

The BJP leadership has decided to launch a 'Service Pledge' campaign on PM Narendra Modi's birthday

NEW DELHI: To mark the completion of 25 years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's tenure in high government office, the BJP leadership has decided to launch a month-long campaign titled 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' (Pledge of Service), starting on his birthday, the 17th. Various events will also be organized to engage the younger generation. Senior BJP leader Modi, 75, served as the Chief Minister of Gujarat for 13 years—from October 2001 to May 21, 2014.

Following the victory of the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) in the 2014 Lok Sabha elections, he assumed office as the country's Prime Minister for the first

Various events are also being organized to engage the younger generation

time in late May of that year. Subsequently, the NDA alliance also emerged victorious in the 2019 and 2024 Lok Sabha elections, and Modi took office as Prime Minister for a third consecutive term. To mark the completion of a total of 25 years in leadership roles—comprising 13 years as the Chief Minister of Gujarat and 12 years as the Prime Minister—the BJP high command has decided to organize nationwide events over a one-month period starting from his birthday on the 17th, under the banner of the 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' (Service Pledge Campaign).

Speaking about this at the BJP headquarters in Delhi yesterday, the party's national leader Nitin Nabin said: "Modi, who began his journey as an ordinary party worker, is today working tirelessly as the country's Prime Minister. He has brought about qualitative changes in social life and has taken various measures to uplift the livelihoods of the people. Since the government led by Prime Minister Modi assumed office, 25 crore poor families have been lifted out of poverty. When



Modi became Prime Minister, the country's policy framework was weak, and the economy was sluggish. However, our country has now emerged as one of the fastest-growing major

economies in the world. Our country's stature and prestige on the global stage have risen.

More than 37 countries have honored Prime Minister Modi with their highest

civilian awards. These awards have been conferred in recognition of his exemplary leadership qualities. To celebrate his completion of 25 years in leadership, the BJP has planned various events spanning one month, beginning on his birthday on the 17th.

Accordingly, the 17th of this month will be observed as 'Seva Diwas' (Day of Service). Blood donation camps will be held across the country. A lamp-lighting ceremony

will take place in the evening on that day; beneficiaries of government schemes and BJP cadres will light lamps to express gratitude for Prime Minister Modi's public service.

On October 7, Prime Minister Modi completes 25 years in high-level government office. A major event will be held on that day as part of the 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' campaign. Additionally, foot marches, as well as motorcycle and bicycle rallies, will be organized in all district headquarters. From the 17th of this month until October 7, the BJP will

organize drawing and speech competitions in schools.

Chief Ministers and Union Ministers will present certificates to the winners. Health camps and awareness programs regarding government schemes will be conducted in all villages.

A 'Seva First Innovation Challenge' competition will also be held for youth, students, start-ups, industry experts, and corporate innovators. Furthermore, cleanliness drives will be carried out in all districts on October 2. Various events will be organized to engage the younger generation, educating them about the country's history, heritage, and culture. He stated this.

Chief Minister Vijay's First Overseas Trip Since Taking Office Departs for London Tonight

CHENNAI: Chief Minister Vijay is traveling to London, England, marking his first overseas trip since assuming office in Tamil Nadu. The TVK government has set a goal to transform Tamil Nadu's economy into a \$1.5 trillion economy by 2036. Consequently, the government has been planning strategically from the outset to attract industrial investments.

As part of this effort, Industries Minister Keerthana recently visited South Korea, where she held discussions with various companies, including an automobile manufacturer, and signed several Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs). Following this, a Global Investors Meet was held in Chennai on August 13, resulting in further MoUs with various companies. Government sources report



that in the more than 110 days since the TVK government took office, MoUs signed with companies have attracted investments worth ₹1,02,514 crore and created employment opportunities for 1,21,788 people. Against this backdrop, a high-level delegation led by Chief Minister Vijay is set to visit London to meet investors and invite them to invest in Tamil Nadu. Accordingly, Chief Minister Vijay will depart from Chennai for London tonight (Thursday) at around 10:00 PM.

He will travel to London via Dubai. His tour there is scheduled for September 16, and he will return to Chennai via Dubai at 8:00 AM on September 17. While participating in the investors' meeting in London, Chief Minister Vijay will invite representatives from various industrial firms and investors to set up businesses in Tamil Nadu.

Senior officials from various Tamil Nadu government departments and Public Works Minister Aadav Arjuna have

already traveled to London to make the necessary preparations. Minister Keerthana is also traveling to London. This marks the first official overseas visit undertaken by Vijay since assuming office as Chief Minister. The Assembly budget session concluded just the day before yesterday, and following that, Chief Minister Vijay has prepared for this foreign trip.

Officials are actively making arrangements at the Chennai airport for the Chief Minister's visit. There is intense competition between Tamil Nadu and other states—including Andhra Pradesh—to attract industrial investments.

The success of the industrial sector lies in attracting more investment than other states; hence, the Tamil Nadu government has intensified its efforts to secure new investments.

