

# ‘Maternal Uncle’s Gold Ring’ scheme at Madurai Rajaji Government Hospital

MADURAI: Chief Minister Vijay launched the ‘Thaimaman Thanga Mothiram’ scheme—under which a one&gram gold ring is gifted to newborns—at a function held in Madurai, benefiting 128,000 children.

The TVK party had announced this initiative as an election promise, pledging to provide a one&gram gold ring to babies born in government hospitals across Tamil Nadu. Chief Minister Vijay decided to inaugurate the scheme in Madurai.

For this event, Chief Minister Vijay arrived in Madurai from Chennai on a special flight. Ministers, officials, and TVK functionaries welcomed him at the Madurai airport. Crowds of people lined the route from the airport to the Madurai Rajaji Government Hospital; the Chief Minister waved enthusiastically at them as he traveled. He then proceeded to the Madurai Rajaji Government

## Chief Minister Vijay inaugurated it



Hospital via a roadshow covering Perungudi, Mandela Nagar, Chinthamani, the Ring Road, and Karuppayurani. A large crowd—including the general public, young men, and women—gave him an enthusiastic welcome.

Subsequently, at a ceremony held in the hospital’s seminar hall, Chief Minister Vijay officially launched the ‘Thaimaman Thanga Mothiram’ scheme. He personally placed gold rings

on 25 babies born in various government hospitals across the Madurai district. In Madurai district alone, 6,400 children received the rings. Following this, he visited the maternity ward within the hospital complex and placed gold rings on 10 babies born there. He also met with pregnant women and new mothers undergoing treatment at the hospital and inquired about

their well&being. This scheme was launched today in all areas except for the Chengalpattu and Tiruppur districts—which include the Maduranthakam and Dharapuram constituencies where by&elections are being held. Starting June 22, 2026, a one&gram gold ring will be presented to every baby born in government hospitals across Tamil Nadu. A total of 128,000 gold rings have been procured for this purpose. Gold rings will be distributed to 100 babies daily at each hospital.

## Amit Shah flags off country’s first LNG train in Gujarat

Railway projects worth Rs. 1,542 crores launched



AHMEDABAD: Union Minister Amit Shah flagged off the country’s first LNG train in Gujarat yesterday. Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated railway projects worth Rs 1,542

crore at a function held in Ahmedabad, Gujarat yesterday. As part of this, he flagged off the country’s first LNG (liquefied natural gas) train from Sabarmati Railway Station. This project is a major

milestone in the ongoing efforts to promote the use of clean and alternative fuels and reduce diesel usage on Indian Railways. This train will not rely entirely on LNG. Its engine will

run on both LNG and diesel. Depending on the fuel availability, the train’s engine will switch between LNG and diesel. This will allow train services to continue uninterrupted even in situations where LNG is not available.

Under this arrangement, LNG will be able to replace 40 percent of diesel usage.

The initiative aims to reduce diesel usage and fuel costs, as well as emissions including carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides and particulate matter. Along with this new train, he also laid the foundation stone for the installation of Kavach Automatic Train Safety.



At the launch event of the ‘Thaimaman Thanga Mothiram’ (Maternal Uncle’s Gold Ring) scheme held at the Government Rajaji Hospital in Madurai, the sight of mothers from three different religions seated on the stage with their children drew significant attention.

## Vijay to Visit Madurai Meenakshi Amman Temple This Evening!

MADURAI: Chief Minister Vijay, who is launching the ‘Maternal Uncle’s Gold Ring’ scheme in Madurai, will offer prayers at the Madurai Meenakshi Amman Temple this evening. The temple’s consecration ceremony (\*Kumbabishekam\*) took place recently. Chief Minister Vijay is launching the ‘Maternal Uncle’s Gold Ring’ scheme today at the Government Rajaji Hospital in Madurai. For this purpose, he is traveling from Chennai to Madurai by a special flight

this morning. Upon arrival, he will travel by road to attend the event at the government hospital. Following this, he will inaugurate a museum. After having lunch at the Government Guest House and resting for a while, Vijay will

visit the Madurai Meenakshi Amman Temple at 5:00 PM. After completing the visit, he will return to Chennai from Madurai via a special flight. The consecration ceremony of the Meenakshi Amman Temple had taken place recently.

Allegations had arisen regarding the consecration arrangements—specifically concerning mismanagement, the failure to sprinkle holy water on devotees, a lack of basic amenities, police high-handedness, exclusive access for VIPs to view the deity, and the improper issuance of passes. However, it is noteworthy that Vijay had praised the Minister for Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments, Ramesh, for conducting the consecration ceremony successfully.

## Attempt to Demolish Mosque in Madhya Pradesh; Mob Pelts Stones at Police

BHOPAL: Officials arrived today to demolish a portion of the Shahi Mosque in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh, as part of road-widening work ahead of the upcoming Kumbh Mela. Locals staged a protest and pelted stones at the police.

The police dispersed the protesters by firing tear gas shells and resorting to a lathi-charge, an incident that caused a major stir. The BJP is in power in Madhya Pradesh, with Mohan Yadav serving as the Chief Minister. The Kumbh Mela is scheduled to be held in the state in 2028; the event takes place every 12 years. Accordingly, the 2028 Kumbh Mela—also known as the Simhashta Kumbh Mela—is set to take place on the banks of the Shipra River in Ujjain.

