

Japan PM Takaichi congratulates PM Modi on 25 years as head of govt

TOKYO: Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi has extended her warmest congratulations to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on completing 25 years in office as head of government, highlighting his longstanding dedication to the development of Indian society and the nation through outstanding political leadership.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi reached a monumental milestone on October 7, marking a quarter-century of continuous tenure as head of government, a political trajectory that kicked off with

vows stronger FOIP partnership

his swearing in as Gujarat's Chief Minister in 2001.

Acknowledging this remarkable feat, the Union Cabinet adopted a formal resolution on Tuesday to felicitate PM Modi on achieving 25 years of uninterrupted executive leadership.

Having first taken the oath of office in Gujarat on October 7, 2001, he held the state's top post until May 2014, after which he transitioned to national leadership by assuming office as Prime Minister

in May 2014, a position he has held ever since.

Building on this momentous occasion, Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi took to X to share her official statements, bridging personal reflections with diplomatic vision. Commemorating his quarter-century tenure and leadership trajectory, she stated, "Today, on the 25th anniversary of Prime Minister Modi's tenure as Chief Minister, I extend my heartfelt congratulations,"



adding, "For many years, you have dedicated yourself to the development of Indian society and the nation, and since 2001, you have demonstrated outstanding political leadership over a long period as Chief Minister."

She further expressed her deep respect for his achievements in advancing India's development and elevating its standing internationally.

Reflecting on bilateral

ties and her recent diplomatic engagements, Takaichi expressed appreciation for the hospitality extended during her travels, stating, "Moreover, during my visit to India in July this year, I was extended the warmest hospitality, for which I once again express my sincere gratitude."

She elaborated on their discussions, noting that while experiencing India's culinary culture and music, she engaged in concrete talks with Prime Minister Modi to advance the

Japan & India 'Special Strategic and Global Partnership' to a new stage.

Looking ahead to future diplomatic milestones, she noted that next year marks the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and India. Emphasising shared regional goals, she further stated, "To realise a 'Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP),' Japan and India, which share strategic directions, will further strengthen our partnership through even closer collaboration with Prime Minister Modi."

CM Vijay inspects Madhavaram Dairy

CHENNAI: Between 400,000 and 450,000 liters of milk are produced daily at the Aavin dairy plant in Madhavaram, Chennai.

From here, milk packets are distributed via trucks across various parts of Chennai along more than 45 routes. Currently, the supply of Aavin milk in Chennai is insufficient to meet public demand. As stocks sell out quickly at shops, the public

is forced to purchase private & label milk at higher prices, causing significant inconvenience.

Amidst this situation, Chief Minister Vijay is conducting an inspection at the Madhavaram dairy plant. He inquired in detail with officials regarding milk procurement and distribution. Subsequently, the Chief Minister inaugurated the auxiliary



building for the Aavin central laboratory, constructed

at a cost of ₹2.23 crore. He also inspected the construction work of a new dairy unit within the Madhavaram complex.

The Madhavaram plant processes between 300,000 and 360,000 liters of milk daily for sale. The facility includes cold storage rooms with a capacity of 375,000 liters and storage rooms for 80 metric tonnes of milk powder.

Government to Revoke Order Regularizing Illegal Quarries; Decisive Move by the State

MADURAI: The 'Arappor Iyakkam' (Arappor Movement) has welcomed the government's submission to the High Court stating that the Government Order (G.O.) regularizing illegal quarries will soon be revoked. The movement expressed appreciation for the Tamil Nadu government's decision to withdraw the 'One & Time Regularization' scheme—introduced by the previous DMK government prior to the elections—which caused a loss of over ₹20,000 crore to the state exchequer in the mineral resources sector.

Abel Moorthy from Madurai, in a petition filed before the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court, stated: "Previously, operators of illegal stone quarries faced penalties of up to ₹5 lakh per hectare, imprisonment for five years, or both. However, last January, the Department of Natural Resources issued a Government Order regarding a one-time regularization scheme. This order stipulates that if minerals are extracted beyond permitted limits or if quarrying is conducted in areas not covered by the lease, a penalty

of only ₹25 per metric tonne will be imposed. Furthermore, the order allows for an initial payment of 20 percent of the penalty amount, with the balance payable in six bi-monthly installments (or 12 installments if the penalty exceeds ₹10 crore). This Government Order was issued with the ulterior motive of protecting individuals engaged in illegal quarrying activities. Therefore, this order issued by the Tamil Nadu government must be quashed. Until then, an interim stay should be granted against the implementation of the government's order regarding quarries," the petition stated. This petition came up for hearing before the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court, presided over by Justices Velmurugan and Ramakrishnan.

The government counsel informed the court that a recommendation had been made to withdraw the Government Order (G.O.) and that it would be withdrawn shortly. Consequently, the judges ordered an extension of the existing interim stay on the G.O. and adjourned the hearing for four

weeks. Welcoming this move, the Arappor Iyakkam stated: "We welcome the Tamil Nadu government's announcement to withdraw the 'One & Time Regularization' scheme—introduced by the previous DMK government prior to the elections for the benefit of illegal quarrying mafias—which caused a loss of over ₹20,000 crore to the state exchequer in the mineral resources sector. Arappor Iyakkam had consistently advocated for the withdrawal of this G.O. We had also met Minister Thiru Prabhu in person on June 3rd, submitted a petition, and explained the

necessity of withdrawing the scheme; he had assured us that he would consider the matter. Farmers, including Abel Moorthy, had also filed a case in court seeking the withdrawal of this G.O. During the hearing, it was announced that the Tamil Nadu government had decided to withdraw it.

This is the right decision; the G.O. must be withdrawn soon. Next, the government must replenish the state exchequer by imposing fines for the stones stolen by illegal quarry operators! Furthermore, legal cases must be filed against the illegal stone quarrying mafias!"



The Tirunelveli Range DIG personally invited the head constables who had performed excellently in two murder cases in Thoothukudi to the range office and commended them by presenting certificates.

