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Chief Minister Vijay traveled in a government bus 300 buses launched into service

Chennai Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay traveled from the Secretariat to the lighthouse in a Chennai city bus today. Earlier, Chief Minister Vijay flagged off the service of 300 government buses on behalf of the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation. The Tamil Nadu government had purchased 300 new buses, including 164 diesel buses and 136 CNG buses, for 6 divisions including Chennai and Coimbatore. The inauguration ceremony of these buses was held today at the Chennai Secretariat. Chief Minister Vijay flagged off the bus service. Subsequently, Chief Minister Vijay traveled on the new city bus 29A plying on the Thiruvallikeni - Perambur

route. Chief Minister Vijay, who travelled in the bus from the Secretariat to the lighthouse, congratulated the driver and conductor. He took photos and videos inside the bus. The footage is currently going viral on the internet. The Chief Minister was accompanied by Transport Minister Thamizhan Parthiban and top officials. The new buses launched by the Chief Minister today immediately commenced transport services from the Kalampakkam and Koyambedu bus terminals, and the Metropolitan Transport buses from the associated bus stands. In a press release issued in this regard, the government said, "The Government of Tamil Nadu, through 8 Tamil Nadu State



Transport Corporations, is providing public transport services to the people at low fares for education, employment, health, business, social and other needs. About 2.05 crore passengers travel daily through about 21,527 buses operated by these transport corporations in 26 zones and 317 workshops. Out of

this, about 64 percent are women, students, transgenders, differently-abled, freedom fighters, Kalaimamani awardees and other eligible beneficiaries who are availing the free travel concession. The government is continuously undertaking various measures such as introducing new routes as per the needs of the public,

re-operating bus services in previously discontinued areas, replacing old buses, improving workshops and passenger facilities, strengthening the qualification and safety of vehicles, and expanding technology-based passenger services. During the review meeting on the activities of the Transport Department

held on 17.06.2026 under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister, he advised that the Transport Department should be developed into an environmentally friendly, clean, modern, technologically equipped, safe and passenger-friendly public transport system, and that digital fare collection through a smart

card-based system, GPS / Vehicle Location Tracking, passenger information systems, 24x7 passenger assistance centers at bus stands, etc. should be established. Accordingly, to further strengthen public transport services, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu flagged off the service of a total of 300

new buses for the public, including 65 buses for the Municipal Transport Corporation, 36 buses for the Villupuram division of the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation, 39 buses for the Salem division, 25 buses for the Coimbatore division, 49 buses for the Kumbakonam division, 42 buses for the Madurai division and 44 buses for the Tirunelveli division. These buses include 164 diesel buses and 136 BS VI compliant, low emission, eco-friendly CNG buses. These new buses will strengthen city and suburban bus services, improve passenger connectivity, reduce passenger waiting time and provide safe and comfortable travel," it said.

Earthquakes in Venezuela: Cities devastated - State of emergency declared

Caracas Twin earthquakes have struck the Latin American country of Venezuela, causing damage to major cities including the capital Caracas. The earthquakes, measuring 7.2 and 7.5 on the Richter scale, struck 39 seconds apart at 6 pm on Thursday (3 am Indian time on Friday). The tremors triggered a tsunami warning for the Caribbean islands, which was later lifted. While official death tolls have not yet been released, the US Geological Survey estimates that the natural disaster could have killed between 10,000 and 100,000 people. The entire city has become a dust zone as apartment buildings



and commercial complexes across the capital, Caracas, collapse like a pack of cards. International media reports that people were running screaming in the streets and people were struggling to find their relatives in the rubble. Rescue teams, along with volunteers, are actively working in key areas of the city to remove rubble and rescue those fighting for their

lives. The magnitude of the earthquake has caused severe damage to Simon Bolivar International Airport, Venezuela's main international gateway, and has been temporarily closed. Hotels and infrastructure in the coastal area of La Guaira have been flattened. The earthquake was followed by more than 20 aftershocks measuring 4.9 to 6.4 on the Richter scale,

causing people to be afraid to go inside their homes and take shelter in the streets. Given the current situation in the country, Venezuela's interim president, Delcy Rodriguez, has declared a state of emergency throughout the country. He also stated that rescue operations have been intensified on a war footing in collaboration with national security agencies.

