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VOLUME - 6 CHENNAI | DAILY | 4 Pages

Thursday August 20 2026 Rs.2/- ISSUE - 39

CM HIKES AAVIN PROCUREMENT PRICE BY RS. 3 PER LITRE

Chennai, 20 August 2026: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay has announced a Rs 3 per litre increase in the

litre, the effective procurement price is Rs 38 per litre, which has been in force since November 5, 2022.

procurement price of milk from producers, providing relief to more than 3.16 lakh dairy farmers supplying milk through cooperative societies across the State.

M a k i n g t h e announcement under Rule 110 in the Legislative Assembly, the Chief Minister said the total procurement price would be increased from Rs 38 to Rs 41 per litre. At present, Aavin procures milk containing 4.3% fat and 8.2% other solids at a basic procurement price of Rs 35 per litre.

With a State
incentive of Rs 3 per

litre, the effective procurement price is Rs 38 per litre, which has been in force since November 5, 2022.

Under the new decision, the cooperative society procurement price will be increased by Rs 1 per litre, while the government incentive will be raised from Rs 3 to Rs 5 per litre.

Together, these changes will increase the total procurement price to Rs 41 per litre. The decision comes amid concerns among milk producers over rising costs of cattle feed, labour and other inputs.

Farmers have increasingly preferred private dairy companies, which offer



higher prices for milk lakh producers. Aavin
in several areas. procures around 34

The Chief Minister said the government had taken into consideration the hard work of dairy farmers, who begin their day as early as 3 a.m. to clean and tend to their cattle and produce milk. He said rising expenditure on cattle feed and labour had placed an additional burden on producers.

Tamil Nadu currently has around 8,800 milk cooperative societies, through which milk is procured from more than 3.16 crore annually for the government, he said.

The increase will entail an additional expenditure of approximately Rs 30 crore per month and Rs 360 crore annually for the government, he said.

**IS JAPANESE
ICE COOPERATION**
capabilities of the
Indian Navy.

Upon his arrival, the visiting dignitary inspected a Guard of Honour at the Western Naval Command. He, earlier, laid a wreath at the Gaurav Stambh at the Naval Dockyard. He also paid a visit to the indigenous ship INS Chennai.

India and Japan share a common vision of building a free, open, resilient and prosperous Indo-Pacific region. The visit comes weeks after Japanese Prime Minister Ms Sanae Takaichi was in Delhi for the Annual Summit with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi where both sides agreed to deepen defence and security cooperation.

**GOVT VEHICLES, ASSISTANTS FOR ALL MLAS
RS. ONE LAKH FOR MONTHLY VEHICLE
ALLOWANCE, PA SALARY: CM**

Chennai, 20 August provided vehicle.

2026: Chief Minister
Vijay on Wednesday
announced that the
Tamil Nadu govern-
ment would provide a
vehicle to every
Member of the Legisla-
tive Assembly (MLA)
to enable them to
effectively carry out
development and
public service activi-
ties in their consti-
tuencies.

In addition, a
monthly assistant
allowance of Rs 25,000
would be provided to
enable each MLA to
appoint an assistant to
help with office and
constituency-related
work.

The Chief Minister
said necessary amend-
ments would be made
to the relevant legis-

He also announced that every MLA would be entitled to appoint an assistant, with the government providing a monthly allowance for the purpose.

Making the announcement under Rule 110 in the Legislative Assembly, the Chief Minister said a monthly vehicle allowance of Rs 75,000 would be provided towards expenses including the driver, fuel and maintenance of the government-

OFFICER TRAINEES OF INDIAN INFORMATION SERVICE AND INDIAN STATISTICAL SERVICE CALL ON THE PRESIDENT

Chennai, 20 August people of the country.

2026: A group of Effective communi
Officer Trainees of the cation and credible
Indian Information information are
Service and the Indian essential pillars of a
Statistical Service vibrant and responsive
called on the President democracy.

of India, Smt. The President said
Droupadi Murmu at that as the officer
Rashtrapati Bhavan trainees embark upon
yesterday (August 19, their careers, they
2026).

Addressing the officer trainees, the President said that both the Indian Information Service and the Indian Statistical Service, though different in functions, share a common purpose, which is to strengthen the quality of governance and serve the

learn and adapt. The world of technology, media, economics and public policy is changing rapidly. She advised them to remain curious, develop new competencies and learn from experience. She advised them to be judicious in their decisions, compass

support for the basic requirements of MLAs, particularly those without financial resources. independently to villages and remote areas without having to depend on others for transportation.

The Chief Minister noted that a significant number of first generation MLAs from modest backgrounds had been elected to the Assembly with public support, without financial strength or an established political background.

