

The world will benefit from India's success

NEW DELHI: "The world will benefit from India's success," said Prime Minister Modi while addressing the Bloomberg Global Business Forum. Speaking at the Bloomberg Global Business Forum held in Delhi, Prime Minister Modi said: This decade of the 21st century has brought unprecedented global challenges.

Over the past six years, we have witnessed a global pandemic and the outbreak of wars in various regions. Elements that once connected the world are now turning into weapons; supply chains, energy, minerals, financial transactions, and technology are evolving into tools for exerting pressure and dominance. The assurance and confidence that supplies will remain available when needed is a key question facing the world today.

PM Modi speaks at the Bloomberg Global Business Forum

It is against this backdrop that India stands before you with a distinct mindset and approach. Under the Paris Agreement, India made a significant pledge to combat climate change. In 2015, we set a target to derive 40 percent of our power generation capacity from natural energy sources by 2030. India achieved this milestone in November 2021—nine years ahead of schedule—becoming the first G20 nation to do so. An Artificial Intelligence (AI) summit was held in India, an event highly praised by Bloomberg. Discussions at the summit focused not only on utilizing AI for the benefit of humanity but also on how animals could benefit from it. This demonstrates that the



more capable India becomes, the greater the benefit it brings to humanity and the world. Governments possess power, but their objective should not be to make citizens dependent on the system.

Instead, the goal should

be to strengthen and empower citizens—a path India is actively pursuing. By following this trajectory, India has lifted 250 million people out of poverty over the last decade—a figure exceeding the total populations of

many nations worldwide. Regardless of who holds knowledge, wealth, or power, what matters most is how they are utilized. The true value of power lies in its purpose; understanding this principle is crucial in today's world. Our

millennia-old heritage has taught us this, and in India, we have demonstrated its application within our administration and work culture. Today, technology, data, knowledge, and innovation stand as powerful forces.

Yet, the real question is not who wields this power, but how it is employed. Does technology uplift only a select few, or does it create new opportunities for millions? Is knowledge confined as a strength for the few, or does it enhance the potential of all? From this emerges a new concept:

the 'Power to Empower.' Every year, this forum brings together the world's finest thinkers. This time, the event is being held in India for the first time. I extend my congratulations to Bloomberg and its entire team for this decision; you have chosen the right time and the right place. India is the mother of democracy. India is home to over 100 languages, 80,000 registered

newspapers and publications, and more than 1,000 satellite television channels. In this era of social media, India has over 500 million YouTube users and more than 500 million Instagram users. We share our experience regarding Digital Public Infrastructure with other nations, enabling them to build their own digital systems tailored to their specific needs. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we developed the 'CoWIN' platform—an open-source system. These are our ongoing efforts to ensure that India's capabilities open doors to new opportunities for other countries.

These developments demonstrate that the world stands to gain significantly from India's success. This is what Prime Minister Modi said.

CM Vijay Visits Andhra Pradesh Talks with Chandrababu Naidu

CHENNAI: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay is traveling to Andhra Pradesh this afternoon (Tuesday) to hold discussions with Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. Under the Telugu Ganga Project, the Andhra Pradesh government is required to supply 12 TMC of water annually to meet Chennai's drinking water needs.

However, up to the beginning of October this year, Tamil Nadu has received only a minimal amount (2.251 TMC). Furthermore, there has been no progress on the Godavari & Krishna & Cauvery river interlinking projects. Consequently, it is necessary to discuss the current status and feasibility of these projects. Additionally, concerns have



arisen regarding the Andhra Pradesh government's plans to construct dams across rivers flowing towards the Tamil Nadu border—a matter that has caused anxiety for the Tamil Nadu government. Chief Minister Vijay decided to consult with the Andhra Pradesh government on these issues. Arrangements were made for a meeting with Chief Minister Chandrababu

Naidu, and with the visit now confirmed, Chief Minister Vijay is traveling to Andhra Pradesh this afternoon. He will depart from Chennai by flight at 2:00 PM and arrive at Gannavaram Airport in Andhra Pradesh at 3:30 PM. Subsequently, at 4:15 PM, Chief Minister Vijay will meet Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for discussions. Tamil

Nadu's Minister for Water Resources, Anand, will also participate in these talks. During this visit, Chief Minister Vijay will meet with Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan and other state ministers. Discussions will focus on key river water issues concerning both states; specifically, matters regarding water sharing and dam construction between Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh are expected to be the primary topics. Following the meeting, the Chief Minister will visit the Kanaka Durga Temple in Vijayawada at 6:00 PM to offer prayers. He will then depart by flight and arrive at Chennai Airport at 8:30 PM tonight.

Preservation of manuscripts not exercise in nostalgia but investment in intellectual resources

EAM Jaishankar

NEW DELHI: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said that the preservation of manuscripts is an investment in India's intellectual resources rather than an exercise in nostalgia, emphasising the importance of combining technology and tradition as the country moves towards the vision of Viksit Bharat.

Speaking at the inauguration of the exhibition 'Nirāmayatā: Healing and Wellbeing in South Asian Texts and Practices' at the India International Centre (IIC) in the national capital on Monday, Jaishankar highlighted the value of preserving traditional knowledge and ensuring that historical experiences inform India's

engagement with the future.

"As you can all see, the preservation of manuscripts is not really an exercise in nostalgia. It is an investment in our intellectual resources. It stems from a belief that experience can teach us, that it can enrich our engagement with the future, that it serves us well. At the end of the day, when we speak about Viksit Bharat, technology and tradition must work together. As we say, 'Vikas Bhi Virasat Bhi.' So I again commend IIC and all its partners for bringing this exhibition to the public," Jaishankar said. The exhibition focuses on healing and wellbeing in South Asian texts and practices, bringing attention to the region's intellectual and cultural heritage.

is scheduled for the 16th of this month.

Chief Minister Vijay will inaugurate this center. Ministers, officials, and others will also participate in the event. Regarding this, district administration officials stated, "Chief Minister Vijay will visit Coimbatore on the 16th to inaugurate the 'Periyar Arivulagam'—a library and science center constructed on Nanjappa Road.

