



Tamilnadu Economy in News (TEN) is a carefully chosen list of news items spotlighting the state's economy published in the recent press. A monthly issue of the Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS), TEN brings forth notable current economic affairs of the State for wider attention of economists, researchers and policymakers.

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Edited by

MIDS
79, 2nd Main Road,
Gandhi Nagar, Adyar,
Chennai 600020

044-2441 2589 / 9771

TEN

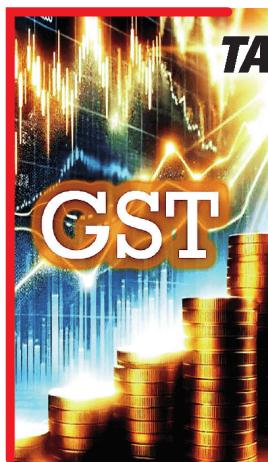
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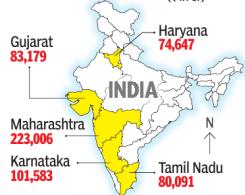


TAMIL NADU MAINTAINS STEADY GST MOMENTUM

Tamil Nadu's GST revenues maintained a steady growth trajectory during the Apr-Oct 2025, reflecting a resilient pace of economic activity. The state began the fiscal year on a strong note, collecting ₹13,831 crore in April 2025, a 13% rise over the same month last year. May saw the sharpest surge, with revenues jumping 25% year-on-year to ₹12,230 crore, indicating a rebound in trade and manufacturing activity following a seasonally strong first quarter.

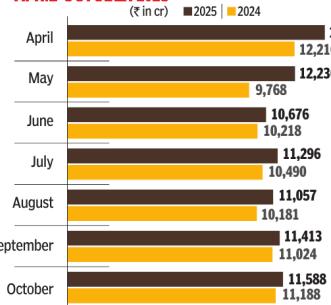
From June onward, collections stabilised, showing consistent single-digit growth each month. Revenues stood at ₹10,676 crore in June, ₹11,296 crore in July, and ₹11,057 crore in August, marking growth rates of 4%, 8%, and 9%, respectively. The trend continued in September (₹11,413 crore) and October (₹11,588 crore), both posting 4% annual growth. Overall, Tamil Nadu's steady monthly performance underscores balanced expansion across sectors, supported by sustained consumption demand.

TOP 5 STATES IN GST REVENUE COLLECTIONS - APR-OCT'25 (₹ in cr)



With total collections of ₹82,091 crore during the period, TN ranked fourth among all states in GST revenues, with a 9.3% increase over the previous year. Maharashtra led with ₹23,006 crore, followed by Karnataka (₹10,583 crore) and Gujarat (₹83,179 crore), while Haryana trailed closely behind Tamil Nadu with ₹74,647 crore.

TAMIL NADU - GST REVENUE COLLECTIONS APRIL-OCTOBER 2025



Source: GST Portal

Source: *The Times of India*, 10 November 2025, p. 2

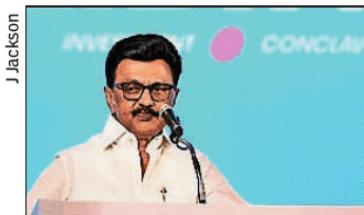
TN signs 158 MoUs to attract ₹43k cr at Coimbatore conclave

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Coimbatore: The Tamil Nadu govt on Tuesday signed 158 memoranda of understanding (MoUs) at the TN Rising Investors' Conclave in Coimbatore attracting investments worth ₹43,844 crore, aimed at generating more than a lakh jobs.

Chief minister M K Stalin, who chaired the conclave, hit out at opposition parties for questioning DMK govt's investment claims. He said the flow of investments to TN was rising due to proper maintenance of law and order. "The rate of conversion from MoUs to actual investment in TN is 80%," he said. TN was competing with countries such as Vietnam and Thailand to draw investments, he said in the presence of industries minister TR B Rajaa.

The state govt said 111 MoUs were signed on behalf of industries, investment promotion and



1 LAKH MORE JOBS: CM Stalin at the TN Rising Investors' Conclave in Coimbatore on Tuesday

commerce department, while the rest were signed by micro, small and medium enterprises department. These investments span textiles, aerospace and defence, electronics and IT sector and will be located across Coimbatore, Tirupur, Namakkal, Karur, Erode, Nilgiris and Perambalur districts. Stalin also laid foundation for two centres of excellence — one at Avarampalayam for advanced pumps and motors manufacturing and the other at Mopperipalayam for foundry skills and casting development.

Source: *The Times of India*, 26 November 2025, p. 1

Budgeted or short-changed?

What 16th Finance Commission report means for TN

Southern States Say They Risk Losing Out Because Current Formula Favours Lower Incomes And Larger Populations, While Higher Performance And Better Tax Collection Are Not Recognised

NORTH-SOUTH DIVIDE STATUS

How the fiscal gap has widened over the years

Combined share of Bihar (including Jharkhand), MP (including Chhattisgarh), UP (including Uttarakhand) & WB during 6th FC period

42.5%

Combined share of Andhra Pradesh including Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala and TN during the 6th FC period

24.8%

By the 15th FC period, this difference almost doubled, as the top four states' combined share rose to 51%, while the southern states' share fell to 15.8%

K R Shanmugam

With Tamil Nadu pushing for more fiscal decentralisation, the 16th Finance Commission (FC) is working against one of the most complex backdrops in recent years. While traditionally the FC's objectives are to recommend the distribution of tax revenues between Centre and state govts to maintain financial stability, this time around, expectations are not limited to revenue-sharing decisions but also to strengthening cooperative federalism.

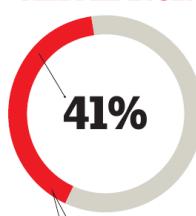
Economically advanced states such as Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Karnataka have long argued that they contribute a disproportionately high share of central tax revenues but receive relatively smaller shares from the divisible pool. The greater weight given to income distance (the measure of how far a state's per capita income is from the richest state) means poorer states receive a larger share of central taxes. But the combined weight for tax collection and fiscal discipline, often under 10%, provides little recognition of efficient fiscal performance.

Also, since cesses and surcharges are not shared, high-contributing states lose further despite being major revenue sources. The Union govt increasingly uses cesses and surcharges on direct and indirect taxes, which together account for more than 15% of Centre's gross tax revenues and are excluded from the divisible pool. This reduces the effective tax share of states and undermines the transparency of fiscal transfers. The buoyancy of central taxes has declined, which could further depress the actual transfer amounts. Ensuring trust and predictability in fiscal transfers is crucial for cooperative federalism.

Southern states have also been disadvantaged in fiscal transfers despite strong socio-economic performance. In 2023-24, their per capita incomes were among the highest in the country: Telangana ranked first, Karnataka second, Tamil Nadu fourth, Kerala sixth and Andhra Pradesh ninth. Yet, their fiscal capacity has weakened significantly.

Their rankings in the revenue receipts-Gross State Domestic Product ratio and the revenue expenditure-GSDP ratio were also among the lowest. They also ranked poorly in education and health spending relative to GSDP. Most of

REBALANCING GIVE & TAKE POLICY: TN'S POV



Revisit 41% share of central taxes for states as revenues are becoming more centralised while states now bear more expenditure

Graphic: G Jay Theophilus



GREY DIVIDEND: Tamil Nadu argues that as it has an ageing population, it needs greater fiscal support beyond what population-based indicators allow

these states also face a high debt-GSDP ratio.

Larger inter-state disparities in expenditure needs remain. For instance, Jharkhand spends ₹1,300 per person on health, while Goa spends ₹12,000. Bihar's per-student public expenditure on elementary education is about ₹11,000, which is 10 times lower than Sikkim's. Uttar Pradesh and Bihar face youth-heavy populations, while Kerala and Tamil Nadu confront ageing populations. Tamil Nadu and Kerala argue that ageing

populations and rising urbanisation necessitate greater fiscal support beyond what population-based indicators allow.

TN also has growing welfare commitments, climate-related vulnerabilities and the possibility of fiscal pressures arising from pension policy revisions and the 2026 pay revisions. The FC must design specific-purpose grants in health, education and social sectors to ensure minimum service standards across regions.

Source: *The Times of India*, 27 November 2025, p. 6

Suppose the 16th FC assigns more weight to the income distance. In that case, these states may continue to lose out, which is why they favour income adjusted for purchasing power parity, a lower weight for this measure, or a new index that better reflects fiscal capacity and development needs.

The GST regime too has reduced states' fiscal autonomy. None achieved the projected 14% annual growth in GST revenue, and all received compensation for at least three of the five years. With the end of the compensation period and the rate rationalisation (four rates of 5%, 12%, 18% and 28% reduced to 5% and 18%), many states fear revenue losses. Meanwhile, the growing dominance of centrally sponsored schemes has narrowed states' fiscal space, making it necessary to rationalise grants-in-aid and reduce overlap to enable development initiatives.

Almost all 15 FCs have followed the principle of equity, transferring more resources to poorer states. Yet, the relative positions of these states have not improved significantly while the shares of better-performing states have fallen.

During the 6th FC period, the largest beneficiary states — Bihar (including Jharkhand), Madhya Pradesh (including Chhattisgarh), Uttar Pradesh (including Uttarakhand) and West Bengal received a combined share of 42.5%, while the four southern states (Andhra Pradesh including Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala and TN) got just 24.8%. By the 15th FC, the difference almost doubled, as the top four states' combined share increased to 51%, while the southern states' share shrank to 15.8%.

This shift reflects changes in the devolution criteria and weights used by successive commissions. For instance, the income distance (difference between a state's per capita income and that of the richest state) got 50% weight in the 14th FC and 45% weight in the 15th FC. The 14th FC used a 7.5% weight for forest and ecology, while the 15th FC gave a 10% weight. This tendency also leads to uncertainty about the shares of states across different FCs.

As India aspires to become a developed country by 2047, the report to be tabled in Parliament soon will be key to building a more stable and sustainable fiscal architecture.

(The writer is economic consultant to state govt)

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State Households Hold 6,720 Tonnes Of Gold, Which Is Almost As Much As The US National Reserve

Why Tamil Nadu's bullion-literate hearts beat for gold

Bhama Devi Ravi

For years, Mylapore jeweller D K Murthy would tell customers debating whether to invest in gold the story of Kuttiammal. Widowed in the 1930s, she left her village near Vellore for Chennai, seeking better prospects for her children. What made that possible was her husband's habit of buying gold every month, which became her safety net, funding a new life in the city.

While investors across the world seek stability amid global volatility, and gold is being rediscovered as the real global currency, the yellow metal has long been at the heart of generational wealth in Tamil Nadu, a financial cushion in times of crises and a longstanding symbol of security.

Despite changing tax norms and younger investors turning to digital assets, gold continues to dominate the state's investment psyche.

According to the World Gold Council, Tamil Nadu households hold about 6,720 tonnes of gold, which is almost as much as the US national reserve and more than the sovereign holdings of Germany, Italy and Russia. Of the majority of gold held by Indians, 45% belongs to South Indian women, and TN leads this trend.

"Gold has always been seen as a store of value across generations in India," says Aruppukkottai-based jeweller M Ragu Raman. "It offers liquidity, universal acceptance and emotional security unlike any other asset. For families, it is a symbol of security that can be pledged, exchanged or passed on."

People in Tamil Nadu have always held fast to their gold. When the Gold Control Act of 1968 came into effect, making it illegal to hold gold coins or bars, women called goldsmiths home and had each sovereign cut into two. Gold-

smiths made house calls to craft gold jewellery. "Although women weren't part of financial decisions in most homes, many of us were bullion-literate," says 92-year-old R Veda.

In the late 1980s, when alcohol addiction was poorly understood, the TT Ranganathan Clinical Research Foundation filled that gap. A mother of three says when her son-in-law was an addict, she converted her four-strand chain (the popular rettaivadam) into two, giving half to her daughter to help her through her husband's counselling and the financial crunch.

Gold coins and jewellery were also informally sold among friends for small profits, with no receipts or paperwork. "People avoided paying short- or long-term capital gains tax on such sales, and most transactions stayed off record," says advocate R S Ravendhren.

This changed as reputable jewellers began buying back only from those with original receipts, and as India's tax system became more streamlined.

Under Section 56(2) of the Income Tax Act, gold received as a gift from parents, spouses, or children is exempt from income tax. Gold received as a wedding gift is also non-taxable. However, if the value of gold received from non-relatives exceeds ₹50,000, it becomes taxable



Chartered accountants started advising clients to declare gold holdings in their annual returns. Over time gold came to be seen as a disciplined, long-term investment. "In rural areas too, savings are steadily moving from cash and land to gold," says Raman.

Jayantilal Challani, president of Gold and Diamond Traders Association, says Tamil Nadu's long tradition of buying gold should be viewed as wealth creation rather than an investment seeking returns. He predicts a 150% rise in prices by 2028. "Gold is likely to have the status of preferred global currency by 2028," he says.

Over the past two decades, gold has compounded at 8%-10% annually in rupee terms, outperforming most fixed-

income instruments, says Raman. "When prices dip, more buyers enter the market."

Investment adviser V Nagappan says gold jewellery is an important investment for the middle and lower-middle class, easy to buy in small amounts and universally accepted. "Like any asset, gold has had mixed results. Between 1980 and 2001 it was dull globally, but in India it held value due to the dollar rate. Between 2012 and 2015, returns dipped 15%, but short-term gains have often ranged from 10 to 20%. Last year, returns were about 80%," he says.

Nagappan adds that records show gold held its purchasing power for more than four centuries. He also calls govt-issued sovereign gold bonds "a solid investment" with early investors benefiting from tax-free redemption.

"The only drawback is that new issues have stopped and buyers have to turn to the

WHAT THE LAW SAYS ABOUT GOLD POSSESSION

Earlier, the Gold Control Act of 1968 regulated gold ownership, but it was repealed in 1990. Currently, Instruction No 1916 issued in 1994 by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) guides income tax officials during searches. It specifies that jewellery and ornaments up to certain limits cannot be seized, even without supporting documents:

HOW MUCH GOLD CAN YOU HOLD

- Married woman 500g
- Unmarried woman 250g
- Male member 100g

In 1999, the govt introduced the gold deposit scheme, followed by the gold monetisation scheme through banks to bring idle gold holdings into circulation. Both failed as they required melting of jewels

When it comes to ancestral gold, proving ownership is often difficult since most people do not keep receipts or certificates when wealth is passed down. Declaring such holdings in income tax returns can formalise ownership, but many avoid doing so to steer clear of disclosing sources or to avoid potential tax obligation

secondary market through BSE or NSE," he says.

Nagappan says he finds younger investors uninterested in ornamental gold. "They prefer silver ETFs. It's mostly senior citizens and middle-class investors wary of market volatility who continue to prefer physical gold," he says, adding that portfolios shouldn't hold more than 15%-20% in gold.

Challani holds a different view. Pointing to the 5,000sqft showrooms which are mushrooming across Tamil Nadu, he insists retail interest in gold remains strong.

While gold remains a trusted investment, many still hesitate to document purchases. For generations, transactions were informal and unblended, but jewellers say awareness is growing. Buyers now understand that a receipt guarantees purity, ownership and resale value. Every ornament today carries a unique HUID code, making it traceable, and jewellers insist on original bills or HUID tags for exchanges.

Younger buyers are comfortable with invoices, but the older generation remains wary. "There's already too much personal data in the public domain. Recording gold purchases makes you a target for scammers," says retired academic S Guru Rajan.

Economists say that every seven years, there is a kind of upheaval, major or minor, which calls for realignment of investments. When countries face an economic downturn, investment in precious metals, especially gold and silver, takes off. "That's why gold is always good to go," says Challani.

(The writer is a Chennai-based journalist)

Email your feedback with name and address to southpole.toi@timesofindia.com

Source: *The Times of India*, 06 November 2025, p. 6

TN named top achiever in ease of doing business

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@Chennai

TAMIL Nadu has been recognised as a top achiever in the ease of doing business, as the state secured top rank at the Udyog Samagam 2025 for its reforms in business entry, construction permits, labour facilitation and land administration under the Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP) 2024.

The award was presented at the annual industry and reforms review event chaired by Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal. The

meet was organised by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), led by Secretary Amardeep Singh Bhatia.

Industries Minister Dr TRB Rajaa on Tuesday night said the recognition underscores Tamil Nadu's commitment to building a pro-business, pro-worker, and pro-growth environment under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister MK Stalin.

The reforms is part of a broader push to position Tamil Nadu as an investor-friendly and innovation-driven economy.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 12 November 2025, p. 5

Paddy procurement in the State during lean season not so lean anymore

Steady rise

Over the years, the share of the lean season's contribution to the overall annual paddy procurement has increased substantially, both in absolute numbers and proportion

Trend of paddy procurement in the last 4 years along with the share of lean season (in lakh tonnes)				
Year	Peak season (Sept.-March)	Lean season (April-August)	Total	Share of lean season to the total procurement (in %)
2021-22	35.08	6.65	41.73	15.94
2022-23	30.8	13.45	44.25	43.67
2023-24	22.11	12.86	34.97	36.77
2024-25	28.3	19.69	47.99	41.02

Source: Central Food Grains Procurement Portal



Source: *The Hindu*, 03 November 2025, p. 8

T. Ramakrishnan
CHENNAI

Lean season does not seem to be lean any longer to the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, as far as paddy procurement is concerned. The proportion of lean season's supply to the Corporation's pool of paddy has risen over the years.

As the period of September-March witnesses the harvesting of paddy raised during the State's two cultivation seasons – *kuruvali* and *samba* – it is considered peak season, while the remaining months – April to August – is the lean season.

Over the years, the share of the lean season's contribution to the overall annual paddy procurement has gone up substantially, both in absolute numbers and proportion, according to the data avail-

able on the Central Food Grains Procurement Portal. Four years ago, the share was a little less than 16%. During the previous procurement year (September 2024 to August 2025), it rose to around 40%.

District-wise break up

A closer look at the district-wise break up of contribution reveals that the composite Thanjavur district – Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam and Mayiladuthurai apart from Thanjavur – accounts for, on an average, 30% of the paddy procured all over the State during the lean months.

As per the definition of the Cauvery delta by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation (TNCS), parts of Tiruchi, Pudukkottai, Ariyalur, Perambalur, Cuddalore, and Karur form part of the delta and they

have not been taken into account for want of disaggregated data, while considering the delta's share. Significantly, Chennai's neighbouring districts – Kanchipuram, Chengalpattu, and Tiruvallur – along with Tiruvannamalai form the next cluster of districts in providing a considerable quantum of paddy to the State's basket. These four districts' combined share was almost 24%.

Among the reasons cited are free power supply, better availability of labour for farm work during lean season, and the operation of direct purchase centres (DPCs) throughout the year across the State, unlike the earlier practice of having DPCs only in the delta, that too during the harvesting of the *kuruvali* and *samba* crops. Other factors include changes in

the pattern of raising paddy during the two cultivation seasons and mechanisation of farming activity to a large extent.

Alternative crops

Asked whether the scheme of free power supply should be in place when sections of farmers are drawing water for raising paddy, a water-intensive crop, V. Sathyaranayanan, a Tiruvarur-based farmer, suggests that the farmers should instead be encouraged to raise cotton and maize using the free electricity.

"Officials of the Revenue department, who do entries on *Adangal*, a land record document that contains details including crops raised, can be entrusted with the job of ascertaining whether the farmers follow the advice," he adds.

Heavy rain hits samba, thaladi cultivation in delta

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Trichy/Madurai: Incessant rain across the coastal and delta districts has submerged low-lying paddy fields, severely affecting thousands of hectares of samba and thaladi cultivation due to prolonged water stagnation.

From Sunday morning to Monday morning, Nagapattinam recorded 9.3 cm of rainfall, Thanjavur 8 cm, Tiruvarur 7.9 cm, Mayiladuthurai 5.3 cm and Trichy 2.7 cm. The continued showers through Monday have put samba crops – now in the crucial vegetative growth stage – at high risk.

According to the agriculture department, samba and thaladi have been sown and transplanted in around 4 lakh hectares (9.8 lakh acres) out of the season's target of 4.6 lakh hectares (11.8 lakh acres) across Trichy, Thanjavur, Ti-



FARMS TURN SWAMP: Nearly 85% of cultivation completed, says dept

ruvarur, Nagapattinam and Mayiladuthurai. Nearly 85% of transplantation has been completed, and the remaining area is expected to be covered by month-end. The persistent rain threatens crops now in the tillering or stem-elongation phases.

Low-lying fields are the worst hit, a senior agriculture department official said. "We are closely monitoring

the situation and have advised farmers to drain excess water wherever possible to minimise damage from prolonged submergence," the official noted.

Farmers are waiting for the floodwater to recede to resume field operations. Harvesting is scheduled from late January to late February, depending on crop duration.

With the ongoing rainfall

irrigating standing crops, the water resources department has reduced water release from the Grand Anicut to below 50 cusecs to prevent further flooding through Cauvery irrigation canals.

Meanwhile, heavy rain continued to pound the southern districts on Monday, flooding several parts of Tuticorin. Authorities increased discharge from major waterbodies. An orange alert was issued for Tirunelveli and Tenkasi for Tuesday, and a yellow alert for Tuticorin.

As the Thamirabarani swelled with heavy inflow, the administration intensified water release from major reservoirs. The Srivaikuntam dam, one of the oldest anicuts constructed across the Thamirabarani, discharged at 19,747 cusecs with all 14 shutters opened, while the Marudur dam released at

22,543 cusecs. At Korampallam lake, one of the largest water storage areas in the district, the water level touched 1.9m, and seven gates were opened to release water at 6,000 cusecs. By 6pm on Monday, water levels stood at 11.8ft at Marudur anicut, 11.6ft at Thiruvalkundam anicut, and 1.7m at Korampallam Anicut.

Tirunelveli remained on high alert after an orange warning was issued. As many as 213 relief centres, including schools, colleges, community halls, and wedding halls, have been readied for emergencies.

In Kanyakumari, moderate to rough sea conditions have been forecast till Nov 29. Tourists and locals were told not to enter the water or take selfies in coastal zones. Rubber plantations were also hit by persistent rain, affecting people who depend on it.

Source: *The Times of India*, 25 November 2025, p. 7

Farmers worry as manpower shortage slows paddy procurement at DPCs

MOHAMED SALAHUDEEN B
@Nagapattinam

AFTER nearly two weeks of dry weather that helped farmers in Nagapattinam dry out their paddy drenched during last month's heavy rains, they said procurement has slowed down once again due to inadequate transport and manpower. In Thethi and nearby areas, farmers fear that with only 600-800 sacks being moved out of Direct Procurement Centres (DPCs) each day, large quantities of paddy may stagnate and risk damage if rain returns.

In Nagapattinam district, kuruvai cultivation was carried out on about 30,217.34 hectares, of which harvesting has been completed on 29,380 hectares, as of Thursday. Harvesting and paddy procurement are under way across the remaining 837.34 hectares. However, farmers say they have been unable to procure and sell their harvested paddy for more than 15 days due to slow procurement and transport delays.

Earlier, the delayed northeast monsoon had left harvested paddy grains across the delta drenched, forcing farmers to dry them along roadsides and open spaces. The recent spell of dry weather has helped farmers resume drying and stacking the paddy sacks at homes, on



Farmers waiting with their harvested paddy near a direct procurement centre at Panayapuram in Tiruchy | MK ASHOK KUMAR

roads and in procurement centres. However, the continued stagnation of paddy sacks at DPCs has become a major concern, as farmers say the lack of sufficient lorries to transport the stock has left sacks of paddy exposed for days.

S R Tamilselvan from the Tamil Nadu Farmers' Protection Association said, "DPCs in Thethi, Sirirangudipuliyur, Perunkadambanur, Sangamgalam, Thirukkuvalai, Thittachery, Thiruppundi and Thevur are facing severe stagnation due to inadequate trans-



Sacks of paddy piled up at a DPC in Perunkadambanur | EXPRESS

port arrangements." He said the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation (TNCSC) should hire private lorries or use tractors owned by farmers to move

the stock quickly.

However, a TNCSC official said the shortage of loadmen, only seven or eight at each Direct Procurement Centre in the affected areas, has slowed paddy procurement. When lorries arrive once or twice a day, loading takes two to three hours, halting procurement during that time. The official added that more local loadmen are needed, as the daily target of procurement and movement of 1,000 paddy sacks has fallen to 600-800 due to the manpower shortage in the affected areas.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 08 November 2025, p. 4

Govt declares 38 panchayats in Cuddalore district as part of Cauvery delta region

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: More than 18,000 farmers in 38 revenue panchayats, now officially a part of Cauvery delta region, in the newly created Srimushnam taluk of Cuddalore district will be eligible for the kuruvai and samba packages and other irrigation-related schemes.

The water resources dept issued an order on Nov 21, giving effect to chief minister M K Stalin's announcement made during a govt function in Cuddalore on July 15 this year. The move is intended to ensure that farmers in these panchayats gain access to the special schemes designed exclusively for the delta region, which is a protected agricultural zone.

"The govt order brings 10,550 hectares of land into the agriculture protected zone. It will directly benefit 18,250 far-



BUMPER YIELD

Delta farmers seek paddy dryers at all DPCs

Trichy: With the Centre rejecting Tamil Nadu's request to relax the moisture limit for rain-affected paddy, farmers in the Cauvery delta have urged the state to install modern electric paddy dryers at every direct procurement centre (DPC), calling it the only permanent solution to recurring moisture issues. The central govt's refusal to raise the permissible limit from 17% to 22% has upset farmers even though more than 95% of kuruvai procurement has been completed in most districts. Farmers say the state must stop depending on moisture-relaxation requests each season and instead invest in infrastructure to tackle the issue. "A lasting solution is to install paddy dryers — stationary or portable — at every procurement centre so farmers can mechanically bring down the moisture before selling their produce," said 'Swamimalai' S Vimalanathan, secretary of the TN Cauvery Farmers' Protection Association.

mers across 38 panchayats," a senior agriculture department official told TOI.

WRD secretary J Jayakanthan, in the order, said the decision followed consultations with domain experts, senior officials of the Cauvery technical cell and the district collector. Their assessment es-

tablished that the cropping pattern, soil profile and irrigation requirements of these panchayats align with those of the wider delta region. Officials said Cauvery water supply would now be assured for these panchayats, along with access to schemes aimed at improving waterwa-

ys and strengthening irrigation structures. They added that steady release of water from Mettur reservoir, traditionally beginning in the second week of June, would enhance groundwater levels and provide greater stability for agricultural activities in the newly added panchayats.

Source: *The Times of India*, 23 November 2025, p. 6

Deadline for insuring samba paddy in 27 districts extended to Nov 30: Min

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

AGRICULTURE Minister MRK Panneerselvam on Sunday announced that the deadline for insuring samba/thaladi/pishanam paddy crop has been extended till November 30, following farmers' requests due to rain-related delays and administrative work. The minister requested the farmers who have not yet insured their crops to register through common service centres, Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies or nationalised banks before the new deadline.

The earlier deadline for the 27 districts for insuring crops was November 15. The districts are: Thanjavur, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai, Tiruvarur, Madurai, Pudukkottai, Karur, Salem, Tiruppur, Kancheepuram, Chengalpattu, Theni, Ramanathapuram, Tiruchy, Ariyalur, Vellore, Ranipet, Tirupattur, Tiruvannamalai, Dharmapuri, Villupuram, Kallakurichi, Perambalur, Sivaganga, Cuddalore, Tiruvallur and Erode.

Panneerselvam said that due to continuous rain in several districts leading to delays in



Kuruwai harvesting and Samba transplanting, and because village administrative officers have been engaged in the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls, there was a delay in issuing acknowledgements. Also, since farmers requested an extension of the deadline for crop insurance, the union government has approved the extension of the last date for in-



Samba has been cultivated over 26.25 lakh acres, and 6.27 lakh farmers have insured paddy covering 15 lakh acres, which is 57% of the cultivation area

MRK Panneerselvam, minister

suring the above crops to November 30, based on the request made by the Tamil Nadu government.

Panneerselvam said so far, samba paddy has been cultivated over 26.25 lakh acres, and till date, 6.27 lakh farmers have insured samba paddy covering 15 lakh acres, which is 57% of the total area under cultivation. On the same date last year, crop insurance had been taken for 10 lakh acres of samba paddy. He also directed the agriculture department officials to reach out to farmers in their respective areas and expedite the process of enrolling them under the insurance scheme.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 17 November 2025, p. 6

State government's goat, sheep breeding policy aims to conserve native varieties

Dennis S. Jesudasan

CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu Goat and Sheep Breeding Policy, recently unveiled by the State government, advocates an open nucleus breeding system for goats and selective breeding within the breed with superior rams for sheep. The policy aims to improve sheep and goat production, conserve local breeds, and explore registration of native/local breeds with ICAR-National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (ICAR-NBAGR).

Artificial insemination will be introduced and promoted through pilot projects to enhance genetic potential, the policy said. "Nucleus farms will be established to serve as sources of elite breeding stock, facilitating the multiplication, conservation, and dissemination of superior germplasm for upgrading nondescript animals," it added.

The policy aims for upgrading non-descript na-



Improving livestock: The policy says artificial insemination will be promoted with pilot projects to enhance genetic potential. R. ASHOK

tive sheep and goat populations for improved meat production.

As per the 20th Livestock Census, the sheep population was 45 lakh and the goat population 98 lakh in Tamil Nadu.

While Mecheri, Kilakarsal, Vembur, Coimbatore, Madras Red, Ramnad White, Katchaikatty Black, Nilgiri, Tiruchi Black, and Chevaadu are the recognised sheep breeds in Tamil Nadu, Kanni Adu, Kodi Adu, and Salem Black are the recognised goat

breeds. "The people of Tamil Nadu are mostly non-vegetarian, and as a result, the demand for meat and meat products is very high," the policy said.

Nucleus herd

A nucleus herd will be established in each district for goat breeding, initially comprising 20 males and 200 females of the native breeds/local varieties, the policy said. "Breeding within the nucleus herd will produce male and female progenies, which will

again be evaluated based on traits such as growth rate, body structure, and dam performance." Selected progenies will be retained for further breeding, strictly preventing inbreeding within the nucleus, it said.

"The top-performing male offspring from the above process will be chosen as breeding bucks and distributed to the field or block level for widespread use, either through natural service or artificial insemination," it further said.

The policy also draws an action plan with strategies for establishing nucleus herds, data recording systems and semen production units, a plan for pure breeding, an animal information system, livestock insurance and credit programmes, among others. The policy further provides for cooperative societies for sheep and goat rearers, certification for production of bucks and rams, and formation of a technical committee, among others.

Source: *The Hindu*, 30 November 2025, p. 8

Nellai farmers suffer heavy loss as rain damages banana plantations

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Madurai: Heavy rain and strong winds sweeping through areas like Cheran-mahadevi, a panchayat town in Tirunelveli, have caused damage to nearly two lakh banana plantations, leaving farmers distressed.

A farmer, Syed Ali Selvam, said more than two acres of land with banana plantations were broken in half and destroyed due to strong winds and rain on Saturday morning. He said that each one cost around 120 and farmers like him faced a huge loss. He added that the collector and officials inspected

the damaged fields in the district.

In parts of Tirunelveli, including Agasthiarpatty and Vinayagar Colony, rainwater entered several houses, adding to the distress caused by the heavy spell. Streets were left water-logged, with nearly knee-length stagnation in some stretches, making movement difficult for residents and motorists.

An average of 19.63mm of rain was recorded, with the highest in Papanasam with 45mm of rainfall in total.

Downpour in Tirunelveli is expected to continue with heavy rainfall expected in

the Manjolai region, particularly Oothu and Nalumukku.

Meanwhile, a yellow alert was issued for Kanyakumari, Tirunelveli, Tuticorin, Tenkasi, and Ramanathapuram districts as the north-east monsoon intensified. In Kanyakumari, bathing was prohibited at Thirparappu waterfalls for tourists. The district experienced continuous rainfall for the past week.

Madurai experienced moderate showers through the late afternoon and evening, bringing brief spells of traffic and water stagnation in some roads and low-lying areas.

Source: *The Times of India*, 23 November 2025, p. 6



T.N. signs pact to attract more Global Capability Centres

The State government, through Guidance Tamil Nadu, has signed a memorandum of understanding with ANSR, a firm that assists establishing and scaling Global Capability Centres for Fortune 500 companies. The collaboration with ANSR is expected to generate significant investments, high-value employment opportunities, and innovation capabilities. "ANSR will help bring in the next wave of global corporations. We will support them with policy enablement, fast approvals, site selection, and strong talent linkages," said Industries Minister T.R.B. Rajaa. "We want the State to be the world's most competitive GCC destination," he added. Lalit Ahuja, founder-CEO of ANSR, said: "Tamil Nadu has all the ingredients to become the world's most competitive GCC destination, with strong talent, world-class infrastructure, progressive governance, and a thriving innovation ecosystem."

Source: *The Hindu*, 21 November 2025, p. 8

Ford signs ₹3,250cr deal to restart engine production in TN

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Ford Motor Company will restart manufacturing at its Maraimalai Nagar plant near Chennai to produce next-generation vehicle engines, following a memorandum of understanding signed on Friday in the presence of chief minister M K Stalin. The facility will manufacture only engines and not cars, with production expected to begin by 2029.

The project involves an investment of ₹3,250 crore and is expected to strengthen Tamil Nadu's existing automotive base. The plant will have a planned annual capacity of 235,000 engines and will generate 600 direct jobs along with indirect employment across supporting industries. Ford will continue to expand its global business operations in Chennai.

Ford's decision to choose India's automobile capital for production of such futuristic engines is another testimony to Tamil Nadu's industrial prowess and its indispensable position in the global manufacturing supply chain | M K Stalin, CM



where 12,000 employees work at present.

