

Chief Minister Vijay launched the 'Vetri Payanam' free bus scheme for women

CHENNAI: Chief Minister Vijay launched the Vetri Payanam scheme, a free bus ride for women across Tamil Nadu.

The DMK government introduced the free of cost and charge Vidai Jatra scheme for women in Tamil Nadu last year. Under this scheme, women travel free of charge only in metropolitan and urban regular government buses. In the election manifesto released by the TRP during the last assembly elections, it was promised that the women's travel scheme would be expanded to all government buses when the TRP came

Women can travel free of charge on long-distance buses as well

to power.

After winning the elections and assuming office as the TDP-led government, Chief Minister Vijay, in a notification under Rule 110 in the Assembly on August 24, announced that the currently implemented women's free travel scheme, called 'Victory Journey', would be expanded. There is no income ceiling or travel restrictions to avail this scheme.

In addition, Chief Minister Vijay had mentioned in his announcement that the

Vetri Travel Scheme will be gradually expanded to other services as well.

In this situation, Chief Minister Vijay launched the Vetri Yatra scheme at the bus stand in Koyambedu, Chennai today. Later, Chief Minister Vijay boarded the bus and distributed free tickets to women passengers.

He went to each seat and distributed tickets to the women sitting there. At that time, the female passengers thanked Chief Minister Vijay by giving him chocolates



and shaking them with their hands. Vijay did the same in

return. The Chief Minister also sat with the female pa-

ssengers and took a photo. Following the launch of this

scheme by Chief Minister Vijay, women across Tamil Nadu can now benefit from free government bus travel through this scheme. Transgender people can also travel free of cost under this scheme. The government has estimated that an annual expenditure of Rs. 6 thousand crores will be incurred for this scheme. Currently, women travel free of charge in city buses and hilly buses of 7 state transport corporations up to 40 km.

But through the Vetri Ya-

tra scheme, this service has been extended to express, LSS, deluxe government buses operating in metropolitan and urban areas, suburban government buses and hilly buses of more than 40 km.

A total of 12,695 buses will be brought under this scheme. That is, out of the total 18,413 buses operated by the 7 state transport corporations, 12,695 buses will be used for this project.

Similarly, out of the total number of walks, 1,68,500 walks will be implemented under this project. This will benefit about 84.32 lakh women per day.

UPSC is a key pillar in creating a developed country

PM Modi praises it on its 100th anniversary

NEW DELHI: The Public Service Commission was established on October 1, 1926, during the British Raj. After independence, the organization was renamed the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) in 1950.

Accordingly, the 100th anniversary of the formation of UPSC was celebrated yesterday. On this occasion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the ceremony held at Bharat Mandapam in Delhi. Speaking at the event, he said: We are currently celebrating the 100th anniversary of UPSC. UPSC has been fulfilling the dreams of lakhs of Indians. People have placed unwavering faith in this institution. Competitive examinations should be conducted without delay in the interest of the students. Reforms in the



examination procedures should be implemented in accordance with the times.

According to the 1952 census, only 3 percent of the civil service was women. Now, 30 percent of the civil service is women. So far, 4 women have taken over the leadership of the UPSC. Compared to previous years, the number of people appearing for the UPSC exam has increased by 45 percent. We have crossed the quarter mark in the current 21st century.

The next 25 years are very

important. We have to create a developed India by the year 2047. For that, people from all walks of life will have to unite and work tirelessly.

Government servants selected through UPSC should work for the welfare of the country and the people. They should improve the quality of life of the people. UPSC has been selecting capable government servants from all over the country. This system is a very important pillar in building a developed India. People do not want to wait for weeks to receive government services.

In today's environment, artificial intelligence technology analyzes and provides thousands of pieces of data in a matter of minutes. Therefore,

government departments should make full use of artificial intelligence technology to provide services to the public quickly.

At the same time, various challenges have arisen through artificial intelligence technology, including the spread of fake videos, photos, and fake events. These challenges also need to be addressed effectively. The UPSC selection board tests the intelligence of the youth and selects them for government jobs. In addition, the UPSC wants to find out for what purpose they are joining the government service.

It is very important to see whether they are passionate about serving the people. The central government operates on the principle of "The voice of the people is the voice of the government."

Serving the people should be the primary duty of government employees, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



Mahatma Gandhi's 157th Birth Anniversary Leaders Pay Tribute at the Memorial

NEW DELHI: The Gandhi memorial at Rajghat in Delhi was adorned with flowers. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Delhi Lieutenant Governor Taranjit Singh, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, Union Minister Manohar Lal

Khattar, and Congress party functionaries, among others, paid their respects by offering flowers at the memorial. Subsequently, prayer meetings and *bhajan* (devotional song) sessions were held. In a post on X (formerly Twitter) marking Mahatma

Gandhi's birth anniversary, Prime Minister Modi stated: "Mahatma Gandhi's entire life stands as a beacon of truth, non-violence, compassion, and service."

It will continue to serve as a guiding light for humanity across all eras. He is one who

bears no enmity towards any living being and embodies friendship and compassion; one who is free from the attachment of 'mine' and from ego; one who views pleasure and pain with equanimity; and one who possesses patience."

"Made Israel and world proud": Indian envoy hails Captain Machchhar's bravery

ISRAEL: Indian Ambassador to Israel JP Singh commended Captain Smit Machchhar for his "courage and bravery" in averting a major catastrophe and safeguarding hundreds of lives during a Flydubai flight travelling from Dubai to Israel.