Preparatory work for the event has already begun. Devotees from both India and abroad are expected to attend, prompting road-widening projects. A total of 272 structures have been marked for demolition as part of this work, including a section of the ancient Shahi Mosque in Ujjain. Local residents strongly opposed this move, staging protests since last night. They argued that the mosque, which is approximately 600 years old, should not be demolished; instead,



they suggested expanding the road by removing buildings located opposite the mosque. This situation led to heightened tension. A large police force was deployed to prevent untoward incidents. Officials arrived this morning to demolish the Shahi Mosque, but members of the public staged a protest in opposition.

During the protest, stones were pelted at the police. In response, the police used tear gas and lathi-charges to disperse the protesters in self-defense. As tensions escalated, personnel from the Rapid Action Force (RAF) were immediately deployed. Consequently, a state of high tension prevails in the city of Ujjain.

## Storm Nolo; State of Emergency Declared in Hawaii

HONOLULU: A state of emergency has been declared in Hawaii due to Storm Nolo. Tropical Storm Nolo is moving rapidly towards the Hawaiian Islands.

Ahead of this powerful storm, heavy rains accompanied by strong winds are occurring. Currently situated in the central Pacific Ocean, the storm is moving south of Hawaii’s ‘Big Island.’ Consequently, the area received up to 51 cm of extreme rainfall yesterday.

This caused water levels on the roads to rise, leading to flooding and severely disrupting normal life for the public.

Although the storm is not expected to make direct landfall, a state of emergency has been declared across the island because its outer bands could cause significant devastation. Forecasts indicate rainfall of up to 16 inches and strong winds. The storm has been moving



steadily westward since this morning; therefore, the public is urged to remain vigilant. Large, potentially hazardous

waves are expected along coastal areas. People are advised to avoid beaches and areas prone to flooding.

## Today horoscope



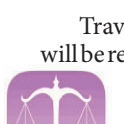
Auspicious events will be organized. Happiness will remain in the family. There will be an inflow of money. Ego problems will be resolved and closeness will increase between the couple. Children will act responsibly. An official trip will be satisfying. Your reputation at the office will increase.



You will visit the temple of the family deity with family members. Your children will behave responsibly. The emotional turmoil caused by your in-laws will be resolved. Your broken vehicle will be repaired. Your business and career will prosper.



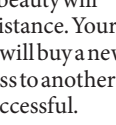
You will get money where you asked. Confusion will be removed and clarity will arise. Happiness will prevail in the outer circle. Postponed auspicious events will be completed. There will be peace in the office. You will attract customers by using new strategies in business.



Traveling abroad will be favorable. Delayed matters will be resolved in a good manner. Those who have been waiting for applications will get a job in a good company. Business will pick up. Partners will support. Maintain peace in the office.



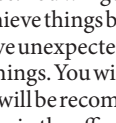
New endeavors will be successful. There will be happiness at home. Your reputation among friends will increase. You will meet celebrities. Your anger will decrease. You will succeed in business by using new strategies. There will be no arguments in the office.



You will be able to work more actively after getting rid of fatigue. Your facial beauty will increase. You will get bank loan assistance. Your siblings will be helpful. Some of you will buy a new vehicle. You will move your business to another location. Your career will be successful.



You will complete challenging matters in a normal manner. Wealth and influence will increase. You will win in competitions and debates. You will benefit from important personalities. Office superiors will give important advice. Business will boom.



You will gain confidence. You will get help where you ask. You will achieve things by speaking tactfully. You will receive unexpected money. You will buy expensive things. You will make profits in business. You will be recommended for a new position in the office.



## Students protest on LPU campus over rumours of sexual assault of student in Punjab

PUNJAB: The news of a female student being sexually assaulted at Lovely Professional University (LPU), a popular private university in Punjab, has spread like wildfire.

This led to a protest by the students. The enraged students resorted to violence on the campus. Classroom mirrors and flower pots were broken and some items were set on fire. The students blocked the Jalandhar & Bhagwara National Highway and staged a protest.

This led to heavy traffic congestion in the area. Police personnel led by Kapurthala Senior Superintendent of Police Gaurav Doora and Jalandhar DIG Naveen Singla immediately rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

The LPU administration has repeatedly denied this as false information. It has been alleged that the violence was caused by a rumor spread by some anti-social elements on social media to tarnish the reputation of the university. Currently, talks are underway between the students and the university administration.

## "Good news will come soon regarding the government OTT platform" Minister Rajmohan assures

CHENNAI: The 6th Annual General Meeting of the Tamil Film Producers Association is being held at Vadapalani, Chennai. Chief Minister Rajmohan attended the event as the chief guest. Producers of notable and notable Tamil films released from October last year to September this year were honoured.

They were presented with an ash and a medal. The event was attended by Khushbu Sundar, Soundarya Rajinikanth, Vijay Antony, Kannan Ravi, President of the Tamil Film Producers Association G.K.M. Tamil Kumaran, Joint Secretary Sujatha Vijayakumar, current Producers Association executives and executive



committee members.

