


NEARBY



T.N. to file defamation case against Stalin

CHENNAI
The Tamil Nadu government has decided to file a criminal defamation case against DMK chief M.K. Stalin for accusing Municipal Administration Minister S.P. Velumani of having indulging in corruption to the tune of ₹1,000 crore.

Keeladi reports in 24 Indian, global languages

CHENNAI
The findings of the Keeladi excavations in 24 languages were released on Thursday in Chennai and the copies are available at the stall of the Department of Archaeology. Tamil and English versions are priced at ₹50 and copies in other languages cost ₹200.

FSSAI issues directive on online usage of its logo

NEW DELHI
The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has directed that no entity can register its website with the domain name comprising the word 'FSSAI', or use its name and logo.

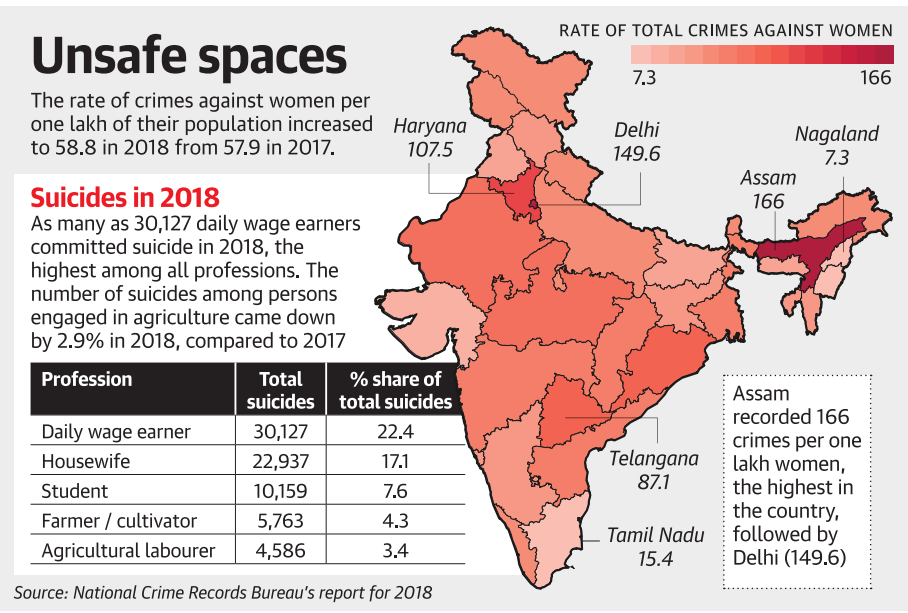
Teenager in hit-and-run to be tried as ‘child’: SC

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
A loophole in the juvenile law will see a teenager who allegedly drove his father's luxury car over a 32-year-old man in Delhi being tried as a child rather than an adult who has committed a heinous crime.
A Supreme Court Bench led by Justice Deepak Gupta on Thursday used its extraordinary powers under Article 142 of the Constitu-

U.P. tops list in crimes against women

NCRB publishes Crime in India Report 2018

VIJAJITA SINGH
NEW DELHI
The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) published the annual Crime in India Report 2018 on Wednesday. It was published with provisional data, as five States – West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Sikkim – did not send clarifications sought by the NCRB despite repeated reminders.
The 2017 annual crime report was published on October 21 last year, after a delay of two years.
According to the report, 3,78,277 cases of crime against women were reported, up from 3,59,849 in 2017. Uttar Pradesh topped the list with 59,445 cases, followed by Maharashtra (35,497) and West Bengal (30,394). The conviction rate in rape-related cases stood at 27.2% even though the rate of filing chargesheets was 85.3% in such cases. Cruelty by husband or his relatives (31.9%) followed by assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty (27.6%) constituted the ma-



For share of crimes against women, the report said.
The NCRB also released the Accidental Death and Suicides in India 2018 report, which said that 10,349 people working in the farm sector ended their lives in 2018, accounting for 7.7 % of the total number of suicides in the country. The total number of people who committed suicide in 2018 was 1,34,516, an increase of 3.6% from 2017 when 1,29,887 cases were reported. The highest number of suicide victims were daily wagers – 26,589, comprising 22.4% of such deaths.
The majority of the suicides were reported in Maharashtra (17,972) followed by Tamil Nadu (13,896), West Bengal (13,255), Madhya Pradesh (11,775) and Karnataka (11,561). “West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Goa, Chandigarh, Daman & Diu, Delhi, Lakshad-

weep and Puducherry reported zero suicides by farmers/cultivators as well as agricultural labourers,” the NCRB report said.
The incidents registered under the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes related Acts saw a decline from 6729 incidents reported in 2017 to 4816 in 2018. A total of 29,017 cases of murder were registered in 2018, showing an increase of 1.3% over 2017 (28,653 cases).

