

VIKRAMA VAHINI

WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY

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Nayanthara and Vignesh Shivan, one of South India's most popular celebrity couples, continue to draw attention for their luxurious lifestyle, with estimates suggesting a daily expenditure of around ₹6 lakh based on investment returns and high-value assets.

Young fast bowler Prince Yadav has emerged as one of the standout performers in Indian Premier League (IPL 2026), despite his team Lucknow Super Giants struggling in the season.



Good morning

We always work for a better tomorrow, But when tomorrow comes.. Instead of enjoying, We again think of a better tomorrow..! Let's have a better today!!

BRIEFS

Bhojshala Row: Plea for Exclusive Worship Rights

> Vikrama Vahini | Indore

The long-standing Bhojshala dispute in Madhya Pradesh resurfaced on Friday as a Hindu petitioner urged the High Court to direct the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to restore the "original religious character" of the complex and allow worship exclusively by Hindus.

The petitioner also challenged an ASI order issued in 2003, arguing that the site in Dhar district should be recognised as a temple dedicated to Goddess Saraswati.

While the Hindu side claims Bhojshala as a sacred temple, the Muslim side maintains it is the historic "Kamal Maula Mosque." The protected monument continues to remain a sensitive disputed site under legal scrutiny.

IPL Betting Syndicate Busted; 5 Held

> Vikrama Vahini | Dehradun

In a joint operation, the Uttarakhand Special Task Force (STF) and Dehradun Police claimed to have busted an international online betting syndicate allegedly involved in betting on IPL matches and arrested five persons.

Police said the accused were operating from a rented flat in Rishi Vihar Colony, Vasant Vihar, following a raid conducted on Thursday night based on a specific tip-off.

Dehradun Superintendent of Police (City) Pramod Kumar said the main accused, Sumit Yadav of Delhi, had been supplying user IDs and passwords for a betting application used for online wagering. He added that efforts are underway to trace and arrest Yadav soon.

IMF Clears USD 1.2 Billion Loan for Pakistan

> Vikrama Vahini | Islamabad

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Friday approved a financial assistance package of USD 1.2 billion for Pakistan under two ongoing lending programmes.

The decision includes about USD 1 billion under the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) and around USD 210 million under the Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF).

The IMF had earlier approved a USD 7 billion support programme for Pakistan in September 2024 under the EFF for a period of 37 months, along with an additional USD 1.4 billion under the RSF to support climate and economic resilience measures.

The latest approval comes as part of continued financial assistance aimed at stabilising Pakistan's economy under the existing arrangements.

Adhikari Becomes 'Dada'; Vijay Trails in Majority Battle'

TN: GOVERNOR PUTS OATH ON HOLD

> Vikrama Vahini | Chennai

Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) chief Vijay's attempt to form the government in Tamil Nadu suffered a setback after he reportedly failed to secure the support of the required 118 MLAs in the 234-member Assembly. The development came after the Indian Union Muslim League (IUM) and TTV Dhinakaran-led Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam (AMMK) refused to extend support to the TVK-led alliance.

Sources in the Raj Bhavan said Governor R.V. Arlekar did not invite Vijay to take oath as Chief Minister as the actor-turned-politician could not submit written letters of support from a majority of legislators. Though Vijay had earlier claimed the backing of 118 MLAs following his meeting with the Governor on Friday evening, the number reportedly dropped to 116 after two potential allies distanced themselves from the alliance.

The IUM officially clarified through a letter that it was not part of the TVK coalition, while the AMMK urged the Governor to invite the AIADMK to form the government. The twin developments significantly weakened TVK's chances of staking claim to power despite support from the Congress, CPI and CPM.



Amid the uncertainty, TVK leaders remained confident about Vijay's prospects. Party MLA Marie Wilson asserted that Vijay would eventually become Chief Minister and thanked alliance partners for their support. He hinted that clarity on government formation could emerge soon, while maintaining that the party remained optimistic about the political situation.

Alliance Speculation Intensifies:

Political uncertainty in Tamil Nadu triggered intense speculation over possible post-poll alliances as parties explored options to break the deadlock in government formation. Amid the numbers game, discussions emerged

over potential understandings involving the DMK, AIADMK and Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK), though major political players publicly denied any such negotiations. Sources said there was brief speculation over a possible arrangement between Vijay-led TVK and the AIADMK, which holds 47 seats in the Assembly. However, leaders from both camps reportedly dismissed the possibility of any formal alliance. Similar rumours surrounding a potential political understanding between the DMK and AIADMK were also rejected by senior leaders, indicating that no major breakthrough had been reached despite the fluid political situation in the state.