CPI to Contest Thattanchavadi By election Letter Submitted to Minister Anand Seeking TVK's Support

PUDUCHERRY: The Communist Party of India (CPI) is set to contest the Thattanchavadi by-election. A letter seeking support was submitted to TVK today. State Secretary Salim stated that they have also requested support from the Congress and VCK parties. The INDIA alliance in Puducherry had previously fractured due to operational issues. In the last election, Vinayagam, a candidate from the Manitham Makkal Kazhagam (MMK)—which was part of the TVK alliance—secured second place in Puducherry. Vinayagam had expressed his intention



to contest again within the TVK alliance. Additionally, the party leader, MLA Nehru, visited Delhi to meet Congress representatives; they plan to contest under the Congress party symbol. Amidst this, the CPI has decided to contest the Thattanchavadi by-election. The party's executive committee has

selected State Secretary Salim as its candidate. Consequently, Salim and other office-bearers traveled to Chennai today to seek support from TVK. When asked about this, Salim said, "The Thattanchavadi constituency in Puducherry is a CPI constituency. There was confusion regarding the

contest last time, but we are contesting the election this time. We have sought support from the Congress, VCK, and CPM parties. We submitted a letter to Minister Anand in Chennai requesting TVK's support. We will certainly contest this time with the backing of TVK, Congress, VCK, and CPM."

Union Cabinet Approves 5 Railway Line Projects Worth ₹10,021 Crore Across 5 States, Including Tamil Nadu

NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet yesterday approved five multi-tracking railway projects worth ₹10,021 crore across five states, including Tamil Nadu. A meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Modi, was held yesterday. Approval was granted for five multi-tracking railway projects involving an investment of ₹10,021 crore across 17 districts in the states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Telangana. These projects will add approximately 540 km to the Indian Railways' existing network. These projects will improve rail connectivity for around 2,121 villages, benefiting approximately 52 lakh residents living in these areas. According to the official



statement, the projects include the Arakkonam–Renigunta 3rd and 4th railway lines (77 km) and the Whitefield–Bangarapet 3rd and 4th lines (47 km). The approved projects include the Hosur–Omahur double railway line (147 km), the Salem–Karur–Dindigul double railway line (159 km), and the Secunderabad (Ghatkesar)–Kazipet line (110 km). Increasing the capacity of these railway lines will significantly improve passenger and freight

transportation. These multi-tracking projects are designed to reduce rail traffic congestion and are scheduled for completion by the year 2029–30.

These projects are set to be implemented under the Prime Minister's Gati Shakti scheme. Furthermore, rail connectivity will be improved for key tourism and spiritual sites, including Tirupati, the Tiruttani Subramanya Swamy Temple, the Tiruchanur Sri Padmavathi Thayar Temple,

the Kotilingeswarar Temple, the Sri Seethi Bhairaveswar Temple, Bangaru Tirupati, Kolar Gold Fields, Hogenakkal Falls, Hosur Fort, Mettur Dam, the Kodaikanal hill region, Sathyamangalam Wildlife Sanctuary, the Namakkal Anjaneyar Temple, Namakkal Fort, the Kalyana Pasupatheswarar Temple, Yadagirigutta Temple, Bhuvanagiri Fort, Surendrapuri, and Swarnagiri Temple. These railway lines are crucial for transporting various commodities, including coal, cement, iron and steel, containers, vehicles, food grains, petroleum products, and fertilizers.

Through capacity enhancement works on these lines, an additional 47 million tonnes of freight traffic can be handled annually.



On September 15, 2026—the 118th birth anniversary of the eminent leader Arignar Anna—senior party functionaries, including Party President M.K. Stalin, General Secretary Duraimurugan, and Treasurer T.R. Baalu, paid their respects by garlanding the statue of Arignar Anna located near Valluvar Kottam in Chennai at around 9:00 AM.

Today horoscope



You will purchase high-value items. Relatives from your spouse's side will visit you. You will guide your children onto a new path. Business will pick up momentum, leading to profits. A partner will offer support. Your performance at work will be excellent.



You will receive assistance from an expected source. You will discover your children's unique talents. You will make efforts to renovate and expand your ancestral home. Benefits will come through government-related matters. Your administrative skills will shine at the workplace. Business will flourish.



You will act with self-confidence. You will meet individuals connected to government affairs. Siblings will provide strong support. You will have your vehicle serviced or repaired. Both business and employment prospects will be excellent.



You will hold the upper hand in family matters. Old friends will approach you seeking assistance. Medical expenses related to your mother will decrease. New stock will arrive for your business. At the workplace, it is best to mind your own business and focus on your tasks.



You may experience health issues or mental fatigue. You might struggle to complete planned tasks. You will attempt to sell ancestral property, such as a house, a plot of land, or agricultural acreage. Business will yield moderate profits. It is advisable to avoid arguments at the workplace.



You will curb unnecessary expenses. Hostility with paternal relatives will fade away. Your bond with your children will strengthen. Your true worth will be recognized at the workplace. You will attract old customers by employing new strategies in your business.



You will find key solutions to long-standing issues. You will gain the friendship of prominent people. Benefits will come through government-related matters. Your mother's health will improve. You will complete tasks quickly at work and expand your business significantly.



