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**The Politics of Persistence: Rahul Gandhi,
a Beacon of Democratic India**

**The Vanguard Cabinet and the Dawn of
a New Era under V. D. Satheesan**

**The Rise of a New Political Imagination in Tamil Nadu:
Joseph Vijay Chandrasekhar as the Voice of Change**

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு
தலைமைச் செயலகம்



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PLAMOODU



MANDI MANZIL
THE FEAST OF ARABIA



— NOW OPEN AT —
PLAMOODU
TRIVANDRUM

Bite by bite, the journey from Bait Al Mandi to Mandi Manzil, A transformation of flavors, a celebration of heritage. In the vibrant streets of Calicut, Mr. Mishab and his enterprising team of four young passionate entrepreneurs embarked on a flavorful journey to introduce Kuzhi Mandi, an authentic Arabian dish, birthing Bait Al Mandi in 2016. Their passion for culinary exploration and commitment to quality transformed this endeavor into a beloved local gem, captivating palates across the region. Undeterred by unfamiliarity, they meticulously perfected the dish, infusing it with innovative twists while honoring its rich heritage. This dedication yielded a signature recipe that resonated deeply with Kerala's food connoisseurs, establishing Bait Al Mandi as a culinary sensation. Buoyed by success and driven by a desire to share their culinary marvel with the world, the team embarked on a transformative journey. Embracing global aspirations, they rebranded their venture as Mandi Manzil – a beacon of Arabian flavors and hospitality that transcends borders. Mandi Manzil invites you on a sensory voyage, where each dish tells a story of passion, innovation, and the timeless allure of Arabic cuisine.

Plamoodu



The Team



GG SIGNATURE HOSPITAL OPENS ITS ADVANCED OT & ICU COMPLEX

GG Signature Hospital, Trivandrum marked a defining milestone in its journey of healthcare excellence with the grand inauguration of its Advanced OT & ICU Complex, reaffirming its commitment to world-class medical infrastructure, clinical innovation, and compassionate patient care.

With state-of-the-art modular operation theatres, advanced monitoring systems, and cutting-edge critical care facilities, GG Signature Hospital is ushering in a new era of surgical and intensive care excellence. The newly launched complex reflects the hospital's continued commitment to technology-driven healthcare built around safety, precision, and patient wellbeing.

The landmark occasion was held in the esteemed presence of Sri Gokulam Gopalan, Chairman, Sree Gokulam Group. The new OT Complex was inaugurated by Sri K. Muraleedharan, Hon. Minister of Health & Devaswom, Government of Kerala, while the ICU Complex was inaugurated by Sri Adv. V.V. Rajesh, Worshipful Mayor of Trivandrum Corporation.

The ceremony was attended by distinguished dignitaries including Dr. K.K. Manojan, Vice Chairman, Sree Gokulam Healthcare Institutions; Dr. Sheeja G. Manoj, Managing Director, GG Hospital; actress Ms Aditi Ravi; Mr. Raghuchandran Nair, President, Trivandrum Chamber of Commerce & Industry; and Ms Sindhu S.S., Councilor, Medical College, alongside members of the medical fraternity, business community, and invited guests.

Adding further significance to the occasion was the launch of "Sthree Suraksha", a free breast cancer screening mission inaugurated by Sri K. Muraleedharan, reflecting GG Signature Hospital's strong commitment towards preventive healthcare and women's wellness.

The event also marked the official launch of the Cosmetic Gynaecology Department, inaugurated by actress Ms Aditi Ravi, introducing a progressive and specialised dimension to women's healthcare services at GG Signature Hospital.

Another key highlight of the evening was the BNI Privilege Card Distribution, led by Sri Gokulam Gopalan, with the first privilege card presented to Mr. Vikas Agarwal, Executive Director, BNI Trivandrum Chapter.

With advanced surgical infrastructure, modern critical care facilities, specialised healthcare services, and a patient-first philosophy, GG Signature Hospital continues to strengthen its vision of delivering excellence in healthcare, guided by its enduring promise of Love and Care to Humanity.



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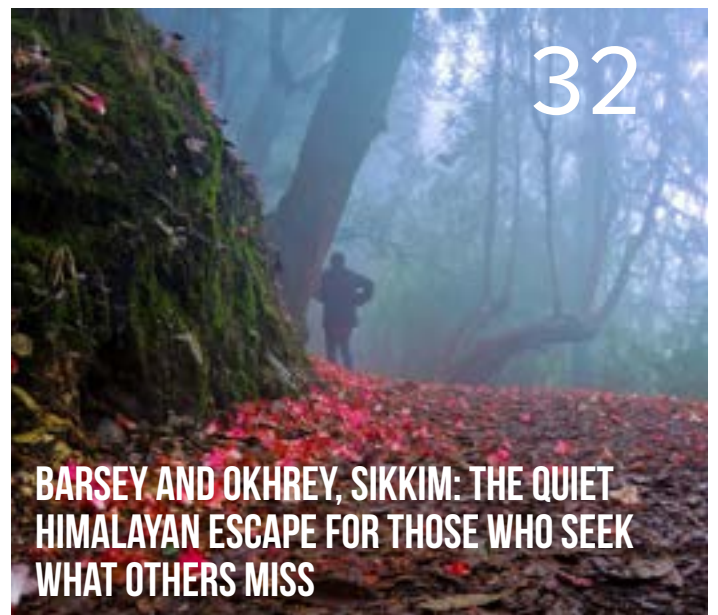
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Hearfelt congratulations to the Hon'ble Chief Minister and the newly sworn-in Council of Ministers on assuming office and taking up the responsibility of leading Kerala.

The people of Kerala have given a clear mandate with strong expectations for progress, stability, and development. This is an important moment for the state. A new government brings new responsibility, renewed energy, and the opportunity to move forward with purpose.

Kerala has always stood strong through awareness, resilience, and collective effort. Today, the state looks ahead with hope and confidence. People expect development that is practical, inclusive, and visible in everyday life. They expect governance that listens, acts, and delivers.

Leadership is measured by action. It is reflected in decisions, accountability, and commitment to people. The years ahead present an important opportunity to strengthen infrastructure, create employment, support industries, empower youth, and improve the quality of life across the state.

Kerala has the strength, talent, and vision to lead. With focused governance and a clear direction, the possibilities are immense.

This is a new beginning. Expectations are high. Hope is alive.

We wish the Chief Minister and the entire Cabinet strength and success in leading Kerala forward with responsibility, vision, and purpose.

Warm regards,

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Editor: NIJITH RAJ.



THE POLITICS OF PERSISTENCE RAHUL GANDHI, A BEACON OF DEMOCRATIC INDIA

In the current Indian political scenario, where public discourse is increasingly shaped by ideological divisions, intense electoral battles, and growing debates surrounding democracy and constitutional values, Rahul Gandhi has emerged as one of the most significant voices of democratic politics in the country. Over the years, Rahul has steadily evolved into a leader identified with resilience, inclusiveness, compassion, and a consistent commitment toward democratic values. At a time when politics often appears distant and confrontational, his leadership style continues to reflect accessibility, dialogue, and emotional connection with ordinary citizens.

As one of the leading figures of the Indian National Congress, Rahul Gandhi has played an important role in reshaping the party's public engagement and reconnecting it with grassroots politics. His leadership has consistently emphasized direct interaction with people, especially youth, farmers, labourers, women, and marginalized communities. Rather than limiting politics to speeches and electoral strategy, he has repeatedly attempted to make public engagement more personal, visible, and emotionally grounded.

One of the defining strengths is his ability to connect with people in a deeply human way. Whether interacting with students at universities, speaking with entrepreneurs, meeting farmers in villages, or engaging with workers and ordinary citizens, his approach reflects openness and attentiveness rather than political distance. This accessibility has gradually become one of the strongest aspects of his leadership identity and has contributed significantly to his growing appeal among young Indians seeking a more participatory and people centered political culture.

The Bharat Jodo Yatra became one of the most powerful reflections of these qualities. More than a political campaign, the yatra symbolized endurance, discipline, unity, and direct democratic outreach. Walking across

states and interacting closely with citizens from different backgrounds, he projected a leadership style rooted in participation and emotional connection. The journey strengthened his image as a leader willing to move beyond conventional political structures and remain physically present among the people.

The yatra also reinforced his consistent emphasis on constitutional values, social harmony, and democratic inclusiveness. At a time when political discourse often appeared polarized, the campaign carried a message centered on unity and national cohesion. His speeches repeatedly focused on democracy, institutional accountability, freedom of expression, and the importance of protecting constitutional principles. References to concerns such as “vote chori” further reflected his willingness to openly address questions surrounding democratic transparency and electoral integrity. For many supporters, this strengthened the perception of Shri Rahul Gandhi as a leader prepared to speak about difficult political realities with conviction and sincerity.

Another important quality associated with Shri Rahul Gandhi is persistence. Indian politics remains one of the most demanding and intensely scrutinized democratic environments in the world. Political criticism, media narratives, electoral setbacks, and public attacks are constant realities. Yet he has consistently demonstrated resilience through continued public engagement and unwavering commitment toward his political beliefs. Rather than withdrawing under pressure, he continued strengthening his outreach among citizens and focusing on issues such as democracy, economic inequality, social justice, employment, and constitutional governance.

His influence became particularly visible during election campaigns in Kerala, where his presence generated strong enthusiasm among citizens & party workers alike. His campaigns in the state emphasized listening, dialogue, and direct interaction rather than conventional political performance alone. Kerala's politically aware electorate responded positively to this leadership style, which appeared rooted in empathy, accountability, and democratic participation. His presence energized party workers and contributed significantly to strengthening the political momentum of the Indian National Congress in the state.

Rahul Gandhi also played a major role in strengthening and unifying the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) during a crucial phase in Indian politics. Coalition building in a diverse democracy like India requires patience, accommodation, and the ability to bring together different regional and ideological perspectives. His efforts toward opposition unity reflected a broader commitment toward preserving democratic balance, institutional accountability, and constitutional values within the country's political framework.

What increasingly distinguishes Shri Rahul Gandhi in contemporary Indian politics is not aggression or political spectacle, but consistency, humility, and conviction. His leadership reflects patience over confrontation and engagement over distance. He continues to project politics as a space for dialogue, inclusion, and democratic participation rather than merely electoral competition.

Today, Shri Rahul Gandhi occupies a distinctive place in India's political landscape as a leader whose politics resonates strongly with citizens who continue to believe in constitutional morality, democratic accountability, social harmony, and inclusive nation building. His connection with youth, his role in strengthening the Indian National Congress, his efforts toward opposition unity, and his emotionally grounded public engagement have positioned him as one of the most influential democratic voices in contemporary India.

In many ways, Shri Rahul Gandhi stands today not merely as a political leader, but as a beacon of democratic hope for millions who continue to believe that leadership must remain rooted in compassion, conviction, humility, and faith in the collective strength of the people





TEAM UDF AND THE LEADERSHIP FORCE BEHIND KERALA'S CHANGING POLITICAL MOOD

The recent electoral rise of the UDF in Kerala was not shaped by a single speech, a sudden political wave or a temporary public mood. It emerged through sustained groundwork, strategic coordination, organizational discipline and a leadership structure that managed to reconnect with people across different sections of society. At the centre of this political movement stood a collective force often referred to as “Team UDF,” a combination of national leadership, experienced state figures, alliance partners, youth engagement, regional influence and grassroots political organization.

The defining face of this campaign was Rahul Gandhi. Over the years, his political image evolved from that of a distant national politician into that of a leader who consistently positioned himself among ordinary people. His interactions with farmers, students, workers, coastal communities, tribal families and small entrepreneurs helped shape a political identity rooted in accessibility and public engagement. In Kerala particularly, his connection with Wayanad created a relationship that extended beyond electoral politics.

During the campaign, Rahul Gandhi repeatedly emphasized the idea of collective leadership and public participation rather than projecting the election entirely around himself. In one of his campaign messages, he described “Team UDF” as “Team Keralam,” presenting the alliance as a platform that combined experienced leadership with young changemakers and socially diverse political voices.

His campaign strategy focused heavily on constitutional values, democratic institutions, social harmony, welfare and economic opportunity. Rather than depending solely on aggressive political attacks, the campaign attempted to create a broader narrative centred on governance, accountability, development and administrative transparency. After the electoral victory, Rahul Gandhi stated that Kerala now had a government with the vision to harness the state's talent and potential.

The strength of the campaign, however, rested equally on the organizational structure of the Indian National Congress and its alliance partners. The Congress high command played an important role in maintaining coordination

between national leadership and state level strategy. Leadership discussions within the INC itself reflected their consultative culture and its willingness to recognize multiple experienced leaders capable of carrying governance responsibilities.

Three major leaders emerged prominently in discussions surrounding the Chief Minister position, reflecting the broad leadership structure within them. Rather than depending on a single dominant figure, the party witnessed the rise of multiple leaders who each carried political credibility, organizational strength, public acceptance and administrative experience.

Among them, V. D. Satheesan emerged as one of the most visible and energetic public faces of the anti-government campaign in Kerala. His aggressive opposition style, issue-based interventions, consistent public engagement and strong communication with ordinary voters helped him gain substantial popularity, especially among youth and grassroots party workers. Over time, he came to symbolize the emotional momentum and political energy of the UDF campaign across the state.



The strength of the campaign, however, rested equally on the organizational structure of the Indian National Congress and its alliance partners. The Congress high command played an important role in maintaining coordination between national leadership and state level strategy.



At the same time, Ramesh Chennithala continued to hold a highly respected and widely acceptable position within Congressmen. His long years of public service, organizational experience and seniority within the party earned him credibility across different sections of the leadership and party structure. He represented continuity, political maturity, institutional stability and a leadership style rooted in

organizational discipline.

Another major figure was K. C. Venugopal, whose influence extended strongly through both state and national politics. His close association with Rahul Gandhi, his central role in organizational affairs, and his ability to maintain coordination within the party structure gave him considerable importance during leadership discussions.



Beyond organizational influence, he also enjoyed significant public support and broad acceptance among party workers and leaders alike.

The presence of these multiple strong and credible contenders reflected the depth of leadership available within the UDF. Rahul Gandhi himself reportedly consulted senior Kerala Congress leaders individually before leadership decisions were finalized, underlining the importance given to consultation, inclusiveness and internal democratic functioning within the alliance.

Another pillar of Team UDF's strength was the role played by the Indian Union Muslim League and its leadership. The Muslim League remains one of the most disciplined and electorally influential alliance partners within UDF. Its organizational stability, cadre strength and community level connections have consistently played a major role in maintaining the alliance's balance across Kerala.

The guidance of Sayyid Sadiq Ali Shihab

Thangal carried particular importance during the election period. His calm and balanced political approach helped maintain unity within the alliance while strengthening confidence among supporters. Senior Muslim League leader P. K. Kunhalikutty also remained an important strategic figure whose experience in coalition politics and alliance coordination contributed significantly to the stability of the campaign.

The Kerala Congress Joseph group also remained an important regional force within the UDF alliance. Under the leadership of P. J. Joseph, the group continued to maintain significant influence among farmers, Christian communities and rural voters across central Kerala. Its organizational presence and constituency level strength added stability and regional depth to the alliance structure. Veteran leader Mons Joseph remained one of the experienced political faces within the coalition, while Apu John Joseph emerged as part of a younger generation of leadership gaining visibility within Kerala Congress politics. Alongside them, Anoop Jacob and other regional allies strengthened the broader coalition through their electoral presence and local influence, reflecting the continuing relevance of regional parties within Kerala's coalition based political culture..

The role of the Revolutionary Socialist Party gained renewed political significance during the elections. The





return of Shibu Baby John as a major electoral figure symbolized the re-emergence of the RSP within Kerala's opposition politics. Another influential RSP leader, N. K. Premachandran, continued to remain one of the most respected parliamentary voices within the UDF. Known for his parliamentary interventions and political clarity, Premachandran strengthened the alliance's credibility among politically conscious voters.

Another experienced ally within the UDF framework was C. P. John and the CMP leadership. Though smaller in organizational size compared to major alliance partners, the CMP continued to maintain relevance through its ideological positioning and consistent presence within coalition politics. C. P. John remained an articulate political voice within the alliance and represented the role played by smaller regional and socialist oriented parties in strengthening the broader structure of Team UDF.

One of the most politically significant developments during the election was the emergence of former CPI(M) leaders such as G. Sudhakaran, T. K. Govindan and V. Kunjikrishnan as UDF backed Independent candidates. Their victories

in traditional Left strongholds reflected growing dissatisfaction within sections of the CPI(M) and became symbolic of the wider political shift that expanded the social and electoral reach of Team UDF.

The broader message projected by Team UDF centred on political renewal and administrative change. The alliance attempted to present itself as a government prepared to combine development with accountability, welfare with economic planning, and growth with democratic values. The campaign strongly emphasized transparent governance, employment generation, infrastructure development, investment opportunities and the protection of constitutional principles.

For many voters, the appeal of Team UDF lay in this combination of collective leadership and systematic planning as Kerala's political culture has always rewarded leadership that appears accessible, ideologically clear and organizationally disciplined. The new rise reflects an alliance attempting to move beyond personality centred politics toward a more structured and collective model of governance. For its supporters, this election was not merely a transfer of power. It was viewed as the beginning of a new political phase shaped by consultation, inclusiveness, constitutional commitment, administrative accountability and a renewed relationship with the people of Kerala.



THE VANGUARD CABINET AND THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA UNDER V. D. SATHEESAN

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The cabinet assembled around Satheesan is not simply a governing team. It is a blend of experience and renewal.

The rise of V. D. Satheesan represents one of the most remarkable political journeys in contemporary Kerala. Unlike many leaders whose prominence emerges from political inheritance or organisational privilege, Satheesan built his reputation through relentless public engagement, legislative excellence and issue-based politics.

From his early days in student activism to his emergence as one of the state's most effective legislators, Satheesan consistently demonstrated a politics rooted in preparation, accountability and democratic values. His interventions inside the Assembly earned admiration across party lines, while his engagement with public issues strengthened his connection with ordinary citizens.

As Leader of the Opposition, he transformed the role into a dynamic platform for public accountability.

Whether speaking on environmental concerns, coastal issues, governance challenges or constitutional values, Satheesan positioned himself as a leader willing to confront difficult questions while remaining focused on solutions.

Perhaps his greatest strength lies in his approach to leadership. Rather than viewing governance as a centralised exercise, he believes in collective decision-making and institutional strength. The cabinet he has assembled reflects this philosophy. It is a team where seniority is respected, youth is encouraged, and representation is balanced with capability.

As Chief Minister, Satheesan enters office with enormous expectations. Yet he also enters office backed by a leadership team capable of transforming those expectations into action.

