

STALIN PAYS TRIBUTE AT ANNA, KARUNANIDHI MEMORIALS ON HIS 72ND BIRTHDAY

Chennai, 02 March 2025: Chief Minister M.K. Stalin celebrated his 72nd birthday by paying tribute at the memorials of Anna and Karunanidhi at Marina Beach, Chennai.



During the occasion, he stated, "My birthday message is to ensure state autonomy and to prevent the imposition of Hindi."

Leaders from alliance parties, including Tamil Nadu Congress President Selvaperunthagai, MDMK General Secretary Vaiko, CPI(M) State Secretary Shanmugam, CPI State Secretary Mutharasan, and VCK leader Thol. Thirumavalavan, honored Stalin with shawls and gifts, extending their birthday wishes.

Rajinikanth extended his heartfelt birthday wishes to Chief Minister MK Stalin on his 72nd birthday with a personal phone call as part of the celebrations honouring the state leader. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also joined in the celebrations, offering

his best wishes to CM Stalin through a post on the social media platform X. The Prime Minister wrote, "Birthday greetings to Tamil Nadu CM Thiru MK Stalin. May he lead a long and healthy life."

Congress party leader Rahul Gandhi, Union Minister Murugan, Former Union Minister P. Chidambaram, BJP leader Annamalai, Industrialist VG Santhosham, Nalli Kuppasamy Chetti extended their greetings to Chief Minister Stalin.

Earlier in the morning, Stalin cut a cake at his residence in Alwarpet to mark his birthday. He was joined by his wife Durga, Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin, daughter-in-law Krithika, daughter Senthamarai, son-in-law Sabareesan, and grandchildren, who

wished him on the special occasion.

Later, he visited the memorials of Anna and Karunanidhi at Marina Beach, where he paid his respects by placing floral wreaths. He was accompanied by senior ministers including Duraimurugan, K.N. Nehru, E.V. Velu, Ponmudi, P.K. Sekarbabu, Anbil Mahesh, Avadi Nasser, M. R. K. Panneerselvam, Tha. Mo. Anbarasan, Ma. Subramanian, and M.P. Saminathan. MPs such as T.R. Baalu, A. Raja, and Jagathrakshakan were also present.

To mark the occasion, Karunanidhi's memorial was decorated with colorful flowers in the shape of a rising sun, with a message reading "People's Chief Minister's Day of Humanity."

At the memorial, Stalin reaffirmed his stance by declaring, "We will tirelessly work in Anna's path. We will always oppose the imposition of Hindi." His statement was echoed by Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin, ministers, and party workers.

As part of the celebrations, the Chief Minister distributed welfare assistance to 105 employees working at the memorial.

Stalin visited the Periyar Memorial at Periyar Thidal, Veperiy, where he placed a floral wreath in tribute. Dravidar Kazhagam leader K. Veeramani presented him with a book and extended his birthday wishes.

Stalin then visited his mother, Dayalu Ammal, in Gopalapuram and Rajathi Ammal in CIT Nagar, seeking their blessings. He also paid floral tribute to a portrait of Karunanidhi at the residence. Later, he visited the residence of the late Murali Selvam to pay respects to his portrait.

TRUMP, ZELENSKY WASHINGTON MEETING TURNS HOSTILE

Chennai, 02 March 2025: An Oval Office meeting with President Donald Trump, Vice President JD Vance and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy devolved Friday afternoon into a hostile confrontation, as Trump threatened Zelenskyy to make a deal with Russia, or "we're out," and Vance accused the Ukrainian leader of being "disrespectful."

"You're gambling with World War III. And what you're doing is very disrespectful to the country - this country," Trump said at one point. The hostile exchange underscored the tension that has emerged between the United States and Ukraine - along with many of its European allies - over the tougher line that Trump has taken toward the country since coming into office. He has called Zelenskyy a "dictator" and said that Ukraine, not Russia, started the war, NBC news reported.

Zelenskyy, according to media reports, walked out of White House abruptly without signing a

proposed minerals accord. He, however, thanked Trump and America on the meeting on a social media post.

The tension in the Oval Office began after Vance said that the path to peace between Russia and Ukraine is diplomacy. Zelenskyy disagreed, noting that Russia had broken agreements with his government in the past.

"He killed our people, and he didn't exchange prisoners," Zelenskyy said about Russian President Vladimir Putin. "What kind of diplomacy, JD, you are speaking about? What do you mean?" Zelenskyy said.

"I'm talking about the kind of diplomacy that's going to end the destruction of your country," Vance shot back, adding, "I think it's disrespectful for you to come into the Oval Office to try to litigate this in front of the American media right now." The heated exchanges came ahead of what was an anticipated rare minerals deal signing between the two countries, and as

Trump pressures Ukraine to end the war.

