

# E-Paper 16 March 2017

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# NEWS TODAY

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**3** TAKING INDO-CHINA TIES TO NEW HIGH  
In a first of its kind visit in India, Qinghai Kangri Chess House (KCH) in China which specialises in chess...  
**6** FEDERER POWERS PAST  
Roger Federer defeated Rafael Nadal...  
**7** AUSTRALIA LOSES EARLY WICKETS  
India struck twice in two overs just before lunch to keep a tight leash on Australia who reached 136 for 3 on the first day of the first cricket Test here today...  
**8** ILAYARAJA-SPB AT LOGGAJA-SPB  
It seems the two great musicians, Raghunath and SP Balasubrahmanyan are not in good terms. The two combined together to rector...

## New taxes nil, promises full

□ TN budget: Fresh roads in Chennai □ 3 Metro Rail routes  
□ Big allocations for education, transport, tourism

### Highlights

- Rs 89,932 cr for school education department
- Higher education department gets Rs 2,000 cr
- Rs 532 cr for MMBE sector
- Rs 600 cr for fisheries
- Multipurpose administration of Rs 13,000 cr
- Rs 174 cr to conduct local body elections
- Police department gets Rs 1,482 cr

**NT Bureau**  
Chennai, Mar 16  
The first budget of the government led by Chief Minister J Jayalalitha presented by Finance Minister J Jayalalitha to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly today, did not have any new taxes, despite the State facing a huge fiscal deficit. However, it had a list of new announcements covering

**IN NUMBERS**  
Tamil Nadu Finance Minister J Jayalalitha presenting State budget for the year 2017-2018 to the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly today.

**Planning panel goes**  
The State Planning Commission will be replaced with State Development Policy Council, Jayalalitha said. The Council will advise the government on policy coherence and formulation of programmes to guide development of State.

**All Amma schemes to continue**  
All Amma schemes of Jayalalitha including Amma Centres, Amma Saksham Pharmacy and Amma Vegetable Outlets will continue, Jayalalitha said during the budget presentation.

**IN NUMBERS**  
The government will further create a favourable environment for increased private and public investments in various sectors, thus boosting the economic growth to nine per cent. As far as the Chennai Metro Rail is concerned, three corridors are under Phase I covering 27.5 km. Two more corridors are under Phase II covering 10.5 km. A detailed project report has been prepared for it.

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## TN's fiscal deficit at Rs 61,341 cr

□ TANGEDCO debt main reason □ Govt working hard to overcome it: Minister

**NT Bureau**  
Chennai, Mar 16  
The State Assembly was today informed that the fiscal deficit of Tamil Nadu government for 2016-17 will be Rs 61,341 crore, which is 4.58 per cent of the gross state domestic product (GSDP).

**TASMAC & STAMP DUTY IMPACT**  
Jayalalitha said the closing down of 1000 TASMAC shops in 2016 and 2017 will have a significant impact on the State's revenues. The State has registered a negative growth this year in the collection of stamp duty and registration fees and the receipts have been estimated only at Rs 8,200 crore in 2017-18, he said.

**IN NUMBERS**  
The government has given specific authorisation to meet the deficit in the extent of debt taken over from TANGEDCO to the level of Rs 2,815 crore, which has increased the fiscal deficit beyond Tamil Nadu's Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act of 2010.

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TECHNO CULTURAL FEST  
MARCH 16-19, 2017  
MARCH 16 VARIETY SHOW EVENTS  
MARCH 17 DJ & SHROED NIGHT EVENTS

**Muthukrishnan cremated**  
□ Ministers, political leaders pay last respect  
Chennai, Mar 16  
Three days after his death, the body of Jaisankar Muthukrishnan (JMS) was cremated at the Government Crematorium in Siondy. A large number of ministers and members of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly were present at the cremation. The cremation was held at 11:30 am. The body was brought to the crematorium from the hospital where he was treated. The cremation was held in the presence of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly members and ministers. The cremation was held in the presence of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly members and ministers.

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**SPECIAL CONVOCATION**  
on Friday, 17th March 2017 at 3.30 pm.  
Honoris Causa Awardees  
Dr. R. Chidambaram  
Principal Scientific Adviser to the Govt. of India  
and  
DAE - Homi Bhabha Professor  
New Delhi  
Dr. K. Sridharan  
Chancellor  
Kalsalingam University  
Tamil Nadu  
Dr. Ishari K. Ganesh  
Founder - Chancellor, Vels University  
will preside over the function  
Venue: Vels University Campus, Pallavaram, Chennai - 600 117

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