

'Lipstick-free campus' campaign inaugurated

Targeted events to be held in schools, associations and community groups

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kollam

AMID growing concerns over the increasing use of cosmetic products among schoolchildren, the Kollam District Child Welfare Committee has launched a district-wide awareness campaign against the misuse of beauty products by children.

Why the campaign?

Held to create awareness against the misuse of beauty products by children as prolonged exposure to harmful chemicals may contribute to allergies, hormonal imbalances and other long term health concerns

The district-level inauguration of the campaign was held at Mayanad Higher Secondary School on Saturday. Poet Kureepuzha Sreekumar inaugurated the campaign and declared the school the district's first "Lipstick-Free Campus".

Addressing students, Sreekumar stressed that inner beauty is more important than external appearance and pointed out that several beauty products, including perfumes, have adverse environmental impacts.

District Child Welfare Committee secretary D Shine Dev said the campaign was initiated after teachers reported that some students were frequently using cosmetic products, in-

cluding lipsticks, during breaks between classes. He noted that children's skin is thinner and more sensitive than that of adults, making them more vulnerable to chemicals present in cosmetic products.

According to the organisers, certain cosmetic products may contain heavy metals such as cadmium, lead, chromium and zinc, which can pose health risks. Prolonged exposure to harmful chemicals may contribute to allergies, hormonal imbalances and other health concerns. The committee said awareness programmes will be conducted across schools, residents associations and community groups in the district as part of the campaign.



Young football fans engrossed in mobile football games gather in front of a Brazil-themed mural at Rajaji Nagar in Thiruvananthapuram as excitement builds ahead of the FIFA World Cup | ALBIN MATHEW

Railways approves 4 escalators, 2 lifts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Alappuzha

THE Railway Board has granted an in-principle approval for the installation of four new escalators and two additional lifts at Alappuzha railway station, said MP K C Venugopal.

"I had urged the Railways to construct an additional island platform to serve platforms 5 and 6 during a review visit to the station last October, which was attended by the divisional railway manager (DRM) and senior railway officials. Railway authorities informed that a proposal has been prepared and submitted to the Railway Board for approval," he said.

The DRM also assured that the coach indication display system would be restored at the earliest and display boards installed at the station entrance made operational soon, he added. Officials said all works being carried out under the PM Gati Shakti programme are expected to be completed by July.

"Platform shelters will be installed in uncovered areas, while drains and canals in front of the station will be cleaned. Construction of passenger rest facilities is in its final stage and will be opened to the public soon," said the MP. At Kayamkulam, officials informed the MP that the main entrance and ticket counter would become operational within a week. The remaining 20% of PM Gati Shakti-related works are expected to be completed by July.

Palakkad champs in senior athletics meet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kollam

THE 70th Kerala State Senior Athletics Championship concluded at the Lal Bahadur Stadium in Kollam on Saturday, marking the return of the prestigious event to the district after more than three decades.

Held on June 5 and 6, the championship drew over 500 athletes from various districts across the state. The meet, which served as a selection trial for upcoming national-level competitions, featured several

prominent national and international athletes.

The championship showcased high-quality performances across track and field events, drawing athletes, coaches, and sports enthusiasts from across Kerala.

Palakkad emerged as the overall champions with 174 points. Ernakulam finished runner-up with 157.5 points, while Kottayam secured third place with 122.5 points. The winners were felicitated at the valedictory ceremony.

MP seeks restoration of Chennai AC spl train

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kollam

KOLLAM MP N K Premachandran has sought the restoration of the Chennai Tambaram-Thiruvananthapuram North AC special train service via Kollam and Sengottai.

In a representation submitted to the railway ministry and Southern Railway, the MP urged authorities to resume train no 06035/06036 Chennai Tambaram-Thiruvananthapuram North AC special, which was discontinued despite being widely used by passengers from south Kerala.

Chennai, the MP said, seeking its early restoration. Meanwhile, Southern Railway has informed the MP that additional infrastructure projects will be taken up at Paravur railway station and completed by December 2026 to improve passenger amenities.

Though the station, which falls under the NSG-5 category, already has the mandatory passenger facilities, further improvements have been planned in view of increasing passenger traffic. The proposed works include expansion of the circulating area, development of additional parking facilities for cars and two-wheelers, improvement of the concourse area, beautification of the station building and widening and upgrading of the approach road. Railway authorities have stated that the projects will be implemented on a priority basis.

The twin developments are expected to improve rail connectivity and passenger convenience in the district, particularly for commuters using the suburban network and long-distance travellers heading to Tamil Nadu.