Your words will carry more weight within the family. You will complete tasks by acting with presence of mind. Business inventory will sell out, and you will receive expected assistance. A long-sought document will be found at the workplace, and your superior will appreciate your work.



You will feel energized by a new friendship. You will undertake home expansion. You will receive help from people of different languages or faiths. Business will be brisk and profitable, and you will enjoy the support of your superior at work.



You may have to struggle to complete planned tasks. Avoid arguments in social circles. It is best to focus solely on your own work at the office. Confusion may arise in business, and travel could prove exhausting.



Those who have been searching for employment will find a job. Confusion will clear, bringing peace to the family. You will purchase electronic appliances. You will be recommended for a new position at work and will expand your business on a large scale.



You will enjoy meeting old friends and fulfill the wishes of your siblings. You will take new initiatives to expand your business, with support from your partner. At work, it is best to avoid interfering in others' affairs.

License Revoked for Unsanitary Canteen at Rajiv Gandhi Hospital

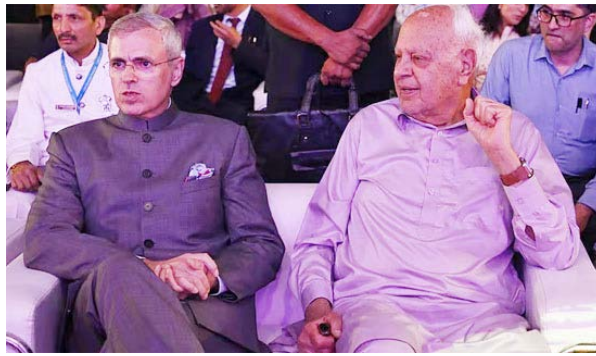


CHENNAI: The license of a canteen operating under unsanitary conditions at the Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital in Chennai has been revoked. Officials from the Chennai District Food Safety Department conducted inspections yesterday at a private canteen and a tea stall located within the Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital premises. During the inspection, the canteen was found to be unhygienic and unclean.

Consequently, prioritizing the welfare of patients, officials immediately revoked the canteen's license and prohibited further sales. Similarly, a fine of ₹15,000 was imposed on the tea stall for its lack of hygiene, and officials warned that strict action would be taken if the deficiencies were not rectified immediately.

Kashmir CM Omar supports singing the full 'Vande Mataram' song

CRITICISM: Congress need not issue directives Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has expressed support for singing the full version of the 'Vande Mataram' song. The National Conference has criticized the Congress party, stating that there is no need for them to issue any directives regarding this matter. Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and National Conference leader Farooq Abdullah, among others, attended an event held last Monday in Srinagar, the capital of Jammu and Kashmir. During the event, the



full 'Vande Mataram' song was sung with the support of both senior leaders. Meanwhile, senior Congress leader and the party's in-charge for Jammu and Kashmir, K.C. Venugopal, shared a video of the song being sung

judgment.

The National Conference should align itself with the Congress party's stance." Commenting on this, senior National Conference leader Bashir Ahmed said, "There is no need for the Congress—our alliance partner—to dictate to our party whether the 'Vande Mataram' song should be sung in its entirety or to what extent it should be sung. Senior Congress leader Venugopal has the right to express his views, but he should not impose them on alliance partners. This is a matter of the people's preference."



Colombo: Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake has assured Rajnath Singh that they will never allow their country's soil to be used for activities detrimental to India's security interests.

US Attacks Five Iranian Crude Oil Tankers



WASHINGTON: In retaliation for an attempted attack on a US warship, the United States has attacked five Iranian crude oil tankers near Kharg Island. Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) had launched ballistic missiles at a US warship on two consecutive occasions.

US President Donald Trump ordered an appropriate response to these attempted attacks. Consequently, US forces attacked five crude oil tanker ships—the *M/T Kavis*, *M/T Sharminar*, *M/T Harrison 1*, and *M/T Risco* in the Gulf of Oman, and the *M/T Derya* near Kharg Island. On September 8, US Central Command (CENTCOM) released satellite video footage

showing the destruction of these five Iranian oil tankers. It is reported that US forces warned the sailors on board the ships to evacuate prior to the attacks.

The United States has accused Iran of utilizing this shadowy shipping network to raise funds for militant groups in the region. Meanwhile, Iran's IRGC—led by Mojtaba Khamenei—has warned that a severe retaliation would follow this attack. Earlier,

on September 5, US forces had destroyed three Iranian crude oil tankers. CENTCOM

reported that US warships successfully thwarted missile attacks launched by Iranian forces and that no American personnel suffered injuries or harm.

In the meantime, the Trump administration imposed new sanctions on Tuesday targeting Iran's aviation sector. These economic sanctions have been imposed on 27 Iranian airlines and nine agents who provided services to Mahan Air. It is noteworthy that Mahan Air has been on the US sanctions list since 2011 due to allegations of providing assistance to the IRGC.