Case registered against Rahul Gandhi for entering Akashvani Bhavan without permission

NEW DELHI: A major stir unfolded in Delhi yesterday due to a protest by opposition MPs. They marched in protest against the Chief Election Commissioner, leading to the arrest of Rahul Gandhi and others. Opposition parties had been accusing the Election Commission of vote theft resulting from the special intensive revision of electoral rolls. Amidst this, reports emerged that two Election Commissioners held a stance contrary to that of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

Consequently, demands for the Chief Election Commissioner's resignation gained momentum among the opposition. Protests pressing for this demand are being held across the country; a continuous protest had been underway at Delhi's Jantar Mantar for the past few days. Meanwhile, following a decision made during a meeting of the opposition 'INDIA' alliance on the 30th of last month, opposition MPs held a march towards the Election Commission of India in Delhi yesterday. They marched while raising slogans against Gyanesh Kumar.

The procession, which began at the Parliament complex around 11:00 AM, was halted by the police at the junction

near All India Radio, the Reserve Bank, and NITI Aayog. Participants in the march included All India Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi, P. Chidambaram, Congress MPs including Manickam Tagore, Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav, NCP MP Supriya Sule, and

from advancing further. Consequently, Rahul Gandhi climbed onto the barricade. Priyanka Gandhi joined him in climbing it as well; however, they were unable to move forward due to the heavy police presence on the other side. Standing atop the iron barricade and holding the national flag, Rahul Gandhi rallied the protesters.

When the workers refused to leave, they too were arrested. While Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi continued their sit-in protest, police and Home Ministry officials engaged in talks with them. However, they refused to leave the spot without meeting the Chief Election Commissioner.

Consequently, the protest continued well past 7:30 PM. Amidst this situation, additional police personnel arrived at the scene around 8 PM, led by Delhi Police Deputy Commissioner Sachin Sharma. The Deputy Commissioner held discussions with Rahul Gandhi and others, but no agreement was reached. Consequently, the police proceeded to arrest them. MPs who resisted were physically

a Trinamool Congress MP.

Over a hundred people participated, including Abhishek Banerjee, Rashtriya Janata Dal MP Manoj Jha, Viduthala Chiruthaigal Katchi leader Thirumavalavan, and MDMK MP Durai Vaiko. In anticipation of the rally, police forces—including the Rapid Action Force—had been deployed and barricades erected at various points in the area the previous day. Security personnel intercepted the MPs at the aforementioned junction, preventing them

He subsequently entered the premises of a nearby radio station, intending to proceed to the Election Commission office from there, but the police thwarted this move as well. As a result, Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi, K.C. Venugopal, and others sat under a tree at the site and staged a 'dharna' (sit-in protest). Police announced via loudspeakers that prohibitory orders under Section 163 were in force in the area and urged the gathered Congress party workers to disperse.

ly lifted and carried away. After being arrested and placed in a vehicle, Priyanka Gandhi spoke to the police and stepped out.

The others were taken to a different location. This protest caused a major stir in Delhi yesterday, lasting for nine hours—from 11 AM to 8 PM. Meanwhile, the Delhi Police have registered a case against the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, and Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi for entering Akashvani Bhavan without permission.



Heavy Rain in Coonoor: One Killed After Rock Falls on Car on Hill Road

NILAGIRI: A retired Air Force personnel tragically lost his life after a massive rock fell on his car along the Mettupalayam & Coonoor hill road, amidst heavy rains in the Nilgiris district. The Nilgiris and surrounding areas have been experiencing heavy rainfall accompanied by gusty winds for the past two days. On Wednesday morning, Krishnamoorthy (65) and his family—residents of the Jagathala area near Aruvankadu,

Coonoor—were returning home by car after visiting relatives in Coimbatore. As the

vehicle was passing through the lower Burliar section near Coonoor, a large rock suddenly rolled down from the hilltop and struck the rear of the car. Krishnamoorthy and his wife, Devaki (54), who were seated in the back of the car, sustained severe injuries. Bystanders rescued them and immediately rushed them to the Government Medical College Hospital.

However, Krishnamoorthy, who was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit, succumbed to his injuries despite medical efforts. His wife Devaki and the other



occupants of the car escaped with minor injuries and are currently undergoing treatment. Traffic on the Mettupalayam & Coonoor hill road has been severely disrupted due to the accident. Officials have warned of the risk of landslides

and falling trees at various points along the route as the rain continues.

A rescue team has rushed to the scene and is working to remove the rock and restore traffic flow. The incident has caused a stir in the area.

Today horoscope



Expected money will come. Your father's health will improve. You will be happy with new responsibilities. You will meet relatives and childhood friends. Your superior will appreciate you at the office. You will have to travel on business.



You will have good expenses. You will buy necessary items for your home. You will move into a house with good space. You will attract old customers by adopting new strategies in business. It is better to avoid arguments at the office.



You will meet celebrities. Confusion will be eliminated and happiness will prevail in the family. You will make new plans. You will be more involved in meditation, yoga, and spirituality. There will be profits in business. Avoid interfering in other people's affairs at the office.



You will overcome hidden opposition. The cold war that existed between the couple will disappear. It is better to give in to each other. Good news will come from abroad. Business will prosper. It is better to be in the office and have your own work.



You will experience mental discomfort. You will struggle to complete some tasks. You will reconcile with your family. You will renovate and expand your ancestral home. You may experience physical fatigue due to the workload at the office. You will expand your business.



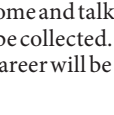
There will be a way to resolve ancestral property issues through discussion. Lack of money will go away. You will visit the temple of the ancestral deity with family members. There will be profits in business. You will get the opportunity to meet celebrities in the office.



Childhood friends will help. There may be minor arguments in the family. You will try to sell your ancestral house, plot, and agricultural land. You will have new experiences in the outside world. You will see progress in business and career.



Experience and knowledge will be revealed in your speech. Children will behave kindly. Money will come from an unexpected place. You will seek help from some people to expand your business on a large scale. Avoid arguments in the office.