Singh delivered the remarks at the India-Israel Festival & National Convention of Indian Jews hosted in Tel Aviv, extending wishes for a rapid and full recovery to the injured pilot. "Heartfelt tribute to the Hero Captain Smit Machchhar! At the India-Israel Festival & National Convention of Indian Jews in Tel Aviv today, Ambassador JP Singh lauded the courage and bravery of Captain Smit Machchhar, who helped save 174 lives aboard Flydubai Flight FZ1073, bound for Tel Aviv, and said that his bravery has made the whole of Israel and the world proud. Ambassador Singh wished Captain



Machchhar a speedy and complete recovery," the Indian Embassy in Israel stated via a social media post on X on Friday. The commendations coincided with expanding international praise for Captain Machchhar's intervention in neutralising the threat aboard Flydubai Flight FZ1073 on Wednesday. During the incident, the co-pilot attacked Captain Machchhar with a knife, causing the aircraft to enter a steep descent. The Indian commander fought off the aggressor and managed to unlatch the cockpit door, enabling passengers to rush

forward, enter the flight deck, and overpower the perpetrator.

Following the subduing of the attacker, medical assistance was administered to the seriously wounded pilot as the aircraft executed an emergency diversion into Tabuk, Saudi Arabia.

Reiterating tributes to Captain Machchhar's gallantry, New Delhi expressed profound gratitude on Thursday for the global acclaim and backing directed towards the pilot for his heroic actions in preserving numerous lives.

In an official release issued late Thursday, the Ministry of

External Affairs (MEA) noted that it remains closely monitoring the medical progress of Captain Machchhar. "After receiving initial medical treatment in a hospital in Tabuk, Saudi Arabia, he has now been shifted to Abu Dhabi for continued medical attention and recovery. Our Ambassador in UAE met Captain Machchhar in hospital and enquired about his well-being," the MEA stated. "Earlier, he also met his family and assured all possible support for the Captain's health and well-being. Our Embassy in Abu Dhabi and Consulate in Dubai are in close touch with the local authorities in the matter. We once again salute Captain Smit Machchhar's valour and courage."

We also convey our deep appreciation for the admiration and support he has received from across the world for his act of gallantry," the release added.

People will teach the DMK a fitting lesson in the by-election

Minister Ramesh

TRICHY: Minister for Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments, Ramesh, spoke to reporters in Trichy yesterday. He stated the following: TVK has neither the need nor the inclination to solicit votes by distributing money during the by-election.

DMK members must learn to speak civilly in public forums. They ought to adhere to the principles of 'Duty, Dignity, and Discipline' taught by Perarignar Anna. Failure to do so will result in the people of Tamil Nadu



teaching the DMK a fitting lesson, just as the electorate of the Kolathur constituency taught DMK leader M.K. Stalin a lesson.

A complaint had arisen regarding the encroachment

and fraudulent acquisition—using forged documents—of land worth approximately ₹50 crore belonging to the Sri Ranganathar Temple in Srirangam, Trichy. In connection with this complaint, the police have arrested DMK Area Secretary Ramkumar in the Panchapur area. Minister Ramesh was asked whether a retired judge from Puducherry—alleged to have illegally sold the land to DMK functionary Ramkumar—would also be arrested, given Ramkumar's

arrest. He replied that all legal proceedings regarding this land fraud case would continue in a phased manner. The 'INDIA' alliance has announced a series of protests demanding the immediate resignation of the Election Commissioner of India.

Reporters asked whether TVK would participate in these protests. Regarding this, TVK... Minister Ramesh replied that the leader and Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Vijay, would make the formal announcement.

Today horoscope



You will renew your friendship by attending old friends' home functions. Your children's health will improve. You will replace your old vehicle. You will collect debts in business. You will be in the office and have your own work.



You will charm those around you with your realistic speech. Ego problems will be resolved and the relationship between the couple will increase. The house will be decorated with the arrival of guests. Old goods will be sold in business. Maintain peace in the office.



You will finish the planned work by wandering around. It is better to give in to your wife and go. You will renovate and expand your ancestral house. Your partner will support you in business. Do not interfere in the affairs of others in the office.



You will receive enough money to pay off a debt that you have not been able to pay off for a long time. You will fulfill the wishes of your mother and wife. Auspicious events will be organized at home. You will see progress in business and career.



A long-standing dream will come true. There will be happiness from children and profit from relatives. You will try to buy expensive electronic and electrical appliances. There will be profit in business. You will get the opportunity to meet celebrities in the office.



You will go with your family and fulfill your prayers. Relatives who have been neglected so far will come to your house to talk. You will renovate and build your ancestral house. Old debts will be collected in business. Your reputation will increase in the office.



Barriers will be broken. The cold war between the couple will end. You will make important decisions considering the future of your children. You will receive the money you need. Business will pick up steam and make good profits. There will be no arguments in the office.



Don't spend your savings for a quick buck. Workload and unexpected trips will come and go. Debt problems will increase. You need to be careful in business. Don't hold a grudge against your partner. Your reputation among colleagues in the office will increase.



You will enjoy remembering good old events. You will be able to manage the expenses of maintaining your home and vehicle. Your mother's health will improve. Old debts will be collected in your career. You will travel abroad for official purposes.



You will act with confidence. There will be peace in the family after the chaos is eliminated. The cash flow will be satisfactory. The workload in the office will decrease. You will travel abroad for business. Accept the advice of new partners.



You will solve some problems with new thinking. You will take the initiative in organizing family events for relatives and friends. You will collect dues in business. You will be recommended for a new position in the office. You will receive praise from your superiors.



Auspicious events that have been delayed for a long time will come to fruition. Children will speak their minds. You will be strict in money matters. You will try to expand your business. Do not hold any grudges against anyone in the office. You will get a transfer abroad.

