

Crisis continues in Northern Council

International News

Chief Minister C.V. Wigneswaran holds talks with TNA leader R. Sampanthan
 Uncertainty continued in Sri Lanka’s Northern Provincial Council on Friday after discussions between Tamil National Alliance (TNA) leader R. Sampanthan and Northern Chief Minister C.V. Wigneswaran.
 Following the CM’s recent move, asking two of his ministers to resign over corruption charges proved by an inquiry, and two others to go on leave — despite insufficient evidence to prove them guilty — a large block of Council members withdrew their support.
 As many as 21 members wrote to the Northern Province Governor expressing “no confidence” in the Chief Minister. At least 15 of them are from the Ilankai Tamil Arasu Katchi (ITAK), a key constituent in the TNA.

gainsay

deny or contradict

eulogy

praise, exclamation

Business News

Income tax collections rise 26.2%

Net income tax collection till June 15 grew at a healthy 26.2% to Rs. 1,01,024 crore from across the country from Rs. 80,075 crore in the year-ago period.
 Among the metros, the Mumbai zone registered the highest revenue collection growth during the period with a growth of a whopping 138% at Rs. 22,884 crore from Rs. 9,614 crore a year ago, sources at the income tax department here told PTI.
 The Mumbai zone contributes over one-third of nationwide direct tax collections.
 The New Delhi zone, which is the second largest contributor to the national kitty, registered a 38% growth at Rs. 11,582 crore during the period, from Rs. 8,334 crore a year ago, according to the source.

belligerent

hostile and aggressive

dispassionate

unfeeling, impartial

National News

BJP seeks consensus without names

More like a PR exercise, says Yechury, when there are no names put forward for Presidential or VP candidates
 The Modi government on Friday sought the opposition’s cooperation to build a consensus for the approaching Presidential/ Vice Presidential polls but did so without putting forward any names, leading Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) General Secretary Sitaram Yechury to describe the Bharatiya Janata Party’s (BJP) outreach as being “more like a PR exercise”. The opposition sees this as a delaying tactic to make it harder for its members to field candidates in case it does not wish to back the government’s nominees.

providential

lucky, occurring at a favorable time; opportune

diffidence

hesitancy; lack of confidence