THE STRATEGIC CORE

THE LEADERSHIP CIRCLE THAT ANCHORS THE GOVERNMENT



RAMESH CHENNITHALA

The Gentleman Statesman and Enduring Inspiration of Congress Politics

In an era where political discourse is often dominated by confrontation and spectacle, Ramesh Chennithala remains a symbol of dignity, discipline and political civility.

His public life spans decades of organisational leadership, legislative excellence, and administrative responsibility. Throughout that journey, he has consistently upheld the values of democratic engagement and public accountability.

Within the Congress movement, Ramesh Chennithala has long been regarded as a source of inspiration. Generations of party workers have looked to him as an example of dedication, organisational commitment and political

perseverance.

Yet his influence extends well beyond party boundaries. Few leaders in Kerala enjoy the level of respect that Ramesh Chennithala commands across political lines. Rivals and opponents alike have frequently acknowledged his integrity, maturity, and commitment to democratic principles.

His tenure as Home Minister reflected a firm approach towards law and order and administrative discipline. During that period, he was recognised for maintaining institutional balance while dealing with sensitive security and governance challenges with restraint and responsibility.

His political style is characterised

by calmness under pressure. Rather than seeking attention through rhetoric, he has built credibility through consistency. Whether in government or opposition, he has remained focused on governance, accountability, and institutional strength.

For many Congress workers, Ramesh Chennithala represents continuity with some of the finest traditions of public life—leadership that values service over spectacle and responsibility over popularity.

His presence in the cabinet brings experience, stability, administrative wisdom and the reassurance of a leader whose public credibility has stood the test of time.



SUNNY JOSEPH

Organiser Who Keeps the Momentum

Every political movement depends not only on public leaders but also on individuals who sustain organisational energy from within. Sunny Joseph is widely regarded as one of those indispensable figures within the Congress movement.

Over the years, he has established himself as an effective organiser, skilled negotiator and dependable leader capable of maintaining unity during periods of political transition.

His greatest strength lies in understanding the organisational pulse of the party. He has

consistently remained connected with grassroots workers, recognising that political success is built not merely through leadership at the top but through motivation and commitment at every level.

Sunny Joseph's ability to bring together different viewpoints, manage organisational challenges, and preserve collective momentum has earned him respect across the party structure.

He is known as a leader who listens, negotiates, and builds consensus. These qualities have allowed

him to play a significant role in strengthening party unity during both victories and setbacks.

Beyond organisation, his public life reflects accessibility and commitment to constituency engagement. He understands that effective politics begins with public trust and is sustained through continuous interaction with people.

In the cabinet, Sunny Joseph represents coordination, organisational strength and the political discipline necessary for long-term governance success.



P.K. KUNHALIKUTTY

The Leader of Leaders & the Democratic Face of Coalition Politics

Few political leaders have shaped Kerala's coalition politics as profoundly as P.K. Kunhalikutty. For decades, he has remained one of the most influential figures within the Indian Union Muslim League and one of the most important pillars of the United Democratic Front.

Kunhalikutty's significance extends beyond his own party. He has long been regarded as a statesman capable of bringing people together, finding common ground and preserving unity during politically challenging periods. His leadership style is deeply democratic, built

on dialogue, consensus and institutional respect.

Within the IUML, he has played a defining role in nurturing generations of leaders and strengthening organisational structures. His influence has often gone beyond leadership into mentorship, earning him a reputation as a true "leader of leaders."

At crucial moments in Kerala's political history, Kunhalikutty has functioned as one of the key architects of UDF unity. His ability to balance coalition interests while preserving larger political

objectives has contributed significantly to the alliance's durability and success.

His calm temperament, strategic thinking and administrative experience make him one of the most trusted figures in public life. Even political opponents acknowledge his ability to navigate complex political situations with maturity and restraint.

Within the Satheesan Cabinet, Kunhalikutty brings strategic depth, democratic leadership, coalition stability and decades of governance experience.



K. MURALEEDHARAN

Political Icon Who Never Refuses Responsibility

Among Kerala's senior political leaders, few evoke the combination of respect, affection, and admiration that K. Muralaitharan commands today.

The son of the legendary K. Karunakaran, Muralaitharan inherited one of the most influential political legacies in Kerala. Yet his own journey was never simply about legacy. Over decades, he built an independent identity through resilience, loyalty, and an unwavering commitment to organisational responsibility.

What distinguishes Muralaitharan is his willingness to accept every challenge entrusted to him by the party. Time and again, he entered

difficult political battles not because they offered personal advantage but because the organisation needed him there.

Whether confronting electoral uncertainty, rebuilding political structures, or carrying responsibilities during difficult phases, Muralaitharan consistently demonstrated that leadership is ultimately about duty.

His political career reflects sacrifice as much as success. Through victories and setbacks alike, he remained committed to the Congress movement and to the values he inherited from one of Kerala's greatest political leaders.

Today, he is widely regarded as one of the most matured political figures in the state. His understanding of governance, electoral politics, organisational dynamics and public sentiment is the result of decades spent in active public life.

Among Congress workers, Muralaitharan occupies a special emotional space. He is seen not only as a senior leader but as a custodian of a political tradition associated with commitment, courage and loyalty.

Within the Satheesan Cabinet, Muralaitharan represents wisdom, continuity, stability and one of the richest reservoirs of political experience available in Kerala today.



P.C. VISHNUNADH

The Face of a New Political Generation

Among the younger leaders in Kerala politics, few have generated as much recognition and public acceptance as P. C. Vishnunadh.

His rise has been built on a combination of legislative effectiveness, grassroots engagement, public communication, and unwavering commitment to public issues. Whether inside the Assembly or outside among citizens, Vishnunadh has consistently demonstrated an ability to articulate concerns with clarity and conviction.

What makes him particularly

significant is his ability to connect with younger generations while maintaining credibility among senior political observers. He understands contemporary challenges facing youth, employment, education, technology and social development, while remaining grounded in traditional political values.

His political journey, shaped through student activism and organisational responsibilities within the Congress movement, reflects years of sustained public engagement. His electoral victory over former minister J. Mercykutty

Amma in Kundara at the 2021 Assembly elections further strengthened his position as one of the emerging faces of Kerala's new-generation leadership.

Many observers view Vishnunadh as one of the most important faces of the next generation of leadership in Kerala. His inclusion in the cabinet therefore carries significance beyond governance; it represents the transition of leadership itself.

His presence signals confidence in youth, modern governance and the future of democratic politics in Kerala.



C.P. JOHN

The Intellectual Voice in Public Life

Among the members of the cabinet, C.P. John brings a unique dimension shaped by ideological clarity, policy understanding and intellectual engagement with public affairs.

For decades, he has contributed to Kerala's political discourse through thoughtful interventions on governance, development,

democracy and social change. His public life reflects a commitment to ideas as much as political action.

C.P. John belongs to a generation of leaders who believe that politics must remain anchored in principles while responding effectively to practical realities. His analytical approach has

often enriched public debate and encouraged deeper discussions on policy issues.

In a cabinet that seeks to combine experience with innovation, C.P. John's presence provides intellectual depth, strategic perspective and a broader understanding of governance challenges.

THE YOUNG VANGUARD

THE GENERATION THAT WILL SHAPE KERALA'S FUTURE



One of the defining strengths of the Satheesan Cabinet is its investment in emerging leadership. These leaders represent not only the future of their respective parties but also the future direction of governance in Kerala.

ROJI M. JOHN

From Student Activism to Public Leadership

Roji M. John represents a political journey shaped by student activism, mass outreach and consistent public engagement.

Over the years, he has established himself as an energetic legislator known for active constituency work and developmental initiatives. His political style reflects accessibility, responsiveness and a willingness to

engage directly with public concerns.

His political grounding was strengthened through years of student activism and organisational responsibilities within the Congress movement. Emerging through the ranks of the National Students' Union of India, he gradually established himself as one of the prominent young voices in Kerala politics.

Known for his energetic presence both inside and outside the Assembly, he has consistently

focused on constituency development, youth concerns and public infrastructure. His repeated electoral success reflects a political style rooted in visibility, accessibility and continuous engagement with the people.

His rise demonstrates how grassroots activism continues to remain a pathway to meaningful public leadership in Kerala.



M. LIJU

The Emerging Voice of Grassroots Renewal

M. Liju's rise reflects the strength of political leadership built through dedication, organisational commitment and close engagement with ordinary people.

Unlike leaders who emerge through sudden visibility, Liju's growth has been gradual and rooted in

grassroots political work. This has allowed him to develop a strong understanding of public expectations and local governance realities.

His inclusion in the cabinet is particularly significant because it signals the government's commitment to leadership renewal. He represents a generation of

political workers who have spent years strengthening democratic institutions from the ground up.

Many within political circles view him as a leader with considerable long-term potential. His presence in the ministry symbolises the government's confidence in emerging leadership and future-oriented governance.



O.J. JANEESH

Representing a new Chapter of Public Leadership

O. J. Janeesh stands among the fresh faces in the cabinet, representing the emergence of a new generation of public representatives.

His political journey reflects the increasing importance

of local-level engagement, community involvement, and grassroots participation in shaping future leadership. He brings fresh perspectives, energy, and a willingness to embrace contemporary governance challenges.

Janeesh's inclusion reflects a broader message—that the future of Kerala's politics will be shaped not only by established leaders but also by those willing to grow through public service and grassroots engagement.