"Ford's decision to choose India's automobile capital for production of such futuristic engines is another testimony to Tamil Nadu's industrial prowess and its indispensable position in the global manufacturing supply chain," said Stalin.

Amid global tensions, P 4

Brought Ford back to TN amid global tensions: TRB Rajaa

►From P 1

"We are pleased to advance our plans and confirm the Chennai plant's vital role in Ford's manufacturing network," said Jeff Marentic, president, International Markets Group, Ford Motor Company. "We are thankful to govt of Tamil Nadu for its continued support as we advance these plans. The decision reinforces our commitment to leveraging India's manufacturing prowess for future products."

Ford continues to serve its existing customers in India with comprehensive customer support, including service, aftermarket parts, and warranty support, said a press release from the manufacturer.

State industries minister

T R B Rajaa said, "What makes this achievement particularly significant is the present global geopolitical situation. Around the world, tariff wars and trade restrictions between countries have created major challenges for industries deciding where to invest. Despite this uncertainty, we have successfully brought Ford back to Tamil Nadu."

In Sept 2021, Ford exited vehicle manufacturing in India, closing plants at Maraimalai Nagar and Sanand, affecting about 4,000 jobs. While its Gujarat facility was sold to Tata Motors, the Chennai unit remained unsold until last year, when Ford announced plans to repurpose it for export-oriented engine manufacturing.

Source: *The Times of India*, 01 November 2025, p. 1 and 4

Tidco seeks govt nod to start global city

Phase I Is Expected To Begin Soon

Venkadesan.S
@timesofindia.com

Chennai: Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (Tidco) has sought administrative sanction from the Chengalpet district collector for acquiring 1,945.19 acres of patta and govt lands across six villages in Maduranthakam taluk to start the global city project, said Tidco managing director Sandeep Nanduri.

The proposal follows the state govt's 2025 budget announcement of a 2,000-acre global city near Chennai, comprising IT parks, trade zones, residential complexes, recreational spaces, and

TIDCO has finalized 1,945.19 acres for the project in Maduranthakam taluk in Chengalpet

next-generation infrastructure.

Phase I is expected to begin soon, with Tidco promising seamless connectivity to Chennai through metro rail, upgraded roads, and express bus links.

In its proposal, Tidco committed to providing funds for land acquisition and establishment charges, creating special teams for the acquisition process, and carrying out rehabilitation and resettlement for eligible persons in accordance with govt norms. "Administrative sanction from the govt will allow Tidco to initiate groundwork for the project," a senior official said.

Global City will integrate

Source: *The Times of India*, 08 November 2025, p. 3

AI-driven smart city management, digital twin-based urban simulations, smart mobility systems, and green-blue infrastructure to ensure sustainability.

Following assessment across locations in Kanchipuram, Ranipet, Chengalpet, and Tiruvallur districts, a review chaired by the CM on Aug 22 selected Maduranthakam taluk in Chengalpet district for the project.

Tidco has finalized 1,945.19 acres across the villages of Attimanam, Janakipuram, Kallapuram, Padalam, Palayam, and Pulpiparankoil. The identified parcels include 650.72 hectares of wetland, 75.61 hectares of dry land, 0.01 hectares of manavari land, and 61.18 hectares of govt land.

The agency has requested approval under the Tamil Nadu Acquisition of Land for Industrial Purposes Act.

Semiconductor parks to be set up in Sulur, Palladam: CM

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Coimbatore: Chief minister M K Stalin said many companies are coming to invest in Tamil Nadu as the law & order is maintained in the state, and it has a business-friendly environment with transparency in governance.

Addressing the 'TN Rising' investors summit in Coimbatore on Tuesday, Stalin said 1,016 MoUs worth ₹1,140,731 crore were signed in 17 investors conferences held in TN over the past four years.



"More than 3.4 million have been directly or indirectly employed because of these investments,"

he said. "Those who do not like the development of TN are spreading wrong news about these investments for political reasons," he added.

As part of state govt's semiconductor mission-2030, semiconductor parks will be set up in Sulur and Palladam. "Industry and academia

should work together to create a knowledge economy. For this, we must set up a new institution called Tamil Nadu University Research Park Trust," he said.

Stalin said, "We are competing not only with Indian states, but also with countries such as Vietnam and Thailand to bring new investments to TN. In addition, we are involved in these efforts by giving proper incentives according to our financial situation. We take decisions by comparing incentives sought by investors and the benefits that TN could get from them. We are looking for investments in each district. Hence, following Thoothukudi and Hosur, we are now holding the TN Rising conference in Coimbatore," he said.

He said TN achieved the highest economic growth of 11.19% in India, and that DMK regime and development of TN are inseparable. "When I took charge as CM, I said there should be widespread and balanced development for all districts. I visited the UAE, Sin-

gapore, Japan, Spain, the US, Germany, and England, met leaders of industrial companies, and invited them to invest in TN," he said.

Later at the summit, minister for industries, investment promotion and commerce TRB Rajaa appealed to Coimbatore and Tirupur-based businessmen in the textile business to focus on technical textiles. "Technical textile has a good future, and state govt is ready to help those who are focusing on technical textiles," he said.

Source: *The Times of India*, 26 November 2025, p. 7

Guidance signs MoU with ANSR to boost GCC growth in TN

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Guidance Tamil Nadu, govt's nodal agency for industrial promotion, on Thursday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with ANSR, a global capability centres (GCC) consulting firm to strengthen the state's GCC ecosystem, according to a release.

Speaking about the development, TRB Rajaa, state industries minister, said, "Through this partnership, ANSR will help bring in the next wave of global corporations. We will support them with policy enablement, fast approvals, site selection, and strong talent linkages."

Lalit Ahuja, founder and chief executive officer of ANSR, said, "Tamil Nadu has all the ingredients to become the world's most competitive GCC destination with strong talent, world-class infrastructure, progressive governance, and a thriving innovation ecosystem. We are excited to partner with the govt to bring the next generation of global enterpr-



LOOKING UPBEAT: State industries minister TR B Rajaa

ses to the state."

The collaboration with ANSR is expected to generate significant investments, high-value employment opportunities, and advanced innovation capabilities for the state, a statement from the minister's office claimed.

Source: *The Times of India*, 13 November 2025, p. 14

TN plans centre of excellence to spur growth in gaming & extended reality

C SHIVAKUMAR @Chennai

TAMIL Nadu government has unveiled plans to establish the Viyan AVGC-XR Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Chennai - a flagship initiative aimed at positioning the state as a national hub for animation, visual effects, gaming, comics, and extended reality (AVGC-XR).

The Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu (ELCOT), which is leading the project, had issued an expression of interest (EoI) this week inviting industry partners, academic institutions, and technology providers to collaborate in developing, operating, and managing the facility. The CoE is designed to foster innovation, content creation, and advanced skill development in emerging digital media sectors. In its first phase, the CoE will operate from a

12,000-15,000 sq.ft leased facility in Chennai, offering co-working and private studios for startups and MSMEs, along with specialised labs for performance capture, 2D/3D art, audio/foley services, and XR testing. It will also house hardware rental labs for prototyping and production, and shared spaces for screenings and networking events.



The second phase will expand on a one-lakh sq.ft campus, designed to accommodate up to 500 professionals, with dedicated studios for quality assurance, XR development, and digital content prototyping. The third phase envisions regional "spokes" in Coimbatore, Madurai, Trichy, Salem, and Tirunelveli, providing infrastructure and training access to startups and MSMEs outside Chennai.

Industry partners will play a central role in advising on hardware and software procurement, ensuring the facility is equipped with cutting-edge tools for motion capture, game development, and immersive content production. They will also assist in everyday operations. The initiative comes as the state is preparing to unveil a new industry-driven policy to

develop its AVGC-XR ecosystem.

"Unlike other policies that are mostly incentive-led, this one is centred on building talent. Almost all of it has been shaped by industry inputs," IT Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan had said on the sidelines of the India Game Developer Conference (IGDC) in Chennai last week.

The upcoming policy is anchored on four pillars – education and skilling, infrastructure and shared resources, business-environment reforms, and targeted incentives. It proposes embedding gaming, 2D/3D animation and XR modules at school and university levels, establishing centres of excellence, creating shared-lab facilities for startups and studios, and setting up a facilitation cell.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 13 November 2025, p. 5

German state plans MoU to hire tech-skilled workers from TN

C SHIVAKUMAR @Chennai

GERMANY'S Free State of Saxony is in talks with Tamil Nadu to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to jointly develop skilled talent in high-tech sectors such as semiconductors, advanced manufacturing, and healthcare.

Dirk Panter, Saxony Minister for Economic Affairs, Labour, Energy and Climate Action, said the state sees Tamil Nadu as a strategic partner in its push to strengthen high-tech industries and secure skilled workers.

At a business conclave organ-

ised by Southern India Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dr Nils GeiBler, Director-General at Saxony's Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour, Energy and Climate Action, told *TNIE* that Saxony faces a shortage of skilled labour across healthcare, manufacturing, automotive and micro-electronics. The state will require roughly 25,000 skilled workers in the coming years, which is expected to be sourced from multiple countries.

A 16-member German delegation from Saxony also met policymakers and industry leaders to explore cooperation



Saxony minister Dirk Panter (second from left) and MSME Additional Chief Secretary Atul Anand at the Tamil Nadu-Saxony Business Conclave on Tuesday | ASHWIN PRASATH

in semiconductors, advanced manufacturing, MSME development, green energy, R&D and cluster-to-cluster linkages.

Panter had met Industries Minister TRB Rajaa on Monday, who in social media stated that the discussions focused on

expanding Tamil Nadu-Saxony cooperation in key sectors like R&D, automotive, semiconductors, and textiles.

"We explored collaborations in Technical Textiles, connecting Saxony's advanced textile machinery manufacturers with Tamil Nadu's vibrant textile ecosystem for automation, quality upgrades, and joint R&D on technical fibres and composites.

"An MoU between Tamil Nadu and Saxony is now being finalised to deepen this partnership, especially in the skilled manpower supply area," he had stated.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 12 November 2025, p. 2

Stalin inaugurates 577 projects worth ₹223 cr

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Pudukkottai/Tiruchi

CHIEF Minister MK Stalin on Monday expressed confidence that the DMK-led alliance would return to power in the 2026, regardless of how many fronts contest.

Speaking to reporters after launching a ₹766-crore government initiative in Kallamavoor, Pudukkottai district, Stalin said, "We neither underestimate nor overestimate anyone; we simply focus on our work. The DMK-led coalition will win and form the government for the seventh time."

The event marked the inauguration of over 577 completed projects worth ₹223.06 crore, the laying of foundation stone

for 103 new projects worth ₹201.70 crore, and the distribution of government welfare assistance worth ₹341.77 crore to 44,993 beneficiaries.

Referring to New York City, Stalin said Zohran Mamdani's victory on a free bus travel promise showed that people everywhere support leaders who stand with the poor.

Stalin announced six new projects for Pudukkottai and announced a plan to establish a Neo TIDEL Park in Pudukkottai and elevate Gandharvakottai and Ponnamaravathai to higher civic status.

'Anbucholai' inaugurated

Following the event at Pudukkottai, Stalin inaugurated 25 'Anbucholai' daycare centres (a



CM MK Stalin interacting with senior citizens at the launch of 'Anbucholai', a daycare centre for the aged, at Ponmalaiappatti in Tiruchi on Monday | MK ASHOK KUMAR

wellness centre for senior citizens) across the state from Tiruchi, including one at Ponmalai.

The scheme is aimed at improving the overall well-being of the senior citizens by helping them stay active and motivated at home. These centres will function as community hubs focusing on the healthy and holistic development of the

elderly.

The CM, along with P Geetha Jeevan, minister for social welfare, and officials interacted with senior citizens at the centre in Ponmalai and distributed gift hampers containing millet food items and health drink flour produced by self-help groups. Stalin also played carrom with a few senior citizens for a few minutes.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 11 November 2025, p. 4

TIDCO seeks operator for advanced manufacturing hub

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

THE Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) has issued a request for proposal (RFP) to select an operations and maintenance (O&M) partner for the Tamil Nadu Smart and Advanced Manufacturing Centre (Tansam) in Chennai.

Official sources said the chosen operator will be tasked with running the centre's day-to-day functions, including facility management, equipment upkeep, and compliance with safety and regulatory standards.

The centre is part of the state's strategy to deepen high-value manufacturing capabilities and attract investment in sectors such as aerospace, defence, electronics, and high-tech consumer goods.

Launched in partnership with Siemens, Tansam serves as a centre of excellence for advanced manufacturing and dig-

ital engineering. The CoE — spread across 16,700 sq ft at Tidel Park in Chennai — houses seven specialised units, including a product innovation centre, smart factory research centre, asset performance management (IoT) research hub, PLM research centre, and an AR/VR/MR development lab.

The initiative is designed to build an ecosystem of innovation by linking industry, academia and government. More than 60 R&D projects are currently under way in collaboration with start-ups, MSMEs and research institutions.

Tansam also plays a role in talent development, working with TIDCO as part of the Naan Mudhalvan scheme to train engineering and polytechnic students. It has helped establish "spoke" centres in educational institutions and industry clusters across TN, enabling technology transfer, internships and faculty development.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 11 November 2025, p. 5

US TARIFF EFFECT

Tiruppur exporters turn their attention to Gulf countries

P SRINIVASAN @Tiruppur

WITH the US tariff on imports still in place, Tiruppur exporters are now turning their attention to Gulf countries in search of new buyers to overcome the crisis, as they finish up their winter orders and focus on summer orders. Exporters believe that the US tariffs will have an impact on the projected 15% export growth this year.

Speaking to *TNIE*, KM Subramanian, president of Tiruppur Exporters' Association, said, "About 30% of knitwear exports from Tiruppur are US-dependent. Orders to the US have been affected by the tariff hike issue. American buyers have completely suspended orders. Therefore, we cannot expect 15% export growth in the current financial year. But the export volume in the last financial year can be equalled in the current financial year."

In 2024-25 financial year,



Tiruppur exported knitwear worth ₹44,000 crore, and ₹33,400 crore in 2023-24.

At the same time, KM Subramanian said that there has been no job loss in Tiruppur due to the US tariff issue.

"The halt in US orders has created competition among exporters. Exporters who only exported knitwear to the US have now started taking orders from European countries. Some exporters are fixing low prices to take orders. This affects other exporters. To overcome this crisis, Tiruppur exporters are currently focusing on new buyers in Gulf countries," Subramanian said.

"We are already exporting to many Gulf countries. India signed a free-trade agreement (FTA) with the UAE last year. In addition, free-trade agreements are expected to be signed soon with countries including Oman, Qatar, and Kuwait," said N Thirukumaran, general secretary of Tiruppur Exporters' Association.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 23 November 2025, p. 4

Bids open to turn old windmills into solar-wind hybrids

S GURUVANMIKANTHAN
@Chennai

In a major push to boost renewable power generation, the Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Limited (TNGECL) has invited bids to renovate its old wind power plants and upgrade them into hybrid models by adding solar systems under the Build, Own and Operate (BOO) model.

According to officials, the total installed capacity of the project will be 34.75MW, including 18.75MW of wind power and 16MW of solar power, along with associated transmission and distribution facilities. The estimated project cost is around ₹200 crore, as per TNGECL's internal study and analysis.



Once completed, the upgraded hybrid plants are expected to add 34.75MW of clean energy to Tamil Nadu's power grid | **EXPRESS**

A senior TNGECL official told **TNIE** that the project aims to repower and modernise smaller, outdated wind turbines

that have been non-functional for years. "In a joint venture with the Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA)

and Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE), we had earlier set up 110 small wind turbines at Kayathar I and II, Puliyankulam, Muppandal and Kethanur villages in Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli and Coimbatore districts with a total capacity of 17.355MW. Of these, only 15 turbines are now operational. The remaining 95 are non-functional due to lack of spare parts and have been condemned. Hence, we have decided to upgrade them under this new hybrid model," the official explained.

Another official said that the TNGECL initially shortlisted six potential sites for hybrid development, based on a detailed study conducted by the National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE). The study evaluated

key factors such as re-powering potential, grid evacuation feasibility and financial viability. After a detailed review, four sites—Kayathar I, Kayathar II, Muppandal, and Puliyankulam—have been finalised for the installation of hybrid wind-solar systems.

"The developer who wins the bid will handle the design, construction, erection and commissioning of the hybrid power plants, besides taking care of operations and maintenance for the duration of the agreement," the official added.

Once completed, the upgraded hybrid plants are expected to add 34.75MW of clean energy to the state grid, helping TN meet its Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) targets.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 14 November 2025, p. 4

Govt. announces scheme to promote research in textiles

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

The Centre has approved a 'Textiles Focused Research, Assessment, Monitoring, Planning and Start-up (Tex-RAMPS) Scheme' with an outlay of ₹305 crore to strengthen research, innovation, and competitiveness in the textiles sector.

Source: *The Hindu*, 28 November 2025, p. 13

According to a press release, the scheme will be effective from 2025-2026 to 2030-2031. Union Minister of Textiles Giriraj Singh said the scheme will bring together research, data, and innovation to empower India's textile sector and position the nation as a global leader in sustainability, technology, and competitiveness.

Tex-RAMPS is designed to address critical gaps in research, data systems, innovation support and capacity development.

The scheme also aims to create robust data systems including employment assessments, supply chain mapping, and the India-size study to facilitate evidence-based policymaking. It will strengthen

State-level planning, and aid in dissemination of best practices, capacity-building workshops, and organisation of sectoral events. Incubators, hackathons, and academia-industry collaborations will be supported to nurture high-value textile start-ups and entrepreneurship.

Confederation of Indian Textile Industry chairman

Ashwin Chandran said that once operational, the TEX-RAMPS will contribute significantly to raising the global competitiveness of the Indian textile and apparel sector by strengthening the innovation ecosystem, promoting the rise of more promising startups, and making the quality culture take deeper roots in the sector.

When banks jump onto the bandwagon of funding startups in TN

Yogesh.Kabirdoss@timesofindia.com

After the successful launch of services offered by laundry-tech startup Dhobi G at a city college, its founder Ravi Ranjan decided to expand its footprint to new campuses by the end of 2023. Since then, he had been knocking on the doors of at least four private and public sector banks for funding—but to no avail. He faced rejections from lenders on the grounds of collateral requirements and inquiries about financial statements and profit margins. "There was little understanding of the startup ecosystem among bank branches, which evaluated us like other companies," he said.

However, his ordeal continued until he approached the exclusive startup branch of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) in the city. The expansion plans of the Chennai-headquartered startup were examined based on their viability, model, and market demand.



Dhobi G secured funding of ₹1.5 crore from the public sector bank in August this year. "There was no question of collateral, and officials understood the nuances of how startups operate. Now, with the fresh funds

we will enter new campuses with a target to cover 20,000 students over the next six months," Ranjan added.

With startups on the rise—many of which require finance to grow—public

sector banks (PSBs) have begun to focus on them. SBI pioneered this by launching a startup branch in the city in 2023.

This was followed by city-based IOB unveiling an exclusive branch for startups at its central office complex on Anna Salai in June 2024. It has sanctioned 25 loans worth ₹85.2 crore to startups. It covers several sectors, including healthcare and life sciences, telecommunications and networking, robotics, climate tech, and AI-based security systems. While the branch has trained personnel to handle the financial needs of startups, the bank also offers hands-on mentoring to early-stage ventures in areas such as govt-backed and bank-specific funding schemes, and advisory on accessing collateral-free debt—crucial for startups lacking traditional assets.

IOB MD & CEO Ajay Kumar Srivastava said the state is witnessing many initiatives for startups and is home to several incubation centres. "We have entered into MoUs

with 16 incubation centres. Tamil Nadu is very active in startup growth," he added.

Indian Bank is set to open its first startup branch in NCR, likely by the end of this financial year, in collaboration with a higher education institution in Chennai. "After NCR, we will open a startup branch in Chennai. There are a lot of opportunities in TN in the startup segment. Chennai's potential has not been fully utilised," said Bindu Kumar, MD & CEO of Indian Bank.

Arun Narayanan, founder of research firm Venture Intelligence, said the number of private equity and venture capital (PE-VC) firms based in Chennai and TN is lower compared to Bengaluru, NCR, and Mumbai. "Entrepreneurs here rely on bootstrapping until they are able to attract customer revenues, which is the best form of funding. Awareness about govt grants and Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) loans tends to be low. But with Startup India and Start-

up TN, this is improving," he said.

Startup-focused initiatives from banks can ease processes for founders—not just in lending, but also by reducing friction in areas such as KYC, forex, and payment gateway integration. "However, entrepreneurs complain that banks rarely provide them with the full benefits of collateral-free loans under the CGTMSE scheme. If banks can streamline data and processes about schemes to tier-II and tier-III branches—including startup-specific ones—it would help catalyze entrepreneurship," he added.

Sivarajah Ramanathan, CEO, Start-up TN, says the number of startups in TN has increased from 2,000 in 2021 to about 12,000 at present. "What is changing with banks is their approach in differentiating between MSMEs and startups, which was not so in the past. We have programmes such as credit access meets every month to connect startups with multiple banks to avail loans," he added.

Source: *The Times of India*, 03 November 2025, p. 2

TN's early advantage in electronics

The State Leads in Most Investment Proposals Under ECMS. Industry Is Rooting For Support To Move Up Value Chain

Nandini.Sengupta@timesofindia.com

Tamil Nadu has taken a lead in India's drive towards building a self-reliant electronics component manufacturing ecosystem under Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS). Launched by ministry of electronics and information technology (MeitY) in April 2025, ECMS has a total outlay of ₹22,919 crore spread over six years. The aim is to increase local production and reduce import dependence for key components such as multi-layer PCBs, camera modules, laminates, and other sub-assemblies. The support for local manufacturing is intended to integrate India into the global electronics value chain.

In the first tranche of approvals that were announced in Oct 2025, the Centre cleared seven projects worth ₹5,532 crore across India. Tamil Nadu has bagged five of these projects valued at about ₹4,271 crore, giving the state a dominant 77% share of the total investment cleared so far. Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh received one project each, with investments of ₹765 crore and ₹496 crore respectively. The approved projects in TN include proposals from Kaynes Circuits India and Ascent Circuits, focusing on multi-layer and HDI PCBs, and camera module sub-assemblies. These investments are set to create thousands of skilled jobs and deepen TN's electronics manufacturing base. State officials have set a target of attracting ₹30,000 crore of investment and 60,000 jobs under the ECMS in the coming years. If achieved, this will position TN as India's hub for electronics component manufacturing.

State industries minister TRB Rajaa is clear about the road ahead for this sector. "Our target of ₹30,000 crore is ambitious, yet achievable because we are expanding capacity on every front," he says. "We have already aligned state incentives with ECMS, earmarked land in Hosur, Krishnagiri, Chennai, and Coimbatore, and fast-tracked clearances so companies can break ground immediately. We are deepening our supply chain by bringing in multilayer PCB makers, camera-module manufacturers, laminate

producers, and other high-value component players. We are also focusing on skilling through Naan Mudhalvan and working with existing investors to bring their suppliers to TN."

The state is India's top electronics exporter and the clusters in Krishnagiri/Hosur and Chennai are expanding manufacturing capacity. But is the current pace enough to make the most of the opportunity? There's a reason why TN has done so well in the first round. The state was the first to introduce matching grants and component-manufacturing incentives aligned with the ECMS so investors would have clearances and infrastructure ready and waiting. With ECMS gathering momentum and more proposals awaiting approval – while the scheme had an initial investment target of ₹59,350 crore nationally, the Govt of India has received proposals worth over ₹1 lakh crore – TN's early dominance is more than just a good start.

Investors agree Tamil Nadu stands out as a premier destination for electronics manufacturing due to its industrial infrastructure, logistics connectivity, and a mature supplier ecosystem. Add to that a large, skilled workforce and manufacturing hubs in Chennai, Hosur, and Krishnagiri and TN does have a compelling environment for investors. But competition is keen too. And to top up its strengths, TN needs a bigger presence in the high-value component space. Says J S Gujral, MD, Syrma SGS which is putting up a multi-layer printed circuit board in Andhra Pradesh under the ECMS scheme: "Tamil Nadu needs to expand its focus on semiconductor design and AI-driven electronics. Encouraging stronger R&D investments and fostering industry-academia collaborations are critical. Additionally, enhancing MSME vendor ecosystems and improving ease of doing business through faster clearances and infrastructure

upgrades will accelerate growth," he adds.

Industry agrees that Tamil Nadu already has its policies in place. But for the next big leap, the state

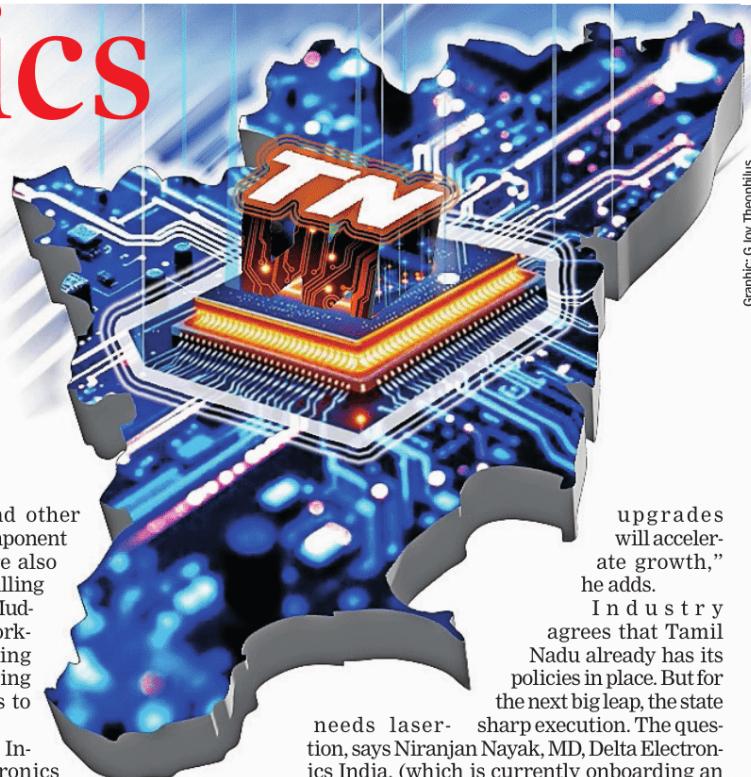
needs laser-sharp execution. The question, says Niranjan Nayak, MD, Delta Electronics India, (which is currently onboarding an investment of \$500 million in Tamil Nadu), "is how to convert this strong start into sustained, incremental investments and higher-value exports." From an industry standpoint, three priorities will make the difference, he adds. The first is faster clearances on land as "utilities and building permits will directly influence project timelines and capital efficiency," he says. The second is the ecosystem depth.

"For Tamil Nadu to hit its ambitious target of around ₹30,000 crore under ECMS, the focus must shift from isolated units to full-stack clusters: materials, components, tooling, testing, and MSME supplier parks integrated around hubs like Krishnagiri/Hosur and Chennai," explains Nayak. The third is export competitiveness through "world-class logistics, stable policies, and advanced testing and certification infrastructure to support global shipments".

Industry experts feel TN needs to back up its policy intent and work on the ground with more enabling support. According to Ramkumar Shankar, president, Madras Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI), "targeted investment in high-quality industrial land, reliable power, and testing/R&D infrastructure to anchor higher-value units and improved logistics and multimodal connectivity to reduce export lead-times and costs" will help the state "convert its export leadership into the larger investment outcomes the govt envisions".

The good news is that the state govt is already aware of these priorities and working on them. Small wonder then that a confident minister Rajaa says that Tamil Nadu "will surpass the ₹30,000 crore goal and consolidate (its) position as India's electronics component powerhouse".

Source: *The Times of India*, 24 November 2025, p. 2



Graphic: G Joy Theophilus

Punitive Tariffs Lay Bare Textile Town's Inefficiencies; Addressing Them Will Help It Maintain Competitive Edge

TIRUPUR'S MOMENT OF RECKONING

Vaitheeswaran.B@timesofindia.com

Tirupur's clock is ticking. The punitive 50% tariffs imposed by the US govt have put the ₹44,747 crore exports industry in a tough spot. They have made Indian goods 20% to 30% costlier than competing nations in the global apparel trade. Tirupur serves as a knitwear sourcing hub for leading global brands such as Nike, Tommy Hilfiger, Adidas, GAP and for prominent retail chains, including Walmart, Target, and H&M. Buyers are renegotiating prices of existing orders and either cutting down or freezing fresh purchases, the impact of which will be felt after this December. This has left around 2,000 exporters scrambling to ship inventories and find new customers before they run out of money. Industry estimates the immediate impact for the next three months would be around ₹1,500 crore.

So, how do they tide over the crisis? First, exporters need to find alternatives to meet their fixed costs such as staff salary and utility bills. So, various exporters are racing to diversify. Industrialists have reached out to customers in traditional markets such as Europe, UAE, while also scouting opportunities in less conventional destinations such as Russia, Australia, and Japan. S P Prakash, MD of Sterling Fashions, who exported only to the US for past 14 years, has now bagged domestic orders in order to sustain. "Currently, a significant number of players have approached European buyers, so it is a difficult market to enter. Buyers outrightly say they are not looking for suppliers," he said.

Kumar Duraiswamy, joint secretary of Tirupur exporters' association and CEO of Eastern Global Clothing, believes the new trade pacts with the UK, UAE, and the EFTA agreement, along with the upcoming European free trade agreement, could help companies diversify in those markets. "Tirupur has been in business with Norway and Switzerland for 30 years, and we anticipate the exports to double to ₹2,000 crore each. Also, we are focussing on UAE, Russian, and Australian markets that



Pics: J Jackson

TESTING TIMES: Enterprises in the textile hub of Tirupur must diversify their markets soon

were previously out of focus due to distance, lower volume," he said.

Tariffs expose the inefficiencies in the cluster, long swept under the carpet. Countries such as China, Bangladesh, and Vietnam have different advantages in the form of tech adoption, cheap and easy access to raw material, better infrastructure and work culture, and a much bigger scale. Even as news reports point to progress in the trade deal, Tirupur's exporters might lose out in the long-term if they remain uncompetitive.

While exporters cannot do much about tariff onslaught, they, along with union and state govt can make efforts to improve productivity and efficiency to have a lasting advantage. Due to higher input and borrowing costs, Indian exporters lack competitiveness in price. Exporters such as Elango, MD of Ahill Apparel Exports, one with 60% exposure to the US, say the cost of raw materials in India is much higher than in competing countries. This includes man-made fibres (MMF) widely used material in sports and athleisure goods. Companies complain about lack of quality MMF fabrics from the domestic players and a myriad of quality control orders, which makes imports impractical. They urge the union govt to ensure competitive raw material prices.

Tirupur region roughly exports ₹20,000 crore worth of goods annually to the US, as per industry estimates. Of this, more than 90% are MSME exports. These highly fragmented, labour-intensive enterprises have limited technological adoption.

K M Subramanian, president of Tirupur exporters association and chairman of KM group, said current subsidies provided for buying machinery under the textile production-linked incentive scheme (stipulates minimum ₹50 cr investment) do not help smaller units. As for the higher borrowing cost, firms urge the govt to bring back the interest subvention scheme to bridge the costs (which got over last Dec) and include smaller exporters in its ambit.

Prof Vidya Mahambare, director of research at Great Lakes Institute of Management, believes the industry needs structural restructuring and consolidation. "Tirupur has few large integrated players, and the rest outsource production to smaller units. So, they are unable to achieve economies of scale, unlike industrial units in China. She said, "Global buyers are increasingly starting to gauge capacity. Going forward, it will be difficult for smaller companies to get purchase orders competing with other countries." She adds that some smaller units might go out of business, a sentiment echoed by exporters. The tariffs present a one-time opportunity to address gaps and perhaps reset India's export strategy for a more uncertain global order.



Source: *The Times of India*, 03 November 2025, p. 2

TN, Kerala to work together to develop industries



Industries Minister TRB Rajaa and his Kerala counterpart P Rajeev | EXPRESS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

TAMIL Nadu and Kerala are building a "collaborative, positive and results-focused" model of cooperation across industry, technology and governance to promote inter-state collaboration on industrial development and governance, said Industries Minister TRB Rajaa after a meeting with his Kerala counterpart P Rajeev on Tuesday.

Rajaa said the initiative took off after a casual conversation over dinner in Delhi on November 11, following a meeting of state industry ministers convened by Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal. "Barely two weeks later, we have followed it up with a focused meeting, real proposals and a clear path forward," he said.

Senior officials of both governments met in Chennai on Monday to scope areas for joint work, ranging from the blue economy to start-ups, tourism and digital governance.

According to people familiar with the discussion, the talks are still exploratory but mark a rare instance of neighbouring southern states framing cooperation as an economic strategy rather than a political gesture.

Rajeev said the two states had identified more than five sectors - including public-sector undertakings - where formal collaboration could be pursued. Technology, start-ups, innovation and advanced manufacturing were highlighted as immediate areas of shared interest.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 26 November 2025, p. 6



TN hails rollback of quality control order for polyester

C SHIVAKUMAR @Chennai

Industries Minister TRB Rajaa on Friday welcomed the Centre's decision to revoke the Quality Control Orders (QCOs) on polyester fibre and yarn, a long-standing demand of textile sector. "Removing the QCOs will help mills source raw materials at globally benchmarked prices and restore cost competitiveness in a sector where every rupee counts. It was part of our Kovali Rising 2024 election manifesto," Rajaa said in his social media post.

The centre on Thursday decided to roll back QCOs on key industrial inputs in textiles, plastics and mining to increase the availability of intermediate goods used as inputs in manufacturing. The move is expected to lower the cost of production and ease the supply chain for lakhs of MSMEs.

QCOs made BIS' certification mandatory for a whole lot of intermediate goods which led to cost escalation and left Indian manufacturers at a disadvantage compared to countries like Bangladesh and Vietnam.

