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## Tamil Nadu CM Jayalalithaa convicted in 18-year-old corruption case

[Politics \(/category/politics\)](https://www.firstpost.com/category/politics) [hidden](https://www.firstpost.com/author/hidden) (https://www.firstpost.com/author/hidden) Sep 27, 2014 14:56:22 IST

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**Bangalore:** Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalithaa was today convicted in an 18-year-old disproportionate assets case by a special court, a verdict that raises questions over her continuance on the post.

Special Judge John Michael D'Cunha convicted the 66-year-old AIADMK Chief in a case of owning assets to the tune Rs 66,65 crores disproportionate to her known sources of income during 1991-96 when she was chief minister for the first time.

Tamil Nadu CM Jayalalithaa convicted in 18-year-old corruption case

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The quantum of punishment will be delivered at 3 PM, Special Public Prosecutor Bhawani Singh said. Jayalalithaa's close aide Sasikala Natarajan, her niece Ilavarasi and her nephew and the chief minister's disowned foster son Sudhakaran were also convicted.



Tamil Nadu CM Jayalalithaa in this file photo. PTI

The verdict was delivered at a makeshift court in the Parappana Agrahara prison complex in the presence of Jayalalithaa and the other accused.

If the judge sentences her to imprisonment for a period not less than two years, the AIADMK leader will stand disqualified immediately from the

Assembly and may have to step down as chief minister.

**PTI**

Updated Date: Sep 27, 2014 14:56 PM

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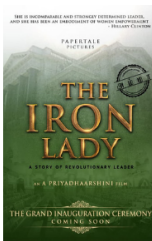
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3

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# Rahul Gandhi accuses BJP of using public funds to run RSS schools; pramukhs, swayamsevaks rebut Congress chief's charge

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On Friday, Congress president Rahul Gandhi gave the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) a backhanded compliment. The Congress chief, speaking at the *Hindustan Times* Leadership Summit said the RSS was running 1,30,000 schools across the nation. "These numbers are so big," Rahul said at the summit in Delhi. Twice.



Now, any organisation would be pleased to take this statement—having built such a vast network of its educational institutes—as a compliment. More so coming from a known adversary. However, the Congress chief was not offering a compliment, nor did the RSS take it as a pat on the back. Through his statement, Rahul was asking: Who funds these institutions?



Rahul Gandhi addresses public at a rally in Wardha.  
(<https://images.firstpost.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Rahul-gandhi-wardha-rally-380.jpg>)  
Twitter/@INCIndia

After speaking to RSS leaders and taking a look at the website of 'Vidya Bharati Akhil Bhartiya Siksha Sansthan', *Firstpost* ascertained that Rahul was bit off the mark: Vidhya Bharati ran 23,320 schools and number of Ekal (single teacher) Vidhyalaya was 76,611. So that's around one lakh schools (including primary, secondary, intermediate and teachers' training

schools).

Returning to Rahul's original charge: What is the source of funding? His argument was the BJP-ruled states were diverting funds meant for the public to RSS run schools. He also said that BJP MPs and MLAs were contributing money out of their MPLADS (Members of Parliament Local Area Development Fund Scheme).

Rahul said this while responding to a query on “subversion of institutions” by the government. He gave the impression that growth of Saraswati Vidyalayas and Ekal Vidyalayas run by RSS affiliates were a phenomenon associated with government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP governments in various states. The schools, associated with “one particular ideology”, were growing in number due to the patronage of BJP governments and diversion of resources which should otherwise have gone to government schools, Rahul alleged.

Atul Kotari of Bharatiya Siksha Utthan Nyas said these institutions don't seek funds from the government. "We seek donations a large number of people. Influential persons from society donate for the cause. Ekal or one teacher schools, are run in

forest, tribal and hilly areas including in Kashmir and North East 'in areas out of reach of government schools'" Kotari said.

RSS Alkil Bharatiya Prachar Pramukh Arun Kumar said it should be clear that the RSS does not run schools. "Mohan Bhagwat recently made clear that the only work the Sangh does is "vyakti nirman" (building an individual) and it is incumbent on these individuals to pursue work which they deem fit," Kumar said. "It's true that Vidya Bharati and Ekal Sanstha are run by individuals built by the Sangh. They work with the support of the people and work under the established legal order. All donations are collected in a transparent manner through banks and many known personalities are associated with this mission."

Yet another RSS leader, speaking to *Firstpost* on the condition of anonymity, denied Rahul's allegations. He argued that today, the BJP and its associates rule 20 states and things would have been different if it were suggested that the educational work at these institutions be done under official patronage. "We have developed a unique model, where each school is run by a committee which includes one swayamsevak and some prominent persons of that area. Since teachers in these schools work with a nation building mission, they work at a far lower salary than those in government and private schools. We build a 'guru-shishya' tradition in these schools," he said.

