

CM Vijay Conducts Roadshow in Dharapuram in Support of TVK Candidate

DHARAPURAM: He has departed from Chennai for Coimbatore on a special flight. From the Coimbatore airport, Chief Minister Vijay traveled by helicopter to Maruti Nagar in Dharapuram. Security has been tightened in Coimbatore and Tiruppur in anticipation of the Chief Minister's visit. Chief Minister Vijay is currently

The by-election is scheduled to be held the day after tomorrow

conducting a roadshow in Dharapuram in support of the TVK candidate, Sathyabhama. The by-election for the Dharapuram (Reserved) Assembly constituency in Tiruppur district is scheduled to take place the day after tomorrow

(Tuesday). A five-cornered contest is unfolding, involving the TVK, DMK, AIADMK, Naam Tamilar Katchi, and the Communist Party. A total of 22 candidates—comprising political party nominees and independents—are in the fray.

Candidates are campaigning round-the-clock across the Dharapuram constituency to garner votes. Additionally, leaders from the respective parties and their allies are campaigning in Dharapuram to support the candidates.

Against this backdrop, Chief Minister Vijay is conducting a roadshow today in Dharapuram to support TVK candidate Sathyabhama. He is traveling in a campaign vehicle starting from Maruti Nagar in Dharapuram. TVK candidate Sathy-

abhama is accompanying him in the vehicle as he campaigns and seeks support for her. It is noteworthy that thousands of TVK party cadres have gathered along the route to witness Chief Minister Vijay's campaign.



Uddhav, Raj Thackeray to lead Mumbai protest against CEC Gyanesh Kumar

MUMBAI: Speaking ahead of the protest, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut said the protest was a collective response to what he alleged were attempts to undermine democratic institutions, electoral processes and the constitutional rights of citizens. "This protest is against the Hitler & rule prevailing in the country, hijacking elections, keeping the Election Commission and the Supreme Court in one's pocket, running a dictatorship, stealing votes, stealing elections, and poaching MPs and MLAs. This is a revolt against all that, much like the one in 1857," he told reporters.



"Raj Thackeray and Uddhav Thackeray have announced this protest march, with the entire Maha Vikas Aghadi backing it. The march is about to begin, and everyone will take the stage to address the nation," he added. Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Arvind Sawant said the joint appearance of Uddhav and Raj Thackeray had given added momentum to the protest, which he described as a larger movement to protect the Constitution and democracy.

"Protests are taking place everywhere in the country today, specifically regarding the corruption within the Election Commission and the manner in which they are operating. They are acting illegally and unconstitutionally. This issue has sparked an outcry across India. But that outcry gains real strength the moment the name 'Thackeray' enters the picture; that is when it gathers momentum."

Today, both brothers are here together, standing firm with the slogan: 'Remove the Election Commission, Save the Country.' And by 'Save the Country,' we mean saving the

nation's Constitution and its democracy. That is why both brothers have come together here; it is a symbolic gesture. Understand this: the public is seething with anger and agitation, and today, that sentiment will find its expression," he told. Furthermore, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Anil Parab said the protest was not limited to political parties and would include citizens who believe their constitutional right to vote is under threat.

"Our protest is directed at the Chief Election Commissioner, Gyanesh Kumar. Our demand stems from the fact that our constitutional right to vote is being stolen, and this protest is against that theft. It is not just the Shiv Sena, MNS, NCP, and opposition parties participating; anyone who believes their right to vote should not be stolen will join this protest," he told.

Earlier, Raut, while addressing a press conference, said the march would begin soon and was aimed at protesting against alleged irregularities in the functioning of the Election Commission and seeking Kumar's resignation. "This 'Garjana Morcha' is being organised to save the Constitution and to protest against scams within the Election Commission, the denial of voting rights to citizens, and to demand the resignation of Gyanesh Kumar, who is being

labelled a BJP agent," Raut said. He said Uddhav and Raj Thackeray would be joined by the Congress, NCP, Left parties and the Peasants and Workers Party (PWP).

"We have extended invitations to everyone. All the parties present here in Maharashtra have been invited, and we are confident that everyone will turn up," he said. The rally will start from the Metro station and proceed to the Municipal Corporation building, where key leaders will address the gathering. "Given the heat, the rally will conclude early," Raut said.

Asked about Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's statement that the Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections were illegal and should be scrapped, Raut said the polls were marred by irregularities. "The way the elections were conducted involved scams, corruption and irregularities. Rajiv Kumar, the former Election Commission chief, and the current one, Gyanesh Kumar, both are enemies of the nation. All elections held during their tenures should be annulled, and fresh elections for the Vidhan Sabha and Lok Sabha should be conducted," he said. Raising the alleged mistreatment of a woman journalist at Jantar Mantar, Raut targeted Union Home Minister

Amit Shah. "A female journalist was harassed, humiliated and subjected to outraging of modesty by the police at Jantar Mantar. This falls under a Union Territory. Where is the Home Minister? Has he gone underground? Otherwise, he usually comes forward and makes tall claims. Where is he now?" he asked.

On the delay in the 'Tejas' fighter jet programme, he said, "The Defence Minister and the Prime Minister ought to speak on this matter." Raut said a rally is scheduled in Delhi tomorrow and that he would personally go to Pune today to boost the morale of protesters at the MPSC agitation.