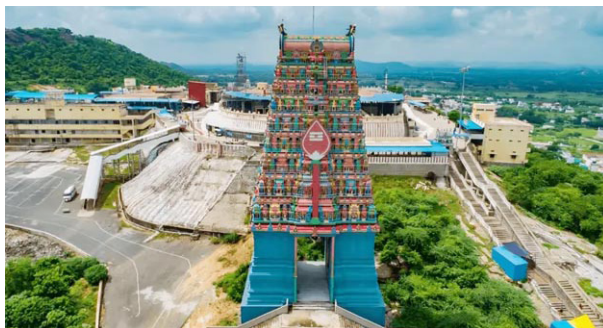


On the occasion of the birth anniversary of actor Thilakam Sivaji Ganesan, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu government, Legislative Assembly Speaker J. C. T. Prabhakar, Ministers Venkataramanan, Rajmohan, and Vanni Government paid floral tributes to his statue at the Adyar Manimandapam in Chennai. Along with him, Tamil Development and Information Department Secretary V. Rajaraman, News and Public Relations Department Director A. Arun Thamburaj, Sivaji Ganesan's sons Ramkumar and Prabhu were present.

8 day ban on autos on Thirutani Hill

TIRUTTANI: Due to government holidays and the Krithika festival, auto rickshaws have been banned from plying on the Thiruttani Murugan Temple hill for 8 days this month.

It is expected that a large number of devotees will visit the Thiruthani Subramania Swamy Temple on the 8 government holidays this month, namely today (Gandhi Jayanti), Oct. 19 (Ayudha Pujam), Oct. 20 (Vijayadasami), Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 (Sunday) and the



month's Krithikai day, Oct. 27.

Therefore, the temple administration has banned autorickshaws from plying on the mountain road leading to the Thiruthani Murugan

Temple during these 8 days to avoid traffic congestion. At the same time, for the convenience of devotees, special buses were being operated by the temple administration from

the mountain path entrance to the temple Patashettikulam without any restrictions.

Additionally, on government holidays and auspicious days, devotees' cars and two-wheelers will be allowed on the temple hill path, subject to parking space availability.

The Thiruthani Murugan Temple administration has announced that arrangements have been made to allow vehicles, including other buses, to park freely in the temple's designated area.

No information about 49 people who went to Nepal
Government should take steps to protect family livelihood

Relatives in tears in Chromepet



CHROME PET: Relatives of the 49 people who left Chromepet for Nepal on the Kailash Yatra have not yet received clear information, and this has affected their families' livelihoods.

Relatives of the victims, more than 50 in number, met with reporters yesterday at the Associated Travels est-

ablishment in Chromepet.

At that time, they said: We had contact with some of our relatives who went to Nepal on August 14 for the Kailash Yatra only until August 26. After that, there has been no information from them. They were reportedly trapped in a flash flood near the citizenship verification

center on the China & Nepal border. The family is in deep distress after not receiving any information for more than 35 to 40 days. Although the Tamil Nadu government has stated that it is taking steps to consolidate information, the 49 families need to be clearly informed about the current situation and the actions taken by the government. Even though the missing people had money in their bank accounts, they were unable to withdraw money because their bank accounts and ATM services were linked to their cell phone numbers. In some families, where the husband is the

sole earner, the family is now unable to meet their needs, including children's education and household expenses. Therefore, the families of the 49 people should be informed immediately with official information about their condition. The government should expedite the process of tracing them and provide emergency assistance, taking into account the families' livelihoods.

The government should also implement procedures so that families can use the money in the bank legally. The Chief Minister should directly intervene and take appropriate action, he said.

Manickam, son of Pazhal Nedumaran, passes away

CHENNAI: Manickam Nedumaran (aged 57), son of World Tamil Federation leader P. Nedumaran, passed away yesterday in Melbourne, Australia. He had embraced Buddhism at a young age and lived as a Buddhist monk, but was afflicted

with a terminal illness and underwent treatment. In this situation, he passed away at 8.45 am yesterday, Indian time, without any results from the treatment.

His funeral will be held in Melbourne according to Buddhist rites. The World

Tamil Federation said that he and his wife were unable to attend their son's funeral due to the suspension of his passport.



Local government reservation in Andhra Pradesh should not exceed 50%: High Court

VIJAYAWADA: The High Court has ordered the state government not to exceed 50 percent of the total reservation in the upcoming local body elections in Andhra Pradesh.

Local government elections are due to be held soon in Andhra Pradesh. Elections will be held for village panchayat, municipal, corporation presidents and mayors.

In this regard, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu had already announced that 34 percent reservation will be given to Backward Classes (BCs) in this election. The government issued two government orders after obtaining approval from the Cabinet, the Legislative Assembly and the Upper Houses. Now, the High Court has quashed both these government orders.

It also ordered the state government and the Election Commission to announce the election schedule within 6 weeks and that the total reservation in local body elections should not exceed 50 percent.

The High Court dismissed the YSR Congress's case that the elections should be announced only after the SIR work is completed and the full voter list is available, and the petition that the elections should be held only after the wards are reorganized.

Apollo Knowledge and BITS Pilani sign agreement to collaborate in the fields of medicine and education

CHENNAI: Apollo Knowledge Foundation and Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS & Pilani) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate in the areas of healthcare research, education and staff development.

The agreement was signed in the presence of Dr. Pratap C. Reddy, Chairman, Apollo Hospitals Group, Dr. Preetha Reddy, Deputy CEO, Apollo Hospitals Enterprises Limited, and Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao, Vice-Chancellor,



Pitts & Pilani Group.

The partnership brings together the medical environment of Apollo Hospitals and the engineering, technology and data science capabilities of Pitts & Pilani. Physicians and Pitts & Pilani researchers will collaborate to conduct

collaborative research on challenges in the healthcare and healthcare services sectors. As the partnership grows, specific research areas will be identified.