Other events have not yet been finalized." Coimbatore police officials added,

"Necessary security arrangements are being made in connection with the Chief Minister's visit."



to be associated with.

There's an ongoing project, a big project in Mỹ Sơn, in Vietnam. We have a deep involvement with Preah Vihear, with the Ananda temple in Myanmar," the EAM added. The External Affairs Minister also highlighted India's efforts to facilitate the return of cultural heritage through diplomatic engagement, citing the recent return of the Leiden copper plates as a notable achievement. "In terms of restitution, in fact, it has been very much the government's effort to actively examine the provenance of heritage outside India and see where it is that, through diplomatic efforts, we can seek the return. Very recently, we had the return of the Leiden copper plates. That was a very notable achievement," Jaishankar said.

He further pointed to growing international efforts to address the restitution of cultural heritage, particularly among countries in the Global South, noting that Ghana was leading an initiative focused on reparations and the return of cultural heritage. "And in fact, I should also add that

restitution itself is a very active subject because a lot of countries in the Global South have just come back from a trip to Africa.

Ghana is leading an initiative both for reparations, which is a somewhat different subject, and also for restitution of cultural heritage.

There is a lot that is happening, but the key to all of that, whether it is restoration, restitution, or access, is awareness.

That people should know what their past is. That is really the point of beginning for anything that happens thereafter," he added. Jaishankar also assured the India International Centre and its partners of the Ministry of External Affairs' support for the Samhita Initiative, expressing the need to explore ways to enhance its global impact.

His remarks underscored the importance of preserving India's intellectual and cultural heritage while ensuring that traditional knowledge continues to contribute to contemporary development and international cultural engagement.

'Periyar Arivulagam' in Coimbatore, Built at a Cost of ₹300 Crore, to be Inaugurated by CM Vijay on Oct 16

COIMBATORE: Chief Minister Vijay will inaugurate the 'Periyar Arivulagam' complex in Gandhipuram, Coimbatore, on the 16th of this month.

Constructed by the Tamil Nadu Public Works Department, 'Periyar Arivulagam'—officially known as the 'Periyar Library and Science Centre'—is located on Nanjappa Road in Gandhipuram, opposite the Central Bus Stand.

Built on a 6.98-acre site belonging to the Prison Department, the facility spans 1,98,000 square feet and comprises a ground floor plus seven additional floors, at a

total cost of ₹300 crore.

The project, which commenced in 2024, has now been completed. Of the total estimated cost, ₹245 crore was allocated for construction, ₹50 crore for the purchase of books, and ₹5 crore for e-books. The complex is divided into two blocks: Block 'A' and Block 'B'. The ground floor houses a library for differently-abled persons, a 350-seat auditorium, a science center equipped with scientific apparatus, a planetarium for space observation, and a space lift.

The first floor contains a reception area and a science center, while the second floor



features a designated reading area for visitors bringing their own books and a children's library. The third floor accommodates a competitive exam coaching center, the administrative wing, and a library. The fourth floor houses sections for history books, Tamil books, and periodicals; the

fifth floor contains the English books section and an incubation center for startups; the sixth floor features an English learning section and an incubation center; and the seventh floor hosts a science center and a digital library. The inauguration ceremony of 'Periyar Arivulagam'

Today horoscope



Due to the *Chandrashtamam* phase, expect unnecessary expenses and running around. Practice compromise in your marital relationship and avoid speaking harshly to anyone in business. You may initiate plans to expand your shop. Troubles could arise at the workplace.



You will respect the feelings of your family members and engage in social or community activities. Old stock will clear out in your business. At the workplace, it is best to mind your own business and focus solely on your tasks.



Confusion will dissipate, bringing contentment to the family. Your children will help elevate your status among relatives and friends. Students will see their dreams come true. Business will be profitable. Avoid arguments at the workplace.



Solutions to old problems will be found. You will renovate and expand your ancestral home. New responsibilities will come your way at work. You will gain insight into the nuances of your business and receive support from your partners.



You will fulfill your mother's long-standing wishes. Family issues will be resolved. Fatigue will vanish, and you will appear cheerful. There will be happiness between husband and wife. Your father's health will remain stable. Business and professional prospects will flourish.



Ego clashes will be resolved, fostering greater closeness between husband and wife. You will captivate everyone with your innovative ideas. You will find joy in purchasing items you desire. Outstanding dues in business will be collected. A long-sought document will be found at the workplace.



Understand the feelings of family members and act accordingly. You will achieve success in a dispute regarding ancestral property. Handle files carefully at the workplace. You will have to put in effort to collect outstanding payments in your business.



With the Moon positioned in your sign, unexpected expenses may arise. Respect the views of your family members. Exercise caution while driving. You may face issues with staff in your business. Avoid arguments at the workplace.



You will shake off fatigue and act with renewed energy. You will have the support of your family. You will replace a vehicle that has been causing trouble. Your children will become less stubborn. There will be profits in business. You will find peace at work, and superiors will appreciate your efforts.



Good news will arrive from your hometown. You will gain new experiences and have the opportunity to purchase a new vehicle. Your mother's health will improve. You will receive support from your spouse's relatives. Stalled tasks at the workplace will be completed.



You will formulate major plans. A long-awaited sum of money will reach you. You will gain the friendship of successful people. You will secure a new position at work. You will succeed in business by employing new strategies.



You will attend family functions. A favorable resolution regarding ancestral property issues will be reached. There will be peace at work. Outstanding dues in your business will be collected. You will relocate your shop to a more crowded, high-traffic area.

7 Injured in Rabid Dog Attack Near Krishnagiri



KRISHNAGIRI: Seven people have been injured and hospitalized after being bitten by a rabid dog near Kurubarapalli. More than 100 dogs roam the streets of Kurubarapalli village in the Veppanapalli Union of Krishnagiri district. Villagers have been consistently demanding measures to control the ever-increasing dog population. Amidst this situation, over the past two days, a rabid dog suddenly chased and bit pedestrians on the roads of Kurubarapalli village. Seven individuals—including Saraswathi, Vibushanan, Haricharan, Gnanavel, and Thandavan, all residents of Venugopal Street in Kurubarapalli—were bitten by the dog.