Electricity Board White Paper released

Electricity Board in debt of Rs 2.47 lakh crore Minister assures that electricity bills will not increase

Chennai The Tamil Nadu Electricity Board currently has a debt of Rs. 2.47 lakh crore. However, there will be no increase in electricity tariffs this year," said Minister Nirmal Kumar, speaking while releasing a white paper. Minister Nirmal Kumar released a white paper on the finances and expenditure of the Electricity Board at the Chennai Electricity Board headquarters today. Later, while talking to reporters about this, he said, "When electricity tariffs are increased, expenses are also increased by the same amount. Not only are expenses increasing, but the infrastructure has not been strengthened. New staff selection has not been carried out either." Thus, the electricity board's expenditure from 2021-2026 is Rs. 5.32 lakh crore and the electricity board's income is Rs. 4.97 lakh crore. The electricity board's current deficit is Rs. 34,447 crore. There is a total requirement of 1,40,635 electrical workers in Tamil Nadu. Currently, only 74,174 employees are working. In addition, there are 65,921 vacant posts in the power sector. 16,782



people are set to retire in the next 5 years. We are focusing on fixing this. 20,449 new people will be appointed this year. Despite the shortage of staff, we are serving the people without any problems. During the DMK regime, only 343 people were appointed. The number of employees should have increased by 2 times. No project towards development has been started. The Electricity Board is purchasing electricity at a high price through short-term contracts. An attempt has been made to reduce the price by converting it into a long-term contract. This will save Rs. 215 crore per month. There are currently 4,47,603 transformers in Tamil Nadu. There are 1,910 substations. 231 new substations are to be started. The power sector has a total debt of Rs. 2.47 lakh crore. In the history of the power sector, the highest revenue was

generated during the last term, while the highest expenditure was incurred. At the same time, the Electricity Board's debt for 2021-2026 is Rs. 87,399 crore. Despite this much revenue, spending and borrowing have not significantly improved the infrastructure. The Uppur Thermal Power Plant project has been on hold since 2021. Steps will be taken to ensure the safety of contract workers. The operations of the power sector will now be transparent. The Electricity Board must be restored. The current situation cannot be overcome without borrowing. There will be no increase in electricity tariffs this year. There will be no increase in electricity tariffs for all consumers. Steps will be taken to increase the electricity storage capacity of Tamil Nadu. DMK has been corrupt in science for 50 years. We will find

out that too," he said. He continued, "The essence of this white paper is that in the past, people were in trouble, the industrial sector was in trouble, the power sector was in trouble. It is not known who benefited. That is what we are looking for from all sides. Everything is shown as expenditure. But no infrastructure has been improved according to the expenditure incurred. Not only transformers, there has been irregularities in the procurement of electrical conductors as well. There have been irregularities in the procurement of electrical conductors at 9 locations. "If the government had not been formed under the leadership of Chief Minister Vijay, the Electricity Board would have been privatized. We will engage in the work required to improve the Electricity Board," he said.



On the occasion of the 96th birth anniversary of V.P. Singh, a champion of social justice, Honorable Ministers paid their respects by garlanding his statue and showering it with flowers.

SDPI Party Supports Nationwide Protest Against FCRA Amendments

Chennai

The SDPI party has announced its full support for the nationwide protest launched by the 'Joint Action Forum on Minorities' against the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) Amendment Bill, 2026, proposed by the Union Government. SDPI National General Secretary Riyaz Farangipet confirmed this support while participating in a press conference held in New Delhi. At the meeting, it was decided to observe July 3 as a nationwide 'Day of Protest' to voice opposition to the proposed amendments. It was jointly announced that on that day, continuous hunger strikes, public signature campaigns, and intensive awareness drives would be



conducted across the country. Speaking to the media at the event, P. Wilson, Member of Parliament and Chairperson of the Joint Action Forum, described the proposed amendments as containing extremely stringent restrictions. He expressed concern that these new measures would severely cripple the operations of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), educational institutions, old-age homes, and various social service organizations. He specifically pointed out that the

requirement to maintain FCRA accounts exclusively at the SBI main branch in New Delhi, along with new restrictions on financial transactions, would become a massive burden. Furthermore, the MP noted that harsh measures—such as reducing the cap on administrative expenses from 50 percent to 20 percent—could severely impact welfare activities, healthcare, education, and emergency relief work intended for the poor and marginalized. Wilson has warned

Gold rings or quality maternity care?