The ego problem will be resolved and there will be a closeness between husband and wife. Money that was not expected will come. Relatives who have moved away will come and talk to you. Old debts in business will be collected. New partners will support you. Career will be successful.



As the Chandrashtama period continues, sudden expenses and mental stress will come and go. Care should be taken with the vehicle. There will be problems with employees in business. It is good to speak kindly to customers. The document you were looking for in the office will appear.



You will have to weigh everything in the family. Old debts will be paid off. There will be gains from maternal relatives. Business competition will be broken. You will make some profit. You will be recommended for a new position in the office.



Expectations will be fulfilled. You will receive blessings from your elders. Your son will get a good job. Your daughter's marriage efforts will end well. You will expand your business to a large extent. Do not interfere in the affairs of others in the office.

Road blockade demanding resolution of drinking water

problem in Kanchipuram - Public accuses Minister, Mayor



KANCHIPURAM: Public in Kanchipuram staged a road blockade, claiming that the drinking water problem has been going on for 4 months.

There has been no water supply in some parts of Kanchipuram Upperikkulam Street for the past 4 months. In some parts, water is coming in intermittently. The people of that area are complaining that no action has been taken in this regard after complaining to the mayor and the municipal authorities. They also went to the Forest Minister and Kanchipuram MLA R. V. Ranjithkumar's office to lodge a complaint. Since the Minister was not present, they raised the issue in the internal complaint book of the office. However, no action was taken. The public, who were upset by this, gathered at the Ekamparanathar Sannidhi Street.

Many people came with empty jugs and blocked the road. The Sivakanchi police, who immediately rushed to the scene after receiving information, tried to pacify the protesters. They called off their protest after the police assured them that they would talk to the authorities and immediately provide drinking water.

CMDA approves conversion of 21.37 acres for commercial use at the site of the new Secretariat in Patna



CHENNAI: The CMDA has approved the conversion of 21.37 acres of land selected for the construction of a new capital secretariat in Pattnaik at a cost of Rs 1,200 crore. For this, 25.55 acres of land belonging to the Tamil Nadu Housing and Urban Development Department, Chennai Municipal Corporation and the Revenue Department have been selected.

The Tamil Nadu government has announced the

construction of a new capital secretariat in Pattnaik at a cost of Rs 1,200 crore. For this, 25.55 acres of land belonging to the Tamil Nadu Housing and Urban Development Department, Chennai Municipal Corporation and the Revenue Department have been selected.

the land classification of the city to the group meeting. Following this, the 289th committee meeting of the CMDA was held the day before yesterday. In it, out of the 25.55 acres selected for the new Capital Secretariat project to be set up in Pattnaik, approval was given to change the classification of only 21.37 acres of land. In this meeting, approval was given to change the land classification in 44 places, including the new Capital Secretariat project. In addition, approval was given to 28 files related to administrative procedures, CMDA officials said.

Ashutosh Dixit appointed as Air Chief Marshal Who played an active role in the Kargil War

NEW DELHI Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit has been appointed as the new Chief of the Indian Air Force. The current Chief of the Indian Air Force, Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh, is set to retire on October 31. In this situation, Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit has been appointed as the new Chief of the



Air Staff.

He played a key role in the intensive promotion of indigenously developed 'Tejas' fighter jets and domestic aircraft programs in the Air Force. He has over 3,500 hours of flying experience in various types of fighter aircraft including

Mirage & 2000, MiG variants, Kiran, Jaguar, IL & 78, Hawk and Tejas.

In a defence career spanning nearly four decades, he actively participated in major military operations during the Kargil War, including 'Operation Safet Sagar', 'Operation Rakshak' and 'Operation Sindhu'.

Dhanush enters politics with Rajinikanth's support: Plans to contest 2031 elections



CHENNAI: Actor Dhanush, who is set to enter politics, has decided to directly contest the 2031 Legislative Assembly elections, just like Chief Minister Vijay.

The recent legislative assembly elections in Tamil Nadu brought about a major political change. Vijay, who launched a political party called Tamil Nadu Vetrik Kazhagam (TV-EK), came to power in 2 years. Due to this political change, the influence of the DMK and AIADMK, which had been in a state of flux for many years, has waned.

After MGR started the AIADMK and came to power, actors Sivaji Ganesan, Bhagiyaraj, and T. Rajendar started political parties. But they were not able to succeed in politics like MGR.

Meanwhile, with Vijay

Thawekavi taking power and becoming the Chief Minister within 2 years, other actors are also getting ready to enter politics. Actor Dhanush is taking steps to start a new movement.

He is taking many steps for this. Following actor Dhanush, Suriya and Sivakarthykeyan have also held fan meet. Dhanush, who has decided to get involved in active politics more than other actors, is involved in all the work for that.

Meanwhile, information has emerged that Dhanush's party has registered a party named "Tamil Nadu Upliftment Party" with the Election Commission. When asked about this, Dhanush's party said, "It is certain that a political party will be launched. However, the name of the party has not yet been registered with the

Election Commission. The official announcement will be made soon. Until then, fans will have to wait patiently."

When asked about Dhanush's party launch at Cinema Vattara, they said: Actor Rajinikanth would have definitely won since he had launched the party. However, due to his poor health, he withdrew from launching the party. However, Vijay overcame all the opposition after starting the party, including the two big parties DMK and AIADMK, and even after the Karur incident, he recovered and won a huge victory, changing the political landscape.

Seeing Vijay's immense success, Rajinikanth's fans and followers were worried that they had missed out on a good opportunity. To allay that fear, actor Dhanush, who was Rajinikanth's son-in-law, entered the political arena.

Dhanush, who is set to become actively involved in politics with Rajini's support, has decided to start a party like Vijay and contest the upcoming local body elections and the assembly elections directly in the 2031 Legislative

Assembly elections instead of contesting them in the upcoming elections. After Vijay's political party was launched, the film competition between Rajinikanth and Vijay turned into a kind of conflict. Both sides started criticizing each other on social media.