He said MLAs have an assistant to support them in carrying out various constituency related responsibilities, he said. The Chief Minister said the MLAs were to focus more effectively on their constituencies to monitor government schemes and ensure welfare measures were reached to beneficiaries. Independent and accessible public service.

According to the Chief Minister, providing government vehicles would enable MLAs to travel inde-

INFORMATION SERVICE AND CALL ON THE PRESIDENT

sionate in their conduct and unwavering in upholding integrity. She underlined that the authority entrusted to them carries with it a profound responsibility to serve the people with fairness, humility and dedication.

The President said that the Indian Information Service has played a significant role in strengthening not only to inform and engage, but also to listen, understand and respond to concerns of the people.

the Government's She said that in an
connect with citizens. environment where
She highlighted that information travels
social media has funda very fast, accuracy,
mentally transformed credibility and public
the way citizens interest should always
receive, share and guide their commun
respond to informa cation.



KAUVERY HOSPITAL BUILDS AN INTEGRATED EPILEPSY -CARE NETWORK ACROSS ITS CHENNAI HOSPITALS

Chennai, 20 August every fortnight to 2026: Kauvery Hospital has launched an integrated Regional Epilepsy Centre (K-REC), creating a coordinated epilepsy-care network across its three hospitals in Chennai, with standardised clinical protocols and uniform standards of care.

As part of the initiative, centres headed by neurologists have been opened at all three branches of the hospital. The centre will be supported by a multidisciplinary team comprising neurologists, neuroradiologists, electrophysiologists, clinical psychologists, rehabilitation specialists, and neurosurgeons.

The teams across the three centres will meet virtually once

discuss patients in detail and assess the complexity of their conditions. A common epilepsy proforma has also been developed to facilitate standardized data collection and improve coordination among the teams.

Seizures that are not adequately controlled with medication will be referred to the epilepsy centre at Kauvery Hospital, Radial Road, for further evaluation. Their cases will be considered for advanced interventions, including epilepsy surgery. Once a surgical decision is made, the patient will undergo further evaluation and treatment at the centre. Following surgery, the patient will be transferred back to their respective epilepsy



centre for continued follow-up and care.

The key objective of this integrated approach is to bring multiple neuroscience subspecialties under a single umbrella to enable accurate diagnosis and effective management of epilepsy – for incorrect classification of the type and characteristics of epilepsy can result in ineffective treatment. Similarly, the presence of a small structural lesion or other changes in the brain may make medications ineffective, potentially making the patient a candidate for surgery.

Epilepsy surgery is considered one of the most effective treatment options for appropriately selected patients, with a complete cure from seizure achieved in up to 75% of cases, along with a significant reduction in medication dosage.

In India, an estimated 12–15 million people, or approximately 1% of the population, live with epilepsy, commonly referred to as ‘fits’. Despite advances in medical treatment, around 20–30% of patients continue to experience seizures.

A SUBSCRIPTION-FREE OTT PLATFORM, VETO SECURES EXCLUSIVE OTT STREAMING RIGHTS FOR DAVIS CUP 2026

Chennai, 20 August movies, music, entertainment, devotional and kids content, VETO is building more complete everyday viewing destination for families.

2026: VETO, India's subscription-free OTT platform designed to offer a trusted and unified large-screen viewing experience for families, has secured exclusive OTT streaming rights for the Davis Cup 2026 in India, bringing the live coverage to household.

VETO's entry into live sports reflects how the OTT ecosystem is evolving. Today, audiences expect platforms to offer more than just on-demand content, with live events such as sports unlocking a shared viewing moment, repeat engagement and opportunities for user growth. By adding live sports alongside news,

India's campaign has been built on a string of notable results. The team defeated Switzerland 3-1 in September 2025, marking its first Davis Cup win on European soil since 1993, before overcoming 2024 finalists and World No. 6 Netherlands 3-2 in Bengaluru this February. The result took India into the second round of Davis Cup Qualifiers and marked the team's first run of three consecutive Davis Cup tie wins since 2013-14.

Team India will



now face South Korea away in the Davis Cup qualifiers 2nd round in 18-20 September 2026 window, with the winner advancing to the Davis Cup Finals in November. A victory would take India into the elite eight-team finals stage, keeping alive the country's pursuit of a first Davis cup title after runner-up finishes in in 1966, 1974 and 1987. VETO will stream the tie live, along with the platform's wider Davis Cup 2026 coverage.

Ritu Dhawan, Managing Director, VETO, said,“The Davis Cup is the World

Cup of Tennis, and bringing its decisive stages to Indian audiences is a major milestone for VETO. With Team India on the brink of a historic Final 8 berth, fans have every reason to believe. When the nation is ready to cheer, every cheer matters — which is why VETO will offer the Davis Cup without any subscription fee.