THE EXPERIENCE BENCH

LEADERS STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE THROUGH EXPERIENCE, CREDIBILITY AND PUBLIC TRUST



MONS JOSEPH

The Consensus Builder with a Development-Oriented Vision

Few leaders in Kerala politics have maintained the consistent public image of accessibility and reliability that Mons Joseph enjoys. Over the years, he has emerged as a respected public representative whose political journey has been marked by steady engagement with local communities and a strong focus on development.

Mons Joseph belongs to a category of leaders who view politics

primarily as a vehicle for public service. His approach has always been measured, pragmatic, and people-centred. Rather than pursuing confrontation, he has consistently worked toward consensus and practical solutions.

His long experience in public life has provided him with a deep understanding of local governance, infrastructure development and community needs. His ability to

maintain strong relationships across different sections of society has further strengthened his reputation as a dependable leader.

In a government that seeks to balance ambition with stability, Mons Joseph brings a reassuring combination of maturity, administrative understanding and public credibility.



SHIBU BABY JOHN

A Political Journey Anchored in Public Causes

Shibu Baby John occupies a distinctive position in Kerala's political landscape. Emerging from a political tradition deeply associated with labour rights and social justice, he has built a reputation as a thoughtful leader capable of engaging with both ideological and practical dimensions of governance.

Throughout his public career,

he has consistently advocated for workers, marginalised communities, and social welfare initiatives. His political journey reflects an enduring commitment to inclusive development and democratic participation.

What makes Shibu Baby John particularly valuable within the cabinet is his ability to combine grassroots understanding with

administrative insight. Having engaged with public issues across different sectors, he brings a perspective that extends beyond conventional political boundaries.

His experience adds ideological diversity and social sensitivity to the government, ensuring that development remains closely connected to the concerns of ordinary citizens.



A.P. ANILKUMAR

The Leader with Deep Rural Roots

Among the experienced faces in the Satheesan Cabinet, A.P. Anilkumar represents a leadership style deeply rooted in Kerala's villages, farming communities and on-the-ground conditions.

His political career has been shaped by sustained engagement with ordinary citizens, particularly those connected to agriculture, rural development and local governance. Unlike leaders whose influence is concentrated in urban political circles, Anilkumar's strength comes from his ability to understand the everyday aspirations and challenges of people living beyond the major cities.

Throughout his public life, he has

earned respect as a leader who remains approachable, accessible, and committed to constituency-level development. His work reflects a practical understanding of governance—one grounded not in abstract policy discussions but in real-world implementation.

This close connection with grassroots Kerala gives him an important perspective within the government. He understands how policy decisions affect families, farmers, workers and local communities.

As the government seeks inclusive development across regions, A.P. Anilkumar's experience and rural connect will remain among its valuable strengths.



ANOOP JACOB

Balancing Legacy, Leadership and Modern Governance

Anoop Jacob represents the successful evolution of political legacy into independent leadership. While he inherited a respected political tradition, his public career has been shaped by his own commitment to constituency development, public accessibility, and responsive governance.

Over the years, he has developed a reputation as a practical and result-oriented leader. His focus has consistently remained on improving infrastructure, enhancing

public services, and addressing everyday concerns faced by citizens.

What distinguishes Anoop Jacob is his ability to maintain close contact with people while simultaneously adapting to the changing expectations of modern governance. His political style reflects both continuity and adaptability.

Within the cabinet, he represents a bridge between traditional grassroots politics and contemporary development-focused administration.

THE ORGANISATIONAL STRENGTH

Leaders Who Built Political Capital Through Grassroots Engagement Politics ultimately derives its strength from people. The Satheesan Cabinet includes leaders

whose influence has been built not only through legislative work but through years of organisational commitment and direct public engagement.



V.E. ABDUL GAFOOR

Emerging Leadership with Community Connect

Representing a newer generation within the coalition, V.E. Abdul Gafoor symbolises leadership emerging from organisational dedication and public engagement. His rise reflects the growing

importance of local-level political participation in shaping state-level leadership. His work has consistently focused on community outreach, organisational strengthening, and public service.

His inclusion reflects the government's commitment to nurturing future leadership while maintaining strong grassroots connections.



T. SIDDIQUE

A Dynamic Leader with Organisational Strength

T. Siddique has emerged as one of the energetic leaders of his generation. His political growth has been driven by organisational commitment, public outreach, and

sustained engagement with people. Known for his communication skills and ability to connect with diverse sections of society, Siddique represents a leadership style that

combines political discipline with public accessibility.

His inclusion adds youthful energy and organisational capability to the government.



N. SAMSUDHEEN

The Inclusive Organiser

N. Samsudheen's political journey reflects the importance of sustained grassroots work in democratic politics. Over the years, he has earned recognition through organisational commitment, public accessibility and community engagement.

His strength lies in his ability to work across social groups and maintain strong connections with local communities. Through continuous engagement with public issues, he has developed a reputation as a leader who understands both community

aspirations and governance challenges.

His presence strengthens the cabinet's connection with societal realities and broadens its social outreach.



K.M. SHAJI

The Powerful Voice of Public Advocacy

Few contemporary leaders possess the communication skills, political sharpness and public visibility that K.M. Shaji brings to the cabinet.

Over the years, Shaji has established himself as one of Kerala's most articulate political voices. His ability to communicate complex issues in a manner that resonates with ordinary people has made him a prominent figure in public discourse.

Beyond oratory, however, lies a deeper strength. Shaji has consistently demonstrated the ability to connect public concerns with larger political debates. His interventions frequently extend

beyond constituency matters into broader discussions on governance, education, development and democratic accountability.

His strong public presence, combined with organisational experience and legislative understanding, gives him influence that extends beyond traditional political boundaries.

Among the cabinet's members, Shaji represents a leadership style that combines conviction, communication, and public engagement. His inclusion strengthens the government's ability to articulate its vision and connect with citizens.



P.K. BASHEER

A Trusted Representative

P.K. Basheer's political career reflects consistency, accessibility and a strong commitment to constituency service. Throughout the years, he has remained closely connected to public concerns and local development initiatives.

His reputation has been built through responsiveness and direct engagement

rather than political spectacle. Citizens often associate him with practical problem-solving and sustained community involvement.

Within the cabinet, Basheer contributes ground connect and a deep understanding of local governance needs.

WOMEN AT THE HELM



BINDHU KRISHNA

A Steadfast Voice for People and Party

Bindhu Krishna's political journey reflects years of dedication to public service and unwavering commitment to the Congress movement. Known for her active involvement in public causes and organisational responsibilities, she has consistently remained connected with people and their concerns.

Even without holding major positions, she was often at the forefront of social and political initiatives, earning respect through her sincerity, perseverance and service-oriented approach. Her inclusion in the cabinet recognises decades of commitment to both the people and the party.



K.A. THULASI

A Voice of Perseverance and Public Service

K.A. Thulasi's political journey reflects perseverance, commitment, and dedicated public service. Through years of engagement in public life and organisational activities, she has earned recognition as a leader who remained steadfast in her work among people and responsive to their concerns.

Her rise in politics is a reflection of determination, consistency and the growing role of women in Kerala's democratic institutions. By combining public engagement with organisational commitment, she has contributed to strengthening political participation and representation.

Together, Bindhu Krishna and K.A. Thulasi reinforce the cabinet's commitment to inclusive governance, representing the expanding role of women in shaping Kerala's political, social, and developmental future. Their journeys reflect the growing participation of women in public leadership and the increasing recognition of their contributions to democratic institutions. Their presence in the ministry strengthens the government's commitment to broader representation, balanced decision-making, and people-centric governance.

ROAD AHEAD

The true measure of any government lies not in its formation but in its performance. Yet the composition of the Satheesan Cabinet offers an important indication of its priorities.

It brings together the strategic wisdom of leaders, the experience of seasoned public representatives, the energy of emerging leaders and the inclusiveness represented by women leaders and diverse regional voices.

Together, they embody a government built on balance—between experience and youth, continuity and change, organisation and governance.

As Kerala enters a new chapter under V. D. Satheesan's leadership, this cabinet stands as a reflection of the state's democratic maturity: confident in its legacy, prepared for its challenges, and committed to shaping a future driven by development, accountability and public service.



LINEN

THE TIMELESS FABRIC REDEFINING FASHION

Linen has always been more than just a fabric—it is a statement of elegance, comfort, and sustainability. In an industry driven by trends that come and go, linen has remained a constant, proving its versatility time and again. This centuries-old textile, woven from the resilient flax plant, is now experiencing a renaissance, making its way into high-fashion runways, luxury boutiques, and everyday wardrobes. From its breathable nature to its eco-friendly production, linen is redefining modern fashion, proving that style and sustainability can go hand in hand.

The History of Linen: A Fabric Woven in Time

Linen's history stretches back over 4,000 years, making it one of the oldest textiles in existence. Ancient Egyptians considered it a symbol of purity and wealth, using it for garments, household items, and even burial shrouds for royalty. The Greeks and Romans embraced linen for its lightweight quality, wearing tunics and robes made from the fabric to stay cool in warm climates. As trade routes expanded, linen found its way to Europe, where it became a staple fabric for aristocracy and working-class people alike.

Over the centuries, linen has maintained its reputation as a luxurious yet practical fabric. In the 18th and 19th centuries, it was widely used for undergarments and home textiles due to its breathability and durability. However, with the rise of industrialization and the introduction of cheaper synthetic fabrics, linen took a backseat. Now, as consumers shift towards mindful fashion choices, linen is making a powerful comeback, appealing to those who value authenticity, sustainability, and timeless style.

Why Linen is the Fabric of the Future

Linen's resurgence in contemporary fashion is no coincidence. As sustainability takes center stage in

the fashion industry, linen has emerged as one of the most eco-friendly textiles available. The flax plant requires minimal water and pesticides compared to cotton, making linen a sustainable alternative with a significantly lower environmental impact. Additionally, every part of the flax plant is used in production, reducing waste and ensuring a zero-waste manufacturing process.

Beyond its environmental benefits, linen is incredibly durable, often lasting decades when properly cared for. Unlike fast-fashion materials that degrade quickly, linen softens and improves with age, making it a long-term investment. Its breathability and moisture-wicking properties make it an excellent choice for warm weather, while its insulating qualities provide warmth in colder months. This ability to adapt to different climates makes linen a year-round essential, perfect for individuals who prioritize comfort without compromising style.

Linen in High Fashion and Everyday Wear

Once associated with casual summer wear, linen has transcended its reputation to become a fabric of high fashion. Designers around the world are experimenting with linen's texture, structure, and drape, crafting garments that range from effortlessly chic to sharply tailored. From oversized linen blazers to flowing linen gowns, the fabric's versatility allows for a wide array of fashion-forward designs.

Luxury fashion houses have embraced linen, incorporating it into collections that celebrate natural beauty and understated elegance. Linen trousers paired with silk blouses create a look that is both refined and relaxed, perfect for business meetings or casual outings. Meanwhile, linen dresses in earthy tones capture a bohemian charm that resonates with modern minimalists. Even bridal fashion is embracing linen, with wedding dresses designed from the fabric offering an ethereal yet rustic appeal.

Men's fashion, too, has embraced linen with renewed enthusiasm. Linen suits have become a summer staple, offering a breathable alternative to heavier fabrics. Paired with a crisp linen shirt, a linen blazer exudes effortless sophistication, perfect for both formal and semi-formal occasions. The natural texture of linen adds character to any outfit, giving it a lived-in elegance that synthetic fabrics simply cannot replicate.

The Rise of Sustainable Linen Brands

With the shift towards ethical fashion, many designers and brands are championing linen as a sustainable alternative to conventional fabrics. From small independent labels to global fashion giants, brands are investing in linen production, highlighting its minimal environmental footprint and timeless appeal. Ethical fashion brands focus on organic flax farming, ensuring that linen remains free from harmful chemicals and pesticides.

In addition to clothing, linen has found its way into accessories and lifestyle products. Linen scarves, handbags, and even footwear are becoming popular, proving that the fabric's versatility extends beyond garments. Interior designers are also incorporating linen into home decor, with linen bedding, curtains, and upholstery adding a touch of natural luxury to living spaces. The growing demand for linen across various industries speaks to its enduring appeal and sustainable future.

Embracing Linen's Natural Beauty

One of the defining characteristics of linen is its slightly wrinkled texture, which some might see as imperfection but is, in reality, part of its charm. Unlike synthetic fabrics that demand perfection, linen embraces its natural creases, adding character and authenticity to each piece. This relaxed aesthetic aligns with the growing appreciation for slow fashion—an approach that values craftsmanship, longevity, and individuality.

Caring for linen is relatively simple, though it does require attention to maintain its quality. Hand washing or using a gentle machine wash cycle with mild detergent helps preserve the fabric's softness. Linen should be air-dried whenever possible, as excessive heat from dryers can weaken the fibers. While some prefer ironing their linen garments for a crisp finish, others embrace the natural wrinkles, allowing the fabric's raw beauty to shine through.

Linen and the Future of Fashion

The return of linen is not just a passing trend—it signifies a broader shift in the fashion industry towards mindful consumption. As consumers become more aware of the environmental impact of their clothing choices, linen stands as a beacon of responsible fashion. Its ability to blend luxury with sustainability makes it an ideal fabric for the modern world, where aesthetics and ethics go hand in hand.

With climate change concerns and a push for ethical production, linen's eco-friendly nature makes it a frontrunner in the future of fashion. Brands are not only exploring linen in its traditional form but also experimenting with linen blends, creating innovative textiles that combine the best properties of multiple fabrics. The integration of technology in textile production is paving the way for even more sustainable and versatile linen fabrics, further solidifying its place in fashion's evolution.

A Wardrobe Essential for Every Generation

Linen's appeal extends across generations, making it a fabric that transcends age and fashion cycles. Millennials and Gen Z consumers are drawn to its sustainable qualities, while older generations appreciate its timeless elegance. Whether styled for a contemporary look or worn in its most traditional form, linen offers endless possibilities for those who appreciate both comfort and sophistication.

For those looking to build a wardrobe that stands the test of time, investing in linen pieces is a wise choice. A classic white linen shirt is a staple that pairs effortlessly with jeans, skirts, or tailored trousers. Linen jumpsuits offer a modern take on effortless dressing, perfect for those who prioritize both style and convenience. Accessories like linen tote bags and scarves provide subtle yet impactful ways to incorporate the fabric into everyday wear.

As we move towards a future where fashion prioritizes sustainability, linen serves as a reminder that true luxury lies in quality, craftsmanship, and longevity. It is a fabric that connects us to the past while guiding us toward a more responsible future. Whether worn for its breathability, admired for its texture, or chosen for its eco-friendly attributes, linen remains an enduring symbol of timeless fashion.

The rise of linen is more than just a revival—it is a revolution in the way we perceive clothing. It challenges the disposable nature of fast fashion and encourages a return to mindful dressing. As we embrace a world where fashion is not just about looking good but also doing good, linen stands at the forefront, proving that simplicity is, indeed, the ultimate sophistication.



THE RISE OF A NEW POLITICAL IMAGINATION IN TAMIL NADU

THIRU. JOSEPH VIJAY CHANDRASEKHAR AS THE VOICE OF CHANGE

Political history is shaped not only by elections, but by moments when public emotion transforms into collective belief. Tamil Nadu has now entered one such defining chapter. The historic rise of Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam and the ascent of Thiru. Joseph Vijay Chandrasekhar as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu have fundamentally reshaped the political imagination of the state. What began as an emotional conversation among people seeking a fresh direction in leadership eventually evolved into one of the most remarkable democratic transformations in contemporary Indian politics. Within an extraordinarily short span of time, TVK moved beyond being viewed as a new political entrant and emerged as the governing force of Tamil Nadu, carrying with it the aspirations of millions who longed for a leadership culture rooted in sincerity, discipline, compassion, transparency, and future vision.

The victory of TVK was not merely electoral success. It represented the emotional mandate of a people ready to embrace political transformation. Across Tamil Nadu, there had been a growing desire for leadership that felt emotionally connected to ordinary citizens and responsive to the changing realities of modern society. Students, families, professionals, entrepreneurs, women, working communities, and first time voters increasingly sought a political culture that appeared more accessible, more accountable, and more closely aligned with public aspirations. Vijay's rise as Chief Minister reflected the culmination of that emotional shift.

What makes this political achievement particularly extraordinary is the speed and discipline with which it was accomplished. In less than two years from the formal launch of TVK, He succeeded in transforming a newly formed political movement into the elected government of Tamil Nadu. In a state known for one of the most politically aware and historically entrenched electoral landscapes in India, this victory shattered long standing assumptions about political inevitability and proved that public belief, when combined with disciplined organization and emotional trust, possesses the power to redefine history itself.

This transformation did not occur through aggression or political theatrics alone. One of the defining characteristics of Vijay's rise was his ability to maintain composure, restraint, and strategic clarity even under intense public scrutiny. Unlike conventional political approaches built around constant confrontation and reactive rhetoric, his leadership style evolved through patience, observation, emotional intelligence, and carefully calibrated communication. In an era where political discourse is frequently dominated by noise and polarization, his calmness became one of his greatest political strengths. Supporters increasingly interpreted his silence not as hesitation, but as confidence, maturity, and discipline.

The emotional foundation of his political credibility had been built long before his formal entry into politics. Despite achieving extraordinary fame and influence in cinema, Vijay consistently remained associated with humility, simplicity, compassion, and emotional accessibility. For millions of Tamils, he represented success without arrogance and influence without detachment from ordinary life. Audiences did not merely admire him as an actor. They connected with him as a personality who appeared grounded, respectful, approachable, and emotionally aware of social realities. Over time, that emotional trust evolved naturally into political trust.

One of the most powerful driving forces behind TVK's historic victory was the extraordinary support and advocacy from the younger generation

across Tamil Nadu. Today's youth are highly aware, digitally connected, globally exposed, and deeply aspirational about the future of the state. They seek leadership capable of understanding modern expectations related to employment opportunities, entrepreneurship, educational advancement, technological innovation, governance transparency, infrastructure development, and social dignity. More importantly, they seek inspiration and emotional authenticity. Vijay's political messaging resonated strongly within this environment because he represented optimism, aspiration, and progress while remaining deeply rooted in Tamil identity and public sentiment.

However, the success of TVK was never limited to youth support alone. The movement steadily expanded across families, professionals, women, educators, senior citizens, and working communities because of the emotional sincerity associated with its leadership. Compassion became one of the defining qualities people consistently connected with Vijay. Public memory in Tamil Nadu has always been deeply emotional. People remember gestures of empathy, moments of concern, and signs of



genuine care far more than carefully orchestrated political performances. Over the years his interactions with students, families, and communities strengthened the widespread perception that he possessed authentic concern for society rather than symbolic public engagement designed merely for visibility.

