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First meeting of the Tamil Nadu Investment Promotion Authority

It was held under the leadership of Chief Secretary Dr. M. Saikumar

CHENNAI: The first meeting of the Tamil Nadu Investment Promotion Board, chaired by the Chief Secretary, included a review of the expedited implementation of investment projects, the simplification of business permits, the new industrial policy, and the promotion of exports.

A press release issued in this regard states the following: "Since the government led by Chief Minister Vijay assumed office, it has been taking proactive measures to elevate Tamil Nadu to the position of the leading state in the industrial sector by attracting industrial investments. Furthermore, the government is working towards the goal of transforming Tamil Nadu into a 1.5 trillion US dollar economy by the year 2036. In line with this, the Tamil Nadu Investment Promotion Commission (TNIPC) was established via G.O. (Ms.) No. 240, Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce Department, dated 03.11.2026, under Section 16&A—a provision inserted through the Tamil Nadu Ease of Doing Business (Amendment) Act, 2026 (Act No. 15/2026).

The first meeting of this Commission was held on 13.11.2026 at the Secretariat, chaired by Chief Secretary Dr. M. Saikumar. The Commission, which is headed by the Chief Secretary with the Additional Chief Secretary of the Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce Department serving as the Member&Coordinator, comprises a total of 20 members. These include the Secretaries of various departments, such as Finance, Environment, Information Technology, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), Municipal Administration, Housing, Home, Energy, Revenue, Natural Resources, Water Resources, Labour Welfare, and Commercial Taxes and Registration.



At the first meeting of the Tamil Nadu Investment Promotion Commission (TNIPC), representatives from the industrial sector were present, including A. Viswanathan, Chairman of Delphi&TVS and President of the Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI); and M. Ponnuswami, Chairman and Managing Director of Pon Pure Chemicals, who also serves as the Co&Chairman of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)'s 'Ease of Doing Business' initiative..." Murugavel Janakiraman, CEO of Matrimony.com and Vice Chairman of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Tamil Nadu; Ravichandran Purushothaman, President of Danfoss and Chairman of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Southern Region; and Bhupesh Nagarajan, Co&Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Council of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), participated as special invitees.

The Authority reviewed the progress of projects involving investments of ₹200 crore or more, those creating 5,000 or more jobs, investments linked to Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), and investments from the Tamil diaspora. Discussions were also held regarding the establishment of a 'GCC Corridor' (Global Capability Centre Corridor) to create high&skill employment opportunities in sectors such as Information Technology, Artificial Intelligence, engineering design, and Research & Development (R&D).

The allocation of land within SIPCOT, SIDCO, TIDCO, and ELCOT industrial parks was reviewed, alongside the status of land acquisition and the development progress of upcoming and newly identified industrial parks under SIPCOT and TIDCO. Furthermore, the progress regarding land allocation at the PM MITRA park was examined. The review also covered the advancement of various TIDCO projects—including the Tamil Nadu Knowledge City, Arivagam AI City, the Coimbatore Digital Fintech Centre, and the Multimodal Logistics Hub in Tiruchirappalli—as well as the current status of TIDEL Neo projects and Micro-Tech parks. Additionally, discussions were held on the establishment of a 'GCC Corridor' (Global Capability Centre Corridor) aimed at creating high-skill employment opportunities in sectors such as Information Technology, Artificial Intelligence, engineering design, and Research & Development (R&D). Representatives from the industry, who participated in the Tamil Nadu Investment Promotion Authority meeting, expressed their gratitude for the measures taken to 'ease of doing business' within a short timeframe, the prompt disbursement of industrial incentive packages, and the transparent, public, and open process adopted for the allotment of SIPCOT industrial plots. This was stated in the report.

Youth Olympics: India's First Gold in Boxing Ambaker Meitei's Historic Achievement

CHENNAI: Every athlete harbors a grand dream—to deliver an exceptional performance for their nation and secure medals or titles, whether at the Olympics or a World Cup. Indian boxer Ambaker Meitei has now realized such a feat. Ambaker Meitei has made history by winning a gold medal at the Youth Olympics held in Dakar, Senegal.



With this victory, he has become the first Indian boxer to win gold at the Youth Olympics. Previously, the highest achievement for an Indian in boxing at the Youth Olympics was a silver medal, won by Shiva Thapa in 2010. In the final of the men's 50kg boxing category at the Youth Olympics, Lairenlakpam Ambaker Meitei faced Ireland's Christian Zubani. He emerged victorious with a 3&2 decision, clinching the gold medal. In the women's boxing category, India's Kunjan also won gold, becoming the first Indian female boxer to achieve this milestone at the Youth Olympics. 17&year&old Ambaker Meitei hails from the Imphal East district of Manipur.

His father, Mandan Meitei, runs a tea stall in their hometown. Initially, Manthan Meitei took his son to football training. However, noticing his son's aggressive potential, he enrolled him in boxing training in 2018, when the boy was about 10 years old. Ambekar Meitei trained daily at a facility located 5 kilometers from his village. To get there, he would borrow a bicycle or, at times, simply walk. In the beginning, he could not afford to buy his own boxing gloves; undeterred, he managed to obtain used ones to continue his training. After his sessions, he would also help out at his father's tea stall—a routine that continued for several years.

Ambekar Meitei soon drew attention in Manipur through his performances at the sub&junior level. Later, with the help of his coach, he moved to a sports hostel in Imphal to pursue his training. From there, he participated in the trials for the Indian international youth boxing team. Although he finished in 4th place, he was still offered a spot in a national&level training camp. This led him to train at the National Institute of Sports (NIS) in Patiala.

He went on to win a silver medal at the 'Pakistan Futures' World Cup (held in Thailand) and another silver at the National Youth Championships. Now, he has achieved a remarkable feat by winning a gold medal at the Youth Olympics. "My role models in boxing aren't just from Manipur; they include some of the best boxers in the world. I often watch videos of Mike Tyson. My next goals are the 2030 Commonwealth Games and the 2032 Olympics," says Ambekar Meitei.



On the occasion of the 137th birth anniversary of the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, the Trichy City District Congress organized a tribute event today, during which garlands were placed on the statue of Nehru located opposite the Seva Sangam School in Trichy. Led by Peter Alphonse, the Congress party's regional reorganization head, and accompanied by L. Rex, the Trichy City District Congress President, the participants garlanded the statue and offered flowers to pay their respects.