Immediately after Vijay won the election, Rajinikanth's meeting with DMK president M.K. Stalin in person was criticized. Following this, Rajinikanth gave an explanation about that meeting. However, the conflict between the two sides on social media continues.

After the Legislative Assembly elections, various film celebrities including Kamal Haasan, Sivakarthykeyan, Silambarasan and others met Chief Minister Vijay in his absence and at the Chief Secretariat and congratulated him. However, Rajini and Dhanush have not met Vijay so far. Therefore, due to the conflict with Vijay in cinema and politics, both of them may have avoided meeting Chief Minister Vijay in person due to the recent political party formation. They said this.

Repo rate hiked to 5.50%: Home, auto loan interest rates likely to increase

MUMBAI: The repo rate, the short-term lending rate provided by the Reserve Bank to banks, has been increased. It is noteworthy that this is the first time that the repo rate has been increased since February 2023.

Accordingly, Reserve Bank of India Governor Sanjay Malhotra has announced that the repo rate will be increased by 25 basis points from the previous level of 5.25 percent to 5.50%.

As the repo rate has been raised, there is a possibility that the interest rates on home, vehicle and other loans offered by banks will also increase.

The Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee meets once every two



months. Various important decisions are taken at that time, considering the situation. This includes the decision to change the repo rate. Accordingly, the repo rate, which is the short-term loan offered by the Reserve Bank to banks, has been increased.

It seems that the Reserve Bank has increased the repo rate due to the risk of rising inflation, the depreciation of the Indian rupee to 97 against the US dollar, and the rise in crude oil prices in the international market.

The country's GDP is projected to grow at 7.1 percent in the current fiscal year, while the Consumer Price Index (CPI) is projected to grow at 5.2 percent in the fiscal year 2026 & 27. Speaking to reporters after the monetary policy meeting, the RBI Governor said, "Both price stability and financial stability are essential for long-term sustainable growth. So we will continue to work towards them."

"Similarly, the Reserve Bank will continue to implement policies that further enhance the resilience of the economy, amid global uncertainty," he said.

The repo rate is the interest rate that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) gives to banks for loans. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has not made any changes to this rate at present. Due to this, it seems that the interest rates on loans like home loans, car loans, personal loans etc. will not increase for now.

This is because usually, if the RBI increases the rate on loans given to banks, the banks will also increase the interest rates on loans given to their customers.

The last time the RBI cut the repo rate by 0.25 percentage points to 5.25 percent was in December last year. It is noteworthy that that rate has remained the same till now.

October 07 Jarkhand 2026

A woman who ran 1600 meters barefoot



A video has gone viral online showing a woman running a 1,600 meter race barefoot and clad in a saree during the physical fitness test for recruitment into the Home Guard. Kavitha Kumari, a widow from the Ramgarh district of Jharkhand, found herself solely responsible for supporting her two children and elderly in-laws after losing her husband and lacking a steady source of income. Upon learning about the Home Guard recruitment drive, she applied and appeared for the physical fitness test. Lacking proper gear like a tracksuit or running shoes, she participated in the 1,600 meter race barefoot while wearing a saree. Although completing the run within 10 minutes was the requirement, Kavitha finished it in just 6 minutes. As the video of her run went viral, she has been receiving widespread praise. Kavitha attributes her impressive speed to her determination to join the Home Guard for the sake of her children's future. Netizens have been moved by her feat, praising her with comments like, "This is a mother running for her children."

People's blessings are the reason for remaining in office for 25 years: PM Modi



NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Modi stated that the blessings of the people are the reason for his remaining in office for 25 years; the contribution of the people has been crucial to the position he holds today. He remarked that when he assumed office as the Chief Minister of Gujarat on this day in 2001, he had never imagined reaching such heights. He emphasized that today is not merely a day for reminiscing but a day to infuse new energy into our resolve.

All necessary measures are being taken to propel India to new heights. Recalling his school days in Vadnagar, he mentioned how his teachers taught various subjects and noted that he was always among the first students to arrive in the classroom. That eagerness to learn became an integral part of his life; even today, he considers himself a lifelong learner. He strives to learn something new every day, believing that the more he learns, the greater his capacity to contribute to the nation. The world is currently talking about our courageous pilot, Smith Machhar, and acknowledging India's capabilities. So on, the world will also be discussing aircraft manufactured in India, as they are set to enter service shortly. We have restored India's pride. Now is the time to set ambitious goals for our nation. Let us pledge to transform India into a developed nation by 2047. Prime Minister Modi spoke these words.



Gujarat: Fire truck cleans BJP MLA's bungalow

AHMEDABAD: A video of a fire engine being used to clean a BJP MLA's bungalow in Gujarat has gone viral on social media. BJP's Bachubhai Mankanbhai Kapad is the MLA from Devgadpariya assembly constituency in Dahod district of Gujarat.

There have been complaints that a fire engine was used to clean his bungalow in Pipero village. A video in this regard is going viral on social media. In it, a fire engine belonging to the Devgadpariya Municipality is spraying water around the MLA's bungalow. Following this, the opposition has alleged that the fire engine has been misused.



To mark the 25th anniversary celebrations of the Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC), the Indian Navy sailing vessel 'Neelkanth' was accorded a grand maritime welcome at Sri Vijayapuram.

11 Indians injured in attack on merchant ship near Oman

India strongly condemns



NEW DELHI: Eleven Indians were injured in an attack on a Panamanian&f-lagged merchant vessel near Oman. India has strongly condemned the attack. The 'MD on Peace' vessel was attacked by a missile or explosive device while it was sailing through the Strait of Hormuz near the coast of Oman last Monday. Ministry of External Affairs

help of Omani authorities and are receiving treatment in Kasab. We thank the Omani authorities for their invaluable assistance. India is deeply concerned by the ongoing attacks on Kapils in this region. We reiterate our call for an immediate end to such attacks in order to ensure peace and stability in the region. In this regard, attacks on the internal structures of businessmen, workers and the general public must come to an end. International maritime routes must be free of obstructions and trade operations must resume soon, Randhir Jaiswal said.

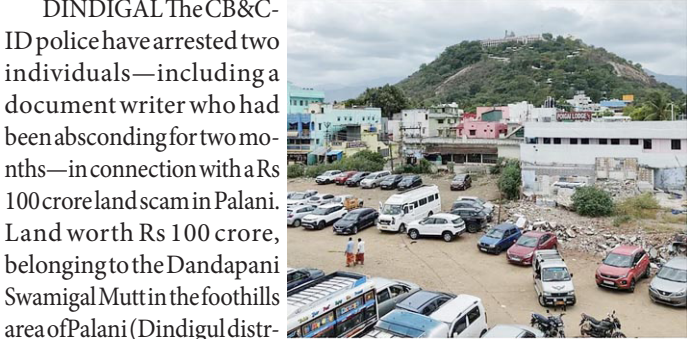
15 special forces to prevent bike races in Chennai - Traffic police keeping a close watch



CHENNAI: 15 special forces have been formed to prevent bike races in Chennai. The special forces are engaged in surveillance in plain clothes. The traffic police in Chennai are taking strict action to prevent youths from engaging in bike races and other dangerous adventures on major roads including Anna Salai, East Coast Road, and Kam-

on, the Traffic Investigation Division police arrested 16 people. 11 bikes were seized from them. Furthermore, the police are also searching for absconding bike racers and adventurers. Chennai Traffic Police Commissioner Chamundeswari warned that strict action will be taken against those involved in adventure activities that endanger the lives of the public and cause damage to public property. Furthermore, 15 special teams have been formed in Chennai to arrest those involved in bike racing and confiscate bikes, and they are actively taking action by engaging in surveillance in plain clothes.

Palani Rs 100 Crore Land Scam: Two Arrested, Including Absconding Document Writer



DINDIGAL The CB&CID police have arrested two individuals—including a document writer who had been absconding for two months—in connection with a Rs 100 crore land scam in Palani. Land worth Rs 100 crore, belonging to the Dandapani Swamikal Mutt in the foothills area of Palani (Dindigul district), was illegally registered in the names of two private individuals for a sum of Rs 2 crore. Following an inquiry involving 88 people, the CB&CID police registered a case against 11 individuals. Six people linked to the case—including Sub&Registrar Justin Manikandan, Murugadas, and broker Jayaprakash—had already been arrested; among them, lawyer Anwarudeen passed away while in prison. Five others involved in the case, including document writer Sivakumar, had gone



into hiding. As there was no information regarding their whereabouts, the police were unable to track them down. Consequently, the CB&CID police struggled for two months to locate these five individuals. Similarly, no concrete evidence has yet been found regarding the key figure who masterminded the scam. Meanwhile, having arrested the primary accused involved in the fraud, the CB&CID police had planned to file a charge sheet based on the investigation conducted so far. Amidst this, on Wednesday morning (Oct. 7), the CB&CID police arrested two individuals at their respective homes: Sivasankari, a Junior Assistant in the Registration Department who abetted the registration process, and Sivakumar, the document writer who had been absconding for two months. They are currently being interrogated. It is noteworthy that Junior Assistant Sivasankari has already been suspended in connection with this fraud.

How did Hindi text appear on medicine packets? – Minister Arunraj explains

CHENNAI: In a statement issued by the Minister for Medical and Family Welfare, Arunraj, the following was stated: We strongly condemn the DMK members—who engage in cheap politics over language at every opportunity—for shedding crocodile tears and pretending a non-existent issue is real, all to mask a historic blunder they themselves committed. It is essential to clarify the stark reality of this matter to the people of Tamil Nadu and to those in the DMK who seek to deliberately sow confusion and falsehoods. Typically, the medicine packets distributed to patients at the Karur Government Medical College Hospital are sourced from the Central Prison, with markings such as 'Morning / Afternoon / Night' printed exclusively in Tamil. In December 2025, due to a shortage of packets from the Central Prison, an urgent order was issued on December 31, 2025—during the previous DMK regime—to print 4 lakh packets through the Erode District Printing Industrial Cooperative Society; these packets entered public circulation as early as January 2026 (while the DMK was still in power). Similarly, in Coimbatore, the practice was officially approved through administrative procedures, printed by the Chinthamani Cooperative Society, and implemented exactly three years ago—during the DMK's tenure! What kind of politics is it to permit Hindi, create the template for it, and put it into circulation among patients during one's

own administration, only to now cast blame on the ruling party? Why are members of the DMK—who remained silent and passive when these items were introduced during their own administration—now suddenly posturing as guardians of the language struggle? It is a blatant act of hypocrisy for the DMK to have imposed Hindi themselves, only to now blow the issue out of proportion for political gain! The current administration procured the covers solely based on inventory requirements; no changes were made to the design or the language used, which had been established during the DMK's tenure. This is a despicable political ploy by the DMK to baselessly shift the blame onto us in order to conceal their own betrayal! As soon as this matter came to



the government's attention, the use of those specific pill covers was immediately halted in both Karur and Coimbatore. In Karur, the previous practice has been restored: covers are sourced from the Central Prison, stamped with details exclusively in Tamil, and issued to patients. In Coimbatore, immediate measures have been taken to produce and utilize pill covers featuring only Tamil and English for patient use. Following the path of Perarignar Anna, *Tamizhaga Vetri Kazhagam* is the only movement that upholds the two&language policy not merely in name, but as its very lifeblood. We will never compromise on this principle. Let us wait and see if the DMK—accustomed to a brand of politics built entirely on lies—will finally abandon such cheap tactics and act as a constructive opposition party. This was stated in the release.



The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) released the Rs. 300 Special Entry Darshan tickets for the Tirupati Lord Venkateswara temple—specifically for the dates of the 12th, 13th, 14th, 18th, 19th, and 20th—on its official website at 10:00 AM on Wednesday. Devotees are requested to book their tickets exclusively through the website <https://ttdevasthanams.ap.gov.in>.

Indian pilot Captain Smit Machar is recovering

Embassy of India

Dubai: The Indian Embassy in the UAE has stated that Indian pilot Captain Smit Machhar, who is undergoing treatment at a hospital in Abu Dhabi, is recovering. An attempt was made to hijack a Flydubai flight traveling from Dubai to Tel Aviv, which Indian pilot Smit Machhar courageously thwarted. During the incident, he was severely assaulted by the co-pilot on board. Doctors had previously repaired damaged sections of his skull after he was admitted to a hospital in Saudi Arabia. Currently, Smit Machhar has been admitted

to a hospital in Abu Dhabi for further treatment, where doctors are providing intensive care. In a statement regarding his health, the Indian Embassy in the UAE said: "Captain Smit Machhar continues to show steady progress and is recovering." The Embassy added, "We remain in close contact with his family, doctors, and local authorities, providing all possible assistance. We thank everyone who has offered prayers and wish him a speedy recovery."

Punjab CM's office, official's house raided



CHANDIGARH: A case was registered after the Enforcement Directorate filed a complaint alleging that Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann's special officer was involved in a corruption scandal in Punjab. In this context, CBI officials yesterday raided the camp office of Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and the house of the Chief Minister's Special Officer in Chandigarh. Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann said in his X&Site post, "This raid shows that the BJP is preparing for the Punjab assembly elections to be held next year." CBI officials have conducted raids at my camp office and the house of my special officer. The BJP is using the Enforcement Directorate and the CBI against me to create a false name by blaming the Punjab government and me. The BJP is trying to destroy the influence that the people have on me," he said.

Anti-corruption police raid the home of the Deputy Director of the Health Department, who was arrested in a bribery case

DINDUGAI: Anti-Corruption Bureau police conducted a surprise raid at the house of arrested Health Department Deputy Director Jagaveera Pandian in Virudhunagar district. Important documents were seized. Jagaveera Pandian is from Chinnalapatti in Dindigul district. He retired from the army and is currently working as the Deputy Director of the Virudhunagar District Health Department. Jagaveera Pandian was arrested by the Virudhunagar District Anti-Corruption Department police the day before yesterday while accepting

a bribe to release the rental amount for a contract vehicle. Following this, the Anti-Corruption Department police conducted a surprise search at Jagaveera Pandian's house in Chinnalapatti. At that time, documents for purchasing gold jewelry worth Rs. 1.50 crore were seized. Jagaveera Pandian's family said that all the jewelry with receipts was in the bank vault. Subsequently, the police seized the receipts for the jewelry and the key to the bank vault. It was revealed that Jagaveera Pandian had purchased



jewelry worth Rs. 1.50 crore in the name of his daughter. The initial investigation revealed that Jagaveera Pandian had engaged in fraud by purchasing jewelry in her name, despite the fact that she was a college student and had no income.



Nurses on a hunger strike in Chennai have said that they will launch a major protest if their demands, including permanent work and salary hike, are not met by November 3.

Karnataka DIG Arrested for Releasing Life Convict Using Forged Supreme Court Order

BENGALURU: Somashekhar, a DIG in the Karnataka Prison Department, has been arrested in connection with the release of a life convict based on a forged copy of a Supreme Court order. Investigations revealed that Somashekhar was in a relationship with the released convict's wife.

Shankar Arumugam (42), a resident of Chickpet, Bengaluru, was arrested in 2001 in a case involving kidnapping for ransom and extortion. A fast&track court trying the case sentenced him to life imprisonment. Subsequently, Shankar Arumugam was lodged in Bengaluru Central Jail. He appealed against the fast&track court's verdict in both the Karnataka High Court and the Supreme Court; however, both appeals were dismissed. Nevertheless, a forged copy of a Supreme Court judgment—claiming he had

been acquitted in the case in 2018—was submitted to the prison authorities on his behalf. Acting on this, Somashekhar, who was the prison superintendent at the time, released Shankar Arumugam from custody on November 13, 2018. In 2022, a senior official at Bengaluru Central Jail lodged a complaint with the Director General of Police (DGP) of the Karnataka Prison Department. The complaint alleged that Prison Superintendent Somashekhar had released the life convict, Shankar Arumugam, using a fabricated Supreme Court judgment. This complaint had remained pending without investigation for the past four years. Alok Kumar, who assumed office as the new Director General of Prisons (DGP) six months ago, ordered an inquiry into the matter. The investigation revealed that

Srikanth, a Head Warder, had assisted in fabricating a copy of a Supreme Court judgment. It was discovered that this fraud was committed with the knowledge of Somashekhar, the then Superintendent of the prison. It was confirmed that Shankar Arumugam had been released based on this forged judgment copy. Upon questioning Shankar Arumugam's wife regarding the incident, she confessed to paying a bribe of ₹20 lakh to secure her husband's release. She also alleged that Somashekhar, the prison Superintendent, had engaged in a sexual relationship with her. Following this, the police arrested Somashekhar—who held the rank of Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Prisons—on the 4th of the month. Based on the information provided by him, the police arrested Shankar Arumugam and Head Warder Srikanth. Intensive interrogation of the accused is currently underway.

Marking 25 Years in Public Office: PM Modi Offers Prayers at Vinayagar Temple



NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Modi assumed office as the Chief Minister of Gujarat on October 7,

2001.

He served in that role until May 2014, after which he took charge as

Prime Minister. With this, he has completed 25 consecutive years in public office. BJP members are celebrating this milestone of PM Modi serving as a head of government for 25 uninterrupted years. To mark the occasion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the Sri Vinayagar Temple in Delhi's Sarojini Nagar to offer prayers. Sharing this on social media, PM Modi stated, "I offered prayers and performed a puja at the Sri Vinayagar Temple in New Delhi today. I prayed to Lord Vinayagar for the happiness, prosperity, and good health of my family members across the nation. May the blessings of Lord Vinayagar—the remover of obstacles—bring well-being to all, and may the country continue its journey on the path of progress."

"Tamil Nadu's law and order situation is heading towards a very dangerous stage!"

