

15 bilateral talks with key world leaders within 72 hours

NEW DELHI: On the sidelines of the BRICS summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi showcased India's diplomatic prowess on the global stage by holding 15 bilateral meetings with key world leaders within a span of 72 hours. During the 18th BRICS summit held at the Bharat Mandapam in the capital, Delhi, Prime Minister

India's diplomacy on the global stage

Modi held individual meetings with leaders from nations including Russia, China, and Iran. Key Meetings: * In his meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin, extensive discussions were held regarding raising bilateral trade to \$100 billion

by 2030, as well as cooperation in energy, defense equipment, and the peace process concerning the Ukraine conflict. * During talks with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, Modi discussed regional peace, bilateral cooperation, and ways

to de-escalate the tense situation prevailing in West Asia. * Meeting with Xi Jinping: The Prime Minister's meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping—covering border peace, the restoration of bilateral relations, and trade issues—

has drawn global attention. * Apart from these, Prime Minister Modi conducted a total of 15 bilateral meetings within 72 hours with leaders from various African and Southeast Asian nations, including Malaysia, Ethiopia,

South Africa, the Philippines, and Egypt. These meetings underscored India's continued commitment to advocating for regional peace, unhindered maritime trade, and the rights of 'Global South' nations.



The Vice-President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan graced the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Geetanagar College, formerly known as Kanya Mahavidyalaya, in Guwahati on September 06, 2026. He also inaugurated the college's new academic building.

Pride for the Nation: Murmu and Modi Congratulate Indian Women's Team on Asia Cup Victory

NEW DELHI: President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have congratulated the Indian women's cricket team for winning the Asia Cup title. At the Dubai International Cricket Stadium in Dubai, the Indian team, led by Harmanpreet Kaur, defeated Sri Lanka by 72 runs. This marks the eighth Asia Cup title victory for the Indian team. The current Women's Asia Cup tournament was



played in the T20 format. Following the Indian women's cricket team's victory, President Droupadi Mu-

rmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended their congratulations. "My heartfelt congratulations to the Indian team for winning the Women's T20 Asia Cup championship. They played excellently as a cohesive unit throughout the tournament, winning every match and bringing pride to the nation. The Indian women's cricket team serves as a great source of inspiration for the youth of our country, especially your daugh-

ters. I am confident that they will continue to script inspiring chapters through their future victories and performances," President Droupadi Murmu stated in a social media post. "A proud moment for Indian cricket. Congratulations to the Indian women's team on winning the Asia Cup. Their determination was evident throughout the tournament. This victory will inspire millions of young people," Prime Minister Modi said.

M.K. Stalin failed to raise even his own son properly

Minister Ramesh's criticism



TRICHY: Speaking at a press conference in Trichy, Minister for Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments, Ramesh, said: "One can answer questions regarding politics and ideology. However, some people seem to think that sitting at home and

spouting whatever comes to mind constitutes politics in Tamil Nadu. There is no need to respond to such things. Chief Minister Vijay is administering the government very effectively—in a manner that earns everyone's praise. The Chief Minister desires

for Tamils to excel in the field of sports on a global stage. Others may say anything merely for the sake of criticism; that is precisely why they find themselves in a position where they cannot even sit as the main opposition party (referring to the AIADMK). Holding demonstrations and protests is a democratic right; no one denies that. However, we oppose speech that is slanderous, obscene, and vulgar. It would actually be surprising if DMK members did *not* speak obscenely. That is the very DNA of the DMK. Speaking in an obsc-

ene, slanderous, and vulgar manner is the DMK's DNA; this is how all former DMK ministers have been groomed. One cannot expect the former Kolathur MLA (M.K. Stalin)—who failed to raise even his own son properly—to keep the party in good order. The Electricity Minister has clarified that the power outage issue has been resolved. There are no power cuts anywhere in Tamil Nadu, and the people are happy. Some are making allegations about power cuts merely to play politics. The public will not accept accusations made solely for political gain."

Chief Minister Vijay stands as a guiding light for all of India

Minister Sengottaiyan

ERODE: Speaking at a press conference in Erode, Minister Sengottaiyan said: The Chief Minister is formulating various schemes with great foresight. Vijay, the leader of *Tamizhaga Vetri Kazhagam*, is emerging as a historic leader and a guiding force for the entire nation.

Under the administration of this victorious leader—Tamil Nadu's permanent Chief Minister Vijay—departments are actively competing to carry out work across the



constituencies of the Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs). The Chief Minister is devising various initiatives to ensure honest



governance in Tamil Nadu. The one key point emphasized by the Chief Minister is that not a single rupee of the public's tax money will be wasted or

squandered in the execution of the government's work.

Regarding food production, we are producing food items in quantities that exceed our requirements. Measures are being taken through the respective Civil Supplies Corporations to achieve India's goal of ensuring double the amount of food required. We possess adequate stocks of grains, food products, and vegetables; therefore, there is no shortage of food items. Thus, he stated.

Vinayagar Chaturthi celebrations in full swing across the nation

grand idols installed and worshipped

CHENNAI: Lord Vinayaga, the supreme deity, incarnated on the *Chaturthi* (fourth day) of the waxing moon phase in the Tamil month of *Aavani*. This day is celebrated as Vinayagar Chaturthi. Accordingly, the festival is being celebrated with great enthusiasm across the country today (September 14, 2026).