When Vance told Zelenskyy that Ukraine has "manpower problems" in recruiting troops, Zelenskyy challenged Vance, noting he had never even been to his country.

"I've actually watched and seen the stories," Vance responded. "And I know what happens is you bring people, you bring them on a propaganda tour, Mr. President. Do you think that it's respectful to come to the Oval Office of the United States of America and attack the administration that is trying to prevent the destruction of your country?" He asked

Zelenskyy said that everyone has "problems" during the war and suggested that the US doesn't feel the effects of the war because of the "nice ocean" between the two countries. He said the U.S. may not feel the effects now, but added, "You will feel it in the future." "You don't know that," Trump retorted. "You don't know that. Don't

tell us what we're going to feel. We're trying to solve a problem. Don't tell us what we're gonna feel, because you're in no position to dictate that. You're in no position to dictate what we're going to feel. We're going to feel very good." "You don't have the cards right now," Trump said, as Zelenskyy continued to interject and disagree.

"With us, you start having cards. Right now, you don't have your playing cards, you're playing with the lives of millions of people. "You're gambling with World War III. You're gambling with World War III." "Have you said thank you once, this entire meeting? No, in this entire meeting, have you said thank you?" Vance said.

"We are thankful," Zelenskyy said.

"You have to be thankful," Trump added.

"I've empowered you to be a tough guy," Trump said. "And I don't think you'd be a tough guy without the United States."

PRESIDENT VISITS UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE DHOLAVIRA

Chennai, 02 March 2025: President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu, today, visited the UNESCO World Heritage Site Dholavira in Gujarat. The site is located on the arid island of Khadir in Kachchh district.

and understand the iconic site.

She expressed her admiration for the technological advancements of the Harappans, noting that in several aspects, they were more advanced than the present era.

The Director General of the ASI, Shri Y. S. Rawat, along with other senior officials, had the privilege of guiding the Hon'ble President through the site, explaining the key discoveries and ongoing conservation and upgradation initiatives.

Dholavira, is one of the most significant and well-preserved archaeological sites in the subcontinent, showcasing architectural and engineering brilliance of the Harappan people. It showcases advanced



town planning skills with sophisticated water conservation system, well-structured reservoirs, urban settlements etc.

With its inscription in the UNESCO World Heritage Site List in 2021, Dholavira has gained international recognition attracting scholars, archaeologists and history enthusiasts from around the world.

The President's visit to Dholavira reiterates the importance of creating awareness of its historical

treasures and preserving India's ancient heritage to the people.

The ancient site of Dholavira was excavated by the Archaeological Survey of India during 1990-2005 under the supervision of Dr. Ravindra Singh Bisht and yielded habitation in seven cultural phases from 3000-1500 BCE, adding new facets in the understanding of the Harappan Civilization and its relation with other Bronze age civilizations during the 3rd Millennium BCE.

IAF FOSTERING CIVILIAN MILITARY CO-OPERATION WITH PROJECT UDAN

Chennai, 02 March 2025: In a landmark move to strengthen regional connectivity the Civilian Aviation Ministry, launched its aircraft BOEING-737 flight from Kolkata-Hindon - Goa on 01 March 2025. The project was inaugurated by Hon'ble Civil Aviation Minister Mr Kinjarapu

Rammohan Naidu at Hindon, showcasing exemplary civilian military coordination.

Hindon airport is located in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. Due to its strategic location dual use capabilities, military infrastructure and capacity to handle diverse air traffic, it is a crucial asset for the



nation. Introduction of flights from Hindon will go a long way in decongesting air traffic in NCR.

This flight under UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik) project is a testament to the Indian Air Force's commitment to supporting both military and civilian air operations, facilitating improved access to varied locations. Beyond its core mission of safeguarding the nation's skies, the Indian Air Force actively contributes to nation-building by supporting initiatives like Project UDAN, aimed at enhancing regional air connectivity across India.

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TEASER RELEASE: JIHOTSTAR HAS UNVEILED THE TEASER FOR OM KALI JAI KALI, OFFERING A GRIPPING FIRST LOOK AT THIS INTENSE RURAL REVENGE DRAMA.

Chennai, 02 March 2025: Vimal's Fierce Transformation as Kali: Vimal takes on a powerful and intense avatar of Kali, bringing raw energy and depth to the narrative. His portrayal adds a unique flavor to the show, making him a central force in this tale of vengeance and justice.

A Unique Storyline Rooted in Culture: Blending action, revenge, and rich cultural elements, Om Kali Jai Kali follows the protagonist's journey through deep-seated rivalries and intense personal conflicts.