Kolathur MLA V.S. Babu Hospitalized



CHENNAI: V.S. Babu, the TVK MLA representing the Kolathur constituency, has been admitted to the hospital due to ill health. Having recently participated in the legislative assembly session, he fell ill early this morning. Reports indicate that he has been admitted to

the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) due to breathing difficulties. Doctors are closely monitoring his condition at the hospital in Aminjikarai. Supporters and members of the TVK party are taking to social media to express their wishes for his speedy recovery and return home.

Father and brother arrested for killing young woman after video with male friend went viral investigation reveals staged road accident



AHMEDABAD: Three months ago, a video showing Sophia (22)—who worked as a receptionist at a hospital in Ahmedabad, Gujarat—with a male friend went viral on social media. Believing that this had tar-

nished their family's honor and social standing, Sophia's father, Mohammed Farooq, and her elder brother, Mohammed Hafiz, hatched a plan to kill her. On the night of August 12, Hafiz concealed an iron hammer in his clothing and, accompanied by his father, took Sophia out on a two-wheeler. During the ride, Hafiz steered the vehicle onto a secluded sandy path near Keljipura village. There, he brutally struck Sophia on the head three times with the hammer, causing her to collapse in a pool of blood. They immediately moved Sophia's body to the main road and staged an accident by smashing their own two-wheeler to make it appear as though a speeding vehicle had struck them.

They then contacted the police, claiming that an uniden-

tified vehicle had rammed into the rear of their two-wheeler at high speed, causing them minor injuries while leaving Sophia critically injured. Police arrived at the scene, rescued the critically injured Sophia, and sent her to Shola Civil Hospital; however, she succumbed to her injuries the following day. A subsequent intensive police investigation brought the truth to light. Consequently, the police arrested both the father and the brother—who had killed the young woman and staged the accident—and remanded them to custody.

september 10 Kuala Lumpur 2026

72 year old Malaysian football legend marries 20 year old woman



Datuk Abdah Alif is a highly renowned name among Malaysian football fans. Having played for the national team during the "Golden Era" of Malaysian football—spanning the late 1970s and early 1980s—he has once again stepped into the limelight, this time for getting married at the age of 72. Abdah Alif was a key player for the national team during that golden era. He was part of the squad that qualified for the 1980 Moscow Olympics and holds the distinction of having played in the match where Malaysia defeated South Korea 2-1. However, despite qualifying, Abdah was unable to compete in the Olympics because Malaysia boycotted the games in protest against the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan. Now, years later, Abdah Alif is back in the headlines—not for football, but for his marriage at the age of 72. The wedding took place on August 27 in Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia. While the fact that he married at 72 is surprising, the bride's age—reportedly around 20—adds another layer of astonishment; there is said to be an age gap of approximately 52 years between the couple. Meanwhile, a former teammate of Abdah Alif has confirmed the authenticity of the wedding photos. Datuk Yunus Alif—Abdah Alif's younger brother, a former Malaysian national footballer, and a coach—has confirmed the marriage. He stated that the wedding took place on August 27th with the consent and blessings of both families. Furthermore, the family did not oppose the union despite the significant age gap; instead, Abda Alif's family happily welcomed the marriage. "Welcome to our family. Dad, we are so happy for you," he said, offering his congratulations. As soon as news of the wedding broke, the media attempted to contact Abda Alif by phone, but he reportedly did not answer the calls. When asked about this, his brother Yunus Alif explained that Abda was spending time with his new wife and that the couple was likely on their honeymoon. With the family's support behind this marriage at the age of 72, the event has become a major topic of conversation on Malaysian social media.

Uproar in the Assembly: 22 BRS MLAs Suspended



HYDERABAD: Members of the main opposition party, BRS, created a ruckus in the Telangana Legislative Assembly for the third consecutive day, pressing for demands that included addressing the death threat issued against BRS leader Chandrashekar Rao. Consequently, acting on the recommendation of Legislative Affairs Minister Sridhar Babu, Assembly Speaker Prasad Kumar ordered the suspension of 22 BRS MLAs—including the party's Working President K.T. Rama Rao—for the entire duration of the monsoon session.

DMK protest on the coming 12th

CHENNAI: A statement issued yesterday by the DMK leadership condemned Chief Minister Vijay's remarks in the Assembly, which disparaged the DMK, the late five-time Chief Minister Karunanidhi, and DMK leader Stalin (who was arrested under MISA at the age of 23). The statement noted that the Chief Minister has degraded himself into a person of low standards who resorts to crude language to evade accountability for his administration's failures. To condemn his remarks, the DMK will hold protests across revenue districts on the 12th of this month, led by district secretaries.



The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia, Mr. Gedion Timothewos arrives in New Delhi to participate in the 18th BRICS Summit – 2026 hosted by India at Terminal 3, Indira Gandhi International Airport, in New Delhi

Two Soldiers Killed in Chinese Tank Explosion in Bangladesh

CHATTOGRAM: Two Bangladeshi army soldiers have lost their lives following the explosion of a Chinese-made armored vehicle (military tank).

Yesterday, army soldiers were engaged in routine combat training at the Hathazari military base grounds in the city of Chattogram, Bangladesh. Suddenly, one of the armored vehicles exploded. Two soldiers died in the incident, and a nearby army officer sustained serious injuries.