On the occasion of Vinayagar Chaturthi, special *Abhishekam* (ritual bathing) and *Aaradhana* (worship rituals) are being performed for Lord Vinayaga in temples. Devotees from local areas are gathering in large numbers to offer prayers and seek the blessings of the deity, resulting in higher and than usual crowds at the temples today. At home, people are installing and decorating Vinayaga idols and performing *pooja* by offering the deity's favorite delicacies—such as *Kozhukattai*, *Modak*, *Laddu*, *Appam*, flattened rice (*Aval*), puffed rice (*Pori*), roasted gram, and *Sundal*—as *Naivedyam* (sacred offerings).



Similarly, grand idols are being installed and worshipped in public spaces by temples and various Hindu organizations. Approximately 100,000 Vinayaga idols are set to be installed across Tamil Nadu. In the capital city of Chennai alone, the police have granted permission for the installation and worship of 1,562 idols; installations and rituals have been underway at these locations since the morning. Around 1,500 idols are also being installed for worship in the suburbs of Chennai. At the renowned Pillaiyarpatti Sri Karpaga Vinayagar Temple, the temple doors were opened early this morning for the festival, and special *Abhishekam* and *Aaradhana* rituals were

conducted. The presiding deity, Sri Karpaga Vinayagar, is currently gracing devotees while adorned in the majestic *Raja Alankaram* (royal attire) featuring a golden *Kavasam* (armor). The *Theerthavari* ritual for Lord Ankusadevar was performed at the temple tank. A special *pooja* involving the offering of the massive *Mukkuruni Modak* to the presiding deity is scheduled for the afternoon. Devotees began gathering at dawn to worship the deity, and the crowd size increased as the day progressed. Devotees are waiting in long queues to worship Lord Vinayagar. Temple authorities and the police have implemented security measures to ensure the convenience of

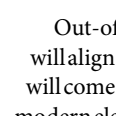
devotees and to manage crowd congestion. In observance of Vinayagar Chaturthi, police personnel have been deployed for security duties at temples and locations across the country where Vinayagar idols have been installed.

Following the worship rituals, the Vinayagar idols will be taken in processions along routes authorized by the police and subsequently immersed in water bodies. In Chennai, permission has been granted to conduct Vinayagar processions and immerse the idols along designated routes on the 19th and 20th of this month. Adequate security arrangements have been made at major water bodies across the country for this purpose. Sales of Vinayagar idols and puja materials are brisk ahead of Vinayagar Chaturthi. In particular, people are showing great interest in purchasing smaller idols for worship at home.

Today horoscope



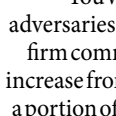
Even if the expected financial inflow does not materialize, you will manage the situation skillfully. You will work tirelessly to resolve debt-related issues. Your enthusiasm and personal charisma will increase. Children will conduct themselves responsibly.



Out-of-town travel will increase. Expenses will align with your income. New customers will come to your business. You will purchase modern electronic gadgets, electrical appliances, and household goods. Interest in spirituality will grow.



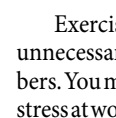
Mental stress will decrease. You will act according to a plan. Misunderstandings between husband and wife will vanish, leading to greater harmony. Auspicious events that were previously postponed will now take place. Your status and influence among relatives will rise.



You will gain the strength to overcome adversaries. You will accomplish tasks through firm communication. Financial inflow will increase from various sources, and you will save a portion of it. You will replace faulty appliances and vehicles. Patience is required in your speech.



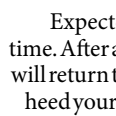
Your words will carry more weight within the family. Old properties will be sold at the expected price. You will gain the friendship of influential people and government officials, leading to benefits. You will extend help to those who seek it.



Exercise caution in your speech. Avoid unnecessary arguments with family members. You may experience intermittent stress at work. Tasks you have started will be completed with some delay. Avoid speaking harshly to anyone.



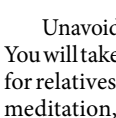
You will meet new people. Outstanding dues will be recovered. You will curb wasteful and extravagant spending and begin saving for the future. Legal matters will take a favorable turn. You will acquire new possessions.



Expected funds will reach you at the right time. After a long period, peace and happiness will return to the family. Family members will heed your advice. You will meet childhood friends.



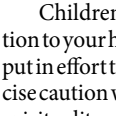
You will have to face competition and challenges. Pay close attention to your health; it is advisable to avoid outside food. Harmony between husband and wife will increase. Travel will yield benefits.



Unavoidable expenses and journeys are likely. You will take the lead in organizing special events for relatives and friends. Interest in spirituality, meditation, and yoga will grow. You will receive blessings from elders and spiritual figures.



Mental turmoil will subside. You will complete stalled tasks through your tactful communication. You will purchase modern vehicles and electronic or electrical appliances. You will acquire various types of possessions.



Children may cause some stress. Pay attention to your health. In business, you will have to put in effort to recover outstanding dues. Exercise caution while traveling by vehicle. Interest in spirituality and meditation will increase.