Suvendu Adhikari Set to Take Oath as Bengal CM

> Vikrama Vahini | Kolkata

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is set to form its first-ever government in West Bengal, with senior leader Suvendu Adhikari confirmed as the next Chief Minister.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah officially confirmed Adhikari's elevation after the BJP secured a massive victory in the recently concluded Assembly elections. Adhikari defeated

Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee in Bhabanipur and also won from Nandigram.

The swearing-in ceremony is scheduled to be held at Kolkata's Brigade Parade Ground at 11 am and is expected to witness the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, senior BJP leaders, several Chief Ministers, industrialists and celebrities.

Party sources indicated that the BJP is also considering appointing two Deputy Chief Ministers to



ensure regional and social balance in the new government. MLA Agnimitra Paul and Siliguri MLA Shankar Ghosh are among the frontrunners for the posts.

The BJP legislative party is expected to formally elect Adhikari as its leader ahead of the oath-taking ceremony, marking a major political shift in West Bengal after years of Trinamool Congress rule.

LEFT, VCK SUPPORT CLEARS TVK'S PATH TO POWER

CPI, CPI(M) and VCK have extended support to actor-turned-politician Vijay's Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK), pushing the party past the majority mark in the Tamil Nadu Assembly. With backing from allies and Congress MLAs, TVK is now set to form the government, while Vijay prepares to meet the Governor to stake claim to power.

> Vikrama Vahini | Chennai

Actor-turned-politician Vijay moved closer to becoming the next Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu after the CPI, CPI(M) and Viduthala Chiruthaigal Katchi (VCK) extended support to the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) for government formation in the state.

The support from the Left parties and VCK pushed TVK past the majority mark in the 234-member Assembly.

TVK had emerged as the single largest party in the recently concluded Assembly elections by winning 108 seats and required 118 seats to stake claim to form the government. The party had earlier secured the backing of five Congress MLAs.

According to party sources, the CPI Working Committee, CPI(M) State Committee and VCK leadership held separate meetings on Friday and decided to support the Vijay-led party.

An official announcement regarding the alliance is expected during a joint press conference later in the day.

Vijay is expected to meet Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar on Friday evening to formally stake claim to form the government. Official sources said this would be Vijay's third meeting with the

Governor this week. TVK leaders are likely to submit letters of support from allied parties during the meeting.

Earlier in the day, CPI general secretary D Raja said discussions were underway within the party before taking a final decision.

He stated that the Governor should respect the people's mandate and invite TVK, as the single largest party, to form the government without creating any constitutional hurdles.

Sources within the CPI said the party wanted assurances on a common minimum programme before extending support to the new government, while also safeguarding its ideological position.

Meanwhile, VCK president Thol Thirumavalavan convened a high-level committee meeting through video conference to discuss support for TVK.

The VCK won two seats in the Assembly elections, while CPI and CPI(M) secured two seats each as part of the DMK-led alliance.

The development marks a significant political realignment in Tamil Nadu, with shifting alliances reshaping post-poll equations.

ECI Voter List Revision in 23 States

> Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

The Election Commission of India (ECI) is preparing to launch the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls across 23 states and Union Territories, including Delhi, with an official announcement likely next week.

The large-scale exercise aims to update and verify voter lists ahead of upcoming elections. The revision comes after the completion of similar work in 13 states, including Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

The process was earlier scheduled for April but was postponed due to the workload of Assembly elections in West Bengal. The ECI has now resumed preparations following the completion of polling in several states, including West Bengal and Kerala.

States and UTs covered The revision will cover Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Punjab, Sikkim, Tripura, Telangana, Uttarakhand, along with Delhi.

Preparatory work completed Officials said the Commission has already mapped existing electoral rolls with previous SIR data to streamline the revision process.

DMK Seeks Separate Lok Sabha Seating

> Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

DMK MP Kanimozhi Karunanidhi has written to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla seeking separate seating arrangements for DMK MPs in the Lower House following the end of the party's alliance with the Indian National Congress.