We want families across India to come together on the large screen and back Team India. This also strengthens our ambition to make live sport one of the core pillars of VETO”.

YAMAHA REFRESHES 125CC FI HYBRID SCOOTERS WITH STRIKING NEW COLOURS, REFRESHED STYLING AND TECH UPGRADE

Chennai, 20 August updated graphics, 2026: India Yamaha Motor Pvt. Ltd. today announced exciting

updates to its popular 125cc Fi Hybrid scooter range, introducing fresh colours, refreshed styling, and technology options. Developed in response to evolving customer preferences, the latest refresh caters to the young, and style-conscious riders seeking the perfect blend of fashion, sportiness, performance, convenience, and connectivity in their everyday mobility.

The RayZR 125 Fi Hybrid receives notable enhancements through striking new paint finishes and

In addition, the Street Rally variant is now offered with a Colour TFT Instrument Cluster equipped with Turn-by-Turn (TBT) Navigation for a more connected riding experience.

Complementing the range, the Fascino 125 Fi Hybrid also gets a makeover with eye-catching new shades and contemporary design accents, under scoring its premium and fashionable appeal.

While the RayZR 125 Fi Hybrid caters to riders with bold and edgy personalities, the



stylish Fascino 125 Fi Hybrid, with its unisex appeal, is designed for young riders seeking to express their vibrant lifestyle. Both scooters are equipped with Yamaha's Smart Motor Generator (SMG) Hybrid Technology, complemented by Enhanced Power Assist, Silent Start System, and Stop & Start System (SSS), delivering excellent fuel efficiency and enhanced riding performance.

Further, the scooters come equipped with telescopic suspension, 21-litre under-seat storage, side-stand engine cut-off, E20 fuel compatibility, and smartphone connectivity. Additionally, the Fascino S and RayZR Street Rally offer the Colour TFT Display with Turn-by-Turn Navigation and Answer Back functionality for added convenience and connectivity.

JASON SANJAY'S 'SIGMA' SET FOR WORLDWIDE THEATRICAL RELEASE ON OCTOBER 2

Chennai, 20 August While the film's 2026: 'Sigma' has central premise and remained one of the thematic core continue most closely watched to remain under wraps, upcoming films in the visuals unveiled Tamil cinema for through its teaser and several compelling first two singles have reasons, from Lyca offered audiences a Productions Subas strong glimpse into the karan producing Jason vibrant and entertaining world of Sigma. Sanjay's directorial debut to its exciting The contrasting energy casting and the of 'Sigma Style' and the more melodic growing buzz around 'Ayyayyo Ammadi' have further amplified curiosity around the film, hinting at an out-and-out entertainer built around a distinctive plot and an exciting visual canvas.

Lyca Productions is particularly happy with the way the project has shaped up, with the shooting completed as planned and within the scheduled timeframe. The production house has also expressed its



appreciation for Jason taking care of the Sanjay's professional editing, Benjamin M lism, clarity and handling Art department and Hariharan throughout the film suthan serving as VFX making process, with Supervisor.

With its premise still closely guarded, the two singles already offering contrasting glimpses into its world, and an exciting promotional campaign about to unfold, 'Sigma' is now gearing up to meet audiences worldwide in theatres on October 2.

Jason Sanjay has written and directed the film, with Thaman S composing the music, now gearing up to meet audiences worldwide in theatres on October 2.

SAMEERA GROUP UNVEILS FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND ‘10 PROJECTS IN 10 DAYS ACROSS 10 DISTRICTS’ INITIATIVE IN TAMIL NADU

Chennai, 20 August Sameera Prime and 2026: Chennai-based Sameera Florenza Sameera Group has Phase-I, among other announced its “10 developments being Projects in 10 Days introduced as part of across 10 Districts” the 10-day launch programme, a first-of-

its-kind initiative by a real estate developer in Tamil Nadu. The company will launch the 10 residential projects across the State between August 23 and September 1, 2026, comprising a mix of plotted developments and villas. The ₹300-crore initiative will mark a significant expansion of Sameera Group’s footprint across key growth markets in Tamil Nadu.

The new projects will come up across Trichy, Madurai, Tirunelveli, Vellore, Ranipet, Kanchipuram, Chennai, Krishnagiri, Tiruvannamalai and Chengalpattu. The portfolio includes Vasuki Nagar, Sameera Pavillion, New Vision Township P-9,

'DISCO' PRESENTED BY SEMBOSKI MOTION PICTURES, FARS FILMS - RELEASED WORLDWIDE ON NOVEMBER 6TH!