The administrators submitted a petition containing the demands made in the general committee to Chief Minister Rajmohan. Later, while speaking, he said, "I am also a part of this cinema family."

The government has sp-

ecial attention for the cinema industry. Only those who come from there will become the Chief Minister. From now on, Tamil Nadu government awards will be presented every year.

"Small budget films will be given priority. There will

be good news soon about the government setting up an OTT platform for Tamil films. We will all sit down and have a three-way dialogue on this.

We will talk about this after the by-elections are over," he said. Earlier, a petition containing various demands including "removal of 4 percent internal entertainment tax.

Release of pending grants for small & scale films, increase of the current grant of Rs. 7 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh, creation of an OTT platform exclusively for small & scale Tamil films and bringing them to the audience" was submitted to Minister Rajmohan.

## Iran military warns of disaster for US if it attacks again

TEHRAN: The Iranian military has warned that a retaliatory attack on Iran would result in disaster for the United States.

The war between the United States and Iran has been ongoing since February 28. Currently, both countries have temporarily stopped attacking. In this context, Iran proposed a 7-day ceasefire plan the day before yesterday. US President Donald Trump rejected this. Information has emerged that the US military is planning to launch a major retaliatory attack

on Iran in November. In this context, Iranian military spokesman Mohammad Akramian said yesterday: This difficult situation exists in the West Asian region. The risk of a major war resurfacing in this region has arisen. The Iranian military is fully prepared to confront the enemy's (America's) attacks. A retaliatory attack on Iran would be disastrous for the enemy (America). America's main goal is to protect Israel. For this reason, American military bases have been established in the Gulf countries. These

bases will never contribute to the security of Muslim countries.

All US military bases in the Gulf region must be closed. Only then will there be permanent peace in the region. More than 25,000 airstrikes have been carried out on Iran so far. We have decisively repelled these attacks. This was stated by Mohammad Akraminiya. Iranian naval officials said yesterday: The US Navy is planning to launch attacks in the Strait of Hormuz using unmanned submarines. We rec-



ently seized a U.S. Remus 600-class submarine. Last Sunday, we seized another submarine of the same type. The Strait of Hormuz belongs to Iran. No vessel can pass through the strait without our permission. This is what Iranian naval officers said.

## Complaint of Rs 100 crore collection from private schools: Raids at the homes of relatives of DMK leader 30 documents, including bank transactions, seized

CHENNAI: Private Schools Association Secretary Ilangothar had filed a complaint with the Chennai Police Commissionerate alleging that during the DMK government (2021 & 26), private schools were cheated by collecting money on the pretext of obtaining various government permits, including permanent recognition, upgrading of the quality of schools, and DTCP permits. In this case, DMK leader P.D. Arasakumar, who was a member of the Chennai Salikramathi and the president of the Tamil Nadu Private Schools Association, was arrested on June 27. He was later remanded in custody under the Prevention of Gangsters Act. Two others, Suresh and Raja, who were associated with him, were arrested. It was revealed that complaints were received from 177 private schools and that more than Rs. 100 crore

was collected and defrauded. 20 bank accounts belonging to the main accused, Arasa Kumar and his family, and 29 bank accounts belonging to Muthukumar, a close friend of fugitive former minister Anbil Mahesh and a prominent DMK leader, were identified and the financial transactions that took place in them were also examined. A case has also been registered against Anbil Mahesh under the Prevention of Corruption Act. On the 16th, the police conducted raids at a total of 9 places in Chennai and Trichy, including places belonging to him and places associated with his assistants. At that time, 118 documents, 18 cell phones, 3 laptops, 8 pen drives, 2 hard disks, a tablet and an Apple iPad were seized in connection with the case. On August 18, Anbil Mahesh was interrogated for 8 hours at the Central Crime Branch office

at the Commissioner of Police's Office in Vepery, Chennai. All the answers he gave were recorded verbally, in writing and on video.

Following this, the police conducted several rounds of interrogations of Arul Murugan, the Joint Director of the Department of School Education, who was Anbil Mahesh's former special assistant, and his friend and assistant Valadi Karthik, a resident of Lalgudi, Trichy district. In this case, Anbil Mahesh's close friend Muthukumar is the accused. Since he continues to be absconding, police lookout notices have been issued at all airports to prevent him from fleeing the country. In this situation, the police investigation revealed that Muthukumar was involved in money transactions by claiming to obtain government approvals from private school administrators through an

establishment called Global 360 Degrees, which he ran in Chennai's T. Nagar, and that his relative Saravanan was involved in this.

Following this, the Chennai Central Crime Branch police conducted raids at the homes of Muthukumar's relatives, Saravanan and Ramesh. Accordingly, the day before yesterday (26th), searches were conducted simultaneously at four locations: the houses of Saravanan and Ramesh in D. Kummathur, Kallakurichi district, and the house and shop of Gokulakrishnan in Kallakurichi. During the lengthy search, a total of 30 documents were seized, including documents believed to be related to bank transactions and money transfers. Police have intensified their investigation by examining these documents and the bank details, checks, and electronic devices collected from them.