The victims were admitted to the Krishnagiri Government Medical College Hospital for treatment. Subsequently, Veppanapalli Block Development Officer Savithri, Deputy Block Development Officer Suresh, Panchayat Secretary Murugan, and Health Department official Kadalarasu conducted an inspection in Kurubarapalli. Subsequently, with the help of the public, the rabid dog was captured and sent to a veterinary hospital. Speaking about this, Velmurugan from Kurubarapalli said, "More than 100 stray dogs roam our village. These dogs often drag waste discarded by eateries and meat shops onto the road; as they chase one another, two-wheelers frequently collide with them, fall, and sustain serious injuries. Similarly, school students, pregnant women, and the elderly are forced to pass by these fighting dogs in fear. Therefore, the panchayat administration must take appropriate action to capture the dogs, perform sterilization surgeries, and administer vaccinations."

Tamil Identity is Greater Than Life Itself!: CM Vijay Pays Heroic Tribute on Martyr Sankaralinganar's Memorial Day



CHENNAI: Chief Minister Vijay has paid a heroic tribute to the martyr Sankaralinganar on his mem-

orial day; Sankaralinganar had sacrificed his life after undertaking a 76&day fast demanding the renaming

of the state to "Tamil Nadu." In a post on his X (formerly Twitter) account, he stated the following: "I pay my heroic tribute on the memorial day of the incomparable martyr Sankaralinganar, who sacrificed his precious life after steadfastly observing a 76&day fast—conducted through peaceful means—with the primary demand that our state be renamed 'Tamil Nadu.' His unparalleled sacrifice—proving that the identity of

the Tamil people is greater than life itself, without compromising in the slightest on his principles or the pride of the Tamil land's autonomy—deserves to be etched in golden letters in the annals of Tamil and Indian history. May the determination and sacrifice of martyr Sankaralinganar, who strove to safeguard Tamil Nadu's uniqueness and the rights of the Tamil people, forever serve as a guiding light for us!" Thus, the statement read.

After the Cockroach, Now the Flies 'Makkhi Janata Party' Goes Viral Amidst Delhi Protests

NEW DELHI: Following the online attention garnered by the 'Cockroach Janata Party' (CJP), a new satirical movement named 'Makkhi Janata Party' (MJP)—meaning 'Fly Janata Party'—has become a topic of discussion on social media. Its name, the use of the fly emoji, and its messaging are reminiscent of the viral CJP. The MJP's Instagram account (@makkhijantaparty) describes the group as a political front formed "of the youth, by the youth, and for the youth."

It states that it is neither opposed to any political party nor aligned with any.



The CJP had previously called for a protest in Delhi on October 10, demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar;

however, permission for the protest at Ja-

ntar Mantar was denied. Consequently, entry restrictions were imposed at several metro stations. Lawyers approached the Supreme Court regarding the inconvenience caused to the public's commute.

On October 9, a three-judge bench led by Chief Justice Surya Kant stated that security measures should not be excessive. The Supreme Court remarked, "Do not use a sledgehammer to kill a fly."

This very sentiment forms the basis for the name and satirical nature of the Makkhi Janata Party (MJP). In its posts, the MJP asks, "One day a cockroach, the next a fly... is this how the people are addressed in a democracy?" The MJP's website emphasizes capitalism, entrepreneurship, job creation, skill development, and economic progress.



The Ayudha Puja festival is set to be celebrated in Tamil Nadu on the 19th of this month. In connection with the festival, a special market will operate at the Chennai Koyambedu market starting tomorrow. Puja items such as flattened rice (*aval*), puffed rice (*pori*), banana saplings, decorative festoons (*thoranam*), and pumpkins will be sold there.

Madurai Corporation Property Tax Irregularity: Inquiry with Husband of Former DMK Zonal Chairperson

MADURAI: The property tax irregularity case within the Madurai Corporation—which previously caused a major political stir during the DMK regime, leading to the resignations of the Mayor and Zonal Chairpersons—has now gained momentum again. Consequently, the Crime Branch police have summoned Saravanan, the husband of former Zonal Chairperson Bhuvaneshwari, to the police station for questioning. For the past half-century, various irregularities have occurred regarding the assessment of property tax for wedding halls, commercial complexes, lodges, hotels, and hospitals across the 100 wards of the Madurai Corporation. Specifically, an audit of irregularities between 2022 and July 31, 2024, revealed a financial discrepancy exceeding ₹1.50 crore. It came as a shock to officials that the fraud was perpetrated by stealing the login passwords of the then Corporation Commissioner, Dineshkumar. Dineshkumar lodged a complaint with the Cyber Crime police regarding this matter and took action by suspending four bill collectors. The bill collectors subsequently staged a protest against him. Facing political pressure, Dineshkumar revoked the suspension orders. Following this, the police shelved the complaint without investigating the property tax irregularities. In this context, the newly appointed Commissioner, Chitra, has revived the investigation into the property tax irregularities. She pressured the police to investigate a long-dormant cybercrime complaint. Based on this, the police arrested around 25 individuals, including

Pon Vasanth (husband of former Mayor Indrani), Kamman (husband of Taxation Committee Chairperson Vijayalakshmi), Assistant Commissioners, a former Assistant Commissioner, Corporation staff, and contract workers. She brought the property tax irregularities to light and took disciplinary action by suspending 19 officials, including the then Commissioner and an Assistant Commissioner. Furthermore, she obtained details of buildings holding commercial electricity connections from TANGEDCO and conducted field inspections based on that data. These measures resulted in a 10 percent increase in the Corporation's revenue. During a legislative assembly session, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin asked Mayor Indrani and the five Zonal Chairpersons to resign to facilitate the investigation; they subsequently stepped down from their posts. Since then, the Madurai Corporation has been functioning without a Mayor or Zonal Chairpersons. Using the Madurai Corporation's property tax revision as a model, the then DMK government initiated a state-wide review to revise house and property taxes across all municipal corporations. The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court issued an order directing that impartial action be taken regarding the property tax irregularities. A police team—led by Madurai Range DIG Abhinav Kumar and including Central Crime Branch Assistant Commissioner Vinodhini and Inspector Annalakshmi—investigated the case. However, this investigation, too, was eventually shelved. Allegations had previously arisen that the police allowed certain Zonal