Pakistan's Polio Fight Falters: Vaccine Refusals and Distrust Hamper Eradication Efforts

PAKISTHAN: Pakistan's fight against polio faces significant hurdles, with the country reporting its ninth case of 2026 on November 6. A seven&month&old boy from Khyber district was the latest victim, highlighting the ongoing challenges.

Seven of this year's cases have emerged from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, underscoring persistent difficulties in the decades&long vaccination campaign.

Despite nearly three decades of effort, billions in international aid, and a workforce of over 400,000 vaccinators, Pakistan has yet to eliminate this preventable disease. The problem goes beyond logistics; it points to a deeper crisis of public trust in government and healthcare services. Security concerns, population movement, difficult terrain, misinformation, and vaccine hesitancy all obstruct immunization efforts. Repeated refusals in communities regularly visited by vaccination teams suggest that distrust in public institutions is a major factor.



Many underserved communities lack access to basic healthcare, maternal services, routine childhood immunizations, and clean drinking water. For some families, polio vaccinators are among the few government representatives they see, creating a perception that authorities prioritize vaccination over broader public health needs. Tribal jirgas in southern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa declared 677 campaign boycotts in 2023, using them to demand essential services like electricity, roads, and employment.

Pakistan's polio program acknowledges that communities use these boycotts to draw attention to unresolved local grievances.

Shortcomings within vaccination teams, such as insufficient female vaccinators, frequent staff changes, and inadequate training, also contribute to resistance.

Involving trusted local representatives and improving communication could help. Integrating the polio vaccination infrastructure, trained personnel, and surveillance into the wider public health system is crucial for a lasting solution.

12 people, including 7 young women, go missing in Cuddalore

What is the police doing? – Velmurugan

CHENNAI: "Where is the protection for human lives in Tamil Nadu? Has police surveillance become so weak that 12 people can go missing in Cuddalore in a single day?" questioned Velmurugan, leader of the Tamizhaga Vazhvurimai Katchi (TVK). In a statement issued regarding this, he noted: "The reports that 12 people—including 7 young women—have gone missing in Cuddalore district in a single day are both shocking and deeply concerning. The fact that a 16&year&old boy and a 17&year&old girl are among those missing underscores the gravity of the situation. It is highly unusual for so many individuals to go missing in a single district within one day. With families left in distress, not knowing where to look for their children and relatives, it is essential that the pace of the police investigation and the progress of the search operations be made transparent. Has police surveillance become so weak that 12 people can go missing in a single day? Where are the government's promises regarding the safety of women, given that 7 young women have vanished? What has become of the government's preventive measures intended to ensure the safety of minors? Does the duty of the police end merely with the registration of a complaint? Where are the rigorous efforts to rescue those who have gone missing? Has the government kept the affected families informed about the progress of the investigation? Will the government take responsibility until every single missing person is recovered safely? Mere words of consolation cannot wipe away the tears of the families of the missing. Each person must be located swiftly, the circumstances behind their disappearance must be uncovered, and if a crime is confirmed, strict legal action must be taken against those responsible. Public safety is not just a slogan for government publicity; it is a fundamental duty of the state. If an environment emerges where women and children cannot live without fear, what value remains in the administration's promises of security? On behalf of the Tamil Valvurimai Katchi (Tamil Rights Party), I urge the government to ensure the swift recovery of all those who have gone missing, bring the truth to light, and take decisive action to prevent such incidents from recurring."



Today horoscope

Relatives who had drifted away will reach out to you. You will understand the feelings of your family members and adjust yourself accordingly. There will be profits in business. You may plan a trip out of town with your family.

You will find joy in purchasing items you have long desired. Differences of opinion between spouses will come to an end. Some may replace old electrical appliances with new ones. Your standing at the workplace will improve.

Minor disagreements may arise between spouses. It is advisable to pay extra attention to your children's health. Avoid getting unnecessarily involved in other people's affairs. Outstanding dues in business will be recovered.

An unexpected inflow of money will bring you great enthusiasm. You will purchase electrical appliances needed for your home. At work, you will receive appreciation from your superiors. The arrival of guests will make your home lively. You will make plans to expand your business.

You will complete the tasks you undertake efficiently. You will appear refreshed and vibrant. Those who have benefited from your help in the past will now assist you. You will consult with your family regarding the purchase of a house or land. A trip to another town is on the cards.

A long-awaited sum of money will reach you. The bond between husband and wife will strengthen. Sinus-related issues will subside. Siblings will provide support at the right moment. A relative from your spouse's side may seek your assistance.

The chaos and confusion that existed within the family will come to an end. Financial inflow will be satisfactory. You will learn new techniques related to your business. You will make plans for your children's future. You will reconnect with childhood friends.

Tasks that had been stalled or pending will be completed rapidly. You will have the opportunity to meet prominent figures in society. You will purchase clothing and ornaments. You will receive support from your siblings. At your workplace, you will earn praise from your superiors.

You may face unnecessary running around and wasteful expenses. It is advisable to be accommodating toward one another within the family. Do not provide any guarantees or sureties for anyone. Exercise extra caution while traveling in a vehicle. Avoid out-of-town trips.

Tasks that have been pending for a long time will be completed today. Differences of opinion with your father will be resolved. You may experience an increase in well-intentioned but perhaps intrusive attention from neighbors. You might plan a visit to sacred places with your family.

You will resolve property-related matters through discussions. There will be sufficient income to allow for savings. You may attempt to expand your business. Existing issues at your workplace will be cleared up. The arrival of guests will bring a lively atmosphere to your home.

Arrangements for auspicious events will be made at home. You will show a spirit of compromise with your family members. The bond and intimacy between husband and wife will grow stronger. You may renovate or rearrange your home to suit your personal taste. Some may secure employment in a reputable organization.

"D.K. Shivakumar's remarks regarding Mekedatu on a stage shared with Modi are unacceptable" – Manickam Tagore





CHENNAI: Tamil Nadu Congress Committee President Manickam Tagore has strongly condemned the statements made by Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar—who asserted that no one can prevent the construction of a dam at Mekedatu and urged the Union government to grant final approval for the project.

In a post shared on social media regarding this, he stated: "It is strongly condemnable that Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Mysuru, declared that 'no one can stop the construction of a dam at Mekedatu' and urged the Union government to grant final approval for the project. Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar continues to adopt an obstinate stance that blatantly violates the Supreme Court's verdict and the final award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal. Such rhetoric, which runs counter to the principles of federalism and threatens to destroy the livelihoods of farmers in Tamil Nadu, is entirely unacceptable.