In politics authenticity remains one of the rarest and most powerful qualities because it cannot be artificially sustained over long periods. Eventually people distinguish between carefully manufactured image building and naturally embedded personality. For many supporters the humility of Thiru. Joseph Vijay Chandrasekhar became one of the defining reasons behind their emotional loyalty toward him. Even after reaching extraordinary levels of fame he consistently projected simplicity rather than superiority. This emotional accessibility became central to the trust people ultimately placed in his leadership during the election.

Another major factor behind TVK's electoral breakthrough was the growing public perception that the movement represented genuine transformation rather than another continuation of familiar political cycles. Across Tamil Nadu there had been increasing emotional fatigue toward repetitive political patterns and leadership structures that many citizens felt no longer reflected the aspirations of a rapidly evolving society. People increasingly sought leadership that appeared modern, disciplined, development focused, emotionally intelligent, and deeply connected to public realities. TVK successfully positioned itself as the political expression of that aspiration for renewal.

Importantly, TVK's rise to power was not built solely on emotional excitement or fan following. The movement evolved through organizational discipline, volunteer mobilization, grassroots engagement, structured communication, and long term strategic planning. This created the public perception that TVK was serious about governance, administration, and public responsibility rather than symbolic political participation alone. Vijay

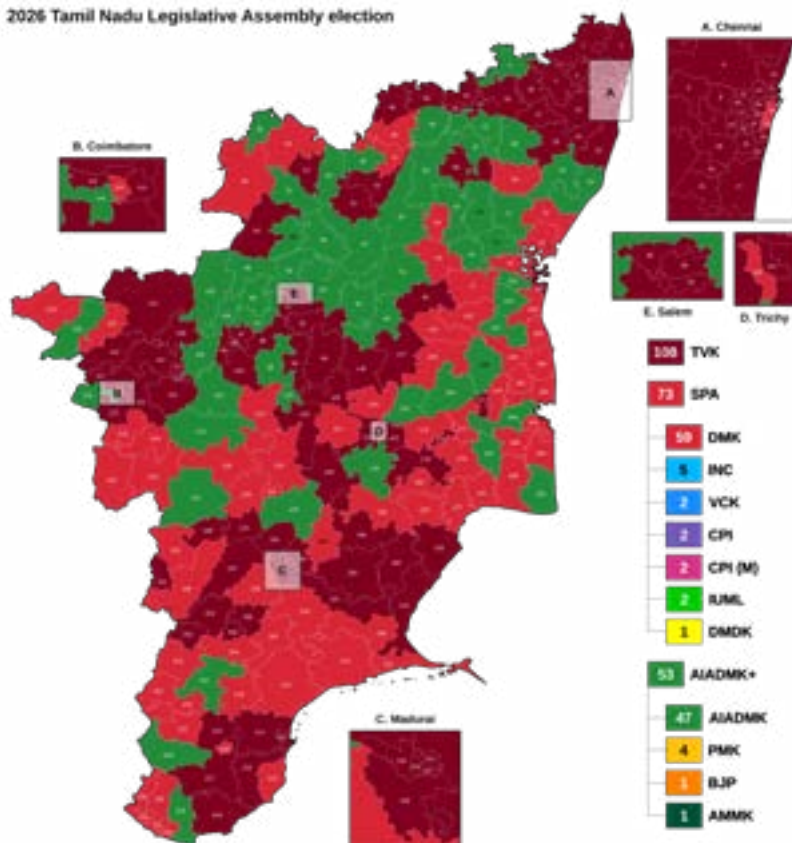
appeared to clearly understand that popularity may create visibility, but only discipline, structure, and public trust can sustain political legitimacy and governance credibility.

The political campaign led by TVK also introduced a fresh emotional vocabulary into Tamil Nadu politics. At a time when many citizens felt increasingly exhausted by conventional political confrontations, his communication style projected dignity, restraint, and collective aspiration. His speeches frequently emphasized people, development, transparency, education, youth empowerment, and future opportunities rather than excessive aggression or divisive rhetoric. This emotionally balanced communication style enabled him to connect across generations and social backgrounds while building a broader sense of political ownership among the people.

The idea of future vision became central to the identity of TVK during the election campaign and continues to shape the administration under Chief Minister Thiru. Joseph Vijay Chandrasekhar. Tamil Nadu stands at a critical moment where technological advancement, industrial growth, educational transformation, urban expansion, infrastructure modernization, and employment creation are evolving rapidly. Citizens increasingly expect leadership capable of preparing the state for future opportunities while preserving social harmony and public welfare. His governance vision consistently emphasizes youth empowerment, innovation, entrepreneurship, education, transparent administration,



2026 Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly election



and development centered public policy. Many supporters believe this future oriented approach was one of the defining reasons behind the overwhelming emotional connection people developed with TVK.

What makes his rise especially historic is the emotional belief attached to his leadership. Supporters frequently describe him not merely as a politician, but as someone capable of restoring emotional faith in leadership itself. They see in him a combination of compassion, determination, humility, discipline, courage, and sincerity that they increasingly wished to see reflected in public life. For many Tamils, TVK became more than a political organization. It became a movement representing aspiration, dignity, hope, and the possibility of meaningful transformation.

The phrase often heard during the election campaign that Tamil Nadu was ready for real change eventually transformed into democratic reality through the victory of TVK. What once appeared to many observers as an ambitious political experiment evolved into one of the most remarkable electoral transformations in the state's history. Vijay succeeded in doing what very few leaders have accomplished within such a short political timeframe. He transformed admiration into trust, trust into belief, and belief into a democratic mandate powerful enough to reshape the political landscape of Tamil Nadu.

His rise also reflects a broader transformation taking place in democratic politics across the world. Citizens today increasingly evaluate leaders not merely through ideology or speeches, but through personality, emotional intelligence, sincerity, humility, consistency, and human connection. Leadership is becoming more deeply associated with trust rather than dominance. In this changing political environment, Vijay's composed image, disciplined personality, and people centered

communication style created a powerful emotional advantage that ultimately translated into electoral success.

Another important dimension of his leadership is the widespread perception that his political journey is motivated by a genuine desire to contribute meaningfully to society rather than by political ambition alone. Whether discussing education, youth opportunities, governance transparency, social welfare, or development, his communication consistently carries emotional sincerity rather than performative politics. This perception significantly strengthened the emotional loyalty many supporters developed toward him and TVK throughout the election campaign and beyond.

The emergence of TVK also energized first time voters and politically disengaged sections of society who previously remained distant from active public participation. Many individuals who had gradually lost emotional connection with politics became invested once again because they believed this movement represented something larger than electoral competition. This renewed public participation itself became one of the defining features of TVK's victory.

Today, as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Joseph Vijay Chandrasekhar stands at the center of a new political era shaped by enormous public expectation and historic responsibility. His journey from cinema icon to transformational political leader has already altered the emotional and political landscape of the state. Yet for many supporters, this victory represents not the conclusion of a movement, but the beginning of a larger mission to redefine governance, restore emotional trust in leadership, and build a future driven by dignity, accountability, compassion, and meaningful progress.

The rise of Vijay is no longer a political possibility or an emerging phenomenon. It is now a governing reality shaping the future direction of Tamil Nadu. More importantly, it reflects the growing conviction among millions of Tamils that true change is achievable when leadership is rooted not merely in power, but in emotional connection, public trust, discipline, and vision.

VinFast VF7 2026

A BOLD NEW CONTENDER IN THE
PREMIUM ELECTRIC SUV RACE



In the electric vehicle industry, credibility is earned in layers. First comes the product, then the ownership experience, and only after that does a brand become part of the serious global conversation. The 2026 VinFast VF7 arrives at precisely this crossroads. It is not merely another electric SUV entering an already crowded field. It is a statement of intent from a Vietnamese automaker that has moved from regional ambition to international relevance in remarkably little time.

For buyers scanning the new EV launches 2026 calendar, the VF7 deserves more than a passing glance. It enters one of the most competitive categories in the world: the premium electric SUV segment. That means it must contend with established benchmarks from Tesla, fast rising challengers like BYD, and regional heavyweights such as Tata Motors, Mahindra, and Hyundai.

That is a formidable arena. Yet the VinFast VF7 enters it with genuine substance.

VinFast itself remains one of the most intriguing automotive stories of this decade. Backed by Vingroup, one of Vietnam's largest conglomerates, the company has pursued an aggressive global strategy, establishing manufacturing, retail, and service ambitions far beyond Southeast Asia. Its expansion into India, alongside localization plans in Tamil Nadu, signals that this is not a niche export brand but a company determined to compete at scale.



The VF7 is central to that mission.

At first glance, the design does much of the talking. Measuring roughly 4.55 meters in length with a generous 2.84 meter wheelbase, the VF7 sits confidently in the compact to midsize crossover bracket. Its proportions are deliberate: a long wheelbase, wide stance, and sharply tapered roofline that create a silhouette more athletic than the conventional family SUV.

There is a distinct European influence in its styling, unsurprising given its collaborative design roots. The lighting signature is particularly memorable, giving the front fascia a futuristic identity that helps it stand apart from the often generic EV design language. It looks premium without appearing overstyled. On the road, it carries genuine presence.

Inside, the cabin aims squarely at the expectations of modern EV buyers. A large 15 inch touchscreen dominates the dashboard, while a head up display handles critical driving data. Wireless charging, panoramic sunroof, ambient lighting, and leather trimmed surfaces all reinforce the premium positioning.

Material quality is competitive, especially considering expected pricing in emerging markets. The cabin feels airy and contemporary, aided by the long wheelbase that frees up passenger room. Rear seat comfort is one of its quiet strengths, making the VF7 more practical than some style driven rivals.

But technology is also where the car reveals its growing pains.