He has been admitted to a military hospital in Dhaka for treatment.

“Devbhoomi remains vibrant with energy of culture and martyrs”

BJP’s Nitin Nabin after Haldwani temple visit



UTTARAKHAND: BJP National President Nitin Nabin and Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Thursday offered prayers and performed rituals at the Mahalaxmi Temple in Haldwani.

After the temple visit, Nabin said that he prayed for the continued strength of India’s heritage and culture, adding that Uttarakhand, known as ‘Devbhoomi’ (Land of Gods), reflects the true imprint of Indian culture.

“I prayed to God the way our heritage and culture are established across the world,

if one wishes to witness the true imprint of Indian culture, one needs only look at this ‘Devbhoomi’ (Land of Gods). This sacred land remains perpetually vibrant with energy. This is the land of martyrs. The valor of our martyrs shines brightly from this soil. We believe that this land’s energy, combined with development, trust, and the spirit of service with which we have worked here, will garner us the public’s blessings,” Nabin told reporters.

Meanwhile, the BJP National President Nitin Nabin and CM Dhami attended

the party’s Extended State Working Committee meeting at Hotel Vintage Green in Haldwani here on Wednesday.

The meeting is focused on key organisational issues, strengthening the party’s grassroots network and expanding the outreach of government welfare schemes across Uttarakhand. Senior party leaders and workers are participating in the meeting, where discussions are centred on strengthening booth-level organisation and increasing coordination among party functionaries. The BJP leadership is also deliberating on organisational priorities and strategies to further strengthen the party’s presence at the grassroots level across the state.

The meeting assumes significance as the party seeks to consolidate its organisational structure and ensure that the benefits of public welfare initiatives reach people effectively.

Worker killed in oxygen cylinder explosion in Delhi

DELHI: A worker was killed when an oxygen cylinder exploded at a private company’s warehouse in the Okhla-1 area of Southeast Delhi.

A private company operates an oxygen cylinder warehouse in Okhla-1, supplying cylinders for industrial

and hospital use. Yesterday, workers were engaged in unloading cylinders brought by a vehicle at the site. During the process, a cylinder fell from the vehicle and subsequently exploded with a loud blast. In this shocking incident, five workers

were thrown by the force of the explosion and sustained severe injuries. Tragically, one of them died on the spot, while the other four have been admitted to AIIMS Hospital for treatment. The incident caused considerable shock and commotion in the area.

Two youths injured after Ganesha idol topples

MUMBAI: Two youths were injured when a 10-foot-tall Ganesha idol, being transported in a procession by a ‘Ganpati Mandal’ group from Dharavi, Mumbai, toppled over.

The group was moving the idol from Vidyavihar to Dharavi around 9:45 PM the night before last. As the procession reached the Sheetal Talao area on LBS Road in Kurla West, the

idol—mounted on a pedestal—unexpectedly toppled and fell, sustaining damage in the process. Two youths standing nearby, Santosh (28) and Rohit (25), were injured when the idol fell.

Opportunity to share views with the Prime Minister Applications open until September 30 for ‘Viksit Bharat’ dialogue

CHENNAI: Senthil Kumar, Director (Tamil Nadu region) of the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, has announced that those interested in participating in the ‘Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue’ may apply by September 30. National Youth Day is celebrated on January 12, the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

In conjunction with this, the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports organizes the ‘Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue’ annually at the Bharat Mandapam in Delhi. Young people can directly



share innovative ideas, suggestions, and solutions with the Prime Minister regarding the goal of transforming India into a developed nation by 2047. In this context, selection processes and quiz competitions for the

event scheduled for January 2027 have commenced across the country.

Senthil Kumar, Director (Tamil Nadu and Puducherry) of the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, stated the following regarding this: The ‘Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue’ is being conducted in five stages. In the first stage, an online quiz competition, which began on September 1 on the ‘My Bharat’ portal (mybharat.gov.in), will continue until September 30.

As the second stage, an essay competition will be held online from October 5 to 19. In the third stage, the top 50 essays from each district will be selected for a

PowerPoint (PPT) presentation round. The district-level PPT presentation round will take place from November 10 to 16; this will be based on themes such as the blue economy, human resources, and global competitiveness.

In the fourth stage, the state-level ‘Viksit Bharat Dialogue’ will be held from November 17 to December 12. The national-level competition, serving as the fifth stage, will be held from January 10 to 12. Interested youths can register and participate via the ‘My Bharat’ website. So far, 70,000 youths have registered, he said.