As a downstream state in the Cauvery river water&sharing arrangement, Tamil Nadu's rights cannot be unilaterally undermined by any project implemented by Karnataka. The Union government must not grant any permission for the construction of the Mekedatu dam without the explicit consent of the downstream states. Approving the Mekedatu project without Tamil Nadu's consent is not only illegal but would also severely devastate the lives of farmers in the Delta districts. It is the duty of the Union government, led by Prime Minister Modi, to ensure that not a single brick is laid by Karnataka at the Mekedatu site. On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Congress, we will never permit this project to proceed.

We are prepared to go to any lengths to defend the rights of our state. Tamil Nadu will always remain united in the fight for its rights over the Cauvery waters. Our voices will continue to be raised firmly to protect the interests of Tamil Nadu and the rights of our farmers."

Ban on Zakir Naik's 'Islamic Research Foundation' extended for another 5 years



MALAYSIA: The ban on the 'Islamic Research Foundation' (IRF)—founded by Zakir Naik, who is currently in hiding in Malaysia—has been extended for another five years.

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs stated that this decision was taken in the interest of religious harmony and national security. Zakir Abdul Karim Naik, popularly known as Dr. Zakir Naik, is an Islamic speaker from Maharashtra. In February 1991, he established the 'Islamic Research Foundation' (IRF) in Mumbai. Controversies arose regarding the activities of the IRF and the speeches delivered by its founder, Zakir Naik. Following this, a case was registered, and an investigation was initiated. Naik subsequently left India for Malaysia, where he has been living in hiding; he holds permanent resident status in Malaysia.

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs concluded that the IRF posed a threat to national security, undermined religious harmony, and endangered the country's secular fabric. Consequently, on November 17, 2016, the IRF was declared an unlawful association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). The Central Government exercised its powers under Section 3, sub&section (1) of the UAPA, 1967, to impose this ban. The ban was subsequently extended in 2021.

The current period of the ban was set to expire today (November 14). Consequently, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs has issued a notification extending the ban on the IRF for another five years.

Swearing in of the New Board of Trustees at the Subramanya Swamy Temple, Tirupparankundram



MADURAI: A government order was issued on the evening of November 13 appointing Rajapandian, Alagappan, Shanmugasundaram, Reginadevi, and Chitra as the new trustees for the Subramanya Swamy Temple in Tirupparankundram.

Following this, the swearing&in ceremony for the new trustees took place yesterday evening at 7:00 PM in the temple hall, in the presence of Deputy Commissioner Selvi.

Subsequently, the election for the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees was held under the supervision of the designated election officer, Pradeepa—the Assistant Commissioner of the Koodalazhagar Perumal Temple.

Shanmugasundaram was elected as the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees;

he had previously served as a trustee on the former board.

Farm worker killed after tiger, released from its cage for a TikTok video, attacks him

LAHORE: A farm worker has died in Pakistan after being attacked by a tiger that was released from its cage for the purpose of filming a TikTok video.

The incident took place at a private animal farm—used for the rearing and breeding of animals—located in the village of Kahna, near Lahore, Pakistan.

Noman Hassan, a local TikTok personality, intentionally released a caged tiger to film a "daring" video. Once out of its cage, the tiger suddenly became uncontrollable and mauled a 19&year&old farm worker named Talha.

The victim, who sustained severe injuries, was



rushed to a hospital, where he later succumbed to his wounds.

The farm owner, Fayyaz, and Noman Hassan have both been arrested. The tiger, which had escaped its enclosure, has also been captured. Regarding this, police officials stated, "People have developed a keen interest in TikTok videos.

We cannot allow anyone to put human lives at risk in the name of entertainment or amusement."

Special Trains and Buses Operated for Soorasamharam



CHENNAI: The State Express Transport Corporation (SETC) has announced that special buses are being operated across Tamil Nadu in light of the Soorasamharam festival.

According to an official statement, special buses have been in operation since the 12th of this month to accommodate passengers traveling for the weekend and the Soorasamharam festival.

Accordingly, 525 buses are being operated today from the Kilambakkam bus terminus in Chennai to destinations including Tiruvannamalai, Trichy, Kumbakonam, Madurai, Tirunelveli, Nagercoil, Kanyakumari, Thoothukudi, Coimbatore, Salem, Erode, and Tiruppur.

Additionally, 40 buses are being operated from the Koyambedu bus terminus to Nagapattinam, Velankanni, Hosur, and Bengaluru.

Additionally, 50 special buses are being operated from Bengaluru, Tiruppur, Erode, and Coimbatore to various destinations.

From Madhavaram, 55 special buses are being operated to Kallakurichi, Tiruvannamalai, Trichy, Kumbakonam, Vellore, Hosur, and Puducherry.

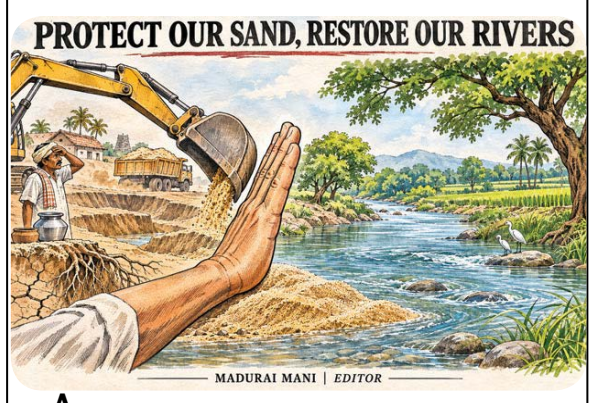
Furthermore, to facilitate the return of passengers to Chennai and Bengaluru from their hometowns tomorrow, 545 special buses will be operated from various locations, based on passenger demand. This was stated in the announcement.

Southern Railway has announced a special train between Chennai Egmore and Tiruchendur in connection with the 'Soorasamharam' event. According to a press release issued by Southern Railway, the Chennai Egmore – Tiruchendur (06007) superfast special train will depart from Chennai Egmore railway station today (November 14) at 4:10 PM. It will travel via Tambaram, Chengalpattu, Melmaruvathur, Villupuram, Virudhachalam, Ariyalur, Srirangam, Trichy, Dindigul, Madurai, Virudhunagar, Sattur, Kovilpatti, and Tirunelveli, reaching Tiruchendur at 4:00 AM the following day (November 15).