MH Jawahirullah, President of Manithaneyya Makkal Katchi Chennai

Professor M.H. Jawahirullah, President of the Manithaneyya Makkal Katchi and Member of the Legislative Assembly, has issued a statement urging the Tamil Nadu government to reconsider its priorities—specifically, whether to provide gold rings to newborns or to ensure quality maternity care. I urge the Tamil Nadu government to reconsider the scheme of gifting gold rings to newborns and instead utilize the funds allocated for this purpose to upgrade maternity wards in government hospitals located in rural areas. Many government hospitals in Tamil Nadu operate with overcrowded maternity wards, a shortage of medical staff, inadequate bed facilities, and a lack of necessary equipment. Women from poor and middle-class



families are often compelled to access maternity services amidst these deficiencies. In this context, spending crores of rupees to gift gold rings to newborns raises questions about whether the government's priorities are correctly aligned. What the people truly need is not a gold ring on a newborn's finger, but modern maternity wards that save the mother's life, specialized care units that ensure the infant's health, and an adequate number of doctors and nurses. The duty of a government operating on public tax money is not to announce schemes merely for optics, but to make sustainable investments that uplift the people's quality of life. A gold ring might make headlines for a few days, but upgraded government hospitals will benefit generations to come. Therefore, the Tamil Nadu government should abandon the scheme of gifting gold rings to newborns and redirect the allocated funds toward improving medical infrastructure—specifically maternity wards and pediatric units—in rural government hospitals. That would be the responsible decision, conducive to social welfare, the safety of mother and child, and the improvement of public health.

Obstruction stones removed from Vanigar North Street in Kottar

Nagercoil

In Nagercoil, the 'Koozhakkadai' market at the Kottar Kambolam junction was a renowned vegetable market, second only to the Vadaseri Kanakamoolam market. Opposite this, on Vanigar North Street, lies the 'Chithra' fish market, established in memory of King Chithira Thirunal. It is said that traders who branched out from here went on to establish fish markets in various parts of Nagercoil city, such as Ganesapuram, Vadaseri, and the Ramanputhur Mamootu market. In the past, the Chithra fish market used to be bustling with crowds buying and selling fish. In 1966, a bicycle coming from the fish market collided with a young girl on this street; this incident sparked a severe clash between two groups, reportedly resulting in a fatality. Subsequently, a notice regarding this incident was displayed at the entrance of the street. Although the crowds at the Chithra fish market have dwindled significantly over time, local residents still do not allow the public to pass through on motorcycles. The area has seen a rise in residential housing following the city's expansion. Neverthe-



less, motorcyclists are required to use an alternative route. Following complaints about this, Commissioner Saravanakumar removed the obstruction stones and widened the stormwater drain at the street's entrance. However, within a few weeks, local residents reinstalled the obstruction stones. Meanwhile, as Saravanakumar was transferred, the issue was left unaddressed. In this context, last January, acting on orders from the then Corporation Commissioner Nishanth Krishna, Corporation officials—led by Assistant Engineer (Planning) Santhosh—went to remove the obstruction stones with police protection. However, the removal work was temporarily halted after a crowd of over 150 men and women gathered and attempted to stage a protest. Following complaints received by Collector Prathap regarding this issue, he ordered the District Revenue Officer to conduct an inspection and submit a report.

Accordingly, District Revenue Officer Poongothai conducted a thorough field inspection of Vanigar North Street the day before yesterday and submitted her report to the Collector. Subsequently, acting on the orders of Corporation Commissioner Aishwarya, Town Planning Officer Kevin Joy, Assistant Engineer (Planning) Santhosh, Agastheeswaram Tahsildar Arumugam, and Revenue Officer Manthiramoorthy removed the obstruction stones under heavy police protection. The officials also instructed that the movement of vehicles on the street must not be obstructed. This action has resolved a long-standing issue that had persisted for 60 years. Dispersed upon attempted arrests Local residents protested while officials were removing the obstruction stones. However, as soon as the police began taking some individuals into custody, those attempting to stage a blockade backed down and dispersed.

Farmers and Public Demand a Bridge Across the Maharajasamudram Stream

Thanjavur

Several villages—including Maliyakkadu, Kasangadu, Sendakottai, Pallikondan, and Magizhangottai—are situated along the banks of the Maharajasamudram stream in the Maliyakkadu area near Pattukottai, Thanjavur district. Agricultural activities covering approximately 750 acres rely on the water from this stream. Farmers in this region once cultivated three crops annually (Kuruvai, Samba, and Thaladi), but now they are limited to a single crop. The stream experiences heavy flooding during rainy seasons. Consequently, for the past 50 years, the area has faced a distressing situation where the 750 acres of paddy crops along the stream get sub-



merged and destroyed. The root cause is the absence of a bridge across the stream. Farmers and residents have been petitioning successive governments for five decades to construct a bridge, yet the request remains unfulfilled to this day. "There are several villages surrounding the stream, and we cultivate about 750 acres in this area. The region is also home to the Kathiralamman Temple, famous for its *Thookku Ther* (suspended chariot) festival. Whenever needed, we the villagers, pool our funds to install cement pipes and construct makeshift