Chennai, 20 August Lukman Avran, Arjun 2026: Following the Asokan, Semban success of 'Anchak Vinoth Jose, Sagar kallakokkan', director Surya, Vishnu Ullas Semban has Unnikrishnan, Femina released the official George, Kalyani Anil, first look poster of his Meera Vasudevan, next mega-hit, 'Disco'. Gayathri Suresh,

After the success of 'Angamaly Diaries', the film reunites renowned actor-writer Semban Vinoth Jose and Antony Varghese, with Semban Vinoth Jose writing the screenplay.

The film is produced on a grand scale by Semboski Motion Pictures and Ahmed Golcin's Fars Films. Along with Antony Varghese, the film stars Dev Mohan,

Each project is planned across approximately 10 acres, with around 200 units and plot sizes beginning from approximately 800 sq. ft. The developments will offer a mix of residential plots and villas, along with features including gated access, entrance arches, parks and other community amenities.

Commenting on the initiative, Mr. Jaya kumar Murugesan, Managing Director, Sameera, Groups said, “Launching 10 projects across 10 districts in just 10 days is a significant milestone for Sameera Group. With an investment of approximately ₹300 crore, we are simultaneously expanding into several important

growth markets across Tamil Nadu. This initiative reflects both the scale of our ambition and the execution capability we have built over more than four decades in the real estate sector.” Mr. M Sandeep Kumar, Managing Director, Sameera Groups, said, “These launches have been planned to address the growing demand for organised residential developments across emerging markets in Tamil Nadu.

The projects will offer a mix of plotted developments and villas, supported by gated environments, parks and other community infrastructure. Our focus is to create well-planned developments that can offer customers both a quality living environment and long-term value.” Mr. D Senthil Velan, CEO, Pan India Operations, Sameera Groups, said, “The 10-10 initiative begins with Tamil Nadu, a market where Sameera has built a strong foundation over the years. Going forward, we are looking at opportunities across other cities and States to establish and strengthen Sameera Group’s presence beyond Tamil Nadu. Our objective is to take the experience and development capabilities we have built here to new markets across India.”



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DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION CAN ALWAYS GO HAND IN HAND: VICE PRESIDENT

Chennai, 20 August He emphasised that 2026: Vice President the contribution of the Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan today addressed the Indian Forest Service is integral to strengthening the nation’s ecological security and achieving the goal of net-zero emissions by 2070. The Vice President said that development and conservation are not opposing forces and can always go hand in hand. He urged the officers to find the optimal balance between conservation and development, the responsibility of ecological security and livelihoods, and present requirements and the interests of future generations. Calling for team excellence rather than individual excellence,

Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan said that sustained public interest should guide difficult decisions. He also encouraged the officers to adopt best practices while adapting them to local realities. Highlighting the growing role of technology in forestry, he called upon the new generation of officers to combine remote sensing, GIS, drones, AI and data-driven systems with field experience, sound judgement and sensitivity towards science and larger people.



SAMSUNG CHENNAI PLANT BRINGS TOGETHER OVER 8,000 EMPLOYEES AND FAMILIES FOR FAMILY DAY CELEBRATION

Chennai, 20 August of all ages. 2026: Samsung’s Chennai Plant brought together more than 8,000 employees and their family members for a vibrant Family Day celebration, turning the manufacturing facility in Tamil Nadu into a lively space filled with music, games, performances and shared moments.

The celebration offered families an opportunity to experience the workplace that is an important part of their loved ones’ lives, while recognising the contribution of employees and the support they receive from their families.

For a day, the Samsung Chennai Plant took on a different energy. Employees arrived with their spouses, children and family members, with activities spread across the facility for people

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Calling for team excellence rather than individual excellence,



the Chennai Plant also teams across the plant joined employees in to come together, dance performances, coordinating registration, transportation, food, safety, activities and gift distribution.

For many families, the celebration offered a closer look at the community their loved ones are part of every day.

“It was a wonderful experience for our family. There were activities for everyone to enjoy, and it was really nice to see employees and their families

coming together and celebrating as one Samsung Family,” said the husband of Loma vathi, a shop-floor employee at Samsung Chennai Plant.

Organising a celebration for thousands of people required



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sensing, GIS, drones, AI and data-driven systems with field experience, sound judgement and sensitivity towards science and larger people.