In the return direction, the Tiruchendur – Chennai Egmore (06008) superfast special train will depart from Tiruchendur tomorrow (November 15) at 10:30 PM and arrive at Chennai Egmore railway station at 12:00 PM (noon) on November 16.

November 14 EDITORIAL – NEW INDIA FLASH *2026*

Protect Our Sand, Restore Our Rivers



A river is more than a channel carrying water. It sustains farms, supports drinking water sources and helps replenish groundwater. Its sand bed is part of that living system. Unchecked extraction threatens both today's resources and the security of future generations.

Reports that Tamil Nadu's Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption has registered a case over alleged irregularities in river sand quarrying deserve serious attention. The allegations concern an estimated revenue loss of ₹1,427.34 crore during 2021–2024 and involve a former minister, officials and contractors. These allegations require a thorough, impartial investigation.

The registration of a case does not establish guilt. Investigators must substantiate their allegations with evidence, and those accused must receive due process. Equally, political influence or former office must offer no protection from scrutiny. The investigation must proceed without political interference or favour.

The issue extends beyond lost government revenue. The value of extracted sand can be calculated, but the possible damage to water sources, river systems and local livelihoods demands a separate assessment. An environmental review should therefore accompany the financial and criminal investigation. Was sand extracted beyond permitted limits? Were tender conditions shaped to benefit selected contractors? Did the officials responsible for monitoring operations fulfil their duties? These questions require answers supported by records. Accountability must also include identifying the administrative failures that may have allowed irregularities to continue.

The government should publish clear, accessible information about every authorised quarry: its approved extraction limit, the quantity actually removed and the revenue collected. Vehicle tracking and transport records should be subject to independent checks. Transparency can reduce the opportunities for collusion between those awarding contracts and those benefiting from them.

People living along riverbanks must also be heard. They often witness changes in their surroundings before those changes appear in official reports. Residents who report suspected illegal extraction need protection and a reliable way to learn what action has followed their complaints. Effective administration should prevent damage rather than respond only after sustained public pressure.

The construction industry's demand for sand also requires practical attention. Reliable supplies of quality manufactured sand, fair pricing and straightforward purchasing procedures can help reduce dependence on illegal sources. Alongside enforcement, damaged river stretches need scientifically informed restoration plans.

This case must not become a brief controversy that disappears from public attention. Citizens deserve a credible investigation, evidence that withstands judicial scrutiny, appropriate punishment where guilt is established and lawful efforts to recover losses. They also deserve reforms that prevent the same failures from recurring.

Protecting rivers is a public duty. Action against illegal sand mining must continue—with transparency, fairness and a commitment to lasting results.

New Political Movement by PMK Founder Ramadoss's Daughter



CHENNAI: Reports indicate that Srikanthi, the daughter of PMK founder Ramadoss, is set to officially launch a new political movement on December 6th. An invitation released in this regard states: "Under the leadership of Srikanthi, daughter of PMK founder Ramadoss, a new political journey is beginning—one founded on the principles of equality, social justice, and self&respect.

"The launch event for this movement—which aims to champion the welfare and rights of the people, as well as the advancement of future generations—will take place in Chennai on December 6th," the invitation adds.

New India FLASH
ENGLISH NEWS DAILY

26 Students Feared Dead in Bus- Truck Collision in Assam





KAZIRANGA: It is feared that 26 students have died following a collision between a bus and a truck in the state of Assam. The accident occurred yesterday in the Rangajan area, near Kaziranga, when a speeding truck collided with a minibus.

The minibus was traveling from Bokakhat towards Nagaon at the time of the incident. There were over 45 students on board the bus. Upon receiving information, police and fire service personnel rushed to the scene and rescued those trapped inside the vehicle. It is feared that 26 people have lost their lives, and many others have sustained injuries.

As several individuals are critically injured, the death toll may rise. The impact of the high&speed collision left the minibus completely mangled. Regarding this, Swapnaneel Deka, Senior Superintendent of Police for the Golaghat region, stated, "We have recovered a large number of bodies from the bus. More than 20 people who sustained severe injuries are currently undergoing treatment at the hospital." In a condolence message, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said, "I am deeply saddened by the accident that occurred near Kaziranga Park. I extend my heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased."

Projects worth Rs. 15,600 crore launched in Bengaluru: PM Modi inaugurates Metro and Vande Bharat train services



BENGALURU: Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 'Pink Line' Metro service and the Vande Bharat train service from Bengaluru to Madgaon by flagging them off yesterday. Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived at the HAL Airport in Bengaluru from Delhi via a special flight yesterday morning. He was welcomed by Karnataka Governor Sudha Yadav, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, Union Minister of State Somanna, and others.

From there, he traveled to the Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana in Anekal to participate in the golden jubilee celebrations at 'Prashanti Kutiram'. Earlier, BJP supporters and members of the public gathered on both sides of the road in Anekal and showered flowers to welcome the Prime Minister. Standing in his vehicle, the Prime Minister waved to the crowd. A commotion ensued when members of the Youth Congress, who had gathered at the spot, began chanting "Rahul, Rahul." The police subsequently took them into custody and transported them away in a van.

At 12:45 PM, Prime Minister Modi, accompanied by Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, flagged off the Pink Line Metro service, which runs from Tavarekere to IIM Bengaluru. Following this, the Prime Minister traveled on the metro train alongside Governor Sudha Yadav, Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, and others. Subsequently, at the Yesvantpur Railway Station in Bengaluru, the Prime Minister flagged off the Vande Bharat Express train bound for Madgaon (Goa). The train's route passes through several towns in Karnataka—including Hassan, Chikkamagaluru, Mangaluru, and Gokarna—before reaching Madgaon in Goa. Railway authorities stated that the journey to Goa will take 13 hours, offering passengers the opportunity to enjoy scenic, picturesque landscapes along the way.

Following these events, Prime Minister Modi inaugurated development projects in Bengaluru worth ₹15,600 crore and dedicated completed projects to the nation. He also inaugurated four upgraded railway stations—Chikkamagaluru, Chamarajanagar, Sakleshpur, and Subramanya Road—via video conference. Earlier, while speaking in Bengaluru, Prime Minister Modi said, "Bengaluru is evolving into a global city in the technology sector. The metro rail project is set to pave the way for new business opportunities and innovative ventures in the city.