BJP Received ₹1,473 Crore in Donations During Elections in 5 States

Including Tamil Nadu Report Filed with the Election Commission

NEW DELHI: The BJP has informed the Election Commission, through a filed report, that its central headquarters received total donations amounting to ₹1,472.8 crore during the assembly elections held in five states and union territories—Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Assam, Puducherry, and Kerala. The Election Commission has published the BJP’s expenditure

report for the assembly elections in Tamil Nadu, Assam, and Puducherry on its website. According to the report, the BJP’s bank balance stood at ₹6,722.6 crore on March 15, 2026, when election activities commenced. By the time the elections concluded on May 6, 2026, the bank balance had risen to ₹7,627.2 crore. Highest Expenditure in Assam: The BJP’s central headquarters, along with its state and district units, spent a total of ₹160 crore on the elections in Assam, Tamil Nadu, and Puducherry. Of this, the highest amounts were spent in Assam (₹96.3 crore), Tamil Nadu (₹51.6 crore), and Puducherry (₹11.9 crore). This includes an expenditure of ₹130.4 crore on party campaigning and ₹29.6 crore on advertisements.

and 105 buses on Sunday. Similarly, plans have been made to operate 200 special buses from Bengaluru, Tiruppur, Erode, and Coimbatore to various other locations.



5,400 Special Buses to Operate Starting Today for Vinayagar Chaturthi and the Weekend

CHENNAI: The Transport Corporation has announced that 5,400 special buses will be operated starting today to accommodate travel for Vinayagar Chaturthi and the weekend holidays. A statement issued by the State Express Transport Corporation (SETC) regarding this matter notes that plans have been made to run special buses in addition to the regular daily services. Accordingly, buses will be operated from Kilambakkam to destinations including Tiruvannamalai, Trichy, Kumbakonam, Madurai, Tirunelveli, Nagercoil, Kanyakumari, Thoothukudi, Coimbatore, Salem, Erode, and Tiruppur. The schedule includes 585 buses today, 1,255 buses tomorrow, 1,030 buses the day after tomorrow, and 650 buses on Sunday.

Buses will also operate from Koyambedu to Tiruvannamalai, Nagai, Velankanni, and Hosur. Buses will be operated to Bengaluru as follows: 240 buses tomorrow, another 240 the day after tomorrow, and 105 buses on Sunday. Similarly, plans have been made to operate 200 special buses from Bengaluru, Tiruppur, Erode, and Coimbatore to various other locations.



From Madhavaram, 110 special buses will be operated daily from tomorrow through Sunday to destinations including Kallakurichi, Tiruvannamalai, Trichy, Kumbakonam, Vellore, Hosur, and Puducherry. Furthermore, orders have been issued to operate 765 special buses from various locations on September 15th to facilitate the return of passengers to Chennai and Bengaluru from their hometowns, based on demand. Regarding travel during these holidays, advance bookings have been made by 8,666 passengers for today, 32,171 for tomorrow, 18,772 for the day after tomorrow, 11,177 for Sunday, and 23,740 for Monday.

operational and training establishments and interact with personnel of the Royal New Zealand Navy and officers undergoing professional military education. The visit assumes significance in the backdrop of the recently concluded Maritime Cooperation Arrangement, which provides an expanded framework for practical maritime cooperation between India and New Zealand.

India & Australia naval partnership deepens during visit of CNS Admiral Krishna Swaminathan to Sydney

AUSTRALIA: As India and Australia continue to deepen their naval partnership, Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, interacted with the Commander of the Australian Fleet and discussed opportunities for enhancing interoperability between the two navies.

The details were shared by the Spokesperson of the Indian Navy in a post on X. It said, “Adm Krishna Swaminathan, #CNS, interacted with RAdm Anita Williams, Commander Australian Fleet, #COMAUSFLT at HMAS Kuttatubul, Sydney.”

As per the post, the discussion of the leaders covered the Australian Navy’s evolving fleet capabilities and future inductions, along with opportunities for enhancing interoperability and operational interaction between the two Navies.

The Navy Spokesperson

said that the CNS was also given a familiarisation tour of HMAS Kuttatubul, covering its fleet infrastructure and operational capabilities. Earlier in a press release, the Ministry of Defence noted that the visit is aimed at further strengthening the Indian Navy’s bilateral cooperation with the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) and the Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN).

The visit to Australia builds upon the growing momentum in India & Australia relations, following the Third India & Australia Annual Summit held in July 2026 and the Second India & Australia Defence Ministers’ Dialogue held in June 2026. The two countries have continued to deepen cooperation in defence and security, including maritime security and regional cooperation.



operational and training establishments and interact with personnel of the Royal New Zealand Navy and officers undergoing professional military education. The visit assumes significance in the backdrop of the recently concluded Maritime Cooperation Arrangement, which provides an expanded framework for practical maritime cooperation between India and New Zealand.

The visit underscores India’s growing defence and maritime engagement with Australia and New Zealand and the commitment of the Indian Navy to further deepen cooperation with the Royal Australian Navy and Royal New Zealand Navy, through practical and sustained maritime engagement, contributing towards peace, security and stability in the Indo-Pacific.

The visit to New Zealand builds upon the renewed momentum in India–New Zealand relations, following the visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to New Zealand in July 2026. During the visit, India and New Zealand elevated their bilateral relationship to a Strategic Partnership and agreed to deepen cooperation across several areas, including defence and maritime security.