Their argument is that these schools pre-date the emergence of BJP and are spread in areas where BJP does not have any substantive presence: Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal, Odisha, and Jammu and Kashmir. West Bengal, for instance, has 290 Vidya Bharati schools and Odisha has 1,000 schools. The first RSS-affiliate school was opened in 1946 in Kurushetra. The second in Gorakhpur in 1952. Then they began expanding to various parts of the country. Different committees were formed in different states and Vidya Bharati was established in 1977 for the purposes of better coordination and structured exchange of ideas.

Fifty lakh students are enrolled in these schools. Naturally, that figure should be of concern for the Congress president. And his charge that the resources for these schools came from BJP MPs and MLAs through their MPLADS? RSS Delhi wing prachar pramukh Rajeev Tuli said he had no idea about this. However, considering

some contributions from an MPs fund was made to a school building, these must have been done through established legal processes because of existing guidelines for spending under these schemes, he added.

Updated Date: Oct 05, 2018 20:12 PM

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1

2

3

4

5

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# TRS leader KT Rama Rao says party won't ally with BJP in 2019 as it doesn't believe in 'polarising' people

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**Hyderabad:** The Telangana Rashtra Samithi would not ally with the BJP or support it in the next Lok Sabha election as the regional party was secular and the two parties had "very strong differences of opinion", TRS leader and IT Minister KT Rama Rao said.

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4

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Rao, son of caretaker chief minister and TRS supremo K Chandrashekar Rao, also dubbed as "*maha ghatia bandhan*" (weak combine) the proposed grand alliance of Congress, TDP and some other parties for the coming Assembly election in the state.

He made the comments during an interaction on Twitter on Thursday.

"We are an extremely secular party which carries people of all hues and shades and all sections of society. We don't believe in polarising based on community and based on any other criteria that divides us. So, the question of joining (hands with) BJP or aligning with them does not arise," Rama Rao said.

He was replying to a question if the TRS would support BJP in next year's Lok Sabha elections.



(<https://images.firstpost.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/K-T-Rama-Rao-PTI-380.jpg>)  
File image of TRS leader KT Rama Rao. PTI

"We don't see eye-to-eye on a number of counts. In fact, we have very strong differences of opinion," he added.

He charged the Congress and the TDP with "doing a great deal of injustice" to the people of the state, especially for those who championed the cause of statehood for Telangana.

According to him, the Congress and the TDP have given a "golden" opportunity to the people of Telangana to shoot two birds with one stone — hit the two parties with one vote.

"My request is to vote them out of Telangana and ensure that TRS is elected again," he said.

He expressed hope that the TRS would win the coming elections, necessitated by the premature dissolution of the Assembly by the government led by the party.

Rama Rao said he was focused on ensuring the return of party chief Rao as the chief minister.

He said the TRS was considering including an "unemployment allowance" in its election manifesto.

He also claimed that no government had done as much as theirs for the youth, especially for the unemployed.

"We have already issued notifications for 90,000 (government) jobs to be filled in the last four years and recruitment of nearly 40,000 persons has been done," he said.

As for criticism of the government by some Opposition parties, Rama Rao said political parties in a democracy have every right to criticise.

"...but unfortunately the main opposition (Congress), the principal opposition party in Telangana, has been stooping to new lows and body shaming my children...that is a new low in politics," he added.

Updated Date: Oct 05, 2018 22:33 PM

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## Congress president Rahul Gandhi to tour Morena, Jabalpur today in day-long visit to Madhya Pradesh

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**Morena/Jabalpur:** Congress president Rahul Gandhi will be on a day-long tour of Madhya Pradesh on Saturday, during which he will attend an event organised by a tribal organisation and also address a public meeting.

Rahul will tour Morena and Jabalpur in what will be his third visit to the poll-bound state in less than 20 days.

He will arrive at Gwalior in the morning by a special plane and later, leave for Morena in a helicopter. He will address a meeting of the Adivasi Ekta Parishad at the Ambedkar Stadium in Morena, a party spokesman said Friday.

A large number of people under the banner of the Adivasi Ekta Parishad have embarked on a foot march from Gwalior on 2 October (Gandhi Jayanti), seeking land rights for tribals and farmers. The march will conclude in New Delhi.