Rajaa said he had reiterated the industry's concerns to Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal just two days ago. "The minister responded positively, and this is a relief for thousands of MSMEs and lakhs of workers," he said.

SK Sundararaman, former chairman of SIMA, said QCO created supply bottlenecks, raised input costs, and reduced India's competitiveness in global textile markets. TN, which is India's

largest textile and apparel manufacturing hub, is also set to benefit significantly from the Export Promotion Mission announced recently by the centre to strengthen export competitiveness. With its extensive MSME ecosystem, integrated textile value chain and skilled labour pool, the state is well placed to leverage both the financial and non-financial components of the mission, said Dr A Sakthivel, Vice-Chairman of the Apparel Export Promotion Council.

Under Nirayat Protsahan, the mission's financial arm, interest subvention and enhanced credit access are expected to ease working capital pressure in clusters such as Tiruppur, Coimbatore, Erode, Karur, and Salem. "Affordable finance will help sustain order, modernise units and improve liquidity for small exporters," Sakthivel said.

Israr Ahmed, director of Farida Prime Tannery, said the timing is significant as the leather industry is still adjusting to trade uncertainty following recent tariff actions by the US. Interest subvention and ability to borrow up to 20% more without additional collateral will help stabilise operations, he said.

Abdul Wahab, MD of KH Shoes, said exporters welcome the EPM, particularly the long-awaited interest subvention scheme. With business down 10%-15% due to US tariffs and discounts no longer sustainable, measures such as market access support, brand building, credit guarantees and inland transport assistance will help revive exports, he said.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 15 November 2025, p. 6

Part of '24 manifesto



Soon, TN to roll out animation, gaming policy

It envisages embedding gaming, 2D/3D animation and XR modules at school and univ level, establishing centres of excellence

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

THE state will shortly unveil an industry-driven policy to develop its animation, visual effects, gaming, comics and extended reality (AVGC-XR) ecosystem, with a design that prioritises talent creation and ease of doing business over pure financial incentives, said IT Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan on Wednesday.

Speaking on the sidelines of India Game Developer Conference (IGDC) in Chennai, Thiaga Rajan said the policy cleared by the IT department and awaiting finance approval marks a shift in how the state nurtures emerging tech sectors. "Unlike other policies that are mostly incentive-led, this one is centred on building talent," he noted.

The policy is anchored on education and skilling, infrastructure and shared resources, business-environment reforms, and targeted incentives. It proposes embedding gaming, 2D/3D animation and XR modules at school and university level, establishing centres of excellence, creating shared-licence facilities for start-ups and studios, and setting up a facilitation cell to streamline approvals.

Thiaga Rajan said the approach reflects the nature of the AVGC-XR industry - "highly cre-

ative, high-margin, but not high-employment" - and the need to close the gap between creative skills and technical capability.

The minister flagged a broader transition in the jobs landscape as automation reshapes white-collar employment. Tamil Nadu has seen a 600% surge in registered start-ups in recent years, nearly half of them women-led. "Large employers' share of total jobs is declining. The explosion of start-ups is the counter-trend," he noted.

Hosting IGDC in Chennai for the first time - and attracting Japanese gaming major Nintendo to attend - is part of the state's bid to draw global studios and GCC investments into gaming and digital content.

Addressing concerns that Tamil Nadu's Online Gaming Authority could curb innovation, he said the state adopted a "principles-based, not blunt-force" framework to regulate real-money gaming without affecting other categories.

At the event, the Game Developer Association of India (GDAI) launched its 'India Gaming Vision 2035', targeting \$10bn in annual gaming exports, \$100bn in value creation and 2 million jobs by 2035. "India stands at the cusp of a creative leap," said GDAI chairperson Sridhar Muppudi.



IT Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan (left) at India Game Developer Conference at Chennai Trade Centre on Wednesday | MARTINLOUIS

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 06 November 2025, p. 2

AVGC-XR policy will be rolled out soon: Minister

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu's Information Technology and Digital Services Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan said that the state's AVGC-XR policy is in its final stages and will be rolled out soon.

"Our policy will focus on creating the right talent pool through curriculum modifications at the university level. The policy has four pillars - education and skilling, infrastructure development, improving ease of doing business, and financial incentives," he said at the inaugural of the 17th edition of India Game Developer Conference (IGDC) that is being held in Chennai. The Minister, further said that the policy also includes facilitation cell at Elcot (Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu), AVGC-XR Bridge, a B2B marketplace and a centre of excellence that will be established in Chennai. "Courses on game design, game programming, 2D and 3D animation - there are lot of such components to the policy," he added.

Mr. Rajan mentioned how he studied the best practices across industries during his international trips. "Whenever I have gone on international trips I studied best practices there. For example, in Loire Valley in France, they have a cluster of deve-



Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services Palanivel Thiaga Rajan at the gaming conference in Chennai. S.R. RAGHUNATHAN

lopers called Pixel Players. So based on their advise, we advised our companies to form clusters. We had Pixel Players come down and interact with our team," he noted.

When asked for an exact timeline for when the policy will be released, Mr. Rajan said: "The policy is now ready to be rolled out and is currently in the final stage of clearance with the Finance department. And what makes it unique is that it has been developed from day one through close interaction with market players." The Minister also highlighted that Tamil Nadu has the first court-validated gaming regulatory authority in India. We distinguish clearly between real money games and other games, he said.

The Minister also interacted with gaming firms like Krafton and Nintendo. "Though there has been an unofficial market for Nintendo here, they have not officially entered Indian market. So we are trying to

work closely with them to try and get them to choose Chennai, Tamil Nadu as their entry point," he said. The Game Developer Association of India (GDAI), the nodal body representing India's video game developer community, released its vision report, 'India Gaming Vision 2035' at the inaugural event.

The vision document is a strategic blueprint to accelerate India's rise as a global powerhouse in the gaming industry - to generate \$10 billion in annual gaming content exports, \$100 billion in value creation and two million jobs by the year 2035.

Sridhar Muppudi, Chairperson of GDAI, said, "We are pleased to partner with the Tamil Nadu government to put the framework for the AVGC-XR Policy for the state. GDAI has worked shoulder-to-shoulder with governments to shape such frameworks. Our goal now is to ensure these policies are activated with intent, inclusivity, and urgency."

Source: *The Hindu*, 06 November 2025, p. 6

Kovai summit to see ₹4K cr fresh investments

C SHIVAKUMAR @Chennai

COIMBATORE is set to unveil close to ₹4,000 crore in fresh investments at TN's third regional investment summit on Tuesday, as the western industrial hub steps up efforts to reposition itself as a high-tech manufacturing & innovation centre.

People familiar with the discussions said CRI Pumps is leading the commitments with a ₹2,060 crore expansion that is expected to create about 2,000 jobs. LMW Group is investing ₹1,050 crore in aerospace, defence, R&D and electron-



ics projects, generating roughly 1,330 jobs. Dairy major Hatsun Agro Products has committed ₹860 crore, with plans to hire around 400 people.

The Coimbatore conclave follows earlier regional summits in Thoothukudi and Hosur.

This year's edition is geared towards attracting capital into advanced and auto electronics, aerospace and defence, drones and small aircraft, and digital infrastructure including data centres and global capability centres (GCCs).

To widen the city's investment appeal, the government is encour-

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 25 November 2025, p. 2

First phase of FinTech City in Nandambakkam likely to be opened in Jan. 2026

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The first phase of FinTech City at Nandambakkam is likely to be inaugurated in January 2026, Industries Minister T.R.B. Rajaa said.

"Chennai has been the FinTech capital of India for the longest time. We see FinTech City as the start of a new phase for Chennai in BFSI (Banking, Financial Services, and Insurance) and FinTech," he said during the groundbreaking ceremony of a new project, 'The Cube', at the FinTech City.

Axis Commercial Real Estate Fund (Axis CRE Fund), in collaboration with Tishman Speyer, is developing 'The Cube' - a Grade-A office space of approximately 4,00,000 sq.ft.

Once operational, the building will cater to the growing demand for premium commercial spaces for companies operating in the BFSI segment in the city.

Axis CRE Fund bagged one of the first two plots through auction. This is the first investment from

Source: *The Hindu*, 28 November 2025, p. 4



Minister for Industries T.R.B. Rajaa speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony of 'The Cube' at FinTech City in Nandambakkam. R. RAGU

the Axis Commercial Real Estate Fund, a Category II AIF.

This is the first private project to be taken up at the FinTech City, said Sandeep Nanduri, Managing Director of TIDCO.

He also pointed out that the Government of Tamil Nadu has spent ₹85 crore to develop roads, infrastructure, and water facilities at the FinTech City.

The standout feature of this project is its transformation of what was once a flood-prone zone into a fully protected, flood-resilient space. "We've built comprehensive flood-proof infrastructure, including a dedicated protective wall," Mr. Nanduri said.

"Chennai has consistently demonstrated strong fundamentals - robust infrastructure, skilled talent pool, and a progressive industrial ecosystem - which make it an ideal location for Grade-A commercial spaces," B. Gopkumar, MD and CEO, Axis AMC, said.

Parvesh Sharma, Country Head, Tishman Speyer India, added, "Chennai is emerging as one of the country's most dynamic markets, and FinTech City represents the next frontier in the city's commercial development."

Both of them also pointed out that clearances for this project were given in record time.

aging commitments in healthcare, education, and hospitality — sectors seen as critical to strengthening Coimbatore's talent pipeline and improving urban liveability.

Tamil Nadu's broader vision, officials said, is to position Coimbatore as a future-ready industrial and services hub capable of drawing next-generation investments and creating high-skill jobs across manufacturing and technology.

Sources stressed that the figures disclosed so far do not reflect the full scale of commitments. "The overall investment will be much higher," one official said, declining to share further details.

Stalin inaugurates TIDEL Neo park in Vellore, built at a cost of ₹32 crore

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: CM M K Stalin virtually inaugurated TIDEL Neo park in Vellore constructed at the cost of ₹32 crore and laid the foundation stone for a similar mini TIDEL park in Namakkal district at the cost of ₹37 crore on Wednesday, a state govt release said.

The TIDEL Neo park in Vellore occupies 60,000 square feet across a ground floor and four upper floors. The one in Rasipuram in Namakkal district will cover 63,200 square feet. Both parks can provide employment to 600 people each.



IT GOES TO TIER-II TOWNS: The Vellore facility is the seventh mini TIDEL park in the state

The Vellore facility is the seventh mini TIDEL park, following those in Villupuram, Salem, Tuticorin, Tirupur, Thanjavur and

Pattabiram in Tiruvarur district.

Stalin also inaugurated an additional hospital building in Tiruchengode GH at

a cost of ₹23 crore. The new building with a ground floor and four upper floors has an out-patients ward, emergency ward, scanning facilities, a mother's milk bank and a 225-bed facility.

He also handed over enhanced educational aid for students undergoing training in govt priests schools functioning under HR and CE department. According to new orders, the aid for full-time students will be ₹10,000 and for part-time students ₹5,000. At present, 297 students are being trained as priests, oduvavars and musicians in 18 govt-run institutions.

Source: *The Times of India*,
06 November 2025, p. 4

Kamarajar Port all set to handle large blades and towers of windmills

The port will create storage yards for windmill components, modification of internal roads, strengthen the existing yards in case of additional storage to handle long windmill blades

PORT CALL

Sunitha Sekar
CHENNAI

The Kamarajar Port is all set to handle large windmill components like blades and towers, a move that could increase its cargo throughput and revenue drastically.

This will be a huge benefit for windmill and wind turbine manufacturers in Chennai who would be able to import and export windmill components from this port, according to sources.

According to officials of Kamarajar Port Limited (KPL), at present, the V.O. Chidambaranar Port (VOC Port) in Thoothukudi stands as the centre for both export and import of these components.

Cost-cutting

"It would take about five days for these companies to transfer their cargo from Thoothukudi. These companies can significantly cut down on their logistics cost and transit time by transporting it via Kamarajar Port. When we facilitate



Major development: The port signed an MoU worth ₹7,000 crore with one of the world's leading wind turbine manufacturers in October to handle and store windmill components. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

the movement of windmill blades and towers, it can substantially improve our cargo throughput and revenue," an official said.

As a first step towards this, KPL signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with one of the world's leading wind turbine manufacturers Nortex India Pvt. Ltd., worth ₹7,000 crore to handle and store windmill components in October.

It is to be noted that a crucial access road is es-

sential for smooth transport of over-dimensional cargo like windmill blades which have a large radius. The Northern Port Access Road, which forms the first section of the Chennai Peripheral Ring Road (CPRR) will be completed by the end of 2026 and will enable shifting of such windmill blades.

Sources said, the port will also create storage yards for windmill components, modification of internal roads, strengthen

the existing yards in case of additional storage to handle windmill blades as long as 75-90 metres.

"This strategic connectivity [of Northern Port Access Road] through the CPRR-section 1] will make Kamarajar Port a feasible and cost-effective gateway for industries located in the hinterland of Chennai, reducing logistics costs and transit time for both export and import of cargo," another official said.

Source: *The Hindu*, 27 November 2025, p. 6

ACTIVISTS SAY
₹364-CRORE
PROJECT POSES
THREAT TO MARINE
HABITATS,
FLAMINGO
SANCTUARY

SV KRISHNA CHAITANYA @Chennai

THE National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) has proposed a 50-MW demonstration wind farm off Dhanushkodi, India's first offshore wind project. Conceived under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy's ASPIRE programme, it aims to serve as a research and testing platform for offshore wind technologies in Indian marine conditions. However, the project, which is to cost ₹364.6 crore as per the DPR, faces environmental and regulatory scrutiny.

Located at the southern tip of Rameswaram, the site records consistent wind speeds of 8.3 metres per second, ideal for testing large-capacity turbines. Spread over 75 acres, the facility will feature four turbines replicating offshore conditions, along with a logistics jetty for transporting components from Thoothukudi Port and a research station for monitoring performance.

The project with a levelised cost of electricity (cost to generate one kilowatt-hour (1 unit)) of ₹7.7-8.0 per kWh, is expected to achieve a 48% capacity utilisation factor; much higher than onshore installations. Power will be evacuated to the 110-kV Mandapam substation through a 40-km transmission line. NIWE calls the project a "living laboratory" to test turbine performance, corrosion resistance, and maintenance strategies key to scaling up towards India's 30-GW offshore wind target by 2030.

The site is a declared wetland and falls under multiple Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) categories, including CRZ-1B (intertidal zone), requiring clearance from the Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone Management Authority (TNCZMA). It also lies close to the newly declared Greater Flamingo Sanctuary.

While declaring the sanctuary, the Tamil Nadu government said Dhanushkodi was vital for migratory and resident birds along the central Asian flyway, serving as feeding and resting grounds

India's first offshore wind project faces green hurdles at Dhanushkodi



for Herons, Egrets, Sandpipers, Terns, Greater and Lesser Flamingos, Kentish and Hanuman Plovers, and Waders. Nearly 128 bird species have been recorded here. During the 2023-24 Wetland Bird Census, 10,761 wetland birds were counted in the area.

S Balachandran, former deputy director of the Bombay Natural History Society, said Dhanushkodi hosts "one of the critical and unique habitats in India." Its mudflats are prime areas for waders, he added. "Impact of windmills on birdlife is well-documented. The project should not be allowed to materialise."

At a recent meeting of the Ramanathapuram District Coastal Zone Management Committee (DCZMC), several participants voiced concerns.

X Nallathambi, a fisherman from Thangachimadam and DCZMA member, said, "The proposed jetty site is a fish breeding ground. Marine habitats and our livelihoods will be affected." He also cited a pending case before

the National Green Tribunal on CRZ map preparation, urging authorities to defer approval until it is resolved.

SP Rayappan of the District Boat Fishermen Welfare Association said the project could impact turtle nesting grounds and migratory bird routes, especially flamingos and milkfish breeding areas. "A similar wind project at Thangachimadam failed earlier. Dhanushkodi should be preserved," he said.

District Forest Office officials backed these concerns, noting flamingos visit Dhanushkodi between December and March and that the area is a declared wetland. An NIWE official, however, said the project was "research-oriented and designed with minimal environmental distur-

bance." He added, "Noise levels from the turbines will remain below 50 decibels beyond 500 metres less than typical vehicle noise. Bird flight diverters will be installed, and bubble curtains will be used during pile-driving to reduce underwater noise."

NIWE said all recommendations from the wildlife warden, including studies on noise, seagrass, seahorses, and coral reefs, would be incorporated in a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) before CRZ clearance. The project also proposes a ₹62-lakh Environmental Management Plan for continuous monitoring of seawater quality, sediment, and biodiversity indicators.

After deliberations, the district CZMA recommended the proposal to the state authority, noting that it falls under permissible CRZ activities for non-conventional energy generation under the CRZ notification, 2011.

However, the approval carried 13 stringent conditions -- banning disturbance of turtle nest-

ing sites, sand dunes, and fish breeding grounds; mandating EIA updates; and requiring separate clearances from the Tamil Nadu Maritime Board for jetty construction. The project must also ensure that fishing routes and marine patrol operations remain unobstructed.

In a letter to TNCZMA, Chennai-based environmentalist K Saravanan urged withdrawal of the CRZ application due to the project's proximity to the sanctuary. "Wind farms near sanctuaries are disastrous. Studies from Gujarat and Karnataka show turbine collisions and electric cable risks that threaten bird populations," he wrote.

When contacted, AR Rahul Nadh, member-secretary of the Tamil Nadu State Coastal Zone Management Authority, said additional details had been sought from the Ramanathapuram collector. "We will not appraise the project until the technical scrutiny is completed. All the ecological and social impacts of the project will be taken into consideration before appraising."

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 10 November 2025, p. 4

TN's first inter-state expressway project mired in legal woes



PAIN POINT: The NE-7 is stuck between Kancheepuram-Arakkonam

Omjasvin.MD
@timesofindia.com

Chennai: Work on the 263.4km inter-state expressway between Chennai and Bengaluru has remained stuck on multiple stretches for months on now. The ₹15,000 crore access-controlled corridor, launched in 2019, was originally slated for completion in 2023. But now it is now unlikely to be ready before mid-2026.

The key obstacle is a legal dispute between National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and a contractor building the 25km Arakkonam-Kancheepuram stretch. The latter has moved Madras high court flagging the high cost of fly ash required for embankment work.

Though NHAI got orders in its favour in the first round, the contractor has gone on appeal, leaving the work stalled. "About 14 km is still pending. If works resume now, we can finish by July next year," said NHAI Kancheepuram project director A Savithiri Devi. The affected stretch covers key localities such as Parandur, where only a few pillars and girders are in place.

Sources said fly ash, sourced mainly from Ennore Thermal Power Station, is being sold at inflated prices by a cartel of middlemen. Contractors allege the ash, meant to replace soil in road embankments, is now being sold at up to ₹10,000 a truckload.

Source: *The Times of India*, 13 November 2025, p. 2

ad. "There are three grades of fly ash, with the top grade sold at ₹550 per tonne to cement industries. If thermal plants sell directly to highway contractors instead of middlemen through contracts, inflation could be prevented," said a highway contractor, R Ramarao.

The project has already missed several deadlines mentioned in the Parliament by Union minister Nitin Gadkari. About 94km of the expressway falls within Tamil Nadu, covering four key stretches. Out of the 24km stretch from Gudipala in Andhra Pradesh to Walajapet in TN, which is supposed to be over by Oct 2025, a railway overbridge is still yet to be constructed, and about 300metres of work is left. The Walajapet-Arakkonam stretch of 24.5km also missed its October deadline, with about 300metres and an ROB left.

The third 25.5 km Arakkonam-Kancheepuram stretch is supposed to be finished by March 2026, but it is stalled now, and the deadline is pushed to July. Meanwhile, in the Kancheepuram and Sripuram-Budur stretch of 31 km, which is supposed to be finished by December, about 6 km is left. The fourth stretch will now only be finished by May next year. Once complete, the six-lane expressway is expected to cut Chennai-Bengaluru travel time to just three hours through a seamless corridor connecting TN and AP.

Stalin flags off ₹1,200 crore worth new roads; launches ambulances

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

R Ramesh Shankar

Chennai: Chief minister MK Stalin inaugurated virtually roads worth ₹1,248 crore constructed by state highways department across Tamil Nadu. The roads were inaugurated in Erode, Tiruvarur, Mayiladuthurai, Thanjavur, Tiruvalur, Tirunelveli, Ariyalur, Madurai and two rail overbridges in Vellore.

Major projects included four-laning of Erode-Gobichettipalayam road for a distance of 30.6km at a cost of ₹272 crore; widening of Mayiladuthurai-Tiruvarur road for 16.4 km at a cost of ₹221 crore; widening of 9.9km long Kumbakonam-Mannargudi road at a cost of ₹197 crore; four-laning of 11.4km long Korattur-Thirunamur-Periyapalayam road at a cost of ₹111 crore; and four-laning of Tiruvallur-Arakkonam road for a distance of 9.2 km at a cost of ₹82 crore.

He flagged off 87 new ambulances for 108 ambulance service at a cost of close to ₹19 crore. At present, there are 1,353 108 ambulances plying in



LIFE SAVERS: New ambulances have advanced life support equipments

the state for emergency services. Among them, 307 ambulances were equipped with advanced life support equipment and 65 were neo-natal ambulances.

Stalin handed over land records to officials of local bodies to establish burial grounds for Christians and Muslims. According to orders, burial grounds would be established in Kottaiappatti in Virudhunagar district; Allinagaram in Theni district; Sakkaraikottai in Ramanathapuram district; Thirupachur in Tiruvalur

district; Elambalur in Perambalur district; and Arasani in Sivaganga district.

The burial grounds would have a proper compound wall, name boards and basic amenities. Christians and Muslims from these towns met Stalin at the state secretariat and thanked him for the allocation.

Earlier, CM along with deputy CM Udhayanidhi Stalin inaugurated the bund-strengthening work of the water body at the upcoming Guindy eco park.

Source: *The Times of India*, 02 November 2025, p. 5

TNRDC floats tenders for last 30km stretch of peripheral ring road

Omjasvin.MD
@timesofindia.com

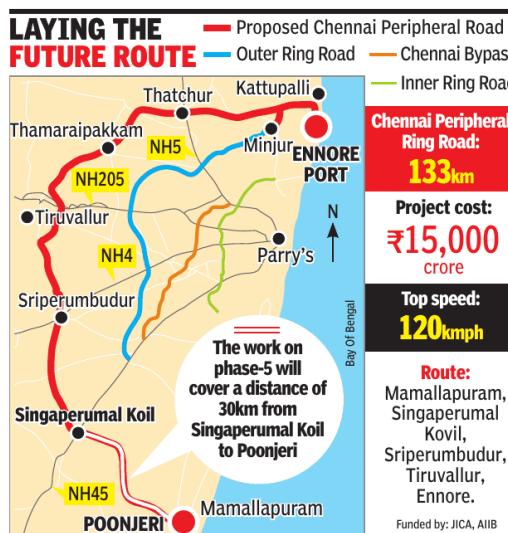
Chennai: Tamil Nadu Road Development Corporation has floated tenders for the final 30-km stretch between Singaperumal Koil and Mammallapuram of the 133-km Chennai peripheral ring road (CPRR).

Proposed in 2019, the CPRR will link Mahabalipuram with Ennore via Singaperumal Koil, Sriperumbudur, and Tiruvallur. The project cost is ₹15,000 crore, and officials expect completion in the next two years.

TNRDC officials said work on the last stretch will start shortly and be completed within two years, followed by a seven-year maintenance period.

The govt has identified more than 1,000 trees in the right-of-way of the six-lane corridor, which can be expanded to 10 lanes in the future. These trees will be transplanted along the service lanes.

Four other stretches, Ennore-Thatchur, Thatchur-T-



making it the state highways department's first expressway.

The only other 120kmph corridor is the national expressway-7, which is being built from Chennai to Bengaluru by the NHAI.

Travel time from Mahabalipuram to Ennore, currently three hours via the 75 km route through the city, is expected to drop to about an hour once the CPRR opens. M Yuvraj, president of the state sand lorry owners association, said lorry movement on the Chennai bypass is now restricted due to rising local traffic.

"Once, Chennai bypass was a major arterial road. Now, even two-wheelers use it, restricting truck traffic. The same will happen with ORR in the future as the city grows. The new stretch will help trucks from the deep south reach the port and vice versa in a hassle-free manner," he said, adding that it is vital for the transport of rice, pulses, goods, and several other products.

Source: *The Times of India*,
27 November 2025, p. 4

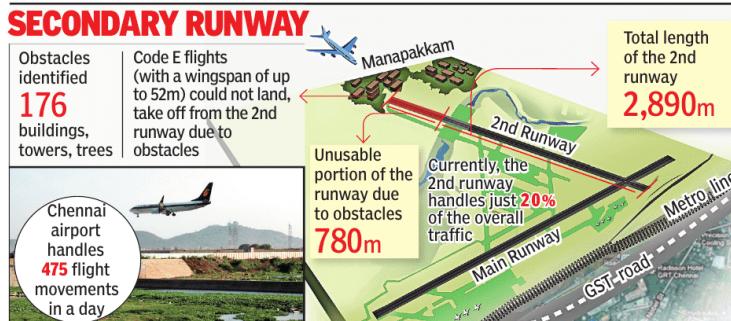
Chennai airport plans to clear path for 2nd runway

176 Buildings, Trees To Be Removed

Venkadesan.S
@timesofindia.com

Chennai: Airports Authority of India (AAI) discussed plans to remove obstacles along the flight path of Chennai airport's secondary runway during the airport advisory committee meeting on Friday. This will enable authorities to recarpet the main runway after nearly a decade.

The committee, chaired by MPTR Baalu, decided to form a team comprising members from the Chennai airport authority, and revenue officers from Tambaram and Chengalpet to carry out an obstacle limitation survey. They will also hold talks with the owners of both authorized and unauthorized buildings violating the colour-coded zoning map developed by aviation authorities to regulate building heights and land use in



the vicinity of the airport.

Some of the buildings in the zone were authorized by the approving authority due to a misinterpretation of the height restrictions without taking into account the above mean sea level factor, officials said. "The aim for the survey is to reduce the heights of the buildings for better use of the secondary runway when the main runway is closed for resurfacing," he added.

Until now, the AAI has identified 176 structures including telecommunication towers, buildings, and trees, which will be removed.

"Though the secondary runway is 2,890m long and is capable of handling Code E aircraft, about 780m of the stretch is not used due to obstructions. This has forced us to reduce the runway capacity to handle smaller Code C aircraft," said airport director M Raja Kishore. "If the entire length of the runway could be used, operations of the main runway can be entirely shifted," he added.

Since per-day aircraft movements have jumped to 475 from 425, using the second runway to its full potential will avoid revenue loss for

both the airports authority and the state govt, the director said. The main runway was last resurfaced in 2015 at the cost of ₹40 crore and the secondary runway was resurfaced in 2024. AAI is planning to float a tender for the resurfacing of the main runway soon.

Meanwhile, TR Baalu said that a detailed project report will be prepared to prevent water from Pammal and Pozhichalur from draining towards the compound walls of the Chennai airport by constructing a proper channel to drain the water into the Adyar River.

Source: *The Times of India*,
29 November 2025, p. 5

T.N. pushes for faster expansion of airports to match its economic surge

Passenger traffic is rising sharply, new industrial clusters are coming up across the State with a boom in distributed growth, and yet several completed or near-ready airports are waiting for timely operational clearance, points out Tamil Nadu Minister for Industries T.R.B. Rajaa

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu's industrial and economic surge in the past four years requires a far larger and more rapid expansion of airport infrastructure, according to Minister for Industries T.R.B. Rajaa.

"Passenger traffic is rising sharply, new industrial clusters are coming up across the State with a boom in distributed growth, and yet several completed or near-ready airports – from Vellore and Neyveli to Salem and Thanjavur – are waiting for timely operational clearance," he said at a recent interaction with journalists of *The Hindu*.

"We are developing major greenfield airports at Parandur and Hosur, but the reality is simple: a State of our scale needs many more functional airports, and we urge the Union government to match Tamil



Pitching for connectivity: T.R.B. Rajaa says the Salem Airport needs additional scheduled services to Chennai and Madurai to meet rising passenger demand. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Nadu's pace so that connectivity does not become a bottleneck for growth," Mr. Rajaa said.

DPR completed

The government has initiated the development of the Parandur Greenfield International Airport near Chennai to address the re-

gion's rising passenger and cargo traffic. The Detailed Project Report has been completed, and the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) granted site clearance on August 1, 2024. Subsequently, the MoCA provided in-principle approval on April 7, 2025. Land acquisition is under way.



A State of our scale needs many more functional airports, and we urge the Union government to match Tamil Nadu's pace so that connectivity does not become a bottleneck for growth

T.R.B. RAJAA
Minister for Industries

in Hosur-Shoolagiri taluk was finalised. A site clearance application was submitted to the MoCA on November 7, 2025.

According to the Minister, the Salem Airport, in particular, requires additional scheduled services to Chennai and Madurai to meet the rising passenger demand and enhance regional connectivity.

Land handed over

The infrastructure at the Vellore RCS (Regional Connectivity Scheme) Airport has been completed, and the required land was handed over to the AAI long ago. Security and fire personnel have been trained by the State government, and they are ready for deployment. "Despite readiness, flight operations have been inordinately delayed," Mr. Rajaa said.

The Neyveli RCS Airport has its infrastructure in place too; yet, flight operations have not begun. The

State government urges the AAI to commence operations immediately to enhance regional accessibility, he said.

Thanjavur Civil Enclave

For the Thanjavur Civil Enclave (at the Indian Air Force base), the State has identified the land required for laying a straight approach road from the National Highway and given in-principle approval for acquisition.

Since an approach road already exists, further acquisition may proceed once the AAI finalises the development plan.

Airport proposed

The State government has proposed to develop a greenfield airport in Ramanathapuram. Two potential sites have been identified, and the AAI has been requested to conduct feasibility studies. Upon site finalisation, the State government will initiate steps to advance the project.

Source: *The Hindu*, 17 November 2025, p. 4

Modernization Of TN's Ports Could Entail Lower Costs, Faster Turnaround Times, And Direct Global Linkage

PORTS TO BE POWERED UP

Yogesh.Kabirdoss@timesofindia.com

Tamil Nadu's industrial ecosystem is set for a boost in competitiveness, as its three key ports—Chennai Port Authority, Kamarajar Port at Ennore, and V O Chidambaranar Port Authority (VOCPA) in Tuticorin—prepare to execute one of the largest expansion programmes ever undertaken. More than ₹1.2 lakh crore worth of MoUs were signed at the India Maritime Week in Mumbai a fortnight ago, signalling a strong and long-overdue push to modernize port capacity, optimise cargo handling, enhance last-mile road and rail connectivity, and introduce new capabilities such as shipbuilding and repair. For a state whose industrial base spans automobiles, footwear, textiles, leather, electronics, aerospace, defence, and renewables, the port expansion is timely. TN's industries rely on containerized and bulk cargo movement, and exporters have often faced bottlenecks related to capacity, vessel frequency, and last-mile connectivity. The upgrades are aimed at solving these pain points through modernized terminals, deeper drafts, new berths, expanded yards, and improved rail and road evacuation systems.

The most significant investment—₹42,000 crore—has been earmarked for Chennai Port Authority, which sits at the heart of India's automobile export chain. Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL), the country's second-largest carmaker, has depended almost entirely on Chennai Port since 1999 to ship cars to global markets. Over 3.7mn of its vehicles have been exported from this port over the past 25 years, reaching more than 150 destinations across APAC, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. With Hyundai committing to make India its largest production and export hub outside South Korea, and with other OEMs expanding in and around Chennai, the port's expansion is expected to improve dispatch sequencing and reduce vessel turnaround delays.

Exporters welcomed the intervention. Israr Ahmed, former vice-president of the federation of Indian export organisations (FIEO) and MD of Farida Group, a footwear exporter, notes the state's expanding industrial base requires its ports to double handling capacity over next five years. Volume-heavy industries depend on reliable container movement, and improved efficiency is expected to increase the frequency of mothership calls—currently sparse—thus reducing reliance on transhipment hubs. Ahmed estimates that direct connectivity of large vessels could cut transit times between Chennai and the US from today's 60-75 days to nearly 50-65 days. Such savings in time and cost, he says, would enhance TN's global competitiveness. Defence and aerospace manufacturing—one of TN's fastest-growing sectors—stands to gain. With global supply chains diversifying away from China, Indian exporters are seeing increased interest from markets across Europe and East Asia. Vanchinathan T, founder of

defence technology firm Jeanuvs, says ports with higher handling capacity will be critical for efficiently importing rare minerals and exporting defence components. Jeanuvs is setting up India's largest ammunition filling facility in southern TN with a ₹4,000 crore investment, planned to leverage VOCPA's improved cargo access. Vanchinathan says reduced port-side expenses and increased vessel frequency will lower import costs and improve export margins for defence manufacturers.

TN's manufacturing community views the expansion as crucial to addressing structural weakness of India's logistics cost, hovering around 13-14%—higher than the global benchmark of 7-8%. Sunil Rallan, president of the TN association of SEZ infrastructure developers, believes that port inefficiencies have long eroded India's price competitiveness. When compared with world-class ports such as Jebel Ali, Indian ports fall behind in operational speed, turnaround time, and evacuation efficiency. With new investments, Rallan expects vessel dwell times to fall and yard operations to become more predictable. For industrial clusters located within 80km of Chennai, Ennore, and Kattupalli—and emerging hubs such as Trichy and Perambalur—the gains could be significant, he adds. Kamarajar Port Ltd (KPL), a subsidiary of

Chennai Port Authority, has signed MoUs worth ₹24,176 crore to upgrade container terminal capacity, bulk cargo capabilities, and dredging operations. Deepening of drafts will allow larger cape-size vessels to dock directly, reducing dependence on feeder services—a source of added cost for exporters. KPL MD Irene Cynthia notes that deeper drafts and expanded berths will streamline cargo movement and help the state's exporters integrate seamlessly into global shipping networks. Down south, Tuticorin's VOCPA is positioning itself as an integrated cargo and ship-repair hub. An MoU worth ₹2,000 crore with J M Baxi Ports & Logistics will bring a full-fledged ship repair facility to the region.

