

ELECTIONS: WEST BENGAL
WILL DELETIONS ERODE TRINAMOOL'S MARGINS?

MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT
IRAN WANTS TO KEEP FIGHTING

JOURNALISM WITH A HUMAN TOUCH

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WEALTH WATCH
HOW LATECOMERS
SHOULD INVEST

MEDICINE BEYOND
BORDERS
WHEN ALZHEIMER'S
COMES HOME

APRIL 26, 2026

THE WEEK



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TAMIL NADU ELECTIONS **THE FIGHT IS ON**

DMK-AIADMK
bipolarity challenged
by Vijay and Seeman in
a four-cornered race

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

M.K. STALIN
Our Dravidian
model will help
us retain power

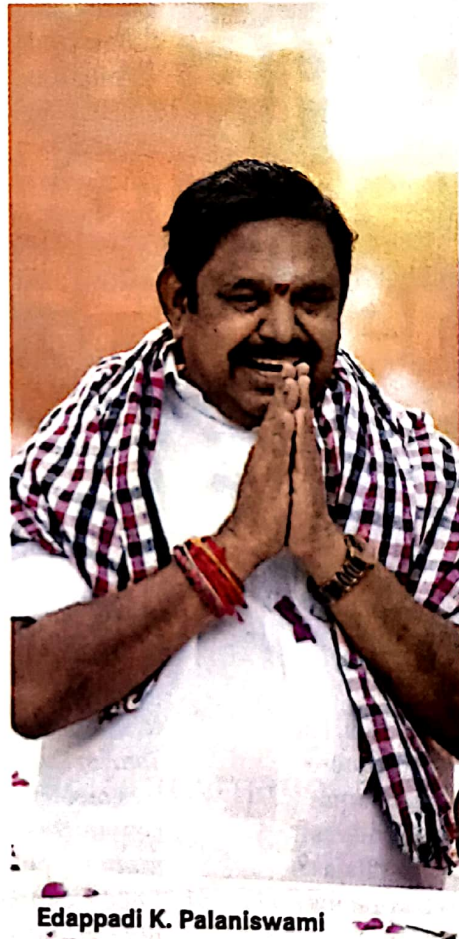


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M.K. Stalin



Edappadi K. Palaniswami



Vijay

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COVER
STORY

DUOPOLY DENTED

Tamil Nadu's long-standing DMK-AIADMK duopoly is being tested by actor-turned-politician Vijay and Seeman of NTK. Their entries are fragmenting votes, narrowing margins and making local swings more decisive. All said, the DMK retains an edge in an uncertain contest.

INTERVIEWS

- "Delhi is trying to destroy India's diversity with slogans like 'One Nation, One Religion', 'One Nation, One Language' and 'One Nation, One Election'" — M.K. Stalin, *Tamil Nadu CM*
- "Those who spoke of Tamil nationalism before me are now cleaning toilets in Karunanidhi's house!" — Seeman, *chief coordinator, Naam Tamilar Katchi*

PLUS

- The AIADMK has a substantial voter base, but without ideological clarity, its ability to convert this support into seats remains doubtful
- By showing up less, Vijay hopes his mystique will do the work

14 WEST BENGAL

SIR might shift the electoral balance in West Bengal, but it has evolved into the matter of belonging for the vulnerable



SALIL BERA

40 IRAN WAR

Failed negotiations signal a protracted conflict, which plays into Iran's hands and could be trouble for the US-Israel combine



REUTERS

44 WEALTH WATCH

- Professional financial advice has become crucial as wealth surges and markets grow complex
- Late entrants to the stock market can still build wealth

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Baijayant 'Jay' Panda



Parental activism has begun to shift the narrative. More than a dozen countries have enacted

legislation restricting social media access for children and early teens, placing responsibility squarely on platforms to enforce age limits and safeguards. These measures reflect a growing global consensus that voluntary self-regulation by technology companies has fallen short.

51 FOCUS

National Feature/
engineering colleges

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COVER PHOTO **PTI**

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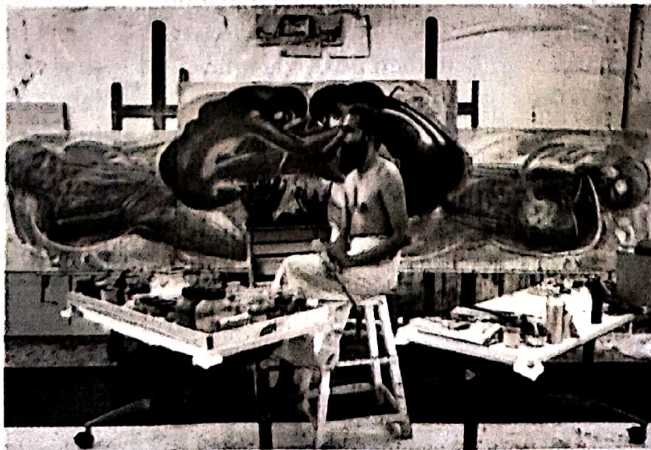
Seeman

PHOTOS R.G. SASTHA

@
LEISURE

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When a photographer captures the artist in his studio



ROHIT CHAWLA