The Central Government has provided 50 percent of the funding for this metro rail project." He further added, "Under the Amrit Bharat scheme, over 60 railway stations in Karnataka are being upgraded with state&of&the&art facilities to meet international standards." Following this, the Prime Minister traveled to Mysuru by air, where he inaugurated a newly constructed planetarium (Cosmos Planetarium) located at the foothills of Chamundi Hill.

Tamil Nadu Government Imposes Stock Limits on Rice and Pulses

CHENNAI: The Tamil Nadu government has issued an order imposing stock limits on rice, *tur dal* (pigeon peas), and *urad dal* (black gram) to regulate their prices within the state.

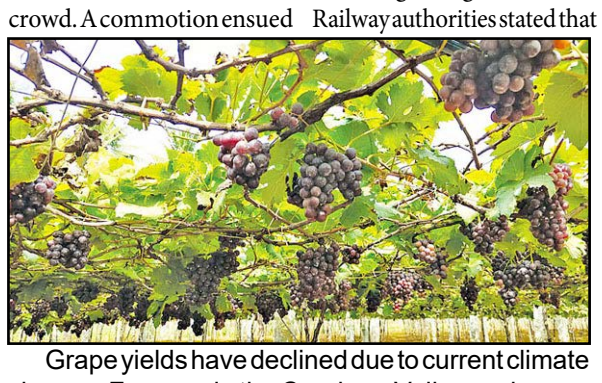
According to a government order (GO) issued yesterday by the Cooperation, Food and Consumer Protection Department, the following limits have been set: Wholesalers in Tamil Nadu are permitted to stock up to 2,000 tonnes of paddy or rice, while individual retailers may hold up to 8 tonnes.

Rice mill owners are allowed to maintain a stock equivalent to one month's production capacity. Importers are prohibited from holding imported goods for more than 45 days.

Regarding *tur dal* and *urad dal*, wholesalers are permitted to stock up to 200 tonnes of each variety. Retailers and large retail chain stores may hold up to 5 tonnes of each type of pulse.

For pulse mills, the permitted stock limit is either the production volume of the last three months or 25 percent of their annual installed production capacity—whichever is higher. Importers are also directed not to hold imported pulses for more than 45 days from the date of customs clearance. Furthermore, traders are mandatorily required to upload details of their *tur dal* and *urad dal* stocks on the website of the Union Department of Consumer Affairs. A government order states that traders holding stocks of pulses in excess of the permitted limits must reduce their inventory to the prescribed levels by November 16.

Through this measure, the government aims to curb price increases in rice and pulses and ensure an uninterrupted supply in the market.



Grape yields have declined due to current climate change. Farmers in the Cumbum Valley region are concerned, as the 'Panneer' (Muscat) grapes—currently selling for ₹50 per kilogram—are not fetching an adequate price.

12,000 Bogus Beneficiaries West Bengal CM Allegation



KOLKATA: West Bengal Chief Minister [Suvendu Adhikari]* has stated that legal action will be taken against 12,000 bogus beneficiaries who availed themselves of benefits under a free housing scheme during the tenure of the previous Trinamool Congress administration. Elaborating on this, he said: "Funds were allocated to these bogus individuals during the previous Trinamool Congress regime.

We have initiated steps to recover these amounts from them." "So far, 1,000 people have returned the money. The others must also return the funds; otherwise, legal action will be taken against them. Furthermore, action will be taken against West Bengal government officials who were complicit in the misappropriation of funds under this scheme," he stated. ***Note:** The original text refers to the individual as the "Chief Minister of West Bengal" and names him as "Suvendu Adhikari." Please be aware that Suvendu Adhikari is a prominent opposition leader (BJP) in West Bengal, not the Chief Minister.*

Kallakurichi District Under the Leadership of Female Officials

KALLAKURICHI: A notable feature of Kallakurichi district is that women hold the top leadership positions across 11 key departments, including the role of District Collector. Padmaja was appointed as the District Collector of Kallakurichi towards the end of last May. Prior to this, Shahnaz was appointed as the Superintendent of Police for the district on May 20th.

Key positions are held by women, including R. Jeeva as the District Revenue Officer, A. Lalitha as the Project Officer for the Women's Development Scheme, Karthika as the Chief Educational Officer, another Karthika as the District Social Welfare Officer, Chithrasena as the Deputy Director of Health Services, Babykala as the Joint Director of Agriculture, Vasanthalakshmi as the Director of the Civil Supplies Corporation, M. Se. Aruna as the District Project Officer for the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), and Bhavani as the Dean of the Government Medical College. Additionally, Kavitha—who was previously serving as the Project Officer for the Women's Development Scheme in Thiruvallur district—has been appointed as the District Project Officer (Rural Development) for Kallakurichi, replacing the former incumbent, Ramesh Kumar, who was transferred two days ago.

It is significant that the officials responsible for overseeing the daily, public&facing operations in Kallakurichi district are predominantly women. Notably, Shravan Kumar, a former District Collector of Kallakurichi, had previously praised the administration, stating, "The management by the women serving as heads of departments in Kallakurichi district is excellent."

Madurai Jewelry Store Heist

Police Conduct Intensive Search at a Young Man's Home in Palanganatham

MADURAI: In connection with a major jewelry store heist in Madurai, police carried out a seven&hour search at the home of a young man. The heavy police presence in the area created a tense atmosphere throughout the night.

Following the theft of gold and diamond jewelry worth Rs. 21 crore from a prominent jewelry store located on the Palanganatham&Kalavasal bypass road, special police teams were formed to conduct an intensive investigation.

Police examined surveillance footage from various routes the perpetrator might have taken, confirming that he fled via Madakkulam Road on a two&wheeler typically used by women. Suspicion fell upon a young man residing on a street located within two kilometers of the rear side of the jewelry store. Consequently, over 100 police officers were deployed to the area to search his residence. They conducted a thorough, inch&by&inch search of the entire property—including every room, the exterior, and the upper&floor areas—which lasted for seven hours last night.

The entire street was brought under police control during the operation; however, none of the stolen jewelry was recovered. It was reported that the individual under suspicion had not returned home for several hours, a detail that added to the tension in the neighborhood. According to the police, the suspect runs a YouTube channel and frequently posted videos on social media.

He was also known for performing stunts on an expensive motorcycle and sharing footage of these activities. Surveillance footage further revealed that he had visited the targeted jewelry store on three separate occasions prior to the heist. Each time he visited, he arrived in disguise to scout the jewelry store. Using modern technology, authorities are analyzing his photographs as part of an investigation, based on the suspicion that he may have been involved in the robbery. A search and interrogation were also conducted at the young man's residence, lasting over seven hours.

