

INBRIEF



C.P. Radhakrishnan sworn in as Telangana Governor

Jharkhand Governor C.P. Radhakrishnan assumed the office of Governor of Telangana on Wednesday. Chief Justice of the Telangana H.C. Alok Aradhe administered the oath of office to the new Governor at Raj Bhavan in the presence of CM A. Revanth Reddy. Tamilisai Soundararajan resigned as the State's Governor on Monday.

PIL seeking Hyderabad as common capital dismissed

A Division Bench of the Andhra Pradesh High Court led by Chief Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur dismissed a PIL filed by Narapareddy Kiran Kumar Reddy, a social worker from Nellore district, seeking directions to the Central government to declare Hyderabad as the common capital of A.P. and Telangana till 2034. The court said the matter was beyond its purview, hence it could not decide on the petition, saying that directing Parliament to make or amend the laws was not within its powers.

Teppotsavams in Tirumala Venkateswara temple begins

The five-day annual Teppotsavams (float festival) began at the temple of Lord Venkateswara in Andhra Pradesh's Tirumala on Wednesday. The idols of Lord Sri Rama along with those of Lakshmana, Sita and Hanuman were mounted atop the two-tier flotilla and dipped thrice in the waters of pushkarini (temple tank). Thousands of devotees, who gathered on the steps of the temple tank, offered haratis from their respective places. The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has also arranged for Sahasra Deepalankara Seva on all five days of the festival.

ED freezes assets worth ₹4.4 crore of Kerala native, associates

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has frozen bank balances and fixed deposits (FDs) worth ₹4.4 crore of Muhammed Hafiz of Chengala, Kasaragod, and a few others associated with him.

The investigation agency also seized gold jewellery weighing 1,672.8 grams, Indian currency worth ₹12.5 Lakh, seven mobile phones and various documents following searches conducted at nine locations across Kerala, Karnataka and Goa last week.

Search operations

The search operations were carried out under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, according to a communication.

Incidentally, Abdul Lahir Hassan, Hafiz's father-in-law, had filed a police complaint against him in 2022 for duping him of ₹92 crore.

Mr. Hassan claimed that his son-in-law swindled the money by emotionally blackmailing his daughter, seeking more dowry. The money was swindled from July 2018 to March 2022.

Crime Branch

Recently, the Crime Branch had taken over the investigation in the case after Mr. Hassan took up his complaint with Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.

Mr. Hassan, who hails from Aluva, is running a few educational institutions and a construction business in the UAE.

Minister booked for 'promoting enmity'

Tamil Nadu CM Stalin has condemned Shobha Karandlaje's remarks; she has said that people from T.N. came to Karnataka and planted bombs

The Hindu Bureau MADURAI

The Madurai City Police on Wednesday registered a case against Union Minister of State Shobha Karandlaje on charges of promoting enmity between different groups of people on the grounds of language.

Ms. Karandlaje reportedly said that "people from Tamil Nadu, who come to Karnataka, get trained in Tamil Nadu and plant bombs in Karnataka".

'Reckless statement' Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin had strongly condemned the Minister's "reckless" statement.

The Minister later apolo-



Shobha Karandlaje

gised for her statement.

Based on a complaint filed by C. Thiagarajan of Kadachanthal, the Cyber Crime police booked the Minister under Section 153, 153A, 505 (1) (b) and 505 (2) of the Indian Penal Code.

In his complaint, Mr. Thiagarajan said he had seen on a television news

bulletin, the statements made by Ms. Karandlaje against Tamils.

Even as the probe into the Bengaluru Rameswaram Café bomb blast case was under way, the Minister had, without any basis, said that Tamil people, who were trained in Tamil Nadu, had planted bombs in Karnataka.

This statement, the complainant said, could create enmity and hatred between the people of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The Minister made a sweeping statement against Tamils portraying them as terrorists, which could incite violence against Tamils, he pointed out.

Based on his complaint, a case was registered.

Act on plaint against Union Minister, EC tells poll officer

The Hindu Bureau CHENNAI

The Election Commission on Wednesday directed the Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka, to take immediate appropriate action on the complaint filed by the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) against the alleged violation of Model Code of Conduct by BJP leader and Union Minister

Shobha Karandlaje while addressing reporters in Bengaluru.

The commission also sought a compliance report within 48 hours.

DMK's organising secretary R.S. Bharathi had filed a complaint with the Election Commission against Ms. Karandlaje's remark that "people from Tamil Nadu who come to Karnataka, get trained in Tamil

Nadu and plant bombs in Karnataka".

She made the statement in the context of the recent blast at a cafe in Bengaluru. Her utterances amounted to instilling hatred in the Kannadiga community towards members of the Tamil community, and were in blatant violation of the Model Code of Conduct, the DMK's complaint said.

DMK fields 10 incumbents, 11 new faces for LS polls

The Hindu Bureau CHENNAI

Chief Minister and DMK president M.K. Stalin on Wednesday released a list of 21 party candidates, including three women, for the Lok Sabha election. The list features 10 incumbents and 11 new faces.