"This movement is just the beginning; the spark has already been ignited. It won't just be Kumar; Modi and Shah will also fall, and the fire of this movement will spread across the country," he said. On a death during the agitation, he said, "Accidents do occur during agitations, but they should be avoided. Puneekar was not even present at the agitation. A case of culpable homicide should be registered against Eknath Shinde." Referring to the "Bhaymukt Thane" protest march in Thane, Raut said, "It is a matter of shame for the government that the public is uniting to organise a march to free themselves from fear. Fadnavis should accept responsibility and apologise."

The Thackeray cousins had announced the October 4 march last month, with the protest focused on the Election Commission and the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. The organisers have sought participation from opposition parties, including the Congress and NCP, in the protest.

"All of Tamil Nadu is Thalapathy Vijay's Stronghold" – Minister Anand



DHARAPURAM: With political parties actively campaigning for the Dharapuram by-election, a five-way contest is unfolding, intensifying the electoral atmosphere.

As the election is scheduled for the coming Tuesday (the 6th), the campaign period

concludes at 6 PM today. Amidst this, Minister Anand met with the press in Dharapuram.

When asked about TVK's chances of victory given the five-way contest, Minister Anand replied, "TVK's chances of winning are immense. Regardless of how many parties are in the fray, TVK will secure a massive victory."

He further stated that, in the times to come,

the entire state of Tamil Nadu would become a stronghold for TVK and Thalapathy Vijay. Minister Anand's expression of confidence in TVK's victory prospects, amidst the five-way contest in Dharapuram, has drawn significant attention in political circles.

'Abdul Kalam Political Training Centre' to Launch in Coimbatore on Oct 15

Announcement by 'We the Leaders' Founder Annamalai

CHENNAI: The 'We the Leaders' organization, founded by Annamalai, has been undertaking various awareness initiatives across Tamil Nadu, focusing on a specific social issue each month. In line with this, special awareness programs centered on the theme of 'Women's Safety and Empowerment' are scheduled throughout October.

As a first step, Ann-

amalai honored women achievers from various fields with the 'Kamarajar Award'. Simultaneously, he has intensified preparations for the upcoming local body elections.

To provide proper guidance and political training to aspiring candidates, he is set to inaugurate a political training centre named the 'Abdul Kalam Centre for Ethics and Politics' in Coimbatore on

October 15. Regarding this, Annamalai stated on his X (formerly Twitter) page: "On October 15—Abdul Kalam's birthday—the 'Abdul Kalam Centre for Ethics and Politics' will be launched in Coimbatore."

On the inaugural day, 100 women will join this training program. Furthermore, in the third week, a women's self-help group comprising 5,000



women will be registered in Krishnagiri district under the aegis of 'We the Leaders'. We will continue to stand in support of women's progress."

Government employees must maintain proper conduct; corruption cannot be tolerated at all



MADURAI: The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court has observed that a government employee getting implicated in a criminal case—particularly one involving corruption—cannot be treated lightly.

The Court advised the government to make necessary amendments to the Government Servants' Conduct Rules to provide a permanent solution to this issue. Government employees Sunitha Akhil Mebel, Itturai, Ganesamoorthy, and Ravichandran—who had been

High Court asserts

suspended after being caught red-handed accepting bribes during raids by the Directorate

of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption (DVAC)—filed petitions before the Madurai Bench seeking the revocation of their suspension. After hearing these petitions, Justice Pugazhendhi observed that government employees implicated in criminal and bribery cases have been allowed to continue in service. Despite performing no actual work, the petitioners have been receiving subsistence allowances for years. The pendency of a criminal case does not preclude the initiation of disciplinary proce-

edings against an individual for misconduct; yet, no such action was taken. It is the duty of officials to uphold the integrity of the administration by taking disciplinary action against government employees who violate conduct rules. There is no legal impediment to initiating disciplinary proceedings while criminal cases are pending. The entry of individuals with criminal backgrounds into government service compromises administrative integrity. The involvement of an incumbent government employee in a criminal case—particularly one involving corruption—cannot be treated lightly. The current government has declared a zero-tolerance policy towards corruption

and a firm commitment to creating a corruption-free society. Therefore, taking immediate action against government employees who violate conduct rules by engaging in corrupt activities would send a strong message against corruption and serve as a deterrent to other officials. Consequently, the government must amend the Government Servants' Conduct Rules to provide a permanent solution to this issue. The Court ordered that the disciplinary proceedings against the petitioners be concluded within six months, warning that failure to do so would necessitate disciplinary action against the officials responsible for conducting the proceedings.

Ban on Nestlé milk powder

NEW DELHI: The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has imposed an immediate ban on the sale of Nestlé India's low-fat 'whitener'—a powder used to increase the

solids content of milk-based products. Food safety officials recently conducted an inspection at the 'Hotel Lalit' premises in Connaught Place, Delhi.

During the inspection,

they collected samples of Nestlé India's low-fat 'whitener' powder and sent them for laboratory testing. Test results declared the powder unsafe and substandard, and the company

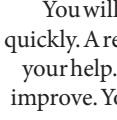
was ordered to immediately halt its sale.

The authority also noted that the product did not comply with the regulations of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

Today horoscope



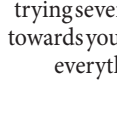
— You will have good opportunities to showcase your talents. Siblings will be supportive. You will fulfill the needs of your family promptly. You will receive the money you have been waiting for for a long time.



