), in the presence of the District Collector and Member-Secretary, Ms. Vandana Garg. Special invitee Mr. C.N. Annadurai (Member of Parliament, Tiruvannamalai) and Members of the Legislative Assembly—Mr. Agri S.S. Krishnamoorthy (Kalasapakkam), Mr. S. Ambedkumar (Vandavasi), Mr. R. Abhishek (Polur), and Mr. S. Velu (Chengam)—along with concerned departmental officials, participated in the meeting.

Manaloorpettai Merchants' Association 47th Annual Celebration

The 47th annual celebration of the Manaloorpettai Merchants' Association was held on Sunday evening at the Sri Mangala Vinayagar Wedding Hall in Manaloorpettai, Kallakurichi district, under the presidency of Ammu Ravichandran. Honorary Presidents Shanmugam and Raghupathi presided over the event. Secretary Anwar Basha delivered the welcome address, while Treasurer Annadurai presented the association's annual report. Felicitations were offered by Vice Pres-



ident Shanmugam, Deputy Secretary Sivakumar, Joint Secretary Mubarak, Constituency Secretary Adhimoolam, and Association Advisor Sekar. Additionally, members of the executive committee and the general council offered their felicitations. Resolutions

were passed urging the government to establish a Taluk office, a Block Development Office, and a fire station with Manaloorpettai as the headquarters, and to operate additional buses on the route connecting Tiruvannamalai, Kallakurichi, and Pandigai Kootroad.

Parked Bike Suddenly Catches Fire in Periyakulam; Locals Act Swiftly

Theni

In Periyakulam, Theni district, a two-wheeler parked on Thandupalayam Main Road—belonging to a resident of Endapuli Pudupatti—suddenly caught fire while the owner was shopping at a nearby store. Passersby immediately extinguished the flames. Fire department personnel arrived at the scene upon receiving the information and confirmed the fire had been put out; they then questioned



the vehicle's owner. 'Carrybag' Nazeer, Auto-driver Maulana Khalid, and Raja from T. Kallupatti. They were shocked to see the burning vehicle but worked together to put out the fire before a major accident could occur. The vehicle owner expressed his appreciation for their actions.



Ranipet District Collector N. Priya participated in a grand yoga event organized by the Department of Yoga and Naturopathy at the Ranipet Government Higher Secondary School playground to mark the 12th International Yoga Day, where she performed yoga asanas. She was accompanied by District Revenue Officer C. Baby Indira, Revenue Divisional Officer Raji, Dr. Sasireka (Department of Yoga and Naturopathy), District Sports Officer Gnanasekaran, and Tahsildar Natarajan, along with students and members of the public.

TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

22 JUNE 2026

	ARIES	You will feel energetic and confident. Good day for new beginnings. Support from seniors is likely.
	TAURUS	Financial stability improves. Focus on your goals and avoid unnecessary expenses.
	GEMINI	Communication will be strong. You may receive good news from family or friends.
	CANCER	Be calm and patient. Avoid conflicts and take time to relax. Good day for planning.
	LEO	Your hard work will be recognized. Good time for career growth and financial gains.
	VIRGO	You may feel a little restless. Focus on your health and avoid overthinking.
	LIBRA	Balance and harmony will improve. Good day for important decisions and investments.
	SCORPIO	You may face some challenges, but your determination will help you overcome them.
	SAGITTARIUS	New opportunities are around you. Stay positive and make the most of the day.
	CAPRICORN	Your efforts will bring good results. Focus on long-term goals and stay disciplined.
	AQUARIUS	Spend time with family and friends. Creative ideas will bring you success.
	PISCES	Trust your intuition. Good day for spiritual growth and inner peace.

International Yoga Day NCC Cadets Practice Yoga



Nellai, June 22 ing PLWA School, Alwarkurichi Paramakalyani School, Theerthapathi School, Mukkool Chokkalal School, VK Puram New St. Mary's School, as well as students from Paramakalyani College, Thiruvalluvar College, and Ambai Karthikesh of the Palayamkottai 5th Battalion NCC. The event was presided over by the school's Headmaster, Alagiyambadi, following the guidance of Officer Commanding Karthikesh of the Palayamkottai 5th Battalion NCC. The instructor Seetharaman conducted the yoga training for the students. More than 300 NCC cadets practiced yoga in the presence of NCC officers Paramakannan, Loganathan, Sankarabharanian, Jegan Manickam, and Anvarious institutions participated in the 5th Battalion Naib Subedar Ganesan.

Former MP Inaugurates 'WE tha Leader' Organization Membership Drive



Pochampalli, June 22 Sundaramurthy, along with Madathanur Vikraman, Thamarakani, Kanal Siva, 'Tailor' Saravanan, Murali, Dileepkumar, Senthilkumar, and Siva) presided over the event. Narasimhan, the organization's district coordinator and a former MP, inaugurated the camp. Former Panchayat President

9 Arrested for Attempting Impersonation in NEET Re-exam in Bihar

Nine individuals were arrested for attempting impersonation during the NEET re-exam in Bihar's Lakhisarai district. Superintendent of Police (SP) Prerna Kumar stated that they are suspected of having appeared for the exam in place of the registered candidates. Police arrested the nine individuals following an investigation



that also involved questioning 10 to 12 others—including biometric operators and mid-dlemen—allegedly linked to the mal-practice. Meanwhile, in Uttar Pradesh, a student was arrested for attempting mal-practice during the NEET re-exam; the student was caught carrying a SIM card and an old question paper concealed inside their clothing.

Changes to Railway Regulations After 13 Years

NEWDELHI

Following the implementation of the Union Government's new Jan Vishwas Act, various changes have been made to railway regulations after a gap of 13 years. These changes come into effect nationwide on July 1st. Accordingly, the penalty for traveling without a ticket has been doubled to ₹500. Passengers found without a ticket will be charged the fare for the distance traveled plus a penalty of ₹500. The penalty for men traveling in coaches reserved for women has been



increased fivefold to ₹2,500. Additionally, railway staff have been granted full authority to immediately remove the offending male passenger from the train. Traveling using a ticket issued in another person's name will result in the confiscation of the ticket and the imposition of a ₹500 fine. A fine of ₹2,000 will be imposed on unauthorized vendors and beggars operating on trains or at railway stations. The Railway Department has announced that a repeat offense could lead to imprisonment for up to one year. It has also been announced that carrying prohibited explosives or hazardous materials on trains will attract a minimum fine of ₹10,000.

CBSE Class 12 Re-evaluation Results Released

New Delhi

Students who appeared for the Class 12 public examinations faced significant difficulties due to issues surrounding the newly introduced online scanned evaluation system and the provision of answer sheet copies. Consequently, a large number of students applied for re-evaluation. In this context, CBSE announced on its X (formerly Twitter) handle: "The



process of releasing results for Class 12 answer sheet verification and re-evaluation has commenced. Results for 87 percent of the total applications received so far have been declared. Results for the remaining applications will be released in subsequent phases. This process will be fully completed soon. Students can check their revised marks on the official CBSE website."

₹5,978 Crore Fraud Case: ED Moves to Auction Heera Group Properties

Tirumala

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has auctioned immovable assets worth ₹159 crore belonging to the founder of the Heera Group, Nowhera Shaik, in connection with a nationwide scam involving ₹5,978 crore. Nowhera Shaik and her associated companies had collected over ₹5,978 crore from thousands of investors across the country by promising

annual interest rates exceeding 36 percent. However, the promised returns were not paid. Realizing they had been defrauded, investors lodged complaints with the Hyderabad Crime Branch police. Acting on these complaints, the ED attached various assets belonging to the Heera Group under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. The case subsequently came up for

hearing before the Supreme Court. Following the Supreme Court's directives, the ED auctioned 23 immovable assets—valued at approximately ₹159 crore—belonging to Nowhera Shaik. ED officials stated that the auction was conducted in a highly transparent manner and that the ₹159 crore realized from the sale would be distributed to the affected investors

AYUSH Ministry Secretary Gets 5th Term Extension; Hails from Gujarat

New Delhi

The tenure of the Secretary of the Union Ministry of AYUSH has been extended by another year. The Appointments Committee of the Union Cabinet has granted a fifth extension to Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, the Secretary of the



AYUSH Ministry. Kotecha is set to enter his ninth consecutive year at the

helm of the ministry next month. Sources indicate that he will cross the ten-year mark next year. It is noteworthy that Kotecha, who hails from Gujarat, was directly appointed as a Union Government Secretary from outside the civil services cadre.

Rahul Gandhi Meets Punjab Congress Leaders Ahead of Next Year's Assembly Elections

New Delhi

The term of the current Aam Aadmi Party government in Punjab, led by Bhagwant Singh Mann, concludes on March 16 next year. Consequently, the Assembly elections are expected to be held in February or March. Against this backdrop, Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, held consultations yesterday



with Congress leaders from the state regarding the upcoming elections. The meeting involved key Congress leaders, including Punjab Congress President Amrinder Singh Raja Warring,

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Partap Singh Bajwa, former Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi, Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa, and Vijay Inder Singla. During the meeting, Rahul Gandhi emphasized, "Punjab is a crucial state, and the Congress has an excellent opportunity to win here. Therefore, party members must face the Assembly elections with unity."



A grand free general medical and blood donation camp was held at a private wedding hall in Vayalur to mark the 52nd birthday of Joseph Vijay—President of Tamizhaga Vettri Kazhagam and the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. The event was inaugurated by Karthik Rajan (Dindigul West District Secretary), alongside S. Mohan (District Student Wing Joint Organizer, Dindigul West), Manikandan (Thoppampatti West Union Secretary), and Sathishkumar (Thoppampatti West Union Joint Secretary). Organized jointly by the Thoppampatti West Union Pushpather Panchayat branch functionaries and the Palani Blood Bank, the camp saw a large turnout of branch office-bearers and the general public.

India Increases Crude Oil Imports from Russia and UAE Amidst Uncertainty Surrounding the Strait of Hormuz

New Delhi

India has reached record levels in crude oil imports from Russia and the UAE amidst the uncertainty surrounding the Strait of Hormuz. Despite the ceasefire agreement between the US and Iran, an atmosphere of uncertainty persists regarding the Strait of Hormuz, a vital maritime route for crude oil supply. Iran has announced the closure of the Strait of Hormuz following Israel's attack on Lebanon. Against this backdrop, India's crude oil imports from Russia saw a



significant increase in June. Data from Kpler, a maritime and commodities analytics firm, indicates that while India's daily crude oil imports from Russia stood at 1.91 million barrels in May, the average daily import rose to 2.66 million barrels during the period up to June 19th. This underscores Russia's continued status as India's largest oil supplier. During the same

period, crude oil imports from the UAE averaged 636,000 barrels per day. This figure is slightly lower than the record high of 644,000 barrels per day imported in May. Imports from Saudi Arabia averaged 384,000 barrels per day, while imports from Venezuela stood at 209,000 barrels per day. With this, Venezuela has emerged as India's fourth-largest crude oil supplier. Meanwhile, Kpler data shows that oil imports from the US have dropped to 91,000 barrels, down from 252,000 barrels in May



Five youths were arrested for smuggling cannabis while police were on patrol within the limits of the Kallakurichi police station; 1 kg of cannabis was seized, and an investigation is underway.



The inauguration of the 'Singapenn' (Lioness) police initiative's complaint box took place yesterday morning at the Government Girls' Higher Secondary School in Kallakurichi. Collector Padmaja, Superintendent of Police (SP) Shahnaz, and Chief Educational Officer (CEO) Karthika participated in the event and addressed the students to raise awareness.

Some dissident MPs are in touch, fearing public anger: Sanjay Raut interview

Mumbai

Shiv Sena (Uddhav) MP Sanjay Raut has stated that some dissident MPs are in contact with his party because they fear the anger of the people in their constituencies. Reports have emerged suggesting that six Shiv Sena (Uddhav) MPs in Maharashtra are planning to join the Shinde-led Shiv Sena faction. These reports surfaced after the MPs skipped a recent party consultative meeting in Delhi. While



the BJP is alleged to be behind these developments, Union Home Minister Amit Shah has asserted that there is only one Shiv Sena—the one led by Eknath Shinde. Amidst this, Shiv Sena (Uddhav) MP

Sanjay Raut said in an interview yesterday, "Some dissident MPs are still in touch. They are afraid of the public anger prevailing in their constituencies. So far, two are in contact. If they feel they have made a mistake, we will hold talks with them. The more the BJP insults the Shiv Sena, the more the people of the state will stand against them. The dissident MPs are still with the Shiv Sena (Uddhav) faction; none of the six MPs have left."

How can water be released when The Cauvery dams aren't even full? Union Minister's blunt response

Bengaluru

The Cauvery dispute between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka has persisted for 50 years; it is inappropriate to pressure for water release when the dams are not full. The Tamil Nadu government needs to realize this, said Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy. Speaking to reporters in Mandya, Union Min-



ister for Industries H.D. Kumaraswamy stated that the construction of the Mekedatu dam would actually benefit Tamil Nadu the most. However, Tamil Nadu has been

creating issues regarding the Cauvery matter for the past 50 years. It is wrong for Tamil Nadu to oppose this project, which is designed to supply drinking water to Bengaluru and its surrounding areas. Pressuring for water release when the Cauvery dams are not full is not right; the Tamil Nadu government must understand this, he said.

GOLD, PETROL & DIESEL PRICE TODAY		
22.06.2026		
GOLD 24 CARAT (10g)	PETROL PER LITRE	DIESEL PER LITRE
₹73,850 ▲ ₹350 (0.48%)	₹106.24 ▲ ₹0.32 (0.30%)	₹92.61 ▲ ₹0.28 (0.30%)
22 CARAT (10g)		
₹67,650 ▲ ₹300 (0.45%)		

* Prices are indicative and subject to change.
† Prices vary from state to state and city to city. | Source: IOCL Website | Date: 22.06.2026

Women Stage Hunger Strike Demanding Removal of TASMAL In Vallam



Ariyalur, June 22 assets over to the TASMAL shop in a thousand families reside in Vallam village, near Jayankondam in Ariyalur district. A government TASMAL liquor shop operates just 10 meters away from the renowned Kaliyamman Temple. Residents have repeatedly petitioned the government to remove this problematic shop, citing incidents of sexual harassment against local women and girls, as well as frequent fatal vehicle accidents linked to it; however, no action has been taken so far. Dissatisfied with this inaction, over a hundred villagers from Vallam have gathered in front of the Kaliyamman Temple to stage a hunger strike. A particularly heart-wrenching moment occurred when a farmer—who had lost his son to alcohol addiction—declared that he possessed assets worth ₹2.5 crore; he asked if he should sign those

Crisis Within Party Following By-Election Result UK Prime Minister to Resign?

London UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer is planning to resign following the Labour Party's victory in the Makerfield by-election. In the Makerfield by-election held last week, the Labour Party's Andy Burnham secured a massive victory against the ruling Reform UK party. Following this win, discontent regarding Prime Minister Keir Starmer's leadership emerged within the party. With 201 Labour MPs expressing support for



Andy Burnham, it was perceived that Prime Minister Keir Starmer had lost the confidence of the House. As this figure represents more than 50 percent of the total number of MPs, a consensus had developed over the past few days that continuing in the role of Prime Minister was politically

untenable. Amidst this severe crisis, reports indicate that Keir Starmer is set to announce a date for his resignation soon. Meanwhile, ministers such as Ed Miliband, Shabana Mahmood, and Yvette Cooper are urging Keir Starmer to step down immediately. Commenting on the matter, a senior Labour Party member stated, "Prime Minister Keir Starmer has decided to step down from office in a dignified manner, keeping the nation's interests in mind."

Youth Shattered by Drug Addiction Famous Hollywood Actress Dies Suddenly

Los Angeles

Famous Hollywood actress Davie Chase, known for her roles in globally acclaimed films like *The Ring* and *Lilo & Stitch*, has passed away due to ill health. Davie Chase (35) gained worldwide attention for her portrayal of the ghostly character 'Samara' in the 2002 film *The Ring*. She suffered a severe spinal injury in a motorcycle accident in 2016; the subsequent long-term treatment and use of painkillers led her to become addicted to drugs over time. Consequently, her life spiraled out of control,



and at one point, she was reduced to homelessness. Having fallen into drug addiction through the influence of the wrong company, she was admitted to a Los Angeles hospital in early June 2024 due to malnutrition. Tragically, she passed away on the 16th after treatment for meningitis and a blood infection proved unsuccessful.

Her mother, Kathy Chase, spoke poignantly about the loss: "When I heard the news of my daughter's death, I felt as though something inside me shattered. Drugs had caused her to completely lose her sense of self. I had often searched through lists of unidentified bodies in the morgue in anguish, looking for her. In the end, I prayed while touching her through the hospital glass." Her passing—having acted in films such as *Donnie Darko* and *Big Love*—has cast a pall of sadness over the Hollywood film industry.

Pakistan Defense Minister Threatens War Against India if Indus River Water is Blocked

Islamabad

Pakistan's Defense Minister Khawaja Asif has stated that they would not hesitate to wage war against India if the flow of Indus River water were completely blocked. Following the terrorist attack in Pahalgam last year, India had temporarily suspended the Indus Waters Treaty arrangements regarding water flowing to Pakistan. Amidst the resulting water scarcity in Pakistan, India is planning to con-



struct a new dam on the Chenab River. Furthermore, Union Water Resources Minister C.R. Patil has announced—under the guidance of Prime Minister Modi—that the flow of Indus River water to Pakistan will be completely halted by June 2028; this follows De-

fense Minister Rajnath Singh's recent warning that nations supporting terrorism would not receive Indus River water. Speaking to a news channel regarding this, Pakistan's Defense Minister Khawaja Asif issued a threat: "Water is also a part of our national security. If it is threatened, we will not hesitate to go to war against India. Any new water infrastructure built along the border to divert Indus River water will be destroyed."

Petrol Sales Halted in Crimea Following Ukrainian Drone Attacks

Moscow

Petrol sales have been suspended in Russian-controlled Crimea due to a series of drone attacks by Ukraine. Sergei Aksyonov, the Russian-appointed governor of Crimea, stated that a drone attack carried out by Ukraine the day before yesterday resulted in four deaths and left 28 people seriously injured. Consequently, petrol sales to private



individuals and non-governmental entities have been halted. He added that petrol would be sold exclusively to government agencies and security services. Ukraine's targeting

of oil storage depots in Crimea has severely disrupted fuel supplies, plunging the entire region into a critical situation. Russia seized Crimea from Ukraine in 2014.

British Prime Minister to Resign US President Trump Makes Shocking Claim

Washington

US President Donald Trump has announced on his 'Truth Social' platform that British Prime Minister Keir Starmer will resign from his post. Members of his own party are raising a banner of revolt against British Prime Minister and Labour Party leader Keir Starmer. The return of Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham to



Parliament following a by-election victory has intensified the leadership challenge facing Starmer. Reports suggest he may soon resign due to pressure from with-

in the party. Amidst this situation, the US President has stated that British Prime Minister Keir Starmer will step down. In his post on 'Truth Social,' he stated: "Starmer has failed miserably on two key issues: immigration and energy. He made a wrong decision by halting oil and gas drilling in the North Sea. Starmer will resign. My best wishes to him."

54 Injured, 18 Missing in Explosion at Qatar Natural Gas Facility



Fifty-four workers were injured in a massive explosion at the world's largest natural gas export terminal in Qatar. Additionally, 18 people are missing. Intensive search operations for the missing workers are currently underway.

US President Trump threatens severe attack on Iran if Hezbollah is not curbed talks begin in Switzerland

Washington

An interim agreement for a ceasefire between the US and Iran was signed on the 19th. Following this, a 60-day timeframe has been established to restore peace in West Asia by resolving key issues, including Iran's nuclear program, the sanctions imposed on it, and the ongoing Israeli attacks in Lebanon. The US and Iran plan to hold negotiations within this period to reach a final agreement. Talks regarding the technical aspects of this process began yesterday at the Bürgenstock Resort near Lake Lucerne in Switzerland. The US delegation was led by Vice President J.D. Vance, while the Iranian delegation included Parliament Speaker Mohammad



Bagher Ghalibaf and Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi. Representatives from mediating nations—including Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chief of Army Staff Asim Munir, as well as delegates from Qatar—participated in this direct meeting. Although the talks were originally scheduled for last Friday, they were delayed due to the ongoing Israeli military offensive against the Lebanese group Hezbollah. Condemning Israel's attack on Lebanon as a violation of the US-

Iran understanding, Iran closed the Strait of Hormuz again the day before yesterday. Amidst this situation, US Vice President J.D. Vance, who arrived for the talks in Switzerland, stated in an interview: "The question before us now is, can we begin a new chapter?" "The question is whether we can permanently reshape relations in the Middle East or if we will revert to the old ways of operating. The old way is not our preference," he said. Ahead of the talks, Baghaei, the head of the Iranian delega-

tion, warned in a post on X: "To implement the terms agreed upon in the understanding, the fighting must cease on all fronts. Otherwise, it is impossible to enter the negotiation phase for a final agreement." This underscores Iran's firm stance that Israel must halt its offensive operations in Lebanon. Details regarding the outcome of these preliminary talks were not immediately released; however, the conflict between Lebanon and Israel is believed to have been a primary topic of discussion. Meanwhile, amidst the negotiations, US President Trump issued a threat on his Truth Social platform: "Iran must immediately stop its highly paid proxies in Lebanon from causing

trouble. If they fail to do so, we will strike again—even more severely than we did last week." Trump's threat during the talks has reignited tensions. Ready for War: Israel Issues Order The ongoing conflict between the Israeli military and the Iran-backed Hezbollah group in Lebanon has jeopardized the understanding reached between the US and Iran. Against this backdrop, Israeli military Chief of Staff Eyal Zamir issued an order yesterday stating that the ceasefire in Lebanon remains unstable; he directed Israeli forces stationed there to maintain a state of high readiness, given the possibility that hostilities with Hezbollah could resume.

Peace talks held in Switzerland between US Vice President Vance and Iranian officials

The Iranian delegation walked out midway through the talks held yesterday in Switzerland between US Vice President Vance and Iranian officials. They left in protest against threats issued by the United States. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) regarding a ceasefire between Iran and the US had already been signed. Yesterday's



discussions focused on implementing key aspects of that agreement. Iranian Minister Abbas Araghchi participated in the talks held at Bürgen-

Awami League party foundation day - close monitoring

Dhaka

Sheikh Hasina lost her post as Prime Minister due to student protests in Bangladesh. In this situation, the foundation day of Hasina's Awami League party is to be celebrated tomorrow. There are chances of riots in the country on this occasion. Therefore, the Bangladesh government has ordered law enforcement agencies



to remain on high alert and maintain close vigilance for the next few days.

3 ships carrying 8.6 lakh tonnes of crude oil crossed the Strait of Hormuz in a single day under the Indian national flag

New Delhi

Three Indian-flagged ships have crossed the Strait of Hormuz as a security measure. The US-Iran war began on February 28, severely disrupting the flow of crude oil through the Strait of Hormuz, a key waterway in the Persian Gulf. In this situation, the peace agreement between the United States and Iran was signed a few days ago. Following this, Iran announced that ships would be able to pass freely through the Strait of Hormuz for the next 60

days. However, due to Israel's continued attacks on Lebanon, Iran announced the day before yesterday that it would close the Strait of Hormuz again, claiming that it had violated the peace agreement. This caused a stir. Meanwhile, three Indian flag-carrying vessels, *Desh Vaibhav*, *Desh Vibar* and *Sanmar Herald*, crossed the Strait of Hormuz on the same day the day before yesterday. All three vessels reportedly crossed the Strait of Hormuz a few hours before Iran announced the

closure of the Strait of Hormuz the day before yesterday. Of these, the ships safely crossed the Strait carrying a total of 8.6 lakh tonnes of crude oil. This is the first time since the war between the two countries that three ships carrying the Indian flag have crossed on a single day. Including these three ships, 13 Indian ships and five foreign ships have crossed the Strait of Hormuz so far. Speaking about this, Union Minister for Maritime Affairs and Maritime Affairs Sarbananda Sonowal

said, "A total of 94 Indians are working on the three Indian-flagged vessels. The Union government is giving high priority to maritime security and the safety of Indian sailors." Of the three vessels, the *Sanmar Herald* vessel was attacked by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps on April 18 while attempting to cross the Strait of Hormuz. As a result, the vessel was forced to return. It has now safely crossed the Strait. The Indian contingent is expected to visit Paradip in Odisha on July 1. The

Desh Vaibhav contingent will visit Gujarat's Vadar and the *Desh Vibar* contingent will visit Sikka on the 24th, officials said. Meanwhile, two Indian vessels, *SSL Kaveri* and *Desh Suraksha*, are waiting to pass through the Strait of Hormuz, according to the 'MarineTraffic' portal, which tracks vessel movements. Currently, 31 cargoes destined for India are waiting in the Strait of Hormuz. Of these, 16 contain fertilizers. It is expected that each of these cargoes will pass through the Strait of Hormuz one by one