At the new bus stand in Tirupathur district, District Collector Mr. K. Ravikumar (IAS) and District Superintendent of Police Mr. Akshay Anil Wakhare (IPS) distributed awareness pamphlets regarding drug eradication to traders and the general public today (June 24). This initiative was organized by the Department of Prohibition and Excise ahead of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, observed on June 26. They were accompanied by Assistant Commissioner (Excise) Mr. Vediappan, Project Director (Women's Development Scheme) Mrs. Vijayakumari, Deputy Superintendent of Police Mr. Murali, Regional Transport Officer Mr. Panneerselvam, Motor Vehicle Inspector Mr. Murali, and other concerned department officials.

TODAY PRICE	
25.06.2026	
GOLD PRICE 24K (Per Gram)	₹ 7,245 per gram
PETROL PRICE	₹ 103.45 per litre
DIESEL PRICE	₹ 90.12 per litre

Teacher Killed in Collision with JCB Machine

Arun Jeevanathan (41), son of Michael Raj, was a resident of the Perumal Pachari area in R.S. Mangalam, Ramanathapuram district. He worked as a Tamil teacher at St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School in Ramanathapuram. Yesterday morning (June 25), he was commuting to school on his two-wheeler. As he approached the barricade near the Solandhur bus stop, a JCB machine coming



from the opposite direction struck him in the chest, resulting in his tragic death. The Thiruppalaikudi police have registered a case and are investigating the incident. He is survived by his wife and a 15-year-old son.



Dindigul Member of Parliament R. Sachidanandam met Mr. Visambathkumar, the Minister for Backward Classes Welfare—who had visited the Dindigul district to inspect schools under the Kallar Reclamation Department—and submitted a memorandum of requests for necessary action.



Nilakottai MLA Ayyanar met District Superintendent of Police Jayakumar in person at the Dindigul District Superintendent of Police office as a courtesy call.



For the first time in the history of the Palani temple, annual hundi (offering box) revenue has crossed the ₹60 crore mark. During the previous Fasli year (1434), the hundi revenue stood at ₹58,28,51,525, which was the highest annual revenue recorded in the temple's history. However, for the current Fasli year (1435), the revenue has reached ₹60,21,54,812, surpassing the previous record.

Three Injured in Firecracker Factory Explosion Near Sivakasi

Virudhunagar in Sengamalapati, Three youths which had been injured in a active for several sudden explosion at years. Police are investigating whether a defunct firecracker factory near Sivakasi. Waste firecrackers caused by someone smoking inside the premises suddenly exploded at the facility.

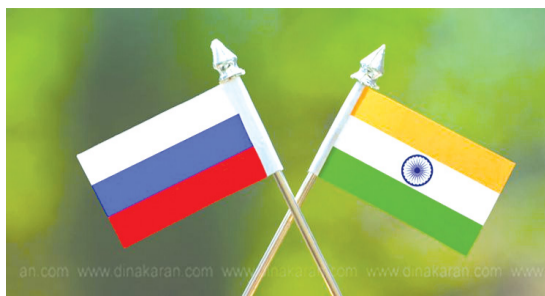


Town Panchayat President Ravichandran inaugurated a newly constructed community hall—built under the Basic Amenities Improvement and Capital Grant schemes—at the Arulmigu Sri Gowriammam Temple complex in Kuchanur by cutting the ribbon. It was announced that the hall would be available for public use at affordable rental rates for events such as weddings, ear-piercing ceremonies, Vasantha Vizha (spring festivals), and other special occasions. Town Panchayat officials and staff participated in the event.