In her letter dated May 7, Kanimozhi said the "changed political circumstances" and the breakdown of the alliance made it inappropriate for DMK MPs to continue sitting alongside Congress

members. "In view of the changed political circumstances and as our alliance with the Indian National Congress has come to an end, it may not be appropriate for our Members to continue occupying the present seating arrangement alongside them in the House," she stated.

She requested the Speaker to allocate separate seating for DMK Parliamentarians to enable them to function more effectively in the Lok Sabha. **PG2**

Fuel Price Hike Likely Amid Oil Firms' Losses

> Vikrama Vahini | New Delhi

Petrol and diesel prices in India may see an upward revision as state-owned oil companies continue to suffer massive losses due to sustained high crude oil prices amid the West Asia conflict.

Oil firms under financial stress

Indian Oil Corporation, Hindustan Petroleum and Bharat Petroleum have reportedly incurred combined losses of around ₹30,000 crore between March and April alone. Officials said the burden could have reached ₹62,500 crore if the government had not intervened through excise



Government steps cushion impact

To keep retail fuel prices stable, the Centre reduced excise duty on petrol from ₹13 to ₹3 per litre and on diesel from ₹10 to zero. This move helped prevent immediate price hikes for consumers but also led to revenue losses for the government. **PG2**

BSY - the limit of human endurance

"HE WALKED AND PEDALED HIS WAY FROM SHIKARIPURA TO VIDHANA SOUDHA"



"The paradise of politics is at the feet of the people" - nobody knows this time-tested saying better than Bhooakanakere Siddalingappa Yeddyurappa, the stormy petrel of Karnataka politics who - sheerly by the dint of his perseverance, devotion, struggle and commitment - not only emerged as a mass leader but also went on to become the chief minister of the state.

Born at an obscure village - Bhooakanakere - in K. R. Pet taluk of Mandya district, Yeddyurappa, in his childhood, left his village and came to Bangalore where he

came in contact with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. Destiny took him to Shikaripura, a taluk headquarters in Shimoga district.

Yeddyurappa's cycling sojourn commenced when one of the senior RSS functionary, Late Hiriyur Krishnamurthy, during his visit to Shikaripura, told BSY to start cycling at one of the RSS camps. Yeddyurappa immediately took to cycling and went round the Sangh camp. Later that habit became his second nature.

When Yeddyurappa's services were lent to the fledgling Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS) in 1974, he went round Shikaripura town and the entire taluk on bicycle.

After he came out of Bellary Jail serving DIR term during the draconian emergency

between 1975 and 1977, Yeddyurappa first became Municipal Councillor and later went on to become Municipal President. By then, he had shown the distinct sign of emerging as a mass leader as he was always amidst all section of society, especially the dalits, OBCs and farmers.

It was during one of his cycle tour of the outskirts of Shikaripura taluk, Yeddyurappa was subjected to a murderous attack.

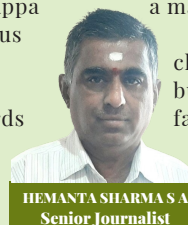
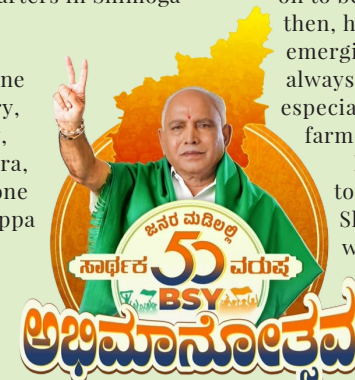
The attackers hit BSY with machettes and swords and threw him to a nearby field thinking he was dead. But destiny had a totally different design.

When the Bharatiya Jana Sangh General Secretary in-charge of Organisation Bhaurao Deshpade visited the Government Hospital at

Shikaripura to see Yeddyurappa, the latter told, "I don't know whether I will survive or not. But if I survive, I declare here and now that I will dedicate my entire life for the cause of the people."

Bhaurao Deshpade consoled and re-assured him, "Don't worry. You will definitely survive. You are a worthy son of proud Bharath Mata. The party and the society are in need of you. You will emerge as a mass leader."

Bhaurao Deshpade proved to be a clairvoyant. BSY took up people's burning issues, especially that of the farmers, dalits and OBCs. He went round Shikaripura taluk. He was appointed as President of Shikaripura Taluk BJP in 1980. He continued with his pro-people agitations and struggle. "Struggle thy name is Yeddyurppa" became the battle-cry in Shimoga district. **PG2**



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