Shot Amidst the Kulasekarapattinam Dussehra Festival: The series stands out for its authenticity, having been filmed during the actual Dussehra festival. The grandeur of the celebrations and the symbolic Kaali dance play a crucial role in shaping the storyline.

Streaming on JioHotstar: Om Kali Jai Kali will stream exclusively on JioHotstar, adding to its



Disney+ Hotstar. With an unparalleled content catalogue, innovative technology, and a commitment to accessibility, JioHotstar aims to redefine entertainment for everyone across India.

Starring: Vimal, Seema Biswas, RS Effects. SFX Visual Effects, VFX: Focus VFX, Colorist: S. Matheswaran, Action Choreographer: K. Rajasekhar, Sound Designer: Sudarsanan, Anitha, Screenplay: Ramu Chellappa, Kumaravel, Dialogues: Ramu Chellappa, Production Designer: Crawford.

DR MAYANK SHARMA TAKES CHARGE AS CONTROLLER GENERAL OF DEFENCE ACCOUNTS

Chennai, 02 March 2025: Dr Mayank Sharma assumed the office of Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA) on March 01, 2025. He is a 1989-batch officer of the Indian Defence Accounts Service (IDAS) and has had a distinguished career in the government spanning more than three decades.

Dr Mayank Sharma has served in various capacities within the Government of India, including the Defence Accounts Department. He has also held key positions in the Cabinet Secretariat and represented India as the Alternate Permanent Representative at the International Anti-Corruption Academy and the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna.

As the Head of the Consular Division at the Indian Embassy in Vienna, he was responsible for all consular affairs and handled high-level Indian delegations at UNODC.

ON PM'S CALL AYUSH LABS OPEN DOORS: YOUNG MINDS STEP INTO THE WORLD OF SCIENCE & INNOVATION UNDER THE 'ONE DAY AS A SCIENTIST' INITIATIVE

Chennai, 02 March 2025: In response to the call made by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi during his Mann Ki Baat address, institutions under the Ministry of Ayush have actively engaged young students in the 'One Day as a Scientist' initiative. The program has provided aspiring minds with an immersive experience in scientific research, offering them firsthand exposure to laboratory work, advanced equipment, and the integration of traditional medicine with modern scientific advancements.

Under the guidance of Prof. C.R. Yadav (Dean Research & HOD), Dr. Mahendra Prasad, Dr. Sarika Yadav, Dr. Bhanu Pratap Singh, and Dr. Rashmi Prakash Gurao, the students explored the Kriya Sharir department's advanced equipment and machinery, with a special focus on the respiratory system. They had the opportunity to witness the working of state-of-the-art devices like the Body Plethysmograph, CPET, and the 3D VR lab. The students expressed keen interest in the innovative technology, recognising its potential in advancing healthcare research.



importance of future leaders in scientific inquiry in science and traditional medicine. innovation.

Students who participated in these visits expressed excitement and appreciation for the opportunity. Many were inspired by the dedication of scientists and researchers working in the Ayush sector and expressed a desire to explore careers in traditional medicine research. Faculty members and institutional representatives also lauded the initiative, noting how such interactions provide students with a deeper understanding of scientific processes and career pathways in healthcare and innovation.

By facilitating these visits, the Ministry of Ayush has reinforced its commitment to fostering scientific temperament and curiosity among young minds. Encouraged by the positive response, the Ministry looks forward to expanding similar initiatives, bridging the gap between traditional knowledge and modern scientific exploration.

Similarly, on February 28, 2025, students of Dr. Gururaju Government Homeopathy Medical College, Gudivada, visited the research laboratory of Regional Research Institute (H), Gudivada, under the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH), in celebration of National Science Day.

The laboratory staff provided students with a detailed demonstration of laboratory equipment and research methodologies used in homoeopathy. The session was presided over by Dr. Kishan Banoth, AD(H) Incharge, RRI(H), Gudivada, who emphasised the

SRMIST BADMINTON MEN & WOMEN TEAM WON GOLD IN THE ALL INDIA INTER COLLEGIATE BADMINTON TOURNAMENT

Chennai, 02 March 2025: ALL INDIA INTER COLLEGIATE BADMINTON MEN TOURNAMENT ORGANISED BY SSN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING FROM 25-02-2025 TO 28-02-2025



MEN RESULTS
1ST LEAGUE - SRM IST BEAT SATHYABAMA IST. SCORE 2-0.
2ND LEAGUE - SRM IST BEAT SAVEETHA LAW COLLEGE. SCORE 2-0.
QUARTER FINALS : SRM IST BEAT SIMAT. SCORE 2-0.
SEMIFINALS :

SRM IST BEAT GURU NANAK COLLEGE. SCORE 2-1.
FINAL : SRM IST BEAT SSN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING. Score 2-0.
Final Standing : SRM IST I Place. SSN COLLEGE II Place. GURU NANAK COLLEGE III Place.
ALL INDIA INTER

COLLEGIATE BADMINTON WOMEN TOURNAMENT ORGANISED BY SSN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING FROM 25-02-2025 TO 28-02-2025.
WOMEN RESULTS : 1ST LEAGUE. SRM IST BEAT BS CRESCENT IST.

