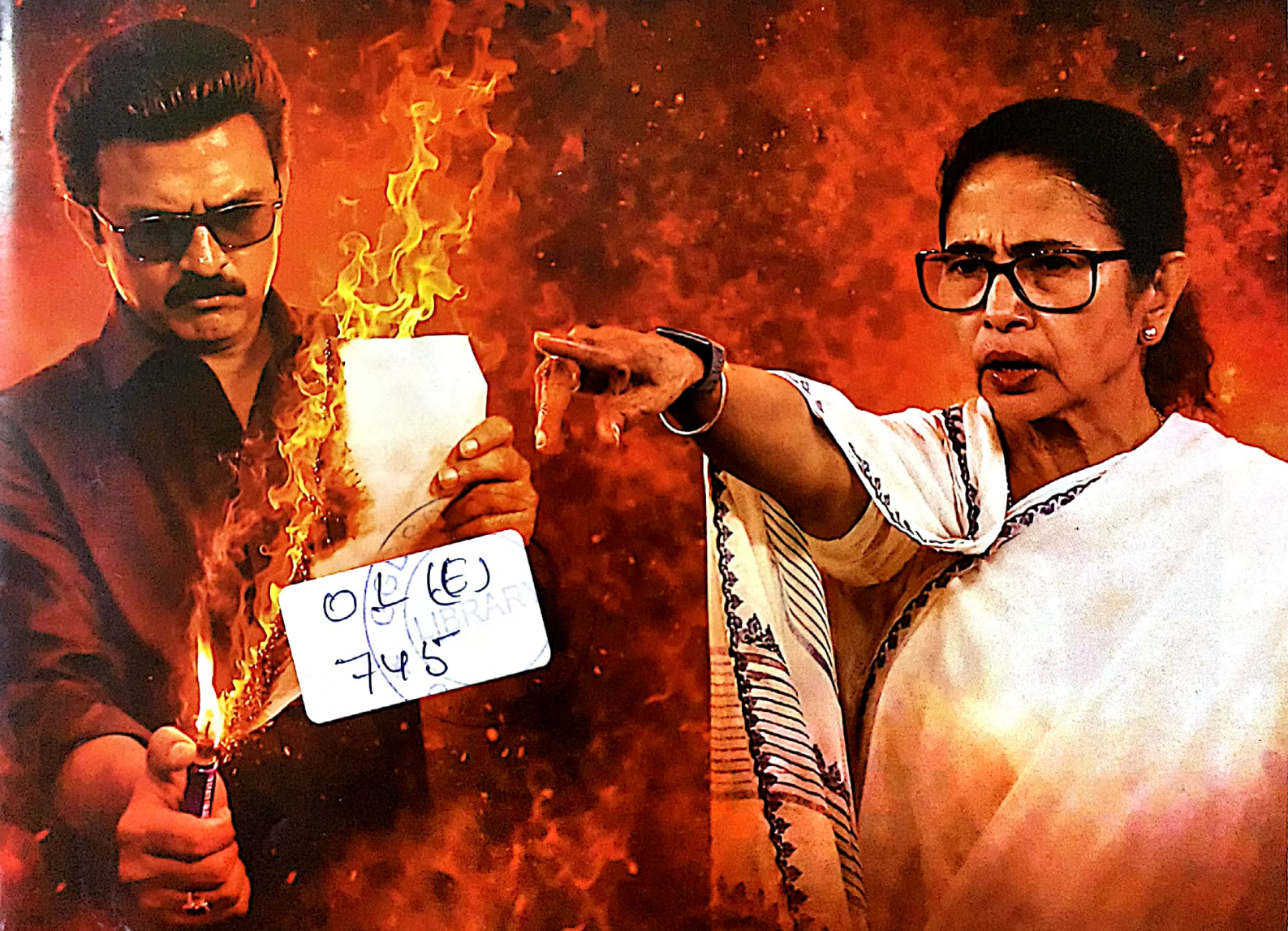


Outlook

Read · Think · Understand



Dravida Banga Ltd.

This round goes to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin, a vociferous opponent of the Delimitation Bill which was defeated in the Lok Sabha. In West Bengal, over 90 lakh voter exclusions is the hottest poll issue. Can these states ward off the saffron wave this election season?

Tamil Nadu CM M. K. Stalin burning a copy of the Delimitation Bill on April 16 in protest



RNI NO. 7044/1961

EDITOR Chinki Sinha

MANAGING EDITOR Satish Padmanabhan

FOREIGN EDITOR Seema Guha

DIGITAL EDITOR Aasheesh Sharma

DEPUTY PHOTO EDITOR Tribhuvan Tiwari

NEWS COORDINATOR Vidya Ramamurthy

WRITERS Agnideb Bandyopadhyay, Apeksha Priyadarshini, Ashlin Mathew, Ashwani Sharma, Debanjan Dhar, Fozia Yasin, Ishfaq Naseem, Lalita Iyer, Md. Asghar Khan, Mohammad Ali, Mrinalini Dhyani, N. K. Bhoopesh, Priyanka Tupe, Sakshi Salil Chavan

COPY DESK S.S. Jeevan, Swati Subhedar, Vineetha Mokkil

DESIGN COORDINATOR Vikas Thakur

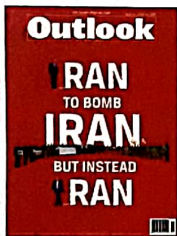
PHOTOGRAPHERS Dinesh Parab, Sandipan Chatterjee, Suresh K. Pandey, Vikram Sharma, Yasir Iqbal

RESEARCHERS Animikh Chakrabarty, Anupam Prashant Minz, Subhashree Rath

DESIGN Anupam Sai Bollaboina, Champak Bhattacharjee

ILLUSTRATOR Saahil

SOCIAL MEDIA Anwiti Singh, Humayun Kamran, Jagisha Arora



Outlook issue
April 21, 2026

BUSINESS OFFICE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER Indranil Roy

PUBLISHER Sandip Kumar Ghosh

DIRECTOR BRAND & MARKETING Shruti Dewani

VICE PRESIDENT Diwan Singh Bisht

SR GENERAL MANAGERS Debabani Tagore, Shailender Vohra, Shashank Dixit

CIRCULATION & SUBSCRIPTION Gagan Kohli

HEAD, SALES OPERATIONS Manisha Mishra

HEAD OFFICE

AB-10, S.J. Enclave, New Delhi - 110 029

Customer Care: 9266855837 / 9266855636

Office Hours: 10 am to 6 pm

e-mail: yourhelpline@outlookindia.com

Printed and published by Indranil Roy on behalf of Outlook Publishing (India) Pvt. Ltd. Editor: Chinki Sinha. Printed at MP Printers (A Unit of DB Corp Ltd) B-220, Phase-II, Noida 201305, Gautam Budh Nagar (UP) and published from AB-10, S.J. Enclave, New Delhi-110 029

Published for the period of

April 22-May 1, 2026

Released on April 21, 2026

Total number of pages 60 including covers



POINT AND SHARE

Now, open *Outlook* magazine on your smartphone instantly. Point your phone's scanner on the code and align it in the frame. You will be guided instantly to our website, www.outlookindia.com This is useful to share our stories on social media or email them.

Assembly Elections 2026

6 | THE LAST CHECKPOINT

The issue of delimitation bolsters the DMK's push for federalism
By N.K. Bhoopesh

8 | A GIANT STRIDE

In an email interview with *Outlook*, DMK's M. K. Stalin answers an array of questions and says Tamil Nadu will never accept any delimitation that undermines its representation in the Lok Sabha

16 | THE CURIOUS CASE OF AKHTAR ALI

The BJP's all-out war against the TMC's rule in Bengal has turned it into the most intense assembly election of 2026
By Snigdhendru Bhattacharya

26 | CAN THALAPATHY BE THALA?

Stardom in Tamil Nadu has been one of the most persuasive languages of power
By Ilyas R. Muhammed

36 | TACTICAL PAUSE

The US is trying to force an outcome through economic and military leverage, while Iran is resisting being drawn into talks on unfavourable terms
By Seema Guha

40 | THE MARCH OF FOLLY

The US judiciary, the legislative or even European countries are either unwilling or unable to correct Donald Trump
By K. P. Fabian

44 | ARITHMETIC OF SURVIVAL

Fearing arrests, the contractual labourers in Noida hesitate to raise their voice against low wages
By Mrinalini Dhyani

50 | IT'S COMPLICATED

Why did Nitish Kumar's exit from Bihar trigger an unprecedented emotional response? By Mrityunjay Sharma

52 | THE SONIC REBEL

Asha Bhosle's corporeal style of singing was a transgressive sonic and visual force
By Shikha Jhingan



FOR MORE MAGAZINE STORIES

Log on to <https://www.outlookindia.com>

ON THE COVER: DMK's M. K. Stalin and TMC's Mamata Banerjee COVER CREDIT: Outlook Team

Subscribe Now