Chairpersons involved in the irregularities to escape and indirectly facilitated the quick release on bail of several implicated officials. Now, following a change in administration, the investigation into the property tax irregularities has intensified, and a charge sheet is expected to be filed within a week. Consequently, summons have been issued to question certain Corporation officials linked to the fraud. Amidst this, the Central Crime Branch (CCB) police reportedly plan to interrogate four Zonal Chairpersons—including a male Zonal Chairperson directly implicated in the property tax scam. Regarding this, the District Crime Branch police stated, "A police team led by Assistant Commissioner Vinodhini visited the residence of the former Zone 3 Chairperson around 5:00 AM yesterday. They woke up her husband, Saravanan, and took him to the Central Crime Branch police station at Kuthiraippada for questioning. Similarly, police visited the homes of other individuals—former Zonal Chairperson Mukesh Sharma, Misa Pandian (husband of Zone 3 Chairperson Pandiselvi), and Vimal (husband of Zone 5 Chairperson)—to bring them in for questioning. It is reported that, having anticipated the police arrival, they had already left their homes. Their mobile phones are reportedly switched off. Their families have been advised to ensure they appear in person to cooperate with the investigation." Police sources have also revealed that a prominent VIP, who acted as a liaison between the officials and the Zonal Chairpersons in this property tax irregularity case, is also likely to be implicated.

October 13 Chennai 2026

Arlekar Becomes FullTime Governor of Tamil Nadu

President Droupadi Murmu has issued an order appointing Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar as the full-time Governor of Tamil Nadu. While R.N. Ravi had been serving as the Governor of Tamil Nadu since 2021, he



was transferred to the post of Governor of West Bengal last March. Subsequently, Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, who was serving as the Governor of Kerala, was given the additional charge of the Tamil Nadu Governorship. He has now been appointed as the full-time Governor.

A press release issued by the Rashtrapati Bhavan regarding this states: On Prakash Mathur, the Governor of Sikkim, has been transferred to the post of Governor of Kerala. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, who held the office of Governor of Kerala, has been appointed as the full-time Governor of Tamil Nadu.

According to a press release, Braj Mohan Ram has been appointed as the Governor of Odisha, Dr. Sudha Yadav as the Governor of Karnataka, Dr. Dal Singh Bishen as the Governor of Uttarakhand, and Dushyant Gautam as the new Governor of Sikkim.



Turmeric is cultivated on thousands of acres in Erode every year. In the Erode market, the price of turmeric neared ₹21,000 per quintal.

Youth Dies After Toxic Gas Exposure in Pallikaranai Septic Tank Another Undergoes Intensive Care



CHENNAI: A tragic incident has occurred in Pallikaranai, where a young man lost his life after being overcome by toxic gas while attempting to rescue another person who had fallen into a septic tank. Rajesh (49) and Kesavan (29), both residents of the area, were engaged in cleaning the septic tank at the home of a woman named Aishwarya on Veerasamy Street, Pallikaranai.

During the process, Rajesh was suddenly overcome by toxic gas and fell into the tank. Witnessing this, Kesavan climbed into the tank to rescue him. However, he too was overcome by the toxic gas, and both men collapsed inside.

They were subsequently rescued with the help of neighbors. Kesavan died at the scene, while Rajesh, who was unconscious when rescued, has been admitted to a private hospital for treatment. Upon receiving the information, the Pallikaranai police arrived at the scene, recovered Kesavan's body, and sent it to Tambaram Government Hospital for a post-mortem examination. A case has been registered, and an investigation is underway. In a similar incident yesterday (the 12th) in the Kodungaiyur area of Chennai, workers were repairing a faulty electric motor in a stormwater drain tank. Naveen Kumar (34) and Asmath Basha (38) lost their lives after descending into the tank, which was approximately 20 feet deep. Reports indicate that one of them got into trouble after entering the tank, and the other went in to rescue him.

Rescue operations were carried out following the deaths of both men. An investigation was conducted to determine whether the fatalities in this incident were caused by toxic gas exposure or other factors, such as asphyxiation. Hazardous gases—including methane and hydrogen sulfide—can accumulate in septic tanks and enclosed drainage systems; oxygen deficiency also poses a life-threatening risk. Essential safety protocols include testing gas levels before entering the tank, ensuring adequate ventilation, and utilizing proper safety gear and rescue equipment. Notably, if a person collapses inside a tank, another individual entering to rescue them without appropriate safety equipment can also lead to a fatality. The incident in Pallikaranai, where a young man lost his life while attempting a rescue, highlights this danger. These successive fatalities in Chennai underscore the urgent need to monitor whether safety regulations are being strictly followed during septic tank and drainage cleaning operations.



Navaratri Brahmotsavam Begins at Tirupati

TIRUMALAI: Two Brahmotsavams are being held this year at the Tirupati Lord Venkateswara (Ezhumalaiyan) temple.

The annual Brahmotsavam concluded last month, having taken place from September 15 to 23. Against this backdrop, the Navaratri Brahmotsavam festival commenced yesterday and will continue until the 20th of this month. On the first day, Lord Malayappa—accompanied by his consorts Sridevi and Bhudevi—was taken out in a procession on a golden palanquin through the four Mada streets, granting darshan to the devotees. Devotees gathered along the streets worshipped the Lord while chanting “Govinda, Govinda.”