2027 BRICS Summit to be Held in China

NEW DELHI: A 45-page joint declaration was adopted during the first day of the BRICS summit. The declaration included various points, such as the need for strict action against terrorism, the avoidance of unilateral tariffs, and the de-escalation of nuclear tensions. Approval for this declaration was granted yesterday, on the final day of the summit. China is set to assume the BRICS presidency for 2027. During the concluding session, the BRICS presidency for 2027 was handed over to China; consequently, next year's BRICS summit will be held there. Prime Minister Modi remarked, "China is set to host the BRICS summit next year. I extend my best wishes to Chinese President Xi Jinping for this. I also thank the Chinese President for participating in the Delhi BRICS summit." An editorial published by the Chinese state-run media outlet *Global Times* stated that Chinese President Xi Jinping desires to induct new members into the BRICS bloc. To this end, he had proposed the 'BRICS Plus' initiative as early as 2013. Currently, ten nations that are friendly to the BRICS bloc have expressed their interest in joining the alliance. Various countries, including Iraq and Madagascar, also wish to join the bloc. A decision to create a 'Greater BRICS' was reached during this summit, according to the *Global Times* editorial. Pakistan is attempting to join the BRICS bloc with China's support. However, the country has not been admitted due to opposition from India. The Pahalgam terror attack was condemned during the Delhi summit. Furthermore, the joint declaration emphasizes the need for strict action against nations that support terrorism. International political observers have noted that this move is directed against Pakistan.



Cultural Banquet Featuring Traditional Indian Cuisine for World Leaders at the BRICS Summit

NEW DELHI: The BRICS Summit commenced the day before yesterday at Bharat Mandapam in Delhi. Following the day's proceedings, a grand cultural banquet was hosted for the participating world leaders, accompanied by cultural performances. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had organized this banquet to bring the leaders together. The dinners showcased India's rich cultural heritage by featuring a variety of dishes from different regions of the country, as well as popular street food delicacies from Old Delhi. Appetizers: 'Khandvi Mille-feuille'—a steamed gram flour roll infused with the aromas of mustard, coconut, and curry leaves—and 'Khumb Kalauti' (mushroom kebab) served with mint-scented Sheermal bread. Main



Courses: Paneer Lababdar; 'Kuchi Marmik' featuring Himalayan Morel mushrooms with saffron and Mamra almonds; Carrot-Beans Poriyal tempered in coconut oil (South Indian style); Tomato 'Pelle Charu'; Millet Pulao; and Beetroot Raita. Desserts: Jalebi served

with an Old Delhi-style fruit compote and mulberries; 'Shahtoot Phirni' garnished with gold leaf. Cultural Celebration: Cultural performances were also organized. A total of 160 Indian and international artists participated in the event, titled 'BRICS Symphony'.

The event was graced by dance forms such as Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi, Odissi, and Kathak, alongside the melodies of traditional musical instruments. The cultural performance was curated by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) under the Ministry of External Affairs.

Assembly Speaker Meets Governor: Discussion Held on Conclusion of Budget Session

CHENNAI: Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker JCT Prabhakar met Governor R. V. Arlekar yesterday at the Raj Bhavan in Guindy. During the meeting, the two discussed the conclusion of the Assembly's budget session. TVK, having won the Tamil Nadu Assembly election, formed the government with the support of alliance parties.

The party's leader, Vijay, assumed office as Chief Minister on May 10. The first Assembly session under the TVK government commenced on June 18 with the Governor's address.



The debate on the motion of thanks to the Governor's address was held until June 23, after which the Assembly was adjourned sine die. Subsequently, the budget session of the Tamil Nadu Assembly began on August 5. Finance Minister Maria

the replies from the two ministers.

Subsequently, the debate on department-wise demands for grants began in the Legislative Assembly on August 17th and continued until September 8th.

Against this backdrop, Assembly Speaker J.C.T. Prabhakar visited the Raj Bhavan yesterday and met Governor R. V. Arlekar. During the meeting, the two discussed the conclusion of the budget session. Governor Arlekar highly appreciated the Speaker's conduct of the proceedings and his overall performance.

Ship Capsizes in Indonesia: 6 Dead, 130 Missing



JAKARTA: A passenger ship traveling in the East Java region of Indonesia sank at sea yesterday. Six people lost their lives, and 130 are missing, while 107 have been safely rescued.

Indonesia, a Southeast Asian nation, comprises over 17,000 islands, with

passenger ship services operating between them. Yesterday, a passenger ship departed from the city of Surabaya bound for Banjarmasin, carrying a total of 234 people, including crew members and passengers. While traversing the waters off East Java, the ship sank due

to adverse weather conditions. Passengers jumped into the sea and struggled to stay afloat. Fishermen operating nearby immediately engaged in rescue efforts, successfully saving 107 people. So far, six bodies have been recovered. Indonesian national rescue teams are currently searching for the 130 individuals who remain

missing. Rescue officials stated, "Search operations are being conducted using surveillance aircraft in the area where the ship is believed to have sunk in the East Java Sea. Patrol boats and naval vessels are also searching for the missing ship." Between 2020 and 2026, a total of 111 ship accidents have occurred across Indonesia.

Union Minister Ram Mohan Naidu Inaugurates 'Pick-up Point Plaza' at Chennai Airport Built at a Cost of ₹23 Crore for Passenger Convenience



CHENNAI: Union Minister for Civil Aviation Ram Mohan Naidu inaugurated the 'Pick-up Point Plaza,' constructed at a cost of ₹23 crore to enhance passenger convenience at the Chennai airport complex. The Pick-up Point Plaza has been established on the ground floor

in front of Terminal 1 at Chennai Airport at a cost of ₹22.88 crore. Union Minister Ram Mohan Naidu inaugurated the facility yesterday via video conferencing from Delhi. Speaking on the occasion, he stated that the plaza was created with a focus on passenger convenience. It will

help streamline the movement of vehicles picking up passengers and reduce traffic congestion in the area fronting the terminal. Additionally, 15 battery-operated vehicles will be operated continuously to facilitate easy movement for passengers between the terminals and the multi-level car parking facilities. Work is also underway to provide modern trolleys in the post-security check area for the convenience of passengers. These modern trolleys will help passengers move easily with their belongings and save time. Chennai Airport Director Raja Kishore stated, "Previously, to access a rental car from Terminal

1, passengers had to travel about 600 meters to the multi-level car parking facility and then take a lift to the upper floors. Now, with taxi services available at the 'Pick-up Point Plaza' just 30 meters from Terminal 1, it will be highly beneficial for the elderly, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, and passengers traveling with children." "This area can handle approximately 5,000 'yellow-board' rental cars daily.