“SOME CHARACTERS STAY WITH YOU LONG AFTER THE FILM IS OVER”: PRIYA BHAVANI SHANKAR ON HER SPECIAL JOURNEY WITH ‘IRUMUDI KATTU’

Chennai, 20 August 2026: Some characters become special not merely because of what they demand from an actor, but because of the world they bring along with them. For Priya Bhavani Shankar, her experience with Irumudi Kattu has been one such memorable journey. Directed by Shiva Nirvana and produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar under the banner of Mythri Movie Makers, the much-awaited film stars Mass Maharaja Ravi Teja and is presented by T-Series Films, with a grand worldwide theatrical release scheduled for August 21, 2026.

Priya Bhavani Shankar plays Kaveri, a caring wife and doting mother, in a story that places family and emotions at its heart. The character

introduction and promotional material have offered glimpses of the warmth and intimacy shared by Kaveri and Ravi Teja’s character, while the film’s larger narrative explores a deeply emotional father-daughter relationship, faith and transformation.

Speaking about her experience of being part of Irumudi Kattu, Priya Bhavani Shankar says:

“Kaveri has been a very special character for me. When I heard the story and under stood the emotional world Shiva Nirvana had created, I felt very happy to be part of such an honest and powerful story.

There is a lot of warmth and emotion in the relationships at the heart of ‘Irumudi Kattu’, and that made the journey of portray



ing Kaveri particularly meaningful for me.

“Working with Ravi Teja sir has been a wonderful experience. There is such a natural warmth and ease in the way he approaches his work, and that made our scenes together very comfortable and enjoyable.

Shiva has been extremely clear about the emotions he wanted to bring out in every character, and it was a beautiful experience to be guided by his vision.

The film features Sai Kumar, Baby Nakshathra, Ajay Ghosh, Ramesh Indira and Swasika in important roles. Shiva Nirvana has written and directed the film, with G. V. Prakash Kumar composing the music, Vishnu Sharma handling cinematography, Prawin Pudi serving as editor and Sahi Suresh overseeing production design. The film is all set for its worldwide theatrical release on August 21, 2026.

AMAZON INDIA EXPANDS FREIGHT OPERATIONS ON WESTERN DFC AHEAD OF THE FESTIVE SEASON

Chennai, 20 August 2026: Amazon India will operate with over 10 Van Parcels, connecting Amazon’s network across Delhi, Ahmedabad and Surat, with onward connectivity to Pune, Mumbai and Goa, ahead of the festive season.

The expansion strengthens Amazon India’s multimodal logistics network by shifting shipments from surface transportation to rail, supporting more reliable, economical and sustainable movement of goods. The Western Dedicated Freight Corridor spans approximately 1,504 km from New Dadri in Uttar Pradesh to Jawaharlal Nehru Port Terminal (JNPT) near



Mumbai. Dr. Manoj Singh highlighted that the DFC enables greener and faster freight movement, while Kishore Lanka said the partnership supports India’s freight modernisation ambitions and the Government’s vision of “Viksit Bharat, Viksit Rail.”

Amazon India’s partnership with Indian Railways began in 2019, when it became the first e-commerce company to use the railway network for

express parcel movement. In 2023, Amazon became the first e-commerce logistics company to leverage Dedicated Freight Corridors, launching operations on the 659-km Rewari–Palanpur section of the Western DFC. Today, its rail network has grown from a single train in 2019 to more than 140 trains operating across 130 intercity routes and connecting over 100 destination cities, further strengthening faster and more reliable deliveries across India.

JIOHOTSTAR’S TAMIL ORIGINAL RESORT CROSSES 100 MILLION WATCH HOURS, SETS NEW PLATFORM BENCHMARK

Chennai, 20 August 2026: JioHotstar’s long-running Tamil original Resort has crossed 100 million watch hours*, becoming the platform’s first fiction original to achieve this milestone. Since its premiere, Resort has steadily built a loyal fan base with relatable characters, emotionally engaging narrative, and consistent weekly storytelling format.

Beyond its success in Tamil, Resort has also resonated strongly with audiences across multiple languages, reaffirming that authentic, regional stories with universal emotional themes can travel beyond their home markets.

Tamil audiences

“AMARAM” IS A STORY THAT SPEAKS ABOUT THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN DENIED AND MARGINALISED. DIRECTOR ARUL KRISHNA DESERVES IMMENSE COURAGE FOR CREATING A STORY LIKE THIS!

Chennai, 20 August 2026: Producer C.R. Rajan said: “I thank everyone who has come to wish the team of ‘Amaram’ success.

Everyone wishes to make a good film. But that requires the hard work and dedication of artists. Such commitment comes together only for certain films. In that sense, ‘Amaram’ has received exceptional hard work and dedication.

Director Arul Krishnan and everyone who worked in each department, including the music composer, cinematographer and editor, worked with tremendous dedication without giving priority to money. It is because of their hard work that this film has become possible.

accounted for 53% of the show’s watch time, with the remaining 47% coming from outside the state: 22% from Hindi viewers, 15% from Telugu audiences and 10% from viewers across Malayalam and Kannada combined.