According to the Ministry of Defence, in New Zealand, the CNS will hold discussions with the senior leadership of the RNZN and engage with senior New Zealand defence leadership. The engagements will focus on further strengthening operational interaction, information sharing, training and professional exchanges between the two navies. The CNS will also visit key



At a meeting held in Tiruchuli to explain the Congress Party's Organizational Restructuring Plan&2, Mannai Madhialagan, AICC In&charge for Virudhunagar East District Congress, addressed the gathering. District Congress Committee President Krishnamoorthy, General Council Members Uzhakudi Selvam, Sanakar Bose and Thuraipandian, District Executive Committee Member Sivagurunathan, District Spokesperson Meenakshi Sundaram, and other party functionaries participated in the meeting.

Mayawati Expels Nephew Akash Anand from Bahujan Samaj Party

NEW DELHI: Mayawati has expelled Akash Anand from the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) today, after previously removing him from the post of National Coordinator on the 3rd of this month. Akash Anand is the son of Anand Kumar, the brother of BSP chief Mayawati.

Mayawati had accorded him significant importance within the party, designating him as her political successor and appointing him as the National Coordinator. Complications arose within the party due to differences of opinion between Mayawati and Ashok Siddharth—a former BSP MP and Akash Anand's father&in&law. This situation led to escalating friction between Akash Anand and



Mayawati. Consequently, Mayawati reduced Akash Anand's prominence within the party. She further declared that Ashok Siddharth should withdraw from politics, stating that this would be beneficial for Akash Anand's political career. While there was a lingering expectation that Ashok Siddharth would step away from politics, Mayawati announced Akash Anand's

removal from the post of National Coordinator on the 3rd. Following this development, Ashok Siddharth announced his complete withdrawal from public life. Within hours of this announcement, Mayawati issued a statement removing Akash Anand from the party. In a post on X regarding this, she stated, "Ashok Siddharth's announcement today about retiring from politics

is indeed the right move, though it comes quite late. I welcome his decision based on the principle that it is better to act late than not at all. Akash Anand has prioritized personal attachments over the party's true interests and his own political future. How can someone with a divided mind benefit the party? Therefore, he is being removed from the party immediately. I consider his removal to be in the best interest of the party members. I urge all Bahujan Samaj Party cadres to work with full dedication towards the party's goal of forming a government with an absolute majority in Uttar Pradesh." It is noteworthy that the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections are scheduled to be held next year.

Rajnath Singh Meets Sri Lankan President

Talks Held to Strengthen Bilateral Security



COLOMBO: Union Minister Rajnath Singh, currently on a three&day official visit to Sri Lanka, met with Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake in Colombo yesterday. This marks the first visit by an

Indian Defence Minister to Sri Lanka in 38 years. A statement issued by the Ministry of Defence regarding the meeting noted the following: Rajnath Singh conveyed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's congratulations to

President Dissanayake on the completion of two years of his administration. India and Sri Lanka share a bond rooted in history and civilization, akin to that of twins. Both nations have pledged to work together to ensure regional security, peace, and prosperity. President Dissanayake reiterated the assurance that Sri Lankan territory would not be permitted to be used for any activities detrimental to India's security interests. Furthermore, the President of Sri Lanka expressed gratitude for the relief assistance

provided by India under 'Operation Sagar Bandhu' during Cyclone Titli. The two leaders inaugurated, via video conference, three 'Bailey' bridges constructed by Indian security forces. Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs)—including one for upgrading the L&70 guns used by the Sri Lanka Air Force—were signed during the meeting, according to the statement. Addressing the Indian community in Colombo, Rajnath Singh stated that India would always stand firmly by Sri Lanka during difficult times.

Demand for 'Z' Category Security for Thirumavalavan

Commission Orders Tamil Nadu Government to Submit Report

CHENNAI: The Tamil Nadu Commission for the Welfare of Adi Dravidars and Scheduled Tribes has ordered the Tamil Nadu government to file a detailed report regarding a petition seeking 'Z' category security for VCK leader Thirumavalavan.

A "Tamil Nationalist Resurgence Conference" organized by the VCK was held on the 17th of last month in Ulundurpet, Villupuram district. When Thirumavalavan arrived at the conference stage, a severe crush ensued as many people surrounded him, attempting to take



selfies. As the uncontrollable crowd surged towards the stage, he experienced breathlessness and was on the verge of fainting. Consequently, he cut his speech short and immediately left the venue. Subsequently,

a complaint was lodged at the Kallakurichi District Superintendent of Police's office on behalf of the VCK, stating, "The overcrowding at the conference stage was not a natural occurrence; it appears to be a conspiracy orchestrated and instigated by certain anti&social elements." Against this backdrop, lawyers Rajendran and Napoleon from Velachery, Chennai, filed a petition with the Tamil Nadu Commission for the Welfare of Adi Dravidars and Scheduled Tribes in Chennai. Citing the incident at Ulundurpet, they requested that armed

police protection and "Z" category security be provided to Thirumavalavan. They also sought an order for a proper inquiry into the incident that occurred on the conference stage. A bench comprising Commission members Anandaraja and Ilanchezhian heard the petition and ordered the Chief Secretary of the Tamil Nadu Government, the Home Secretary, and the Superintendent of Police (Kallakurichi District) to conduct a proper inquiry into the matter and submit a detailed report regarding the actions taken by October 5.