MoU Signed Between India and Russia

Moscow

Chief Justice Surya Kant, who is visiting Moscow with a delegation from the Supreme Court of India, met with Igor Krasnov, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation, yesterday at the Marble Hall in Moscow. A statement issued regarding the meeting noted that discussions were held on the necessity of mutual cooperation to address emerging challenges, as well as on the digital transformations undertaken by the judiciaries of



both nations—including the integration of technology and artificial intelligence into court proceedings—to enhance the justice delivery system and ensure easy access to justice. The importance of high-quality legal education was also briefly discussed. Subsequently, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed, affirming the commitment of both parties to strengthen cooperation through reciprocal visits by the Chief Justices and their delegations, short- and long-term training programs, and the organization of joint seminars and conferences

Post-mortem Conducted Twice on Body of Young Woman



Chennai

A post-mortem examination was conducted twice on the body of a young woman from Odisha who died following an ammonia leak at a shrimp processing plant near Tiruvalur. Initially, the victim—affected by the ammonia leak—was identified as Purnima Juwanga, whose death was announced on the 21st. A second post-mortem was ordered after it was revealed that the deceased was not Purnima Juwanga; subsequent investigations, including DNA testing, established her identity as Sujaini Juwanga, also from Odisha.

27 Suburban Electric Trains Cancelled the Day After Tomorrow



Ranipet

It has been announced that 27 electric trains on the Arakkonam route will be fully cancelled the day after tomorrow. The trains have been cancelled due to technical restructuring works scheduled at the Arakkonam railway station workshop on June 27 and 28.

TODAY RASIPALAN

25.06.2026

- Aries** : You will get success in your efforts. Financial gain is indicated.
- Taurus** : Pending works will be completed. Increase in income is expected.
- Gemini** : You will spend time with your family. Peace of mind will prevail.
- Cancer** : Your confidence will bring success. Avoid unnecessary worries.
- Leo** : New opportunities will come your way. Be ready to take the lead.
- Virgo** : You will plan your tasks well. Success is within reach.
- Libra** : You will maintain balance in life. What you expect will come true.
- Scorpio** : You will overcome challenges. Progress in work is indicated.
- Sagittarius** : Financial position will improve. New sources of income are likely.
- Capricorn** : Hard work will bring good results. Respect and recognition will increase.
- Aquarius** : You will get support from friends. Plans will materialize.
- Pisces** : You will be in a positive frame of mind. Good news is on the way.

Singapore Government Provides Aid to Migrant Workers from India

Singapore

Hundreds of migrant workers employed by KPA Engineering and X Industries in Singapore approached the Ministry of Manpower's service centre, stating that they had not been paid for several months. In response, the Singapore government has announced financial assistance of 200 Singapore dollars each for workers from India and Bangladesh who have been left stranded without wages for up to four



months. The National Trades Union Congress (NTUC)—Singapore's largest labour movement—and the Migrant Workers' Centre (a voluntary organization) have joined forces to assist 400 unpaid workers in managing their daily expenses. They are providing each worker with 100 Singapore dollars in cash and supermarket vouchers worth 100 Singapore dollars. The NTUC President has stated that the organization will not stand idly by while workers are abandoned and left unpaid.

Train Services Halted in Germany

Berlin

A nationwide failure occurred in the GSM-R digital communication system used for internal communications across Germany's railway network. Consequently, all trains were halted at stations. In a statement released on its website at 1:00 AM, the national railway operator, Deutsche Bahn, said, "A nationwide issue arose with the GSM-R sys-



tem used for internal railway network communication. The cause was identified. The situation was resolved using an emergency system. The problem has been fixed, and services are gradually resuming." As a result, trains were stopped at stations across the country. Deutsche Bahn stated that it kept the trains open so passengers could remain seated during the service disruption.

Powerful Earthquakes Strike Venezuela Reports Suggest Over a Thousand May Have Perished

People in Venezuela have been gripped by panic following a series of powerful earthquakes. The intense tremors caused numerous buildings to collapse in the capital, Caracas. A tsunami warning has also been issued for the country. Two powerful earthquakes struck Venezuela's central and coastal regions within a span of just 39 seconds. The US official tsunami warning system reported magnitudes of 7.1 and 7.5 on the Richter scale. According



to the US Geological Survey (USGS), the main earthquake occurred at 6:04 PM local time. Its epicenter was located near Montalbán in the country's central region, approximately 186 miles east of Caracas. The USGS has indicated that more than a thousand people may have lost their lives after becoming trapped in the debris.

Decline in Student Enrollment in Government Arts Colleges Anbumani Ramadoss



Chennai

PMK founder Anbumani Ramadoss has stated that student enrollment in government arts colleges has plummeted drastically. He has called for the immediate filling of all vacant assistant professor posts in these colleges. He has also urged the authorities to take measures to improve the academic standards and student enrollment in government colleges.



Mr. P. Suruliprabhu assumed office as the Public Relations Officer at the Tiruvannamalai District Information and Public Relations Office today (24.06.2026).

Water Scarcity Resurfaces in Ramanathapuram District

Ramanathapuram

Severe drinking water scarcity has gripped Ramanathapuram district, forcing villagers to wander in search of water. The Cauvery-Ramanathapuram Combined Drinking Water Scheme, introduced during the DMK administration in 2010, is currently operational in the district. Water was previously being supplied regularly to four municipalities, seven town panchayats, and 429 panchayats across 11 unions. A steady supply of drinking water—delivered once every two days—had been reaching even remote villages. However, due to a lack of proper maintenance over the past few weeks, water shortages have emerged across all parts of the district. With water failing to reach hundreds of small villages and hamlets—except for those located along the main pipeline route—severe scarcity prevails in these areas. Consequently, residents are forced to buy water from tankers, wait for hours to collect water leaking from the Cauvery scheme pipelines, or transport water in pots using pushcarts. As a result, the pushcart has become an essential household item. Women from the villages explained the situation: "Due to the water shortage, we wait day and night to collect water leaking from the roadside



Cauvery scheme pipelines. Since the supply reaches villages off the main road only twice a week, and we rely on collecting leakage water, carrying pots one by one on our heads is impractical; by the time we make multiple trips, the water source might run dry." "To manage this, we fill five pots and transport them using pushcarts. Thus, the pushcart has become a household necessity. With agriculture failing due to drought and having no means to pay for purchased water, we are forced to borrow money just to buy these carts." They noted that in this region, the pushcart has even become an item included in wedding dowry lists. Pushcart manufacturers from Sayalkudi stated that water pushcarts have become a top-selling item at local lathe workshops over the past month. Each cart sells for up to ₹4,000, with sales ranging from 40 to 50 carts per month. Risk of Stalling Due to DMK-Initiated Scheme Several drinking water projects were introduced during DMK administrations for the backward Mudukulathur region of the district: the Naripaiyur seawater desalination project (₹40 crore, 1999); the Cauvery-Ramanathapuram combined drinking water scheme (₹616 crore, 2010) and its subsequent renovation (₹555 crore, 2023); and the Karur-Ramanathapuram combined drinking water scheme (₹2,819.78 crore, 2024-25)—the latter of which has seen 90% of the work completed and a successful trial run. However, work has proceeded at a snail's pace over the last month, leaving the project incomplete; this has hindered the rapid supply of water, resulting in a severe drinking water shortage. During the previous 10-year AIADMK regime, the Narippaiyur drinking water project was stalled, and the Cauvery combined drinking water scheme ceased functioning due to a lack of proper maintenance. Similarly, the public now complains that the TVK government is failing to properly maintain the drinking water schemes introduced by the DMK government—seemingly with the intent to stall them—thereby causing a water crisis across the district.

Will the New Anganwadi Centre in Manamadurai Become Operational?

Manamadurai

Residents have urged authorities to make the newly constructed building for the Kannar Street-Chettikulam Anganwadi Centre in Manamadurai operational. An Anganwadi centre currently functions in the Kannar Street-Chettikulam area of Manamadurai, Sivaganga district. At present, the centre operates out of an old building. With over 35 children attending, both the children and teachers have been facing various difficulties due to the lack of adequate basic amenities. Specif-



ically, the flooring is damaged and peeling in several places, and the ceiling fans are out of order. Consequently, the children struggle to study amidst the intense heat. Parents of the children attending the centre stated that although the new building was constructed at a cost of ₹19 lakh and all work was completed five months ago, it remains unopened. They expressed confusion as to why the building has not yet been opened, even after the election code of conduct ended and a new government assumed office. They urged the district administration to take immediate action to open the new building for the children's use.



Under the orders of Dindigul District Superintendent of Police Jayakumar and the supervision of City Deputy Superintendent of Police Karthik, a special public grievance redressal camp was held at the Dindigul City South Police Station, presided over by Inspector Ilanchezhian.

Tamilaga Mutpokku Makkal Katchi Representatives Meet and Greet New Goundampalayam Police Inspector

Goundampalayam

The C-5 Goundampalayam Police Station operates on Mettupalayam Road in Coimbatore. Last week, Kandasamy assumed charge as the new Police Inspector there. Advocate Pushpanantham, State Vice-President of the Tamilaga Mutpokku Makkal Katchi, met him as a courtesy call to



offer his best wishes. The meeting was attended by Dr. Lion Natarajan (President of the Shivaji Colony Residents' Welfare Association), advocate clerks (Lakshmi, Divya, and Ramya), and senior clerk Selvaraj, among others.