You will work actively and complete tasks quickly. A relative through your wife will seek your help. The health of your children will improve. You will buy expensive clothes and accessories. You will travel abroad.



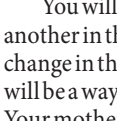
You will complete some tasks with the help of VIPs. You will have a heartfelt conversation with your family members after a long time. Your involvement in spiritual matters will increase. You will expand your business. You will acquire artifacts.



Sudden illness and depression may occur. Whatever you do, you will succeed only after trying several times. Do not show your anger towards your family. It is better to act calmly in everything. Avoid traveling abroad.



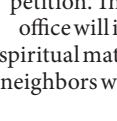
You will feel refreshed. Some pending matters will come to an end today. Differences between husband and wife will be resolved. Good news that you have been waiting for a long time will arrive. You will buy modern electrical appliances.



You will be content. You will give in to one another in the family. You will see a positive change in the activities of your children. There will be a way to resolve old debt problems. Your mother will be supportive.



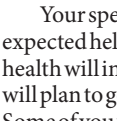
The things you have started will be completed smoothly. The house will be lively with the arrival of friends and guests. Siblings will help at the right time. You will get new customers in business. Those looking for a job will receive good news.



You will skillfully handle indirect competition. The warmth of your superiors at the office will increase. You will take the lead in spiritual matters. The love and affection of your neighbors will increase. There will be an inflow of money.



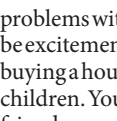
There will be a situation where you will have to take a loan due to unexpected expenses. Extra care is required while travelling in a vehicle. Do not make any promises to anyone. It is better to be independent and have your own job. Competition and jealousy will increase in business.



Your speech will be dignified. You will get the expected help from your brother. Your mother's health will improve. Business will pick up. You will plan to go on a trip abroad with your family. Some of you will buy a new vehicle.



Your speech will gain value in the external circle. You will try to pay off debts. The relationship between husband and wife will increase. Travel will be beneficial. You will take care of your home and vehicle. You will visit holy places.



You will find solutions to long-standing problems with a different approach. There will be excitement in the family. You will consider buying a house or plot. You will be proud of your children. You will enjoy meeting childhood friends.



Complaints of sewage mixing with drinking water amid dengue threat

Allegations that water supply is being stopped

TAMBARAM: As fears of dengue fever and other fevers rise in Tambaram Corporation, residents of Zone 3, Ward 43 have alleged that the drinking water supplied is yellow in colour and has a foul smell. Drinking water is being supplied



from the Chitlapakkam area to various streets including MMDA Nagar, Bhavani Thero, and Babu Thero, which are under Tambaram Corporation Zone 3, Ward 43. While

the color of the drinking water has reportedly changed for the last 2 months, people have complained that the water is now yellow in color and has a foul odor.

They also say that the drinking water tastes like sewage mixed in. Locals also allege that when they complain to the corporation authorities about this, they stop the water supply instead of fixing the problem. As a result, they are suffering from a lack of drinking water, and while the corporation's health department is currently raising awareness about dengue fever and other fevers, the local residents have requested that the corporation officials immediately investigate the quality of the drinking water, test water samples, and find a permanent solution to the problem.

Netanyahu Invites Indian Pilot to Israel's Independence Day Celebration



TEL AVIV: On the 30th of last month, a Flydubai flight carrying 174 passengers was en route from Dubai to Tel Aviv, Israel. While the aircraft was mid-air, the co-pilot allegedly stabbed the pilot—an Indian national named Smith Machar—with a knife and attempted to crash



the plane into the ground. As a result, the aircraft plummeted from an altitude of 34,000 feet to below 17,000 feet. Despite struggling while bleeding profusely, Pilot Smith Machar managed to open the cockpit door, allow passengers inside, and have them restrain the co-pilot.

Subsequently, with the passengers' assistance, he executed an emergency landing at Tabuk Airport in Saudi Arabia. All 182 people on board, including the passengers, survived. Smith Machar, who was injured in the co-pilot's attack, is currently undergoing treatment at a hospital in Abu Dhabi. Prime Minister Modi spoke to him via a video call the day before yesterday, commending him for saving the aircraft and its passengers and praising him for an act that has made the entire nation proud. Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu also spoke to Smith Machar

over the phone.

He hailed him as a "true hero" to the people of India and Israel, as well as to the entire world. Furthermore, he invited Smith Machar to join Prime Minister Narendra Modi in lighting a special ceremonial lamp at Israel's Independence Day celebrations, scheduled for May next year.

Speaking on this, Netanyahu said, "This is the highest honor bestowed on Israel's Independence Day. Typically, this honor is reserved for Israeli citizens; however, in this instance, the entire people of Israel embrace you with affection."

1.20 tonnes of garbage removed in a single day on Southern Railway

2,675 people engaged in cleaning work across the zone

CHENNAI: The Swachhata Ye Seva 2026 series of cleanliness drives, launched by the Chennai Division of Southern Railway two weeks ago, was completed on Gandhi Jayanti.

The closing ceremony and Gandhi Jayanti celebrations were held at the Chennai Central Railway Station premises. Southern Railway General Manager U. Subba Rao paid floral tributes to Gandhi's portrait. Speaking at the ceremony, he said: During the continuous cleanliness drive days, a total of 1,851 places were cleaned in the Southern Railway Zone. 8,274 people were involved in it. 65 tons of old waste were removed from 585 places where intensive cleaning was carried out. Along



with railway employees and officials, students and professors were also involved in this work. During the cleanliness drive, 572 sanitation workers benefited from 42 medical camps.