Real world feedback suggests the infotainment interface can feel overly dependent on touch controls, with too many functions buried within menus. Owners have praised the hardware but criticized the software logic, describing it as unintuitive in daily use. This matters because user experience in an EV is no longer a secondary concern. It is part of the ownership equation.

Underneath, the VF7 offers two broad configurations. A front wheel drive variant delivers around 201 hp and 310 Nm, while the flagship all wheel drive version pushes output to approximately 349 hp and 500 Nm. Battery capacities range around 70 to 75.3 kWh depending on market and trim.

On paper, those figures place it squarely in contention with segment leaders.

The dual motor setup especially gives the VF7 strong straight line performance, making it one of the more engaging options

among mainstream EV crossovers. It is quick, planted, and benefits from the low center of gravity typical of battery electric platforms. Owners have frequently noted that handling is composed and confidence inspiring, particularly at highway speeds.

Ride comfort also earns praise, with suspension tuned toward urban compliance rather than outright sportiness.

Range, however, requires context.

Claimed figures stretch between 431 km and 532 km depending on trim and certification cycle. In ideal conditions, these numbers are competitive. But real world reports indicate a more conservative outcome, especially in demanding usage. Some owners have reported practical range closer to 300 to 320 km under mixed driving conditions.

That gap between brochure promise and road reality is not unique to VinFast, but it does affect buyer trust. For urban commuting and predictable daily routines, the VF7 remains entirely usable. For long distance touring, charging strategy becomes more critical.

Fast charging performance is respectable, with 10 to 70 percent replenishment in around half an hour under ideal DC charging conditions. Yet charging reliability depends heavily on infrastructure compatibility and software optimization. Some users have documented charging interruptions across multiple public chargers, suggesting that ecosystem integration remains a work in progress.

Safety is one of the VF7's strongest cards. It offers Level 2 ADAS, adaptive cruise control, blind spot monitoring, lane departure warning, rear cross traffic alert, and a full suite of airbags. Its strong safety credentials position it well for buyers who prioritize advanced driver assistance and occupant protection.





Against rivals, the VF7 occupies an interesting middle ground.

Compared with the Tesla Model Y, it offers similar digital ambition but falls behind in software polish and charging ecosystem maturity. Against BYD offerings, it competes well on design and cabin appeal but must still prove long term reliability. In India, it undercuts many premium EV imports while delivering more sophistication than some domestic alternatives from Tata and Mahindra.

That makes its value proposition compelling.

Still, ownership experience remains the defining challenge. Service support in newer markets has been inconsistent, with reports of delayed responses and limited infrastructure in certain cities. VinFast's rapid expansion is impressive, but aftersales execution must keep pace with product rollout.

For early adopters, this risk may be acceptable. For mainstream buyers, it is a serious consideration.

So who is the VF7 best suited for?

It is ideal for buyers seeking a premium electric SUV that prioritizes design, performance, and technology over legacy brand familiarity. It suits urban professionals, tech-focused families, and EV enthusiasts willing to engage with a newer ecosystem.

For conservative buyers who prioritize established service networks and proven resale value, the equation is more complex.

The broader significance of the VF7 extends beyond one model. It signals how quickly the future of electric mobility is expanding beyond traditional automotive powerhouses. The fact that a Vietnamese brand can produce a globally relevant EV crossover within a decade would have seemed improbable not long ago.

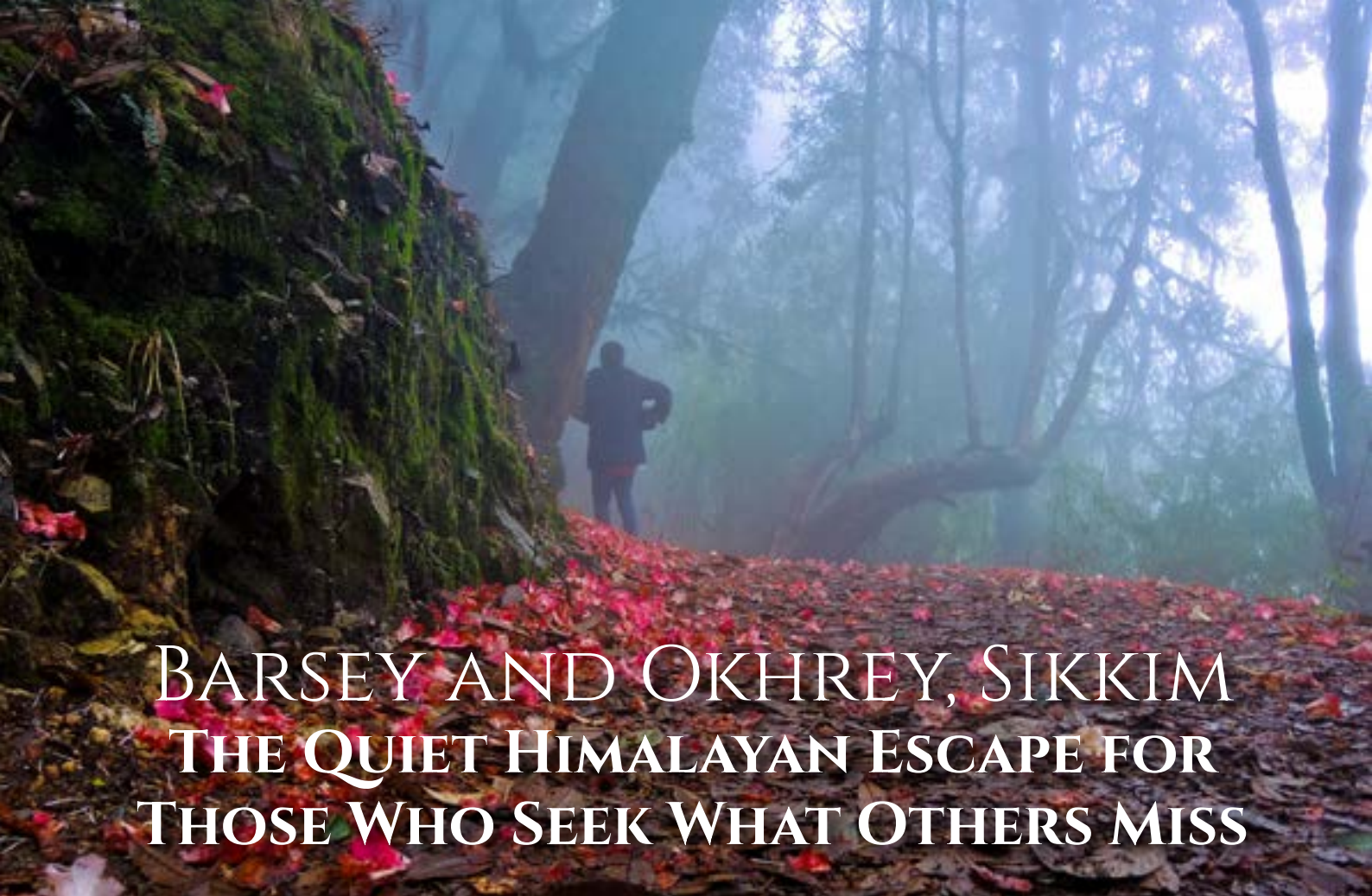
Today, it is reality.

The editorial verdict is clear: the 2026 VinFast VF7 is not yet the best electric SUV in India or globally, but it is absolutely one of the most important. It combines bold design, strong performance, and premium ambition with the challenges of a young brand still refining its ecosystem.

That combination makes it imperfect, but impossible to ignore.

And in a market increasingly defined by innovation over legacy, serious attention is exactly what the VF7 deserves.





BARSEY AND OKHREY, SIKKIM THE QUIET HIMALAYAN ESCAPE FOR THOSE WHO SEEK WHAT OTHERS MISS

There are places in the Himalayas that announce themselves with grandeur. Their names travel ahead of them, wrapped in postcards and itineraries, in social media reels and travel brochures. Then there are places like Barsey and Okhrey, tucked into the folds of western Sikkim, where silence is still part of the landscape and beauty arrives without spectacle.

To travel here is not simply to visit a destination. It is to enter a mood, roads narrow as the altitude rises. Villages grow sparse. Prayer flags begin to flutter against misty ridgelines. The forests deepen. And somewhere along this ascent, the usual rhythm of travel falls away. What remains is a quieter form of discovery, one rooted in stillness, in moss lined trails, in mountain air so clear it feels almost medicinal.

For those searching for offbeat places in Sikkim, Barsey and Okhrey offer something increasingly rare in modern travel: authenticity without performance. Together, they form one of the most compelling nature retreats in the Himalayas, an experience that is at once intimate, ecological, and profoundly restorative.

Where the Forest Begins - Okhrey is often the first point of arrival, a small mountain settlement perched at roughly 8,500 feet above sea level. It is not a town in the conventional sense, but a quiet cluster of homes, lodges, and terraced fields overlooking sweeping valleys and distant peaks.

The first impression is one of openness. On clear mornings, the horizon is punctuated by the monumental silhouette of Kanchenjunga, its snowy mass glowing rose gold at sunrise. Below, layers of blue hills



dissolve into one another like watercolor. The air carries the scent of pine, damp earth, and wood smoke from village kitchens.

Okhrey is both a destination and a threshold. It serves as the gateway to the Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary, one of the most ecologically rich and visually striking protected landscapes in Sikkim.

Barsey itself is less a place than an atmosphere. A forested highland region spread across alpine meadows, old growth woods, and mountain ridges, it unfolds slowly through footpaths rather than roads. The journey inward is deliberate, and that is precisely its charm.