In celebration of the Navaratri Brahmotsavam, both Tirupati city and Tirumala are illuminated with electric lights. At 14 locations across Tirupati city, captivating spiritual scenes have been created using electric light decorations to attract the public. Similarly, Tirumala has donned a festive look, adorned with electric lights, festoons, cut-outs, and floral decorations throughout the holy hill. The entire temple complex—including the main entrance tower (*gopuram*), the sacrificial altar (*bali peetham*), the flagstaff (*kodi kambam*), and the sub&shrines—has been beautifully adorned with floral decorations and illuminations.

Periya Sesha Vahanam: Last night, Lord Malayappa, accompanied by Goddesses Sridevi and Bhudevi, appeared on the *Periya Sesha Vahanam* (Grand Serpent Mount) to bless the devotees. A large number of devotees participated in the event and offered their prayers to the Lord. Temple Executive Officer M. Ravichandra, Additional Executive Officer Venkaiah Chowdary, the Chairman and members of the Board of Trustees, and hundreds of devotees took part in the proceedings.

Severe Retaliation Promised Against Houthi Forces for Attack on Riyadh Airport: Saudi Prince Asserts

RIYADH: Saudi Arabia has announced that a severe response will be dealt to Yemen's Houthi rebels following their attack on the airport in Riyadh. Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman stated: One person lost their life when Yemen's Houthi rebels attacked Riyadh's King Khalid International Airport the day before yesterday. In a previous attack at the same location, 13 people were killed and hundreds injured, leading to the temporary suspension of airport services.

These attacks are designed to test Saudi Arabia's infrastructure, institutions, people, and resolve. As the world's largest oil exporter and the most powerful nation in the region, Saudi Arabia spends billions of dollars on its military. However, this has been the worst attack in terms of casualties over the past decade. Attacks on energy infrastructure cannot be taken lightly. In addition to Riyadh Airport, King Fahd International Airport in the eastern city of Dammam was also targeted. Furthermore, a ballistic missile launched by the Houthis towards a key military base in the southern city of Khamis Mushait was intercepted and destroyed. They are committing outright war crimes. The Saudi-led coalition will deliver a firm response to them, Salman stated.



In Chennai, the Minister for Labour Welfare and Skill Development, Mohamed Parvez, distributed welfare assistance to unorganized sector workers. Department Secretary K. Veera Raghava Rao and Labour Commissioner M. Vallalar were also present.

Traders Suffer ₹2,000 Crore Loss Due to Delhi Protests

NEW DELHI: Traders have reported a loss of ₹2,000 crore due to protests held in Delhi. In this regard, Brijesh Goyal, President of the Chamber of Trade and Industry (CTI) in Delhi, wrote a letter to the Police Commissioner stating the following:

Protests have been taking place in Delhi over the past few days demanding the resignation of Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. During the protest held on the 10th, local officials instructed shopkeepers in several areas to close their shops. In some locations, police and administrative officials exerted pressure to do so.

Consequently, business operations came to a complete standstill in various areas, resulting in a total trade loss of approximately ₹2,000 crore across Delhi. Therefore, traders should not be compelled to close their shops during protests; instead, necessary security arrangements should be made to ensure markets continue to operate. With Navaratri and Ramnala events currently underway, the Diwali festival is also approaching. This period typically sees an increase in customer footfall in markets. Under these circumstances, forced closures or other disruptions would adversely affect sales. Hence, steps must be taken to prevent such disruptions from recurring. This was stated in the letter.



“This is Shiva’s Tandav; no strategy is needed” – Rahul Gandhi on the protest

NEW DELHI: Senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has stated, “This is Shiva’s Tandav; no strategy is required for it.” Opposition parties are staging various protests demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over the SIR issue. Speaking at the Congress headquarters in Delhi amidst this situation, Rahul Gandhi said, “Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar must be removed from office. Next, Prime Minister Modi and Amit Shah must be removed from power.

This is a singular protest, not a multi&faced one. We will not rest until our objective is achieved. My sister (Priyanka Gandhi) advised that a strategy should be formulated for the current protest. I gave her a clear reply: This is Shiva’s Tandav; no strategy is needed for it. Today, we are marching towards the Supreme Court.

Tomorrow, there will be another form of protest. The protests will continue ceaselessly.” Anyone can participate in Shiva’s *Tandava* (cosmic dance). I wish to convey something to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Two hundred government officials from the Enforcement Directorate, the CBI, and the Ministry of External Affairs are in contact with us. They clearly explain to us what is happening. Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar is engaging in vote theft. The entire government machinery is being used to shield him. Our struggle will not end in a single day; we will continue to fight ceaselessly.

We sent a letter to the Chief Justice of India. He understands our concerns regarding the need to save Indian democracy and ensure that elections are conducted fairly. He has advised us to file a petition in the Supreme Court regarding this matter. Accordingly, leaders of the INDIA alliance will approach the Supreme Court to file a petition. The entirety of Delhi has been turned into a prison. Trains and buses arriving in Delhi are being stopped. RSS members are beating and driving away women participating in the protest. Prime Minister Modi is shielding Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. He stated this.



15 MLAs supporting Edappadi Palaniswami are set to leave the AIADMK- Minister Sengottaiyan

ERODE: Minister Sengottaiyan has stated that 15 MLAs supporting Edappadi Palaniswami are poised to leave the AIADMK. Noting that a consultative meeting of dissident MLAs took place following the by&election defeat, Sengottaiyan remarked that it was only because Edappadi Palaniswami expelled him from the party that he gained the opportunity to serve the people.

Maragatham Kumaravel, Sathyabama, Jayakumar, Isakki Subbiah, M.R. Vijayabhaskar, and Vijayabhaskar—who had won on the AIADMK ticket in the Assembly elections—resigned from their posts and joined the TVK. Among them, Maragatham Kumaravel and Sathyabama subsequently won again in the Madhuranthakam and Dharapuram by&elections. Consequently, TVK functionaries are eagerly awaiting the next by&election.

Meanwhile, disgruntled AIADMK leaders—including S.P. Velumani, C.V. Shanmugam, and Natham



Viswanathan—have held a consultative meeting. This has sparked speculation that another faction might break away from the AIADMK. Similarly, Minister Aadav Arjuna has openly announced that the TVK welcomes those leaving the AIADMK. Speaking in Gobi, Erode district, Minister Sengottaiyan stated, “15 people are soon going to leave the AIADMK. I do not know if Edappadi Palaniswami is aware of this. Dissident MLAs held a consultation just yesterday. I do not know what is going to happen... Fortunately, Edappadi Palaniswami expelled me from the party.” “I managed to escape and am now serving as the Revenue Minister here; otherwise, I too would have been a former minister left with nothing to do but watch from the sidelines.

Moreover, they have seated me directly opposite Edappadi Palaniswami—I am sitting there to show him exactly where I stand.”

He also remarked that, since the days of MGR and Jayalalithaa, he had never seen anyone quite like Vijay. Sengottaiyan’s statements have sparked expectations that other AIADMK MLAs might follow suit.

Electricity Procured at Rs. 35 Per Unit – A Higher Price Than During the DMK Regime

MADURAI: Former Minister PTR Palanivel Thiagarajan has raised suspicions regarding potential massive corruption in the procurement of electricity at Rs. 35 per unit. He questioned why a tender offering a lower price—placed during the previous administration—was cancelled in favor of awarding the contract at a higher rate. Power outages have been occurring in Tamil Nadu ever since the TVK government assumed office. Public outrage is mounting as these outages take place not only during the day but also at night. Chennai and its suburbs, in particular, are facing frequent power cuts, prompting residents to take to the streets in protest. In a striking instance of this crisis, a power outage occurred yesterday at the Secretariat itself, plunging the government administration into darkness. Videos of the incident are currently trending on social media. Ministers have attributed the outages to a drop in wind power generation. Consequently, a decision was made to procure electricity from the open market. To meet the demand, the Tamil Nadu Electricity Distribution Corporation (TANGEDCO) floated a tender to procure 4,500 MW of power on an emergency basis.

The tender specified the procurement of 1,500 MW during morning peak hours and 3,000 MW during evening peak hours for the period between October 12 and October 31. While the authorities were prepared to procure electricity at rates ranging from Rs. 31.99 to Rs. 37 per unit, the tender was finalized at Rs. 35 per unit.

The decision to award a tender for electricity procurement at a higher rate—contrasting with the DMK regime when power was purchased at prices ranging from ₹20 to ₹30 per unit—has sparked considerable debate. Commenting on this via his X (formerly Twitter) handle, former DMK Minister PTR Palanivel Thiagarajan stated that cancelling the previous administration’s tender for lower&cost power procurement in favor of purchasing electricity at ₹35 per unit indicates either an administrative or planning failure—or potentially a massive case of corruption—noting that there is a possibility of either scenario.



Teacher Eligibility Test Results Released



CHENNAI: The results of the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) have been released. Last year, the Supreme Court issued an order mandating that all teachers working in government schools, government&aided schools, and private matriculation schools must pass the Teacher Eligibility Test. Following this, the Tamil Nadu government planned to conduct a special eligibility test for teachers employed in state schools.

A notification was issued by the Teachers Recruitment Board. The examination for teachers in primary schools was held on July 4, while the exam for teachers in high schools took place on July 5. The special eligibility test was conducted across 833 centers spanning all 38 districts of Tamil Nadu. The Paper I examination was held at 221 centers, and the Paper II examination at 612 centers. A total of 59,535 candidates appeared for the Paper I examination, and 160,929 candidates appeared for the Paper II examination. The results for these tests have now been released.

Based on the results—which reflect the reduced qualifying marks—61,153 out of the 160,929 candidates who took the Graduate Teacher exam and 47,628 out of the 59,535 candidates who took the Secondary Grade Teacher exam have qualified.

Puffed Rice Production Industry in Udumalpet Struggles Due to Rising Raw Material Costs



UDUMALPET: Manufacturers have expressed concern that the puffed rice production industry in Udumalpet is facing a decline due to the rising cost of raw materials. The puffed rice production industry operates in various villages near Udumalpet, including Eripalayam, Kumaralingam, Kozhupuram, and Pappankulam. Rice varieties specifically suited for making puffed rice are procured in large quantities (by the tonne) from the states of West Bengal (Kolkata) and Karnataka. The rice is soaked in water, sun&dried, and arranged into small heaps.

Subsequently, ingredients such as salt, sugar, baking soda, and river sand are added, and the mixture is allowed to cure for several hours.

The prepared rice is then cooked carefully over a stove for more than two hours to produce crispy, tasty puffed rice. This year, the rise in raw material costs has impacted manufacturers. The price of the rice used for making puffed rice—which sold for ₹55 per kilogram last year—has now risen to ₹75 per kilogram due to various factors. The finished puffed rice is packed into sacks and distributed via wholesalers to markets in Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Madurai, Pollachi, Dindigul, and various parts of Kerala. Speaking about this, producer Poongodi Senthilkumar said, “We sell puffed rice by the *padi* (a traditional measure)

and *pakka* (a larger unit of measurement). Due to the rising cost of raw materials, a sack of puffed rice weighing 55 *pakkas* is currently sold for ₹570. Sales of traditional puffed rice have dropped significantly in recent times due to the influx of foreign snacks. However, sales have picked up briskly now with the approaching Saraswathi Puja and Ayudha Puja festivals. But the business will slump again after the festival season. Previously, over 100 families in the Udumalpet area were engaged in this trade. However, as the industry declined, most of them moved on to alternative occupations.

The Tamil Nadu government should step in to revive the struggling puffed rice production industry and safeguard the livelihoods of the families dependent on it.” The producers hope that the government will provide subsidized loans to purchase modern machinery required for production, thereby protecting this traditional industry.



Newly elected Bar Council office bearers meet CM; request to raise death relief to ₹25 lakh

CHENNAI: Newly elected office bearers of the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, led by Chairman K. Kathiravan, met Chief Minister Vijay and Minister CTR Nirmal Kumar

yesterday.

Speaking to reporters later, K. Kathiravan said, "We have placed several demands before the government aimed at ensuring the welfare and safety of lawyers."