M.K. Stalin condemns



CHENNAI: "Tamil Nadu's law and order situation is moving towards a very dangerous stage. The time when the Chief Minister could evade responsibility with excuses has passed. Immediate action must be taken," urged DMK leader M.K. Stalin. In a post shared on his social media page regarding this, he stated: "Under the TVK regime, incidents of hacking with sickles have escalated to a level that surpasses even the frequency of power outages."

Law and order has collapsed, and Tamil Nadu is mired in a bloodbath. Shocking news reports from the past 24 hours bear

witness to a situation where criminals live boldly while the general public lives in fear. In Mylapore, Chennai, a 19-year-old youth named Sathyaseelan was hacked to death. In Tiruttani, a father who had lodged a police complaint against a man for harassing his 17-year-old daughter was brutally murdered right in front of his home; this killing occurred because the police had been negligent and failed to take action despite the complaint.

In Salem, an elderly woman named Janabai was strangled to death in broad daylight while alone at home; the killers stole her jewelry.

In Dindigul district, Veerabathiran was hacked to death by unidentified assailants in the presence of his wife just as he was returning from signing the bail register at the Sanarpatti police station. Near Samayanallur in Madurai district, a young man was stripped naked and murdered while under the influence of alcohol. In Sholavandan, near a TASMAC outlet, Shyam Sundararajan was hacked to death after arriving on a motorcycle. An attempt was made to hack students right at the Ennore railway station. Criminal incidents are rampant across all directions—North, South, West, and the capital. Tamil Nadu is drenched in blood, with no distinction between broad daylight and the dead of night. People are in a state of distress, feeling unsafe both at home and outside. Are the police actually conducting patrols?"

Won't they? Will the 'Singapenn' (Lion-

ess) commando force show the same enthusiasm for women's safety that they display in making Reels videos? When will there be an end to the lawlessness where complainants are murdered despite having reported the matter to the police? Are criminals being monitored or not? Doesn't the murder incident in Dindigul district expose the lack of surveillance? Day by day, the law and order situation in Tamil Nadu is spiraling toward a critical and dangerous stage. The Chief Minister, who ought to be focused on protecting people's lives, is entirely preoccupied with saving his own seat of power. Innocent lives are being sacrificed as the price for this. The Chief Minister, who holds the police portfolio, must realize the gravity of the situation.

The time for evading responsibility with excuses has passed. Please step out of the 'Shooting Mode' and take actual action, Chief Minister!" stated DMK leader M.K. Stalin.



PM in a group photograph with Global System for Mobile Communications Association (GSMA) Board members at Seva Teerth, in New Delhi.

CM Vijay Inspects Perambur MLA Office; Listens to Public Grievances

CHENNAI: Chief Minister Vijay conducted an inspection at the Madhavaram Milk Dairy in Chennai today. He held detailed discussions with officials regarding milk procurement and distribution. Subsequently, he inaugurated the newly constructed auxiliary building for the

Aavin central laboratory, built at a cost of ₹2.23 crore. He also inspected the ongoing construction work of a new dairy unit within the Madhavaram complex. Following this, Chief Minister

Vijay visited his own constituency, Perambur. He met the public gathered at the MLA office in person, listened to their grievances, and received petitions outlining their requests. He also issued various certificates to citizens who had applied through the e-Sevai (e-service) facility. The Chief Minister further reviewed constituency development works, the grievance redressal process, and the performance of the dedicated mobile application.



He directed officials to take immediate action to resolve the issues raised in the petitions submitted by the people of the Perambur constituency.

Additionally, he inquired about measures to address rainwater stagnation in North Chennai areas and reviewed monsoon preparedness activities.

Opposition to Karaikal Fishing Harbour Expansion Over 300 People Stage Road Blockade



KARAİKAL: Residents of Karukkalacheri village staged a road blockade protest today (Oct. 7) to oppose the expansion project of the Karaikal fishing harbour. A fishing harbour was constructed at a cost of ₹47.74 crore at the confluence of the Arasalar and Mullaiyar rivers in Karaikal in 2012 and has been in use since. The village of Karukkalacheri is located along the coast near the harbour. Meanwhile, the Central Government has approved a project worth ₹130.17 crore to

expand the facility into a "smart and integrated" fishing harbour. Consequently, the residents of Karukkalacheri began opposing the expansion plan, fearing that the harbour would extend up to their village. They expressed concerns that the transport of foul-smelling fish (known locally as 'Kasar', used for animal feed) and harbour waste into their residential area would make it impossible to live in a hygienic environment. Furthermore, the villagers have consistently urged that the expansion be carried out

at a location more than 150 meters to the north to avoid affecting Karukkalacheri village, staging various protests and registering their opposition at multiple levels. Despite public opposition, Prime Minister Modi laid the foundation stone for the expansion project via video conference from New Delhi on October 11 last year. Subsequently, the villagers filed a case with the Green Tribunal in Chennai, demanding that permission for the project be denied. Although that petition was dismissed, preparatory work to commence operations at the harbour site was undertaken. Outraged by this, villagers staged a road blockade in the Amma Isathiram area of Karaikal on the Nagai-Chidambaram National Highway to protest against the expansion activities. Regarding their demands, the protesters stated: "If the port

is expanded according to the current plan, the unloading of 'Kasar'—foul-smelling fish used for animal feed—and the accumulation of port waste will cause various adverse effects. We will be unable to live in a hygienic environment, and our livelihoods will be jeopardized. We are not opposed to the development project itself; we simply insist that it be implemented at a distance of at least 150 meters away. If this is not done, we are prepared to go to any lengths to protest. We will not allow this under any circumstances." After raising slogans against the Central Government, the Puducherry Government, and the district administration for over half an hour, more than 300 people—including women, villagers, social activists, and political party members—were arrested by the Niravi police.