A Symphony of Seasons: What makes this region unforgettable is how dramatically it transforms through the year.

In spring, usually from late March to early May, Barsey erupts into bloom. The sanctuary becomes a cathedral of rhododendrons, with crimson, pink, white, and lavender blossoms illuminating the misty forest.





Summer brings lush greenery and cool temperatures, making it ideal for long walks and village stays. Autumn offers crystal clear mountain views and golden light. Winter transforms the region into a hushed white world, with occasional snowfall and a stark beauty that appeals to solitude seekers.

A Sanctuary of Life. Barsey is not merely scenic. It is ecologically significant. The Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary shelters temperate broadleaf forests, bamboo groves, and alpine vegetation zones that support an extraordinary variety of life.

Birdwatchers come here for species such as the scarlet minivet, satyr tragopan, Himalayan monal, and various laughingthrushes. Mammals include red pandas, Himalayan black bears, barking deer, and civets.

The communities around Okhrey are warm, understated, and deeply rooted in the land. Guests are welcomed into homestays where meals are prepared with local produce.

Buckwheat pancakes, nettle soup, homemade cheese, and steaming cups of butter tea become part of the memory of place.

Trails That Reward Presence : For trekkers, Barsey and Okhrey offer some of the most rewarding low to moderate altitude hikes in Sikkim. The trek from Hilley to Barsey is the classic route, a gentle forest trail that can be completed in a few hours.

Practical Notes for the Journey- For rhododendron blooms, travel between late March and early May. For mountain views and trekking, October to December is ideal. The nearest airport is Bagdogra Airport, while the closest major railhead is New Jalpaiguri Railway Station. A three to four day itinerary works well: one day in Okhrey, one for Barsey Sanctuary, and additional time for village walks or nearby trails.

The Lasting Impression

Barsey and Okhrey do not compete with the famous Himalayan circuits. Their power lies in subtlety. For those willing to step beyond the obvious, these are among the most meaningful offbeat places in Sikkim.



കേരള സംസ്ഥാന തീരദേശ വികസന കോർപ്പറേഷൻ

(KSCADC)

(ഒരു കോളാർ സ്ഥാപനം)

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- സാമൂഹിക അടിസ്ഥാന സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ
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Johns Thomas

Founder of Mr Johns Baking Co

BUILDING TRUST THROUGH DISCIPLINE AND CONSISTENCY

Leadership in the food industry is often associated with rapid expansion, visibility and market presence. Yet some brands earn recognition through a quieter and more enduring process built on discipline, operational clarity and the ability to gain public trust over time. That approach defines Johns Thomas, the founder of Mr Johns Baking Co, a growing bakery brand from Kottayam that has steadily established itself through consistency rather than spectacle.

From the beginning, Johns approached the business with a clear understanding that long term growth depends less on temporary popularity and more on credibility. When he launched the first outlet five years ago, his focus was not simply on attracting customers, but on creating a system that would encourage them to return with confidence. Every aspect of the company, from ingredient selection to production planning, was shaped around that philosophy. Today, many of the customers who first visited the bakery during its early months continue to remain loyal to the brand, reflecting the trust it has built through consistency.

Inside the production environment, Johns maintains a leadership style rooted in direct involvement and operational discipline. Daily activities begin with structured reviews of production requirements, equipment readiness, ingredient measurements and sanitation procedures. He believes standards are sustained not through occasional supervision, but through constant attention to detail and a work culture that values accountability at every stage. The result is an environment where quality is treated as a routine responsibility rather than a marketing promise.

His vision for the company has also been closely connected to changing food preferences and growing public awareness around healthier choices. Long before health focused products became a wider industry trend, Johns had already begun exploring alternatives that balanced quality with customer wellbeing. Mr Johns Baking

Co gradually introduced sugar free products, wheat based variations and high fibre bread in response to evolving consumer expectations. Plans to expand the use of alternative sweeteners, including in fresh cream cakes, reflect his willingness to adapt while preserving product standards.

What distinguishes Johns further is his refusal to compromise on raw materials or depend on shortcuts that weaken product integrity. He believes customers recognise genuine quality over time, and that trust cannot be built through aggressive promotion alone. This perspective has shaped the identity of Mr Johns Baking Co as a brand associated with transparency, consistency and responsible production practices.

The same clarity is visible in the way the business manages growth. Seasonal demand is anticipated through careful planning rather than reactive decision making. The preparation of the company's plum cakes, for instance, begins months in advance so the final product develops gradually before the festive season. During slower business periods, production quantities are adjusted carefully without compromising standards, ensuring stability for both operations and staff.

Johns also sees leadership as a responsibility toward the people who contribute to the company's growth. Several employees have remained with the business since its early years, reflecting a workplace culture shaped by continuity, mutual trust and professional respect. He believes stable teams are essential to sustaining quality over the long term.

As Mr Johns Baking Co continues to expand its presence in Kerala, Johns Thomas remains guided by the same principles that shaped the company in its earliest days: disciplined operations, responsible growth and an unwavering commitment to customer trust. In a rapidly changing market, his leadership reflects the value of building steadily, thoughtfully and with long term vision.





Abdul Karim

State President, Kerala Car Accessories Federation MD, TOPGEAR MAGAZINE

“
What Kerala needs is balance, where safety, legality, industry growth and youthful passion can coexist with mutual respect.
”



WHEN PASSION MEETS POLICY: KERALA'S CHANGING CONVERSATION ON VEHICLE MODIFICATION

A smile can sometimes express more than a thousand statements.

When Chief Minister V. D. Satheesan was recently reminded by a representative of the younger generation about promises concerning vehicle modification, the expression and quirky smile he passed quickly went viral across Kerala. More than just a political moment, it resonated deeply with young automobile enthusiasts, who saw it as an acknowledgment of their passion, interests and evolving automotive culture. More than a light political moment, it felt like recognition for thousands of young vehicle lovers, accessory dealers, workshops and automotive professionals. Recognition that vehicle modification is no longer a fringe culture, but a growing expression of creativity, engineering interest and personal identity among the younger generation.

More importantly, Satheesan's response reflected a balanced approach. He did not endorse recklessness or illegal alterations. Instead, his reaction opened the possibility for a more practical discussion, one that separates responsible customization from dangerous modification. In a state where automotive enthusiasm continues to grow rapidly, that distinction matters.

Vehicle modification in Kerala has often existed between admiration and enforcement. On one side are passionate enthusiasts who invest time, money and technical expertise into improving and personalizing their vehicles. On the other side are genuine concerns regarding road safety, public inconvenience and legal compliance. The real challenge has never been whether regulations are necessary, but whether regulations can evolve alongside changing automotive culture.



SAFETY MUST COME FIRST

There is no denying that enforcement against unsafe modifications became necessary in many situations. Excessively loud exhaust systems, unauthorized structural alterations, blinding auxiliary lights, illegal tinting and hazardous chassis modifications cannot be normalized on public roads. Such practices affect not only drivers but also pedestrians and fellow motorists. Public safety must always remain the highest priority.



A CHANCE TO BUILD A BALANCED FRAMEWORK

At a policy level, Kerala now has an opportunity to build a more balanced framework, one that allows safe and non-hazardous modifications while maintaining strict action against dangerous violations. Transparent guidelines distinguishing acceptable cosmetic upgrades from prohibited structural changes could reduce confusion, improve compliance and create a healthier relationship between authorities and the automotive community.



TOWARDS A BETTER ROAD AHEAD

That is why the viral smile of Chief Minister V. D. Satheesan resonated beyond politics. It symbolized openness to dialogue. It suggested that governance and youth culture do not always have to stand on opposite sides.

Kerala's automobile culture has matured significantly over the years. The conversation around vehicle modification must now move beyond extremes. Neither unrestricted freedom nor blanket rejection will serve the future. What Kerala needs is balance, where safety, legality, industry growth and youthful passion can coexist with mutual respect.

When passion meets policy with understanding, everyone moves ahead safely, responsibly and together.



A CONVERSATION THAT MATTERS

This is where the recent public conversation initiated by V. D. Satheesan becomes significant. His reaction acknowledged an important social reality. Today's generation views vehicles differently. Young enthusiasts are more informed, globally connected and deeply aware of international automotive trends. Suppressing every form of discrimination without distinction may only widen the gap between authorities and the public.



THE CASE FOR RESPONSIBLE REGULATION

Across the world, regulated vehicle customization industries contribute significantly to economic growth, skilled employment and technical innovation. Kerala itself has developed a thriving automotive aftermarket ecosystem comprising accessory dealers, detailing professionals, wheel and tyre specialists, audio experts and fabrication technicians. This sector supports entrepreneurship and creates opportunities for thousands of families connected directly and indirectly to the automobile industry.



RESPONSIBILITY: THE KEY TO THE FUTURE

However, the future of this industry depends heavily on responsibility.

Vehicle owners must clearly understand the difference between tasteful enhancement and unsafe experimentation. Cosmetic modifications that do not compromise structural integrity or public safety should never be viewed in the same manner as reckless alterations that create danger or public nuisance. Professionally installed infotainment systems, approved alloy wheels or quality interior customization cannot be equated with illegally modified exhaust systems or glare lights that endanger others.

Industry stakeholders also carry responsibility. Dealers, distributors and workshops must actively encourage legal compliance, certified products and professional installation standards. Ethical practices will strengthen the credibility of the entire automotive aftermarket sector. Sustainable growth can happen only when passion is supported by accountability.



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