SCORE 2-0.
2ND LEAGUE : SRM IST BEAT SRIHER. SCORE 2-0.
QUARTER FINALS : SRM IST BEAT SSN COLLEGE. SCORE 2-0.
SEMIFINALS : SRM IST BEAT MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE. SCORE 2-0.
FINAL : SRM IST BEAT MOP VAISHNAVA COLLEGE. Score 2-1.
Final Standing : SRM IST I Place. MOP VAISHNAVA COLLEGE II Place. St. JOSEPH'S ENGINEERING COLLEGE III Place.

A.M. JAIN COLLEGE'S 49TH GRADUATION DAY CELEBRATIONS

Chennai, 02 March 2025: A.M. Jain College commemorated its 49th Graduation Day with a prestigious ceremony, upon the honouring 1,350 graduates. The event marked a significant milestone as Mr. Ramani Ramaswamy, Managing Director of Subarnarekha Port, conferred degree certificates upon the accomplished students. In his address, Mr. Ramaswamy



inspired the graduates to face future challenges with confidence and determination as they embark on their professional journeys.

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PRIME MINISTER MEETS FORMER PM OF AUSTRALIA

Chennai, 02 March 2025: The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi met the former Prime Minister of Australia, H.E. Mr. Tony Abbott at NXT Conclave in New Delhi today. He wrote in a post on X: "Delighted to meet my good friend and former Australian PM, Mr. Tony Abbott. He has always been a friend of India's. We have all seen him enjoy millets during his current visit. @HonTonyAbbott"



MEENAKSHI TEMPLE FEST FROM APRIL 29

Chennai, 02 March 2025: The annual 'Chithirai festival' also popularly called as "Chithirai Brahmotsavam" of the World-renowned Sri Meenakshi-Sundareswarar Temple will be celebrated from April 29 to May 12.

Official sources said here on Thursday that the festival would commence with the traditional hoisting of the holy flag atop the 56-feet-high gold plated "dwajasthambam"

(Flag mast) of Lord Sundareswarar on April 29.

As part of the Chithirai festival, the "Meenakshi Pattabishekam" (Coronation of goddess Meenakshi) would be performed on May 6 and the famous "Thirukkalyanam" (Celestial wedding event) would be conducted on May 8.

The temple car festival was slated on May 9, followed by the spectacular event of



"Lord Kallazhagar entering into River Vaigai" event on May 12. The Chithirai Brahmotsavam of Sri Meenakshi-Sundareswarar Temple is also a confluence of lakhs of people of two Hindu sects - the Shaivites and Vaishnavites.

The district administration in

coordination with various government departments, including the Hindu Religious and Endowment Department were gearing up for the grand festival, as lakhs of devotees from various parts of the Country and abroad were expected to participate in the Chithirai Festival.

TTD OFFICIAL REVIEWS SUMMER RUSH PREPAREDNESS

Chennai, 02 March 2025: Anticipating devout rush during the summer holidays, Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) additional executive officer Venkaiah Chowdary on Thursday asked the officials concerned to prepare a 90-day plan to deal with the pilgrims rush.

Chowdary, who conducted a review meeting with the senior officials of various departments on the summer arrangements at the Annamayya Bhavan here, directed the officials to take early steps so that lakhs of devotees who visit Tirumala during the ensuing summer vacation will not face

any inconvenience.

Speaking on the occasion, the Additional EO directed the concerned officials to paint the white coolant at the important places like Akkagarla Gudi, Srivari Seva Sadan and all vital points in Tirumala, first ghat road where there is a lot

of devotee traffic.

Hedirected to ensure the uninterrupted power supply so that the pilgrims do not face any inconvenience during summer. The temple authorities have been advised to keep sufficient buffer stock of laddus to meet the needs of the pilgrims.

CALL TO MAINTAIN MARINE FISHERIES SUSTAINABILITY

Chennai, 02 March 2025: A stakeholder workshop organised by the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has called for collaboration between the scientific and fishing communities to maintain sustainability in the marine fisheries sector.

The workshop highlighted that CMFRI's scientific data collection could be enhanced by integrating real-time fishing data directly from fishermen, resulting in refined scientific research.

Fishermen's first-hand knowledge of the sea and the ecosystem would provide invaluable insights that would help enhance the efficiency of marine research, it proposed. The workshop also called for implementing strict measures to curb juvenile fishing.