Police stated that the identity of the robber would be revealed once the investigation concludes. Meanwhile, reports indicate that two bags containing documents and various other items have been seized from the young man's home. In connection with the jewelry store robbery in Madurai, the police are currently conducting a search at the Madakulam irrigation tank (kanmai).

SpaceX's 'Starship' Rocket Successfully Launched Spacecraft to Return to Earth Tomorrow



WASHINGTON: SpaceX, the company owned by American entrepreneur Elon Musk, is actively involved in space exploration and the launch of spacecraft using rockets. In this context, SpaceX developed the 'Starship' rocket, designed to transport spacecraft, cargo, and humans from Earth to the Moon and Mars.

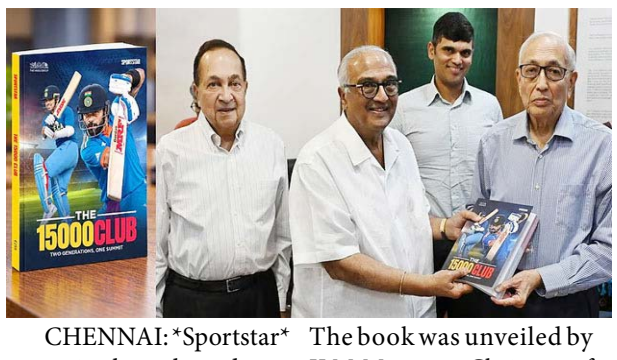
Typically, when rockets are launched, the boosters that carry the fuel detach after completing their task and fall into the ocean. However, 'Starship' is a fully reusable rocket; its components are designed to return to Earth—specifically to the launch site.

In the event of a technical malfunction, the rocket components are programmed to be diverted so that they fall into the ocean instead. SpaceX has previously launched 'Starship' rockets 14 times. In the latest mission—the 15th launch—a 'Starship' rocket carrying 26 'Starlink V3' satellites was successfully launched from a site in Texas.

While the 'Super Heavy' booster was expected to return to the launch site after separating from the rocket, a last&minute technical issue resulted in the booster being directed to land in the ocean. Meanwhile, SpaceX has announced that the 26 'Starlink V3' satellites launched into space have been successfully placed into Earth's orbit.

The launch vehicle, which has begun orbiting the Earth 14 times at a speed 23 times faster than the speed of sound (approximately 28,000 km/h), is set to return to the launch site early tomorrow (the 15th). Mechanical arms at the launch site will catch and secure the vehicle. SpaceX engineers are currently working on the preparations to ensure this operation is carried out successfully.

Launch of 'The 15,000 Club' – A Book Celebrating the Achievements of Sachin and Virat Kohli



CHENNAI: *Sportstar* magazine has released a special book titled 'The 15,000 Club: Two Generations, One Peak,' which chronicles the cricketing journeys and achievements of legends Sachin Tendulkar and Virat Kohli—both of whom have surpassed 15,000 runs in One Day International (ODI) cricket.

The launch event took place yesterday at *The Hindu* office in Chennai. The book was unveiled by K.M. Mammen, Chairman of MRF, and received by N. Murali, Chairman of THGPPL.

The event was attended by Rahul Mammen Mappillai, Managing Director of MRF; N. Ram and Venugopal, Directors of The Hindu Group; and Ramesh Rangarajan, Chairman of KSL, among others. The book can be purchased online at https://publications.thehindugroup.com. It is priced at ₹299. As an introductory offer, the book is available at a 25% discount for ₹225. Beyond the achievements of Sachin Tendulkar and Virat Kohli, this book covers key moments from their cricketing careers.

Through interviews with former teammates who played alongside them, the book explores their batting techniques, mental approach, personal traits, and the impact they had within the team's dressing room.

The book chronicles their journeys—from Sachin, who drew attention for his cricketing talent at a very young age, to Virat Kohli, who emerged as one of the greatest players in modern cricket. It also highlights the unique contributions both have made to Indian cricket.

Ukraine Expects Largest Prisoner Exchange with Russia, Over 1,000 from Each Side



KYIV: Kyiv is anticipating what could be the largest prisoner exchange with Russia since the war began, with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy stating that over 1,000 individuals from each side are likely to be released.

Zelenskyy confirmed on Friday that Ukrainian teams, intelligence agencies, and special services are diligently working to facilitate this significant exchange.

He emphasized that Kyiv is taking seriously the assurances from American partners that this would indeed be the largest such event of the conflict.

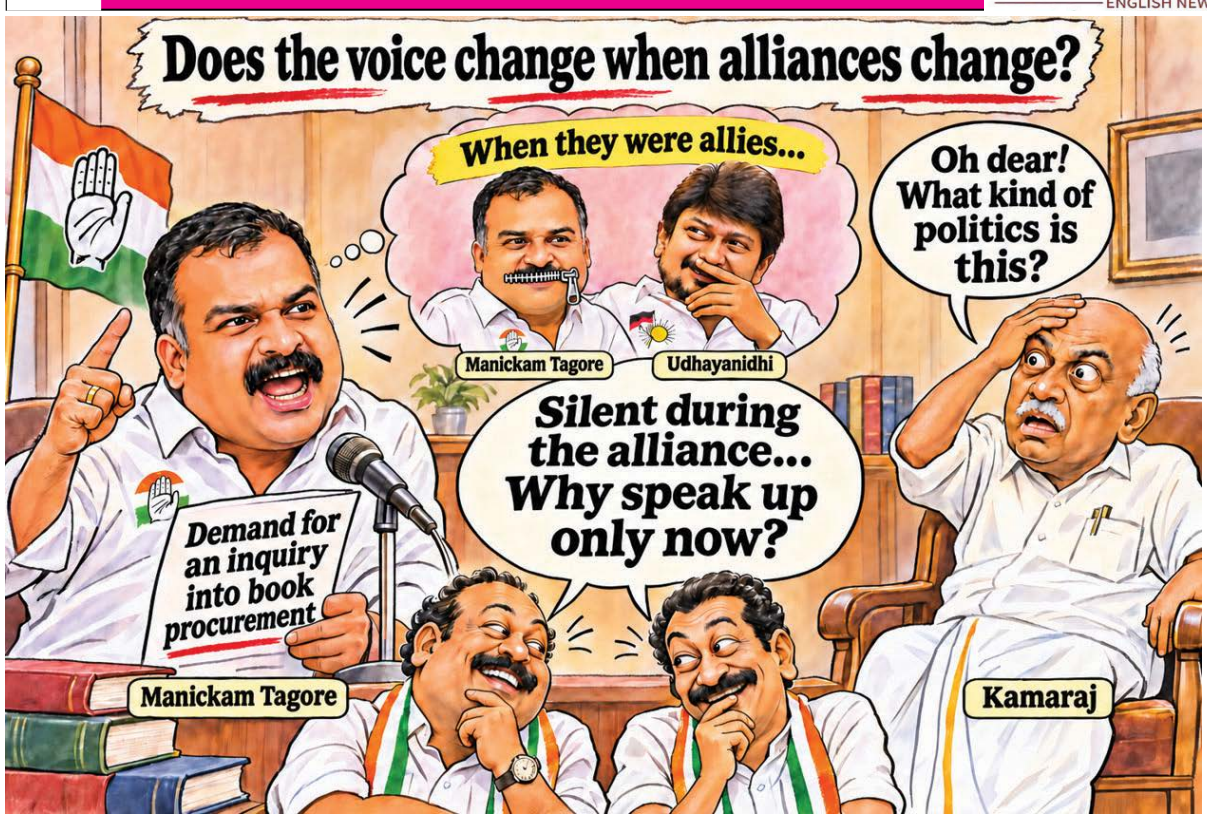
"This is extremely sensitive for many Ukrainian families," Zelenskyy noted, highlighting the human impact of the ongoing conflict. He expects a detailed report on the preparations soon. Beyond the exchange, Zelenskyy also discussed recent diplomatic efforts, including a substantial defense assistance package of 645 million euros from Denmark.