Commenting on this, Dr. Preetha Reddy, Executive Vice President, Apollo Hospitals Group,

said, "This partnership will enable healthcare professionals to continue their education while caring for patients, develop the skills needed for a rapidly changing world, and advance research that is informed by the challenges faced by physicians."

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Body of 80 year old man preserved for 4 years: Family awaits arrival of technology to revive the dead

In Mumbai, it has been revealed that the body of an 80-year-old man who died 4 years ago was kept in a freezer.

His family waited, hoping that technology would come to revive the deceased. Upon receiving information, the Khurr police rushed to the scene and recovered the body.

At that time, arrangements were underway to send the body to a cryonics center in America. It is said that a study is being conducted to bring the dead back to life. During the investigation, it was revealed that the elderly man died of natural causes in 2022 due to diseases including tuberculosis and kidney failure. The family, unable to accept his death, did not perform the last rites. They kept the body in a freezer at home, but later moved it to a freezer at a day care center in Malad, paying monthly rent for it. They spent lakhs of rupees for this. When the center was closed for a month for renovations, the body was discovered outside and the police were informed. After counseling the family, the body was cremated the day before yesterday.

After a person is declared dead, their blood is removed from their body, special chemicals are applied, and the body or head is then stored in liquid nitrogen at 196 degrees Celsius. These centers believe that they will be able to revive them in the future. The Alcor Life Extension Foundation and the Cryonics Institute in America are the leading organizations in this field.

However, the mainstream scientific community considers this to be experimental and pseudoscience. They believe that reviving frozen tissue is impossible with current technology.

9 Bangladeshis arrested with fake documents in Assam

BONGAIGAON: Nine Bangladeshis who were found carrying fake Indian identity cards were arrested the day before yesterday in a raid conducted in Assam.

Pongkaigan District Police Inspector Numal Mahata told reporters: "During the raid conducted at the New Pongkaigan Railway Station, we arrested 9 suspects and interrogated them."

At that time, it was confirmed that they were all from Bangladesh. First 6 people were arrested, followed by 3 others.

4 Bangladeshi identity cards, 6 mobile phones, 1 Bangladeshi passport, 3 fake Indian Aadhaar cards and 5 train tickets were seized from them. Initial investigations revealed that they had entered Assam through a neighboring state and were planning to travel to foreign states in search of work.

Legal action will be taken against those arrested, he said. Earlier, on September 16, Assam Police had arrested 27 Bangladeshi infiltrators, including women and children, in separate raids in Guwahati and Rangiya districts.

Trinamool Congress' petition seeking lifting of 4 bank account freezes dismissed

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has dismissed an appeal filed against the freezing of four bank accounts of the Trinamool Congress party led by former Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in the West Bengal.

The West Bank Police Department froze four accounts of the Trinamool Congress in Indian Bank following a complaint filed by a disgruntled Trinamool Congress member. A case was filed against this in the Calcutta High Court, but since the High Court did not grant relief, Mamata Banerjee's side appealed to the Supreme Court.

The petition was heard by Justices M.M. Sundaresh and P.P. Varale. At that time, senior lawyer Abhishek Manu Singhvi, appearing for Mamata Banerjee, said, "The police are acting with the aim of obstructing the party's activities." "The money in the Trinamool Party accounts is for party work. Now that the by-elections are about to be held, a minimum of Rs. 12.15 crore is required per month. The party's functioning has been further affected due to the freezing of bank accounts," he argued. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the West Bengal Police, said, "An investigation is underway into illegal money laundering and financial irregularities in this case. An investigation is underway into the alleged misuse of Rs 35 crore through a party aide."

After hearing the arguments from both sides, the bench dismissed the petition saying that it did not want to go into the merits of the case and did not want to exercise its jurisdiction. At the same time, it also directed that the case pending in the Calcutta High Court be decided expeditiously.

Government Orders Suspension of Two Engineers Over Hindi on Signboard

CHENNAI: The Tamil Nadu government has ordered the suspension of two engineers following the inclusion of Hindi on a signboard and has warned that strict action will be taken against government officials who act contrary to the state's two&language policy. A government statement regarding



this matter reads: "Upon learning that place names

were written in Hindi—alongside Tamil and English—on a newly installed signboard on the Sathankulam&Nazareth State Highway (SH&93) in Thoothukudi district, the Hindi text was immediately removed. The Assistant Divisional Engineer and the Assistant Engineer of the State Highways Department, who

were responsible for the inclusion of Hindi on the signboard—thereby violating the Tamil Nadu government's two&language policy—have been immediately suspended. Furthermore, departmental action is being initiated. Strict action will be taken against government officials who act against the Tamil Nadu government's two&language policy."

Trump says tariffs bringing factories back to US

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump credited his tariff policies with bringing manufacturing jobs and factories back to the United States, arguing that protection from foreign competition was driving a revival in American industry. Speaking in Texas, Trump pointed to the truck manufacturer's expansion as evidence that his trade policies were working.

"We have more factories being built, like, you're doing so well, they're doing well, better than anybody in the history of our country. All over the country, they're building factories, plants, manufacturing's coming back," Trump said. Trump said tariffs had prevented foreign producers from selling goods into the United States while taking jobs away from American

workers. "They'd drop their products here; they'd walk away with the money, and you'd walk away with no jobs. But not with me and we changed it," he said. The President said American exports had reached record levels and claimed the US trade deficit with China had fallen sharply. "Thanks to our strong tariff policy, this year, American exports have surged to the highest level in history, in the history of our country," Trump said. "Our trade deficit with China has plummeted to the lowest level that we've had in 44 years," he added. Trump also said manufacturing wages had risen and the United States had added 60,000 manufacturing jobs this year. "And after years of decline, this year, the United States

has added 60,000 new manufacturing jobs and heavy truck manufacturing is almost up by about, what, 31 percent or something," he said. "And heavy truck shipments have hit an all&time high, the highest in the history of our country under the Trump administration." "American trucking is back," Trump said. Peterbilt events manager Sarah Renshaw told Trump that his tariffs had allowed the company to increase production and employment. "Mr. President, because of your tariffs, we have been able to hire&&increase production and hire 1,000 employees," Renshaw said. Trump also linked the industry's performance to his administration's decision



to roll back environmental regulations affecting heavy trucks. He singled out a nitrogen oxide regulation, saying its rollback would reduce the cost of producing trucks. "This action alone will cut an estimated \$6,000 from the cost of each truck built and it'll be a better truck," Trump said. Earlier, PACCAR CEO Preston Feight welcomed Trump to the facility and praised the administration's trade policies.