The milestone also reflects the success of JioHotstar’s strategic investment in Long Running Shows—a differentiated storytelling format designed to build sustained viewing habits through multiple weekly episode drops. Over the past year, Jio Hotstar has been steadily expanding its slate of long running shows across South India, creating a new model for audience engage



ment that goes beyond event-led consumption and fosters deeper, long-term viewer affinity.

Resort is presented by TTK Prestige as the Co-Presenting Sponsor, with Lalithaa Jewellery Mart, Kalee suwari Refinery and Prabas Vcare Health Clinic joining as Special Partners. The association brings together leading brands across categories, further strengthening the show’s milestone season and its connection with audiences across markets.

Directed by Praveen

Bennet and headlined by Vijay Kumar Rajendran alongside Thalaivasal Vijay, Resort follows Vetri, a housekeeping employee who dreams of becoming a chef while navigating the ambitions, relationships, and challenges behind the scenes of the fictional RR Resort. Resort is presented by Prestige and VCare Hair & Skin Clinic as special partner. Resort is available to stream exclusively on JioHotstar in Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, Malayalam, and Kannada. Source: JioHotstar Internal Data.



go to theatres, watch on it. the film and extend your support. Thank you!”

Special guest and former tribunal judge Dr. V. Ramaraj said:

“I extend my wishes to all the friends from the media who speak for the people. I also extend my wishes to the team of ‘Amaram’.

I understand that this film is not merely a commercial film, but one that speaks about people’s lives, their pain and the justice they deserve. I extend my wishes to the entire team that has taken up and created such a story, as well as to all the actors and technicians who have worked

Technical Team

Written and Directed by – Arul Krishnan, Music – Mickey J. Meyer, Lyrics – Snehan, K.

Sundararajan, Cinematography – Bharath Kumar, Editing – R. Sreeramar, Art Direction – Janarthanan, Stunts – Miracle Michael, Choreography – Boopathy, Production Supervision – A.P. Ravi, Public Relations – Bhuvan Selvaraj, Produced by – C.R. Rajan.

Trident Arts’ Ravindran will release the film across Tamil Nadu on the 28th of this month.

ISS DUSSEHRA, NAYYI NAVELLI KE SAATH HOGA DHAMAKA.
AMAZON MGM STUDIOS AND COLOUR YELLOW ANNOUNCE NAYYI NAVELLI,
INDIA'S VERY OWN FANTASY FAMILY-ENTERTAINER STARRING YAMI GAUTAM DHAR!

Chennai, 20 August 2026: Amazon MGM Studios and Colour Yellow announced India's very own fantasy family-entertainment film, Nayyi Navelli, starring Yami Gautam Dhar—a chaotic Meerut house hold into paradise, only for her brother-in-law to suspect that his seemingly ideal sister-in-law may actually be a daayan (witch)!

“As we saw Nayyi Navelli finally come together, there was an instant, collective realization that this is THE Dussehra film. No other date would do it justice,” said Nikhil Madhok, director and head of S V O D Originals, Prime Video India and Amazon MGM Studios. “Yami Gautam Dhar is brilliant and the talented ensemble cast has done a great job. This is our first collaboration with Aanand L Rai and Himanshu Sharma; and they have created a



A m a z o n M G M were immediately drawn to the unique way it brings together families for a fantasy, humour and adventure-filled experience. With comedy, chaos, and a larger-than-life festive celebration, Nayyi Navelli promises an entertaining big-screen experience. Save the date and get ready to witness a spectacular family fantasy unfold in a cinema near you!

Producer Aanand L Rai added, “Nayyi Navelli is the kind of story that surprises you at every turn. When Himanshu and I first discussed the story, we

“TAMIL AUDIENCES ARE ALWAYS SPECIAL AS THEY ADMIRE AND ENCOURAGE GOOD CONTENTS. MODHA RATHRI WILL BE A DELIGHTFUL TREAT FOR THEM” - PRODUCERS NAVEEN YERNENI & Y. RAVI SHANKAR

Chennai, 20 August 2026: Tamil cinema continues to witness an exciting shift in audience preferences, the producers are simultaneously looking forward to the worldwide release of Modha Rathiri tomorrow (August 21), marking another distinctive addition to their Tamil slate. Produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar, the film introduces Raja Karupasamy as a director and features Rishikanth and Anishma Anilkumar in the lead.