This initiative will reduce passenger inconvenience and streamline airport vehicular traffic. Our primary objective is to enhance passenger service," he added.

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Rajasthan Local Body Elections BJP leads in 7 municipal corporations

The BJP is leading in 7 municipal corporations in the Rajasthan local body election results. According to the election trends for Rajasthan's 10 municipal corporations, the BJP is leading in 7, the Congress in 2, and independents in 1. An average voter turnout of 73% was recorded in this election, which was held in two phases on September 9 and 11 across Rajasthan. The election determines the fate of 38,889 candidates contesting across the state. As vote counting for Rajasthan's urban local body elections takes place today (September 14), the BJP is leading in 7 municipal corporations and the Congress in 2.

A fierce contest is underway between the two major parties, with a particularly tight race in Alwar. The BJP is leading in the municipal corporations of Ajmer, Jaipur,

Bhilwara, Alwar, Udaipur, Kota, and Bikaner, while the Congress is leading in Pali and Jodhpur. Votes are being counted across 309 urban local bodies (comprising 10,167 wards) throughout the state. Since no single party has secured an absolute majority across all areas, political analysts believe that independent ward members and small regional groups will play a crucial role in the formation of municipal and corporation boards. This election is viewed as a critical grassroots level test for Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma's BJP government and for the Congress party, which is attempting to sustain the momentum gained during the recent Lok Sabha elections.

India Hosted the BRICS Summit Exceptionally Well Egyptian AI Expert Ahmed Praises the Event

NEW DELHI: Ahmed Elsharkawy, an AI expert from Egypt, has praised India for successfully hosting the BRICS summit. World leaders participating in the BRICS summit highly commended India's leadership.



Speaking about the grand event, Ahmed Elsharkawy remarked, "The BRICS Summit was organized exceptionally well. India has demonstrated outstanding leadership in organizing such a magnificent and meticulously structured event. This summit placed significant emphasis on discussions regarding cooperation and collaboration in the field of Artificial Intelligence—specifically, initiatives concerning sovereign AI."

Applications Invited for 512 Nursing Posts in Corporation Hospitals



CHENNAI: In a press release, Corporation Commissioner G.S. Sameeran stated that plans are in place to fill 512 temporary nursing vacancies across Corporation and government hospitals in Chennai. In accordance with government guidelines, candidates applying for these temporary nursing posts must be aged 50 or younger and possess a Diploma or Bachelor's degree in Nursing, along with registration with the Tamil Nadu Nursing Council. Application forms and guidelines can be downloaded from the Chennai Corporation website (www.chennai-corporation.gov.in).

Duly filled & in applications may be submitted—either in person or by post—by 5:00 PM on September 25 to the following address: City Health Officer and Member Secretary, Chennai City Health Society, Department of Public Health, 3rd Floor, Amma Maaligai, Ripon Building Complex, EVR Periyar Salai, Chennai & 600 003. This was stated in the announcement.

10 Die After Consuming Spurious Liquor in Nagaland; Calls to Repeal Prohibition Law

KOHIMA: Following the deaths of 10 people who consumed spurious liquor in Nagaland's Tuensang district, the Director General of Police has issued a stern warning across the state. The 'Nagaland Liquor Total Prohibition Act' was enacted in 1989—following demands from Christian and social organizations

seeking to reduce domestic violence and bring about social change—and came into force in 1990. Initially, the move was considered a success, backed by village councils and women's organizations. However, after 35 years, Movatoshi Longkumer, Advisor to the Nagaland Excise Department, admitted in the Legislative

Assembly that the Act has failed. It has come to light that over 500 illegal liquor outlets are operating in Kohima city alone, and that spurious liquor smuggled from the Assam border is leading to fatalities among the youth and a rise in substance abuse. It was against this backdrop that shocking news emerged regard-

ing the deaths of 10 people in Tuensang district after consuming illicit liquor. Following this, Nagaland DGP Rupin Sharma issued a stern warning, urging residents of seven districts—including Tuensang—and other areas to refrain from consuming alcohol until the situation stabilizes. Meanwhile, State Chief

Minister Neiphiu Rio has stated that the government cannot prevent individuals from drinking and that supply will continue as long as there is demand. Amidst this, there are growing calls to repeal the failed liquor prohibition law and introduce a new licensing system featuring strict regulations, including age limits.

Schoolmate Meets Prime Minister Modi Unexpectedly

Petition Seeking CBI Probe into Land Encroachment Case

MUMBAI: Askarali Vora, a schoolmate of Prime Minister Modi, met him and submitted a petition requesting a CBI inquiry into the encroachment of his land. Askarali Vora (81) studied alongside the Prime Minister at B.N. High School in Vadnagar, Gujarat.

Currently residing in the Mira Road area of Mumbai, he met the Prime Minister in person on the 8th and lodged a complaint regarding the usurpation of his land. Askarali had legally purchased a plot of land measuring 2,810 square meters in the Navghar area of Bhayandar East, Mumbai.