([https://images.firstpost.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Rahul-Gandhi-Rajasthan\\_PTI.jpg](https://images.firstpost.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Rahul-Gandhi-Rajasthan_PTI.jpg))

"We have embarked on a foot march from Gwalior on 2 October for Delhi. The Congress president will arrive at Morena tomorrow (Saturday) to listen to our problems and to tell us how these problems will be solved in the event of his party coming to power at the Centre," Adivasi Ekta Parishad's national convener PV Rajgopal said.

"This is the Ekta Parishad's third yatra from Gwalior to Delhi," he added.

Rajgopal said the parishad had sent an invitation to the Congress as it is the main Opposition party. Rahul accepted the invitation and is coming to address the agitators.

Senior Congress leader Digvijay Singh, Madhya Pradesh Congress president Kamal Nath and the party's state-level poll campaign committee chairman Jyotiraditya Scindia will be present for the occasion among others.

After this, Rahul will go to Jabalpur, perform "Narmada puja" at Gwarighat and embark on a roadshow from the Bandria Tiraha (tri-section) to the Abdul Hameed Tiraha, the spokesman said.

Congressmen have put up posters, banners and set up nearly 100 temporary stages on both sides of the eight-kilometre-long roadshow route.

Rahul will also address a public meeting at the Raddi Chowk in the city, the spokesman added.

Elaborate security arrangements have been made in view of the Congress chief's visit.

Rahul had earlier visited Bhopal and Rewa-Satna in the Vindhya region. Morena and Jabalpur fall in the Chambal and Mahakaushal regions respectively.

The Assembly polls in the state, where the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is in power since 2003, are due by the year-end.

Updated Date: Oct 06, 2018 00:01 AM

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Rahul Gandhi begins two-day visit to Madhya Pradesh from tomorrow, to start tour by offering prayers at Kamta Nath temple

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Shivraj Singh Chouhan calls Rahul Gandhi's 'Made in Bhopal' remark 'laughable and illogical'; says Congress gave birth to corruption

(<https://www.firstpost.com/india/shivraj-singh-chouhan-calls-rahul-gandhis-made-in-bhopal-remark-laughable-and-illogical-says-congress-gave-birth-to-corruption-5305941.html>)



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(<https://www.firstpost.com/politics/congress-leaders-say-bsps-unrealistic-demands-led-to-breakdown-of-seat-sharing-talks-claim-mayawati-sought-50-seats-5326351.html>)

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**Is India's #MeToo moment here?**  
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Despairing Kukis mourn massacred kin, seek homeland as Centre gets set to implement Naga pact inked with NSCN-IM

1

2

3

4

5





Sriram Raghavan lists 11 of his favourite thrillers of all time — from Psycho, Shutter Island to Double Indemnity



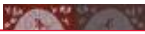
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1

2

3

4

5

# Amit Shah to launch BJP 'Maha Jansampark Abhiyan' from Indore today, plans to appeal to tribals and farmers to vote for party

[Politics \(/category/politics\)](#)

 Press Trust of India (<https://www.firstpost.com/author/pti>) Oct 06, 2018 09:44:14 IST

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**Indore:** With an eye on assembly polls due later this year BJP president Amit Shah will arrive in Indore on Saturday to formally launch the party's mass contact campaign in the crucial Malwa-Nimad region of Madhya Pradesh to woo voters especially traders, tribals and farmers.



File image of BJP president Amit Shah. PTI

Shah will launch the 'Maha Jansampark Abhiyan' from historic Rajwada area and walk for nearly 15 minutes up to Krishnapura Chhatri area to appeal people in the dense commercial area to vote for the BJP, a party spokesman said.

From Indore, Shah will go to tribal Jhabua district to address 'Adivasi Sammelan' and later visit Jaora in Ratlam district for addressing farmers, he said.

Shah will also interact with party functionaries at Indore and Ujjain divisions to charge them ahead of crucial assembly polls, the spokesman said.

Madhya Pradesh chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and the state party president Rakesh Singh will accompany Shah during all these programmes, the spokesman added.

Updated Date: Oct 06, 2018 09:44 AM

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1

2

3

4

5



Bihar: BJP criticises Congress for putting up posters mentioning castes of Rahul Gandhi, other party leaders in Patna

(<https://www.firstpost.com/politics/bihar-bjp-criticises-congress-for-putting-up-posters-mentioning-castes-of-rahul-gandhi-other-party-leaders-in-patna-5274141.html>)

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Rahul Gandhi accuses BJP of using public funds to run RSS schools; pramukhs, swayamsevaks rebut Congress chief's charge

(<https://www.firstpost.com/politics/rahul-gandhi-accuses-bjp-of-using-public-funds-to-run-rss-schools-pramukhs-swayamsevaks-rebut-congress-chiefs-charge-5326831.html>)

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1

2

3

4

5



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