CMFRI director Grinson George presided over the meet. According to him, significant changes occur in the marine ecosystem following climate change. "These changes will be more evident within the next

30 years with shifts in community structure and distribution of marine resources," he said. "CMFRI is dedicated to finding scientific solutions to address the crises plaguing the marine fisheries sector," George said, adding that fishermen's suggestions and input in this regard will be studied. T.M. Najmudeen made a presentation on the Kerala marine fisheries sector. He suggested that strict implementation of mesh size restrictions is key to curb juvenile

fishing. Fishermen representatives suggested a ban on night fishing in coastal waters to curb unscientific and potentially damaging practices. They further emphasised the need for stricter controls on vessels from other states and a national-level coordinated system for strengthening regulations. They raised concerns about sea sand mining, warning that it would exacerbate the crisis in the state's marine fisheries sector.

TN MINISTER PARTICIPATES AT IOC'S SAKSHAM VALEDICTORY

Chennai, 02 March 2025: Food Minister R Sakkarapani, Hon'ble Minister for Food & Civil Supplies presided over the Valedictory function of Oil & Gas Conservation Fortnight "Saksham 2025" and distributed prizes to the winners of various competitions held in connection with Saksham 2025, in presence of M Anna Durai, Executive Director & State Head, TNSO, IndianOil and State Level Coordinator for Oil Industry in Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry and M Sudhakar, Executive

Director (Regional Services), IndianOil and Regional Level Coordinator for Oil Industry and other senior officials of Oil Industry.

Fortnightly Oil & Gas Conservation Campaign was organized in Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry by the PSU Oil Companies under the guidance of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MOPNG). Minister said that Government of Tamil Nadu is taking various initiatives towards Green & Clean Energy. He urged that everyone

should cultivate the habit of using public transport and play their role as a responsible citizens in ensuring a sustainable energy scenario for posterity. Minister also reiterated the Government's initiative in supply of LPG cylinders to the economically weaker section of the society in order to improve upon their living conditions.

He positively mentioned about the mass Tree Plantation undertaken to improve afforestation in various parts of Tamil Nadu and appealed to the audience and Oil

Companies to undertake such activities in large scale.

M Anna Durai, delivered the welcome address and said "Oil and Gas Conservation aims at better and more efficient use of the available resources with special emphasis on the economic, social and environmental costs and benefits. Anna Durai, has reiterated the various green initiatives viz. LPG as a clean cooking fuel through PMUY connections, Bio-Gas, EV Charging Stations, CNG & LNG Stations, etc. of the Oil PSUs."

INDIA-EU FTA BY END OF YEAR PM, EC PREZ DISCUSS GLOBAL, REGIONAL ISSUES. MOOT LASTING PEACE IN GAZA & UKRAINE

Chennai, 02 March 2025: India and the European Union on Friday agreed to expedite conclusion of the FTA by the end of the year, hold focussed talks on the defence industry, and hold a review meeting with partners on the India-Middle East-Europe Corridor initiative, during talks between PM Narendra Modi and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen here.

The Joint Statement said the two leaders also discussed key international and regional issues, including on the situation in the Middle-East and the war in Ukraine.

"They expressed support for a just and lasting peace in Ukraine based on respect for international law, principles of the UN charter and territorial integrity and sovereignty.

They also reiterated their commitment to the vision of the two-State solution with Israel and Palestine living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, consistent with international law." The Leaders agreed on the following concrete steps: (i) Expedite the conclusion of the FTA by the end of the year.

(ii) Further focused discussions on defence industry and policy to explore opportunities from new initiatives and programmes.

(iii) A review meeting with partners to take stock on the IMEC initiative.

(iv) Engage on maritime domain awareness with a view to promoting shared assessment, coordination and interoperability.

(v) Convene the next meeting of the Trade and Technology Council at an early date to deepen cooperation in semiconductors and other critical technologies.

(vi) Enhance the dialogue on clean and green energy between governments and industry, with a focus on green hydrogen.

(vii) Strengthening collaboration in the Indo-Pacific including through trilateral cooperation projects.

(viii) Strengthen cooperation on Disaster Management through the development of appropriate arrangements including on policy and technical level engagement for preparedness, response capacities and coordination.

Both leaders expressed confidence that this momentous visit will mark the

beginning of a new chapter in the history of relations and reaffirmed their commitment to further expand and deepen the India-EU Strategic Partnership.

They looked forward to the next India EU Summit being organised in India at the earliest mutually convenient time and to the adoption of a new joint Strategic Agenda on that occasion.