VOCPA chairperson Susanta Kumar Purohit says the facility is expected to increase port calls by 25%. Tuticorin's importance has grown in recent years, with the region emerging as a base for manufacturing long windmill blades for export—many of which move from centres as far as Bengaluru and Chennai.

Across the border: Vizhinjam International Port, operationalized recently, is emerging as a prime gateway for exporters from Tirupur, Coimbatore, and other western districts. Industry leaders see Vizhinjam not merely as a competitor but as a complementary force that strengthens South India's collective logistics capacity. S Narasimhan, chairman of Sattva Logistics and chairman of CII Southern Region Ports & Logistics Committee, notes that TN's port modernization is a decade overdue but now moving in the right direction.



Source: *The Times of India*, 17 November 2025, p. 2

Chennai Port to get deeper channels for larger vessels

Officials say they will soon appoint a consultant to conduct the recommended studies, along with environmental impact assessment, for obtaining the permissions needed for the dredging project

PORT CALL

Sunitha Sekar

CHENNAI

For berthing and safe manoeuvring of very large crude carriers, Chennai Port Authority will soon carry out capital dredging work. This infrastructure upgrade is a necessity to handle large vessels with a length of 350 m or more.

The capital dredging work (deepening of the existing channels to cater to large vessels) will be done to increase the diameter of the turning circle at both the Bharathi and Ambedkar Docks.

While the Ambedkar Dock turning circle's diameter of 392 m will increase by 200 m, the Bharathi Dock's 560-m turning circle will be expanded by 50 m.

The completion of the work will enable the turning of large container and crude vessels at the port.

According to Chennai Port Authority, the capital dredging project is crucial for the port's growth as it will help larger vessels, and very large crude car-

Infrastructure upgrade

According to Chennai Port Authority, the capital dredging project is crucial for the port's growth

Total quay length:
around

5.5 km

Number of berths:

24

Number of docks:

3

(Ambedkar, Jawahar, and Bharathi Docks)

■ Dredging is carried out at harbours mainly to maintain and enhance navigation infrastructure

■ Capital dredging is carried out to deepen existing channels or establish new ones to facilitate the handling of large vessels

■ The capital dredging to be done at Chennai Port will help with the safe manoeuvring of very large crude carriers



riers to safely access the facility. At times of adverse weather conditions, while deepening the channels substantially decreases the risk of vessels running aground, widening the channels will help vessels manoeuvre safely and allow for two-way traffic.

To implement the project, Chennai Port Authority needs to first receive environmental clearance.

In August, the Ministry

of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) granted the Terms of Reference (ToR) for carrying out the capital dredging work.

In the ToR, the Ministry has directed Chennai Port Authority to do various studies, including a hydrodynamics study on the impact of dredging, the effect of dredging and dumping activities on the coastline, if the project will affect ma-

rine ecology and biodiversity.

Officials said they would soon appoint a consultant for conducting the recommended studies along with environmental impact assessment studies and help the authorities obtain Environmental Clearance from the MoEF&CC, New Delhi, and Coastal Regulation Zone Clearance from the State Coastal Zone Management Authority.

Source: *The Hindu*, 04 November 2025, p. 2

CMRL Hopes To Beef Up Its Revenues By Transforming Stations Into Recreational Zones

Metro stations to turn public hangouts by 2028

Venkadesan.S@timesofindia.com

By 2028, one might no longer need to drive to ECR for a night out. The metro stations will double up as air-conditioned hangouts with restaurants, multiplexes, lounges, and co-working spaces, redefining the city's idea of leisure. Chennai Metro Rail Ltd (CMRL) has identified Chennai Central, Broadway, Mandaveli, Thirumangalam, Sholinganallur, and Thoraipakkam to develop premium hangouts.

While Central Tower will have a multiplex, Kuralagam will feature commercial spaces, and stations on OMR such as Sholinganallur and Thoraipakkam will have co-working spaces. All stations will have restaurants. These structures will also serve as multi-modal transport hubs, unlike the existing malls in the city. The biggest of all - Chennai Central Tower with 28 floors and four basements for parking and a multiplex - is taking shape fast. CMRL officials said 7.5% of the work is completed so far, and construction is at the level of the first floor. When operational, the central tower can be accessed by suburban trains, MRTS, bus transport, and metro trains. The work on the tower, which will also house a multiplex, started a year ago.

Similarly, the Kuralagam complex has been demolished to lay the foundation stone to begin construction by the end of Nov, while construction will begin at the Broadway bus terminus by this year-end after the existing terminus is moved to Island grounds. Similar complexes are in different stages of execution in Mandaveli, Thirumangalam, Thoraipakkam, and Sholinganallur. "The contract period for most special projects is around 26 to 30 months. So, they all should be open to the public by the end of 2028," said CMRL Project Director T Archunan.

CMRL has also been developing small commercial spaces above all its underground stations on the OMR. Apart from utilization of air rights of lands under control of CMRL and other govt bodies to generate additional revenue, these structures will lend the city an air of modernity. Satish Galley, a Semmancheri resident, welcomed the transit-oriented development and said that this should not be restricted within the city. The upcoming metro stations in Navalur and Siruseri would at least deserve mini malls, which CMRL is planning at most of the stations on the OMR stretch. "CMRL is working towards transit-oriented developments like Singapore and other developed countries. Developments beyond Sholinganallur are needed," he said.

City-based urban planner Pavithra Srinivasan said that such developments are unavoidable and needed as long as there is impetus for growth in the city. "There is a need for such public places for a growing metropolis like Chennai, and it is better than private developments. But such spaces should be inclusionary in nature and accessible by people from all walks of life," she said.

PROGRESS CHART



THIRUMANGALAM INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT

Current Status | Technical evaluation in progress

PLAN

Tower A | 2B + G + 11 Floors

Tower B | G + 11 Floors

Tower C | 2B + G + 11 Floors

Tower D | G + 2 Floors

Feasible Built-Up Area | 62,665 sqm

Project Cost | ₹282 crore

CMRL's Commercial Developments Along Metro Corridors

CHENNAI CENTRAL TOWER

Current Status | 7.5% completed. Work on the first floor underway

Actual Structure | 4 Basements 24,154 sq m for parking+ Ground + 27 Upper Floors (Height: 120 m)

Ground-4th Floor | Retail + Multiplex - 15,510 sqm

5th-10th Floor | Reserved Office Space - 18,616 sqm

11th-24th Floor | Grade-A Office Space - 43,428 sqm

25th Floor | Service Floor - 3,102 sqm

26th-27th Floor | 3-Star Boutique Hotel - 5,823 sqm

Project Cost | ₹688 crore (₹197 crore spent for basements)



BROADWAY BUS STAND & KURALAGAM INTEGRATED COMPLEX

Status | Foundation stone to be laid by year-end

Actual plan | 2 Basements + Ground + 8 Floors (41.95 m)

Bus stand at lower levels, commercial above

Kuralagam Block | 2 Basements + Ground + 9 Floors (35.40 m)

Dedicated commercial area

Project Cost | ₹606.59 crore (excl. GST)

MANDAVELI BUS TERMINAL DEVELOPMENT

Current status | Tender awarded, construction to start as soon as underground pillar is completed

Plan | Two towers

Total Built-Up Area | 3,52,270 sqm

Commercial Space | 1,60,759 + 1,91,511 sqm

Project Cost | ₹194 crore



OMR-THORAIPAKKAM COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Current status | Tender finalized

Site Area | 2,440 sqm

Structure | 3 Basements + Ground + 5 Floors

Built-Up Area | 12,346 sqm

Project Cost | ₹106 crore



SHOLINGANALLUR METRO SITE DEVELOPMENT

Current status | Tender finalized

Plan | G + 8 Floors

Area | 3,578 sqm

Built-Up Area | 15,313 sqm

Project Cost | ₹142 crore

Image | Sholinganallur Metro Site Development

Source: *The Times of India*, 13 November 2025, p. 2

T.N. finds itself in a tight spot over Code on Social Security

The State govt. is yet to frame draft rules for the Labour Code unlike with the other 3 Codes. It is worried that it may disrupt the current framework of welfare schemes for unorganised workers

T. Ramakrishnan

CHENNAI

With the Union government notifying the enforcement of the four Labour Codes all over the country, the Tamil Nadu government has found itself in a tight corner with regard to the Code on Social Security, as it has been entertaining reservations on the issue.

Ever since the Centre enacted the four Codes five years ago in the place of 29 laws, it had held discussions with the State government over the implementation of the Code on Social Security (CSS), 2020. But, no consensus was arrived at, according to a policymaker.

Of the four Codes, the State government, in April 2022, published draft rules for the three – the Code on Wages, 2019, the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, and the Occupational Safety, Health, and Working Conditions Code, 2020. As consultations with stakeholders have been held, the government can notify the final rules anytime now.

Only in respect of the CSS, no draft rules have been framed so far.

Fundamentally, the CSS does not give liberty to the



Wide coverage: Currently, 18 unorganised workers' welfare boards in Tamil Nadu are implementing schemes pertaining to education, marriage, accident disability, and pension, among others. FILE PHOTO

State government to retain its existing law – the Tamil Nadu Manual Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Work) Act, 1982. But, the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008, one of the nine laws subsumed by the latest Code, had allowed States to have any corresponding law, providing welfare schemes more beneficial to the unorganised workers than those provided for them under it.

The main reason behind the State government's reservation is that Tamil Na-

du, being a "pioneer" in labour welfare measures for the unorganised sector, has been having 18 unorganised workers' welfare boards, covering those engaged in 70 (manual) and 54 (construction) categories of works specified in the 1982 law.

These boards are implementing a number of schemes pertaining to education, marriage, maternity, natural and accidental death, accident disability, and monthly and family pension.

The concern expressed by activists and trade un-

ionists, apart from the State government, is that the present framework of schemes may get disturbed after implementation of the CSS.

For example, in the Code, it is for the Union government to frame welfare schemes for unorganised workers in respect of life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection, and education, while it is for the State governments to come up with schemes for provident fund, employment injury benefit, housing, educational schemes for children, upgrading skills of workers, funeral assistance, and old age homes.

This has raised questions over how to continue with the existing schemes of the State government and welfare boards in areas designated for the Union government.

Overlapping functions
Besides, the possibility exists in respect of overlapping of certain functions, as stipulated by the Code.

Notwithstanding the prevalence of challenges inherent in the implementation of the CSS, the Tamil Nadu government is particular that the interests of workers are safeguarded and strengthened, explains a senior official.

Source: *The Hindu*, 24 November 2025, p. 2

TNPDCL draft revision order increases workload of 50K employees by 30%

S GURUVANMIKANATHAN
@Chennai

AFTER a long delay, the Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TNPDCL) has released a draft revised order on workload to be handled, which will be applicable for nearly 50,000 Group 3 and Group 4 employees in the organisation. The discom has given a 15-day period for employees to submit their com-

ments and objections, before finalising the draft.

According to official sources, the revision had been pending for the past two years, and TNPDCL has now decided to move forward in an attempt to improve field operations, strengthen monitoring and enhance consumer services.

A draft copy of the proposal accessed by *TNIE* shows that each section office will now have to cover 168 transformers,

compared with 140 transformers in the workload norms issued on March 2, 2018. Similarly, workload for almost all categories of field-related tasks—including meter reading, bill collection, breakdown work and maintenance—have been increased by around 20% to 30%.

A Sekkizhar, general secretary of



the TNEB Employees Federation (affiliated with UTUC), told *TNIE* that the staffing pattern has remained outdated for decades. "There are about 2,900 section offices functioning across the state. For more than 30 years, each section office has been op-

erating with seven workmen groups, with each group having a wireman and a field assistant—a total of 14 staff. But today most section offices have only six to eight employees, and the rest of the posts are lying vacant," he said.

"Workload keeps increasing every year, but the discom has neither created new posts nor taken steps to fill the vacancies. This will directly affect lakhs of consumers," he

added.

Sekkizhar further pointed out that nearly 10,000 gangmen have been working for the past four years but are still not considered under the official workload structure. "We have repeatedly requested TNPDCL to promote gangmen as field assistants and include them in the workload," he said.

Echoing similar concerns, E Natarajan, state general secretary of the Bharathiya Elec-

tricity Engineers Association, said the discom has introduced several new technical systems, but has not created any new technical posts.

With the new draft increasing the workload, attending to transformer repairs, feeder faults and power outages will take more time in the coming months, he said, and added, "There is no point in increasing workload without increasing staff strength."

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 22 November 2025, p. 4

TN, ANSR ink MoU to attract more capability centres

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Chennai

THE state government has signed a strategic partnership on Thursday with ANSR, a Bengaluru-headquartered firm that specialises in establishing and scaling Global Capability Centres (GCCs), as the state seeks to consolidate its position as a hub for high-value technology and engineering services.

Guidance, the state's investment promotion agency, executed the memorandum of understanding in Bengaluru.

Officials described the agreement as one of the most significant interventions yet in Tamil Nadu's bid to expand its footprint in the GCC segment—a sector that has become central to corporate digital transformation and global operations.

TRB Rajaa, minister for industries, investment promotion and commerce, said the partnership would help the state attract "the next wave of global corporations" and strengthen its bid to become the world's

most competitive GCC destination. "Technology, automotive, BFSI, engineering, aerospace and retail companies have all chosen our state. They come because of our talent, our infrastructure and the stability of this government," he said.

Lalit Ahuja, ANSR's founder and chief executive, said Tamil Nadu offered "all the ingredients" required to become a global leader in the GCC industry, citing its technical talent base, policy clarity and expanding

innovation ecosystem.

ANSR, which has set up more than 200 GCCs employing over 2 lakh professionals worldwide, brings two decades of experience in building enterprise capabilities across AI engineering, cybersecurity, product development, R&D, digital commerce and data science.

Tamil Nadu already hosts GCCs of several large multinational firms, and last year introduced a dedicated GCC policy to boost employability and deepen its competitiveness in high-skill services.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 21 November 2025, p. 5

Labour Dept. plans to put up resting sheds for construction workers across the State

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Labour Department has made plans to put up 50 resting sheds for construction workers throughout the State, with the initiative targeting urban local bodies. The Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) is spear-

Source: *The Hindu*, 16 November 2025, p. 5

heading a pilot project, which includes plans to set up these facilities in high-traffic areas.

Following this, the civic body's Special Projects wing prepared a prototype for the proposed shed. In June 2025, the GCC opened dedicated 24-hour lounges for gig workers.

An official said the facility for

construction workers would include seating, fans, and toilets.

The budget is still being finalised, and the design is under preparation. Construction is expected to pick up once the approvals are in place. The facilities are planned in Thiru.Vi.Ka. Nagar, Anna Nagar and Kondabakkam zones.

Naan Mudhalvan programme to cover nursing, allied health sciences students

Sangeetha Kandavel

CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC) is set to expand its flagship *Naan Mudhalvan* programme to students pursuing Nursing and Allied Health Sciences, to enhance employability in the healthcare sector.

As part of this new initiative, students will receive specialised training in communication skills and digital skills – two competencies increasingly critical in today's clinical environments.

"We held multiple rounds of discussions with MGR University, the Nursing Council and several other stakeholders and have introduced these courses based on their collective feedback. These are not generic modules – they are custom-designed for hospital settings. The

Source: *The Hindu*, 29 November 2025, p. 4

TNSkill Registry is a portal designed for those who have undergone training under the *Naan Mudhalvan* scheme

stakeholders were involved throughout the curriculum finalisation," Kranthi Kumar Pati, Managing Director of the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC) said. "Our board has approved this," he added.

These courses are tailored specifically for hospital environments, focusing on how students should interact effectively with both doctors and patients, Mr. Pati explained. "Tamil Nadu is a major hub for medical tourism, and our nurses increasingly explore opportunities abroad as well. So, this will help them," he noted.

This will be offered to students from the upcoming academic session, which begins in November. For students pursuing Nursing and Allied Health courses, the programme will run for 40 hours. For those enrolled in Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy programmes, it will comprise 20 hours of training.

During the interaction Mr. Pati also highlighted a new initiative launched by the department – the TNSkill Registry, a portal designed for employers, industries, and students who have undergone training under the *Naan Mudhalvan* scheme.

Students can upload their profiles on the portal, which will be accessible to registered employers. If an employer is interested in a candidate's profile, they can indicate it on the platform. The student's con-

tact details will be shared with the employer if the student expresses interest in the opportunity. The advantage for employers is that the service is free of cost and saves considerable time, as all data is auto validated.

Over 600 companies have already registered. Over 133 firms are from the Capital Goods and Manufacturing sector.

There are employers spread across 30 sectors including textiles, life sciences, power, leather, telecom, BFSI and tourism among others.

"It is consent based. The link to the registry is available on the *Naan Mudhalvan* portal," Mr. Pati said. "What we aim to do is bring all students trained under *Naan Mudhalvan* into a unified skill registry. Currently, over 14 lakh students are beneficiaries of this scheme," he added.

Engg Institutes Counter Market Lull By Focusing On Training, Hiring Drives, Startups

City colleges up their game this job season

Ragu.Raman
atimesofindia.com

Amid global economic uncertainties and a slowdown in hiring by IT services companies, engineering colleges in the city were able to match last year's numbers in campus placements as of Oct 31 by tweaking their approach.

The measures included inviting more companies, tapping into the alumni network, tapping startups and companies in the neighbourhood, and using MSMEs to train students to solve industry problems to improve their employability.

Anna University's four campuses did not witness any drop in placements with pay of ₹20 lakh a year or more, but some city colleges reported a 25% dip.

First-time recruiters were active across campuses. Sanjay Kishan R, a computer science engineering student from the College of Engineering, Guindy, got placed in RrBrick India, a networking-based software company, with a pay package of ₹20 lakh a year. This company was visiting Anna University for the first time. "We are seeing more companies compared to last year. Top MNCs, including Amazon and Apple, have visited our campus," said Sanjay Kishan.

Sakthibala from mechanical engineering at the same college was hired by Yamaha Motors at ₹7.5 lakh a year. More than 40% of his batchmates got jobs too. "Core engineering jobs offer job security and steady growth even in these uncertain times," he said.

"Despite the delay in arrival by bulk recruiters this year, the overall placement percentage compared to last year is higher as the global capability centres (GCCs) and product companies hired in good numbers this year," said Abhay Meganathan, vice-chairman of Rajalak-

SCORE BOARD

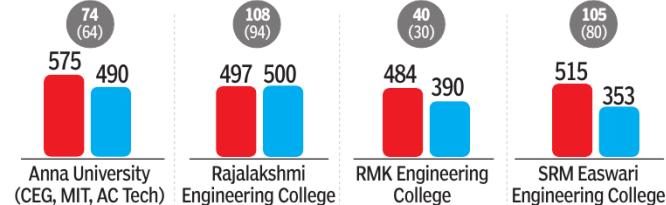
Colleges have managed to match last year's numbers as of Oct 31

CAMPUS PLACEMENT IN ENGINEERING COLLEGES THIS YEAR

Number of students placed (till Oct 31)

■ This year ■ Last year

● Companies visited so far
(within bracket last year)

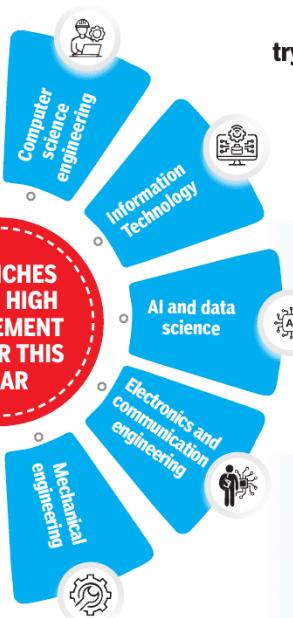


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Despite delay in bulk recruiting, overall placement percentage is higher this year

Abhay Meganathan |
V-C, RAJALAKSHMI
GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS

BRANCHES WITH HIGH PLACEMENT SO FAR THIS YEAR



How colleges try to overcome the sluggish placement season?

Increasing the number of companies

Reach out to MSMEs in the neighbourhood for training

Training students on industry oriented problems and future projects

Trying to be innovative by planning exclusive placement sessions for startups

Graphic: Deepak Davis Thottan

shmi Group of Institutions. By Oct 31, the college saw 497 graduates hired, just three less than last year. The college, located near the industrial area in Thandalam, also received enquiries from core engineering companies in the indus-

trial estates for placements. "We are closely working with them to impart skills to students during the eighth semester," he added.

Anna University campuses invited more than 500 companies, 100 more



than last year. "Bigger companies with expansion plans are hiring in good numbers, while mid-level companies are holding back."

We are planning to reach out to more companies in Dec," said K Shanmuga Sundaram, director of the Centre for University-Industry Collaboration, Anna University. "TCS is going to do bulk hiring in Dec, and 1,800 UG and PG students from our campuses have registered for campus placement," he added.

The university is also planning to conduct exclusive hiring sessions for startups to improve job offers. "We are planning to invite mature startups to visit our campuses for this special drive," said Shanmuga Sundaram.

Colleges such as Sri Sairam Engineering College in Tambaram have tied up with Ambattur Industrial Estate Manufacturers' Association (AIE-MA) and Tirumudivakkam Industrial Estate Manufacturers' Association (TIEMA) and made it mandatory for faculty members and students to do internships in the MSMEs in the neighbourhood. "MSMEs help us in drafting the syllabus, training our students and faculty members. This helps our students in campus placement interviews," said Sai Prakash Leo Muthu, chairman of Sri Sairam Engineering College.

RMK Engineering College said it had introduced domain-specific skill training to give students an edge to overcome the dip in conventional campus recruitment. "For example, computer science students will undergo training in cloud computing, cybersecurity, and full-stack development," said R M Kishore, vice-chairman of RMK Engineering College.

SRM Easwari Engineering College got students to solve industry problems faced by GCCs and IT product companies. "This increases their chances of getting hired. We have tie-ups with 73 companies in Chennai, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad," said P Deiva Sundari, principal of SRM Easwari Engineering College.

Source: *The Times of India*, 07 November 2025, p. 2

Over 70,000 admitted under RTE Act in T.N. this academic year

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

A total of 70,449 students have been admitted to various schools in the State under the Right to Education Act for the current academic year, according to the School Education Department.

A total of 28,077 students were admitted to the lower kindergarten class in 4,070 nursery and primary schools, while five were admitted to Class I in four schools in the same category.

"In matriculation schools, 42,273 students were admitted to LKG in 3,647 schools, while 94 were admitted to Class I in 17 schools across the

Source: *The Hindu*, 03 November 2025, p. 6

State," said B. Chandra Mohan, Secretary of the School Education Department.

Marginal decrease

Over 81,000 applications were received for RTE admissions in the final phase. A total of 81,927 students applied for LKG and 89 students for Class I under the RTE Act. This is a marginal decrease from last year, when 71,306 students were admitted to LKG and 92 were admitted to Class I in 7,609 schools.

Under the RTE Act, 25% of the seats in entry-level classes including LKG and Class I in private schools must be reserved for students from marginalised sections of society.

Class I-III to get new syllabus; focus on arts, sports, life skills

Ragu.Raman@timesofindia.com

Chennai: Integrating arts into science, technology, engineering, and maths (STEM) education, sports, life skills, and value-based education will get priority in the new curriculum. State govt plans to introduce a revised curriculum and syllabus for Classes I to III for 2026-27. Tamil Nadu will release the draft new curriculum for Classes I to XII in Dec, after which, it plans to hold stakeholders' meetings across the state until March next year.

"In the first phase, the syllabus will be revised for Classes I to III in 2026-27. Then syllabus revision will be carried out for Classes IV to X, and XI, XII in a phased manner," school education minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi said. He headed the first meeting of the expert committee for curriculum revision on Monday. The meeting went on for more than five hours, in which all members, including Isro chairman V Narayanan, cricketer R Ashwin, IIMSc former professor R Ramanujam, gave feedback.

"Experts suggest more

ROADMAP FOR SYLLABUS REVISION

► The curriculum and syllabus revision will be based on State Education Policy	revision will be carried out in a phased manner
► The syllabus for Classes I to III will be revised from 2026-27 based on new curriculum	► TN to release draft curriculum framework for Classes I to XII in Dec
► For other Classes, the syllabus	► The curriculum committee will seek feedback from stakeholders till March next year

practical components and project-based learning to give concept clarity to students, along with teaching life skills and giving more importance to physical activity," said Poyyamozhi. "Arts, sports, life skills, and value education will be made mainstream in the new curriculum," school education secretary B Chandra Mohan told *TOI*. A detailed analysis of the curriculum of various boards – including CBSE, IB, and other state boards, and best practices of other countries, including Singapore – has been carried out. "After the study, SCERT formed a draft framework which was discussed in the meeting. This will help the committee start their work im-

mediately," he added.

"We discussed modernizing the subjects so education is not considered a burden by children. We want to introduce new courses such as artificial intelligence and robotics in simple language," professor Sultan Ahmed Ismail, chairman of the curriculum design committee, told *TOI*. V Narayanan said the curriculum revision should be aimed at developing the children holistically in all areas.

Earlier, finance secretary T Udhayachandran, who helmed the previous curriculum revision for the state board in 2017-18, explained challenges faced during the previous exercise and the existing gaps.

Source: *The Times of India*, 25 November 2025, p. 4

AI tool to offer career guidance to students

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: The Tamil Nadu school education department is planning to develop an artificial intelligence-based app to provide career guidance for school students studying in Classes IX to XII. This app will recommend courses for students based on their academic performance and interests.

"It will analyse their past performance and give options for courses and colleges. If a student is interested in pursuing a different course, he or she will receive more options in their area of interest," school education secretary B Chandra Mohan said. This app will be integrated with the educational management information system (EMIS).

"It will help students make informed choices for higher studies and different career

paths," he added. This app will be introduced from the next academic year (2026-27).

The Tamil Nadu school education department integrated career guidance into the school curriculum in 2022 to improve the gross enrolment ratio in higher education. The govt and aided schools now guide students based on career guidance assessment tests conducted at high-tech labs.

Each school has a trained teacher to provide career guidance to students. The govt also introduced a separate book for career guidance. As part of providing exposure, more than 1 lakh students are being taken to colleges and universities this year.

The subject-wise textbooks for higher secondary students include details about top educational institutions in that particular stream.

Source: *The Times of India*, 24 November 2025, p. 4

Initiative launched to strengthen digital and STEM education

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

Samsung, in partnership with the United Nations Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI), has launched 'DigiArivu - Empowering Students Through Tech', an initiative to strengthen digital and STEM education in select government schools in Tamil Nadu.

Through this initiative, the electronics giant offers to upgrade infrastructure in 10 government schools in Kancheepuram and Ranipet districts to enable STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) and digital learning. The company also

Source: *The Hindu*, 20 November 2025, p. 3

plans to train teachers and support holistic student development. A press release stated that the company would provide sports kit to students, set up libraries with Tamil, English, and competitive examination books, offer career guidance to Class XII students, and organise health awareness camps. Over 3,000 students are expected to be benefitted from the programme.

The initiative was launched in Chennai on Wednesday by School Education Minister, Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi, in the presence of S.H. Yoon, President, Samsung Chennai Plant, and Ratnesh Jha, Executive Director, UN GCNI.

Buildings for tribal welfare schools being built at ₹125 cr: Govt.

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

Buildings are being constructed in Adi Dravidar tribal welfare schools across the State at a total cost of ₹125 crore, the Tamil Nadu government said on Tuesday. Over 730 new classrooms have already been constructed in about 150 such schools, it said.

An official release, listing the welfare programmes being implemented for the welfare of the Adi Dravidar and tribal communities, was released by the State government on Tuesday.

According to the release, CCTV cameras and an electronic biometric attendance system have

been installed in about 300 such schools. About 65 classrooms and 39 labs have been constructed in 39 residential schools for tribal communities. A total of eight government schools for tribal communities, located in hilly areas, have been upgraded, and six such higher secondary schools have been upgraded as model schools, it said.

Total assistance under the Anna Ambedkar Overseas Higher Education Scheme has been increased from ₹5.31 crore in 2021-22 to ₹65 crore in 2025-26. Assistance for postgraduate and research programmes are provided up to ₹36 lakh per student per annum.

Source: *The Hindu*, 19 November 2025, p. 2

Government to establish 13 new primary schools in 10 districts

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

A total of 10 districts in Tamil Nadu will get 13 new government primary schools, while four government primary schools will be upgraded to middle schools.

According to a Government Order issued by the School Education Depart-

ment, the schools will be established in Vellore, Tiruvannamalai, Tirupattur, Madurai, Virudhunagar, Kancheepuram and Nagapattinam districts, among others, while four primary schools in Vellore, Villupuram, and Nagapattinam districts will be upgraded.

The order follows the announcement of the crea-

tion of primary schools by School Education Minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi in the Legislative Assembly during grant requests.

The G.O. added that 39 teacher posts had been created at the newly established schools, and directed that necessary infrastructure be made available there.

Source: *The Hindu*, 07 November 2025, p. 5

Norms eased for schools near National and State highways

Dennis S. Jesudasan

CHENNAI

The State government has relaxed norms to allow schools to have direct openings to the National or State Highways provided there was a service road for

Source: *The Hindu*, 25 November 2025, p. 4

these highways.

New rules

Earlier, as per the Tamil Nadu Combined Development and Building Rules, 2019, schools were not to have openings direct to the National or State High-

ways. As per the fresh clause, in case of site abutting National or State Highways without a service road, a 7 metres service road shall be provided along the entire frontage of the site in the applicant's land, which can be con-

structed and maintained by the applicant. A compound wall was to be constructed after leaving the service road and the width of the entry or exit gates was to be not less than 9 metres and not more than 12 metres. The number of

gates shall be restricted to a maximum of two, one of the fresh provisions said. A guard rail of 1 metre in height shall be provided over the median separating the main highway and service road by the applicant at own cost.

TN to upgrade 44 govt polytechnic colleges in partnership with Tata Tech

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Directorate of Technical Education (DOTE) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Tata Technologies Ltd to upgrade 44 govt polytechnic colleges as centres of excellence with modern lab facilities at the cost of ₹2,590 crore.

The MoU was exchanged in front of chief minister M K Stalin by officials from DOTE and Tata on Thursday.

These polytechnic colleges will be upgraded in the public-private partnership (PPP) model. Some of the centres will specialize in new areas, including industrial robotics, advanced manufacturing, fabrication, IoT, and battery electric vehicles,

Source: *The Times of India*, 21 November 2025, p. 2

These polytechnic colleges will be upgraded in the public-private partnership model. Some of the centres will specialize in new areas, including industrial robotics, advanced manufacturing, fabrication, IoT, and battery electric vehicles, among others

among others. "This MoU aims to create the new curriculum, modernize infrastructure, upskill teachers, and increase employability of students," a release from the higher education department said.

"These labs are manufacturing-related. Polytechnic colleges that offer generic courses, including computer science, electrical, electronics, and mechanical, will be covered in this scheme," said

J Innocent Divya, commissioner, DOTE.

These polytechnic colleges will offer five new courses, including diplomas in smart manufacturing, industrial IoT, robotics and automation, and advanced manufacturing. They will also offer 22 short-term courses. "This facility will help our students to train in the relevant technologies in which they are going to work after passing out from polytechnic

colleges. Industry also can upskill their workforce using these centres of excellence," she added.

Polytechnic colleges that offer industry-relevant courses such as leather and textiles will also have industry-relevant upgrades soon. Stalin also inaugurated new buildings for arts and science colleges built at the cost of ₹59 crore and gave away appointment orders to 213 persons, including 190 assistant professors at Anna University's constituent colleges. Higher education minister Govi Chezhian, chief secretary N Muruganandam, higher education secretary P Shankar, Tata Technologies Ltd executive vice-president Shailesh Saraph were present.

Anna library science park ignites spark of discovery in kids

R.Saivenkatesh
@timesofindia.com

Chennai: Two eight-year-old boys pedal stationary bikes hooked to a slot car set. Each push sends a tiny car on the miniature track ahead. The faster they pedalled, the faster the cars moved, making for an exciting race. Here, not only are the kids moving and having fun but also learning a lesson on how mechanical energy generated by pedalling is converted into electrical energy, which in turn powers the slot cars.

This slot car track is just one of the many equipment

available at Anna Centenary Library's Children's Science Park. Set up at a cost of ₹80.24 lakh, following an announcement in the 2024-25 education department's budget, officials said the 'park' aimed at invoking an interest in science among students.

The experimental learning equipment and games help students visualize the impact of earthquakes, comprehend landforms, learn about electromagnetic waves while having fun. "The lab will help students learn about scientific concepts through experiential learning. It will also help students understand con-

cepts better," school education secretary B Chandramohan said.

Within minutes after school education minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi inaugurated the park on Wednesday, children started crowding around the equipment. There are 21 interactive devices, among which 10 are integrated STEM devices that provide combined learning in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. There are eight devices for physics. One equipment for instance, was reflex testing game, where students stand on an elevated

platform and react to blinding signals — a contest that tests their ability and reflex.

The 'Bionic blooms' which have buds attached to a platform, changed shape upon detecting a wave motion. There was a spinning wheel for concepts on optical illusion and an 'anatomodine' — an interactive visual panel that lets students study the human body.

"The idea is to make learning fun. About 500-700 kids visit the children's sections every weekend. Many of them can avail of this facility and learn a thing or two," said ACL chief librarian S Kamatchi.