They were also given a safety equipment kit. During the work, 2,665 kg of old iron and unnecessary items were converted into art objects.

On October 1, 2,675 people participated in a single day of cleaning work on Southern Railway, and 1.20 tons of garbage was removed. Cleaning work will be carried out throughout the year on Southern Railway. He said this. The event featured patriotic songs, dances by Railways and Railway Protection Force personnel, art performances

by Railway School students, their painting exhibition, cleanliness awareness programs, drama, and magic show. Prizes were given to the winners of the competitions held on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. Certificates and jute bags were given to all the participants.

Additional General Manager Vipin Kumar, Chennai Railway Divisional Manager Shailendra Singh, Additional Divisional Manager Ankur Chauhan, I. Senthil Kumar and others were present at the event.

Southern Railway has handled 31.40 lakh tonnes of cargo in the last 9 months alone. This is 3 percent more than the figure till September 2025, officials said.

RSS Lawyers Unit trained on Supreme Court procedures

10 people from South Tamil Nadu division participated

NEW DELHI: The RSS, the parent organization of the BJP, has about 40 main sections. Apart from this, about 2,500 sub-sections are also active. Among these, the Akhil Bharatiya Adiwakta Parishad (ABAP) was started in 1992 for lawyers. Its Tamil Nadu branch, the Akhil Bharatiya Valakkarinkar Sangam (ABVS), was started in 2013. It has two sections, South Tamil Nadu and North Tamil Nadu.

Last year, the Supreme Court training camp for young lawyers was launched for the first time under the name 'Supreme

Vision' on behalf of ABVS. The second training camp was held in Delhi from September 23 to October 1. In this, five young lawyers, one male and one female, from the South Tamil Nadu division participated. All of them are lower court lawyers. They learned about the workings of the Supreme Court and worked alongside senior lawyers as assistants.

Speaking to 'Hindu Tamil Veer', Palani District Branch Secretary M. Gokul said, "Our biggest dream in the profession is to experience the Supreme Court firsthand. During the training days, we

also had the opportunity to meet Justice V. Mohana, a Tamil Supreme Court Justice. At that time, he gave advice on how a lawyer should act and the importance of the role and importance of lawyers in the administration of justice."

The closing ceremony of the training was graced by the presence of M. Nagares, President of the Akhil Bharat Adiwakta Parishad and retired Chief Justice of Kerala High Court, and P. Bharat Kumar, Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court. They presented certificates to the trained young lawyers.

We should spread our traditional pride all over the world: Sri Vijayendra Saraswati Swami emphasizes

KANCHIPURAM: We must first realize our traditional pride and spread it beyond our borders to other countries, said Sri Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal, the head priest of the Kanchipuram Shankara Math.

The centenary inauguration ceremony of former Vishwa Hindu Parishad International Executive President Ashok Singhal was held in Kanchipuram the night before yesterday. Various saints and administrators of the Hindu organization participated in the ceremony held on behalf of the North Tamil Nadu Vishwa Hindu Parishad organization at the wedding hall near the Kamakshi Amman Temple in Kanchipuram. Speaking at the ceremony, Sri Vijayend-



ra Saraswathi Swamigal, the head of the Kanchipuram Shankara Math, said, "We must first realize our traditional pride; then spread it beyond our borders to other countries. Great people like Kripananda Warrior in Tamil Nadu worked for this. Ashok Singhal was the one who came carrying bric-

ks for the birth place of Rama and sought blessings from the Maha Periyar of the Kanchipuram Shankara Math and Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swami. His services to Kanchipuram and Tamil Nadu are commendable," he said.

The ceremony was attended by Union Minister of State for Information and

Broadcasting L. Murugan, Udasin Math's Peethadhi Karshini Anubhavanand Maharaj, Sri Sri Swami Ramananda Maharaj, Sri Hanuman Mataji, Vishwa Hindu Parishad International President Alok Kumar, Vishwa Hindu Parishad Tamil Nadu President Gopalji and others.

October 04 Paris 2026

G7 Nations Agree Potential Drop in Petrol and Diesel Prices



G7 nations have collectively agreed to release 100 million barrels of crude oil from their emergency reserves into the global market. This move is expected to alleviate the global crude oil shortage and potentially bring petrol and diesel prices in India under control. The international crude oil supply chain has been severely disrupted due to the ongoing tensions involving the US, Israel, and Iran over the past eight months. In particular, transport blockades at the Strait of Hormuz—a vital maritime route in the Middle East—caused global prices for crude oil and diesel to hit new highs. Amidst this situation, US President Trump warned that if European nations failed to release their crude oil reserves to the international market, a ban would be imposed on diesel exports from the US. Since European countries like France and the UK rely heavily on the US for more than half of their diesel supplies, Trump's threatened ban immediately sparked panic in their fuel markets. The cost of refining crude oil into diesel surged to an unprecedented level of 9,600 (\$100 USD) per barrel in the international market. Driven by fears of this shortage, diesel prices at petrol stations across Europe skyrocketed by up to 40 percent in just one week. To curb the unprecedented rise in global fuel prices, G7 nations have collectively agreed to release 100 million barrels of crude oil from their emergency reserves into the global market. This decision was reached during an emergency video conference of G7 nations led by French President Emmanuel Macron.

Key aspects of the plan include the immediate commencement of this emergency crude oil release, which will continue over the next four months. To alleviate shortages, a significant portion of the reserves will be introduced to the market within the first 20 days. The Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA) will oversee and coordinate this entire release process globally. Economic experts believe that this decisive move could reduce the global crude oil shortage and potentially bring petrol and diesel prices in India under control. The measure is expected to ease the current volatility in the fuel market.

Agreement to buy 114 more Rafale fighter jets by March

Air Force Chief A.P. Singh



NEW DELHI: At a press conference held yesterday on the occasion of Air Force Day, Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh, the Commander of the Air Force, said:

Negotiations are ongoing for the Multi-Role Combat Aircraft Program to purchase 114 more Rafale fighter jets from France.

Key issues, including pricing, are currently being discussed. If all goes according to plan, the deal could be finalized by the end of the current fiscal year (March 27). To increase the strength of the fighter aircraft units in the Indian Air Force, there is a need to induct 36 to 40 fighter aircraft every year in the next few years.

The first phase of the 114 Rafale aircraft procurement project, which had been pending for about 20 years, was awarded in February this year. It will be carried out through a direct contract with the French government. The Indian Air Force currently has 36 Rafale aircraft.

With the addition of the new 114 aircraft, the total number of Rafale aircraft will increase to 150, he said.



Minister Rajmohan Offers Prayers at Thirumalai Vayavur Perumal Temple

CHENGALPATTU: Minister Rajmohan offered prayers today at the Perumal temple in Thirumalai Vayavur. The renowned Perumal temple, a significant Hindu place of worship, is located at Thirumalai Vayavur near Maduranthakam in Chengalpattu district. Hundreds of devotees visit this temple—often referred to as ‘South Tirupati’ or ‘Kutti Tirupati’ (Little Tirupati)—daily to offer worship. Against this backdrop, Minister Rajmohan, who holds the portfolios for School Education, Tamil Official Language & Tamil Culture, and Information & Publicity, visited the temple today. He stood in the queue along with other devotees to offer his prayers.

Indian economy is growing rapidly Principal Secretary to the PM P.K. Mishra



NEW DELHI: “The entire world is facing uncertainty. However, the Indian economy is growing rapidly,” said P.K. Mishra, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister. An economic conference organized by the Union Finance Ministry began in Delhi yesterday. 180 economists

from 30 countries participated in it. International trade was discussed extensively in the conference. Speaking at the conference, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, P.K. Mishra, said: During the Corona pandemic, countries around the world are facing various economic crises. After this, various problems are arising at the international level. Due to this, the entire world is experiencing an unstable and uncertain environment. However, the Indian economy is growing rapidly. The country’s economic growth rate during the April&June period was 7.8 percent. This has confirmed that the Indian economy is growing rapidly, surpassing the estimates. The country’s power supply and energy supply are stable. Vehicle sales are increasing significantly. We have expanded India’s supply chain. We have entered into free trade agreements with various countries. We have enhanced the country’s manufacturing capacity. Due to such measures, the Indian economy is strong. Wars and trade wars must be stopped. Only then will the global economy recover. This is what P.K. Mishra said.

Omni bus owners complain about officials hunting for bribes in the name of taxes

CHENNAI: The Omni Bus Owners Association has accused officials of engaging in bribery in the name of taxes. Jaya Pandian, president of the All Omni Bus Owners Association in Koyambedu, Chennai, told reporters: There are continuous reports that Omni buses are charging high fares. However, no official has yet collected proper fines from Omni buses for charging excessive fares. Instead, they are collecting fines from bus owners in the name of inspection for charging excessive fares. They collect taxes ranging from Rs. 40,000 per week to Rs. 1 lakh per month per vehicle. Tamil Nadu vehicles going from Tamil Nadu to other states like Karnataka, Kerala, and Andhra Pradesh are passing through peacefully without any difficulty. However, when vehicles from neighboring states enter Tamil Nadu, officials stop the vehicles at check posts in the name of checking. Due to this, a situation arises where we have to travel with a delay of 3 hours. The same kind of looting that happened during the regimes of Dravidian parties is continuing in this Ad C. When we complained to the minister that the tax should not be collected three times for Omni buses in a situation where we pay more than Rs. 10 crore to the government per month, the officials did not listen to us. They said that we can take care of it after the by&elections. The government should find a solution to this issue quickly. He said this.



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Rs. 47.10 lakh seized in Madhurantakam



MADHURANTHAKAM: In view of the Madhurantakam Legislative Assembly by&election, the Election Commission is conducting intensive vehicle checks in the Madhurantakam constituency. Meanwhile, while the Election Commission was conducting vehicle checks in the Ramapuram area next to Madhurantakam, they stopped a car coming from Vandavasi towards Chennai and conducted a check. Of this, Rs. 31 lakh 30 thousand rupees and another Rs. 80 thousand rupees were found to be taken away without proper documents in another car.

Following this, the money was seized by the Election Flying Squad. Furthermore, when the Flying Squad conducted a search on the Achirupakkam Bazaar Road, a car that came on that road was found to be carrying Rs. 2 lakhs without proper documents. Further, when the troops conducted a raid on a private hotel near Sothupbagam, they seized Rs. 13 lakhs for taking it without proper documents. The seized cash of Rs. 47 lakhs 10 thousand was deposited in the treasury of the Madurai District Election Office in the presence of the Election Commission Officer.

Rama- Sita Celestial Wedding Devotees Bid ₹63,000 for 7 Coconuts

TRICHY: It is believed that after defeating Ravana in the war in Sri Lanka and bringing Sita back to Ayodhya, Lord Rama rested at Kariyamanickam village (part of the Mannachanallur Panchayat Union) along the way.

To commemorate this, the celestial wedding of Sita and Rama is traditionally held here every year on the third Saturday of the Tamil month of Purattasi.

Accordingly, the wedding ceremony took place yesterday. Prior to the main event, “Homas” (sacred fire rituals) and “Thirumanjanam” (holy ablution) were performed. This was followed by the celestial



wedding, the exchange of garlands, and the “Oonjal Utsav” (swing festival). A large number of devotees participated, arriving from foreign countries like Sri Lanka and Malaysia, as well as from various parts of Tamil Nadu, including Chennai, Salem, and Trichy.

Devotees believe that placing the coconuts offered to the deity in their

home puja rooms and consuming them will lead to marriage, the blessing of children, the fulfillment of wishes, and overall prosperity. In this context, seven coconuts that had been offered to the deity were auctioned. Devotees competed eagerly to bid for them. The first coconut fetched the highest bid at ₹15,000. In total, the seven coconuts were auctioned for ₹63,501. Many devotees, including former District Councilor Amutha Jayaraman, participated in the event. At night, Lord Rama, adorned in special attire, was taken out in a street procession on the “Garuda Vahanam” to bless the devotees.

2,000 people infected with dengue in Chennai in a single month

CHENNAI: With 2,000 people infected with dengue fever in Chennai in a single month, special medical camps and mosquito eradication efforts are being carried out intensively. The number of dengue fever cases in Tamil Nadu is continuously increasing. Special wards have been set up in government hospitals to treat dengue patients. It has been advised to keep adequate medicines in stock.

However, the spread of dengue has not been brought under control. In Chennai, 2,000 people have been infected with dengue in the last month alone, and 50 people have tested positive for dengue the day before yesterday. The number of dengue cases in Tamil Nadu so far this year has crossed 20,000. Due to the high prevalence of dengue fever, special medical camps were held at 109 locations in 15 zones in Chennai yesterday. Tests were conducted on those with fever.

Mosquito eradication activities are being carried out intensively to prevent the spread of fever including dengue in the Chennai Corporation areas.

Boiler explosion at Andhra pharmaceutical factory kills 5 workers, including 2 Tamils



TIRUPATI: Various factories are operating in the city area near Varadaiyapalayam, Tirupati district, Andhra Pradesh. Accordingly, the ‘Tablets India’ (TIL) pharmaceutical factory is functioning. Yesterday at around 8.30 am, the boiler in this factory suddenly exploded. In this, the factory collapsed on the road. At that time, 5 workers who were working there were trapped in the debris.

During the rescue operation, 3 people were recovered dead, while 2 were rescued with serious injuries. Both of them were immediately admitted to the Tada Government Hospital for treatment. However, both of them died without any benefit from treatment. 2 of them were from Tamil Nadu.

Meanwhile, DIL has announced a compensation of Rs 50 lakh each to the families of the deceased and will bear the educational expenses of the children. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu expressed his deep condolences over the accident. The city police have registered a case and are investigating the incident.

16 Rameswaram fishermen released from Sri Lankan jail arrive in Chennai

Sending to hometowns

RAMESWARAM: 16 Rameswaram fishermen, who were released from a Sri Lankan prison, arrived in Chennai by plane yesterday.

Eleven fishermen from Rameswaram in Ramanathapuram district had gone fishing in a motorboat on August 5. The Sri Lankan Coast Guard, which arrived there at that time, arrested all 11 of them for fishing across the border. Similarly, on August 12, nine Rameswaram fishermen who had gone fishing were also arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy for fishing across the border. The 20 fishermen who appeared before the Sri Lankan Justice Ministry were remanded in Sri Lankan prisons. The Sri Lankan Justice Ministry also imposed a fine of Rs.



50,000 each on the 20 fishermen and ordered their release on payment of the fine. Of these, 16 fishermen were

released on payment of the fine. The other 4 fishermen were remanded in prison. The 16 fishermen who were

released were remanded in custody by Indian embassy officials. Indian embassy officials are making arrangements to fly the 16 fishermen to Chennai.

Following this, 16 fishermen were flown to Chennai from the Sri Lankan capital Colombo yesterday. They were received at the airport by officials from the Fisheries Department of the Tamil Nadu government and sent to their native places by vehicle.

Rahul Ganthi launches ‘Satyagraha’ digital platform



NEW DELHI: Congress Lok Sabha Opposition Leader Rahul Gandhi launched a digital platform

called ‘Satyagraha’ yesterday. Later, Rahul Gandhi spoke at the event and said: Youth, students, farmers, tribals, Dalits, women have been fighting for their rights individually. But, the voices that rise individually are easily suppressed. This ‘Satyagraha’ platform was launched to unite the voices of people fighting for

various issues such as land rights, rights of women and marginalized people, education, elections, etc. on one platform.

Those who are fighting against injustice will register their details in this. I will extend my support and support them in the state, on the streets and through letters. Rahul said.

