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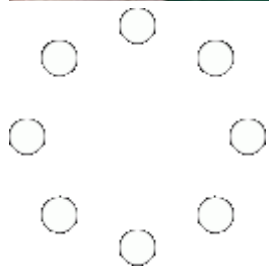
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of the Day

Jayalalithaa along with three associates sentenced to four years imprisonment, sent to jail

[A Subramani](#) and [P Vasanth Kumar](#) | TNN | Updated: Sep 27, 2014, 22:29 IST
01:07



BANGALORE/CHENNAI: A special court in Bangalore sentenced Tamil Nadu chief minister J [Jayalalithaa](#) and her three associates — N Sasikalaa, J Elavarasi and VN Sudhakaran — to four years imprisonment in the Rs 66.65 crore disproportionate assets case.

The court of [John Michael D'Cunha](#) imposed a fine of Rs 100 crore on Jayalalithaa and Rs 10 crore on each of the other convicts. If they fail to pay the fine, they will have to serve an additional one year in [jail](#). Jayalalithaa can't contest elections for six years.

On pronouncement of the judgment, Jayalalithaa complained of giddiness. Her advocates pleaded for leniency in sentence on health grounds and sought permission to take her to a hospital. However, the judge called prison authorities and ordered that she be provided necessary medical assistance. She was shifted to

the hospital on the jail premises around 5.00 p.m.

Later, Jayalalithaa and others were lodged in Parappana Agrahara jail.

READ ALSO: [AIADMK cadres indulge in violence after court finds Jayalalithaa guilty](#).

All the accused were convicted for offences punishable under Section 120(B) of the IPC (criminal conspiracy), 13(1) of the Prevention Corruption Act (criminal misconduct by public servants) and 109 (abetment) by special judge John Michael D'Cunha on Saturday afternoon, special public prosecutor Bhavani Singh told TOI.

“Technically, the Tamil Nadu cabinet does not exist now, as the head has been disqualified,” said former high court judge K Chandru. Under the Constitution, the governor may act in the absence of the council of ministers. While the Governor can hold official meetings and administer the state, he cannot issue any Ordinance or convene the assembly, said Justice Chandru.

Sources said the meeting of [AIADMK](#) MLAs would be held in a day or two to elect their leader. “We hope the same ministry would take oath again,” a senior AIADMK leader said.



Jayalalithaa flashing victory sign to her supporters in Chennai. (TOI file photo)

A member of AIADMK's legal team told TOI that they would go on appeal as soon as the Karnataka high court reopens after Dasara recess. “Since the sentence is more than three years it was not automatically suspended by the trial court. The only option available to the convicted persons now is to file an appeal in the high court and seek bail. Whatever be the speed, a few weeks of further imprisonment cannot be avoided,” he said.

The case was registered by the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption (DVAC) of Tamil Nadu police in 1996, after the present BJP leader Subramanian Swamy moved courts and obtained necessary directions.

By listing a total of 78 properties, kilos of gold and silver, besides diamonds, personal accessories and fraudulent transactions in ghost or benami companies numbering 32, the DVAC said she and her associates had amassed wealth worth Rs 66.65 crore disproportionate to her known sources of income as chief minister during 1991-96.

Jayalalithaa, Sasikalaa and Ilavarasi arrived at the court at 10.42am while Sudhakaran (Jayalalithaa's former foster son) had arrived earlier. Almost all ministers of Tamil Nadu cabinet, including seniors O Paneerselvam, Edappadi K Palaniswami and Natham R Viswanathan, were in attendance at the venue where the special court had been shifted to for judgment.

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Though the FIR was registered in September 1996, the case dragged on for nearly 18 years, partly due to the [DMK](#)'s insistence on having the trial shifted out of Tamil Nadu and also due to umpteen petitions and appeals filed by the accused. Towards closing stages, the sheer number of questions put to the chief minister — 1,339 in all — contributed to the delay, as she had to make time to answer them in between her work as the chief minister. Jayalalithaa needed four sessions and two months to complete the formality.



AIADMK workers protesting against Jayalalithaa's conviction in Erode, Tamil Nadu. (TOI photo by P Sreedharan)

From the day the apex court order staying all proceedings in the assets case in a special court in Chennai, and its ultimate transfer to a special court in Bangalore, six years were lost. But it was the methods adopted by the Chennai court which gave room to DMK general secretary K Anbazhagan to rush to the Supreme Court and obtain stay. While it was being heard by a special court in Chennai, the prosecution allowed recall of 76 prosecution witnesses whose examination and cross-examination were already over.

As feared, 64 of them turned hostile, weakening the case considerably. The prosecutor did not seek to declare

them as hostile nor did he initiate perjury proceedings against them, pointed out the Supreme Court while transferring the case to Karnataka, to be heard at a special court in Bangalore. Similarly, the Chennai special court's order dispensing with Jayalalithaa's personal presence in court to answer court queries under Section 313 CrPC also did not go down well with the apex court.

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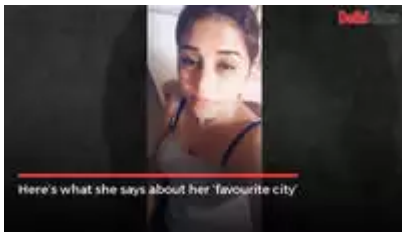


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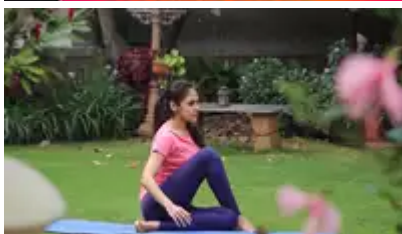
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PTI | Sep 27, 2014, 04.47 PM IST

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ISLAMABAD: At least 29 [Indian fishermen](#) were arrested on Saturday by Pakistani authorities for allegedly entering the country's [territorial waters](#).

The fishermen were arrested by [Maritime Security Agency](#) (MSA) officials, who also confiscated their five boats during a routine patrol.

The fishermen were almost 10 kilometres inside Pakistan territorial waters when they were arrested, Express News TV quoted an MSA official as saying.

This is not the first time such an incident has taken place.

Pakistan maritime security forces frequently arrest Indian fishermen and seize their boats for fishing in its territorial waters.

However, In May Pakistan had freed 151 Indian fishermen ahead of Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's visit to India to attend Prime Minister Narendra Modi's swearing-in ceremony.

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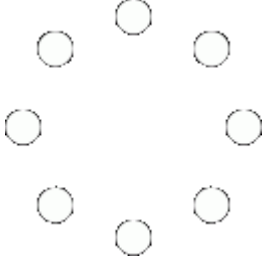
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