Karaikudi: Former Union Minister P. Chidambaram urged that a case be registered against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and that he be arrested in connection with the theft of votes.

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## Vaigai Dam Runs Dry... Risk of Severe Drinking Water Shortage Across 5 Districts

Sea surface temperatures in the Pacific Ocean have risen by 2°C or more above normal levels. This has triggered drastic changes in weather and climatic conditions worldwide. Tamil Nadu has also been severely affected by this shift this year. The Cauvery River is dry in the Delta region, and the Vaigai River in the south has also dried up. The situation at the Vaigai Dam is particularly critical. If this persists, there is a looming risk of severe drinking water shortages across five districts: Theni, Madurai, Dindigul, Sivaganga, and Ramanathapuram. Water levels at the Vaigai Dam in Theni district have plummeted alarmingly. Insufficient rainfall in the dam's catchment areas—specifically Varusanadu, Meghamalai, and Mullaperiyar—has resulted in inadequate water inflow. Consequently, the water level gradually dropped, falling to 20.51 feet by May 29 and effectively running dry. As a result, the release of water from the dam for drinking purposes was halted. Subsequently, 350 cubic feet of water per second (cusecs) was released from the Mullaperiyar Dam. This led to a modest inflow into the Vaigai Dam, enabling the supply of 71 cusecs of water for the Andipatti-Sedapatti combined drinking water scheme and to meet the drinking water needs of Theni and Madurai. However, the Mullaperiyar Dam did not fill up this year, as Kerala also received insufficient rainfall. Due to the very low inflow into the Mullaperiyar Dam, the volume of water released from it was reduced to 400 cusecs. Meanwhile, the limited water available was allocated for drinking water supplies to Gudalur, Cumbum, and Madurai. For the past few months, there has been absolutely no inflow of water from the Mullaperiyar River into the Vaigai Dam. Consequently, the dam's water level—which stood at 42.45 feet—has gradually declined, reaching 42.09 feet on Sunday. From this reserve, 82 cubic feet of water per second is being supplied daily for the Andipatti-Sedapatti combined drinking water scheme and for the drinking water needs of Theni and Madurai. A critical situation has arisen where, if this trend continues, drinking water can be supplied for only one more month. Current water levels of dams in Theni district: Mullaperiyar Dam: Full height - 152 ft | Water level - 117.35 ft | Inflow - 131 cubic feet/sec | Discharge - 400 cubic feet/sec. Vaigai Dam: Full height - 71 ft | Water level - 42.09 ft | Inflow - Nil | Discharge - 86 cubic feet/sec. Manjalaru Dam: Full height - 57 ft | Water level - 26.10 ft | Inflow - Nil | Discharge - Nil. Sothupparai Dam: Full height - 126.28 ft | Water level - 68.56 ft | Inflow - 1 cubic foot/sec | Discharge - 3 cubic feet/sec. Shanmuganadhi Dam: Full height - 52.55 ft | Water level - 26.25 ft | Inflow - Nil | Discharge - Nil. A complete lack of water inflow is observed across all five dams in Theni district. The Vaigai River will come back to life only if there is good rainfall in the Varusanadu and Meghamalai regions. The public is in distress due to the alarming state of the Vaigai Dam. If there is insufficient rainfall this year, the southern districts will face a severe water crisis in the coming summer; furthermore, a critical situation could arise where agriculture becomes impossible.



## A battery bus for 3 minutes in Tirumala

TIRUMALAI: There are no auto facilities in Tirumalai. Devotees rely on taxis and free battery buses. The current 18 free battery buses are not enough.

Reliance Industries donated 25 battery buses and Bharat Biotech Foundation donated 7 battery buses.

This was launched by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu during the last Brahmotsavam. These will come into use after the relevant documents are received. At that time, 50 battery buses were to be operated in Tirumala every 3 minutes.



The Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah addresses the inaugural ceremony of centenary year celebrations commemorating birth anniversary of former VHP president Ashok Singhal, in New Delhi

# PM’s visit: BJP plans to give a rousing welcome

CHENNAI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to inaugurate the metro rail service on the Poonthamally&Vadapalani route on October 11. Following that, he will travel by metro from Poonthamally to Porur.

Later, the Prime Minister will visit the IIT Chennai campus, where he will dedicate the new Vellore Airport and various national highway projects to the nation at a government function, and lay the foundation stone for new projects.

The Prime Minister will



offer darshan at the Jalandeswarar Temple located on the IIT campus. The Prime Minister will conclude the IIT events and participate in an event at the Nandambakkam Trade Center. Elaborate arrangements

are being made by the Tamil Nadu BJP to welcome the Prime Minister to Chennai. The BJP has planned to welcome the Prime Minister with cultural programs along the route from Porur to the IIT campus.

# Unfazed by the loss of 118 sovereigns of gold, famous YouTuber back to making ‘Reels’ while showering in cash

,KANYAKUMARI: A sensation was caused in Nagercoil, Kanyakumari district, when 118 sovereigns of gold jewelry, diamond ornaments, and ₹50,000 in cash were stolen from the home of a popular female YouTuber.

