

## Four-year jail for Jayalalithaa

Written by fe Bureau (https://www.financialexpress.com/archive/columnist/fe-bureau/) | Bangalore |

Updated: Sep 28 2014, 05:59am hrs



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalithaa has been found guilty in the Rs 66.65 crore disproportionate assets case. (PTI)

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Tamil Nadu chief minister J Jayalalithaa was on Saturday sentenced to a four-year jail term and a R100-crore fine by a special court here, which found her guilty in a corruption case, forcing the AIADMK supremo to have to demit office mid-term for the second time in her political career. Jayalalithaa was taken to the Bangalore Central Jail soon after the verdict was pronounced in the 18-year-old disproportionate assets case.

The conviction, and the quantum of sentence, pose a question mark over the 66-year-old leaders political future, as she stands disqualified as an MLA and faces a six-year ban on contesting elections, as per the

Representation of the People Act, 1951. Jayalalithaa, however, can appeal before a higher court.

Jayalalithaas government has another 20 months left of its five-year tenure. The case against Jayalalithaa was that her wealth had increased to R66.65 crore at the end of her five-year tenure in 1996, from around R2 crore in 1991, despite her declaring that she was drawing a salary of R1 during the term. The charges were that she had acquired assets that included land, gold and wristwatches.

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## Jayalalitha Jayaram

Also called 'Amma' (Mother) and sometimes 'Puratchi Thalaivi' (Revolutionary Leader) by her followers

**Real Name:** Komalavalli

**Born:** 24 February 1948 (age 66)  
Melukote, Mandya distt, Mysore

**Education:** Bishop Cotton Girls' High School, Bangalore  
Matriculation- Presentation Convent Church Park, Chennai (1964)

**Political party:** All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam

**Fluent in languages:** Tamil, Kannada, Hindi, Malayalam, Telugu and English

**1981:** Introduced to politics by MGR

**1983:** Made AIADMK's propaganda secretary

**1984-1989:** Member of Rajya Sabha

**October 1984:** MGR hospitalised, Jayalalitha steered the AIADMK

**1987:** MGR died, Jayalalitha controlled a split in the party and outbidding MGR's wife Janaki

**1989:** Became first woman leader of opposition

● **Appeared as lead actress** in over 140 films in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada

● **Worked in one Hindi film** *Izzat* opposite Dharmendra in 1968

● **1964-First movie:** Chinnada Gombe (Kannada)

● **1965-Shot to fame with:** Manushulu Mamathalu (Telugu)

● **1973: Filmfare Award for Best Actress**

### Assembly Elections Contested

1989	Bodinayakanur	Won
1991	Bargur, Kangayam	Won
1996	Bargur	Lost
2002	Andipatti	Won
2006	Andipatti	Won
2011	Srirangam	Won

### As Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

16 May 2011 -
2 March 2002 - 12 May 2006
14 May 2001 - 21 September 2001
24 June 1991 - 12 May 1996

PTI GRAPHICS

Jayalalithaa, along with her estranged foster son VN Sudhakaran, her former close aide VK Sasikala and the latter's sister-in-law J Ilavarasi, was convicted under sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act and provisions of the Indian Penal Code. The disproportionate assets case against the actor-turned-politician who was voted to power in the southern state in 2011 for the third time had been taken up in June 1996 on a complaint filed by BJP leader Subramanian Swamy, who was president of the Janata Party at that time. The three co-accused persons have been sentenced to four years and fine of R10 crore each, special public prosecutor Bhavani Singh told reporters.

The court has given a verdict where it has held that the prosecution could prove around R53 crore of disproportionate assets that she acquired when she was the CM, the team of prosecutors told reporters. The prosecution has proved its case and we have done our job and the law has taken its course.

The AIADMK chief has been referred for a medical check-up, as she sought special treatment citing ailments, they added.

I feel vindicated...she cannot recover from this loss of credibility, Swamy told a news channel. There were reports that stones had been pelted at Swamy's residence in Chennai.

Twists & turns of 18-year-old case

\* June 1996: Subramanian Swamy, then president of Janata Party, files a case against Jayalalithaa, alleging assets worth R66.65 crore disproportionate to her known sources of income during her tenure as chief minister from 1991 to 1996

\* December 7, 1996: Jayalalithaa arrested.

Many allegations follow, including accumulation of disproportionate assets

\* 1997: Prosecution launched in Additional Sessions Court in Chennai against Jayalalithaa and three others for assets disproportionate to their known income

\* May 2001: Jayalalithaa becomes CM. Appointment challenged due to her conviction in October 2000 in Tamil Nadu Small Industries Corporation case. SC nullifies appointment

\* September 21, 2001: Jayalalithaa ceases to be chief minister

\* September 27, 2014: Special Court convicts Jayalalithaa

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