



Beyond promises, Pinarayi pays price for ‘right’ turn strategy drives UDF poll sweep

Factors include anti-incumbency sentiment, local dynamics, sustained organisational work

K S SREEJITH @TPuram

Though the UDF has swept to power in a decisive verdict that has reshaped Kerala's political landscape, the Congress, which spearheaded the campaign, has struck a measured note on the reasons behind the victory.

Senior Congress leaders said the outcome could not be attributed solely to an alternative political and developmental agenda. While early preparations, campaign narrative, and the front's five guarantees played a significant role, the leaders acknowledged that a range of factors contributed.

At the ground level, Leader of Opposition V D Satheesan, senior leader Ramesh Chennithala, KPCC president Sunny Joseph, and the three working presidents led an aggressive campaign. However, party leaders credited the decisive edge to the high command's tactical intervention, particularly that of AICC organisational general secretary K C Venugopal.

Congress insiders pointed to a combination of local dynamics, anti-incumbency sentiment, and sustained organisational work. They also highlighted the party leadership's handling of rebels and dissent within the CPM, smooth seat-sharing both within the party and with its allies, and its calibrated outreach.

"We are delighted that we have received a large number of Left and even CPM votes for the first time in the party's history," a senior Congress leader told *TNIE*.

"Local leaders feared losing opportunities. But Venugopal assured them that those left out



would be considered once the government is formed. The strategy worked," a source said.

A review of the parliamentary and local body elections revealed a clear voting pattern against the LDF, with the UDF holding an advantage in 105 assembly constituencies. The high command subsequently constituted a Central Election Implementation Team in Kerala under poll strategist Sunil Kanugolu to address organisational and electoral gaps.

Party sources said Venugopal had been in touch with CPM rebel leaders months before they went public. The AICC's move to deploy observers at both state and district levels further helped identify organisational weakness.

KPCC's two-day brainstorming sessions (Chintan Shivir) at Sultan Bathery in Wayanad and at Neyyar in Thiruvananthapuram led to the 'Mission 2025' and 'Mission 2026' road maps for the local body and assembly elections. Venugopal's suggestion that former legislators contest local body polls yielded results.

M P PRASHANTH @Kozhikode

TILL the counting of votes started on the morning of May 4, Pinarayi Vijayan was the hero of hardcore party workers, who reposed an unreasonable faith in him and expected a miracle from the leader to return the LDF to power for a third time. They could hardly believe the television news flashes which showed that the 'invincible' Pinarayi was trailing a political novice in his home turf of Dharmadom in the initial rounds of counting.

The Pyrrhic victory — with a much-reduced margin and a washout of the CPM in party strongholds — have dented Pinarayi's image of a 'captain who can steer the ship even in troubled waters'. Now, he is seen as a tragic figure presiding over a party that is increasingly on the back foot in electoral politics in the country.

The downfall was in the offing, as evident from the results of a series of elections in Kerala in the past few years. But Pinarayi and his team ignored all the warnings and chose to live in a make-belief world created by sycophants who gathered around power centres. There



Congress supporters celebrating the party's victory in Kochi on Monday | EXPRESS

were reports that Pinarayi firmly believed he would return to power because that was the input given by the coterie. That shows the gravity of the disconnect he had with ground reality, something unimaginable for a communist leader.

Having entered public life through student politics, Pinarayi had an eventful political career. He became a Kannur district committee

member at 24 and was inducted into the district secretariat at 28. He was among the CPM leaders who faced unspeakable torture in police custody during the Emergency in 1975-77.

His detractors saw dangerous signs in Pinarayi shortly after he was elevated to the post of state secretary in 1998. His opponents within the party accused him of taking a 'right deviation' and concen-



Pinarayi Vijayan

Thahiliya is IUML's first woman MLA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@Kozhikode

TAKING ON CPM heavyweight and LDF convenor T P Ramakrishnan, IUML's Fathima Thahiliya secured 81,429 votes in the assembly elections in Perambra — sealing the contest with a margin of over 5,000 votes. BJP's M Mohanan Master trailed far behind.

In a party historically hesitant to field women, she was one of only two female candidates this election — and the only one to convert that opportunity into a win.

"This victory belongs to everyone who believed change was possible," Fathima said after her win. "I am here because people chose courage over comfort."

That sinking feeling! Will CPM's 'Captain' go down with the ship?

ANIL S @TPuram

THE Left has been dealt its biggest electoral thrashing in the recent past. And this calls for a radical overhaul of the CPM. The obvious place to start would be at the top. The leadership has so lost itself in the headiness of power that some soul-searching has become imperative.

Shrunk humiliatingly to a near nonentity in the state assembly, the writing on the wall is crystal clear: unless and until the party mends its ways, it's on the path to extinction. An autocratic style of functioning, arrogant posturing, alienation from ground realities, coupled with simmering internal revolt, have all contributed to the poor show. Fingers are now pointed at the 'Captain' who

chose to be its unquestionable leader. More than anti-incumbency, it is clearly an anti-Pinarayi Vijayan sentiment that was at play this time round.

"Voters have clearly backed those who took a firm stance against Pinarayi. It's nothing but a strategic failure. Backing Vellappally Natesan distanced minorities. We also lost the Ezhava vote. It's now time to go in for some major churning in the party structure and approach," said a CPM leader.

State secretary M V Govindan also indicated the party would introspect. Wednesday's CPM secretariat will look into the factors that led to the defeat.

The colossal drubbing points to resentment within party cadres, too. Never before has the Left encountered internal revolts of such serious nature

trating all power in one person. His enemies rallied behind fellow comrade V S Achuthanandan but Pinarayi outwitted all opposition and emerged victorious within the party.

The party and the government tended to revolve around Pinarayi after he became the chief minister in 2016. All voices of dissent were systematically silenced and people hand-picked by Pinarayi were given posts in the party and administration. Loyalty to Pinarayi became the sole criterion for any consideration at all levels.

Sycophancy crossed all limits when a Thiruvathira song was composed eulogising the 'the leader who was responsible for spreading the prestige of the party everywhere'. And Pinarayi never discouraged this tendency and seems to have enjoyed the hero-worship, something uncharacteristic in a communist party.

The result was a total alienation of ordinary party workers, who were denied an opportunity to express their grievances in party forums, from the leadership. And they saw this election as a chance to register their protest, which cost the party dearly.



MAJOR BATTLES

An overview of the key battles in the 2026 assembly elections in Kerala

THRITHALA

WINNER: V T Balram (INC)
RUNNER-UP: M B Rajesh (CPM)
MARGIN: 8,385

KALAMASSERY

WINNER: V E Abdul Gafoor (IUML)
RUNNER-UP: P Rajeev (CPM)
MARGIN: 16,312

VATTIYOORKAVU

WINNER: K Muralleedharan (INC)
RUNNER-UP: V K Prasanth (CPM)
MARGIN: 5,425

NEMOM

WINNER: Rajeev Chandrasekhar (BJP)
RUNNER-UP: V Sivankutty (CPM)
MARGIN: 4,978

MANJESHWAR

WINNER: A K M Ashraf (IUML)
RUNNER-UP: K Surendran (BJP)
MARGIN: 29,252

PALA

WINNER: Mani C Kappan (IND)
RUNNER-UP: Jose K Mani (KCM)
MARGIN: 2,991

EASTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. NIT/02/26/20, dated 20.04.2026. Principal Chief Materials Manager, Eastern Railway, 2nd floor, 17, Netaji Subhas Road, Fairlie Place, Kolkata-700001 invites e-tenders for supply of the following items. Sl.No., Tender No., Description of Stores, EMD are as follows — (A) Tender Opening Date: 11.05.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (1) 10252365, Two way horn valve assembly, ₹ 1,80,360/- Tender Opening Date: 01.06.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (2) 20251373A, Procurement of brake beam (outer) to ICF Drg No. EMU/M-3-2-015, Alt.k/7 (K by 7) etc., ₹ 1,04,200/- Tender Opening Date: 11.05.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (3) 21201115, Air cylinder etc., ₹ 4,26,690/- Tender Opening Date: 18.05.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (4) 10261348, Sequence relay for electric locos etc., ₹ 2,42,990/- Tender Opening Date: 27.05.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (5) 19261304, BRG adopter assly. etc., ₹ 2,76,890/- Tender Opening Date: 19.05.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (6) 08251435, Procurement of disconnecting and earthing device 8 pole etc., ₹ 10,09,690/- Tender Opening Date: 05.05.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (7) 14265032, Procurement of supply, transportation, installation, testing and commissioning of Fail-Safe Network Multiplexer (FN-MUX) as per RDSO specification no. RDSO/SPB/21/2022 ver. 1.0 with the latest amendments/revisions, if any, to meet the specific requirements for Intermediate Block Signalling operation in double line section in single/double distant Signalling etc., ₹ 14,01,840/- (8) 07251090F, Procurement of wooden wedges size: 415 mm x 72 mm x 175 mm to CLW's Drg. no. 4W.12000.054/B, Alt. no. 'B', Material: Seasoned Sal wood for conventional and 3 phase locomotives, ₹ 1,67,860/- Tender Opening Date: 08.05.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (9) 21261529, Assembly of bearing piece etc., ₹ 1,19,950/- Tender Opening Date: 18.05.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (10) 11251644, Procurement of Emergency Battery Charger etc., ₹ 1,35,130/- Tender Opening Date: 11.05.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (11) 20262196, Axle bearing, ₹ 1,72,630/- (12) 11265008, Supply and installation of Aerosol Fire Detection and Suppression system, ₹ 5,35,680/- Tender Opening Date: 26.05.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (13) 1226-DXing-DS-6494, Running Contract for 1 in 8.5 Diamond Crossing & T-6494, ₹ 20,00,000/- Tender Opening Date: 30.04.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (14) 1226-TWS-9775, 6400 mm Curved Thick Web Switch with Thick-web Tongue rails and Anti Creep device: for 1 in 8.5 turnout BG (1673 mm) for 60 kg (UIC)/60E1A1 Rail on PSC sleepers complete with all fittings for 1 in 8.5, BG 60 kg turnout of fan shaped layout on PSC sleepers i.e. all fittings for switch portion as per sub assembly no. T-9775 Alt-3, ₹ 20,00,000/- Tender Opening Date: 27.04.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (15) 12261030, Running Contract for manufacturing and supply of Elastic Rail Nik-V to RDSO Drg. No. T-5919, ₹ 50,00,000/- Tender Opening Date: 21.04.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (16) 12261019, Manufacture & supply of 1 in 12 CMS crossing for BG, suitable for Rails 60 kg UIC/60E1 conforming to RDSO Drg. No. (T-4220, Alt-9), ₹ 16,07,160/- Tender Opening Date: 12.05.2026, Time: 13.30 Hrs.: (17) 12261049, Manufacture & supply of Composite Grooved Rubber Sole Plates (CGRSP) 100 mm thick for use with wider PSC sleeper, as per RDSO Drg. No. T-8747, ₹ 20,00,000/- (18) 1226-DR_Switch-5836, Fabrication and supply of 6400 mm overriding Derailling Switch (RH), suitable to BG, 52 kg rails for 1 in 8.5 fan shaped layouts on PSC sleeper conforming to RDSO Drg. No. (T-5836 Alt-3), ₹ 3,37,860/- Tender Cost: Rs. 0/- for all. (B) Tender No.: 52257780A, Short Description: Retrofitting of revised wiring with modified junction boxes & connector for KBIPL. Tender closing date: 18.05.2026. Estimated Tender value: ₹ 84,01,500/- Corrigendums: Please visit www.ireps.gov.in for corrigendums issued to following tender: 11265007A due on 04.05.2026. Note: All above mentioned tenders are e-tenders and all tenderers are requested to submit their bids on-line through the IREPS website at <https://www.ireps.gov.in> For more details regarding the above mentioned tenders and other supply tenders please visit IREPS website. (Stores-05/2026-27) Tender Notices are also available at Website www.ir.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in Follow us at: @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

S. E. RAILWAY – E-TENDER

Tender Notice No.: PCMM/GENL/TP/2026/11, dated 10.04.2026. Open e-Tenders for "E" Procurement system are invited by Principal Chief Materials Manager, S.E.Railway, Headquarters Office (5th Floor), New Administrative Building, 11, Garden Reach Road, Kolkata-700043 for and on behalf of the President of India, which have been uploaded on website www.ireps.gov.in as follows. All the tenders will be closed at 14.00 hrs.