Producers Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar say: “Tamil audiences have always had a wonderful appetite for good cinema, and what has been particularly exciting in 2026 is the



way content-driven films have found such strong acceptance. Films like ‘Thaai Kizhavi’, ‘Blast’ and ‘Youth’ have shown that when a story connects with people, audiences will wholeheartedly support it. As a production house, we have always believed in presenting diverse kinds of cinema, from large-scale pan-Indian blockbusters to films rooted in family, emotions and strong storytelling. ‘Modha Rathiri’ comes from that very belief.”

For Mythri Movie Makers, Modha Rathiri represents yet another opportunity to bring a fresh voice and a new combination of talent to Tamil cinema.

With Raja Karupasamy's directorial debut, a promising lead pair and a strong ensemble coming together, the film is all set to meet audiences worldwide in theatres tomorrow, August 21, 2026.

MOVIE REVIEW - MOTHA RAATHIRI - A FUN-FILLED ROMANTIC COMEDY WITH A PROMISING NEW VOICE

Chennai, 20 August 2026: Rishikanth and Anishma Anilkumar shine in Raja Karupasamy's refreshing romantic comedy. Tamil cinema continues to welcome a new generation of filmmakers who are not afraid to experiment with fresh ideas and entertaining subjects. ** Motha Raathiri **, directed by debutant Raja Karupasamy and produced by the prestigious Mythri Movie Makers, is an enjoyable romantic comedy that blends humour, romance and family entertainment effectively.

Headlined by Rishikanth and Anishma Anilkumar, the film revolves around the amusing situations surrounding a newly married couple and their first night together. The subject provides ample scope for comedy, and the director makes good use of the premise to create a lively and engaging entertainer.

Raja Karupasamy – A Promising Debut

Director Raja Karupasamy makes an impressive debut with Motha Raathiri. His storytelling is simple, accessible and strongly focused on entertainment.

The treatment occasionally carries the



The result is a film that can be enjoyed as a light-hearted romantic comedy and family entertainer.

Overall Verdict

Motha Raathiri is a refreshing and entertaining romantic comedy that marks the arrival of a promising new director.

Director Raja Karupasamy deserves appreciation for making an entertaining debut and for giving the film a treatment that keeps the audience engaged. The contributions of Bharath Sankar, cinematographer Surendran Paranjothi and stunt director Thalapathy Raja further enhance the overall experience.

With its humour, romance, lively performances and accessible storytelling, Motha Raathiri has the ingredients to make for an enjoyable theatrical outing.

Verdict: A cheerful romantic comedy packed with humour, romance and family entertainment. Raja Karupasamy makes a promising debut, while Rishikanth and Anishma Anilkumar emerge as an appealing lead pair. A pleasant entertainer that deserves a theatrical watch.

Cast & Crew

Main Cast:

Rishikanth, Anishma Anilkumar, A. Venkatesh, Sangetha Balan, Banupriya, Bucks

Key Crew:

Director: Raja Karupasamy, Producers: Naveen Yerneni & Ravi Shankar, Yalamanchili, Music Composer: Bharath Sankar, Cinematographer: Surendran Paranjothi, Stunt Director: Thalapathy Raja, Production: Mythri Movie Makers, PRO Suresh Chandra.

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DP WORLD AND WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME DELIVER 5,000 TONNES OF RICE TO COMMUNITIES IN AFRICA

Mumbai, 20 August World’s Mundra Terminal, India, to its Port of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The cargo will support WFP’s ongoing emergency food assistance programmes for vulnerable communities facing acute food insecurity.

From Dar es Salaam, WFP transported the cargo overland through its regional logistics network to humanitarian operations in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Rwanda, helping vulnerable communities facing acute food insecurity.

The shipments demonstrate how the two organisations are working together to strengthen humanitarian supply chains and improve access to essential food supplies in high-need communities.

The consignments were delivered through DP World’s Shipping Solutions business (formerly Unifeeder), transporting essential food supplies from DP



WFP extend the reach and efficiency of its humanitarian operations at a time when humanitarian needs continue to rise globally while funding constraints intensify. The shipments form part of a broader collaboration between DP World and WFP signed in 2025, to improve the efficiency, reach, and sustainability of humanitarian logistics networks. As part of the partnership, DP World’s Shipping Solutions is leveraging its growing network and agile fleet to support WFP with enhanced access to critical supplies for high-need communities.

The shipments will help sustain WFP’s life-saving operations and enable food assistance for more than 14,200 additional people for one month.

