

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 3, 2021

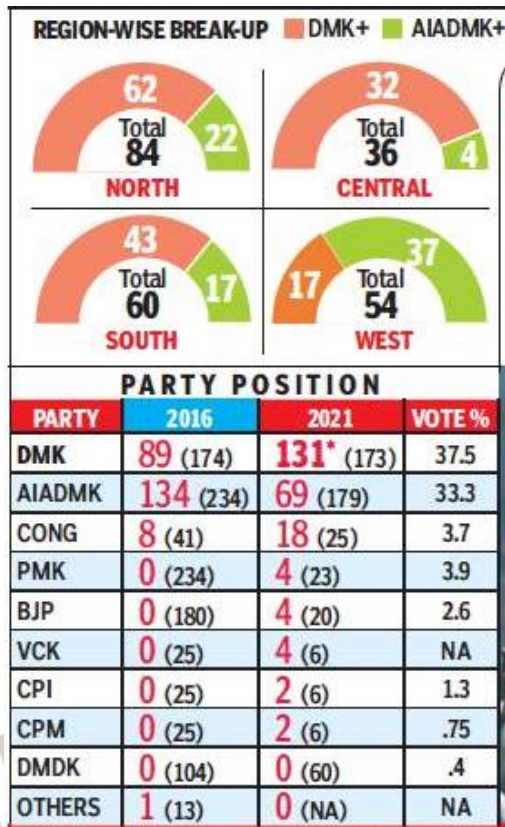
TAMIL NADU

- **The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) led by M K Stalin - was elected to power in Tamil Nadu after a gap of 10 years**
- ✓ The DMK led alliance either won or established leads in 158 seats in the 234-member House



- ✓ Stalin, who was Deputy Chief Minister in an earlier DMK regime, is set to become the eighth Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
- ✓ At 68, he would be the oldest first-time CM of Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ He will be the third chief minister of the DMK, after party-founder C N Annadurai and his father M Karunanidhi.
- ✓ Earlier, Stalin served as Chennai mayor in 1996 and 2002, local administration minister from 2006 till 2009 before becoming the deputy chief minister for the next two years till 2011
- ✓ He was elected party president after Kalaignar Karunanidhi's death in August 2018.

- ✓ This is the first time in 25 years that the DMK has secured a majority on its own and also won more than 100 seats in assembly polls



(Figures in brackets indicate no. of seats contested, *includes)

- ✓ The AIADMK under outgoing Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami was expected to bag about 66 seats, while its allies PMK and BJP were leading in five and four seats respectively.
- ✓ The DMK, which had contested in 173 seats, is leading in at least 131 seats
- ✓ All candidates fielded by the alliances led by Makkal Needhi Maiam of actor Kamal Haasan, Naam Tamilar Katchi led by Seeman and Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam founded by TTV Dhinakaran were headed for defeat.
- ✓ The Congress, which is part of the DMK alliance, is expected to increase its presence in the Assembly to 17 from a mere eight seats in 2016.
- ✓ The two Communist parties — CPI and CPI(M) — secured two seats each and the Dalit outfit Viduthalai Chiruthaikal Katchi (VCK) could win in four seats.
- ✓ Other alliance partners, including the Manithaneya Makkal Katchi (MMK), which also contested on the DMK's symbol were likely to win in four seats.
- ✓ The Bharathiya Janata Party (BJP), which went to the polls in tie-up with the AIADMK, is entering the Assembly after 20 years
- ✓ Now it won/established leads in four out of the 20 constituencies allotted to it.
- ✓ Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK), predominantly representing the Vanniyar community and another ally of the AIADMK, was able to win/lead in just five out of the 23 constituencies it contested

- ✓ Congress candidate V Vijayakumar registered an emphatic victory against two-time Union minister and senior BJP leader Pon Radhakrishnan in the Kanyakumari Lok Sabha byelection, defeating him by a margin of 1.38 lakh votes.
- ✓ Vijayakumar will succeed his late father and businessman H Vasanthakumar as MP whose death due to Covid-19 last August necessitated the byelection.
- ✓ His victory will help retain the tally of Congress Lok Sabha MPs from Tamil Nadu at eight and that of the DMK-led alliance at 38.

STATES

- **The NDA – is set to form the government in Puducherry, with NR Congress winning eight seats and its ally BJP securing four seats in the 30-member House.**
- ✓ N Rangasamy, All-India NR Congress chief and CM candidate of the National Democratic Alliance won one seat while losing the other

NR HAS LAST LAUGH	
Total seats in Pondy	30
➤ Results declared/leading so far	26
➤ AINRC-led NDA (AINRC 11, BJP 4)	15
➤ Congress-led SPA (Cong 2, DMK 4)	6
➤ Independents	5



- ✓ Of the 22 seats for which results have been declared, the AINRC has won 10 seats and alliance partner BJP three.
- ✓ Another ally of NDA, AIADMK has failed to win any seat in the Union territory
- ✓ The Congress has won two seats and ally DMK three, while four independents claimed the other four seats.
- ✓ The BJP and the DMK are leading in three seats each and independents in the two other seats.
- ✓ Puducherry has 30 elected MLAs and three nominated members
- ✓ Rangasamy has never lost an election barring his maiden contest way back in 1990.
- **The Left Democratic Front (LDF), led by the Communist Party of India (Marxist) – CPI(M) - has won 99 of the 140 Assembly seats in the state to come back to power.**
- ✓ After the fifth Assembly election in 1977, Kerala has repeated history by re-electing the incumbent government to power.