However, just days after the burglary, she has sparked a debate on social media by posting new ‘Reels’ videos in which she is seen tossing around lakhs of rupees. Vinothkumar is a businessman from the Thammathukonam area of Nagercoil; his wife is Madhumitha, and the couple has a daughter. They had been regularly posting videos on social media showcasing their gold jewelry and piles of cash, proudly declaring, “We buy gold every month; you should buy it too.” Observing this, unidentified individuals broke into their home on the night of the 24th—while the family

was out visiting a textile shop—and stole jewelry worth approximately ₹1 crore.



The Rajakkamangalam police have registered a case and formed three special teams to apprehend the culprits and conduct an intensive investigation. Despite such a major theft and the ongoing police investigation at her home, Madhumitha has not abandoned her passion for making ‘Reels’. Within just a few days of the burglary, she uploaded six new ‘Reels’ videos to social media. In these new videos, she is

seen showering lakhs of rupees over her child and onto the bed, creating scenes that depict her “bathing in a rain of money.”

This bizarre move has set a record, with the number of views on his videos surpassing 3 million in a single day; his follower count has also risen to 450,000. Netizens are criticizing him for flaunting money and posting Reels again without showing any signs of worry or fear, even after the theft of 118 sovereigns of gold jewelry. Heated debates have erupted online, with people asking, “Is this the very reason the theft occurred—hasn’t he learned his lesson yet?” and questioning whether he is doing this merely as a publicity stunt to garner views. Meanwhile, the police have included these Reels videos in their investigation, as the burglars might have monitored his home through his social media pages.

# Body of Hindu man recovered from drum floating in canal in Bangladesh

DHAKA: The discovery of the body of a Hindu convert from a drum floating in a canal in Bangladesh has caused widespread shock.

After the change of regime in our neighboring country Bangladesh, incidents of attacks against the Hindu minority have continued. In this situation, a blue drum was found floating in a canal in the Begunbari area of Mymensingh district of Bangladesh. Seeing this, the people of Allur informed the police. The police went to the scene, recovered the drum and inspected it.



Then, the police were shocked to find a male body inside. In his trousers, there was a token issued by the Mymensingh Hindu Cooperative Credit Society. The police were able to identify the deceased. The owner of a jewelry shop. Accordingly, it was revealed that he was 50&-year-old Niranjana

Chandra Sutradar, a resident of Atharbari Building, Mymensingh District, and that he ran a jewelry shop. Following this, his wife and son confirmed his identity. Sharp weapon injury Niranjana’s head and chest were found to have been cut with a sharp weapon, leading the police to suspect that he was murdered and his body was stuffed in a drum and thrown into the canal. The police have registered a case in this regard and are conducting a thorough investigation.

# ‘Let’s create a drug-free Tamil Nadu’ awareness campaign on behalf of TAVEGA: Bicycle rally from Tarapuram to Madhurantakam

## Many people, including ministers, participated

TARAPURAM: An awareness cycle rally titled ‘Let’s create a drug-free Tamil Nadu’ was launched in Tarapuram on behalf of TAVEGA with the aim of preventing and eradicating drug abuse in Tamil Nadu and promoting a healthy lifestyle among youth and students.

At the inaugural ceremony, Ministers N. Anand, Arun Raj and Parvez joined in the celebrations, waved flags, and started the bicycle rally and cycled.

This awareness cycle rally, which has started in Tarapuram, will pass through various important districts and reach Madhurantakam block. Along the way,

awareness pamphlets will be distributed to the general public about the ills caused by drugs and their social impact.

Speaking about this, Minister

Arunraj said: ‘To defend democracy, create a drug-free Tamil Nadu, ensure the safety of women and create democratic awareness among the general public, a bicycle rally is being held in Dharpuram on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Women’s Union.

India’s greatest glory is democracy. It is the duty of every citizen to defend and protect the dignity of that democracy. Since we lost the chance of winning the Tarapuram constituency in the last election, this cycle rally was organized to create political and democratic awareness



among the people of this constituency and to involve them in this revolution for change. This rally is not just for election or any other purpose; the main objective of this cycle rally is to continue to instill democratic

values and awareness among the people. This was stated by Minister Arunraj. A large number of Thaweka party workers, youth and the general public participated in the event and created awareness by cycling.

# 30day recharge plan Raghav Satta thanks the government



NEW DELHI: Rajya Sabha MP Raghav Chadha has expressed his gratitude to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for accepting his request and announcing new recharge plans with a validity of 30 days instead of 28 days.

Raghav Satta said: These 30&-day recharge plans, introduced under the new Telecom Consumer Protection (13th Amendment) Rules, will offer a number of facilities to the prepaid mobile customers as per their preferences. This will be particularly beneficial for those who only use voice calls and SMS services, and for consumers on a low budget who do not need data.

Earlier, consumers had to recharge once every 28 days, which meant that they had to recharge 13 times a year. With these new 30&-day plans, the number of recharges per year will be reduced from 13 to 12. I am grateful to the Central Government and TRAI for taking action on my voice in Parliament. Raghav Chadha said.