He has alleged that the firms 'Swayam Builders' and 'Seven Eleven Constructions' encroached upon the land by



fabricating documents. He has also alleged a link between the '7-Eleven' company and BJP MLA Narendra Mehta. A police case regarding land grabbing was registered; however, despite persistent efforts with the Revenue Department and local administrative authorities, he received no resolution. The case remains pending in court. After years of struggle, Askarali

met Prime Minister Modi in person in Delhi, explained the land-grabbing issue, and requested a CBI inquiry. Following this, the local administration has initiated a thorough investigation. Summons have been issued to representatives of the concerned construction companies, requiring them to appear in person for a hearing scheduled for the 16th.

252 Madrasas Closed in West Bengal

Notices Issued to 100 More Educational Institutions

KOLKATA: The West Bengal government has ordered the closure of 252 Madrasas and issued notices to another 100, seeking an explanation regarding their status. Thousands of Madrasas, imparting both Islamic religious education and general education, operate across West Bengal.

Allegations had arisen that the majority of these institutions were functioning without obtaining proper authorization. Consequently, a state-wide survey was ordered last June to determine the number of recognized and unrecognized Madrasas across the state. Following this, the Department of Minority Affairs and Mad-



rasah Education conducted a survey to examine aspects such as administrative structures, student enrollment, funding sources, and registration status. Speaking on this matter, Minority Affairs Minister Kudiram Tudu said, "Based on the findings, orders were issued to close 252 madrasas in the first phase. Additionally, notices seeking an explanation

have been issued to another 100 madrasas where serious irregularities were detected. If these educational institutions fail to provide evidence or valid recognition, action will be taken to close them. Currently, 2,132 madrasas are operating with valid permission in West Bengal, while the number of unauthorized madrasas stands at 2,396."

Case Filed Against A. Raja and Ma. Subramanian for Holding Protest Without Prior Permission



CHENNAI: The Saidapet police have registered a case under two sections against approximately 1,000 individuals—including DMK members A. Raja and Ma. Subramanian—for holding a protest without prior permission. DMK cadres across Tamil Nadu held protests the day before yesterday to condemn remarks

made by the Chief Minister criticizing the DMK and its late leader, M. Karunanidhi, during the recently concluded legislative assembly session. More than a thousand people participated in the protest held near the 'Kalaigal Arch' in Saidapet, Chennai, including DMK Deputy General Secretary A. Raja, South Ch-

ennai MP Thamizhachi Thangapandian, and former Minister Ma. Subramanian. During the event, A. Raja made controversial remarks criticizing the Chief Minister, which drew criticism. Meanwhile, the police had not granted permission for the protest held in Saidapet. Following this, the police have registered cases against more than a thousand participants in the protest—including DMK functionaries A. Raja and Ma. Subramanian—under two charges: unlawful assembly in violation of prohibitory orders and causing public nuisance.

West Asia conflict simmer again

Houthi's advance on Marib & Taiz as Saudi Arabia faces pressure to respond

YEMEN: The conflict in West Asia is simmering again, with fighting intensifying in Yemen as Houthi rebels advance towards Saudi-backed government-held areas, including the strategic oil- and gas-rich province of Marib and the city of Taiz, while Saudi Arabia faces growing pressure to respond. According to Al Jazeera, Houthi rebels were advancing towards government strongholds in Marib and Taiz, raising concerns over a renewed offensive. Marib has remained one of the most strategically important government-held areas in Yemen since the conflict escalated in 2015, with major army bases, oil and gas fields, a key power station and more than two million displaced people. Amid reports that the Houthis are massing forces around Marib, Yemen's government

forces have said they are prepared to defend the province against any renewed offensive. Brigadier Yahya Al-Hatemi, director of the Yemeni army's military media, told Arab News that government forces had gained significant battlefield experience during more than a decade of fighting and were ready to repel any attempt by the Houthis to advance on Marib. "The armed forces have generally become more organised, powerful and effective," Al-Hatemi said. He added, "Over the past decade, they have gained combat experience that enabled them to overcome adversity, master military tactics and identify the enemy's strengths and weaknesses." Yemeni media reported over the weekend that the Houthis had sent large num-

bers of fighters and military equipment to areas of Marib province under their control, raising fears of preparations for another offensive. The reported buildup followed major Houthi gains along Yemen's western coast, including the seizure of the Red Sea port city of Mokha and advances towards the Bab Al-Mandab area. Al-Hatemi said the Yemeni army was aware that Marib could become the Houthis' next major target. "We know that the new pressure will be directed at Marib," he said. He, however, asserted that the government forces had the strength and local support to withstand any renewed Houthi push. "However, Marib has significant military strength and divine protection. Moreover, the Houthis lack a popular support



base there. Quite the opposite: The local environment is hostile to them," Al-Hatemi said. The developments have also put Saudi Arabia in a difficult position. According to CNN, the Houthis' swift advance in Yemen and attacks on Saudi Arabia have left the Gulf kingdom with few options to respond, with each carrying high costs. The key message emanating from Riyadh is that Saudi Arabia does not want an all-out war, experts said, but the Houthis' emboldened behaviour may

nonetheless drag the Gulf state into a wider conflict. "All signs now point to a large-scale Saudi retaliation, and that likelihood is increasing by the day," Mohammed Al-Basha, an expert on Yemen and Washington, DC-based risk adviser, told CNN. Meanwhile, the wider confrontation involving Iran and the United States is continuing to affect commercial shipping through the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz. US Central Command (CENTCOM) said that as of Sunday (local time), 101 commercial vessels had been redirected by the US Navy in the strait. The United States reinstated its blockade on Iranian ports in July following the breakdown of talks between Washington and Tehran.