Iran war will come to an end after the US election: President Trump

WASHINGTON: President Trump has stated that he believes the conflict involving Iran will come to an immediate end following the US elections. Speaking to reporters about this, Trump said:

"I had an excellent conversation with Russian President Putin. He wants to reach a deal; if Ukrainian President Zelenskyy also wants to reach a deal, that would be very good. However, the delay is caused by two individuals who hate each other.

Iran can no longer hold out. I believe the conflict involving Iran will end immediately after the US elections. Iran is actively trying to influence the election outcome. We have disabled nine Iranian ships; many of them were completely destroyed. I would say we were responsible for those attacks. You are going to see many more such incidents. I am working on something far greater than just a nuclear



deal; there are many aspects involved beyond nuclear issues. A nuclear deal will certainly happen—that is 99.9 percent certain. However, the nego-

tiations will now include many issues that were not even under consideration three months ago." Elections for the House of Representatives, the Senate, and various state governorships, mayoralties, and local government bodies are held midway through a president's term. These elections are scheduled for November of this year; this is what President Trump was referring to.



Chennai: Minister Adhav Arjuna, who inaugurated the Chief Minister's Trophy sports competitions, announced that a record 26.38 lakh athletes have registered for this year's events.

Nepal Floods: Death Toll Rises to 1,377

KATHMANDU: On August 26, a glacier burst near the Nepal&Tibet border in the Himalayan region triggered massive flooding in the Bhote Koshi River. This deluge caused severe damage across central and northern Nepal; the mud and silt brought by the floodwaters completely devastated infrastructure. Thousands of people were swept away in this disaster,

which shocked not only Nepal but the entire world. Many workers became trapped amidst thick mud and debris inside the tunnel of the Trishuli 3A hydroelectric project. Since then, the Nepal Army and rescue teams have been actively engaged in relief operations. Approximately 13,656 people have been rescued from the affected areas and moved to safety so

far. Meanwhile, the search continues for the 5,130 people who were swept away and remain missing. Reports indicate that more than 500 of these individuals are foreign nationals, including citizens from India. As rescue operations proceed, bodies continue to be recovered from the debris. The death toll from the floods that devastated Nepal has now risen to 1,377.

Police have stated that 102 bodies have been identified and handed over to their relatives so far. Meanwhile, 1,147 unidentified bodies are being kept in safe custody. Authorities have announced that DNA samples will be collected from the concerned relatives, and the bodies will be handed over to the families following the necessary testing procedures.

Russian planes touch down at Noida airport ahead of BRICS Summit 2026

UTTAR PRADESH: With world leaders starting to arrive in India ahead of the much&anticipated BRICS Summit over the weekend, three Russian transport aircraft were spotted touching down at the Noida International Airport.

Their arrival comes as Russian President Vladimir Putin is set to arrive in New Delhi to participate in the 18th BRICS Summit. The visit would also see a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi which is likely on Friday ahead of the multilateral event.

Earlier, Kremlin Spokesperson Dmitry Peskov detailed expectations for the high&level engagement, confirming that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hold a bilateral meeting with the Russian leader which is



likely on Friday, September 11. Speaking to reporters via a virtual briefing from Moscow, Peskov said, "We're looking forward to the President and Prime Minister having another bilateral meeting during the visit.

It is scheduled. It is scheduled for Friday, so first, like always, they will touch on the bilateral agenda. Trade and economic cooperation is a very wide scope."

Ahead of the Summit, Peskov stated that the Russian President's visit is an opportunity for the two countries

to discuss issues of bilateral relations, while also wishing India success in hosting the summit.

Elaborating further, Peskov added, "In a couple of days, President Putin will begin his India visit. You know that our two leaders, Indian and Russian leaders, are in a very close personal contact. They are very pragmatic in their relationship, and they are as sincere as to be able to discuss in a very open and constructive way the most sensitive issues of

our agenda and our bilateral relations. Of course, it opens additional horizons for our cooperation."

"We have no doubt that the summit will be successful. Russia, we are doing our best to contribute to further development of BRICS cooperation in the three main pillars of our interaction. So, those are policy and security, economy and finance, and cultural and humanitarian contexts. So, we are supporting the idea of inviting new countries to join different formats within BRICS," he noted.

India is hosting the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi on September 12&13, 2026 with the theme, "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability."

Rajnath Singh hails India&Japan defence ties as Japanese fighter jets arrive for Exercise Veer Guardian



NEW DELHI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh described Tokyo sending its fighter aircraft to participate in Exercise Veer Guardian, taking place in Jodhpur, as a "significant milestone" for India&Japan defence partnership.

In a post on X, he underlined that the maiden visit of the Japan Air Self&Defence Force (JASDF)

fighter aircraft to India reflects the growing trust and shared commitment to peace and stability in the Indo&Pacific.

He recalled the "highly productive discussions" with his Japanese counterpart in New Delhi last month, and noted how mutual exchange of visits such as Exercise Veer Guardian further strengthens this synergy.