This package is set to include additional ammunition for F&16 fighter jets and crucial energy assistance for Ukraine, addressing critical needs amidst the conflict.

Discussions with European leaders also focused on strengthening international support for Ukraine and imposing further sanctions on Russia. Zelenskyy also mentioned talks with US President Donald Trump's Special Envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner regarding steps towards peace and guaranteed security.



Hyderabad: Telangana BJP president N Ramchander Rao was placed under house arrest at his residence in Tarnaka, Hyderabad, after he called for stopping the Bharat Summit and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, alleging that the event was being organised by inviting "anti-Bharat forces", according to the BJP Telangana State PRO.





PM at the inauguration of the COSMOS-Mysuru Planetarium in Mysuru, Karnataka.

Birth Anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru Post by Prime Minister Modi on 'X'

NEW DELHI: Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of independent India, was born on November 14, 1889, in Allahabad (now Prayagraj), Uttar Pradesh, to Motilal Nehru and Swaroop Rani.

Often referred to as the 'architect of modern India,' Jawaharlal Nehru served as the Prime Minister of India for a total of 16 years and 286 days. His visionary outlook laid the foundation for the progress of independent India. November 14, his birthday, is celebrated as Children's Day.

Today, on the occasion of his birth anniversary, political leaders are remembering him and paying their respects. In this regard, Prime Minister Modi posted on the platform 'X,' stating, "I pay my tributes to former Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on his birth anniversary."

Trump to Meet Xi, Putin at APEC Summit for First Trilateral Talks



USA: US President Donald Trump is set to make history next week by holding the first&ever trilateral meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin. The high&profile talks will take place on the sidelines of the Asia&Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit in China.

Senior US officials have indicated that nuclear disarmament and the situation in Iran will be key topics of discussion among the three global leaders. While the meeting marks a significant diplomatic engagement, US officials have tempered expectations, describing it as an initial conversation rather than a forum for immediate agreements on nuclear weapons reduction.

White House spokesperson Olivia Wales highlighted President Trump's strong desire to address global nuclear proliferation, calling it a 'very dangerous development'. Officials clarified that while concrete agreements are not anticipated, the meeting offers a crucial opportunity to initiate high&level dialogue on these critical international issues. President Trump also plans to discuss Iran with both Xi and Putin, though Russia's ongoing conflict with Ukraine is not on the trilateral agenda.

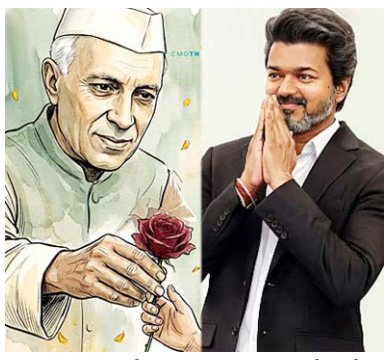
This meeting gains further relevance as the last nuclear arms treaty between the US and Russia recently expired, and China continues to expand its nuclear capabilities. Separately, Trump will also hold a bilateral meeting and working lunch with President Xi before the joint session. Billionaire Elon Musk is expected to accompany Trump during parts of his China visit, though not at the trilateral meeting. Trump's Asia tour begins in Manila for the ASEAN Summit before heading to China.

Let Us Build a Prosperous Tamil Nadu CM Vijay's Children's Day Wishes

CHENNAI: Chief Minister Vijay has extended his warm Children's Day wishes to all the children he holds dear.

In a post on his official X (formerly Twitter) account, he stated the following: "On this auspicious day—celebrated as Children's Day to mark the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister who held immense love for children—I extend my heartfelt Children's Day wishes to all my dear children. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru deserves great honor for laying the foundation for the nation's development through his visionary approach across various fields, including education, industrial and economic growth, scientific advancement, the protection of democratic values, the establishment of social justice, and the upholding of secularism.

In line with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's belief that 'today's children are the architects who will shape the future of the nation,' let us identify the unique talents of our children, provide them with the right platforms and opportunities to fully express these talents, give wings to their dreams, and help them soar in the skies of success! Together, let us build a prosperous Tamil Nadu and a vibrant, empowered India!



Happy Children's Day!" This was stated in his message.

Mekedatu Issue: Stalin writes to CM Vijay, urging an all- party meeting



CHENNAI: "Given that the Chief Minister of Karnataka has once again begun speaking aggressively about constructing the Mekedatu dam, the Tamil Nadu government should no longer remain silent. An all&party meeting must be convened to demonstrate our unity and express our opposition to the Karnataka Chief Minister's statements," urged M.K. Stalin to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay.