US Air Force officer survives '50 hours' after being shot down over Iran: CBS News

WASHINGTON: A US Air Force colonel survived nearly 50 hours behind Iranian lines after his F-15E fighter jet was shot down in April, before being rescued in an operation involving US military and intelligence personnel, according to CBS News' "60 Minutes" show.

The officer, identified by his mission call sign "Bravo" because of security concerns, was the weapons & systems officer aboard the two-seat fighter jet. The aircraft, operating under the mission call sign "Dude 44", was reported to be shot down by an "Iranian shoulder-fired missile" on April 2 during a mission near Isfahan. According to CBS News, the aircraft was conducting a strike against industrial facilities linked to Iran's drone and missile programme. Bravo and the pilot, identified as "Alpha", ejected after the aircraft was hit and became separated during the descent.

Bravo's parachute was damaged, causing him to fall at an estimated 70-100 miles per hour before landing in a mountainous desert area. He suffered injuries including a broken back, arm and shoulder.

"At one point when I looked up and saw no parachute, that was the most terrifying thing I've ever seen," Bravo told "60 Minutes" in his first public account of the incident.

"So I paused, right then, and I prayed, 'Lord, your will be done. But if I'm getting through this, I need help,'" he said.

CBS News reported that Bravo landed around five miles from Alpha and moved away from the crash site despite his injuries. He eventually climbed towards a 7,000-foot ridge line

and remained concealed in the mountainous terrain.

Alpha was rescued during a US operation several hours after the aircraft was shot down, but the rescue team was unable to locate Bravo and withdrew, according to the report. US War Secretary Pete Hegseth said he was informed of the incident after the aircraft went down and ordered preparations to locate the crew. "Whether they're alive or not, we're going to go get them," Hegseth said, according to CBS News. As per the CBS show, the search became a race against time as Iranian forces also looked for the downed US airmen. Gen. Dan Caine, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Iranian ground forces had come within a few hundred metres of Bravo.

"There was clear intent out of the Iranian ground force to come find those two guys," Caine said. Bravo was eventually able to communicate with US forces and indicate that he was injured but moving. CBS News reported that the CIA subsequently used a combination of intelligence capabilities and a deception operation to help locate him. The US military also carried out strikes against Iranian Revolutionary Guard forces near the area where Bravo was hiding before sending another rescue team, according to the CBS report. More than 90 US service members were deployed on the ground during the operation, while hundreds of personnel were involved in the air and several thousand others provided support, CBS News reported. The rescue force used search & and rescue aircraft and smaller helicopters to re-



ch Bravo in the mountainous terrain. Bravo recalled seeing the rescue team approach him as "one of the greatest moments of my life". When his rescuers reached him, he said, his response was brief, "Let's go." The operation faced another setback after two US aircraft landed on a makeshift desert airstrip and became stuck in the sand. CBS News reported that the US military later destroyed the stranded aircraft and helicopters to prevent sensitive equipment from being captured. Bravo was finally evacuated from Iran as the sun rose on Easter Sunday, approximately 50 hours after the aircraft was shot down. Reflecting on his experience, Bravo said the incident involved not only his survival but also the efforts of

those involved in the rescue.

"It's a story of the teamwork, the training, of the faith, of the decisions and the leadership to do something that will live in history as an example of what America's willing to do, in order to uphold our promise and leave no man behind," he said.

Regarding the operation, Trump had said on April 5 that the United States Military pulled off one of the most daring search & and rescue operations. He said, "WE GOT HIM! My fellow Americans, over the past several hours, the United States Military pulled off one of the most daring Search and Rescue Operations in U.S. History, for one of our incredible Crew Office Members, who also happens to be a highly respected Colonel, and who I

am thrilled to let you know is SAFE and SOUND!"

The two crew members of the F-15E Strike Eagle, the first lost to an Iranian strike in the monthlong war, had both ejected from the cockpit on April 3 after Iran's military struck their plane. The jet's pilot was quickly rescued, but its weapons systems officer could not be found, setting off an urgent search with major consequences for Trump and the war that the United States and Israel launched on February 28, as per the New York Times.

In April, Iran asserted it will "achieve complete control" of its airspace after claiming to have shot down multiple US fighter jets amid the ongoing conflict in the region, Iranian state media Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) reported, highlighting the role of its modern air defence systems in challenging US aerial operations against the Islamic Republic.

The interview comes as the Iranian and US enter the seventh month of the conflict.

From ₹1 to ₹500 Lord Vinayagar Adorned with New Currency Notes

KANCHIPURAM: The Sri Elela Singa Vinayagar Temple is located on Sannathi Street near the Kanchipuram Kamakshi Amman Temple. The temple is currently celebrating its 25th anniversary in grand style to mark Vinayagar Chaturthi. As part of the celebrations, the temple sanctum was decorated entirely with new currency



notes, ranging from ₹1, ₹2, and ₹5 to ₹500 denominations. It was reported that new currency notes worth a total of ₹25 lakh

were used for this decoration. Lord Elela Singa Vinayagar appeared before the devotees in this special, ornate attire. This was followed by a special 'Deeparadhana' (ritual offering of lights), attended by a large number of people who offered their prayers and sought the deity's blessings.