LEARNING MADE FUN: Schoolboys take part in pedal-powered slot car racing at Anna Centenary Library's Children's Science Park

Source: *The Times of India*, 20 November 2025, p. 2

Self-financing medical colleges in TN to get more PG seats for 2025

Pushpa.Narayan@timesofindia.com

Chennai: Self-financing medical colleges in the state have been granted a total of 418 additional postgraduate seats in courses including anaesthesiology, general medicine, paediatrics, general surgery, dermatology, radio-diagnosis, orthopaedics, and ENT by the national medical commission (NMC), amidst the ongoing admission sessions.

With this, the PG seats in private institutions will increase to nearly 1,500. Earlier, the apex body granted permission for 58 seats in govt medical colleges, taking the tally of new seats so far in 2025 to 476. Across India, the commission has approved 4,201 PG seats.

On Friday, NMC issued a public notice listing the additional seats it granted for 2025 admissions.

"The LOPs (letter of permis-

Source: *The Times of India*, 30 November 2025, p. 4

sion) for newly sanctioned or increased PG seats for 2025-26 are in the process of being issued. The counselling authorities need not wait for the LOPs from institutions to include them in the counselling process. The list uploaded on the website shall be considered a valid document for the counselling process," stated a letter from NMC's medical assessment and rating board president Dr M K Ramesh.

The state selection committee, which admits students to state quota seats, service candidates, and all seats in self-financing colleges, said it will not be able to add these seats without the LOPs.

"The university accreditation for these seats comes only when these seats are approved after they receive the LOPs. As a policy, we won't add them to the seat matrix without university affiliation,"

said a senior health department official.

The committee has completed round one of counselling and is hopeful of adding the new seats in the second round. "Students who join round one of counselling will be allowed to upgrade and move to courses or colleges of their choice," the official added.

Meanwhile, the number of service candidates applying for admission continues to remain low. "In the first round, only 519 candidates were allotted seats. Some students may not take seats allotted to them and more than 100 seats are not allotted," an official said. These seats will be added to the seat matrix in round two along with newly approved seats.

"We expect some of these seats to be moved to the general pool in the third round," the official added.

155 candidates from TN clear UPSC Mains exam

SUBASHINI VIJAYAKUMAR @Chennai

A total of 155 candidates from Tamil Nadu have cleared the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Civil Services Mains Examination this year, an increase over the 136 candidates who cleared the exam last year.

Officials say about 657 candidates from the state appeared for the Mains this year. Under the state's Naan Mudhalvan Scheme, those who clear the examination will receive a one-time stipend of ₹25,000. Of the 155 who qualified, 87 had undergone residential coaching at

the state-run All India Civil Services Coaching Centre (AICSCC), the figure rising from 48 last year.

"Around 400 of the 657 aspirants had applied for residential coaching at AICSCC, though we initially had only 225 seats. The government acted quickly to accommodate all willing students so they could receive proper coaching. This benefitted economically disadvantaged students and 320 received coaching at the centre," said T Sankara Saravanan, principal of AICSCC.

Last year, around 57 candi-

dates from the state were selected for the civil services. Those who clear the Mains will receive a one-time assistance of ₹50,000 to attend the interview round.

Since 2023, the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation (TNSDC) along with AICSCC also holds an annual test to select around 1,000 aspirants, who each receive a monthly stipend of ₹7,500 for 10 months under the Naan Mudhalvan scheme to prepare for the prelims. Based on this, candidates are also admitted for coaching at AICSCC.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 13 November 2025, p. 4



EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

Polytechnic grads to be made language-ready for Germany & Japan

BINITA JAISWAL @Chennai

WITH an aim to boost overseas employability, the Directorate of Technical Education (DoTE) will soon introduce foreign language training, including German and Japanese, for students in government polytechnic colleges.

DoTE commissioner J Innocent Divya said they are in talks with appropriate agencies to facilitate the training. "We have received a positive response from the Japan consulate and things are sorted. However, the training charges for German language is bit costly, we are working on it."



We have received a positive response from the Japan consulate and things are sorted. However, the training charges for German language is bit costly, we are working on it

J Innocent Divya,
DoTE commissioner

Free state of Saxony had also expressed interest to sign a memorandum of understanding with the state government to create a skilled talent pool.

The move comes at a time when 44 government-run polytechnics are being upgraded into centres of excellence (CoEs) in collaboration with Tata Technologies. Officials say

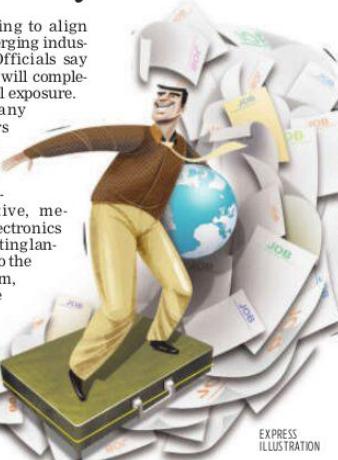
that the addition of international language skills, on top of industry-ready labs, will significantly widen global job opportunities and attract more students to diploma programmes.

The project involves a massive investment of ₹2,430 crore, with the Tamil Nadu government contributing ₹430 crore and Tata Technologies investing nearly ₹2,000 crore.

DoTE officials said the upgraded polytechnics will house advanced laboratories to train students in Industry 5.0 technologies. These include automation and robotics labs, EV and battery-technology centres, CNC and precision-manufacturing workshops, Internet of Things (IoT) and sensor labs, additive manufacturing facilities, CAD/CAM design suites, and metrology and testing centres. Faculty will also undergo

intensive upskilling to align teaching with emerging industrial standards. Officials say language training will complement this technical exposure.

Divya said many overseas employers are interested in hiring skilled manpower especially in manufacturing, automotive, mechatronics and electronics sectors. By integrating language learning into the diploma curriculum, we hope to make polytechnic graduates more competitive globally. She said the language training will be im-



parted from the next academic year.

The timing of the initiative is significant. After years of declining interest, admission in government polytechnic institutes have improved substantially this year, with more than 90% of the seats filled. Academics believe that the promise of global opportunities, combined with hands-on training in modern labs will draw even more students to the diploma pathway in the coming years.

"If students start getting better job placements with attractive pay packages globally, it will definitely boost the morale of polytechnic students," said S Viswanathan, faculty at a polytechnic college.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 28 November 2025, p. 6

6,672 more smart classrooms to be set up in govt schools across state

R.Saivenkatesh
@timesofindia.com

Chennai: Nearly 90% of the govt schools in Tamil Nadu will get tech-savvy in the coming year. The school education department will set up smart classrooms and hi-tech labs in more than 6,000 of its schools across the state by 2026-27.

Of the 37,626 govt schools in the state, 30,774 are equipped with smart classrooms and hi-tech labs.

Now, tenders have been floated by the TN Textbook and Educational Services Corporation (TNTESC) to set up 6,672 smart classrooms in 5,322 schools at a cost of ₹127.57 crore and 2,236 labs in 2,232 schools at a cost of ₹159.06 crore. "This will ensure a seamless integration of digital learning tools and assessments," said school education secretary B Chandramohan.



HI-TECH: The digitalization will help schools integrate learning tools

The smart classrooms would have boards with interactive display panels, a desktop PC with preloaded Windows 11 operating system, external speakers and mics, a UPS with batteries, a LAN switch, web and IP cameras, according to the tenders.

The hi-tech labs, once es-

tablished, will be integrated with the existing command and control centre at the State Project Directorate, Samagra Shiksha. Additional infrastructure would be set up at the centre to integrate these labs. Further, 2,232 qualified administrators-cum-instructors would be deployed in each of

The hi-tech labs will be integrated with the existing command and control centre at the State Project Directorate, Samagra Shiksha

these labs for operation and maintenance. The contractors are expected to supply, install, test, and maintain these classrooms for five years.

Recently, the govt launched monthly 'future-ready' assessments (sets of 10-12 questions each), which would be released online.

"Hi-tech labs are essential to help students practise for these tests. It is time-consuming for the teachers to take printouts of every assessment," said S Nakeeran, headmaster, Kovalam Govt Higher Secondary School.

Source: *The Times of India*, 06 November 2025, p. 3

Draft syllabus for schools will be out in Dec: Min after expert panel meet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

THE high-level expert committee, headed by School Education Minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi, formed to revamp the school education curriculum held its first meeting on Monday.

Speaking after the meeting, the minister said the curriculum overhaul would be carried out in phases, with a few new schemes to be introduced for Classes 1 to 3 from the next academic year. A draft curriculum will be released in December after consultations with various stakeholders, though it is to be decided for which classes, he added.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 25 November 2025, p. 5

While the department had earlier said the revamped curriculum would be implemented in the 2027-28 academic year, the minister has now indicated that certain new initiatives will be rolled out for elementary classes starting next year. He said the redesigned curriculum would focus on the holistic development of children over the next decade. "We have created a roadmap till March 2026. We will go step by step, first covering classes 1 to 3, then classes 4 to 10, and finally classes 11 and 12, rather than revamping everything at once," he said.



The minister said the department had provided details of current schemes to stakeholders so they could offer suggestions for improving them. The committee also discussed several key areas, including making assessments and evaluation more holistic, strengthening foundational literacy and numeracy, addressing learning losses caused by Covid-19, integration of subjects, training of teachers and incorporating moral instruction and physical activity into the curriculum, he added.

id-19, integration of subjects, training of teachers and incorporating moral instruction and physical activity into the curriculum, he added.

Madras univ to use corpus fund to clear benefit dues

BINITA JAISWAL @Chennai

IN a decisive move driven by mounting judicial pressure, the syndicate of the University of Madras on Friday approved the use of its corpus fund along with a fresh ₹20-crore government grant to clear terminal benefits pending for nearly a decade. The dues, amounting to ₹95.44 crore, pertain to 465 pensioners and family pensioners for the period from April 2015 to September 2025. As per the financial plan cleared at the syndicate meeting, ₹45.6 crore will be drawn from two matured fixed deposits (₹10 crore and ₹35.6 crore) in the corpus fund.

In addition, ₹20 crore released by the higher education department will be used to clear the backlog of retirement benefits. A combined pool of ₹65.6 crore will be used to settle ₹50.8 crore towards pension components such as DCRG (death-cum-retirement gratuity) and EL/UEL encashment.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 29 November 2025, p. 2



FILEPK

The remaining liability of ₹38.31 crore in commutation arrears will be covered using through subsequent FD maturities in the coming months. The Vice-Chancellor's Convenor Committee has been authorised to execute the phase-wise disbursal. The syndicate also ratified an earlier disbursement of ₹6.32 crore in pension and family pension arrears to 184 beneficiaries, paid using Non-Plan and Institute of Distance Education funds.

The decision comes in the wake of a recent Madras High Court order directing the state finance secretary to appear in person on December 5 to explain steps taken to clear the arrears. "Apart from using the corpus fund, we had no option, as arranging ₹95 crore immediately from state funds is not possible. However, it was also decided that the corpus fund will be replenished" said a syndicate member.

However, the decision has

not gone unchallenged. A section of faculty members expressed strong reservations about dipping into the corpus fund, arguing that it undermines the institution's long-term financial stability. They fear that repeated withdrawals could weaken the university's capital base, affecting future research commitments, infrastructure projects and its ability to leverage interest earnings for routine operations.

The university has a corpus fund of ₹300 crore. "Corpus fund is the only asset left with the university which has been facing financial crisis for over a decade now. In all these years, it remained untouched, then why using it now, to save face of the finance secretary in court?" said another syndicate member. Some faculty representatives have also questioned why the government has not fully absorbed the financial burden, given that the arrears stemmed from long-pending approvals and delayed audits.

Stalin announces training school to promote traditional folk art forms

Govt will allocate land in Thiruparankundram taluk of Madurai for the institute, says CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@Chennai

CHIEF minister MK Stalin on Friday announced that the government would allocate land to establish a training school to promote traditional folk art forms in Valayangulam village in Thiruparankundram taluk of Madurai. Addressing the third convocation of the Tamil Nadu Dr J Jayalalithaa Music and Fine Arts University in Chennai, the CM said the decision was taken after considering a request from Parai artiste R Velmurugan.

At the ceremony, honorary doctorates were conferred on artiste Chandru and actor Sivakumar. Stalin, who is the chancellor of the university, also unveiled a series of academic and institutional initiatives



Chief Minister MK Stalin during the convocation of Tamil Nadu Dr J Jayalalithaa Music and Fine Arts University in Chennai on Friday | P JAWAHAR

aimed at strengthening music and fine arts education in the state. He announced a new PG programme in Fine Arts, to be launched from the 2026-27 academic year to help students en-

hance their artistic skills and improve their earning potential. He further announced that the annual financial assistance to the university will be increased from ₹3 crore to ₹5

crore. The Naan Mudhalvan skill development programme would be expanded to cover music and fine arts students, equipping them with spoken English and digital literacy to meet emerging professional demands, the CM said.

Addressing concerns about the rise of Artificial Intelligence in creative fields, he reassured students that technology could not overshadow human imagination. "Technology may generate portraits or compose tunes, but it cannot surpass human thought. We must use it to our advantage," he said.

Stalin said his government has not discriminated against the university despite its association with former Chief Minister Jayalalithaa and the institution has seen continued development since 2021.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 29 November 2025, p. 2

Paediatric emergency care initiative in district, taluk hospitals improves child survival rates in the State

Serena Josephine M.

CHENNAI

By setting up specialised centres for paediatric emergency care, Tamil Nadu has significantly improved child survival rates in recent years. The State's Paediatric Resuscitation and Emergency Medicine (PREM) initiative has strengthened paediatric emergency care in government secondary care institutions – district headquarters hospitals and taluk hospitals – through dedicated protocols and appropriate infrastructure.

PREM is one of the six pillars of the Tamil Nadu Accident and Emergency Care Initiative (TAEI).

There are 116 PREM centres across government tertiary and secondary care institutions – 41 Directorate of Medical Education and Research institutions (36 medical colleges and five allied institutions) and 75 Directorate of Medical and Rural Health Services institutions (district headquarters and taluk hospitals), said M. Vijayakumar, Deputy Director-Team Lead, TAEI Commissionerate, Tamil Nadu Health Systems Project.

Source: *The Hindu*, 17 November 2025, p. 4

Significant strides

The PREM (Paediatric Resuscitation and Emergency Medicine) initiative of the National Health Mission, Tamil Nadu, and the Tamil Nadu Health Systems Project, has strengthened paediatric emergency care by putting in place protocols, required infrastructure, equipment, drugs, and trained personnel.



State's performance in Paediatric Resuscitation and Emergency Medicine

Year	Total admissions	Discharge	Referred to higher centres	Death	Survival rate
2025 [up to August]	80,907	76,329	3,894	684	94.34
2024	61,494	59,197	2,108	189	96.26
2023	49,282	46,863	2,212	207	95.09
2022	27,427	25,899	1,379	149	94.43
2021	21,586	20,169	1,253	164	93.44

Top five emergencies treated at PREM centres from January to August 2025

Pneumonia/bronchiolitis: 4,038 cases
Diarrhoea, dehydration: 2,275
Asthma: 2,205
Sepsis: 2,011
Toxin: 1,854

SOURCE: PAEDIATRIC RESUSCITATION AND EMERGENCY MEDICINE, TAMIL NADU ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY CARE INITIATIVE.

Data shows a steady rise in survival rates among children treated at PREM centres – from 93.44% in 2021 to 96.26% in 2024. In the current year (up to August 2025), the survival rate is 94.34%.

Admissions have also surged sharply, rising from 21,586 in 2021 to 80,907 this year.

The concept was built on a model formulated by the Institute of Child Health (ICH) and Hospital for Children in Egmore, said Indumathy Santhanam, Project Coordinator, Regional Collaborative Center, PREM Skills Laboratory, ICH, Madras Medical College.

Guidelines developed

"The Paediatric Emergency Medical Course was started at ICH. We developed guidelines to treat paediatric emergencies. This included training postgraduates to conduct a 60-second analysis of sick children, and make independent decisions. These efforts reduced hospital mortality. The lessons learned formed the basis

for PREM guidelines, and units were launched at 28 hospitals (22 district headquarters and six sub-district headquarters hospitals) in 2017," she said.

This was pioneered by the National Health Mission, Tamil Nadu, as a strategy to reduce post-neonatal under-five mortality.

PREM has saved the lives of numerous children brought in critical condition.

"Earlier, it used to be a 'scoop-and-run' approach, as paediatric emergency services were unavailable

in taluk and sub-district hospitals. A large number of children were taken to these secondary care hospitals, and quickly referred to tertiary care centres. This changed in 2017, when PREM units were first established in secondary care hospitals, and later revived post-COVID. We developed two books for PREM, which include diagnosis and treatment protocols for common paediatric emergencies such as asthma, sepsis, dengue, snake bites and foreign body ingestion," Dr. Indumathy said.

SOPs for PREM centres

A major highlight is Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for PREM centres. "PREM has put in place uniform standards for handling paediatric emergencies. It has a trained team, equipment, and drugs essential for emergency resuscitation. We are able to provide immediate care during the golden hour," Dr. Vijayakumar added.

Dr. Indumathy cited a recent example. The EM team at Government Headquarters Hospital, Kancheepuram, received a two-year-old child from

Ranipet, who suffered a left temporoparietal injury after a television fell on her head.

Doctors stabilised her, initiated treatment to reduce cerebral edema, and performed CT brain and CT facial bones with 3D reconstruction. Subdural haematoma and subarachnoid haemorrhage were established. She was intubated in anticipation of declining sensorium, and referred to an ICH in a 108 ambulance. She was treated and discharged.

"Early resuscitation at the PREM unit in a secondary care hospital, prior to referral, ensured neurologically intact survival. Previously, shifts without resuscitation resulted in morbidity and mortality," she said.

"The brain is still in the developing stage for children. Delayed resuscitation can cause permanent damage. PREM units have reduced the burden on intensive care units across Tamil Nadu," she added.

Hundreds of doctors and nurses are trained at the PREM skills lab established at ICH under the Tamil Nadu Innovative Initiative Fund in 2019.

State to screen women for NCDs through mobile units

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: The state has launched screening for non-communicable diseases, including cancer, for women using mobile medical units from early next week. Each of these vehicles will have a staff nurse, a radiographer, and a multi-purpose health worker, who will coordinate with the labs and doctors before returning test reports to patients in less than a day. The 10-minute screening will start with counselling, recording of patient history, blood tests, and ECG.

The screening facility will be piloted in Kanchipuram from early next week. Each district will soon have one vehicle for the programme," said health minister Ma Subramanian. "Besides cancer screening, tests will be done for diabetes, hypertension, cholesterol, heart, liver, and kidney diseases among women aged 30 and above," he said. The Tamil Nadu Cancer Registry Project estimated 1,00,097 cancer cases in 2025 based on a long-term analysis of cancer incidence across the state. The projection is 30% higher than the 2021 incidence — the latest available data — when the state recorded 76,968 new cases: 43,163 women and 33,805 men.

Chief minister MK Stalin on Thursday inspected the vehicle, purchased under the Women's Wellness on Wheels programme and equipped

with mammograms and AI-enabled ECG.

At the state-run Arignar Anna Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Institute, less than 5% of the patients admitted are in precancerous or stage 1. More than 50% are diagnosed in stage three or four, when the disease has advanced locally or spread to other organs. "Survival rates for some cancers are less than 30% because of delayed medical intervention," said Dr S Saravanan, who heads the Arignar Anna Cancer Hospital in Kanchipuram.

The state wing of the National Health Mission attempted to increase the diagnosis and screening. Health workers counselled women, handed over pamphlets, and asked them to come for screening at the nearest health centre. Radiation oncologist Dr Jayashree J, who is the state nodal officer for cancer care at National Health Mission said, "At least 60% of women did not turn up. Feedback surveys showed several reasons, including stigma, fear of screening, and loss of a day's work."

While the screening programme through invitation will continue, the state decided to take high-end screening services to people's homes through mobile units.

Source: *The Times of India*, 14 November 2025, p. 2



Chief Minister MK Stalin inspecting the mobile medical units along with Health Minister Ma Subramanian in Chennai on Thursday | EXPRESS

Genomic analysis can help enable targeted treatment

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

DR Ezhilan said the project is still in its preliminary stage, and regional genomic laboratories could be developed in different parts of the state in the next phase. In addition to cancer testing, the lab will also offer tests prior to organ transplants, screening for rare genetic disorders in children, and immunology investigations at nominal cost.

"These services are currently available only in private hos-

pitals, forcing even poor patients to spend heavily from their pockets," he said.

Explaining the significance of genomic testing, J Jayashree, Programme Officer (Cancer Care), National Health Mission, said, "Through genomic analysis, we can identify the gene mutation and its extent, so that targeted treatment can be provided. This also helps reduce the side effects of chemotherapy." Experts at the discussion called for the creation of a dedicated cancer care fund in

Tamil Nadu to improve access to life-saving therapies and bridge treatment gaps across the state.

Tamil Nadu has been witnessing a steady rise in cancer incidence, with an estimated 113.2 cases per one lakh population and over one lakh new cases every year, a nearly 5% increase over the past decade. Chennai, Kanchipuram, Vellore, Tiruvallur, and Coimbatore districts report the high-

est caseloads, with breast, cervical, oral, and gastrointestinal cancers being the most prevalent.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister MK Stalin on Thursday launched the 'Women Wellness on Wheels' initiative to provide cancer screening for women. The first mobile unit was inaugurated in Kanchipuram district. According to an official release, women will be screened for cervical, breast, and oral cancers,

as well as for diabetes, hypertension, anaemia, and heart diseases near their residences. Each vehicle is equipped with a digital mammography machine and a semi-auto analyser.

Health Minister Ma Subramanian said the programme was launched under the cancer prevention and care programme. "Each mobile unit costs ₹1.10 crore, and ₹40 crore has been sanctioned for 38 districts. The facility will be extended to other districts subsequently," he said.

State sees 5.25 lakh dog bite cases and 28 rabies deaths so far this year

In view of the rise in cases of dog bites — from 4.8 lakh last year — the Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine says the issue has to be tackled with inter-departmental coordination

Serena Josephine M.
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu has already recorded 5.25 lakh dog bite cases this year, compared to 4.8 lakh last year, indicating an approximate 9% increase. The number of rabies deaths stood at 43 last year and 28 so far this year, according to the State's Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine.

The number of dog bites has increased this year, according to A. Somasundaram, Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine. He said the issue required inter-departmental coordination.

"The Health Department focuses on Anti-Rabies Vaccination (ARV), proper wound cleaning, ensuring availability of ARV and Rabies Immunoglobulin (RIG), and treatments. We are taking steps to ensure that those who suffer dog bites complete the four-dose ARV schedule. We are ensuring this through vigorous review of patient registrations and call for action against staff who fail to follow up."

He stressed the need for awareness on ARV. "Some assume that bites from pets or familiar dogs are harmless, and skip the vaccination. This is risky. One must get vaccinated irrespective of whether the bite is from a pet or a stray."

Suresh Kumar, senior



Rising concern

With dog bite cases continuing to rise in Tamil Nadu in 2025, public health experts and doctors are highlighting a number of crucial measures to prevent rabies and improve patient care.

- Get vaccinated irrespective of whether the bite is from a pet or a stray dog
- Need for awareness, including among healthcare providers, on rabies immunoglobulin for Category III bites
- Completing the four-dose schedule of Anti Rabies Vaccination is must
- Ensuring the availability of rabies immunoglobulin at primary healthcare setting is important



We are taking steps to ensure that those who suffer dog bites complete the four-dose ARV schedule

A. SOMASUNDARAM
Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine

consultant, Infectious Diseases, Apollo Hospitals, Chennai, said dog bites remained a significant challenge. "The number of stray dogs has increased, and we need to evaluate whether sterilisation strategies are effectively addressing the issue. Public awareness about getting vaccinated after a dog bite has improved, but knowledge about RIG remains low. Previously, even physicians had limited awareness that category III bites require RIG, though this

has improved over time. Many still assume RIG is unnecessary. It is important to remember that vaccines take at least 15 days to produce antibodies against the virus," he said.

Sudharshini S., associate professor, Institute of Community Medicine, Madras Medical College, said:

"We conducted a study on compliance with ARV in Coimbatore and found it to be low. A lot of persons do not complete the dose. ARV must be taken on days 0, 3, 7, and 28 of the bite. We found that the compliance gradually dips, and very few turn up for the last dose."

She added that animal bites were categorised based on their severity. "Category III bites (single or multiple transdermal bites or scratches, licks on broken skin), along with mild bleeding, require RIG, but many, including

healthcare providers, do not always adhere to this. When protocols are clear, there should be no doubts," she said.

She stressed the need to use technology to send reminders for scheduled doses, similar to the childhood immunisation system. "Many forget to take the subsequent doses. We also need to train healthcare workers — doctors, staff nurses and first responders — in appropriate dog bite management. The availability of RIG at the primary setting should be ensured."

Dr. Suresh Kumar believes it is time to consider pre-exposure vaccination. "Currently, veterinarians and foreign tourists take it. Given the high number of dog bites and rabies deaths, we should consider this strategy. It requires only two doses, and does away with the need for RIG in case of a dog bite."

Source: *The Hindu*, 18 November 2025, p. 6

TN to launch genomic testing lab for cancer care

SINDUJA JANE @Chennai

THE Tamil Nadu government will establish a state-of-the-art laboratory for genomic testing to strengthen cancer treatment in government hospitals and enable targeted therapy for patients.

According to government sources, this will be the first such facility to be set up by a

state government anywhere in the country. The genomic testing lab will offer its services free of cost to beneficiaries under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS) and at a nominal rate for people from economically weaker sections.

Genomic testing, increasing-

ly used in private hospitals for personalised and targeted cancer therapy, costs between ₹30,000 and ₹1 lakh.

Speaking at a roundtable discussion on healthcare organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Dr N Ezhilan, MLA and member of the state planning commission,

who contributed to formulating the project, said a site has been tentatively identified at TICEL Bio Park in Taramani for the facility. The lab is likely to function under a public-private partnership model.

The roundtable focused on 'building a resilient care ecosystem and equitable access through sustainable financing in Tamil Nadu.'

Pg

TN launches pilot study on diabetes during pregnancy

To ascertain if early medical intervention can prevent gestational diabetes in women at risk

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Chennai

HEALTH Minister Ma Subramanian has announced the launch of a pilot study that can help in preventing Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM) in pregnant women by providing early intervention. The minister made the announcement, while addressing mediapersons at an event marking World Diabetes Day on Friday in Chennai.

According to the health department officials, the study will identify 200 pregnant women who have early gestational glucose intolerance (ECGI) and provide them Metformin—the first line drug for controlling sugar levels—to see if it prevents them from developing GDM.

Officials said that if GDM is prevented, the risk of newborns being overweight can also be prevented as uncontrolled sugar levels can affect the foetus, leading to overweight at birth.

As many as 10 interventional blocks, 10 non-interventional blocks and six urban zones across Tamil Nadu have been chosen for this study, which was piloted under the National Health Mission.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 15 November 2025, p. 4



Ma Subramanian

In the interventional blocks, the pregnant women will be given 75 ml of glucose two hours after food and their glucose tolerance will be tested to see if they have ECGI. This will be done in the eighth week of pregnancy, before the foetus starts secreting insulin around the 11th week of pregnancy.

"We want to intervene before that. We will see if the mother's pancreas has sugar tolerance. If their sugar level is above 119 milligrams per deciliter after this test, they will be administered Metformin. After the results, the study will be expanded to other districts" an official added.

In the non-interventional districts also, the mothers will be followed up without any intervention for the study, the official added.

Further, Ma Subramanian said the state will also expand type 1 diabetes centres for children in Tiruvarur, Namakkal and Chidambaram districts, and will subsequently expand it to all other districts in a phased manner.

Under 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' scheme, 58.53 lakh people have been identified with diabetes mellitus since the launch of the scheme in 2021, he added.

T.N. plans to have more specialised centres for type 1 diabetes care

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu will scale up the number of Type 1 diabetes specialised care centres in the government sector from the existing seven.

At an event to commemorate World Diabetes Day on Friday, Health Minister Ma. Subramanian said that currently, the specialised care centres for children were functional at seven medical college hospitals in Chennai, Thanjavur, Salem, Coimbatore, Tirunelveli, Dharmapuri, and Tiruchi. "Within two months, the type 1 specialised care centres will be set up at the government medical colleges at Tiruvarur, Namakkal, and Chidambaram. These centres will be expanded to all 36 government medical college hospitals in a phased manner," he said.

A. Arun Thamburaj, Mission Director, National Health Mission, Tamil Na-

Source: *The Hindu*, 15 November 2025, p. 5

du, said a lot of importance was being given to type 1 diabetes.

Stressing the need to screen for complications of diabetes, he said a Standard Operating Procedure was being launched to take up screening of complications in all government hospitals.

The Minister said senior diabetologist V. Seshiah had been advocating early screening to prevent gestational diabetes, and had taken it up with the Chief Minister. A study will be launched soon, he added.

The number of beneficiaries under *Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam* was nearing 2.5 crore, he said.

Under *Paadham Paadhukappom Thittam*, which is aimed at early identification of diabetic foot complications, and preventing amputations, 45,349 people were identified with foot-related complications and treated in the last two years. Of them, 26,448 underwent surgery, he said.

'TN offers free health checks for guest workers'

Chennai: Taking a dig at PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, health minister Ma Subramanian said that TN offers free health checkups for guest workers.

Source: *The Times of India*, 09 November 2025, p. 5

After visiting the 'Nammalai Kakkum Stalin' health camp at a govt school in Ashok Nagar, he said that at least 250 guest workers benefited from the camp. Earlier, at a campaign in Bihar, Modi said workers from Bihar were harassed by DMK. "TN is the only state offering such inclusive free healthcare," the minister said.

The 'Nammalai Kakkum Stalin' camps have benefited 7.57 lakh people, he said. They cover 17 disciplines, and the cost for such tests would be up to ₹20,000 in private hospitals. "This is the first time in India that a major service is offered to guest workers," he said. TNN

Govt hosps told to procure drugs locally as TNMSC halts supply

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Govt hospitals, including state-run medical colleges, were asked to purchase nearly 70 drugs, including intravenous paracetamol and acid-reducing medicines such as pantoprazole, from the local market as the Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation did not supply them. While heads of the institutions purchased the drugs from the lowest bidder in the local market, the errant supplies affected patient care and increased costs, doctors said.

On Sept 2, the medical corporation told the directorate of medical education that online tenders were floated for the purchase of at least 60 drugs that were moved from specialty to essential drugs. "These drugs were available only in the medical colleges but will now be available in secondary care and primary care faciliti-



es, including primary health centres, for the first time," said a senior health official.

However, hospitals said they were feeling the heat. A city hospital, for instance, called for tenders and gave the contract to the lowest bidder. However, the contractor did not deliver the drugs as promised, citing an increase in market prices. "The next option was to call for fresh bids. But our pharmacy was running out of stock, and we did not have the option but to go for the second-lowest bidder," said a senior doctor, who is in charge of administration. Another allied hospital said they were forced to call for tenders a second ti-

me because they exhausted the first batch of drugs before the expected time. "We are not allowed to order more than what is required.

"Services offered in these centres have increased because of schemes such as Makkai Thedi Maruthuvam, Idhayam Kappom, and Padam Kappom. Many people come here for tests and treatment of diabetes, hypertension, heart, and kidney diseases," he said. But since it was the first time, hospitals couldn't provide precise requirements. In Sept, hospitals were told supply would start after 45 days, with another 25 days needed for quality checks. As of Thursday, 56 drugs were under testing, officials said. But before supplies could resume on Nov 11, the medical services corporation added five more drugs – saline and injections reducing stomach acid, antibiotics, anaesthetics, and clot busters.

Source: *The Times of India*, 22 November 2025, p. 2

State government launches medical camp for journalists offering specialised services

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

The State government on Saturday launched a special medical camp for journalists, providing specialised medical services such as general medicine, cardiology, ENT, orthopedics, gynaecology, and ophthalmology, with support from Apollo Hospitals.

Speaking at the inauguration of the camp, Health Minister Ma. Subramanian said, "The facilities at the camp include ECG, Echo and ultrasound. Indian Medicine has also been introduced at the camp. The Chief Minister had announced in 2022 that the comprehensive health insurance scheme will be available for all accredited journalists. As many as 1,414 journalists have been included on the list. The allocation for such welfare schemes has increased in the past few years. The pension for journalists has been increased from



Ministers M.P. Saminathan, Ma. Subramanian, and P.K. Sekarbabu, and Mayor R. Priya at the medical camp held for journalists at Kalaivanar Arangam on Saturday. S.R. RAGHUNATHAN

₹10,000 to ₹12,000. The assistance has been increased from ₹3 lakh to ₹10 lakh for the welfare of the journalists," he said.

New app

At the event, Mr. Subramanian also launched TAEI Registry 2.0, an app for real-time data collection for accident and emergency care in the State. The app has been built to facilitate real-time information

about individual patient care records from the 113 centres, integrating ambulances and hospitals and improving services for patients, particularly pre-hospital, in-hospital and rehabilitation.

Information Minister M.P. Saminathan, CMDA and HR and CE Minister P.K. Sekarbabu, Chennai Mayor R. Priya and Deputy Mayor M. Magesh Kumaar participated.

Source: *The Hindu*, 09 November 2025, p. 4

TN's forest cover has remained stable for past 20 years, state informs NGT

S V KRISHNA CHAITANYA @Chennai

TAMIL NADU'S forest cover has remained stable over the past two decades, with marginal fluctuations and significant ecological gains through sustained afforestation initiatives, said the state's Head of Forest Force and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) Srinivas R Reddy in an affidavit submitted before the principal bench of National Green Tribunal (NGT), New Delhi.

It was filed in response to a National Green Tribunal (NGT) case, where all states were asked to respond following a report by Global Forest Watch, which stated that India has lost 2.33 million hectares of tree cover since 2000.