Panel approves scheme to ‘trade’ in forests

It allows Forest Dept. to outsource reforestation to non-government agencies

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI
The Forest Advisory Committee, an apex body tasked with adjudicating requests by the industry to raze forest land for commercial ends, has approved a scheme that could allow “forests” to be traded as a commodity. If implemented, it allows the Forest Department to outsource one of its responsibilities of reforestation to non-government agencies.

In the current system, industry needs to make good the loss of forest by finding appropriate non-forest land – equal to that which would be razed. It also must pay the State Forest Department the current economic equivalent – called Net Present Value – of the forest land. It's then the department's responsibility to grow appropriate vegetation that, over time, would grow into forests. Industries have often


complained that they find it hard to acquire appropriate non-forest land, which has to be contiguous to existing forest. Nearly ₹50,000 crore had been collected by the Centre over decades, but the funds were lying unspent because States were not spending the money on regrowing forests. The Supreme Court intervened, a new law came about with rules for how this fund was to be administered. About ₹47,000 crore had

Most political murders in West Bengal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
West Bengal reported the maximum number of political murders in 2018, says a report by the NCRB. The number of murders due to “political reason” in the State stood at 12, followed by nine in Bihar and seven in Maharashtra. In all, 54 political murders were reported in the country in 2018. In 2017, the number of such cases stood at 98. However, the data is not in consonance with an advisory sent by the Ministry of Home Affairs to West Bengal government last year.
In a June 15 advisory, the MHA had said political violence had claimed 96 lives and that the “unabated violence” was a matter of deep concern. The NCRB said the clarifications on data were pending from West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Sikkim, and the data might be treated as provisional.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Cold day conditions likely over Bihar, sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Sikkim. Dense fog likely in isolated pockets over Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, west Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Sikkim, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura and Odisha.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	21.0	13.0	Kozhikode	—	35.0	25.0
Ahmedabad	—	26.0	11.0	Kurnool	—	31.0	21.0
Aizawl	13.4	18.0	12.0	Lucknow	4.8	16.0	10.0
Allahabad	13.4	18.0	12.0	Madurai	—	32.0	21.0
Bengaluru	—	—	—	Mangaluru	—	—	—
Bhopal	—	—	—	Mumbai	—	29.0	19.0
Bhubaneswar	—	26.0	17.0	Mysuru	—	00.0	00.0
Chandigarh	2.9	14.0	6.0	New Delhi	10.8	15.0	8.0
Chennai	—	30.0	21.0	Patna	15.0	20.0	14.0
Coimbatore	—	30.0	21.0	Port Blair	—	31.0	24.0
Dehradun	32.2	18.0	5.0	Puducherry	—	30.0	19.0
Gangtok	3.3	7.0	3.0	Pune	—	27.0	15.0
Goa	—	33.0	21.0	Raipur	1.4	25.0	15.0
Guwahati	—	—	—	Ranchi	—	21.0	9.0
Hubballi	—	30.0	19.0	Shillong	—	—	—
Hyderabad	—	27.0	19.0	Shimla	27.2	7.0	2.0
Imphal	—	—	—	Srinagar	—	—	—
Jaipur	—	19.0	4.0	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.0	23.0
Kochi	—	33.0	24.0	Tiruchir	—	31.0	21.0
Kohima	—	—	—	Vijayawada	—	30.0	21.0
Kolkata	—	23.0	15.0	Visakhapatnam	—	29.0	21.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO ₂	NO ₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	52	19	43	58	84	Good
Bengaluru	11	60	35	56	82	Poor
Chennai	60	42	53	115	42	Moderate
Delhi	9	28	49	289	148	Poor
Hyderabad	2	46	26	92	80	Moderate
Kolkata	10	93	41	259	170	Poor
Lucknow	14	66	57	360	66	Poor
Mumbai	9	61	41	159	145	Moderate
Pune	88	34	83	119	100	Poor
Visakhapatnam	9	76	52	151	191	Moderate

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease