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Tribal man's lynching, political killings haunt Pinarayi Vijayan government in Kerala



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HIGHLIGHTS

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- 11 persons were arrested and investigation is underway.
- CPI-M state conference also discussed the fall out of political killings in Kannur.
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Photo: Twitter/@vijayanpinarayi

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When state conference of Communist Party of India- Marxist (CPI-M) is meeting in Thrissur, the public lynching and earlier political murders in Kannur are haunting the party and the government.

The representatives in the closed-door meetings warned that tides were against the party and the government.

It was on Friday, when Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and the party leaders were busy in discussing the future of the party and government in Thrissur, when just 160 km away, a mentally challenged 27-year-old tribal man, Madhu, was lynched.

According to M R Ajithkumar, Inspector General of Police Thrissur range, 11 persons were arrested in connection with the incident and investigation is underway.

The government has announced a compensation of Rs 10 lakh for the deceased's family.

Madhu was taken into custody of 11 persons and beaten to death by them alleging that he had stolen rice from a shop.

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According to Ajithkumar, the accused tortured him for two hours in custody and before handing him over to the police in Mukkali.

The CPI-M representatives termed the event as an eye-opener for the government to hold an active intervention in tribal welfare activities in the state.

Attappadi, the largest tribal hamlet in the state has been in the news since 2014 when malnutrition deaths were reported from Kerala.

CPI-M state conference also discussed the fall out of political killings in Kannur and some of the representatives criticised why Kannur remains the nerve centre of political killings.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and CPI-M State Secretary Kodyeri Balakrishnan expressed their dismay over the brutal political violence in Kannur.

While briefing the media today, Central Committee member A Vijayaraghavan stated that the Communist party doesn't approve political killings or promote political violence in the state.

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When the leadership disowns the killings, political violence continues to rock the state.

Many leaders fear that a section of mid-level leaders are taking decisions that hamper the party interest in Kerala.

"It's a major problem for government and the party when political murders happen in the state. BJP is waiting for a chance to discredit the government. But unfortunately, some of our cadres do not understand the situation. We are going to design a device to control them," a senior Communist party leader told India Today.

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