They asked their respective negotiating teams to pursue negotiations for a balanced, ambitious, and mutually beneficial FTA with the aim of concluding them within the course of the year. The leaders asked the officials to work as trusted partners to enhance market access and remove trade barriers.

They also tasked them to advance negotiations on an Agreement on Investment Protection and an Agreement on Geographical Indications.

They directed the India-EU Trade and Technology Council to further deepen engagement to shape outcome-oriented cooperation in areas of economic security and supply chain resilience, market access and barriers to trade, strengthening of semiconductor

ecosystems, trustworthy and sustainable Artificial Intelligence, high performance computing, 6G, Digital Public Infrastructure, joint research and innovation for green and clean energy technologies with a focus on trusted partnerships and industry linkages across these sectors, including the recycling of batteries for electric vehicles (EVs), marine plastic litter, and waste to green/renewable hydrogen.

They welcomed the progress in the implementation of MoU on semiconductors; as well as the signing of MoU between Bharat 6G alliance and the EU 6G Smart Networks and Services Industry Association for creating secured and trusted telecommunications and resilient supply chains.

They welcomed the agreement on holding an India-EU Green Hydrogen Forum and the India-EU Business Summit on Offshore Wind Energy. They agreed to strengthen people-to-people ties especially in the areas of higher education, research, tourism, culture, sports, and between their youths, and create an enabling environment for enhancing such exchanges.

NO PRO-INDIA OR PRO-PAK POLITICS, ASSERT BANGLA STUDENTS

Chennai, 02 March 2025: The students' group that led the protests against Bangladesh prime minister Sheikh Hasina launched itself as a political party on Friday, declaring there will be no room now for pro-India and pro-Pakistan politics in the country.

The Anti-Discrimination Student Movement or Students against Discrimination (SAD) turned into 'Jatiya Nagorik Party' or National Citizen Party (NCP) at a rally at Manik Mia Avenue in central Dhaka near Parliament with one of the key leaders of the July-August 2024 protests, Nahid Islam, 26, as its convener. The student leaders also

issued a declaration that outlined "a transformative political and economic roadmap for Bangladesh" and also unveiled a manifesto laying the foundation for what it calls a "second republic".

The inaugural event, which was attended by representatives of some political parties and envoys of the Vatican and Pakistan. The student movement led a mass protest leading to the ouster of Hasina's over 15 years of rule on August 5 last year. Three days later, Muhammad Yunus assumed charge as the Chief Adviser of the Interim Government.

The NCP's inaugural rally began

with a recitation from the Quran, the Bhagwad Gita, the Bible and the Tripitaka, followed by the national anthem.

"There will be no room for pro-Indian and pro-Pakistani politics in Bangladesh. We will build the state keeping Bangladesh, the interest of the people of Bangladesh ahead," said NCP's convener Nahid Islam, who resigned as the Information adviser from Yunus' advisory council earlier this week.

"We want to talk about the future," he said. "We want to move beyond the past and discuss the possibilities of Bangladesh." The party would be "solely

Bangladesh-oriented, dedicated to the country's progress," echoed SAD coordinator Nusrat Tabassum. SAD member secretary Arif Sohel told the gathering at the inauguration of the party: "People will no longer accept elite groups or dynastic loyalty. Instead, future leaders will emerge from the working class farmers, labourers, and the children of daily wage earners." He added that the new political party will uphold this vision and fulfill the people's aspirations. With Nahid Islam as convener and Akhtar Hossain as member secretary, the party will be led by a group of 11 individuals, it was announced.

STALIN'S BIRTHDAY RALLY SETS STAGE FOR 2026 ASSEMBLY POLL

Chennai, 02 March 2025: While sharpening their attack on the Centre on several issues, a public meeting organised by the ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu on Friday night on the eve of Chief Minister and Party President M K Stalin's birthday, set the stage for the launch of 2026 Assembly election campaign with the alliance leaders pledging to work for the DMK-Front's return to power for a second successive term.

Addressing the meeting after speeches by all leaders of alliance parties of the DMK-led Front, Mr Stalin exuded confidence that this Front could not be divided and will emerge victorious in

the next year's polls.

Pointing out that late DMK Presidents-- Party Founder C N Annadurai and M Karunanidhi have occupied the Chief Minister's chair, Mr Stalin said the DMK-led alliance would definitely record a similar win in next year's polls like it did in 2021 when it stormed to power with a resounding win by a record margin after a gap of 10 years and Mr Stalin became the CM for the first time.

"This is not just a birthday celebration, but the beginning of our victory march for the 2026 election", Mr Stalin thundered, responding to felicitations by all the alliance party leaders, who unequivocally

pledged their unstinted support to him and the DMK-led Secular Progressive Alliance (SPA)'s win in the poll.