"President Trump, we are so thankful to you, Secretary of Commerce Lutnick and the whole administration for putting trade policies in place that are good for America," Feight said. "They're good for our customers; they're good for strengthening American manufacturing; and they're good for Peterbilt." Trump has made tariffs a central instrument of his economic and trade policy, arguing that duties on imported goods can protect domestic production and encourage companies to manufacture inside the United States. His administration has also used sector&specific tariffs to target industries it considers important to US economic and national security.

College student murdered in Bengaluru 6 people, including two fellow students, arrested

BENGALURU: Six individuals, including two classmates, have been arrested in connection with the stabbing death of a 19&year&old college student in Bengaluru. Bhuvanesh Kumar (47) is a resident of Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru. His son, Yogesh (19), was a first&year B.Com student at a private college in the area. Around 3 PM the day before yesterday, while Yogesh was in his classroom, a classmate named Ramesh Kumar (19) asked him to come to the area be-



hind the college building. There, a group of six individuals—including classmates Bhuvan (20) and Arjun (19)—picked a quarrel with him and stabbed him with a knife. Yogesh collapsed in a pool of blood; although he was rushed to a nearby hospital by fellow students, he succumbed to his injuries despite medical efforts to save him. Upon receiving information about the incident, the

Nagarbhavi police recovered Yogesh's body and sent it to Victoria Hospital for a post&mortem examination. A murder case was registered, and the six individuals involved—including classmates Bhuvan and Arjun—were arrested. Speaking on the matter, the police stated, "Preliminary investigations reveal that an argument over a trivial issue escalated into the murder. We have arrested the six individuals based on CCTV footage from the scene."

Protest Announced by Karappan Poochi Janata Party: 11 Metro Stations Closed in Delhi

NEW DELHI: The 'Karappan Poochi Janata Party' has announced a protest demanding the resignation of Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. With the party declaring that the protest will continue until Kumar steps down, precautionary restrictions have been imposed in Delhi. A temporary ban on passenger entry and exit has been

imposed at 11 Delhi Metro stations. The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) stated that this restriction will remain in effect until further notice. The affected stations are Janpath, Patel Chowk, Central Secretariat, Rajiv Chowk, Seva Tirth, Mandi House, Lok Kalyan Marg, INA, Chawri Bazar, Ramakrishna Ash-

ram Marg, and New Delhi. However, it has been announced that the 'interchange' facility—allowing passengers to switch between metro lines—will continue to operate at Rajiv Chowk, Mandi House, New Delhi, and Central Secretariat stations. As the Delhi Police have denied permission for the

protest scheduled at Jantar Mantar, additional police personnel and central armed forces have been deployed in the area for security. Security has been tightened in anticipation of the participation of approximately 3,000 to 4,000 people in the protest.

Cinema Hall Roof Collapses in Bengaluru; 5 Injured



BENGALURU: Five people, including a husband and wife, were injured when the roof of a cinema hall in Bengaluru collapsed. Heavy rain lashed the Peenya area of Bengaluru yesterday afternoon. The Kannada movie 'Premada Ooralli' was being scr-

eened at the local Bharathi Cinema. Suddenly, a section of the cinema hall's ceiling—made of Plaster of Paris (PoP)—collapsed. Five people, including Manjunath (28) and his wife Lakshmi (23) who were watching the movie, sustained injuries to their heads and shoulders. Cinema staff rescued the injured and immediately admitted them to a nearby hospital. Panic ensued as the audience scrambled to exit the hall following the roof collapse. The Dasarahalli police have registered a case against the cinema hall's owner in connection with the incident.

PM Modi spoke to Indian pilot Abhinandan Varthaman over the phone and inquired about his well-being

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Modi spoke over the phone with Indian pilot Captain Smith Machar to inquire about his well&being after he bravely saved the passengers of a Dubai&bound flight despite having been stabbed. Captain Smith Machar, an Indian pilot, has earned global acclaim for thwarting a major terrorist attack that involved hijacking a UAE&owned aircraft and attempting to crash it. Machar, who sustained serious injuries after being attacked by a fellow pilot, is currently undergoing treatment at a hospital in Abu Dhabi. Prime Minister Modi spoke by phone today (Oct 2) with the courageous pilot. Machar shared details of the mid&-air crisis with the Prime Minister. Modi commended the pilot—who also spoke about what gave him the courage to act—and wished him a speedy recovery. Send feedback

Commemoration of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar:



CHENNAI: On the occasion of the death anniversary of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar, Chief Minister Vijay posted the following message on X: "I pay my respectful tributes to Perunthalaivar Kamarajar on his memorial day—a leader who steered Tamil Nadu onto the path of progress through a simple lifestyle and honest administration.

CM Vijay Pays Tribute

Perunthalaivar Kamarajar sowed the seeds of an educational revolution by opening schools in every village and introducing the Mid&Day Meal Scheme; he also laid the foundation for industrial and agricultural growth by establishing numerous public sector undertakings, dams, and irrigation projects. Let us honor the unparalleled sacrifice of this 'Karma Veerar' (Man of Action), who dedicated his entire life to selfless public service, and continue to walk the noble path he showed us!"