Leader of the DMK Parliamentary Party in the Lok Sabha and party treasurer T.R. Baalu will contest again from Sriperumbudur, while party deputy general secretaries Kani-mozhi Karunanidhi and A. Raja will re-enter the fray from Thoothukudi and the Nilgiris (SC), respectively.

The party renominated the incumbents from all three Lok Sabha constituencies in Chennai - Kalanidhi Veerasamy (Chennai North), Dayanidhi Maran (Chennai Central), and Thamizhachi Thangapandian (Chennai South). The other incumbents on the list include S. Jagathrakshakan from Arakkonam, D.M. Kathir Anand from Vellore, K. Selvam from Kancheepuram (SC), and C.N. Annadurai from Tiruvannamalai.

A notable incumbent who did not figure on the list this time is Gautham Sigamani (Kallakurichi), son of former Higher Education Minister K. Ponnudiy. Another significant incumbent who is missing from the list is S.S. Palanimanickam, who won the Thanjavur seat six times.

In Salem, the party has fielded T.M. Selvaganapathy, a heavyweight and a former AIADMK Minister who joined the DMK in 2008. He was also a DMK Rajya Sabha member, but was disqualified following his conviction in a corruption case. However, last November, the Madras High Court set aside his conviction, facilitating his

return to electoral politics.

Thanga Thamizhshelvan, a former AIADMK and AMMK man, who unsuccessfully fought against former Deputy Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam in the last Assembly election, will contest from Theni. Other candidates include A. Mani from Dharmapuri, who replaces the popular S. Senthilkumar; M.S. Dharanivendhan from Arani; Malaiyarasan from Kallakurichi; K.E. Prakash from Erode; Ganapathy P. Rajkumar from Coimbatore; K. Eswarasamy from Pollachi; K.N. Arun Nehru from Perambalur; S. Murali from Thanjavur; and Rani Srikrumar from Tenkasi (SC).



Making a pitch: Chief Minister and DMK president M.K. Stalin and other leaders releasing the party's manifesto and list of candidates in Chennai on Wednesday. ANI

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mentations of the expert committees on Centre-State relations in order to grant more autonomy to States; appointment of Governors after consulting the Chief Ministers of the States; abolition of Article 356 and removal of Article 361 of the Constitution; establishment of a branch of the Supreme Court in Chennai; Statehood for Pu-

ducherry; and reduction of the prices of LPG, petrol and diesel to ₹500, ₹75 and ₹65, respectively. Mr. Stalin promised a caste census once every five years and the immediate implementation of the Act that provides 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies, if the INDIA bloc is voted to power at the Centre.

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DMK releases manifesto

The Hindu Bureau CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and DMK president M.K. Stalin on Wednesday released his party's manifesto for the Lok Sabha election.

Among the key poll promises were an amendment to the Constitution to accommodate the recom-

AIADMK announces alliance with DMDK

The Hindu Bureau CHENNAI

AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Wednesday announced that his party had roped in the DMDK, the Puthiya Tamizhagam (PT), the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), the Puratchi Bharatham and the All India Forward Bloc (AIFB),

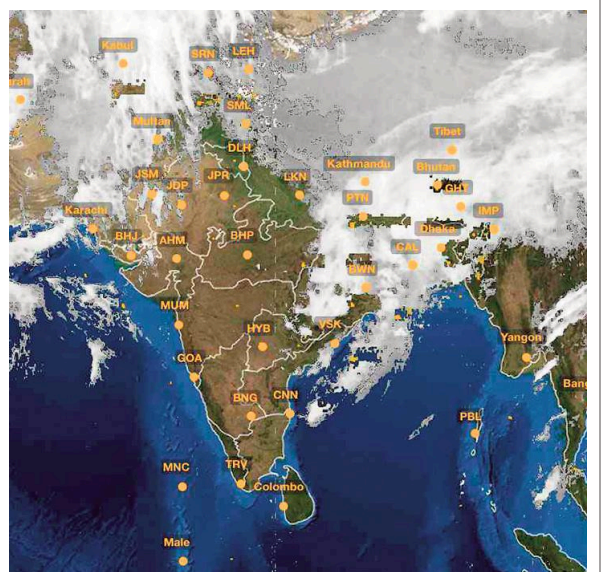
among others, for the upcoming Lok Sabha election.

Releasing the first list of candidates, he told reporters that many smaller organisations, too, had expressed support to the AIADMK. The DMDK was allotted five seats - Tiruvallur, Central Chennai; Cuddalore; Thanjavur; and Virudhunagar.

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WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



Forecast for Thursday: Heavy rainfall/snowfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya. Table with columns for City, Rain, Max, Min, and Forecast.

Pollutants in the air you are breathing. Table with columns for City, AQI, and AQI Code. Includes a legend for AQI categories.