Sl.No.	Tender No.	Closing Date	Brief Description	Qty.	EMD (in ₹)
1	30263005	07.05.2026	Hytral Lower Washer etc.	8900 Nos.	12,72,270/-
2	30263498	04.05.2026	Axle Box Housing for ICF coaches etc.	500 Nos.	2,71,400/-
3	38264068	04.05.2026	Brake wear plate (Pocket liner) for Casubn Bogie etc.	36000 Nos.	1,67,370/-
4	65235034C	21.04.2026	Supply, installation, commissioning & proving out of EOT Crane, capacity 35/5 ton	01 No.	2,01,110/-
5	60260040	30.04.2026	Manufacture and Supply of Metal Liner for 60 Kg etc.	3000000 Nos.	15,24,000/-
6	6026RGC03	28.04.2026	Manufacturing and Supply of 10 mm thick pocket type Nylon Cord Reinforced Grooved Rubber Sole Plates	500 Set.	16,88,000/-
7	65255037	12.05.2026	Diesel Generator set 750 KVA (Pre-bid meeting on 20.04.26 16:00 hrs at PCMM Meeting Room/ SER/GRC/Kol-43)	01 No.	2,60,000/-
8	65245061B	05.05.2026	Rotary screw electrical driven Air Compressor 500 CFM	04 Nos.	2,26,800/-
9	47255026A	30.04.2026	Supply, erection, testing & commissioning of outdoor type distribution transformer of capacity 11KV/0.415 KV, 250 KVA etc.	12 Nos.	1,16,490/-
10	AD265162	04.05.2026	Set of Aluminum feeder pipes and accessories for LHB AC coaches etc.	150 Set	1,98,240/-
11	56255238A	05.05.2026	Supply, Installation and commissioning of SMPS based IPS etc.	08 Set	1,24,800/-
12	33263092	03.05.2026	Inter car Gangway Mounting etc.	1030 Nos.	11,95,420/-
13	33260099	11.05.2026	Hinged cover Assembly for Blind socket etc.	9100 Nos.	8,80,340/-
14	33260049	20.05.2026	Roller Blind Complete for LHB AC-3 Tier etc.	45 Set	1,12,500/-
15	33263222	20.05.2026	Set of Bite type Fittings for LHB coach etc.	260 Set	2,42,070/-
16	33263280	18.05.2026	Double Inlet (Type-I) centrifugal blower	1270 Nos.	54,420/-
17	33263052	18.05.2026	Roll Link	3287 Nos.	1,25,670/-
18	33263021	18.05.2026	Traction Control (Lever).	1990 Nos.	2,20,260/-
19	33263030	15.05.2026	Anti Roll Bar	1940 Nos.	2,38,080/-
20	33263029	13.05.2026	Anti Roll Bar Fork	3950 Nos.	4,13,730/-
21	33260004	06.05.2026	Cushioning material for Seat and Berth etc.	140 Set	2,87,450/-

Interested tenderers may visit website www.ireps.gov.in for full details/ description/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these items will be accepted. N.B.: Prospective Bidders may regularly visit www.ireps.gov.in to participate in all other tenders & any corrigendum published thereafter. (PR-35)

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY

Yeshwantrao, BANGALORE - 560 064
Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

Tender Notice No. RWF/W/26-27/03
dttd. 30.04.2026

E- TENDERS: On Behalf of the President of India, the Dy. CHIEF ENGINEER invites electronic tender for the following works online through the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> (in Words).

1) Tender No.: W.498/RWF/YNK/1082. Description: Development of Park at East & West Colony of RWF. Estimated Value: Rs. 2,74,00,994.20. EMD Amount: Rs. 54,800.00. Closing Date & Time: 25/05/2026 at 15:00 hrs.

2) Tender No.: W.498/RWF/YNK/1083. Description: Construction of Type-VI (3 Nos) quarters at East Colony of RWF/YNK & Improvements to Type-VI quarters at East Colony. Estimated Value: Rs. 34,95,385.43. EMD Amount: Rs. 699,100.00. Closing Date & Time: 25/05/2026 at 15:00 hrs.

Dy. Chief Engineer

NAGPUR METROPOLITAN REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Station Road, Kingsway, Sadar, Nagpur-440001.

e-TENDER NOTICE No. 05/2026-27

www.mahatenders.gov.in

Sealed Percentage rate/Item rate e-tenders are invited from Non-Registered / Registered Contractors with N.M.R.D.A. / N.I.T./P.W.D. / N.M.C. or other Govt. Dept. as per eligibility criteria for One work. The details of work will be uploaded on tender website i.e. www.mahatenders.gov.in

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Amount of Work / E.M.D. in Rs.	Eligibility/Tender Cost in Rs.	Time Limit in Months	Division
1	Construction, Development and Sale of 1197 EWS DUS + 80 Shops including the required basic infrastructure of Roads, Utilities, Social Amenities etc. on Kh. No. 31, Mouza - Mahadula, Tal. Kamptee, Dist. Nagpur on Construct and Transfer basis under AHP PPP in Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana in Nagpur Metropolitan Region Development Authority, Nagpur.	2,63,36,32,466/- 1,31,68,200/-	As per Tender Document 50000/-	24	Project