"Specifically,

we requested that the death relief amount provided under the Tamil Nadu Advocates' Welfare Fund scheme be raised from ₹10 lakh to ₹25 lakh, that a co-

mprehensive Advocates'

Protection Act be enacted, and that the monthly stipend for newly enrolled young lawyers be increased from ₹3,000 to ₹10,000," he added.

Countries like India able to chart their own course; not always agree with US- China

Former UK PM Rishi Sunak

NEW DELHI: Former UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said on Tuesday that countries like India and those in the Gulf are increasingly able to chart their own course in a changing global order and would not always agree with the United States or China, highlighting growing geopolitical uncertainty and the changing dynamics of global power.

Speaking during a panel discussion titled "The End of Predictability" at the Bloomberg New Economy Forum 2026 in the national capital, Sunak said the world was witnessing a shift away from the multilateral, rules-based framework that had shaped the global economy, creating new uncertainties and risks.

"We all grew up investing in, operating in a multilateral rules-based framework, largely enforced by US President Trump is not a cause for that; he's a symptom of that, and the world that we're in now is one where we don't quite know what we've settled down to, and that creates an enormous amount of geopolitical uncertainty and indeed danger," Sunak said.

He pointed to China's emergence as a peer competitor to



the United States across multiple strategic domains, describing it as a significant new feature of the global economy. "So, China is a peer competitor for the US across economic, military, and technological domains. That is a new feature of the world economy," he said.

Highlighting the growing ability of countries such as India and those in the Gulf to pursue independent approaches, Sunak said they would increasingly make decisions based on their own interests rather than necessarily aligning with Washington or Beijing. "Countries like India, like the Gulf, now are able to chart their own course. They're not going to always agree with the US or China. They're going to do what they want, and that's a new feature," the former UK Prime Minister said.

Sunak also expressed co-

ncern over the global security environment, citing the increasing number of armed conflicts and the implications for international stability.

"And I think it's no coincidence that right now there are more armed conflicts happening than at any point since World War II. 61 different state-based armed conflicts around the world. Now I look at that, and I'm worried," he said. "I think President Trump probably looks at that and thinks the Nobel Peace Prize," he added.

Sunak further referred to remarks by the US President's deputy chief of staff on the changing international environment, saying they reflected a world increasingly shaped by power and strategic strength. "But his deputy chief of staff said something instructive about the environment, and he said we are living in a world that is governed by force, that is governed by strength, that is governed by power," Sunak said.

While describing this assessment as somewhat extreme, Sunak stressed that hard power was becoming increasingly important and that countries were recognising the close links

between economic security, national security and technological capabilities. "Now I think that kind of Puseyan worldview is probably a little bit extreme.

It's not that bad, but we are certainly living in an environment where hard power matters, and states have realised that their economic security is indivisible from their national security and technological strength, which is creating a world I think of as unreachability. What we are talking about is a cocktail of risks. To think of it in those terms, there," he noted.

The panel discussion, "The End of Predictability", examined the nature of leadership in an era when uncertainty, fragmentation and disruption have become defining features of the global economy. The session also featured Natarajan Chandrasekaran, Chairman of Tata Sons, and Jonathan Gray, President and Chief Operating Officer of Blackstone. The Bloomberg New Economy Forum 2026 is being held in New Delhi from October 13 to October 15 under the theme "A World in Play: Defining the New Levers of Power".

AIADMK's 55th Anniversary: Headquarters Directs Distribution of Welfare Assistance

CHENNAI: The AIADMK headquarters has issued instructions to distribute welfare assistance to mark the party's 55th anniversary. A statement released in this regard reads as follows:

To celebrate the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK)—founded by the party's founding leader, 'Ponnamma Chemmal' M.G.R.—stepping into its 55th year on Saturday, October 17, 2026, AIADMK General Secretary and former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Edappadi Palaniswami, will pay his respects at 10:30 AM. He will garland and shower flowers on the statues of the party's founding leader M.G.R. and Jayalalithaa, located at the 'Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Maaliga' headquarters complex on Avvai Shanmugam Salai, Royapettah,



Chennai.

Following this, he will hoist the party flag and distribute sweets. Party headquarters functionaries, district secretaries, Members of Parliament and Legislative Assembly, former ministers, former MPs and MLAs, state and district functionaries of party-affiliated wings, as well as representatives from the Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Mandram, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma Peravai, and M.G.R. [wings] will participate in this event. We earnestly

request the office bearers from the party's various wings—including the Youth Wing, Women's Wing, Student Wing, Anna Trade Union, Advocates' Wing, Minorities' Welfare Wing, Farmers' Wing, Fishermen's Wing, Medical Wing, Literary Wing, Unorganized Sector Drivers' Wing, Youth Brigade, Young Women's Brigade, IT Wing, Traders' Wing, and Arts Wing—along with current and former representatives of local bodies and cooperative societies, and all party cadres, to partici-

pate in large numbers and make the occasion a grand success. Furthermore, to mark the commencement of the party's 55th year, we request that you celebrate the day with great enthusiasm by: repainting the majestic party flagpoles located at the branch, ward, and circle levels across the party's organizational districts; erecting new flagpoles where none exist and hoisting the party flag; garlanding and paying respects to the portraits of our two great icons—Revolutionary Leader M.G.R. and Revolutionary Leader Amma—and distributing sweets; and providing food and welfare assistance to the needy. We also request that various programs be organized to celebrate the party's founding day with fervor in other states where the party operates.

₹1,100 Crore Allocated to Upgrade Port Infrastructure; New Projects in Tamil Nadu

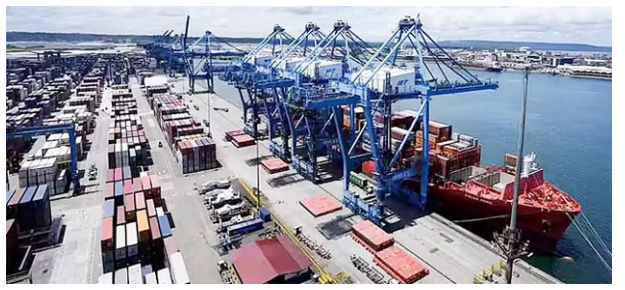
CHEMNNAI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated development projects worth approximately ₹1,100 crore and laid the foundation stones for new initiatives across three ports in Tamil Nadu:

Chennai Port, Kamarajar Port (Ennore), and V.O. Chidambaram Port (Thoothukudi). Industry experts state that these projects will boost Tamil Nadu's economic growth and enhance the cargo handling capacities of the ports. At Chennai Port, the Prime Minister inaugurated four projects valued at ₹158.17 crore.