Unprecedented Heatwave in France: 45 Dead

Paris

As scorching heat grips Europe, the people of France are suffering severely due to the intense summer temperatures. The death toll from the heatwave in France has risen to 45 in just the last few days. Many schools in France have been closed due to the extreme heat, while others have adjusted their schedules. France has recorded its highest temperatures since 1947, with the mercury exceeding 44°C (111°F) in several areas. Similarly, temperatures in Bordeaux—France's renowned grape-growing region—have



climbed to 41.9°C, while central France has seen temperatures reach 41.2°C. According to French officials, many of the fatalities occurred when people, unable to withstand the intense heat, attempted to cool off by jumping into unsafe rivers or lakes and subsequently drowned. Consequently, the French government has urged the public to avoid swimming in unauthorized or unsupervised bodies of water. Train services are facing delays due to the extreme heat, and several major tourist attractions have been temporarily closed. It is worth noting that in a report released a few months ago, the World Meteorological Organization stated that Europe is warming at twice the rate of global warming.

Iran Conflict: US Lawmakers from Trump's Own Party Vote Against Him; Stir in US Congress

Washington

A resolution has been passed in the Senate to curb US President Trump's military actions. The military strikes launched by the US against Iran sparked widespread international debate. Amidst strong public opposition to the conflict, the House of Representatives had already passed a resolution urging an end to the hostilities; in that vote, 215 members supported the resolution while 208 opposed it. This marks the first time in US history that a



resolution invoking the War Powers Act of 1973—aimed at limiting presidential authority—has been passed by both chambers of Congress. Subsequently, in a vote held yesterday in the Senate, 50 votes were cast against Trump's directive, while 48 were in favor. The fact that four mem-

bers of Trump's own Republican Party voted against him is viewed as a significant setback. Although the White House maintains that the resolution is not legally binding on the President, political analysts believe the vote signals a decline in Trump's influence. White House sources have stated that the resolution is unconstitutional and unacceptable. Meanwhile, the Trump administration is formulating a robust strategy regarding peace talks with Iran.

Preserving Public Trust in Courts is a Major Challenge Chief Justice Speaks in Russia

Moscow

The Chief Justice stated that preserving public trust in the judiciary amidst changing times has emerged as a significant challenge. In Indian courts, transparency is ensured through modern facilities such as e-filing, digital case management, and video conferencing. Notably, court judgments are being translated into 16 regional languages using artificial intelligence technology. While such technological advancements expand the scope of court operations, only the profound knowledge, integrity, and



dedication of judges can deliver quality justice. Maintaining public confidence in the administration of justice in a rapidly changing world remains a common challenge facing courts today. Against this backdrop, the Chief Justice of India participated and spoke at a dialogue between the Supreme Courts of the two nations held in Moscow, Rus-

sia. Addressing the gathering in the presence of Russian Supreme Court Justice Igor Krasnov, he remarked, "The dispensation of justice must fundamentally remain a human endeavor. While artificial intelligence can assist in gathering information and translation tasks, technology can never replace judges in the crucial task of delivering judgments. The personal dedication of judges is paramount in delivering swift and fair justice. Preserving public trust in the courts amidst changing circumstances has emerged as a major challenge."

Nirav Modi Must Pay Rs 100 Crore to Bank of India: London Court Ruling

London

Diamond merchant Nirav Modi is the man behind the Rs 13,000 crore fraud involving Punjab National Bank. He was arrested and imprisoned in London in 2019. In 2012, Modi had obtained a loan of Rs 38.9 crore from the Bank of India for his Dubai-based company, Firestar Diamond FZE. When



the bank demanded repayment, Modi's side argued that the loan agreement was legally invalid. Bank of India filed

a lawsuit in a London court regarding the matter. Rejecting the arguments put forward by Modi's side, the judge ruled that the Bank of India had the right to recover the money from him. The court ordered Nirav Modi to pay a total of Rs 100 crore—comprising the principal amount and accrued interest—to the Bank of India.

Darren Jones Announces He Will Not Run for UK Prime Minister

London

Cabinet member Darren Jones has announced that he will not contest the election to become the next Prime Minister of the UK. UK Prime Minister Starmer announced the day before yesterday that he would resign from his post; he is set to step down within a few weeks once the ruling Labour Party selects a new leader. Darren Jones, a supporter of Starmer, had been encouraged to run in the election. Andy



Burnham, the former Mayor of Greater Manchester, was elected to Parliament after winning a recent by-election and is currently a leading candidate for the premiership. It was anticipated that Darren Jones would be a rival to him. However, Jones has now announced that he will not contest the election. Consequently, Andy Burnham is poised to be elected Prime Minister unopposed. He is expected to deliver a speech next week outlining some of his economic plans.