8 students drown in sea on a trip to Maharashtra

MUMBAI: Divegachin Raigad district of Maharashtra is a popular tourist destination. A group of 48 people, including 25 male, 17 female and 6 teachers from Winners Academy, a private coaching centre operating in Alandi, Pune district, visited this beach yesterday evening. At that time, 8 of the students fell into

the sea. They were pulled in by the waves. Upon receiving information about this, Pav Salunge, the owner of a popular private water sports company operating in the area, along with his team, immediately began the rescue operation. However, all 8 students drowned and tragically lost their lives. Their bodies were recovered by rescue teams.

Police said all of the deceased students were 16 years old. The police have registered a case regarding this incident and started an investigation. Police said the educational institution that conducted the operation will be thoroughly investigated, including whether safety guidelines and supervision protocols were properly followed.

Absentee bond registrations cross one lakh in one and a half months

CHENNAI: The press release issued by the Tamil Nadu Registration Department Head states: Chief Minister Vijay launched the 'non&visit document registration' system in Tamil Nadu

on August 17th. It was made mandatory based on two documents: the first sale in the land section and the first sale in the apartment. From August 17 to September 30, 1,00,134 documents

were registered in just 44 days. This has saved the time and unnecessary expenses of 5 lakh citizens. Following the success of this project, it will be gradually expanded to other documents, he said.

Gulf oil infrastructure at risk as US rushes Patriot missiles to Saudi Arabia, Qatar amid Iran tensions: Report

WASHINGTON: The United States military has positioned two extra Patriot missile batteries in Saudi Arabia and Qatar, reinforcing security around critical petroleum and natural gas installations as Washington braces for potential large&-scale military engagements involving Iran.

According to an Axios report, which referenced a pair of American officials and a regional insider, the troop movements follow worries expressed by Saudi and Qatari authorities that Tehran might target their energy assets if Washington restarts major offensives against Iran. One Patriot unit was dispatched to Saudi Arabia to safeguard a major oil installation, whereas a second was stationed in Qatar to protect a primary gas facility, Axios noted. The manoeuvre underscores the vulnerabilities facing Gulf energy networks should the US&Iran war intensify once more. Earlier in August, when US President Donald Trump

contemplated a significant offensive involving strikes on Iranian energy assets, the heads of Saudi Arabia and Qatar reportedly petitioned him against the strategy over fears of retaliatory Iranian strikes targeting their petroleum and gas infrastructure, as detailed by Axios. Any substantial strike against petroleum or gas sites across the area risks destabilising global energy provisions and increasing strain on international markets, specifically if hostilities hinder maritime transit through vital regional shipping lanes.

The supplemental Patriot deployments also coincide with mounting demands on American air defence stockpiles. Patriot batteries, and most notably their interceptor missiles, have experienced heightened demand since the outbreak of the war with Iran. Data from an assessment by the Center for Strategic and International Studies indicated that US Patriot interceptor reserves had dropped below 1,000 units following heavy

utilisation throughout the conflict with Iran. Meanwhile, the Pentagon is broadening its force posture across the Mi-



ddle East, despatching extra naval vessels, combat jets, and personnel to the theatre. The Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group, transporting thousands of US Marines, has similarly arrived in the area, bolstering Washington's expanding military footprint in the Middle East. The Patriot air and missile defence platform functions as a land&based apparatus utilised by American and partner armed forces to shield personnel and vital facilities from airborne hazards. The US

Army states that the Patriot can counter aircraft, cruise missiles, and tactical ballistic missiles, with its operational battery centring on a radar network, an engagement control station, and missile launchers. The advanced PAC&3 Missile Segment Enhancement (MSE) interceptor employs hit&to&kill mechanics, neutralising incoming targets via direct collision. It utilises a dual&pulse solid propellant rocket motor that supplies extended range, higher altitude capabilities, and superior agility compared to preceding PAC&3 iterations. A standard Patriot battery configuration incorporates a multifunction radar, an engagement control station, and launcher platforms. Depending on the specific setup, a single launcher is capable of housing up to 12 PAC&3 MSE interceptors.

"Do not play games with the two-language policy" Stalin warns the TN government



CHENNAI: "Is this yet another attempt by the TVK government—which tests the waters on every issue and executes a 'U&turn' the moment opposition arises?" questioned former Chief Minister M.K. Stalin. In a social media post regarding this, Stalin emphasized,

"Until now, Tamil Nadu has only had to contend with the Central Government's imposition of Hindi. It seems the 'change' they (TVK) spoke of involves the State Government itself carrying out that very task. Is this yet another attempt by the TVK government—which tests the waters on every issue and executes a 'U&turn' the moment opposition arises? I warn the TVK government—which runs a 'Reels&based administration' for the sake of influencers from northern

states—to realize the danger of this and immediately alter its approach. The two&language policy is a vital principle for Tamil Nadu. Do not play games with it!" Earlier, a controversy arose when place names appeared in Tamil, English, and Hindi on a signage board erected out that very task. Is this yet another attempt by the TVK government—which tests the waters on every issue and executes a 'U&turn' the moment opposition arises? I warn the TVK government—which runs a 'Reels&based administration' for the sake of influencers from northern

M.K. Stalin's Roadshow in Dharapuram Enthusiastic Welcome from the Public



CHENNAI: Suganya is contesting the Dharapuram (Reserved) Assembly constituency by-election representing the DMK. DMK President M.K. Stalin campaigned in support of her today. He conducted a roadshow starting from

the Amaravathi statue in Dharapuram and proceeding via Pollachi Road and Periyakadai Street. DMK cadres accorded him an enthusiastic welcome. During the roadshow, people presented books, bouquets, and shawls to M.K. Stalin as tokens of affection. After concluding the roadshow, he visited shops in the Periyakadai Street area and canvassed for votes among the public. Later, people took photographs with him.