We will fight to protect democracy CJP founder Abhijit announces

MUMBAI: The Karanpoochchi Janata Party (CJP), which has been raising various questions regarding the activities of the Election Commission and the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise to revise the voter list, has been continuously demanding the resignation of Gyanesh Kumar.



Various cases have been registered against CJP activists and student organizations

who staged the protest. In this context, CJP founder Abhijit Dipke, in a post published on his X site yesterday, said, “Cases have been registered against us for protesting. File more cases against us. We will not be afraid of all that. We will continue to fight to save democracy.”

Tender Issued for New ₹115 Crore Railway Line Between Morappur and Rani Mukkanur

CHENNAI: As part of the Morappur–Dharmapuri railway line project, a tender has been issued to construct a new 10&km railway line between Morappur and Rani Mukkanur at a cost of ₹115 crore. The Railway Board had approved the construction of a new 36&km railway line between Morappur and Dharmapuri at a cost of ₹358.95 crore in 2019.

However, land acquisition faced delays over the years. Out of the total 93 acres of land required, approximately 50 acres have been acquired so far. Railway construction



work is set to commence on the acquired land. In the first phase, a tender has been issued for the 10&km stretch between Morappur and Rani Mukkanur. Works such as soil testing, bridge construction, and track laying will be carried

out at a cost of ₹115.30 crore. The project will be completed within two years of selecting a contractor. Southern Railway plans to undertake work on the remaining 26&km stretch in the subsequent phase.

Presidential Election in Brazil Today



BRRZIL: Voting for the presidential election in Brazil is set to take place today. Brazil is a South American nation currently led by President Lula da Silva.

Twelve candidates are in the fray for the presidency, including the incumbent da Silva and Flavio Nantes Bolsonaro—the son of former President Jair Bolsonaro. To win the election, a candidate must secure more than 50 percent of the votes.

If no candidate achieves

this majority, a runoff election will be held between the top two vote-getters; that subsequent election is scheduled for the 25th of this month. Concurrently, elections for state governors and state ministers are also taking place today. Approximately 160 million voters are eligible to cast their ballots in today's elections.

Crowds on the Third Saturday of Purattasi 24 Hour Wait for Darshan at Tirumala



TIRUMALA: Huge crowds of devotees thronged Tirumala yesterday, marking the third Saturday of the Tamil month of Purattasi. Consequently, it took up to 24 hours for devotees to have *Sarva Darshan* (general viewing) of the deity. Thousands of devotees visit Tirumala during the month of Purattasi to worship Lord Venkateswara (the Seven Hills Lord) and fulfill their vows. It is customary to see an exceptionally large influx of devotees during Purattasi, a month considered auspicious for the Lord.

Brahmotsavam and on Purattasi Saturdays. Yesterday, coinciding with the third Saturday of the month, devotees were seen everywhere. Many had to wait up to 24 hours to catch a glimpse of the deity through *Sarva Darshan*.

The Tirupati Devasthanam arranged for 'Vaari Sevaks' to frequently distribute food, snacks, milk, drinking water, and butter-milk to devotees waiting for darshan in the Vaikuntham queue complex. Crowds of devotees were visible everywhere—whether at the counters for Laddu prasadam, tonsure services, calendar distribution, or accommodation allotment.

Massive Mounds of Chemical Foam Gushing from Kelavarapalli Dam; Farmers Alarmed

HOSUR: Farmers are concerned as mounds of foam gush out along with the water released through the sluice gates of the Kelavarapalli Dam in Hosur. The maximum water level of the Kelavarapalli Dam in Krishnagiri district is 44.48 feet; currently, the water level stands at 42.48 feet. Yesterday, the dam received an inflow of 511 cubic feet of water per second, while 551 cubic feet per second is being discharged into the Thenpennai River through the sluice gates.

Mounds of chemical foam are seen gushing out along with the discharged water. It is common for such chemical foam to appear in the Thenpennai River during the rainy season, caused by chemical effluents released from industries in the catchment areas of Karnataka state mixing with the river water. Similarly, chemical foam is currently visible in patches around the Kelavarapalli Dam area, resembling a blanket of snow. Furthermore, strong winds are causing the chemical



foam to swirl and drift onto nearby agricultural lands and roads.

This has made it impossible for livestock—such as goats and cattle—to graze on the grass and vegetation.

The foam also lands on motorists traveling across the causeway near the dam. Consequently, farmers and motorists alike are facing significant hardship and distress.

120 kg of Sea Cucumbers Seized Near Mandapam – Coast Guard Operation

RAMESWARAM : The Coast Guard seized 120 kg of banned sea cucumbers in the waters of the Palk Strait, near Mandapam. During a patrol, Coast Guard personnel from the Mandapam station inspected an unregistered traditional boat that was stationed suspiciously near the shore in the Palk Strait area.

The inspection revealed approximately 120 kg of sea cucumbers packed in six gunny bags. The Coast Guard seized the contraband and handed it over to the Forest Department.

Meanwhile, the Forest Department and the Mandapam Marine Police are investigating the smugglers who attempted to transport the sea cucumbers to Sri Lanka.



Samarayapatti village is located near Kumaralingam in the Madathukulam Taluk of Tiruppur district. Situated on the banks of the Amaravathi River, the village is home to a temple complex—featuring shrines for Kalyana Vinayagar, Adikesava Perumal (flanked by Sridevi and Bhudevi), and Subramaniya Swamy—built upon a massive, single rock formation spanning approximately 15 acres. Villagers gathered at this temple to offer prayers for rain; they poured *kanji* (porridge) onto the rock and consumed it together.



The Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah inaugurates State-level Exhibition on New Criminal Laws and attends Gaupalak Sammelan in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

“TVK will achieve a historic victory in the by election” – Minister Sengottaiyan

TRICHY: The by-election for the Dharapuram (Reserved) Assembly constituency in Tiruppur district is scheduled to take place the day after tomorrow (Tuesday).

In preparation for the final phase of campaigning, Chief Minister Vijay is conducting a 'roadshow' in Dharapuram today to support TVK candidate Sathyabham, who is contesting from the constituency.

Speaking to reporters in Trichy today regarding the Chief Minister's campaign, Minister Sengottaiyan said: "Chief Minister Vijay, the leader of the *Tamilaga Vetri Kazhagam* (TVK)—a party that is steering Tamil Nadu on the right path and delivering a corruption-free administration—is set to hold a 'roadshow' in



Dharapuram today for the election campaign.

People are eagerly waiting to see him. The victory TVK secures in this by-election

will be a historic one, marking a significant chapter in Tamil Nadu's history.

This election will prove to be a turning point, more so than other elections. TVK will achieve such a resounding victory that neither the DMK nor the AIADMK will even dare to contest the subsequent by-election." He stated this while addressing the press.

Vijay's Strategic Move Amidst By Elections: Team of Tamil Nadu Ministers Heads to Kerala!



CHENNAI: Chief Minister Vijay is dispatching a team of Tamil Nadu ministers to Kerala tomorrow, the 5th, to meet and hold discussions with Kerala Chief Minister V.D. Satheesan. The delegation includes TVK ministers Puchi Anand, Sengottaiyan, and Arunraj, as well as Congress minister Rajesh Kumar and several senior officials.

During this meeting, the ministers and officials will discuss the Anaimalaiyarn & Nallar project with the Kerala Chief Minister. Election strategists observe that there is a political motive behind Chief Minister Vijay sending these ministers to Kerala on the 5th, just as by-elections for the Dharapuram and Maduranthakam constituencies in Tamil Nadu are scheduled for the 6th. Water from the Anaimalaiyarn River, which originates in Kerala, currently goes to waste without benefiting anyone. The Anaimalaiyarn & Nallar project aims to divert this water via the Nallar stream to the Thirumoorthy Hills Dam in Tamil Nadu's Tiruppur district. If implemented, this project would provide

approximately 8.5 to 9 TMC of water annually to the Thirumoorthy Dam, thereby largely meeting the irrigation needs of farmers in the Tiruppur and Coimbatore districts. Like the Athikadavu & Avinashi project, the Anaimalaiyarn & Nallar project has been a long-standing demand of farmers in the Kongu region. Farmers from Tiruppur and Coimbatore have staged numerous protests over the years for this cause.

However, while the Dravidian parties that have governed Tamil Nadu showed interest during the protests, they never succeeded in overcoming the obstacles to implementation or realizing the project's objectives. Farmers in the Kongu region continue to wonder whether the TVK government will take forward this project, which has been languishing for nearly 60 years. Although Chief Minister Vijay had paid no attention to this scheme during his first four months in office, he is now dispatching a team of Tamil Nadu ministers to discuss it with the Chief Minister of Kerala.

Political strategists and analysts in Tamil Nadu believe

this move reflects his electoral strategy. The Dharapuram constituency, where a by-election is set to take place, falls within the Tiruppur district. TVK candidate Sathyabama faces significant opposition in this constituency; in many areas, she is unable to even campaign for votes. The Kongu Vellala Gounder community holds the power to determine victory or defeat in the Dharapuram constituency. AIADMK leader Edappadi Palaniswami belongs to this community; consequently, an AIADMK defeat here would be tantamount to a defeat for Palaniswami—and by extension, the Kongu Vellala Gounder community itself. Members of the community are therefore anxious to prevent the defeat of a leader from their own ranks. Chief Minister Vijay became aware of this sentiment through intelligence reports.

While consulting with his advisors and officials on how to garner support from farmers belonging to other communities in the constituency, the long-standing demand regarding the Anaimalaiyarn & Nallar project—a cause

farmers have championed for six decades—was brought to his attention. They explained in detail the obstacles preventing the project's implementation. They also suggested that if the TVK government appeared genuinely concerned about this demand, it might shift the farmers' attention toward TVK in Dharapuram.

Following this, a plan was finalized for Tamil Nadu ministers to meet the Chief Minister of Kerala. A request for an appointment was made to Kerala Chief Minister Satheesan on behalf of the government. The Kerala government initially suggested scheduling the meeting for the second week of October. However, the TVK government gently pressed for an earlier date, expressing Chief Minister Vijay's preference for the meeting to take place on October 5th. Consequently, the Kerala Chief Minister agreed, and the meeting is now set for tomorrow.

It has also been decided to give the meeting significant publicity. With elections scheduled for the 6th, the sole objective of this meeting is to project the image that Chief Minister Vijay is committed to fulfilling this project—a long-standing demand of farmers in the Tiruppur district. However, political analysts say the "million-dollar question" remains: will this electoral political strategy of the Vijay government actually make an impact on the farmers of Dharapuram?



The Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman attends the 5th Kautilya Economic Conclave, in New Delhi.