According to the affidavit filed by the PCCF on behalf of the Tamil Nadu government, the state's forest cover has remained "largely stable" at around 20% of its geographical area since 2000, with an increase in green cover of nearly 2,794 sq km in the past decade. As per the India State of Forest Report (ISFR), TN's forest cover stood at 17.7% in 2005, rising to 20.3% in 2015, and has since maintained that level, even as other states saw notable declines.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 05 November 2025, p. 2

The report cites multiple long-term evaluations, including the TN Biodiversity Conservation and Greening Project and TN Afforestation Project Phases 1 and 2, funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which collectively regenerated over 700,000 hectares of degraded scrubland since 1997. Data from these evaluations show that between 2005 and 2015, the area under dense forest in TN increased by 87,000 hectares, while scrub areas reduced by 1,36,800 hectares. Illegal logging has "almost ceased" across project villages, the report adds, attributing this to strong community participation.

While acknowledging that TN is yet to meet the national goal of 33% forest and tree cover, the PCCF said the stability of its forest cover "demonstrates successful long-term management and regeneration of degraded landscapes". The state continues to expand tree cultivation on private lands and remove invasive alien species across over 3 lakh hectares, ensuring continuity of its green cover in coming decades.

"Contrary to broad national estimates of tree loss, TN has maintained a steady forest cover since 2000 through sustained policy, participatory afforestation and scientific monitoring," the affidavit concludes.



TN continues to expand tree cultivation on private lands and remove invasive alien species across over 3 lakh hectares, the affidavit noted | FILEPIC

TN govt seeks CRZ clearance for new reservoir

To come up in 4,375 acres of coastal wetlands, project crucial to meet water needs of Chennai and nearby areas

SV KRISHNA CHAITANYA @Chennai

THE Water Resources Department (WRD) submitted a proposal last week to the Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone Management Authority (TNCZMA) seeking Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) clearance for building a drinking water reservoir in the Kovalam sub-basin between East Coast Road (ECR) and Old Mahabalipuram Road (OMR).

The project, announced by the government in the 2025-26 state budget, will require 4,375 acres of coastal wetlands to build what will be the sixth major reservoir in and around Chennai. Designed to hold 1,655 tmcft of freshwater, it is expected to supply 170 MLD of water to southern Chennai and fast-growing peri-urban pockets. As per the documents available with the *TNEE*, on June 3, the proposal first came before the State Environmental Appraisal Committee (SEAC) seeking environment clearance (EC). After deliberations, SEAC returned the proposal, stating that the reservoir does not fall under projects requiring prior EC,

since it involves no river valley development, hydropower, tunnelling or mining.

However, the committee pointed out that the site falls within CRZ-I, II, III (NDZ) and IVB and therefore "requires CRZ clearance under CRZ Notification, 2011". It asked WRD to examine treatment technologies such as SBR-UF or MBBR-UF to prevent long-term water quality deterioration once the reservoir is operational.

Following this, WRD approached IIT-Madras for a technical feasibility assessment. In its communication dated October 30, IIT-M's Civil and Ocean Engineering experts concluded that the reservoir is technically feasible. Spread across villages, including Thiruvadanthal, Kalavakkam, Nemmeli, Thiruporur, Thandalam, Krishnankarai, Pattipulam, Paiyanur, Saluvankuppam and Mamalapuram, the proposed site sits in a natural flood bowl connected to the Kovalam watershed. It receives surplus flows from 69 upstream irrigation tanks. Phase I will cover 1,770.5 hectares and includes excavation of bunds, construction of a fore-



ESTIMATED WATER DEMAND IN CHENNAI CITY (IN MLD)

Year	2015	2020	2035	2050
GCC	922	1,333	1,702	2,178
Rest of CMA	214	387	812	1,568
Total	1,136	1,720	2,523	3,746

shore embankment, creation of a peripheral drain to reroute monsoon flows, and formation of a freshwater lake with a 17.71 sq km water spread area. The estimated project cost is ₹471 crore.

WRD officials say the basin's topography — with a current average bed level of (+)0.35 metres and a proposed Full Reser-

voir Level of (+)3 metres — makes it the only viable large-scale storage site in the sub-basin. The region, dominated by IT corridors and expanding peri-urban settlements, lacks a major reservoir and relies heavily on desalination and groundwater; the latter showing signs of depletion and seawater intrusion.

Chennai's drinking water demand, now over 1,100 MLD, is projected to surpass 2,500 MLD by 2035. WRD says the Kovalam reservoir will be critical to "augment drinking water supply and mitigate chronic flooding in upstream OMR villages". Environmental assessments, however, highlight the ecological

cost. The Kazhuveli Wetland Impact Assessment, conducted between October-November, documents that 65% of the site is marshland and 35% salt pans, supporting 102 bird species, including migratory waders that depend on shallow seasonal waters for feeding and roosting. The study warns that converting a dynamic wetland into a three-metre-deep fresh water reservoir will "fundamentally alter the local ecology," modify salinity patterns and displace wader population.

The consultant has recommended a habitat mitigation plan, including preserving shallow wetlands and creating managed roosting islands. If cleared, the proposal will move to the National Coastal Zone Authority for final approval. A senior WRD official said the project is crucial considering the current average drinking water supply in Chennai is around 700 to 800 MLD, while current demand exceeds 1,100 MLD. "This demand is expected to double in the next decade. The water needs of the broader CMA region also remain uncertain and largely unmet," the official said.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 17 November 2025, p. 4

Fishy business: Forest dept set to restore Ennore creek with 20K mangrove saplings

Oppili.P@timesofindia.com

Chennai: The Forest department's plan to restore Ennore Creek with a massive mangrove plantation is underway. Once marred by industrial pollution and an oil spill, Chennai's Ennore Creek is now showing early signs of recovery as the Tiruvallur district forest department begins restoring the estuary with 20,000 mangrove saplings planted using an innovative fishbone technique.

The fishbone model involves carving channels that allow seawater to flow naturally into the area during high tides, creating ideal conditions for mangroves to thrive. This year's restoration drive spans 15 hectares, including 4 hectares under this new model. The department's renewed commitment builds on last year's success when 1.8 lakh saplings of Avicennia marina,



GREEN GROWTH: Fishbone model lets seawater flow naturally into the area during high tides

Rhizophora mucronata, and Excoecaria agallocha were planted.

This season, three additional species—Aegiceras corniculatum, Ceriops decandra, and Acanthus—have been introduced to increase biodiversity. According to state forest secretary Supri-

ya Sahu, the creek's year-round water availability will ensure stronger survival rates for the young plants. Over 1 lakh more saplings are being raised and will be planted by January. To make space for this renewed growth, the department has cleared 250 hectares of invasive Proso-

pis juliflora, which once choked native vegetation.

Tiruvallur district forest officer V Subbiah said 1.05 lakh saplings were raised in the department's central nursery at Kattuppalli village, including 45,000 Avicennia and 55,000 Rhizophora saplings. Ecologist J Murali said the saplings will take a couple of years to get well established in the creek. Once they are established, algae and zooplankton will settle in that area. This, in turn, will attract fish species and also prawns.

Once the fish and prawn population bounces back in the area, it will help the local fishers to increase their livelihood opportunities. Besides that, the area will attract both resident and migratory birds, which will make the mangrove area their feeding, nesting, and roosting ground, he said.

Source: *The Times of India*, 17 November 2025, p. 4

Kerala wants to mine beach sand in Tirunelveli, Tuticorin to extract ilmenite

Ram.Sundaram@timesofindia.com

Chennai: Kerala has proposed to mine beach sand in Tamil Nadu's Tirunelveli and Tuticorin districts through its public sector unit, Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd (KMML). KMML has approached the TN govt for permission for beach sand mining to enable ilmenite extraction, officials said.

The inter-state plan was discussed at a recent high-level meeting between Tamil Nadu industries minister TRB Rajaa and Kerala industries minister P Rajeev. KMML, which produces titanium dioxide, is facing a short supply of ilmenite after coastal mining in Kerala slowed down due to environmental restrictions and litigation. Hence, Kerala has turned to Tamil Nadu's Manavalakurichi-Tuticorin belt, which holds some of India's largest heavy mineral

Source: *The Times of India*, 28 November 2025, p. 6

INTERSTATE PARTNERSHIP

KMML SEEKS MINING RIGHTS ON PATTA LAND: KMML proposes extraction on KSSP's 185-acre parcel with 142 lakh tonnes of deposits

TN STATES CONDITIONS, SIGNALS BAN FRAMEWORK: TN says mining and value addition must occur in-state; 2013 private mining ban remains



KERALA REQUESTS TN PORAMBOKE LAND ACCESS: Kerala asks TN to allocate poramboke areas containing viable beach-sand minerals

WIDER INTER-STATE INDUSTRY TALKS: Discussions also covered Keltron, Malabar Cements and Kerala's AI traffic systems

sand reserves.

A 185-acre patta parcel owned by Kuttam Solar Power Project (KSSP) has been identified for extraction. Surveys by KMML have shown 142 lakh tonnes of beach sand deposits containing 15–22% ilmenite along with garnet, rutile, zircon, and monazite. KMML teams visited the site, collected samples, and submitted a feasibility report to the Kerala govt in 2023 be-

fore meeting the Tamil Nadu industries secretary and the commissioner of geology and mining, govt sources said.

Tamil Nadu officials who took part in the meeting said they conveyed that mining and value addition should take place within TN. The state had enforced a halt on private beach sand mining in 2013 following cases of illegal extraction and violations of coastal zone

regulations, restricting leases to govt entities. Kerala has proposed a joint venture where KMML will hold 51%, Tamil Nadu's TAMIN or TIDCO holding 11%, and KSSP holding 38%. In addition, Kerala also sought Tamil Nadu's support in allocating poramboke land with mineral deposits for KMML operations. A senior Kerala industries department official said Kerala proposed a second KMML-TAMIN joint venture to run beach sand mining leases on a structure similar to the model adopted by IREL, a public sector undertaking specializing in mining of rare earth minerals.

Kerala has proposed collaborations involving Keltron and Malabar Cements, while TN expressed interest in Kerala's AI-based traffic enforcement systems and cooperation in digital governance, tourism, and startup exchanges.

Kovalam Beach awarded Blue Flag certification for fifth consecutive year

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

Kovalam Beach in Chengalpattu district has been awarded the International Blue Flag certification for the fifth consecutive year.

According to an official release, the communication from Blue Flag India to the Chengalpattu Collector conveyed that Kovalam beach had once again met the stringent global standards set by the Foundation for Environmental



Kovalam beach was the first in the State to get Blue Flag certification. FILE PHOTO

Education (FEE), Denmark. In a post on X, Minister for Finance and Environment and Climate

Change Thangam Thennarasu said: "It is a matter of great pride that Kovalam beach in Tamil Nadu has received the prestigious International Blue Flag Certification for 2025-26, marking its fifth consecutive year of recognition."

The certification is renewed annually after detailed inspections by national and international committees.

Kovalam Beach first earned the recognition on September 21, 2021, be-

coming Tamil Nadu's first Blue Flag-certified beach. During 2024-25, it recorded a footfall of over 5.5 lakh visitors, reflecting its growing appeal as a model eco-beach destination, the release said.

Encouraged by this success, the government has taken up initiatives to secure Blue Flag certification for 10 beaches across the State. Among these are the Palavakkam, Thiruvanmiyur, and Uthandi beaches in the city, the release added.

Source: *The Hindu*, 12 November 2025, p. 3

More than 16,000 migratory ducks spotted at Nemmeli waterbody, region's biggest

Oppili.P@timesofindia.com

Chennai: Nemmeli's usually quiet wetland has come alive this winter with over 16,000 migratory ducks flocking to the water body. Birders said this is the region's biggest bird gathering in years and that the site has turned into the hottest birding spot.

The sheer volume of birds, rare even for TN's well-known wetlands, has sparked excitement among experts and nature enthusiasts alike. According to ornithologists, the visiting flocks comprise five long-distance winter migrants: garganey, northern pintail, Eurasian wigeon, northern shoveler, and common teal. These ducks undertake an arduous journey from Russia and neighbouring colder regions, flying over the Himalayas before descending



MIGRANT MARVELS: The visiting flocks at Nemmeli comprise five long-distance winter migrants

into the Indian subcontinent to escape extreme winter conditions. Their arrival marks the beginning of the vibrant wintering season around Chennai's wetlands.

Chennai district forest officer V A Saravanan said such large congregations are unique to Nemmeli. "This scale of sighting is possible only in Nemmeli. Even in the Pallika-

ranai marsh, not many ducks have arrived this season when compared to Nemmeli," he said. Despite the challenges posed by heavy vehicular movement around the area and the frequent entry of fishermen into the water, the birds continue to favour this wetland. Their persistence, he said, underscores the significance of Nemmeli as an

undisturbed and resource-rich feeding and resting ground. Conservationist K V R K Thirunaranan, who tracks bird populations across Chennai's wetlands, said his team recorded nearly 35,000 birds in Nemmeli last week, including local migrants such as spot-billed pelicans. He attributes the overwhelming presence of birds to plentiful food availability and relatively low levels of disturbance.

Among the migratory ducks, the Garganey population is the highest at around 6,000, followed by more than 4,000 Eurasian Wigeons. Members of the Madras Naturalists' Society said the surge in bird numbers has also led to a steady rise in the number of birders visiting Nemmeli, resulting in more frequent sightings of rare and unusual species in recent years.

Source: *The Times of India*, 28 November 2025, p. 2

4 TN dists get decarbonisation plan

SV KRISHNA CHAITANYA @Chennai

TN government on Friday launched District Decarbonisation Action Plans (DDAPs) for four key districts – the Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar – along with a State Climate Action Tracker that will enable real-time monitoring of the state's progress towards its net-zero goals.

The initiative, led by the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company under the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests, was developed in collaboration with Vasudha Foundation, a think tank. Environment Minister Thangam Thennarasu unveiled it in Chennai.

"With the launch of district decarbonisation pathways and the Tamil Nadu climate tracker, we are turning climate ambition into measurable, accountable action," said Thennarasu. "This is economic policy for a new era – one that will generate thousands of

green jobs, strengthen industries, and secure our natural heritage. TN will lead India to net-zero carbon not by promise, but by proof."

The four pilot districts together contribute over 10% of TN's Gross State Domestic Product and represent the state's diverse economic and ecological landscape – from Coimbatore's industrial base to the Western Ghats of Nilgiris and the coastal ecosystems of Ramanathapuram. Studies indicate that up to 92% of projected emissions in these districts by 2050 can be abated through clean energy adoption, industrial efficiency and nature-based solutions. In addition, nearly 2.97 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent can be sequestered by 2050 through forest restoration, agroforestry, wetland conservation and coastal ecosystem rejuvenation. The Tamil Nadu Climate Action Tracker consolidates climate data

across emissions, energy systems, vulnerabilities, land-use change and resilience measures. It will allow the government to undertake evidence-based planning, enable transparent progress reporting and track the implementation of climate actions at district level.

"Tamil Nadu is proving that climate ambition means nothing without climate accountability. With district-level decarbonisation plans and a real-time Climate Action Tracker, we are shifting climate action from statements to systems, from intent to measurable impact. Climate governance must live where people live, and progress must be seen, tracked and delivered on the ground," said Supriya Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Forests. Each district has been assigned tailored strategies based on its economy and geography. The Nilgiris aims to achieve carbon neu-

trality by 2030 through sustainable tourism, e-mobility and nature-based sequestration. Ramanathapuram is targeting carbon neutrality by 2047 by electrifying its fishing fleet, reducing methane and nitrous oxide emissions and restoring mangroves and seagrass ecosystems.

In Virudhunagar, industrial decarbonisation, especially in MSME textile clusters, will play a major role, supported by large-scale agroforestry and restoration projects around Sanjeevi Malai. Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu's second-largest industrial hub, will cut emissions through the adoption of electric vehicles, expansion of public transport, and circular-economy innovation.

"These plans integrate science, data and community participation. They represent a scalable model for other states to align data-driven insights with decentralised climate action," said Srinivas Krishnaswamy, CEO of Vasudha Foundation.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 01 November 2025, p. 9



Committees constituted to manage T.N. Endangered Species Conservation Fund

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu government has issued an order constituting a Governing Committee and an Executive Committee to oversee and manage the Tamil Nadu Endangered Species Conservation Fund.

The order was issued by Supriya Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests Department, on November 1.

The fund, established in November 2024 with a corpus of ₹50 crore and an initial sanction of ₹5 crore as seed money, aims at strengthening conservation measures for endangered species across the State. Initially managed through the State Forest Development Agency, the government has now ordered that it be administered through the Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation (AIWC), Vandalur, to ensure specialised scientific

Source: *The Hindu*, 04 November 2025, p. 4



The fund aims at strengthening conservation measures for endangered species.

The Governing Committee, chaired by the Chief Secretary, will guide and steer the fund's utilisation and augmentation. The Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests Department, will serve as the Vice-Chairperson. Other members include the Secretaries of the Finance and Industries Departments; the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force); the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden; the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Director,

Conservator of Forests and Secretary, Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Board; the Chairman, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board; the Director of Environment; the Chairperson of the National Biodiversity Authority or a representative; the Director, Wildlife Institute of India or a representative; and the Director, Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore.

The committee will meet at least once every four months and will have a tenure of three years.

It also includes several experts and philanthropists as tenurial members, including Rohini Nilekani, Chairperson, Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies; Mallika Srinivasan, Chairman and Managing Director, Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited (TAFE); J.K. Patterson Edward, Director, Suganthi Devadasan Marine Research Institute, Thoothukudi; K. Jayakumar, Professor, Madurai Kamaraj University; S. Balachandran, Managing

Monitoring Trust and former Deputy Director, Bombay Natural History Society; and Arumugam, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Broadline Technologies.

The Executive Committee, chaired by the Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests Department, will manage the fund's day-to-day operations.

Its members include the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Director, AIWC; the Chairperson of Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board; the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife); the Chief Conservator of Forests (Research); and the Director of Environment.

The Committee will supervise the implementation of projects, monitor conservation activities, mobilise resources, and ensure that the fund's objectives of protecting and restoring endangered species in Tamil Nadu are ef-

Rain, delay in updating M-Stripes app affecting tiger census work in TN forests

S SENTHIL KUMAR @ Coimbatore

THE alleged delay in updating the M-Stripes app, used for tiger estimation, as well as the rain have been playing spoilsport in the tiger estimation work at five tiger reserves and other non-tiger-bearing areas in the state.

While the training related to

the tiger estimation along with other wildlife using direct and indirect signs has been completed for the field-level staff of five tiger reserves, including Megamalai, Anamalai, Kalakkad Mundanthurai, Mudumalai, and Sathyamangalam, the staff have not yet started using the app.

"In earlier tiger estimation,

staff in a team had to cover between 1,500 hectares and 2,000 hectares. With the help of Wildlife Institute of India (WII) experts, now the NTCA officials have agreed to reduce the area to be covered to 1,000 hectares and update it in the M-stripes app, developed by WII," said



sources. "From this year, as per the NTCA instruction, the tiger estimation will also be held in non-tiger-bearing (forest divisions) areas. Along with five tiger reserves, tiger estimation is being held in 22 forest divisions in the

state. This is also another reason for the delay in updating the M-Stripes app," sources added.

The officials also said the continuous drizzling is also another reason for the delay conducting the tiger census.

"Since the forest area is wet, we will not find indirect signs such as pupmarks, scratch marks, or

scat of tigers. Moreover, we can't take a DNA sample of a tiger using its scat. We also have to check the elephant dung and footprint of the gaur etc during the estimation. Owing to the rain, the dung will get diluted in the rainwater," said sources in the department.

When contacted H Venuprasad APCCF (Wildlife) said there is no delay in updating the app. "The existing M-Stripes app could be used during the estimation. We are waiting for rain to subside," he said.

TNIE's attempts to contact scientist Dr Bilal Habib of the Wildlife Institute of India, who is in charge of developing the M-Stripes app, went futile.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 25 November 2025, p. 2

Elephant deaths on rise in Kovai forest division again

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Coimbatore

A year after elephant deaths came down to eight, a three-fourth reduction compared to the 23 deaths recorded in 2023, the number of fatalities has gone up again in the last 10 months to 14 deaths this year. Officials claim that there is no reason to worry, as most deaths have occurred due to natural causes.

A postmortem examination carried out on a tusker on Sunday revealed that the animal had died on Saturday due to enteritis at the Thadagam North forest beat. The examination was carried out by Coimbatore forest veterinarian S Vennila, S Sadashivam of Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (STR) and animal husbandry department veterinarian Abilesh of Madathur, in the presence of DFO N Jayaraj, along with the members of an NGO.

"The animal was aged 20 years, and there were no digest-

ed particles in the animal's intestine, indicating that the animal did not take food such as grass and plants, etc, for the last couple of days. Initial findings suggest that the animal could have died due to enteritis, and it could have occurred due to contamination in food, water, or due to any other disease that infected the animal. We will send samples of its heart and kidney for forensic analysis to labs in Coimbatore and Chennai to identify the exact cause of death," an official from the forest department said.

A senior forest official from the Coimbatore forest division said, "On average, 15 elephants die every year due to natural and unnatural causes. Except for two elephant deaths due to electrocution that were reported on October 23 at Kuppepalayam near Thondamuthur in Boluvampatti forest range and at Mettupalayam forest range on October 29, the remaining deaths are all due to natural causes.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 24 November 2025, p. 7

TN forms 2 committees to manage ₹50-cr fund for endangered species

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

THE Tamil Nadu government has constituted a governing committee and an executive committee to manage the Tamil Nadu Endangered Species Conservation Fund (TNESCF), a ₹50-crore corpus established to protect and restore endangered species and their habitats.

According to a government order issued by Supriya Sahu, additional chief secretary to the environment, climate change and forests department, the management of the fund has been shifted from the State Forest Development Agency (SFDA) to the Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation (AIWC), Vandalur, to ensure greater scientific and institutional focus.

The governing committee, chaired by the chief secretary, will steer and guide the fund's strategic direction, meeting once every four months. It includes senior officials from key departments such as finance, industries and environment, along with leading conservation experts and philanthropists like Rohini Nilekani, Mallika Srinivasan, J K Patterson Edward, S Balachandran and K Jayakumar. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden Rakesh Kumar Dogra will serve as the member-convenor.

The executive committee, headed by Sahu, will oversee day-to-day operations, approve project proposals and monitor



A lion-tailed macaque | FILE PIC

implementation in line with the fund's objectives. Senior officials from the AIWC, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and the forest department form part of this committee.

The fund, which received an initial seed grant of ₹5 crore last year, is expected to support species recovery, habitat restoration and community-based conservation projects across TN. The committee will also mobilise additional resources from public and private sectors to scale up conservation efforts.

The programme will protect four lesser-known, endangered species, including the lion-tailed macaque, Madras hedgehog, striped hyena, and hump-headed mahseer. TN, with its unique landscapes spanning the western and eastern ghats, is recognised globally as a biodiversity hotspot. However, several ecologically significant but lesser-known species face mounting threats from habitat loss, poaching, road mortality and invasive species.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 04 November 2025, p. 2

Environmental activists oppose EIA exemption for waste-to-energy plants

In its notification, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change said solid-waste management systems play an important role in protecting environmental and human health, advancing the circular economy, and reducing pollution

ECO WATCH

Geetha Srimathi
CHENNAI

Amid resistance to the proposed waste-to-energy plant at Kodungaiyur, environmental groups have criticised the Union government for proposing to exempt all waste-to-energy (WTE) and municipal solid-waste management facilities from mandatory public hearings and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements.

Draft notification

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) issued a draft notification on October 3 proposing that 'Common Municipal Solid Waste Management Facility' projects – including WTE plants, landfills, and facilities generating electricity from hazardous



Potential hazard: An environmental group says reclassification of waste-to-energy incinerators falsely portrays them as benign.
B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

waste – no longer require prior environmental clearance under the EIA Notification, 2006.

The Ministry has also classified these projects as 'Essential Environmental Services'.

In its notification, the MoEFCC said solid-waste management systems play an important role in protecting environmental and human health, advancing the circular economy, and

reducing air, land, and water pollution.

Since these facilities are already regulated under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) had placed incinerators under the 'blue category' of industries, it argued that exempting them from the

EIA process would support faster implementation.

However, environmental groups have rejected this reasoning. Poovulagin Nanbargal has called for the immediate withdrawal of the exemption, arguing that WTE plants are among the most hazardous polluting facilities and cannot be safely operated. Citing studies from Chennai, Delhi and Hyderabad, the group said WTE plants have repeatedly been shown to cause severe environmental and health damage.

"By removing the requirement for prior environmental clearance, the government is effectively silencing the communities most affected by these projects," the group said in a statement. The National Alliance for Climate and Ecological Justice (NACEJ), in a recent statement, said the reclassification of WTE incinerators to the less stringent 'blue' category falsely portrays them as be-

nign 'Essential Environmental Services' despite their generation of vast quantities of hazardous bottom and fly ash requiring secured landfilling.

"Inspections by CPCB itself have documented high levels of heavy metals and toxic chemicals in ash and leachate from Delhi's WTE plants, contradicting the claim that these facilities produce no hazardous waste. Furthermore, CPCB reports submitted to the National Green Tribunal have shown how none of the 21 existing WTE plants are compliant with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016," it said.

"There is an ongoing postcard campaign against the blue categorisation of WTEs, as it will harm health, increase pollution and climate impacts, and affect the jobs of millions of waste workers," Chythenyen D.K. of the Centre for Financial Accountability said.

Source: *The Hindu*, 18 November 2025, p. 2

Corporation to increase councillors' fund to ₹80 lakh for improving waste management

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) will increase the councillor's fund to ₹80 lakh to improve waste management.

Valasaravakkam Zone (XII) Chairperson V. Rajan called for an increase in the allocation from ₹60 lakh to ₹80 lakh, and use

of additional funds for purchasing bobcats (compact loading vehicles), to curb open dumping.

"These machines will reduce the need for manpower, and could be helpful during floods," Mr. Rajan said.

He recommended the increase when asked how they would meet the operational and maintenance

costs of the machinery at the recent council meeting.

He further said the machines in the current fleet were inadequate, and that bobcats were in high demand across various zones as they could be used to clear construction debris and desilt canals.

The GCC assigns one vehicle per unit, covering

five wards, but these vehicles are often sent to different locations based on complaints.

"When a complaint reaches the Commissioner, the vehicle is sent to that location. If the Mayor receives another, it is sent elsewhere," he said.

Councillors have raised concern that the shortage of machinery hindered

swift response and delayed removal of debris.

Deputy Mayor M. Magesh Kumaar pointed out that the GCC had promised to deploy a bobcat for each ward, but had failed to do so.

Mayor R. Priya acknowledged the growing demand for vehicles and equipment related to cleaning operations.

Source: *The Hindu*, 07 November 2025, p. 5

Climate action tracker launched to achieve net zero across State



Minister for Finance and Environment Thangam Thennarasu launching the climate action tracker in the city on Friday. Additional Chief Secretary Supriya Sahu is also seen. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Minister for Finance, Environment and Climate Change Thangam Thennarasu launched the 'Climate Action Tracker for Tamil Nadu' and 'Climate Decarbonisation Pathways' for some districts, including Ramanathapuram, Virudhunagar, Coimbatore, and Nilgiris.

A complete analysis of each of these districts has been carried out with the support of Vasudha Foundation and government agencies.

Decarbonisation

"Today, we are launching the district decarbonisation action plan and the Tamil Nadu climate action tracker - two powerful instruments that will guide our path to net zero, district by district and community by community. This framework will be progressively expanded across the State," Mr. Thennarasu said.

He said the Tamil Nadu government was committed to building an economy that was not only strong and competitive, but also resilient, inclusive, and environmentally responsible.

Mr. Thennarasu also highlighted various schemes, and said the *Meendum Manjappai*

movement had become a symbol of responsible consumption. "Under the *Thooimai Mission*, we are transforming waste management to build a cleaner Tamil Nadu," he said.

He added: "As we advance, financing this transition is key. Implementing plans will require a mix of public investments, private partnerships, CSR partnerships, and innovative instruments such as green and transition bonds."

Energy targets

Supriya Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests Department, said District Collectors and all stakeholders would have the blueprint.

She explained how each target would be measured and recorded on the tracker.

She said: "Tamil Nadu has added close to 10 GW of renewable energy in the installed capacity in the last five years. If you look at the entire energy scenario in our State today, 60% of the total installed capacity is from renewables."

Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Governing Council Member of the Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission, pointed out that large industries would soon face limits on emissions. "It's only a start; the framework will develop over time."

Source: *The Hindu*, 01 November 2025, p. 4

Climate technology start-up initiative set to take off in Tiruchi

The Hindu Bureau
TIRUCHI

Tiruchi Regional Engineering College Science and Technology Entrepreneurs Park (TREC-STEP) will be anchoring a climate innovation incubation and scale-up ecosystem, which is considered to be the first of its kind in India.

The Green Climate Fund (GCF), promoted by the UN Framework Convention for Climate Change, endorsed TREC-STEP's BEACON INDIA programme (Building Ecosystem for Accelerating Contribution to NDC through Climate Innovation Incubation for India), at its board meeting held in Seoul in South Korea recently.

The programme has a total investment of \$93.98 million, including a GCF contribution of \$24.99 million through a mix of grant and concessional loan support.

It aims to reduce or avoid 1.08 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions, directly benefit about 872,000 people, and reach over 2 million indirectly through improved livelihoods, energy access, and resilience outcomes.

"Entrepreneurial com-

munities in India's start-up space are more attracted towards e-commerce, gaming, education tech, and fintech; we wanted to attract start-ups towards climate, then focus on the green technology space and incubate them. We opted for blended finance with private investors, to provide step-up funding for the next stage of growth," R.M.P. Jawahar, executive director, TREC-STEP, told *The Hindu*.

Managed by Tata Capital and Small Industries Development Bank of India, the programme will deploy a revolving fund combining GCF concessional capital and domestic co-finance.

Approximately 1,000 climate ventures will be identified across Tamil Nadu, out of which 100 innovative start-ups will be selected for further scrutiny, and funding would be provided for 50 ventures from the shortlisted ones, said Mr. Jawahar.

BEACON would be looking at start-ups that are focused on adapting to the impact of climate change, said TREC-STEP general manager Gita Chengappa.

The programme is scheduled to be officially launched in early 2026.

Source: *The Hindu*, 09 November 2025, p. 6

TNSWA reports delay in release of funds for dredging project in Ennore

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (TNSWA) has reported a delay in the effort to remove the invasive charru mussels from Ennore Creek, with the ₹90-crore dredging project still on hold owing to the delay in releasing the required funds.

In a recent report to the National Green Tribunal (NGT), it confirmed that despite multiple follow-ups, the funds needed to begin the work had not been approved.

Srinivas R. Reddy, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) and TNSWA Member-Secretary, submitted the report, stating that the dredging project proposal was developed after a meeting in late July 2025, wherein officials of the Water Resources and Fisheries Departments came together to address the growing mussel infestation. However, the required funds had not been sanctioned.

In its earlier order, the NGT expressed frustration over the delay, noting that several weeks had passed since the proposal was put forward, but the funds had not been released.

At a meeting convened on September 17 this year, the Chief Secretary directed the departments and

institutions concerned to submit the final reports and initiate coordinated field interventions for control and eradication of the invasive species.

According to the final report submitted by the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM) on October 22, invasive mussels were found in 40% of the 249 sampling sites in Ennore Creek. The rate of infestation was the highest near bridges, mangroves, and industrial discharge points, indicating the influence of ballast water and pollution. The invasion had degraded habitats, displaced native bivalves, and reduced fishers' monthly income from ₹30,000-₹50,000 to ₹5,000-₹10,000, forcing many to abandon freshwater fishing, the report said.

It recommended identifying and isolating hot-spots, incentivising community-led manual removal before the monsoon, and using controlled freshwater flushing to prevent recolonisation. It also called for continuous monitoring, value-added use of removed biomass, and coordinated efforts among research bodies, local communities, and government departments.

It noted sampling limitations due to unseasonal rain.

Source: *The Hindu*, 26 November 2025, p. 3

Experts bat for increasing carbon sequestration of soil, prioritising endemic trees

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

There is a need to increase carbon sequestration in the soil, which is 0.15% at present against the preferred figure of 2% to 5%, Sultan Ahmed Ismail, Member, State Planning Commission, said at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025.

Mr. Ismail also called for more interaction among government departments. He was speaking at a panel discussion on 'Policy and Governance for Climate Action-How Regulation, Incentives, and Public-Private Collaboration Can Accelerate Sustainable Growth', moderated by Kunal Shankar, Deputy Business Editor, *The Hindu*.

The ecologist also called upon industries to grow endemic trees and not go in for varieties that grow fast. Trees help to increase earthworm populations and they nurture soil microbes.

Rohit Agrawala, Director (Finance), Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited, said his company believed that the planet, the people, and profits cannot be isolated. "A pioneer in water conservation, usage and treatment, we have created a sustainability index for our own processes. We have data on how our CSR activities impact the people. We also have a road map for achieving net zero and are committed to it. CPCL operates with zero freshwater drawal and runs Asia's first sewerage reclamation plant, along with a 5.8 MGD desalination unit ensuring circular water use."

"Extensive rainwater harvesting across 57 sites and storm-water pond aug-

Source: *The Hindu*, 08 November 2025, p. 10



Panellists at a session on 'Policy and Governance for Climate Action' held at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

mentation to 79,500 KL have enhanced waterbed recharge and flood resilience, reinforcing CPCL's long-term water security vision. The refinery's clean energy transition includes RLNG, BS-VI fuels, and 17.6 MW of solar and wind power, with the upcoming 400 kV grid enabling 100 MW renewable import," he added.

CPCL is among the few companies in the oil industry that voluntarily adopted integrated annual reporting with limited assurance and business responsibility and sustainability reporting (BRSR). This marks a significant milestone in our journey towards transparent and accountable environmental, social, and governance (ESG) disclosures. The integrated annual report highlights how CPCL creates value across financial, manufactured, intellectual, human, social, and natural capitals, while aligning each initiative with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. These assurance processes reflect our strong governance framework and reinforce stakeholder trust in CPCL's sustainability commitments, he added.