Money:- E.M.D. is to be paid by online only. Plans & Estimates:- Available in the Technical Section, Head Office, Sadar, Nagpur. Tender Forms:- From 02.00 P.M. on Date 07.05.2026 up to 2.00 P.M. on Date 29.05.2026 on www.mahatenders.gov.in Receipt / Submission:- From 02.00 P.M. on Date 07.05.2026 up to 2.00 P.M. on Date 29.05.2026 on www.mahatenders.gov.in. Pre-Bid Meeting:- On 4.00 P.M. on Date 12.05.2026 in the office of S. E. (Project), NMRDA, Station Road, NMRDA, Head Office, Sadar, Nagpur. Opening:- At N.M.R.D.A. Office on Date 01.06.2026 at 2.00 P.M. or as decided by N.M.R.D.A. Advt. No.: S.E.(NMRDA)/10/2026-27 Dated: 04.05.2026

-sd- Superintending Engineer, Nagpur Metropolitan Region Development Authority

ATTIBELE BRANCH

No. 61, Indlaible Village, Sarjapura Hobli Road, Attibele, Bangalore

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR SALE OF ASSET THROUGH ONLINE E-AUCTION UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower, Mortgagor (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned accounts. The details of Borrower(s)/Mortgagor (s)/ Guarantor (s) /Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below -

Sr. No.	Name & address of Borrowers, Mortgagor/s and Guarantor/s	Detailed description of the immovable/movable property with known Encumbrances, if any	Total Dues.	Date & Time of E-auction	Reserve Price, EMD, Last Date of EMD Amount and Bid Increase Amount	Status of Possession (Constructive /Physical)	Property Inspection date & Time
1.	M/s Kleid Fashion, Address: Ground Floor, 39/5, JC Industrial Area Kanakapura Main Road, Bengaluru Urban, Karnataka 560062	(Owner/Mortgagor name : Mr. V Praveen S/o Vel) SCHEDULE "A" PROPERTY Equitable Mortgage by deposit of title deeds created on 356/2025 and registered on 21.01.2025 and Rectification Deed 812/2025 dated 07.02.2025 on All that piece and parcel of the residential property Land and Building bearing Survey No Old S.F.No.210 (new revenue record Town S.F.No.71), Extent 460 sq.mtrs, Door No.2, 2A, 2B, 2B/1 (as per property tax), Namakkal R.D., Rasipuram Sub-R.D., Rasipuram Taluk, Rasipuram Town, Old Ward No.4, Then Ward No.7 (now As Per Municipality Tax-Receipt Ward No.5, Co-Operative House Building Society Road No.1, in the name of V Praveen S/o Vel aged 24 years. Boundaries: North of - East-West road. South of - Property of R.Purnimal and others. East of - Property of Advocate Subramanyam. West of - Property of M.S.K.A Krishnasamy Chellaiyar. Measuring East West Northern Side 15.8 mt., East -West Southern Side 17.8 mt., North South Eastern Side 27.4 mt., North South Western Side 27.4 mt measuring 460 sq.mt. With one RCC Terraced House and First Floor, Second Floor and Third Floor. Bearing Door No.2, Assessment No.053/005/900041 and Door No.2A, Assessment No.053/005/900042 and Door No.2B, Assessment No.053/005/900043 and Door No.2B/1, Assessment No.053/005/900044, With S.C Nos.04-501-003-3082, 04-510-003-3217 & 04-501-003-3300 and Water Connection Nos.053/005/900313, 053/005/900314 & 053/005/900320 As Per Town Survey Ward C, Block No.2, Town S.F.No.71 Extent 0.0460.0 (460 sq-mtrs) Assessment Rs. 10.00 Full	Rs. 6,62,32,284.00 (Rupees Sixty Crore Sixty Two Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Four only) Plus further interest w.e.f. from 04-11-2025 thereon at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment	06/06/2026 From 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM	Reserve Price: Rs.69,74,450/- EMD: Rs.69,74,450/- Last Date and Time of Receipt of EMD Amount: Rs.69,74,450/- 05/06/2026 upto 5.00 Pm Bid Increment Amount: Rs. 25,000/-	Symbolic Possession	With Prior Appointment from Authorize d Officer
2.	Mr. T Nagaraj S/o Thirumoorthi Address: No. 18E, Jeeva Street, Sirupoluvaipatti, Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu 641603						
3.	Mr. V Praveen S/o Vel Address: 130, Karadyanur, Thengalpalayam, Rasipuram, Namakkal, Tamil Nadu 636301						

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link <https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction> and online auction portal <https://banknet.com>. For queries contact Number: 8291220220 & email ID: support.banknet@psballiance.com. Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorised officer on Mobile: 9746228999 Date: 04.05.2026, Place: Bengaluru

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