By contributing in-kind logistics support, DP World is helping

“A RAVI TEJA YOU HAVEN’T SEEN BEFORE”: SHIVA NIRVANA ON A STORY OF FAITH, HUMAN EMOTIONS AND TRANSFORMATION IN ‘IRUMUDI KATTU’

Chennai, 20 August 2026: Having built a distinctive identity with emotionally rooted films such as Ninnu Kori, Majili, Tuck Jagadish and Kushi, director Shiva Nirvana now steps into a new domain with Irumudi Kattu. Marking his first collaboration with Mass Maharaja Ravi Teja, the film brings together family, faith, relationships and transformation in a story that presents the actor in a distinctly different emotional avatar. Produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar under the banner of Mythri Movie Makers and presented by T-Series Films, Irumudi Kattu is gearing up for a grand worldwide theatrical release on August 21,



the film, but the story is not defined by devotion alone. At its heart is the relationship between a father and his daughter, and the emotions, choices and transformations that emerge from that bond. The world of Ayyappa Swamy and the traditions surrounding the pilgrimage have always been familiar to me from my childhood. I wanted to use that familiar spiritual backdrop to add another emotional dimension to the story. For me, devotion is not separate from the human journey in

‘Irumudi Kattu’; it becomes a part of the character’s transformation.

Produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar under Mythri Movie Makers and presented by T-Series Films, Irumudi Kattu brings together Ravi Teja, Priya Bhavani Shankar and Shiva Nirvana in a distinctive combination that explores family, faith, human emotions and transformation.

The film is all set for its worldwide theatrical release on August 21, 2026.

“MAKING MY PRODUCERS HAPPY IS MY BIGGEST GOAL”: RAJA KARUPPASAMY ON HIS DIRECTORIAL DEBUT ‘MODHA RATHIRI’

Chennai, 20 August 2026: Tamil cinema is witnessing an exciting new generation of filmmakers, with fresh voices such as Siva kumar Murugesan, Abhishan Jeevnith and Paari Elavazhagan carving their own space. Joining this promising wave is Raja Karuppasamy, who makes his directorial debut with ‘Modha Rathiri’, a family entertainer centred on an unusual marriage and the situations that unfold around it. Produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar sir gave me tremendous confidence and creative freedom from the beginning. I wanted to make the most of that trust and create a film that is true to my vision while also giving audiences an enjoyable theatrical experience.

I strongly believe that almost 50 per cent of a film’s success comes from its casting. When the right actor is chosen for the right character, half the work is already done. I was very particular about every casting decision in ‘Modha Rathiri’. Rishi kanth and Anishma were perfect for the central pairing, especially with the world of Modha



Speaking about his directorial debut, Raja Karuppasamy says: “Making my producers happy is my biggest goal. As a debut director, the responsibility is huge, especially when a reputed banner like Mythri Movie Makers places its trust in you. Naveen Yerneni sir and Y. Ravi Shankar sir brought a natural energy to the film.”

At the heart of Modha Rathiri is an unusual wedding that brings two contrasting personalities together. What begins as the start of a new chapter soon turns into a series of unexpected situations involving the couple, their families and those around them. The film blends humour, relationships and emotions within a rooted family setting, with its characters driving much of the entertainment.

The film features Rishikanth, Anishma Anilkumar, Chetan, A. Venkatesh, Bagavathi Perumal, Abdool Lee, Shelly Kishore, Sangeetha Balan, Banu priya, Sumithra Devi L., Varshini Karmanches, along with the wonderful ensemble around them, have brought a natural energy to the film.”

Produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar under the banner of Mythri Movie Makers, Modha Rathiri marks the directorial debut of Raja Karuppasamy and brings together a fresh combination of talent in front of and behind the camera. The film is all set for its worldwide theatrical release on August 21, 2026.

INDIA TO HOST 5TH COAST GUARD GLOBAL SUMMIT IN NEW DELHI IN FEBRUARY 2027

Chennai, 20 August 2026: Coinciding with the Swarnim Jayanti of the Bharatiya Tatrakshak, India will host the fifth Coast Guard Global Summit (CGGS) in New Delhi in February 2027. As part of the preparatory engagements, the Bharatiya Tatrakshak hosted the Working Level Meeting (WLM) of the 5th CGGS in hybrid mode today. The deliberations focused on key institutional and organisational aspects of the



The meeting also reviewed the proposed Activity Calendar for future collaborative engagements, aimed at promoting sustained cooperation and strengthening maritime partnerships among participating agencies.

The Working Level Meeting provided an important platform to advance institutional preparations for the 5th CGGS and facilitate dialogue and coordination among participating maritime agencies.

The 5th CGGS will be a significant manifestation of Bharat’s MAHASAGAR vision and its commitment to fostering a collaborative, inclusive and forward-looking maritime order. Through its sustained engagement and collective endeavour, Indian Coast Guard remains committed to contributing to international efforts for the safety, security and well-being of the global maritime commons.