"J-K shall always remain integral part of India"

Rajya Sabha Dy Chairman Harivansh rebukes Pakistan's propaganda at 153rd IPU Assembly in Tanzania

TANZANIA: Exercising India's right to reply at the 153rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in Arusha, Tanzania, Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh exposed Islamabad's persistent habit of peddling baseless propaganda and delivered a severe diplomatic rebuke to Pakistan over its unwarranted references to Jammu and Kashmir.

Exposing Pakistan's desperate attempts to exploit multilateral platforms, Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh stated, "Honourable Chairperson, we deplore the attempts by a delegation to politicise the forum and to bring in unwarranted references to issues which do not fall within the purview of this forum or meeting." Putting Islamabad firmly in its place over its malicious narratives, he further stated, "Quite habitually, this delegation attempts to indulge in propaganda and makes baseless allegations against India. The Union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh have been, are, and shall always remain integral and inalienable parts of India."

Tearing down Pakistan's untenable posturing, Harivansh added, "No amount of rhetoric and propaganda from any country can override the fact that accession of Jammu and Kashmir to India was completely legal and irrevocable. Pakistan has no local sustainability to comment on India's internal affairs. In fact, it is Pakistan which is in illegal and forcible occupation

of India's territories that it should vacate."

Highlighting the stark contrast between progress in India and the aggressor's hypocrisy, he concluded, "People of Jammu and Kashmir are progressively moving forward on the path of development and democracy.

This was evident in a high voter turnout in both the general elections, 58.5%, the highest in the last 35 years, and the Assembly elections, 63%, held in 2024. Jammu and Kashmir witnessed a record surge in tourists last year." The resolute pushback against cross-border hypocrisy follows India's uncompromising stance against terrorism, underscored after the April 22, 2025, terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, where 26 people were brutally killed by Pakistan-backed terrorists who targeted civilians after asking about their religion. In response to the tragedy, India launched Operation Sindoor to target terror infrastructure and training facilities in Pakistan and PoJK, punishing the perpetrators and planners of terrorism. When Pakistan escalated hostilities, India pounded its airbases, forcing it to seek a ceasefire, while all three terrorists involved in the Pahalgam attack were subsequently eliminated by the Army, CRPF, and J&K Police during 'Operation Mahadev'.

Harivansh arrived in Arusha on Sun-



day to head the high-level parliamentary delegation participating in the 153rd IPU Assembly and associated sessions. According to the Rajya Sabha Secretariat, the assembly brings together global parliamentarians under the core theme "Enhancing good governance and empowering communities through inclusivity, trust and opportunities for all." The Indian delegation features Harivansh alongside Lok Sabha MPs Anurag Thakur, Aparajita Sarangi, Sanjay Jaiswal, Kamaljeet Sehrawat, Lata Wankhede, Bijuli Kalita Medhi, and N. K. Premachandran, and Rajya Sabha MPSmit Patra.

The Secretariat confirmed that the delegation will participate in a wide range of meetings, panel discussions and workshops on issues of contemporary global relevance, and articulate India's perspectives on these matters.

Emphasising the significance of the diplomatic mission, the Rajya Sabha Secretariat stated, "The participation of the Indian Parliamentary Delegation reflects India's continued engagement with the IPU and its commitment to parliamentary diplomacy, multilateral dialogue and cooperation among parliaments on issues affecting global peace, development, democracy and the empowerment of communities."

Drone Attack on Oil Tanker with 23 Indian Crew Members in the Black Sea

RUSSIA: A Liberia-flagged oil tanker, sailing near the Sochi coast in the Russian sector of the Black Sea, was reportedly struck by a Ukrainian drone. The attack caused a massive fire on board the vessel, named 'Afamax Rio', which was manned by 23 Indian crew members. The Russian Foreign Minis-

try stated that following the attack, everyone on board was safely rescued, and there were no casualties.

Russian officials provided the following details: After the drone strike, the crude oil on board caught fire. Due to the intensity of the blaze, firefighters were unable to approach the vessel. From the Sochi coast,

massive flames and thick black smoke could be seen billowing from the ship.

As a precautionary measure, restrictions were imposed on public access to nearby beaches. Amid the escalating Russia-Ukraine war, the



rising number of attacks on commercial vessels in the Black Sea has caused serious international concern.

By-elections Conclude: Over 85% Voter Turnout in Maduranthakam and Over 80% in Dharapuram

CHENNAI: Polling for the Maduranthakam and Dharapuram constituencies in Tamil Nadu has concluded. The Election Commission reported a voter turnout of 85.90% in Maduranthakam and 80.31% in Dharapuram. Voting for the by-elections began at 7:00 AM today and continued until 6:00 PM. The votes cast will be counted on the 9th, and the results will be announced thereafter. In the Maduranthakam constituency, 27 candidates contested, including Maragatham Kum-

aravel (TVK), Paranthaman (DMK), Kanitha Sampath (AIADMK), Suganthi (CPI-I&M), Janakiraman (NTK), and several independents. Similarly, 22 candidates contested in the Dharapuram constituency, including Sathyabhama (TVK), Suganya (DMK), Banumathi (AIADMK), Lakshmanan (CPI), and Karthika (NTK). Meanwhile, Chief Minister Rangasamy, who had won in both the Mangalam and Thattanchavadi constituencies during the recent Puducherry Assembly

elections, resigned from the Thattanchavadi seat. Consequently, a by-election was held for this constituency today; polling has concluded with a turnout of 80.81% recorded in Thattanchavadi. A total of 11 candidates contested in this constituency—six representing political parties and five running as independents. Key contenders include N. R. Congress candidate Ashok Anand, Congress candidate Vinayagam, DMK candidate Sethu Selvam, and CPI candidate A. M. Salim.

Among the 31 polling stations, the booths at Koundampalayam Muthu Rathinam Arangam Higher Secondary School and the Vinoba Nagar Poyyakkulam Community Hall were identified as sensitive; consequently, additional security measures were deployed there. In West Bengal, voter turnout stood at 79.85% in the Rejinagar Assembly constituency and 80.67% in the Nandigram constituency. In Assam, the Nagaon Lok Sabha constituency recorded a voter turnout of 76.16%.