Any Attack on Kaliningrad Will Trigger a Nuclear Response: Putin Warns the World

MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin has warned Western nations that if an attack is launched against Kaliningrad—a vital Russian territory—Russia would not hesitate to use its full arsenal, specifically nuclear weapons. Speaking at the international Valdai Forum in Moscow, he urged Western nations not to escalate the conflict regarding Ukraine. The Russian President spoke candidly during his address. "Russia has no desire to wage an unnecessary war against any European nation; we wish to coexist peacefully with everyone. However, should anyone launch a direct attack targeting Russia's borders or a key region like Kaliningrad, we will immediately deploy our most powerful weapons. In such an event, the use of nuclear weapons would become an inevitable decision," Putin stated categorically. Kaliningrad is an exclave separated from Russia's mainland. It is situated in



the Baltic Sea region, sandwiched between NATO member states Poland and Lithuania. Russia has amassed state-of-the-art missiles, warships, and significant military forces in the area. Moscow's stance is that any attempt by NATO nations to block access routes to the region or threaten it would escalate into a major war. Putin acknowledged that the NATO military alliance is twice the size of Russia's own forces. At the same time, he pointed out that while he is aware that Britain and France possess nuclear weapons, Russia holds highly advanced and unique weaponry unlike anything else in the world. He stated that this gives Russia an added advantage

on the battlefield. NATO confirmed receiving an official warning from Russia regarding the use of nuclear weapons. Responding to this, NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte said, "NATO is purely a defensive alliance. Issuing nuclear threats benefits no one." Relations between Russia and Western nations have steadily deteriorated since Russia launched its military operation against Ukraine in 2022. Western countries accuse Russia of engaging in various covert activities to sow discord in Europe; however, Russia categorically denies these allegations. Warning nations to act with caution, Putin said, "A situation could suddenly arise where, beyond a certain point, nothing can be changed. If conflicts escalate, it could plunge the world into an irreversible catastrophe. Leading

nations possess weapons of mass destruction capable of annihilating humanity itself. Countries across the globe must ensure that a scenario leading to their use never arises." Putin stated that Russian attacks on Ukrainian positions in the Black Sea region would not cease. He acknowledged that drone attacks by Ukraine had damaged Russian oil refineries, resulting in a loss of approximately 1 percent of Russia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). He noted that Russia is delivering an appropriate response to this. At the same time, he clarified that Russia has no plans to immediately attack European factories supplying weapons to Ukraine. Furthermore, Putin stated that he is ready to hold trilateral talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping and US President Donald Trump, provided a proper plan is formulated. The current tense global situation indicates that the risk of war has once again reached a new peak.

Brazil's ethanol sector expands into agriculture, aviation, and maritime transport driven by corn production

BRAZIL: Brazil's ethanol sector is entering a new phase as emerging technologies in agriculture, aviation and maritime transport are expected to drive demand for the biofuel beyond conventional sugarcane-powered vehicles, according to Henrique Berbert de Amorim Neto, president of the Local Productive Arrangement for Alcohol (APLA). Speaking to Brasil 247 during the Global Agribusiness Forum (GAFFFF) in São Paulo, Amorim said agricultural machinery powered by ethanol could become a major source of new demand. He noted that manufacturers are developing ethanol-powered tractors and

sugarcane harvesters, while other technologies are exploring flex-fuel systems capable of incorporating ethanol into diesel engines. Amorim said these developments are converging around the use of ethanol to reduce carbon emissions. He also dismissed concerns that higher ethanol blends in gasoline could damage vehicle engines, calling such claims a fallacy. According to him, Brazil's experience with ethanol-powered vehicles dates back to 1975, while studies by companies and universities have supported increased blending, as per reports by Brasil 247. He said ethanol is also gain-

ing potential applications in aviation and maritime transport. APLA is working with ApexBrasil to promote Brazilian sugar, ethanol and energy technologies in international markets, including countries with existing or potential sugarcane and corn production. Amorim pointed to growing opportunities in Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) and marine bunker fuel. He said ethanol-based solutions could contribute to decarbonising maritime transport, while demand from the aviation sector could require a substantial expansion of ethanol production. Brazil's production ca-

capacity, he said, will need to grow significantly to meet emerging demand. Corn ethanol is currently emerging as the main frontier for this expansion. Amorim said corn-based production has grown rapidly and could account for nearly 30 per cent of Brazil's ethanol output this year, compared with about 25 per cent last year, as reported by Brasil 247. The shift highlights the diversification of Brazil's ethanol industry, which has expanded considerably since the launch of the ProAlcool programme in 1975, with ethanol production now extending beyond its traditional dependence on sugarcane.



PALANI: Devotees from across Tamil Nadu and other states have flocked to the Palani Dandayuthapani Swamy Hill Temple, taking advantage of the long weekend. Thousands of devotees began

gathering at the temple as early as Friday morning (Oct. 2), coinciding with the Gandhi Jayanti holiday and the weekend break. Devotees waited up to four hours in the general and paid darshan queues to worship the

Devotees Flock to Palani Amidst Long Weekend Four Hour Wait for Darshan

deity. A situation arose where devotees had to wait two hours just to purchase tickets for the special paid darshan. Long queues were also observed at the "Annadhanam" (free food distribution) centre. Devotees waited over two and a half hours to travel up to the hill temple via the rope car and winch

train. To manage the crowd, the paths for ascending and descending the hill have been converted into one-way routes. Accordingly, devotees heading up to the temple are routed through the "Kudamuzhukku" Memorial Hall, while those descending are directed via the "Padi-pathai" (stepped pathway).

