

PRESS STATEMENT OF SELVI J JAYALALITHAA,
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER OF TAMIL NADU – 21.7.2013

I was shocked to learn of the brutal killing of Auditor V.Ramesh, the General Secretary of the Bharatiya Janata Party of Tamil Nadu, at Salem on 19.7.2013. I strongly condemn this heinous incident. I wish to convey my heartfelt condolences to the family of the departed leader.

Violence and violent crimes, irrespective of whether they are politically motivated or otherwise, have no place in a civilized society and should be rooted out by stern and strong measures.

My Government accords the top most priority to the maintenance of law and order. The Tamil Nadu Police, under my leadership, has been given a clear mandate to proceed against all criminal elements with utmost firmness and to pursue and apprehend lawless and criminal elements, while taking impartial action to protect the innocent. The Police have been provided an atmosphere which is free from nepotism and interference so as to enable them to operate freely to uphold the law. This has resulted in Tamil Nadu emerging as a haven of peace and harmony. I am proud of the fact that Tamil Nadu has largely been free of communal, left wing extremist, and religious fundamentalist violence. I wish to emphasise here that we will not allow anti-social elements or forces to vitiate the atmosphere in the State and resort to violence and murder, either for personal or political gain, or to foment communal violence or extremism in any form.

The Tamil Nadu Police has always taken prompt and effective action to detect crimes including politically motivated crimes. The Tamil Nadu Police has a Special Investigation Team which handles cases of fundamentalist violence. A recent significant achievement of this team was the arrest of an accused wanted in the pipe bomb case in Thirumangalam of 2011, in which the target was the BJP leader Thiru L K Advani.

I have now instructed the Director General of Police to immediately constitute a Special Investigation Division to speedily investigate the murder of Auditor Ramesh. This Special Investigation Division will also take over the ongoing investigation of the murder of Thiru Vellaiyappan, State Secretary of the Hindu Munnani on 1.7.2013 at Vellore. The Special Investigation Division will function under the overall control of the DGP (CBCID) who will be provided with all the resources and manpower necessary to take up and complete the investigation at the earliest and to bring the culprits to book.

The Tamil Nadu Police is known for its professionalism and efficiency. In the light of the clear and firm directions given by me to bring the perpetrators of these heinous crimes to book at the earliest, I am confident that the guilty will be apprehended soon and dealt with as per law.

J JAYALALITHAA
Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

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