Four new warehouses have

been constructed to handle import and export goods, and the cruise passenger terminal has been upgraded. Port sources indicated that these infrastructure facilities would help attract a larger number of international cruise ships to Chennai.

At Kamarajar Port, a dedicated coal handling facility—built at a cost of ₹261 crore to handle coal imports for the Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (TANGEDCO)—was inaugurated. This facility is expected to streamline coal handling operations and increase overall cargo handling capacity.



Additionally, the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for a new container terminal at V.O. Chidambaram Port in Thoothukudi, at a cost of ₹517.19 crore. A senior port official stated that the construction of this new container terminal would further strengthen the operational efficiency of the port,

which serves as a key gateway for the southern districts and surrounding regions. Overall, these development projects being undertaken at Tamil Nadu's three major ports are expected to enhance cargo transport as well as export and import activities, while also contributing to the state's economic growth.

Sports classes in schools five days a week: Minister Rajmohan

CHENNAI: While releasing the revised school timetable in Chennai, the Minister stated the following: For a long time, students have been requesting daily physical education classes. We are changing the schedule from just two sports periods a week to five, as reflected in the

revised timetable. The goal of having sports classes five days a week is now becoming a reality; students will have sports sessions every day. These classes must not be suspended for any reason; instead, students should be encouraged to participate in sports. Do not exclude any child



during sports activities in schools. Do not sideline them based on caste, religion, or skin color. The Chief Minister desires that Olympic medals be won by athletes emerging from Tamil Nadu's sports grounds. Thus spoke Minister Rajmohan.

“Stop Musk, Stop Oligarchy” Bernie Sanders slams SpaceX CEO over spending \$366 mil on Republican Party in US midterm

WASHINGTON: US Senator Bernie Sanders on Monday (local time) slammed SpaceX CEO, billionaire Elon Musk, over his reported spending of USD 366 million to support Republicans in the upcoming US midterm elections, accusing the tech mogul of using his enormous wealth to influence American politics and calling for an end to oligarchy.

In a post on X, Sanders linked Musk's political spending to the billionaire's growing wealth following US President Donald Trump's election victory last year, arguing that the financial benefits Musk had received were not enough to stop him from spending further to keep Republicans in control of Congress. "Elon Musk spent \$290 million to elect Trump.

It paid off. Since his election, Musk got \$696 billion richer & became the world's 1st trillionaire. But that's not enough. Now, Musk is spending \$366 million to keep Republicans in control of Congress. STOP MUSK. STOP OLIGARCHY," Sanders said.

Musk's reported political expenditure has drawn attention amid preparations for the US midterm elections, with The New York Times reporting on Monday that

he had spent USD 276 million since July alone, including USD 158 million for a super PAC focused on Republican Senate candidates, making him the largest single donor this year. "These robust investments have allowed the GOP apparatus to get its message out so Republicans can have a fighting chance to defy history," America PAC spokesman Andrew Romeo told The New York Times.

Sanders' criticism comes as Musk, the CEO of SpaceX and the world's richest technology entrepreneur, has also drawn attention in India over his allegations that powerful business interests were obstructing Starlink's entry into the country's satellite communications market.

In a post on X responding to a discussion about the need for Starlink in India, Musk alleged that the company was being blocked by powerful business interests to protect their market position. "Unfortunately, we (Starlink) are being blocked by certain oligarchs in order to maintain their monopolistic chokehold on the Indian people. You can guess who they are... This is a crime against the people of



India," Musk said.

However, the Ministry of Communications has maintained that the country's regulatory framework for satellite communication services is fair and non-discriminatory, stating that all licensed operators must comply with the applicable security requirements before proceeding to the next stage of the authorisation process.

In a statement the Ministry said, "The Government has put in place a fair and non-discriminatory authorisation framework for all telecommunication services, including satellite communication services."

The Ministry also clarified that telecom licences had been granted to three global mobile personal communication by satellite services based on non-geosynchronous satellite orbit technology, with secu-

rity assessments underway for all three licensees. It further stated that every licensee was required to demonstrate compliance with security conditions to ensure the safety of users and their data, adding that spectrum assignment could be pursued once the relevant assessment process was completed.

Musk's remarks about oligarchic influence in India stand in contrast to the political influence his own spending has attracted in the United States.

While accusing unnamed Indian business interests of seeking to preserve their market dominance, Musk has reportedly spent hundreds of millions of dollars supporting Republican candidates and efforts to retain Republican control of Congress. Sanders, in his criticism, specifically questioned the concentration of political influence in the hands of wealthy individuals, arguing that Musk's growing fortune and continued political spending illustrated the influence of billionaire wealth on the American political system.

Acceptance of Resignations of 6 AIADMK MLAs Upheld: Madras High Court Order



CHENNAI: The AIADMK Whip and M.S. Ravi, leader of the National People's Power

Party (National Makkal Sakthi Katchi), had separately filed petitions in the Madras High Court challenging the Speaker's decision to accept the resignation letters of six AIADMK MLAs.

A bench comprising Chief Justice S.A. Dharmadhikari and Justice G. Arulmurugan heard the case and had previously reserved its verdict. In the judgment delivered today, the Chief Justice's bench ruled that the Speaker's

acceptance of the six AIADMK MLAs' resignations was correct; it held that there was no legal bar to accepting the resignations despite pending disqualification proceedings and declared the order accepting the resignations to be legally valid. Furthermore, the High Court directed the Speaker to make a decision regarding the disqualification of the MLAs within two months.