World leaders depart New Delhi following conclusion of 18th BRICS Summit

NEW DELHI: The highly successful 18th BRICS Summit hosted by India at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's extensive diplomatic engagement, encompassing active session addresses alongside 15 sit&down bilateral meetings with visiting Heads of State and government officials from Friday through late Sunday afternoon.

Following the culmination of these intensive multilateral engagements and high&level diplomatic schedules in the national capital, world leaders and high&ranking international officials departed from New Delhi, with South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, United Nations Secretary&General António Guterres, Thai Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sihasak Phuanketkeow, Philippine President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., and Belarusian Foreign Minister Maxim Ryzhenkov heading back from the capital.

The packed itinerary included multiple pull&aside discussions conducted alongside global leaders and international institutional



heads attending the BRICS sessions as well as the Outreach and BRICS Plus Dialogue segments.

Prime Minister Modi initiated his diplomatic schedule on Friday afternoon by holding discussions with Russian President Vladimir Putin at Bharat Mandapam.

The engagement preceded bilateral meetings later that evening with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and United Nations Secretary&General António Guterres. On Saturday, Prime Minister Modi commenced proceedings by hosting Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali for bilateral discussions at Hyderabad House. Subsequent consultations involved Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, Abu Dhabi

Crown Prince Sheikh Khalid bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and Vietnam Prime Minister Le Minh Hung.

Prime Minister Modi subsequently welcomed arriving BRICS member nation leaders at Bharat Mandapam ahead of official proceedings. Delegates then convened for a closed session focused on 'Inclusive Global Governance and Strengthening Multilateralism', where Prime Minister Modi delivered an address. The Prime Minister later witnessed the 'Bharat Innovates' exhibition alongside BRICS counterparts, joined the traditional family photograph session, and participated in a joint tree plantation initiative on the lawns of Bharat Mandapam. A significant bilateral meeting with Chinese President Xi Ji-

ning followed as part of the Prime Minister's itinerary. Proceedings concluded for the day as the Prime Minister hosted a gala dinner for visiting dignitaries at the venue.

On Sunday, Prime Minister Modi interacted with leaders of BRICS Partner Countries and Outreach Invitees, partook in a family photograph session, and addressed the summit session themed 'Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability: Shaping the Future for Inclusive Global Growth'.

Back&to&back bilateral sit&downs proceeded as Prime Minister Modi met Kazakhstan Prime Minister Kassym&Jomart Tokayev, Philippines President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El&Sisi, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, Burundi President Evariste Ndayishimiye, Nigerian Vice&President Kashim Shettima, and Ugandan Vice&President Jessica Alupo at Bharat Mandapam.

Amidst the bilateral sit&downs, the Prime Minister held crucial deliberations with participating leaders and institutional heads attending the broader BRICS sessions.



The Vice-President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan welcomed the Parliamentary Delegation from Seychelles headed by H.E. Azarel Ernesta, Speaker of the National Assembly of Seychelles at Parliament House, on September 03, 2026.

PM Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping Express Desire to End Ukraine War

Russian President Putin Welcomes the Move

NEW DELHI: Russia has announced that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping have expressed a willingness to assist in peace talks aimed at ending the Ukraine war, a move that Russian President Vladimir Putin has welcomed. Speaking during the BRICS summit in Delhi, Russian spokesperson Dmitry Peskov noted that the efforts undertaken by US President Donald Trump to bring the Ukraine war to a close have not yet yielded any results. Against this backdrop, the expression of interest by Modi



and Xi Jinping in ending the Ukraine war is viewed as highly significant.

Notably, the image of Modi, Xi Jinping, and Putin standing together—holding hands—on the first day of the summit served to highlight

their close relationship and unity on the global stage. President Trump had also recently spoken with Putin over the phone, urging an end to the Ukraine war. Prior to this, visits to Moscow and Kyiv by American envoys Steve Witkoff

and Jared Kushner failed to yield a resolution. As India maintains good relations with both Russia and Ukraine, it has emerged as a key bridge for peace negotiations. Ukrainian President Zelenskyy has stated that if President Putin attends the G-20 summit scheduled for December in Miami, he is prepared to participate as well and meet him in person.

It is noteworthy that if this meeting takes place, it would be the first face-to-face encounter between the two leaders since the war began.

CM Vijay extends wishes for the successful completion of all good deeds through the grace of Lord Vinayaga

CHENNAI: The Vinayaga Chaturthi festival is being celebrated with great enthusiasm across the country today (Sept. 14). On this occasion, Chief Minister Vijay has conveyed his wishes that all good deeds may be successfully accomplished through the grace of Lord Vinayaga. People are offering prayers to Lord Vinayaga through special rituals (*Abhishekam* and *Aaradhana*) in temples, as well as at *pandals* (temporary pavilions) in public spaces and

before clay idols placed in their homes. Devotees are making offerings (*Neivedyam*) such as flowers, fruits, *Kozhukkattai* (steamed dumplings), and *Sundal* (spiced legume salad). Amidst these celebrations, Chief Minister Vijay extended his greetings. Sharing his message on social media, he said:

"I convey my heartfelt wishes to everyone on the auspicious occasion of Vinayaga Chaturthi. May all good deeds initiated



on this holy day be successfully fulfilled through the grace of Lord Vinayaga; may new hopes blossom, and may happiness, peace, and prosper-

ity abound in every family. May the aspirations of the people be realized, and may all endeavors proceed on the path to success."