In this regard, DMK leader M.K. Stalin [wrote] to Chief Minister Vijay... In his letter, Stalin writes, "I wish to bring to your attention that on November 13, 2026, at a government function in Mysuru held in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar spoke once again about the Mekedatu dam. His assertion at the event—that the Supreme Court itself has endorsed the construction of the Mekedatu dam and that no one can stop it—has caused significant unrest among the farmers of Tamil Nadu. The Cauvery issue transcends mere water sharing; it is historically and emotionally intertwined with the lives of the Tamil people. The entire livelihood of the farmers in the Delta region depends on it. Therefore, I reiterate what I have consistently emphasized from the beginning: the Government of Tamil Nadu cannot afford to remain indifferent or turn a blind eye to the Mekedatu dam issue. Based on lessons from the past, there is no scope for any negotiations with Karnataka regarding our rights to Cauvery water. Tamil Nadu's firm stance has always been that we will secure our rights through legal channels. When reports emerged—contrary to this position—suggesting that you intended to visit Karnataka to hold talks with their state government upon assuming office as Chief Minister, we warned against such a 'dangerous gamble.'

Furthermore, the lack of transparency regarding your visit to Karnataka, combined with the absence of an official announcement and the contradictory statements issued by various ministers, only served to confuse the farming community. It is in this context that Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar stated in a press conference, 'It was the Government of Tamil Nadu that reached out to initiate these talks.'" He stated that "Karnataka did not reach out." Ultimately, yielding to opposition from certain groups in Karnataka, he remarked that "given the current situation, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu should not visit Karnataka."

None of these developments have been well&received by the people of Tamil Nadu. While all political parties in Karnataka speak with a unified voice regarding the Cauvery issue, I have emphasized that it is essential for the political parties of Tamil Nadu to also demonstrate unity to protect our farmers. I had further suggested that an all&party meeting be convened immediately to deliberate on our next course of action.

Lorry driver brought to Madurai police station for questioning dies by suicide

MADURAI: Balakrishnan, who arrived at the Chekkanoorani police station in Madurai district to file a complaint, has died. It is reported that he died by hanging, and senior officials have initiated an inquiry into the incident. Balakrishnan, a native of Devaram in Theni district, worked as a lorry driver. He was transporting a load of cardamom from Gudalur (near Cumbum) when his lorry suddenly caught fire.



He went to the Chekkanoorani police station to lodge a complaint regarding this incident. It is alleged that the Theni police requested that he be held at the station, citing several prior accusations against him. Furthermore, the owner of the lorry reportedly raised suspicions regarding the fire.

While being held at the police station, Balakrishnan allegedly died by hanging himself in the station's restroom during the night. The incident has caused a major shock, prompting the District Superintendent of Police to visit the station personally to conduct an investigation.

The police are examining the case from various angles—specifically, whether the driver died by suicide or if he was subjected to any form of duress. Police stated that the exact cause of death will be determined following the post&mortem examination.

Meanwhile, South Zone Inspector General of Police (IG) Vijayendra Bidari has announced that the investigation into this case will be transferred to the CB&CID.

Was law and order well maintained during the DMK's rule? Minister Shahjahan questions the opposition parties

MANAPARAI: Minister for Minority Welfare, Shahjahan, visited the Puthanatham area in Trichy district. Speaking to reporters, he stated that the current administration—now six months into its term—is performing exceptionally well, fulfilling the very changes that the people voted for. For the first time in history, the government has declared itself to be free from bribery and corruption, and it is actively upholding this commitment.



Regarding educational scholarships, funds are being provided not only through the Department of Social Justice but also through the Department of Minority Welfare. Every eligible applicant will receive the scholarship amount. Last year, the aid was granted to 10 individuals from minority communities.

This year, even after announcing the application dates and extending the deadline, only about 15 to 16 applications were received. As only seven of these met the eligibility criteria, we have decided to extend the application deadline further. "Therefore, for students wishing to pursue their studies abroad, this government will certainly provide assistance, provided their applications are in order," he stated.

Addressing a question regarding criticisms from opposition parties concerning law and order under the TVK (Tamilaga Vetri Kazhagam) administration, Minister Shahjahan remarked: "Opposition figures like Udhayanidhi Stalin and Kanimozhi speak as if law and order were perfectly maintained during the previous five&year DMK regime—implying that this government is failing in that regard. Yet, 9,000 murders took place during those five years. I am certainly not justifying the occurrence of such crimes."

"However, to suggest that the previous five years were a 'haven of peace' and that murders have occurred for the first time only this year is merely a reflection of political malice.

As for the various claims circulating daily on social media regarding MLAs—if a formal, substantiated complaint is filed, and it is found to be true, the Chief Minister will undoubtedly take firm action.

Regarding the rise in prices, it is a consequence of the 'Super El Niño' phenomenon—a trend observed globally and in other states as well.

Nevertheless, the Chief Minister is actively implementing various measures to bring the situation in Tamil Nadu under control," he said.

Arrangements underway to establish a second Collector's Office complex in Madurai, to be known as the 'Collector's Office Master Plan Complex'

MADURAI: Preparations are underway to establish a second Collector's Office complex in Madurai, designated as the 'Collector's Office Master Plan Complex.'

The existing Collector's Office spans 7 acres, while the former Ramanathapuram Collector's Office—located nearby—covers 1.5 acres. A Regional Cancer Treatment Centre is set to be established on the latter site. Consequently, the district administration has directed the more than 15 government offices currently operating there to vacate the premises.

Several of these offices, including the District Panchayat Office, are now searching for new locations.

Temporary space has been allocated to some of them within the current Collector's Office complex; however, many offices already operating there are facing severe space constraints. The Madurai North Taluk office, which was struggling with extreme congestion, was recently relocated to a new building behind the Tallakulam Police Station.

The Madurai RTO office is also facing similar space issues, and a decision has been made to relocate it as well. In light of this, plans are being developed to construct a second Collector's Office complex. A 5&acre vacant site located behind the North Taluk office in Chokkikulam has been selected for this purpose. Discussions have been held regarding the construction of an 8&story building on this site. District Monitoring Officer Veeraraghava Rao inspected the location, accompanied by Collector Nishanth Krishna, District Revenue Officer (DRO) Jayapreetha, Tahsildar Kamalesh, and other officials.

Veeraraghava Rao has stated that the Collector's office complex should be developed as a 'master complex,' keeping the future in mind. Consequently, the Public Works Department is set to construct a new building, which will house the offices that were previously located in the old Ramanathapuram Collector's office complex.



In Thiruvallur district, police seized Rs. 50 lakh in 'hawala' (illegal money transfer) cash being transported in a car and arrested two individuals from Telangana.

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