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Trawling ban from June 9

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Alappuzha

THE 52-day trawling ban will come into effect in the district from midnight on June 9. As part of the enforcement and safety measures associated with the ban, the fisheries department has established a 24-hour control room at the Thottappally Fisheries Station to provide assistance to fishers and monitor compliance with the restrictions.

Officials said fisherman facing emergencies or difficulties while at sea can contact the control room at 0477-2297707. The public can report any violations of the trawling ban at the same number. Additional assistance is available through the Fisheries Assistant Director's office in Thottappally at 9447967155 and the Fisheries Deputy Director's office at 0477-2251103.

According to fisheries department officials, coordinated efforts involving the fisheries department, harbour engineering department and police department will be undertaken throughout the ban period.

UDF rule in Pala in a fix as Cong & independents clash

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kottayam

HARDLY six months after the UDF came into power in Pala municipality with a wafer-thin majority, supported by an independent collective led by the 'Pulikkakandam family', the council is confronting its first political challenge following tensions between the Congress and independents.

The situation has escalated following an allegation that Binu Pulikkakandam, a councillor of the independent collective, physically assaulted Congress councillor Biju Mathews, during a discussion regarding the relocation of an autorickshaw stand in Pala town. Biju lodged a complaint with the Pala police and sought police protection to attend council meetings. In view of the tensions, a council meeting scheduled for Saturday was postponed.

The incident took place during a meeting of the UDF parliamentary party in the chairperson's chamber on Friday. The conflict centred around the proposed relocation of the autorickshaw stand from its current position inside the Kottaramattom private bus stand.

Earlier, chairperson and daughter of Binu, Diya Pulikkakandam had directed the auto drivers to relocate the stand from the private bus stand. However, auto drivers and various political parties had opposed the move. During the meeting, Biju insisted that the issue be added to the council agenda to discuss the drivers' complaint. Councillors Rajitha Prakash and Tony Thaiparambil seconded the request. According to Biju's allegations, Binu and his brother, councillor Biju Pulikkakandam, became enraged during the meeting, shouting at Biju and threatening physical violence. Fearing for his safety, Biju fled the chamber and later reported the incident to the police. He also demanded legal action against those who threatened him and requested police protection for future council meetings. However, Binu dismissed the allegations and said that there was no assault and that there was only an argument. "All that happened was discussions over the agenda, but it was heated. I suspect the involvement of opposition members in the controversy, especially since the council's administration is currently running smoothly," Binu said.

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public notice

NOTICE I. SANDHYA.D wife of No. JC 291971A Rank Nb Sub Name Rajesh.B, R/o, Mundakathil House, Alunkadavu, P.O, Arunagappally, Kollam, Pin: 690573, Kerala changed my name from SANDHYA to SANDHYA.D vide eff. dt. 29/05/2026 GRN. K.L010095835202627E sworn before Advocate V.PRATHAP SINGH, Vanchiyoor, Tvpim

SAINIK SCHOOL KALIKIRI, ANNAMAYYA DIST (A.P)

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR TEMPORARY POST RE-ADVERTISEMENT Walk-in-interview is scheduled at Sainik School Kalikiri on 13 Jun 2026 for the following vacancy PURELY ON TEMPORARY BASIS not exceeding 179 days.

Table with 5 columns: S.No, Post, No. of Vacancies, Age, Time of Reporting. Row 1: 1, TGT (Mathematics), One Vacancy (OBC-NCL), Age: 21-35 years as on 13 Jun 2026, 13 Jun 2026 (08 00 hrs) Saturday

Please visit the School Website https://sskal.ac.in for detailed notification. The appointment will be purely on temporary basis for a very short period. Candidates arriving 30 Mins after the reporting time will not be allowed for the interview. No TA/DA is admissible for the interview. Candidates should be present along with the original documents as per the essential qualifications mentioned in school website. No correspondence through post will be made in this regard. The school administration reserves the right to cancel any or all the vacancies at any stage due to administrative reasons. Sd/-PRINCIPAL

UNION BANK OF INDIA

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rule 2002

KOLLAM CITY STATION BRANCH, Deshpaiy Complex, High School Junction, Kollam 691009 Telephone: 913754500 Email: ubin054502@unionbankofindia.bank.in

Notice for sale of immovable assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rule 2002. Includes details for Kottarakkara Main Branch and Sreemangalam, Kunnathur East P.O.

Canara Bank advertisement for Specialized Asset Recovery Management Branch, Thiruvananthapuram. Includes details for E-auction of immovable properties and a table of assets for sale.

ICICI Bank advertisement for E-auction of secured assets. Includes a table of assets for sale and details of the auction process.

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