# TVKMLA who won by a single vote High Court’s decisive order in former DMK Minister Periyakaruppan’s case



CHENNAI: The Madras High Court has dismissed the election petition filed by former DMK Minister Periyakaruppan, which sought to declare void the victory of TVK candidate Srinivasa Sethupathi in the Tiruppathur constituency of Sivaganga district. The High Court dismissed the case after accepting the counter&-affidavit filed by Srinivasa Sethupathi. Former Minister Periyakaruppan contested on behalf of the DMK in the Tiruppathur Assembly constituency of Sivaganga district. Srinivasa Sethupathi entered the fray as the candidate for the Tamizhaga Vetti Kazhagam (TVK). In the contest, while former Minister Periyakaruppan secured 83,364 votes, TVK candidate Srinivasa Sethupathi won by securing 83,365 votes; effectively, Srinivasa Sethupathi clinched victory by a margin of just one vote. As the margin was extremely narrow, the election result sparked controversy. Consequently, Periyakaruppan filed an election petition in the Madras High Court. He alleged that a postal vote meant for his constituency had been erroneously sent to a different Tiruppathur constituency and that the election outcome was affected because that vote was not included in his constituency’s tally. Srinivasa Sethupathi filed a counter&-affidavit in response. After hearing the matter, the Madras High Court accepted Srinivasa Sethupathi’s counter&-affidavit and dismissed the election petition filed by Periyakaruppan.

# Jem Veeramani sex case Couple remanded in custody after police custody investigation ends



CHENNAI: Shanthi and her husband Mahendra Simmon, who were taken into police custody and questioned in the Gem Veeramani sexual assault case, have been remanded in custody.

Gem Granite owner Veeramani, his accomplice Shanthi, her husband Mahendra

Simmon, and Veeramani’s assistant Ganesan were arrested for sexually abusing minors. Among them, Shanthi and Mahendra Simmon were taken into custody by the police for 3 days and interrogated. Both were interrogated day and night for 3 days. At that

time, various questions were asked, including how many girls were affected by Veeramani? How long had this crime been going on? Who was connected to whom? Were there any party, community leaders, or police officers behind it?

The police recorded the statements given by both of them in writing and on video. In this situation, the police custody of the two ended yesterday evening and they were produced before Judge Padma and remanded in custody at the Puzhal jail by the police. Police said that some others were also awarded medals based on their statements.



The cricket match scheduled to be held at the Karogi Sports Park Stadium in Nishin City was cancelled due to rain. Despite the cancellation, the Indian team qualified for the semi-finals. The Indian team will play its semi-final match on the 1st of the coming month.

# 56 people killed, 1000 houses damaged in 60hour continuous rain in UP

LUCKNOW: 56 people died due to continuous rains that lasted for 60 hours in Uttar Pradesh.

Heavy rains began to lash Uttar Pradesh on Saturday due to a low&-pressure area. More than 32 districts, including Sitapur, Lakhimpur Kheri, Balarampur, Gorakhpur and Ayodhya, received heavy rain. The entire state had been receiving continuous rain for more than 60 hours till yesterday. Heavy rains have claimed 56 lives across Uttar Pradesh, with the highest number of deaths reported in Sitapur, with 7 people killed. The districts of Lakhimpur Kheri, Balarampur, Ayodhya and Gorakhpur were the worst&-hit. At least 46 people were injured across the state due to house collapses, uprooted trees and elect-



ric poles. More than 1,000 houses were damaged. 107 pedestrians also died due to heavy rains.

Rivers including Ganga, Yamuna, Kagra, Rapti, Kandak, Son and Jico are flowing above the danger mark. Due to this, a flood alert has been issued for people in 32 districts. Several cities, including the capital Lucknow, are submerged in water. National highways and expressways have been severely damaged by the floods.

Meteorologists say, “Due to the El Nino effect, Uttar Pradesh is receiving unusually heavy rainfall. Compared to last year, rainfall has increased by 90 to 73 percent.”

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has ordered a war&-time relief operation in the rain&-affected areas. Soldiers from the National and State Disaster Response Force (NDRF) across the state are working day and night to carry out rescue operations.



New Delhi: A branch of TVK, the ruling party of Tamil Nadu, has been launched in the state of West Bengal. Plans are also in place to expand the party by establishing branches in other districts of the state.

## ‘Multi level Car Parking’ Project

# Amma Unavagam and Passenger Shelter Demolished in Kodaikanal



PALANI: As the first phase of a ‘multi-level car parking’ project, the municipality has begun demolishing the Amma Unavagam and a passenger shelter in the Kalai-

arangam area of Kodaikanal. To alleviate traffic congestion in Kodaikanal (Dindigul district), the municipality plans to construct a multi-level car parking facility capable of ac-

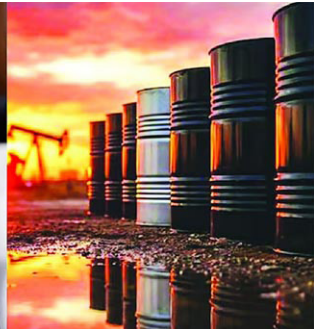
commodating 450 vehicles, along with a commercial complex, on a 2.5-acre site in the Kalaia-rangam area. Consequently, the municipal administration has initiated the process of acquiring the necessary land. Currently, over a hundred traders operate shops in the Kalaiarangam area. This project threatens the livelihoods of many traders.

They have been consistently demanding that alternative premises be provided to them before the shops are vacated and the land is acquired. A few days ago, the traders staged a shop & closure protest to press their demands. However, disregarding the traders’ opposition and without providing alternative locations, the demolition of the Amma Unavagam and the passenger shelter in the Kalaiarangam area is proceeding rapidly. Similarly, the felling and removal of trees in the area is also underway in full swing.

# Crude oil prices set to plummet – President Trump

CHENNAI: The Strait of Hormuz is a vital maritime route for global crude oil transport. This strait had been effectively closed since last February due to the threat of conflict between the US and Iran.

This situation led to a severe global fuel shortage, raising the possibility of declaring a fuel emergency. Negotiations are ongoing between Iran and the US regarding the reopening of



the Strait of Hormuz. The conflict will end soon once Iran capitulates. Upon Iran’s surrender, crude oil prices are set to plummet. Prices of

all commodities are lower under my administration compared to Joe Biden’s tenure. Fuel costs have decreased. Poverty levels in our

country are at an all-time low. The best employment statistics in the nation’s history have just been released. More people are employed today than ever before. We have an excellent administration; poverty is at a historic low, and there has been an improvement in per capita income. People are earning more money than ever before. This is what he stated.

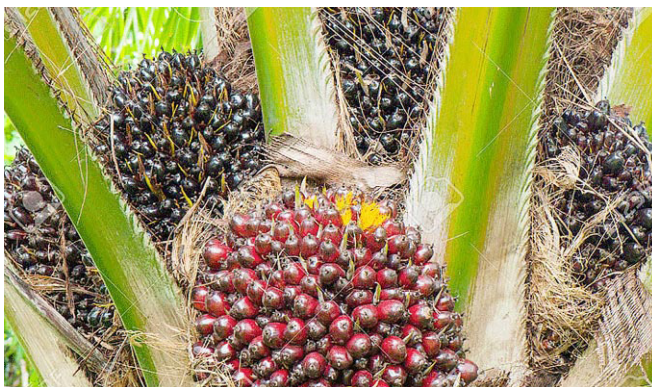
## Impact of Oil Palm Scheme: Palm Oil Production in Tamil Nadu Rises to 10,000 Tonnes

CHENNAI: Godrej Agrovet has announced that palm oil production in Tamil Nadu has risen to 10,000 tonnes, driven by the oil palm scheme currently being actively implemented in the state. Company officials stated the following: “The country imports 96 percent of its palm oil requirements.

The National Oil Palm Scheme was launched in 2022 to encourage domestic oil palm cultivation. Until 2018, oil palm cultivation was significant in Tamil Nadu.

However, Cyclone Gaja damaged a large number of oil palm trees, leading to a drastic reduction in the cultivation area. A subsequent decline in palm oil prices further slowed down cultivation efforts. Currently, the oil palm scheme is being vigorously implemented in the state.

Godrej is cultivating oil palm on over 2,000 hectares across 10 districts. Additionally, Patanjali is involved in production and procurement



in the Coimbatore, Theni, and Salem districts, while Vaidehi operates in the Vellore and Tiruvannamalai districts. A processing plant that extracts

oil from palm fruits operates at Eechangottai, near Thanjavur; the entire oil palm harvest from Tamil Nadu is processed here.”

# 3year old girl dies after falling into 200 foot deep borewell

CHANDIGARH: A 3-year-old girl who fell into a 200-foot-deep borewell in Faridabad, Haryana, was safely rescued after a 10-hour operation. However, she passed away despite medical treatment. The 3-year-old girl accid-

entally fell into the borewell while playing on a tractor parked nearby. The incident occurred around 6:00 PM yesterday (September 27); the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) was informed at 7:45 PM and rushed to the scene by

9:05 PM.

They carried out rescue operations in coordination with the Haryana state rescue team, police, and fire department personnel. After a 10-hour effort, the girl was rescued at 3:50 AM today (September 28) and

sent for medical treatment. Doctors reported that she passed away while undergoing treatment. The fact that the child died despite being rescued alive after a 10-hour ordeal has left her parents and relatives devastated.

# “CM Vijay has a special concern for the people of Madurai”



## Minister Nirmal Kumar

MADURAI: Law Minister Nirmal Kumar stated, “It is because of his special concern for the people of Madurai that Chief Minister Vijay is launching the ‘Thaimaman Thanga Mothiram’ (Maternal Uncle’s Gold Ring) scheme here.” Speaking to reporters after ins-

pecting the arrangements for the scheme’s launch ceremony at the Government Rajaji Hospital in Madurai, he said: “The Chief Minister, who has won the affection of the people of Madurai, is visiting here as their brother. It was the Chief Minister’s wish to launch this scheme in Madurai. Arrangements have been made to ensure that the public and

patients face no inconvenience during the Chief Minister’s visit. While banners are usually displayed at events attended by the Chief Minister, no banners or flags have been put up along the routes he is taking in Madurai; arrangements have been made with the safety of the public as the sole priority. Measures have been taken to ensure that the hospital’s routine operations and the patients are not affected. Ambulance traffic continues without disruption.

Only a limited number of

people have been permitted inside the venue where the function is taking place; the participants are primarily the beneficiaries. A sum of ₹2,000 crore has been allocated for the underground drainage project in Madurai. Funds have also been allocated for the long-pending cancer hospital project. A search is underway for a site spanning approximately 15 acres to establish a ‘Law School of Excellence’ in Madurai. Many more such projects are set to come to Madurai.”

## Haryana: 6 killed after 3 storey building collapses

AMBALA: Six people died after a three-story building collapsed in Haryana. A three-story building was under construction in Dhulkot village, Ambala, Haryana.

It suddenly collapsed while workers were on duty. More than 15 people were trapped in the incident. Upon receiving the information, police and government of-

ficials immediately rushed to the scene. Subsequently, 13 people were rescued one by one.

This morning, one more body was recovered, bringing the total death toll to six. All the bodies have been retrieved. Many of the victims were migrant workers. Search operations are ongoing, with National and State Disaster Response



Force teams and the Fire Department actively involved in the rescue efforts. Send feedback

## Minister slaps youth; Aam Aadmi Party members protest demanding action



NEW DELHI: Aam Aadmi Party members staged a protest demanding action against the minister who slapped a youth. Delhi Public Works Depart-

ment Minister Parvesh Verma visited the Tilak Nagar area to inspect the quality of a new road under construction. At that time, Aam Aadmi Party’s local MLA Jarnail

Singh and his supporters arrived and questioned the minister about the poor quality of the road being laid. A youth named Sahib Singh, who was present there, was recording the incident on video while questioning the situation. Enraged by this, the minister slapped the youth across the face. Explaining the incident, Minister Parvesh Verma stated that he struck the youth because Aam Aadmi Party members had verbally abused his family and were

recording it on video. Following this incident, Aam Aadmi Party members and local residents joined hands to protest, demanding action against Minister Parvesh Verma. AAP State President Saurabh Bhardwaj and local MLAs participated in the protest held in Tilak Nagar. The Delhi Police forcibly arrested Saurabh Bhardwaj and the party workers, removing the protesters from the site. The incident caused a brief commotion in the area.

## AYUSH services sector’s contribution to Indian economy to reach Rs. 30 lakh crore: Study

NEW DELHI: A study has revealed that the AYUSH services sector in India is growing rapidly and is projected to contribute Rs 30 lakh crore to the national economy by 2047. The Central Government has established a dedicated ministry to promote the AYUSH sector, which encompasses disciplines such as Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy. It has been observed that this sector is expanding swiftly across the country. A study conducted by the Research and Information System for

Developing Countries (R-IS) indicates that the sector has been registering an annual growth rate of 16.91% since 2022 & 23. Furthermore, the study notes that the sector directly supports approximately 18 lakh families. This report was released during the 11th Ayurveda Day event recently held in Nagpur, Maharashtra. The report also states that the sector generated a medical valuation revenue of approximately Rs 17,000 crore in the 2024 & 25 fiscal year alone. Sachin Kumar Sharma, Director of the re-

search organization, stated, “This study marks a significant step in developing an evidence-based understanding of India’s AYUSH service economy. The study covered over 15,000 entities across six AYUSH systems nationwide. The survey revealed that the AYUSH sector contributes US\$ 36.92 billion (approximately ₹3.53 lakh crore) annually to the Indian economy, a figure projected to reach US\$ 318 billion (approximately ₹30 lakh crore) by 2047.” Commending the report, Union AYUSH Minister

Prataprao Jadhav remarked that it highlights the growing economic potential of the AYUSH services sector. He noted that this confirms the AYUSH sector is not merely a cultural heritage but a dynamic and rapidly growing engine of the Indian economy. He expressed confidence that the AYUSH sector plays a pivotal role in health, well-being, employment, and global economic engagement, while also contributing to the vision of a healthy and self-reliant India.

## High-grade narcotics worth ₹200 crore seized from boat; one arrested



RAMESWARAM: The Sri Lankan Navy seized high-grade narcotics worth ₹200 crore that had been stashed in

aboat and arrested one person. Various goods—including beedileaves, ganja, cardamom, turmeric, and narcotics—were

frequently smuggled to Sri Lanka via the waters off Ramanathapuram district. Against this backdrop, the Sri Lankan Navy inspected a plastic boat that was found stationed suspiciously off the coast of Madagal in the Kusumanthurai area of Jaffna district.

They recovered three gunny sacks from the boat and, upon inspection, found 35 kg of heroin and 45 kg of methamphetamine inside. A Sri Lankan national

has been arrested in connection with the incident and is currently being interrogated; the boat was also seized. As the seized heroin and methamphetamine are high-grade narcotics, their international market value is estimated to exceed ₹200 crore. An intensive investigation is underway to determine whether these narcotics were smuggled from the Tamil Nadu coast. The Tamil Nadu intelligence police are also investigating the matter.