Traffic congestion occurred on key roads—including the Palani foothills area, Sannidhi Street, Kulathu Road, and Pongga Road—due to the influx of vehicles bringing devotees. Buses bound for outstation destinations like Madurai, Trichy, and Coimbatore were packed with crowds.



The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu paying homage at the Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti at Rajghat, in Delhi

Gandhi Jayanti – Leaders including Chief Minister Vijay pay tribute

CHENNAI: Leaders, including Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay and former Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, have paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion of his birth anniversary. Gandhi was born on October 2, 1869, in Porbandar, Gujarat. Having successfully led the Indian freedom struggle, he is hailed as the 'Father of Independent India.' Consequently, his birthday—October 2—is celebrated annually as Gandhi Jayanti. Today marks Mahatma Gandhi's 157th birth anniversary, and leaders across the board are paying their respects. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay stated, "On the birth anniversary of our Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi—the great leader who secured freedom for our country and astonished the world with the mighty weapon of non-violence—I honor and pay tribute to his patriotism and his life of sacrifice.



He was a great soul who embodied simplicity, honesty, humanity, equality, and social harmony as his guiding principles, spreading love and brotherhood across the globe. Let us realize Mahatma Gandhi's dreams by building a society where peace, harmony, and brotherhood flourish; let us safeguard the nation's unity and integrity, and continue our journey toward success along the righteous path he showed us." Former Chief Minister M.K. Stalin stated, "My life is my message"—this is the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, who never deviated from the path of truth. Gandhiji constantly refined himself through the experiences he gathered across India, England, and South

Africa. He engaged in a continuous dialogue with society and was always open to evolving his own views; yet, he remained true to himself. That is why he could declare, 'My life is the message I leave behind.' To honor his legacy, during our DMK administration, I unveiled his statue at the Egmore Government Museum complex, renovated the Gandhi Memorial Museum in Madurai while preserving its original character, and reinstated the 'Uthamar Gandhi Village Panchayat' awards. Let us study Gandhiji's life! Let us learn from him! Let us safeguard an India that cherishes religious harmony!" AMMK General Secre-

ary T.T.V. Dhinakaran said, "Today marks the birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi—the man who sowed the seeds of India's independence by fighting the British through peaceful means, and who transformed the course of history by introducing the world to the mantra of non-violence. Let us forever honor and revere Mahatma Gandhi, who—upholding a simple life, noble thoughts, social equality, the abolition of untouchability, and religious harmony, while wielding truth as a weapon and non-violence as his path—toiled ceaselessly for the welfare and upliftment of humanity."

Sub-Registrar offices will no longer operate on Saturdays

CHENNAI: Previously, 100 Sub-Registrar offices in Tamil Nadu functioned on Saturdays. However, it has been announced that these offices will no longer operate on Saturdays.

The Tamil Nadu government has issued a Government Order stating that the practice of keeping Sub-Registrar offices open on Saturdays will be discontinued, effective November 1, 2026. In a Government Order issued today, the Tamil Nadu government noted that an order was previously issued on April 28, 2022, authorizing the Inspector General of Registration to direct District Registrars to ensure Sub-Registrar offices functioned on Saturdays (a weekly holiday) to facilitate document registration for the public, and to deploy necessary staff based on workload. However, during the Legislative Assembly session on September 7, 2026—specifically during the debate on Demand No. 11 (Stamp Duties and Regis-

tration of Documents) for the year 2026-27—the Minister for Commercial Taxes and Registration, Lokesh Tamiliselvan, announced that the mandatory Saturday work system would be discontinued.

He stated that since "presence-less" (remote) document registration is being expanded, the 100 Sub-Registrar offices currently operating on Saturdays would henceforth function only on weekdays to alleviate the workload of Sub-Registrars. Subsequently, in a letter received from the Inspector General of Registration, it was noted that the department is moving towards the goal of "Registration from Anywhere" and that Sub-Registrars are required to handle various additional administrative tasks alongside document registration.

The letter indicated that conducting document registration on Saturdays,

as per the April 28, 2022 order, was causing a backlog in routine office operations. Furthermore, given the plan to transition to "presence-less" and paperless registration for all documents in the future, and to ensure there is no adverse impact on the quality of registration services provided to the public, the mandatory Saturday work system currently in force at the 100 Sub-Registrar offices...

The Inspector General of Registration has requested the government to issue an order cancelling the previously cited Government Order (G.O.) to facilitate the implementation—effective November 1, 2026—of the announcement made by the Minister for Commercial Taxes and Registration, Lokesh Tamiliselvan, in the Legislative Assembly on September 7, 2026. After carefully considering the proposal from the Inspector General of Registration and

accepting it, the government has decided to cancel the earlier G.O. and discontinue the mandatory Saturday work system currently in place at 100 Sub-Registrar offices, effective November 1, 2026.

This decision is made to implement the Minister's announcement—delivered during the 2026-2027 demand for grants debate—which stated that, due to the expansion of the 'document registration without physical presence' (contactless registration) system, the 100 Sub-Registrar offices that currently operate on Saturdays would henceforth function only on weekdays to reduce the workload of Sub-Registrars. This information was conveyed in the Government Order issued by Kumaraguruban, IAS. According to this order, Sub-Registrar offices will not function on Saturdays starting from the coming November 1st.



On behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, and to mark the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Legislative Assembly Speaker J.C.D. Prabhakar, Minister for Rural Development and Water Resources N. Anand, and Minister for Food and Civil Supplies P. Venkataraman paid their respects today at the Government Museum complex in Egmore, Chennai, by garlanding the statue and showering flowers on the portrait of Mahatma Gandhi.