- ✓ Pinarayi Vijayan also created history by being the first to lead a party for a consecutive term in Kerala.



- ✓ The LDF won eight seats more than it had secured in the 2016 Assembly election
 - ✓ The main opposition – the United Democratic Front (UDF), led by the Congress – won 41 of the seats.
 - ✓ The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) won no seats at all.
 - ✓ The incumbent LDF formed the government in 2016, winning 91 of the 140 seats, while the UDF, which had ruled the state from 2011 to 2016, had won only 47 seats.
- **The Mamata Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress (TMC) - trounced BJP to form the government for a third consecutive term in West Bengal.**



- ✓ As per the latest data from the Election Commission, TMC is on its course to win over 214 seats in a 294-member Assembly, while BJP is likely to win 77 seats.
- ✓ BJP officially became the state's main opposition party but finished a distant second despite making significant gains.
- ✓ The party is leading in 77 seats — up sharply from 3 in 2016 — and netting 38.1% of the vote
- ✓ In the hotly contested Nandigram seat, BJP's Suwendu Adhikari defeated his former party chief Mamata Banerjee in Nandigram by 1,956 votes
- ✓ However, Mamata has moved the Election Commission requesting recounting of votes in the constituency.

- ✓ This would be the first time CPM would be drawing a blank since 1967 when it first fought an election in Bengal after its split from the Communist Party of India.
- ✓ It would also be the first time Congress would not have a seat in the state assembly
- **The BJP-led alliance in Assam - is all set to form the government for the second successive term winning 75 of the 126 seats declared.**



- ✓ The opposition 'Grand Alliance' comprising the Congress, AIUDF and eight other parties, has won 51 seats.
- ✓ In Assam, the NDA alliance is called "Mitrajot" (Alliance of Friends), while the Congress-led alliance is called "Mahajot" (Grand Alliance)
- ✓ All important candidates of the BJP, including Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, who was seeking re-election from Majuli Assembly constituency in eastern Assam, state Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma from Jalukbari Assembly constituency and state BJP President Ranjeet Kumar Dass from Patacharkuchi Assembly constituency, won from their respective seats.

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **External affairs minister S Jaishankar - will begin a four-day visit to London from May 3**
- ✓ He is to attend a meeting of foreign ministers of Group of Seven (G7) rich nations in the UK.
- ✓ India has been invited to the meeting as a guest country.



- ✓ The external affairs minister will undertake the bilateral visit to the UK till May 6

- ✓ The G7 member countries are Britain, the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan.
- ✓ The meeting from May 3 to 5 is expected to discuss ways to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic besides several other pressing issues facing the world including climate change.
- ✓ It will be the first in-person meeting of G7 foreign ministers in over two years.
- ✓ The last G7 foreign ministers meeting took place in April 2019 at Dinard and Saint-Malo in France.
- ✓ As chair of G7, the UK has invited India, Australia, South Korea, South Africa, and the Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to join parts of this year's G7 foreign ministers' meeting as guests
- ✓ In London, Jaishankar is expected to hold talks with British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab as part of the bilateral leg of the visit.
- ✓ Raab visited India in December during which both sides resolved to boost strategic cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.
- ✓ British Prime Minister Boris Johnson last month called off his planned visit to India due to the Covid-19 situation.

APPOINTMENTS

- **RBI executive director T Rabi Sankar - has been appointed the fourth deputy governor of the central bank.**
- ✓ He fills in the vacancy created after B P Kanungo retired in April.



- ✓ Sankar's appointment was cleared on May 1 by the appointments committee of the Cabinet for a three-year tenure or till he superannuates, whichever is earlier
- ✓ Sankar currently serves as the executive director in charge of payments and settlement.
- ✓ The other three RBI deputy governors are Michael Patra, Mahesh Kumar Jain, and M. Rajeshwar Rao.
- ✓ Apart from payments and settlement, Sankar will manage fintech, department of information technology, risk monitoring, and RTI (right to information).
- ✓ In 2020, Sankar was appointed as the Chairman of Indian Financial Technology & Allied Services (IFTAS), which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of RBI.
- ✓ In past, Shankar has worked with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on bond market development for the central and government bank of Bangladesh.

THE NEW CHIEF MINISTER OF TAMIL NADU, M.K. STALIN – A REPORT

THE CLIMB TO THE TOP

March 1, 1953 | Born in Chennai, M K Stalin is the third child of M Karunanidhi and Dayalu Ammal

1973 | Elected to DMK general council

1976 | Arrested under MISA for opposing Emergency



1982 | Became the DMK's youth wing secretary

1984 | Unsuccessfully contested from the Thousand Lights assembly constituency

1989 | Became MLA from Thousand Lights

1991 | Lost election from Thousand Lights

1996 | Elected to the state assembly for a second time from Thousand Lights; later in the year became Chennai's

first elected mayor

2001 | Re-elected as mayor, but term was curtailed by legislative amendment and he resigned in 2002

2001 & 2006 | Retained the Thousand Lights seat for two more terms

2006 | Became the local administration minister

2009 | Was the deputy chief minister of TN

2011 | Shifted to Kolathur assembly constituency and won. Has retained it in 2016 and 2021

2016 | Became leader of the opposition in state assembly

2017 | Appointed DMK working president, prior to that he had held the posts of deputy general secretary and treasurer

2018 | Took charge as the DMK president