Historic Decision in Pallikaranai

Flyover to Replace Road Between 'Chennai One' and Kamachi Hospital

CHENNAI: A Detailed Project Report (DPR) is currently being prepared for the construction of a 2-km-long, six-lane flyover connecting the 'Chennai One' IT Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Thoraipakkam with the Kamachi Hospital junction in Pallikaranai. Officials state that removing the Radial Road at this location will facilitate the unobstructed flow of floodwaters and provide relief from flooding to residents of Ram Nagar, Velachery, and Madipakkam. Government sources note that this marks the first instance of a road being removed with environmental considerations in mind. In the future, the 2-km stretch of the Pallavaram-Thoraipakkam Radial Road between 'Chennai One' and the Kamachi Hospital junction will cease to exist as a surface road. The Pallikaranai marshland is expected to reclaim the seven hectares of land currently occupied by the road, thereby allowing floodwaters to flow freely without obstruction. A 2-km-long flyover will be constructed as a replacement. The Detailed Project Report for this

initiative is nearing completion. Highway Department sources have stated that the project aims to construct a six-lane elevated corridor starting in front of the 'Chennai One' complex in Thoraipakkam and ending 100 meters before the flyover at the Kamakshi Hospital junction.



Officials noted that the design incorporates long spans with 200-meter intervals to minimize the number of supporting pillars—each with a diameter of 2.5 meters—and estimated the construction cost alone at approximately ₹450 crore. As the project involves no land acquisition, officials stated that construction could be completed rapidly, making the corridor operational within two years;

the only requirement during construction would be traffic diversions. Currently, about 1.25 lakh vehicles use this road daily, which connects Rajiv Gandhi Salai to areas such as Velachery, Pallikaranai, Madipakkam, Keelkattalai, and GST Road. A key reason for removing the

where an existing road is being removed with environmental considerations in mind," officials said. In an interview with *The Hindu*, a retired Highways Department engineer stated that this road—along with the Pallavaram-Kundrathur Road, sections of OM and ECR, the Sholinganallur-Kudimiyam Thoppu Road, the Kodambakkam-Sriperumbudur Road, and the Chennai Bypass—was planned by the 'Chennai Metropolitan Area Traffic Study Unit' established by the CMDA. At least 15 roads were identified, and plans were drawn up. Land acquisition work was also carried out. A dedicated Chief Engineer's wing was formed during 1998–1999 to construct these roads. Regarding the 'Radial Road', he said, "It was constructed using fill materials that included construction debris and, in some places, garbage. Since we did not understand how the marshy terrain would behave, some sections subsided and required strengthening. We lacked an understanding of environmental aspects at that time."

M.K. Stalin must reprimand DMK members who speak uncivilly - Thirumavalavan

MADURAI: Speaking at a press conference in Madurai, VCK leader Thirumavalavan said: Even though the Left parties are contesting the by&election independently, support for the continuation of the TVK government will remain intact. The decision taken by the Left parties is their political right; their participation in the by&election poses no threat to the TVK alliance. The VCK will campaign in support of TVK candidates during the by&election. During protests, some



DMK members have crossed the bounds of decency and spoken uncivilly. Criticizing political opponents using vile language that insults one's own mother is unbecoming; the VCK co-

ndemns the remarks made by DMK MP A. Raja, which insulted Minister Nirmal Kumar's mother. It is concerning to see leaders from a seasoned political movement using crude language.

I wish to point out to DMK leader M.K. Stalin that the uncivil speech of DMK members will not merely work against the TVK; rather, it will shape negative public opinion against the DMK itself.

It is my request that M.K. Stalin openly reprimand those DMK members who speak uncivilly, in a manner visible to the public. The consecration ceremony (*Kudamuzhukku*) at the Madurai Meenakshi Amman Temple must be conducted in Tamil. Thus, he stated.

Indian Women's Cricket Team Refuses to Accept Asia Cup from Mohsin Naqvi

DUBAI: The Indian women's cricket team won the title in the ongoing Women's Asia Cup tournament. However, the Indian players refused to accept the winning trophy from Mohsin Naqvi, the Pakistan&based President of the Asian Cricket Council. The final match of the Women's Asia Cup took place yesterday (Sunday) at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium. The tournament was played in the T20 format, with the Indian and Sri Lankan women's teams facing off in the final. Batting first, the Indian team scored 183 runs for the loss of 5 wickets in 20 overs. Shafali Verma and Smriti Mandhana put together a 129&run partnership for the first wicket, providing an excellent start for the team. Shafali scored 68 runs off 39 balls, while Smriti scored 59 runs off 39 balls. Captain



Harmanpreet scored 14 runs, Richa Ghosh 17, Deepti Sharma 5, Kamalini 15, and Bharti 2. Chasing a target of 184 runs, the Sri Lankan team was bowled out for 111 runs in 20 overs. Captain Chamari scored 36 runs, Nilakshika Silva 22, and Vishmi 20. Consequently, India won by 72 runs. It is noteworthy that the Indian team has won the Asia Cup title for the eighth time.

For India, Shreyanka Patil took 4 wickets and Deepti Sharma took 3. Kranthi, Shafali, and Prema Rawat claimed one wicket each. Shafali was named 'Player of the Match'. A presentation ceremony was arranged following the victory. However, the Indian players refused to accept the winning trophy from Mohsin Naqvi, the Asian Cricket Council President, who is from Pakistan.

Naqvi had insisted that he would be the one to present the trophy. Ultimately, the victorious Indian team concluded the tournament empty&handed, without accepting the trophy. The Indian men's team had won the championship title in the Asia Cup tournament held last year. On that occasion, too, the Indian team did not receive the trophy for the same reason.