Responding to repeated remarks by Opposition that fissures have developed within the Front and that the equations would change as some parties would desert it, Mr Stalin asserted that "Those waiting for cracks in our alliance will be disappointed." "We may have differences in opinion, but there will be no division and none can divide us", Mr Stalin declared.

Coming down heavily on the BJP-led Government at the Centre, Mr Stalin accused it of neglecting Tamil

Nadu's welfare on various fronts.

"The BJP government does nothing beneficial for Tamil Nadu. Instead, it continuously discriminates against the state on all issues, including non-allocation of funds and new projects in the Union Budget, denial of funds under SSA linking it to acceptance of NEP and the three-language policy and other dues under various schemes, despite stating that TN was top on Niti Aayog index on various parameters," he alleged. On the National Education Policy (NEP), he condemned the Centre for withholding funds because Tamil Nadu opposed its imposition. "The Union".

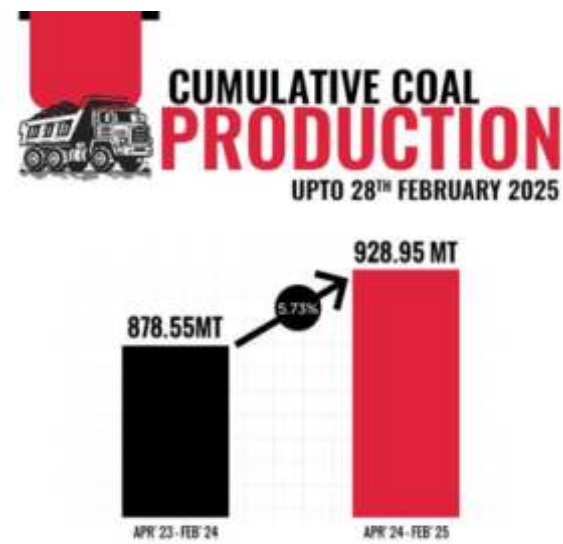
CUMULATIVE COAL PRODUCTION DURING APRIL 2024 TO FEBRUARY 2025 GROWS 5.73% TO REACH 928.95 MT

Chennai 02, March 2025: India's coal sector continues its strong performance with significant growth in both production and dispatch up to February 2025. Cumulative coal production has reached 928.95 million tonnes (MT), reflecting a 5.73% increase compared to 878.55 MT in the same period last year. Likewise, cumulative coal dispatch has risen to 929.41 MT, marking a 5.50% growth from 880.92 MT in the previous year. Coal production from Captive and Other

entities stood at 173.58 MT up to February 2025, registering a 30.16% increase from 133.36 MT in the corresponding period last year.

Similarly, coal dispatch from Captive and Other entities reached 178.02 MT upto February 2025, reflecting up 31.90% increase from 134.96 MT in the same period last year.

This robust performance underscores India's commitment to energy security and industrial growth, ensuring the



country meets rising demand efficiently.

The Government continues to drive infrastructure

development and operational efficiencies, sustaining this positive momentum in the coming months.

NCL TURNS HOMEMAKERS TO FIRST-RESPONDERS: OVER 8,000 HOMEMAKERS TO TURN INTO FIRST AIDERS BY JUNE 2025

Chennai 02, March 2025: In a landmark initiative, Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited known for its highly mechanized mines and critical role in ensuring the Nation's energy security, has launched the 'First Aid Training Program for Homemakers' on a large scale.

By extending awareness about first aid beyond the workplace and into the homes of its workforce, NCL is fostering a primary-care-conscious community and reinforcing a culture of preparedness. This initiative aims to cover 8,000 homemakers of NCL Family by June 2025.

Launched on 26th January 2025, the First

Aid Training Program for Homemakers, in just one month, has successfully trained about 1,500 homemakers in different sessions held at all Projects. The turning of NCL's Homemakers into First-Aid bolsters the welfare and wellness of their families and, at the same time reduces the burden on medicos.

Since Housewives are often the first responders to medical emergencies at home, the training program is designed to give them the knowledge and confidence to act promptly and effectively in critical situations. The program emphasizes practical skills and awareness, ensuring participants can apply first aid measures in real-life



scenarios. One of the largest community first-aid drives ever undertaken, this initiative holds particular significance in the coal mining region where healthcare and well-being are of paramount importance.

The program aims to train housewives with practical knowledge to manage common medical situations, including burns, cuts, choking, poisoning, minor injuries, heat-related ailments, and even cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Conducted by NCL's

in-house medical professionals, the training enhances the confidence and competence of participants, enabling them to provide timely medical care.

NCL's commitment to community welfare and women-led development is evident through this large-scale initiative. By empowering homemakers, NCL is not only addressing a critical first assistance need but also championing women's empowerment in Singrauli region.

SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS INAUGURATES JAN AUSHADHI KENDRA MODEL AT DILLI HAAT, INA, NEW DELHI TODAY TO SPREAD AWARENESS AMONG THE CITIZENS

Chennai, 02 March 2025: A model of Jan Aushadhi Kendra was inaugurated today by Shri Amit Agrawal, Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals, Government of India at Dilli Haat, INA, New Delhi, to make the people aware about Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi Pariyojna (PMBJP).

Shri Ravi Dadhich, CEO, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) was also present on the occasion. An



interactive session was conducted with the people visiting Dilli Haat to enlighten them about the high-quality affordable medicines which are being sold through Jan Aushadhi Kendras.

At the initiative of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the 7th of March is celebrated every year as "Jan Aushadhi Diwas" with a view to enhance awareness about the scheme and

promote generic medicines. As in earlier years, week-long events have been planned at various locations across the country from the 1st to the 7th of March 2025.

As on 31.01.2025, 15000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras (JAKs) have been opened across the country. Product basket of PMBJP comprises 2047 drugs and 300 surgical equipment which are sold at retail shops at 50% to 80% cheaper than branded medicines.

EXERCISE DESERT HUNT 2025

Chennai, 02 March 2025: An integrated Tri-Service Special Forces exercise named Exercise Desert Hunt 2025 was conducted by the Indian Air Force at Air Force Station Jodhpur from 24 to 28 February 2025. The exercise involved elite Para (Special Forces) from the Indian Army, the Marine Commandos from the Indian Navy along with the Garud (Special Forces) from the Indian Air Force, participating together

in a simulated combat environment.

This high-intensity drill was aimed at enhancing interoperability, coordination and synergy among the three Special Forces units to ensure swift and effective response towards emerging security challenges. The exercise included airborne insertion, precision strikes, hostage rescue, counter-terrorism operations, combat free falls and urban



warfare scenarios wherein the combat readiness of the forces was tested under realistic conditions

Senior military officials supervised the exercise to validate

joint doctrines, and it also provided a platform to foster the commitment of the Indian Armed Forces to strengthen national security through seamless inter-service cooperation.

49TH CIVIL ACCOUNTS DAY CELEBRATED TO MARK THE 49TH FOUNDATION DAY OF INDIAN CIVIL ACCOUNTS SERVICE (ICAS) IN NEW DELHI

Chennai 02, March 2025: The Civil Accounts Day 2025 was celebrated in New Delhi today to mark the 49th foundation day of Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS) with the Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, presiding over as Chief Guest.

Dr. Manoj Govil, Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance; and Shri Shyam S. Dubey, Controller General of Accounts (CGA), were also present on the occasion. Officers and staff of the Indian Civil Accounts Organisation, Financial Advisers of Government of India, other Senior Officials of Department of Expenditure and other Ministries /Departments of Government of India, retired ICAS Officers, senior officers from Banks and State Governments, among others, were also part of the celebrations.

During the inaugural function, the Union Finance



Minister also released a compendium on the Public Financial Management System (PFMS), titled "Digitalisation of Public Financial Management in India: The Transformative Decade (2014-24)".

During the Foundation Day, a short film on the evolution and achievements of the Indian Civil Accounts Organisation (ICAO) was also screened.

In her address on the occasion, the Union Finance Minister recognised the role played by PFMS in achieving the key goals of governance which included: reaching the last mile benefitting 60 crore beneficiaries, direct delivery of more than 1200 central and state schemes which includes 1100 DBT schemes, end-to-end

digitization through integration with 250 plus external systems such as GeM, GSTIN, TIN 2.0, PM Kisan and many more.

Smt. Sitharaman said that PFMS has led to strengthening of cooperative federalism through integration of 31 state treasuries and 40 lakh programme implementing agencies enabling seamless financial management for millions of citizens ensuring timely and transparent disbursement of government funds.

The Union Finance Minister underlined PFMS as the network of networks with 650 financial institutions - RBI, NPCI, Public and Private sector banks - facilitating seamless fund transfers, with the volume of PFMS transactions has gone up exponentially from

2 crore payments in 2015 to 250 crore in 2024.

Referencing the July 2024 Union Budget, Smt. Sitharaman underlined the suggestion with respect to "improving data governance, collection, processing and management of data and statistics, different sectoral databases, including those established under the Digital India mission, could be utilized with active use of technology tools", and added that CGA has the potential to work in this regard as the custodian of huge database. The Union Finance Minister emphasised on sharing India's digital public finance expertise globally, and urged the CGA to collaborate with other countries to leverage PFMS's technology to enhance their financial governance systems. Smt. Sitharaman also encouraged CGA to make efforts to create public awareness among citizens and taxpayers on how transparent financial systems operate.