Bombing of Crimea's Railway Bridge: Ukraine Launches Attack

Kyiv

Ukraine has announced that it carried out a drone attack on a key railway bridge in Crimea. Amid the ongoing conflict between Ukraine and Russia, this strike targeted the railway bridge with the aim of isolating the Russian-controlled Crimean Peninsula. The Ukrainian military has also struck a power plant and other critical infrastructure targets.



As Ukraine intensifies its attacks, Russian officials have been compelled to halt petrol sales to the public. It is noteworthy that last week, Ukrainian Defense Minister Mykhailo Fedorov stated, "Ukrainian forces are isolating Crimea using drones. It appears that Crimea will soon become an island. This will lead to some highly unexpected consequences for the Russians."

Embassy Advises Indians to Avoid Travel to Iran

Dubai

An interim peace agreement was signed between Iran and the United States on the 18th. Both nations have set a 60-day deadline to reach a permanent and final agreement. Although the conflict between Iran and the US has subsided to some extent, India has advised against non-essential travel to Iran. In a statement regarding this, the Indian Embassy in Tehran said, "We are continuously monitoring the prevailing security situation in Iran. We are issuing revised guidelines



taking into account the recent positive developments and improvements in the overall situation. Despite these recent developments, Indian citizens are advised to continue avoiding non-essential travel to Iran until further notice. Indian citizens currently residing in Iran, as well as those who must travel there for unavoidable reasons, are advised to exercise extreme caution and remain vigilant. They are also advised to keep track of local events through reliable sources and to follow the instructions of local authorities. All Indian citizens currently in Iran or traveling there should register their details with the Indian Embassy in Tehran as soon as possible."

Israel Deliberately Killed 20,179 Palestinian Children During the War on Gaza

UN

The United Nations has released a shocking report stating, "There is evidence that the Israeli military deliberately targeted and killed Palestinian children during the war on Gaza." The UN Commission of Inquiry investigated human rights violations and crimes—including severe physical and psychological harm inflicted upon Palestinian children by Israeli security forces—committed since the Hamas attack on Israel on October 7, 2023. In a 100-page report regarding this matter, the UN International



Commission of Inquiry stated, "At least 20,179 children were killed and 44,143 were injured due to the conflict in Gaza between October 7, 2023, and October 7, 2025. Among the fatalities, 5,031 were children under the age of five; of these, 1,029 were under one year old, and approximately 420 were infants." The Commission presented a series of serious allegations, citing irrefutable evidence regarding the deliberate targeting and killing of Palestinian children, acts of torture and inhumane or degrading treatment (including sexual and gender-based violence against children), and the targeting of critical infrastructure essential to children, such as orphanages, healthcare facilities, and educational institutions. Israel has denied these allegations.

China Ready to Work with India



Beijing yesterday by the state-run Xinhua Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, who told the Prime Minister that China is ready to work with India to implement the important consensus reached between the leaders of the two nations and to properly handle sensitive issues.

US Official: We Are Very Close to a Trade Deal with India

Washington

Speaking at an event in the US Congress organized by a foundation dedicated to the education of Indians and the Indian diaspora, Bethany Paulus Morrison, Deputy Assistant Secretary at the US State Department, said, "Bilateral trade agreement negotiations with India are underway, based on the understanding reached between President Trump and Prime Minister Modi earlier this year. 'We announced our intention to finalize a historic trade agreement last February. We are now very close to achieving that. Based on terms that are mutually beneficial, month



this trade agreement will open the Indian market—with its population of 1.4 billion—to American goods." Meanwhile, two-day trade agreement talks held in Delhi concluded yesterday. Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal described the discussions held with US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer as constructive and forward-looking. India is taking steps to reach an interim trade agreement by the 24th of next month

Elon Musk has lost his trillionaire status



Elon Musk lost his trillionaire status due to a decline in SpaceX shares on the US stock market. Following SpaceX's IPO, Musk's net worth—which had risen to \$1.32 trillion—has now dropped to approximately \$957 billion.



Allegations have arisen that an e-Seval center operating near the old Taluk office in Uthamapalayam, Theni district, is overcharging the public. It is alleged that the center collects ₹100 instead of the prescribed ₹60 from people seeking services such as the uploading of applications for income, residence, and community certificates, as well as *patta* (land record) transfers. Consequently, the public has urged the District Collector to take appropriate action.