Jayanthi Raju Vadivelu, Consulting Director, Cor-

porate Sustainability and Climate Change, ERM, said corporate governance begins at the top, where leadership sets the tone and vision, which is then translated into strategy and policies that are implemented through processes and procedures.

Taking priority

Environmental concerns have become a new priority as the climate change impact intensifies. Organisations must identify their ESG issues and use them as a foundation to attract finance for low-carbon technologies, not only for reporting. ESG disclosures and ratings increase transparency for stakeholders, but the true value lies in leveraging them to drive sustainable growth and transformative change, she added. Girish Palwe, Assistant Mission Director, Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission, Department of Environment and Climate Change, said the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Green Fellowship Programme, being implemented in all the districts in the State, was doing well. Phase-I has been completed. He added that policies will not work unless there is a bottom-first approach, and one solution for all issues will not work.

How TN's small towns are trying to clean up their act

While cities such as Chennai and Kovai have made strides in waste management, semi-urban areas are catching up with eco-friendly festivals, street sweeps and community-led composting

R K Jaishree Karthiga

A silent movement is sweeping across Tamil Nadu, through the centre of its crowded cities and across its calm villages—it is the heightened awareness of the need for cleanliness.

Morning sweeping of streets, proper disposal of temple waste and cleaner marketplaces are signs of the cultural shift in smaller towns. Local festivals now include eco-friendly practices such as using banana leaves instead of plastic plates. Tea shops and roadside vendors are adopting reusable cups. These small changes, when multiplied across communities, create a ripple effect.

Scenario-based research of the peri-urban areas in Tamil Nadu demonstrates that community-led initiatives especially those that involve school children and women's self-help groups have the power to increase participation and lead to sustainable changes. The pilot project with 12 villages in Tanjore in 2022 proved that when waste segregation is coupled with visual dashboards and weekly clean-up events, compliance can increase by 38% within three months. These results point to the necessity of embodied learning and localized pedagogy in the context of sanitation.

The challenge is not only to clean; it is also to improve systems, change attitudes and make cleanliness a shared duty among all age groups.

One of the state's measures under the Swachh Bharat Mission to handle solid waste is the bio-mining of landfills and decentralizing daily waste management through micro-composting units.

The ₹654cr scheme that was unveiled was to do bio-mining for more than 160 acres of waste. Kumbakonam town did bio-mining as a pilot project for 4.5 acres and transformed its old dumping site into a public park in less than a year in 2021. The model, which was largely dependent on daily segregation, composting, and community participation, has become the standard in other cities that have taken Kumbakonam's lead. Local bodies in Trichy, Vellore, Poonamallee and Pammal, for instance, have also witnessed the growth of waste segregation and declared that they are less dependent on landfills.

In another example, in April, Greater Chennai corporation (GCC) announced the use of ride-on suction sweepers and mechanised street washing vehicles for a pilot programme. The vehicles operate during the early morn-

ing hours so people are not disturbed as well as to remove dust to the maximum extent before the start of the day.

This is a part of a bigger plan to fight urban dust pollution mainly from roads and construction debris that are the main cause of respiratory health problems, and the policy thus contributes substantially to health care. The mechanised morning sweeping is supplemented by manual sweeping being done in residential areas. These practices are progressively being adopted in small municipalities as well. Towns such as Trichy and Vellore under the Tamil Nadu Urban Sanitation Support Programme (TNUSSP) have taken steps to integrate regular morning street cleaning as part of their sanitation protocols, which are supported by visual dashboards and community monitoring.

Tamil Nadu's sanitation reforms are in line with the national and regional regulations such as the Solid Waste Management Rules (2016) that require the implementation of measures such as decentralised composting, door-to-door collection, and source segregation, and the Swachh Bharat Mission which aims to improve sanitation and waste management in urban and rural areas.

Tamil Nadu also enforces the Environment Protection Act (1986), which gives the authority to control pollution and protect ecological health.

The Tamil Nadu Public Health Act (1939) is one of the earliest legal measures in India that directly links sanitation to health improvement. The Act empowered local health officers for inspections, regulation of offensive trades, ensuring the proper functioning of drainage and sewage systems, and taking steps to prevent infectious diseases through sanitation enforcement.

The policy was based on the idea that by controlling environmental factors such as waste and water quality, the occurrence of diseases could be reduced. The sanitary provisions, which form the legal basis for the sanitation practices in Tamil Nadu, are applicable to peri-urban areas and have been extended to



Pics: K. Antony Xavier & J Jackson



THE RIGHT MOVES: (Above) Citizen-led clean-up drive in Kovai; proper waste disposal strategies needed

waste management. People start taking responsibility for their surroundings when they realise how a plastic wrapper or food waste can make them sick. Community members become more proactive, organising clean-ups, sorting trash and demanding better govt services.

While panchayats and self-help groups are also promoting cleanliness and sustainability, more can be done. If, for instance, registered self-help groups receive economic aid from the Tamil Nadu Construction Workers Welfare Board to improve communities, and if these women-led groups are encouraged to participate in sanitation drives, awareness campaigns and eco-friendly practices, they can take charge of local cleanliness efforts such as waste segregation, composting and public space maintenance.

Community-led change is possible when given resources and trust, as shown by these grassroots actions.

(The writer is associate professor at the School of Social Sciences & Languages at associate professor at VIT University in Chennai)

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WRD initiates talks with World Bank to roll out city's Water Security Plan

A preliminary meeting was held to discuss water conservation projects. WRD officials say they will soon begin groundwork to execute 50-60 projects. The dept. expects to harness at least 6 tmcft of water through priority projects in the first phase

WATER WATCH

K. Lakshmi
CHENNAI

As the next step towards making Chennai water- and climate-resilient through a Water Security Plan, the Water Resources Department (WRD) has initiated discussions with the World Bank to identify priority projects and finalise funding support.

A preliminary meeting was held between WRD officials and World Bank representatives to discuss water conservation projects to bridge the widening gap between water demand and supply, and also build flood-resilient infrastructure.

This follows the State government's approval earlier this year of the comprehensive plan, which recommended nearly 704 projects worth ₹20,000 crore to decentralise water supply system in the Chennai Metropolitan Area



Conservation initiative: The WRD plans to enhance the storage capacity of major reservoirs like Poondi and nearly 110 tanks in Chennai and its surrounding districts. FILE PHOTO

(CMA) and mitigate the impact of climate change on water resources.

With the goal of making Chennai water secure by 2047, the WRD aims at creating an additional storage capacity of 20.5 thousand million cubic feet (tmcft) through various initiatives under the Chennai City Partnership Programme.

Chennai Metrowater's study had estimated that the freshwater demand in

the city alone would rise to 22.52 tmcft by 2050.

Officials of the WRD said they would soon begin preliminary works to execute 50-60 projects on priority over the next three or four years. Discussions are under way to implement the projects through public-private partnerships in a phased manner.

To optimise water conservation, the department plans to enhance the storage capacity of nearly 110

tanks in Chennai and its surrounding districts, as well as major reservoirs, including Poondi. Additionally, it plans to build new storage structures and riverine reservoirs across various waterways, including Palar and Kosasthalaiyar rivers.

"We are aiming for low-investment, high-impact conservation measures that can be implemented quickly without major hurdles. The check dams across the Palar, which are already overflowing, will be used to further enhance water conservation," an official said.

The department expects to harness at least six tmcft of water through priority projects worth ₹3,000 crore in the first phase. For instance, the waterbodies in Thiruninravur, Nemam, Thaiyur, Nandivaram-Guduvanchery, Pillaipakkam and Manamathai would be converted into reservoirs with improved storage capacity.

Tail-end tanks of each chain of waterbodies will

be chosen to conserve resources and reduce flooding. Local bodies in the CMA will also be involved in ensuring decentralised water supply infrastructure.

Percolation ponds

Besides creating groundwater recharge structures such as recharge of Panchetti well fields, and percolation ponds in zones affected by seawater intrusion, including Minjur and Pazhaverkadu, projects to establish missing links between waterbodies and construct flood regulators in tanks are in the pipeline, officials added.

The department is also simultaneously working in partnership with JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) to implement flood mitigation projects in the city's core areas. Once the project proposals for the first phase are finalised, the department will approach the State government for approval.

Source: *The Hindu*,
01 November 2025, p. 2

Balapuram transforms from drought-hit village into national water award winner

Vivek.Narayanan
@timesofindia.com

Chennai: Once a parched land where villagers walked miles for a pot of water, Balapuram in Tiruvallur district now brims with greenery and groundwater. This transformation has fetched it the National Water Award 2024 for Best Village Panchayat.

Over the past three years, Balapuram had faced severe drought, and agriculture was affected. However, it transformed into a model of climate-resilient governance through a combination of traditional wisdom, scientific interventions, and community participation. Its efforts led to a 30-40% improvement in groundwater levels and a remarkable revival of the local ecosystem.

Out of 300 panchayats that applied for the award, 30 were selected, and out of these, six



RESILIENCE MATTERS: The panchayat rejuvenated 60 water bodies

were selected for final awards. Balapuram secured the third spot. "Through a community-driven campaign, the panchayat rejuvenated 60 water bodies, including 20 check dams, 9 percolation ponds, 18 farm ponds, 6 ooranis, 6 traditional tanks, and a minor irrigation tank. Additionally, 51 new water recharge structures were created—among them 285 soak pits, 43 rooftop rainwater harvesting systems, and 7 lar-

ge-scale RWH units in public buildings," said V R Gomathy, assistant executive engineer, Rural Development Department.

These interventions have strengthened drought resilience and improved year-round water availability across the village. "Besides, Balapuram shifted from water-intensive crops to drought-tolerant varieties such as groundnut, black gram, ragi, and vegetables,

while introducing drip irrigation across 6 hectares for coconut and floriculture. The result: cropping intensity increased," said Venkatesan, a farmer from Balapuram.

A large-scale greening mission saw the plantation of 24,500 saplings of native, fruit-bearing, and medicinal species. The creation of 2,500 water absorption trenches and 750 avenue trees has helped reduce surface run-off, lower local temperatures by up to 4°C, and enhance biodiversity, added officials.

The village achieved 100 percent solid waste segregation, with composting and greywater management integrated into daily life. All households now enjoy 100 percent tap water coverage under the Jal Jeevan Mission, with over 4,000metres of new pipelines ensuring safe drinking water for every home.

Source: *The Times of India*,
13 November 2025, p. 2

Ecological balance: Jackals, otters increasingly sighted at Pichavaram

Oppili.P@timesofindia.com

Chennai: Tourists who arrive at Pichavaram to take in one of the world's largest mangrove ecosystems by boating through its tangled green tunnels now regularly get to see Indian jackals and smooth-coated otters too during the day, a sign that ecological balance is returning to the area.

Over the past six months, these elusive creatures have become the highlight of Pichavaram's eco-tours. Jackals venture out even when there are visitors, darting across the mudflats or resting near the water's edge. The otters



CAUGHT ON CAM: An Indian jackal at Pichavaram

glide effortlessly through the clear, fish-rich creeks.

Forest range officer B Iqbal said the department is planning a census to estimate the jackal population. "We believe there are more

than 100 of them inhabiting various mangrove patches. Tourists now see them almost daily during boat rides," he said.

► **Otter sightings, P 4**

‘Sightings highlight ecological balance’

► **From P 1**

Iqbal said otter sightings too have increased in the past six months. Otter sightings were not reported earlier, he said. Spread over 1,400 hectares, the Pichavaram mangroves are dominated by *Avicennia marina*, a species that thrives even in shallow waters and forms natural burrows ideal for jackal dens.

Years of conservation and replanting rejuvenated large portions of this ecosystem, leading to a surge in fish, prawn and crab populations — the primary food sources for both otters and jackals.

Forest officials said these sightings underscore a deeper success story, ecological balance returning to Pichava-



‘OTTER’ NATIVES

ram. Conservationists, however, caution against human intrusion in this recovering ecosystem.

With wildlife making a comeback, they want the authorities to ban film shoots and other disruptive activities within the mangrove channels. The harmony between conservation and tourism, they warn, can last only if the ecosystem remains protected.

Source: *The Times of India*, 05 November 2025, p. 1 and 4

Chennai among five cities that face risk of land sinking: study

The study says 2,406 buildings across Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai are at high risk of structural damage due to land sinking caused by groundwater over-exploitation. Geological formation and seawater intrusion may lower risk in Chennai: experts

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Five Indian cities, including Chennai, face a rising threat of land subsidence, which could increase the risk of damage to buildings, due to groundwater over-exploitation, according to a recent study.

The study published in the journal, *Nature Sustainability*, noted that 2,406 buildings across Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai were at high risk of structural damage due to land subsidence. If the trend continued for five decades, an additional 23,529 buildings in Chennai, Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Bengaluru could also face high risk.

Using InSAR – a satellite-based technique – and satellite radar observations from 2015 to 2023, the researchers found that people were exposed to gradual land subsidence, or sinking of the ground surface, of more than 4 mm per year.

'Need field validation'
However, groundwater experts say while the study provides an indication of the threat in major cities, the results need field validation for coastal cities such as Chennai, where depleting groundwater is often replaced by seawater.

Source: *The Hindu*, 03 November 2025, p. 2



Sensitive spots: The study identifies hotspots of subsidence around the floodplains of the Adyar and areas such as Valasaravakkam, Kodambakkam, Alandur, and Tondiarpet. It also considers K.K. Nagar and Tondiarpet as major hotspots owing to over-extraction of groundwater. FILE PHOTO

While land sinking alone may not cause building collapse, it can amplify impact of other hazards, say researchers

This would mean a lower risk of land subsidence.

The findings should serve as a warning, highlighting the urgent need for sustainable groundwater management, they said.

The study – conducted by a team of researchers at the Institute for Water, En-

vironment and Health of the United Nations University in Canada – found widespread subsidence in cities, including Chennai, where the ground is sinking by 31.7 mm per year.

Some hotspots of subsidence were observed around the floodplains of the Adyar and areas such as Valasaravakkam, Kodambakkam, Alandur, and Tondiarpet. The study also identified K.K. Nagar and Tondiarpet as major hotspots owing to groundwater over-extraction.

It warned that nearly 958 buildings in Chennai

could face high risk of damage in 30 years.

The compression of soft river alluvium deposits from Holocene fluvial sediments, especially in the floodplains of the Adyar, triggered by groundwater over-extraction, could be one of the causes of land sinking, it said.

While land subsidence may not directly cause building collapse, the researchers said it could amplify the impact of other hazards, calling for land subsidence-resilient infrastructure.

Groundwater experts,

however, emphasised the need for further field investigations.

L. Elango, visiting faculty, Hydraulics and Water Resources Engineering Group, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT-Madras, said land subsidence was more likely in cities such as Kolkata.

"We have done a study on land subsidence threat in Kolkata, which has a confined aquifer, overlaid by a thick layer of clay. When groundwater is over-extracted, the clay layer may lose water, leading to land subsidence," he said.

City's unique scenario

The scenario in Chennai is different, given its geological formation and predominantly unconfined aquifer.

Groundwater withdrawal is less likely to cause land subsidence, as most areas recover their water levels during the monsoon.

Additionally, areas close to the coast, such as Tondiarpet, experience seawater intrusion, and localities south of Adyar are rocky. The fluvial sediments of the Adyar river basin are of limited thickness.

"Data acquired from InSAR-based measurements may not always be accurate, as the map also shows regions with rising ground level," Prof. Elango said.

The Trek TN initiative has introduced 40 routes, attracting over 15,000 trekkers

'ENCHANTING TAMIL NADU' WANTS YOU TO SEE MORE OF ITS WILD SIDE

Vivek Narayanan & Oppili P | TNN

Believed to be the spot where sage Agastya placed his yoga danda (wooden staff) in penance millennia ago, the fabled landscapes of Shenbagadevi falls have long drawn devotees in search of the mystical. Now, the govt hopes to attract a new kind of pilgrim — the trekker.

From forested slopes and stream crossings to steep climbs leading to ancient dolmens, the rugged Kullar Caves trail in Tiruvannamalai is among the latest to join Trek Tamil Nadu's expanding eco-adventure network.

Launched on Nov 1, 2024, as a flagship initiative under the Tamil Nadu Wilderness Experiences Corporation (TNWEC), Trek Tamil Nadu marks a year of redefining eco-adventure tourism in the state, offering safe and sustainable trekking experiences across its forest and wildlife landscapes, taking the spirit of its tagline 'Enchanting Tamil Nadu' to its remotest corners.

Over the past year, 40 trekking routes, attracting more than 15,000 trekkers, including 5,000 women, have been introduced, generating ₹1.83cr in revenue. Of this, ₹1.23cr has been shared directly with local communities through guide wages and eco-development committees. Building on its success, plans are afoot to add 10 more routes in Chengalpet, Salem, Kanyakumari and Coimbatore, while continuing advanced guide training and promoting community-based ecotourism across the state. About 130 guides, most of them from tribal and forest-fringe villages, have been trained.

Trekkers are surprised to learn how Tamil Nadu is home to such incredible wildlife," says Kumaresan, a local guide. "At Shenbagathoppu in Virudhunagar and Chinnar in Udu malpet, you can spot the grizzled giant squirrel. Along the Cauvery at Biligundulu-Rasimanal, there are

people, most consider the hills their ancestors, so won't even point in their direction while they guide visitors. Every turn on the trail has a story to tell."

Giving the responsibility in the hands of well-informed local communities is the key to sustainable ecotourism. We are training local youth as guides, says Supriya Sahu, additional chief secretary, environment, climate change and forests. "We are getting more stringent with the rules. Unauthorised entry into forest areas will be considered trespass."

Guides carry trash bags and disposal is streamlined, says Chandrananth. "No plastics are allowed. Food is served in steel containers. We follow all the rules under TN forest and wildlife regulation of trekking rules. We follow designated trek paths cleared by the local forest officials and don't interfere with animal movement. If forest officers hint at movement, we cancel the trek and refund the money."

While the first phase is about opening up trails, the next is about soaking it all in. "Camp sites," says Vismiju Viswanathan, managing di-

HOTSPOTS

► About 38km from Udu malpet, Chinnar offers a guided trekking trail that runs along a river. Expect changing landscapes from scrub jungle to deciduous and riverine forests. It's a haven for bird and butterfly watchers, with the rare grizzled giant squirrel often spotted in the canopy



► Dams, falls and viewpoints mark the Chenna Suruli trek, a few hours from Madurai. Starting at the Thenpalani checkpost, the 12km trail weaves through scrub forests, rocky stretches and montane grasslands. Spot the blue-faced Malkoha or listen to its call — a croaky 'kraa' when startled, otherwise a soft 'pe-ooo'



► A 20km, eight-hour trail in Ooty's Parson Valley leads to Mukurthi Hut, a colonial-era rest stop tucked inside the thick Shola forests. This place offers captivating frames of the Nilgiris



Pics courtesy: Balasubramaniam P
growing demand for stay options." Vismiju adds that they are developing it near a tribal hamlet, so people can enjoy local cuisine, which would also help create sustainable livelihoods.

From Sethumadai, trekkers can access nine trails including Punganodai, Pandaravarai, Alamarappallam and Chital, ranging from 4km to 16km, and varying from easy to tough.

Trek Tamil Nadu has also tied up with Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation to integrate treks into four of its tour packages at Longwood Shola in the Nilgiris, Kutladampatti Falls near Madurai, Theerthaparai and Shenbagadevi near Courtallam, offering visitors three-day or four-day combined travel and trek experiences.

Officials say that some treks have been on hold due to chances of landslides and heavy rains. "This disruption is temporary," says an official.

Trekkers feel there is a lot to explore within the state. "Topslip in the Anamalai hills still feels magic, every stretch tells a new story. You see tiger pugmarks and hear toots of hornbills between the trails. At Shenbagathoppu, I watched an Indian gaur up close. At Gudiyam caves, even stones whisper myths," says trekker Balasubramaniam P of exotic camp.

Email your feedback with name and address to southpole.tol@timesofindia.com

Source: *The Times of India*, 13 November 2025, p. 6

Thriving *neer maruthu* trees in MTR give refuge to endangered vultures

Researchers recorded the presence of more than 10,000 *Terminalia arjuna* trees and 56 nests of White-rumped vultures in those trees in the Moyar valley of MTR. The largest number of trees was found in the Segur and Masinagudi ranges

Rohan Premkumar
UDHAGAMANDALAM

Researchers from the Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation, Chennai, and the Tamil Nadu Forest Department have enumerated more than 10,000 thriving *Terminalia arjuna* (known as *neer maruthu* in Tamil) trees in the Moyar valley of the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR).

The trees serve as a nesting site for the critically endangered White-rumped vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*) in the region, and it is hoped that the study would provide valuable insights for conservation initiatives to help planners assist the vulture populations in expanding into habitats surrounding MTR, from where they have either diminished in numbers or disappeared entirely.

The work, funded by the Mudumalai Tiger Conservation Foundation, Udhagamandalam was carried out in 2024 along the long and winding stretch of the main Moyar river, and also covered several of its tributaries – Avarallah, Bhoodhipatti, Edakkarpallam, Iyanmathi, Kakkanallah, Kedallah, Kokkalthuraihallah, Konamasiappatti, Mukurthipallam, Poochapallam, Segurallah, Siriyurallah, and Varapallam streams.

Along with the enumeration of the *Terminalia arjuna* trees in MTR, the girth, height, and the re-



Safe space: The *Terminalia arjuna* or *neer maruthu* trees serve as a nesting site for the critically endangered White-rumped vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*) in the region. M. SATHYAMOORTHY

generation status of the tree species were also recorded.

Healthy presence

Researchers S. Iyanar, Malavika S. Nair, and Thirumurugan Vedagiri recorded the presence of 10,127 trees along the 77.6-km stretch of the river in MTR. About 93% of these trees were found to be alive and thriving along the river-course, indicating a healthy population.

Mortality was observed in only 7% of *Terminalia arjuna* trees, which is low in ecological terms, the researchers said. Also, these trees hold a rich biomass (93,589.6 tonnes) and carbon stock (46,794.8 tonnes) in the landscape, they added.

A short publication of

the findings of the team, titled 'Status and ecological significance of *Terminalia arjuna*, a keystone species in the riparian forest of Moyar River Valley in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, Southern India,' and authored by researchers including S. Iyanar, V. Thirumurugan *et al.*, was published in 2025 in the Journal of Wildlife Sciences.

The researcher said the largest number of trees was found in the Segur and Masinagudi ranges. "The number of trees in various size classes showed significant variation amongst the forest ranges," the authors said, adding that trees in the Masinagudi, Segur, and Theppakadu ranges "indicated a healthy, regenerating forest with a considerable number of young

trees".

"In contrast, NES and Singara ranges showed a decline in the presence of smaller size class trees, indicating that these areas have slow recruitment and possible hindrance in the establishment of young trees," they said.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Thirumurugan Vedagiri, one of the lead authors of the paper and project coordinator from the Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation, said the Moyar valley is one of the strongholds of *Terminalia arjuna*, and this bodes well for the recovery of the highly endangered White-rumped vulture.

A haven

Researchers recorded the presence of 56 nests of

White-rumped vultures and 157 nests of Malabar giant squirrels in the trees. The trees also have ecological associations with other native plant species as well as animals, with tigers and leopards using the trees to sharpen their claws, and other species such as marsh crocodiles, elephants, and deer using the shade from the trees to rest and bask. Sloth bears, too, depend on the trees as termites often build large mounds near them, the researchers said.

Mr. Thirumurugan added that vultures prefer to nest in trees that have large crowns. "There is one tree in the region with a crown radius of 700 cm, where vultures are known to nest every year. Ensuring that these trees are protected from any pressures will help vulture populations in the long run," he added.

R. Kiruba Shankar, Field Director of MTR, said the Forest Department was working on encouraging the re-establishment of native flora within the tiger reserve through an ambitious plan of eliminating two of the region's key invasive species - *Senna spectabilis* and *Prosopis juliflora* from the landscape by the end of 2026.

"We hope that these efforts would lead to further expansion of native flora species through the reserve, ensuring more habitat availability for species such as the White-rumped vulture," Mr. Shankar said.

Source: *The Hindu*, 10 November 2025, p. 5

'*Senna spectabilis* removed from 1,963 hectares in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve'

The trees have been identified on a total of 2,448 hectares, and 80% of trees have been cleared, says T.N. Environment Secretary Supriya Sahu; the State has created 2,400 hectares of mangrove plantations in places such as Ennore and Adyar, and uses tech to reduce man-animal conflicts, she adds

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

Supriya Sahu, Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests, said on Friday that *Senna spectabilis*, a highly invasive tree, had been removed from 1,963 hectares of land in the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve with the help of locals.

These trees have been identified on a total of 2,448 hectares, and "we have removed 80% of them so far. They do not help in biodiversity and are not liked by animals either. The cut trees are being used for making paper as the Forest Department has tied up with the Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited", she added.

Responding to a question on the challenges from invasive species in forests by *The Hindu*'s Chief of Bureau Ramya Kannan at a fireside chat on 'Greening Tamil Nadu-The State's Climate Action and Environmental Stewardship' at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025, Ms. Sahu said many of the projects the State was implementing were the 'firsts' in India. "The lessons that we learnt have... informed our work. Removal of invasive species was one of the major challenges faced by forest managers. They are really taking over the forests, not just here but elsewhere too."

Government's plan

Asked about the Tamil Nadu government's mangrove mission, she said mangroves are much better at anchoring carbon; they are a cradle of biodiversity; and are good bio-shields against tsunami. She cited the examples of Muthupettai and Pichavaram where the mangroves had shielded the local communities from the tsunami.

"We worked with several national agencies to



Ask the experts: A Q&A session in progress during the 'Greening Tamil Nadu-The State's Climate Action and Environmental Stewardship' fireside chat. R. RAGU



Supriya Sahu, Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests, in conversation with Ramya Kannan, Chief of Bureau, *The Hindu*. R. RAGU



map mangrove locations. These are not just places where they currently exist but had existed earlier. We worked with local people, used data science and technology, and created around 2,400 hectares of new mangrove plantations in places such as Ennore and Adyar. Those new

patches are coming up beautifully. We have created massive nurseries to grow the plants. One such facility is at Ennore, which has one lakh mangrove plants," she said.

Responding to a question on man-animal conflict, Ms. Sahu said the State had always followed

a policy of co-existence and not of elimination. "There are strategies that can help us, and the use of technology is one of the most important things today."

"With the coming of artificial intelligence, we have set up AI cameras and watchtowers in Ma-



With the coming of artificial intelligence, we have set up AI cameras and watchtowers in Madukkarai where we have saved the lives of elephants

SUPRIYA SAHU
Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests

dukkarai where we have saved the lives of elephants. We are planning to augment it [the project] with drones in the near future. In Gudalur, we are setting up AI cameras in a different terrain. They will come into operation by the end of this," she added.

Ms. Sahu also said that ours is the only state in the country to use more than hundred anti-poaching watchers from amongst tribals, who are working continuously with communities and saving lives. Giving compensation to families of victims is also very important, which is why the Chief Minister M. K. Stalin has set up a corpus fund of ₹10 crore.

Source: *The Hindu*, 08 November 2025, p. 11

TN, UK launch heat resilience centre to take on rising mercury

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

THE Tamil Nadu government and the UK jointly launched a Heat Resilience Centre, positioning the state as one of India's first to set up a dedicated institutional mechanism for heat-risk management. The initiative, announced during the signing of a Letter of Intent (LoI) between the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company and the UK Government, will run under the UK's Climate Action for a Resilient Asia (CARA) programme until September 2026.

The centre will function as Tamil Nadu's nodal institution for coordinating heat-risk management across departments, helping build scientific governance frameworks, strengthening technical capacity, generating climate data, developing heat action plans and



designing bankable climate-resilience projects. "Extreme heat is one of the most urgent climate challenges we face. Tamil Nadu has already demonstrated visionary leadership," said Parliamentary under secretary of State (Indo-Pacific) Seema Malhotra, praising the state for recognising heatwaves as a state-specific disaster.

Additional chief secretary (Environment, Climate Change and Forests) Supriya Sahu stressed the need for accurate heat mapping to guide climate planning.

The state also joined the global Beat the Heat Implementation Drive, launched at COP30 in Belém (Brazil), with 11 Tamil Nadu cities among the 15 Indian cities participating. The initiative aims to accelerate sustainable cooling and passive heat-resilience solutions worldwide.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 22 November 2025, p. 7

Red alert! Microplastics in Chennai's air can carry toxins, microbes into your lungs

A person in a busy city market for 8 hrs can inhale 190 plastic particles, says peer-reviewed study

SV KRISHNA CHAITANYA @Chennai

A new study has sounded the alarm on what scientists are calling a "new air pollutant" — inhalable microplastics. These are microscopic plastic fragments, less than 10 micrometres wide, small enough to slip deep into human lungs. While attention has long focused on fine dust such as PM2.5, researchers say its plastic equivalent — polymer dust — is now floating freely in the air we breathe.

Published in *Environment International*, the study is the first systematic investigation of airborne microplastics (iMPs) across Indian cities. It was conducted by researchers from the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Kolkata, AIIMS Kalyani, and the Institute of Mathematical Sciences (IMSc), Chennai.

Air samples were collected from bustling marketplaces in Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai, and Chennai. In Chennai, the team sampled five high-traffic locations — T Nagar, Ritchie Street, Phoenix Marketcity, Parry's Corner, and Zam Bazaar Market — to capture real-world exposure levels.

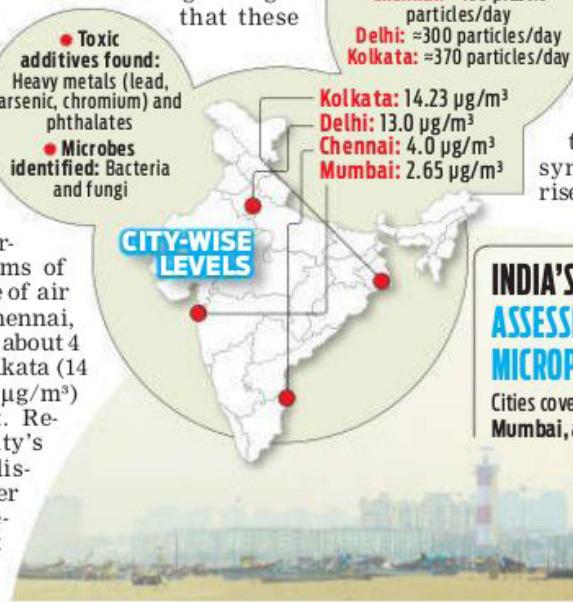
Using advanced pyrolysis-gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (Py-GC-MS), the scientists detected an average of 8.8 micrograms of plastic per cubic metre of air across all cities. In Chennai, the concentration was about 4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, lower than Kolkata (14 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) and Delhi (13 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) but still significant. Researchers say the city's coastal winds help disperse pollutants faster than in landlocked regions, but that does not make the air safe.

"Although coastal

ventilation helps, the presence of synthetic fibres from clothes, plastic dust from waste sorting, and debris from packaging means the exposure is continuous," the study notes.

Chemical fingerprinting showed polyester — mostly shed from clothing — was the most dominant polymer, followed by polyethylene (from packaging) and styrene-butadiene rubber (from tyres and footwear). "Textiles, packaging waste, and vehicular wear are key contributors," said Gopala Krishna Darbha, senior scientist at IISER Kolkata and lead author of the study. "Our findings show we are not just surrounded by plastics — we are breathing them."

The most unsettling finding is that these



tiny particles are not inert dust — they can carry toxic chemicals and microbes. The researchers found phthalates and heavy metals like lead, arsenic, and chromium on microplastic surfaces. Under a microscope,

the team also identified fungal spores and bacteria, including potential pathogens such as *Aspergillus fumigatus*. "Airborne microplastics can act as Trojan horses carrying microbes and hazardous contaminants. Their rough surfaces provide ideal habitats for microbes, and once inhaled, these could reach the deepest parts of the lungs," Darbha told TNIE.

According to the study, a person breathing in a busy market for eight hours a day could inhale around 190 plastic particles daily in Chennai, compared with 370 in Kolkata and 300 in Delhi. Post-monsoon and winter evenings, when synthetic clothing use rises and air circulation drops, showed

the highest levels of airborne microplastics. For Chennai, the findings reveal a hidden layer in its air pollution story. The city's plastic recycling hubs in Perungudi and Kodungaiyur, textile units, and widespread indoor use of plastics all contribute to steady emissions. Experts warn that waste pickers, market vendors, and children face higher risks due to prolonged outdoor exposure.

"Chennai's numbers may seem lower, but chronic exposure is what matters," Abhishek Biswas, PhD student at IISER said. "These particles don't just vanish; they accumulate in our environment — and possibly our bodies."

Nikhil Chivukula, senior research fellow at IMSc, who worked under Prof Areejit Samal on the study, added that their computational analysis uncovered worrying links between plastic-associated chemicals and disease. "This research finds inhalation of iMPs laden with respirable emerging contaminants (RECs) represents an unexplored but critical layer of the urban atmospheric exposure. We identified 28 such chemicals — including carcinogens, endocrine disruptors, neurotoxicants, and respiratory irritants — many originating from everyday consumer products like vehicles, cleaning agents, and personal-care items," Chivukula said.

By mapping these chemicals against known disease databases, the IMSc team found associations with 72 diseases, with cancer being the most reported, followed by endocrine, gastrointestinal, breast, and respiratory disorders.

"This suggests airborne microplastics are not just passive carriers — they may transport active chemical mixtures capable of triggering a wide range of health effects," Chivukula said.

‘Tamil Nadu is the only State to declare as many as 20 Ramsar wetlands’

Senior counsel P. Wilson, representing the Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (TNSWA), said the State government was very keen on protecting the wetlands and not allowing them to vanish

Mohamed Imranullah S.

CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu is the only State in the country to boast of as many as 20 wetlands designated as ‘Ramsar sites’ of international importance in accordance with an intergovernmental environmental treaty signed at Ramsar in Iran in 1971, the State Wetland Authority told the Madras High Court on Wednesday.

Appearing before the first Division Bench of Chief Justice Manindra Mohan Shrivastava and Justice G. Arul Murugan, senior counsel P. Wilson, representing the Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (TNSWA), said the State government was very keen on protecting the wetlands and not allowing them to vanish.

When the Chief Justice asked why then a public interest litigation petition had been filed in the court alleging construction of high-rise residential towers within the Ramsar site around Pallikaranai marshland in Chennai, the senior counsel said, the peti-



Contesting charges: Senior counsel P. Wilson said the ‘ground truthing’ exercise to fix the Ramsar site’s boundaries at Pallikaranai was yet to be concluded. FILE PHOTO

tioner’s averments remain to be just allegations as on date.

He said, the ‘ground truthing’ exercise to fix the boundaries of the Ramsar site at Pallikaranai was yet to be concluded fully and that the Supreme Court, in a case related to protection of wetlands across the country, had granted time till December 2 for the TNSWA to submit its ‘ground truthing’ report.

“The truth will come out once the wetland boundaries are identified and once we place it before Your Lordships. Once we

A PIL petition had been filed alleging construction of high-rise residential towers within the Ramsar site

are able to fix the boundaries and place the report before the State government as well as this court, Your Lordships will come to know exactly where this property lies,” he said.

Mr. Wilson urged the Division Bench to take up the present PIL petition for hearing after the Supreme

Court hears the related matter next on December 2. Accepting his submission, the judges directed the High Court Registry to list the case before them on December 3.

They also extended, till the next date of hearing, an interim order that they had passed on October 31, 2025 in the PIL petition restraining private real estate developer Brigade Enterprises Limited from constructing the high-rise towers at its Pallikaranai project.

J. Brezhnev, Chennai suburban district legal wing secretary of All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, had filed the PIL petition alleging that the high-rise towers had been proposed right within the 1,247.54 hectare Ramsar site in Pallikaranai.

Accusing the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority of having granted planning permission for the project on January 23, 2025 without taking into account the sensitive nature of the land, the litigant had urged the court to quash the permission.

Source: *The Hindu*, 13 November 2025, p. 5

The Tamil Nadu model of sub-State climate action

Tamil Nadu's approach to climate action and biodiversity conservation is anchored in the belief that effective leadership begins on the ground, where policies are implemented, communities participate and results can be measured. To translate this principle into practice, the State created one of India's first dedicated agencies to coordinate and track all climate-related work, i.e., the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company (TNGCC). Through its four key missions – the The Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission (TNCCM), The Green Tamil Nadu Mission (GTNM), The Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission (TNWM) and The Tamil Nadu Coastal Restoration Mission (TN SHORE) – the TNGCC drives emission reduction, ecosystem restoration and livelihood resilience.

A net zero pathway, pilot districts

With the aim to make Tamil Nadu Net Zero well before 2070, the State has released a detailed Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory covering annual emissions across all sectors and sub-sectors, from 2005 to 2019, and developed a detailed Net Zero Pathway.

Findings from the State's GHG inventory reveal encouraging trends. Despite being one of India's most industrialised States, Tamil Nadu contributed only 7% of the country's total emissions in 2019. Moreover, between 2005 and 2019, it reduced its emission intensity to GDP by nearly 60%.

This progress reflects targeted interventions across key sectors: rapid expansion of renewable energy, improved energy efficiency, industrial decarbonisation and an ambitious electric-mobility programme that aims to electrify all public transport. Today, renewable energy accounts for about 60% of Tamil Nadu's total installed power capacity and 30% of total electricity generated.

In order to meet its goal of being net zero well before 2070, the State has also embarked on a bottom-up climate action planning and implementation. The State has recently launched district-level decarbonisation plans and a real-time Climate Action Tracker developed in collaboration with the Vasudha Foundation, embedding climate action directly into local

Source: *The Hindu*, 14 November 2025, p. 16



Supriya Sahu

is Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests Department, Government of Tamil Nadu



Srinivas Krishnaswamy

is CEO, Vasudha Foundation

In the State's 'bottom-up' approach, district-level decarbonisation plans and a real-time tracker are helping shape climate actions at the local and sub-local levels

governance. The decarbonisation plans for four pilot districts – The Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar – show that these districts can abate up to 92% of projected emissions (of the four districts) by 2050 through clean energy adoption, mobility transformation, industrial efficiency and nature-based solutions. They also have the potential to sequester nearly three million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2050.

The Climate Action Plans and decarbonisation pathways for the four districts build on a detailed district-level greenhouse gas emissions inventories along with a detailed climate variability assessment based on historic and current climate data and projecting the assessments till end of the century. What came across consistently is that if greenhouse gases are left unabated not just in the four districts but across India and globally, the number of warm days would increase significantly by about 95% by 2100, with a substantial increase in precipitation levels, leading to a wetter monsoon, impacting the region, particularly the vulnerable Nilgiris district.

Responsible factors

Road transport is a major contributor to the GHG emissions in the Nilgiris and Coimbatore districts (close to 43% and 36% of the total emissions, respectively), followed closely by residential energy consumption (20% and 12%). Cement, road transport and industrial energy were the highest GHG contributors in Virudhunagar (37%, 20% and 16%, respectively). In Ramanathapuram, public electricity generation and rice cultivation (28% and 12%, respectively) were the contributors.

Building on the emissions trajectories and identifying the key driver of emissions, the action plans propose a shovel ready list of projects to be implemented each year, from 2025, covering electric mobility, waste management, forest restorations and industrial decarbonisation – all tailor-made for each district. When implemented, the Nilgiris district can become net zero by 2030 even in a moderate scenario. Ramanathapuram can become net zero by 2047 in an aggressive scenario which will mean lifestyle changes to

some extent. However, due to a high level of industrialisation, Coimbatore and Virudhunagar can become net zero by about 2055.

The approach views climate change not as a constraint but as an opportunity to pursue growth that safeguards both nature and people. Similar plans will soon be developed for all the 38 districts in Tamil Nadu.

The Climate Action Tracker is designed around a simple premise: what gets measured, gets done. Together, they create a transparent, evidence-based system for planning and accountability, ensuring that every district can monitor its progress and refine its strategies. To support effective implementation, a dedicated Project Management Unit is being established in the four pilot districts. The action tracker and the action plans can be accessed at <https://tnclimatetracker.tn.gov.in>

Other schemes, community focus

Other key initiatives of Tamil Nadu include large-scale afforestation, mangroves, wetland restoration and biodiversity protection. The State now hosts 20 Ramsar-designated wetlands, and has ensured that 30% of its total land area is protected. Along Tamil Nadu's 1,068-kilometre coastline, massive efforts are being undertaken in restoring mangroves and seascapes while supporting coastal livelihoods.

By expanding the focus beyond energy and industry to include agriculture, livestock and waste, Tamil Nadu is broadening the scope of its low-carbon transition.

Communities are being placed at the centre of this transformation, turning climate action into a participatory process. The choices made today at the local and sub-local levels will shape the future of the State's economy, ecosystems, and communities. Tamil Nadu's experience underscores the point that climate leadership is no longer about setting ambitious targets but about building systems that make progress visible, verifiable and participatory.

As India advances toward its net-zero future, Tamil Nadu's model offers a valuable complement by showing how national intent can be deepened through local innovation and evidence-led governance.

WRD seeks nod for coastal erosion mitigation projects

The proposals are awaiting approval from National Disaster Management Authority and are likely to take off next year; officials say 41% of the 992 km of T.N. coastline analysed in a study is in stable condition while 39% face sea erosion risk

K. Lakshmi

CHENNAI

With coastal erosion posing a growing threat in several parts of Tamil Nadu, the Water Resources Department (WRD) has put forward project proposals to mitigate shoreline degradation in five vulnerable districts.

The proposals are awaiting nod from the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and are likely to take off next year.

The WRD has identified Mayiladuthurai, Kanniyakumari, Tiruvallur, Chengalpattu and Chennai districts as vulnerable hotspots to implement mitigation measures on priority.

Mayiladuthurai district is among the worst-hit places, with large stretches of its coastline experiencing erosion.

WRD officials said the department had submitted 41 project proposals worth ₹755 crore to reduce the risk of shoreline degradation in the vulnerable stretches.

The projects were prepared based on the draft shoreline management

Source: *The Hindu*, 23 November 2025, p. 4



Precautionary measures: The WRD has identified Mayiladuthurai, Kanniyakumari, Tiruvallur, Chengalpattu and Chennai districts as vulnerable hotspots. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

plan and shoreline changes report from the National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR). Citing the report, the officials said 41% of the 992 km of T.N. coastline analysed was in stable condition and 39% was facing sea erosion risk. In Mayiladuthurai district, nearly 71% of the shoreline was facing erosion.

Residents of fishing hamlets in Mayiladuthurai district voice concerns about escalating risks to their homes.

M. Sivasubramanian of

Vanagiri in Sirgazhi taluk of the district, said: "We have lost shoreline of a minimum of 50 metre, including Naickerkuppam and Pudukuppam, in the past decade."

Many voluntary organisations have started palm seeds sowing campaign along the shorelines and waterbodies to curb erosion. M. Rajavelu, chief coordinator of Green Needa, said, "We have planted lakhs of palm seeds in Mayiladuthurai district since 2023. Palm seedlings have

emerged as a protective shield in some villages near Velankanni during cyclones."

The WRD has sought funds through the State Disaster Management Authority under the 15th Finance Commission to implement a combination of nature-based solutions.

Officials said besides beach nourishment, the department planned bio-plantation and other protection measures, including coral reefs, coir structures and oyster shell beds,

to act as a natural barrier and install geo tubes.

'Living shoreline' is another intervention proposed. The revised shoreline management plan framework will soon be submitted to the State government.

Noting that shoreline change assessments were updated periodically, M.V. Ramanamurthy, former Director, NCCR, said balancing development along the coastline and addressing climate change impact were crucial to mitigate erosion risk. He said bioshields and sand nourishment would be effective solutions to protect the shrinking coastline.

Living shoreline, a process to stabilise shoreline using natural systems, was time-consuming, but could be adopted based on site conditions. Hard engineering solutions like groynes might be executed in places with high population density. Shoreline showed recovery after three or four years.

Once the NDMA grants approval for the project, the WRD would prepare a detailed project report and seek Coastal Regulation Zone clearance.

Proposed wind farm project in Dhanushkodi raises concern

Project representatives explained that the facility was intended as a research and demonstration platform to support the development of offshore wind technology; local fishing community representatives say the project could disturb marine life

Geetha Srimathi

CHENNAI

A proposal to establish a 50-MW demonstration wind farm in Dhanushkodi in Rameswaram taluk has drawn concern from local residents and environmentalists over possible ecological impacts on the fragile coastal ecosystem and the nearby Greater Flamingo Sanctuary.

The project, proposed by the National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, aims to set up four wind turbines with associated facilities and a jetty for logistics and research. The Dhanushkodi site, classified under Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) categories IB, II, and IVA, has been identified as a test location for offshore wind energy research under India's 2015 Offshore Wind Energy Policy.

The proposal was discussed at a meeting of the Ramanathapuram District



Ecological impact: An environmentalist says that the wind farm's proximity to the Flamingo Sanctuary may pose risks to the bird population. FILE PHOTO

Coastal Zone Management Authority (DCZMA) held in 2024. Project representatives explained that the facility was intended as a research and demonstration platform to support the development of offshore wind technology in Indian conditions. They said the project would supply renewable power to Rameswaram and generate local employment opportunities.

However, local fishing community representa-

tives, including Nallathambi and Rayappan, raised strong objections during the meeting, saying the project site overlaps with fish breeding areas and turtle nesting grounds and lies close to wetlands frequented by migratory birds such as flamingos between December and March. They cautioned that the proposed jetty and turbines could disturb marine life and affect the livelihoods of fishing communities.

District forest officials

The project aims to set up four wind turbines with associated facilities and a jetty for logistics as well as research

also noted that the project report did not account for turtle nesting sites already notified by the Tamil Nadu government, and pointed out concerns as flamingos visited the site between December and March. They recommended that a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) be carried out, covering seagrass beds, coral reefs, sea horses, and underwater noise levels.

In a recent representation to the Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone Management Authority, environmentalist K. Saravanan reiterated these concerns, warning that the wind farm's proximity to the Greater Flamingo Sanctuary could pose risks to the bird population through collision and habi-

tat disturbance. He demanded that the CRZ clearance be reconsidered to safeguard the sanctuary.

The DCZMA had decided to forward the proposal to the State Coastal Zone Management Authority for consideration under the CRZ Notification, 2011, subject to several conditions, including preparation of a detailed EIA, protection of marine breeding areas, and prior clearance from the Tamil Nadu Maritime Board.

A.R. Rahul Nadh, Member Secretary of the Tamil Nadu State Coastal Zone Management Authority, said the Authority had sought additional inputs from the Ramanathapuram Collector regarding the project.

He noted that the proposal would not be placed for appraisal until the technical review was completed and added that all environmental and social implications would be carefully evaluated before any clearance is considered.

Source: *The Hindu*, 12 November 2025, p. 7

Vivek.Narayanan@timesofindia.com

Chennai is gearing up for a transport revolution—that introduces water-based transit, revives trams phased out seven decades ago, expands the Metro into fast-growing suburbs, and launches a regional rapid rail system—all part of the 25-year Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP 2023–2048). A total of ₹2 lakh crore is needed to execute this plan, which comes into effect from Sept 22, 2025.

The plan was approved by the Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (CUMTA). Action plans will now be generated by each stakeholder dept for each proposal. An empowered committee with the finance secretary, and comprising secretaries of transport, housing and urban development, the CEO of the Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board, and the member secretary of CUMTA has been formed for the approval of sectoral funding.

CMP covers the expanded metropolitan area of 5,904sqkm and aims to turn around the city's entry into water-based mobility. The corridor, split into a 35-km Central-Kovalam stretch and a 20-km Kovalam-Mamallapuram extension, is set to cost ₹5,500 crore. Designed along the lines of Kochi's Water Metro, it aims at passenger movement, recreation, reducing flood risk, and rejuvenating the canal through dredging and ecological restoration. "This will create a parallel mobility spine to ECR and OMR," said a CUMTA official.

A significant revival is the introduction of a 15.4-km tramway running from T Nagar through Nungambakkam and Nandanam to Lighthouse. The electric, street-level system, the first tram proposal since the 1950s, is set to reduce inner-city congestion and promote pedestrian-friendly, last-mile mobility among commercial districts.

CMP's multi-layered approach is dominated by its generation of Metro corridors beyond Phase II, including routes such as Koyambedu-Pattabiram via Avadi, Airport-Kilambakkam-Chengalpattu, Tambaram-Adyar via Guindy and Velachery, and Perungulathur-MMBT. These additions aim to reach western, southern, and northern suburbs that depend heavily on private vehicles.

Complementing the Metro grid is a new Light Rail Transit (LRT) framework. Medium-term LRT corridors include Tondiarpet-MMBT, Koyambedu-Poonamallee, Pallavaram-Kundrathur, and Vandulur-Kelambakkam. For surface-level mass transit, CMP brings back the Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS) with two priority corridors: Broadway-Poonamallee and Neelankarai-Pallavaram via ECR and Radial Road, besides a full Vandulur-Minjur ring BRT on the Outer Ring Road. MTC's fleet is set to grow from 3,481 to 5,533 buses, becoming fully electric, low-floor, and universally accessible.

Expansion of Chennai's suburban rail network is also on the cards. This includes frequency upgrades to five-minute headways and new corridors, including Ennore-Port-SP-Koil-Mahabalipuram and Sriperumbudur-Kancheepuram, along with third and fourth-line additions on the Guimmidipoondi and Chengalpattu sections.

For regional connectivity, CMP proposes a Delhi-style Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) connecting Chennai to Vellore, Ranipet, Tirupati, Sricity-Nellore, Puducherry, and Cuddalore, turning the capital into a mobility anchor for North TN and South Andhra Pradesh.

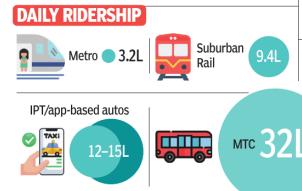
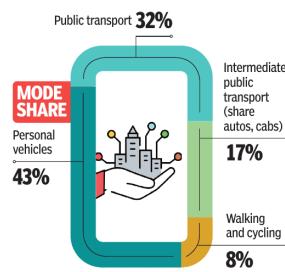
Road infrastructure will undergo more than 1,150km of improvements, including 416km of new roads, 635km of strengthened corridors, and 101km of elevated links such as Airport-Chennai Bypass, Meenambakkam-Thiruvellore, Central-Nallur (CPRR), Ambattur Estate-Nemilichery, and a new elevated connector to Kilambakkam. "It's encouraging to see CUMTA take responsibility for this. They have looked at the city's mobility needs—placing every mode on the same scale and identifying what works best. Success lies in how short, medium, and long-term actions are implemented," said Sivasubramanian Jayaraman, deputy director, Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP).

K P Subramanian, an urban planning expert, said, "CMP should have given concrete strategies to achieve the above targets and innovative financing methods to mobilise the resources. Otherwise, Chennai is blessed with a series of transport reports, such as the Comprehensive Traffic and Transportation Study 1992, Second Master Plan for Chennai 2008, Chennai Transportation Study 2010, and CMP 2019, prepared by CMDA."

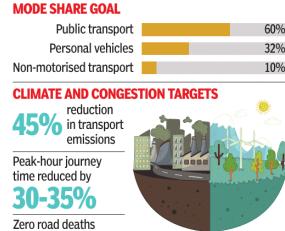
City set for massive mobility makeover

25-Yr Plan Estimated To Cost ₹2 Lakh Cr, To Introduce New Public Transit Systems And Expand Infrastructure

HOW CHENNAI MOVES TODAY (2023)



TARGET MOBILITY MIX 2048



MASS TRANSIT EXPANSION

METRO (new corridors beyond Phase II)

- Koyambedu-Pattabiram
- Airport-Kilambakkam-Chengalpet
- Tambaram-Adyar
- Perungulathur-MMBT
- Lighthouse-High Court
- SIPCOT-II-Convention Centre

Projected Metro ridership 45L a day

LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT (LRT)

Tondiarpet-MMBT | Koyambedu-Poonamallee | Pallavaram-Kundrathur | Vandulur-Kelambakkam

BUS RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM (BRTS)

Broadway-Poonamallee | Neelankarai-Pallavaram (via ECR-Radial Road) | Vandulur-Minjur (Outer Ring Road BRTS)

WATER METRO / INLAND WATERWAYS

Central-Kovalam 20 km Estimated cost ₹3,500 crore

Kovalam-Mamallapuram 20 km Estimated cost ₹2,000 crore

Total 55 km Estimated cost ₹5,500 crore

Functions

passenger mobility, recreation, flood mitigation, canal rejuvenation

TRAM CORRIDOR

T. Nagar-Nungambakkam-Nandanam-Lighthouse

Length 15.4 km Electric, street-level system

SUBURBAN RAIL MODERNIZATION

New Corridors

- Ennore/Kattupalli-Mahabalipuram
- Sriperumbudur-Kancheepuram
- Tambaram-Chengalpet (new 4th line)
- Attipattu-Gummidipoondi (additional 3rd/4th lines)



REGIONAL RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM (RRTS)

Phase 1

- Chennai-Parandur-Kancheepuram

Phase 2

- Chennai-Gummidipoondi-Sricity-Nellore
- Tambaram-Chengalpet-Puducherry/Cuddalore
- Kancheepuram-Ranipet-Vellore

MOBILITY OUTCOMES - 2048

60% Public transport share 45% Emission reduction 60% Zero fatalities target

55km Operational water transit

More than 150km new rail and metro corridors

600km Interchange time under 5 min at citywide universal accessibility multimodal hubs

600km Cycling network

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600km Interchange time under 5 min at citywide universal accessibility multimodal hubs

600km Cycling network

Source: *The Times of India*, 19 November 2025, p. 2

TN, Rlys plan to turn Tambaram into metro, local & long-distance train hub

C SHIVAKUMAR @Chennai

SOUTHERN Railway and Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) along with the Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (CUMTA) are preparing for high-level discussions on an ambitious plan to convert Tambaram into a fully-integrated mobility hub, as multiple rapid-transit corridors — including the proposed Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) — converge on one of the state's busiest suburban nodes.

CUMTA special officer I Jayakumar said that a joint meeting with Southern Railway, CUMTA and the Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) will be held to finalise the concept design of an 'integrated station' at Tambaram, aligning metro, suburban rail and future high-speed regional services.

It is learnt that Southern



The Tambaram integration effort is being viewed as a test case for Chennai's Comprehensive Mobility Plan covering 5,904 sq km | ASHWIN PRASATH

Railway has scheduled the meeting at November end at its Park Town headquarters, with officials from the Chennai division, construction units and RLDA asked to be present to examine design options and operational modalities.

The state government is advancing three major projects that will all pass through Tambaram. These include exten-

sion of the Airport metro line to the Kilambakkam bus terminus near Vandalur, the Phase III metro corridor from Tambaram to Guindy via Velachery and a proposed RRTS link from Alandur to Villupuram-Puducherry via Tambaram, Jayakumar said.

Tambaram is being developed by Southern Railway as a major terminal for mail, ex-

press and suburban operations, with the RLDA designing new station buildings on both the GST Road and Selaiyur sides. "All the above projects need to be fully integrated with the Tambaram Railway Station for effective transport service delivery," Jayakumar said.

The centre has also been pushing for multi-modal hubs under national mobility and logistics policies, heightening the urgency of interoperability between metro and railways. It is learnt that railways is examining feasibility ahead of the cross-agency discussions.

The Tambaram integration effort is being viewed as a test case for Chennai's broader mobility strategy outlined in the Comprehensive Mobility Plan covering 5,904 sq km. If successful, it would mark the city's first fully-planned convergence of metro, suburban, long-distance rail and a future regional rapid system.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 20 November 2025, p. 3

Metro rail to run 28 six-car trains by 2028

To Reduce Peak-Hour Crowding

Venkadesan.S
@timesofindia.com



ON BLUE & GREEN LINES: Chennai currently has 52 four-car trains

Chennai: Chennai Metro Rail Ltd (CMRL) is set to ease peak-hour crowding on its blue (Airport to Wimco Nagar) and green (Chennai Central to St Thomas Mount) lines by rolling out six-car trains by end of 2028. It has floated tenders to procure 28 such trains that

will boost capacity and cut waiting time to as little as four minutes.

While the present trains comprise four cars with a carrying capacity of around 1,200 people, the six-car trains can move up to 1,800 people at a time. With the addition of 28

six-car trains to the existing 52 four-car sets, the frequency of the trains will increase on both corridors. Metro trains in other cities, including Bengaluru, Mumbai, and Delhi, already have six-car coaches.

CMRL's monthly riders-

hip crossed the 1 crore mark in July, with an average of about 90 lakh passengers recorded over the past year. "With the Phase-I extension up to Pattabiram and Kilambakkam, along with the completion of Phase-II, ridership is expected to rise significantly, necessitating higher train capacity," said a CMRL official. "Stations are equipped to handle six-car trains, which will be introduced during peak hours initially, with platform announcements to help commuters position themselves accordingly," the official added.

Stations will still have to be upgraded, which the cont-

ractor will carry out without affecting daily operations. The underground stations will be upgraded with full platform-screen-doors (PSD) as part of the project.

Similar to the trains for the Phase-II network, the additional trains will be built from ground-up in India, with the condition that at least 60% of the cost should be spent in the country — be it for materials, equipment, or manpower.

The trains will be equipped with 'Grade of Automation 4' (GoA4) to be operated without a driver, though they will be operated manually at the initial stage of operation.

Source: *The Times of India*, 25 November 2025, p. 4

MTC launches drive to promote bus use

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

THE MTC on Friday launched 'Bus First', an initiative aimed at improving the reliability and efficiency of public transport by giving priority to buses in city.

The campaign was inaugurated by Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin at Anna Square in the presence of Transport Minister SS Sivasankar, Transport Secretary Shunchonngam Jatak Chiru, MTC MD T Prabhushankar and officials. The initiative is being supported by the GCC, the Commissionerate of Transport and Road Safety, the Greater Chennai Traffic Police, and ITDP India.

According to Prabhushankar, the initiative seeks to establish buses as the backbone of urban mobility, promote greater re-



Deputy CM Udhayanidhi launched 'Bus First' campaign on Friday | MARTIN LOUIS

spect for public transport among all road users, and ensure buses receive priority on the roads. The goal is to reduce delays caused by traffic congestion and encourage more people to use

public transport by improving its reliability.

MTC buses remain the lifeline of Chennai's transport system, carrying around 35 lakh passengers daily.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 22 November 2025, p. 7

Microbuses for 11 metro stns

They'll Ply Every 5 Mins, In Sync With Train Schedule

Vivek.Narayanan
@timesofindia.com



PHASE I: Passengers can track buses and book tickets on Chennai One

Chennai: Reaching the metro will soon get easier for commuters from Thirumangalam to Wimco Nagar, with the Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC) set to introduce 220 new electric microbuses linking neighbourhoods around 11 key metro stations. The initiative has been named 'Metro at the Doorstep'.

Last month, MTC announced that it will introduce 220 new air-conditioned electric microbuses—each between five and six metres

long—to link neighbourhoods around 41 metro stations. The services will operate within a five-km radius of the stations, connecting key residential and commercial hubs to the metro network.

Subsequently, a stakeholder meeting was held on Nov 3, and officials from CMRL, MTC, Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (CUMTA), and other industry representatives met to discuss route integration, charging points, and timelines.

In the first phase, 11 stations—Thirumangalam, Vadapalani, Koyambedu, Guindy, Alandur, Meenambakkam, OTA Nanganallur, St Thomas Mount, Washermanpet, Wimco Nagar, and the airport—are set to get dedicated electric microbus services for last-mile connectivity. At present, there are 22 minibuses connecting these stations, but their frequency is one every 20 minutes. The new buses are expected to ply every five minutes. These will run exclusive-

ly for CMRL passengers. People have to walk a few metres from their house, and they can hop onto the bus and reach the nearest metro station," said a CMRL official.

The services will be scheduled in sync with metro timings, and passengers can track buses or book tickets on the Chennai One app.

"Based on its success, we will extend the services to other routes as well. The 11 stations in the first phase have been selected based on the patronage," said an official from CUMTA.

Meanwhile, residents have urged the govt to bring para-transit modes under regulation as well. "Share autorickshaws operate extensively around metro stations. Their network too can be integrated into the Chennai One app, with CUMTA fixing fares for them," said R Boopathy, a Tondiarpet resident and frequent metro commuter.

Source: *The Times of India*, 09 November 2025, p. 5

MTC launches 'Bus first campaign' in city

Corporation hopes people will give priority to buses, and ropes in cricketer Thirush Kamini as brand ambassador for the campaign

STORIES FROM THE ROAD

R. Srikant

CHENNAI

Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin on Friday launched the Bus First Campaign of the Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC) to improve bus patronage in the city.

The campaign is aimed at creating awareness among motorists of the need to give priority to MTC buses.

A senior official of the MTC said public transport was the backbone of urban mobility.

However, as there are no dedicated bus lanes in the city, the MTC, in association with ITDP (Institute for Transportation and Development Policy) and the Greater Chennai Traffic Police, has stressed the need to foster respect for public transport among all road users and ensure that



Making a pitch: The campaign seeks to create awareness among motorists of the need to give priority to MTC buses.

buses get the priority they deserve for a sustainable and efficient transport ecosystem.

As part of the campaign, the MTC plans to help motorists reimagine road culture by fostering trust in public transport and promoting a behavioural shift among private vehicle users.

The MTC has roped in cricketer Thirush Kamini as the brand ambassador for the campaign and released a promotional video on the importance of giving way to buses, thereby helping thousands of pas-

sengers reach their workplaces on time.

Several complaints

While activists welcome the move, motorists highlight the need for MTC crew to adhere to road rules.

According to A. Raghavan, who regularly travels in buses, said drivers do not follow the road rules, occasionally jumping signals and troubling motorists by sounding horns repeatedly. These issues must be addressed in order to promote buses as a preferable mode of transport.

Source: *The Hindu*, 22 November 2025, p. 4

MTC to expand e-bus fleet, diesel buses to ply on outskirts

Upgraded Depots Will Operate 600 Electric Buses By Oct '26

Ramyasre.N@timesofindia.com

Chennai: The Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC) will upgrade six depots — Central II, Perambur, Avadi, Padianallur, Iyyapanthangal, and Alandur — into electric depots as a part of its plan to expand e-bus operations. Together, these depots will operate 600 e-buses by Oct 2026.

The existing diesel buses at these depots will be relocated to the greenfield depots at Kundrathur, Varadarajapuram, Tiruvallur, Attanthalangal near Padiyanallur, and Taramani. "The idea is to slowly push diesel vehicles outside the city and bring in zero-emission ones in core areas," said MTC managing director T Prabhushankar. A diesel bus emits nearly 755 grams of carbon dioxide per km, and the transition to electric buses will cut emissions substantially, he said.

Of the 600 buses in the se-



MAKING STRIDES: An e-bus can run up to 200km on a two-hour charge

cond fleet, 400 will be air-conditioned and 200 non-AC. This is the first time AC buses outnumber non-AC ones in any MTC rollout phase, officials said. "We initially planned fewer AC buses. But the response for AC buses we have been plying in Chennai is positive," said MTC GM (operations) S Nedunsezhian.

Each e-bus can run up to 200km on a two-hour charge and is equipped with an automatic vehicle location system (AVLS), four CCTV cameras, a panic button, and a

kneeling function lowering the floor height to 250mm.

Upgradation of the depots for e-buses in the second phase includes both civil and electrical infrastructure. Civil work covers crew restrooms, steel sheds, concrete flooring, and refurbishing seating areas. Electrical work involves installing transformers, charging points, and equipment to step down the 33KV power supply to 415V.

Fares on e-buses will match those of existing AC

and non-AC deluxe services. While students and senior citizens can apply for passes, Vidiyal Payanam (free travel for women) scheme benefits cannot be availed on e-buses.

Meanwhile, under Phase I, 125 e-buses, 55 AC and 70 non-AC, will be operated from the upgraded Poonamallee depot by Nov end. They will cover routes including 25 (Anna Square-Poonamallee), 54 (Poonamallee-High Court), 62 (Poonamallee-Red Hills), 66P (Poonamallee-Kilambakkam), and 101E (Poonamallee-Broadway).

V Rama Rao of the Traffic and Transportation Forum said, "It's good that MTC is expanding beyond its 3,000-plus fleet to serve Chennai's 1.2 crore population. With Metro work still underway, buses will continue to be the most economical mode of transport for city residents," he said.

Source: *The Times of India*, 02 November 2025, p. 3

Non-fossil power generation share up towards 1/3rd mark

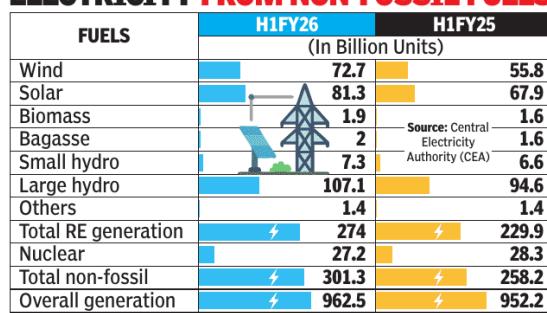
G Balachandar
@timesofindia.com

Chennai: Electricity generation from non-fossil fuel sources — including wind, solar, small and large hydro, and nuclear — is steadily inching towards one-third of India's total power output, with the first half of the current fiscal year witnessing a marked rise in its share compared to the same period last year.

Excluding thermal and Bhutan imports, India's non-fossil domestic generation stood at 301.3 billion units (BU) during April–Sept 2025, accounting for about 31.3% of the country's total electricity generation of 962.53 BU.

In the year-ago period, non-fossil generation was 258.26 BU, representing a 27.1% share in the total power

ELECTRICITY FROM NON-FOSSIL FUELS



generation of 952.29 BU, according to data from the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

While the large hydro segment reported a 13.2% rise in generation during the first half of this fiscal, other renewable sources together pos-

ted a 23.4% increase. In contrast, nuclear generation recorded a modest decline of 3.7% year-on-year.

Among the states, Gujarat emerged as the top performer with total renewable energy generation of 36.19 BU during the first half of this fiscal, fol-

lowed by Rajasthan (35.87 BU), Himachal Pradesh (33.53 BU), Tamil Nadu (32.08 BU), and Karnataka (31.35 BU).

As of now, India's total installed generation capacity stands at around 500 GW, with more than half coming from non-fossil sources. Excluding large hydro and nuclear, the country's total renewable capacity stood at 197 GW, comprising 127 GW of solar and 53 GW of wind, as of Sept 30, 2025, a significant increase from 35 GW in 2014.

In Oct 2025, about 3.6 GW of renewable energy capacity and 6 GWh of energy storage capacity were allocated to various developers. During the same month, the renewable energy sector attracted around \$1.2 billion in investments, according to JMK Research.

Source: *The Times of India*, 10 November 2025, p. 13

Discom asks centre to give 1,500MW to meet election-time power demand

S GURUVANMIKANATHAN @Chennai

EVEN as the northeast monsoon continues, the Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TNPDCL) has started preparations to handle the heavy electricity demand expected next summer, along with the additional load during the Assembly election period.

According to official sources, the Central Electricity Authority's Resource Adequacy Plan has estimated that Tamil Nadu's peak power demand may touch 21,959MW next summer. The state had earlier recorded its highest demand of 20,830MW on May 2, 2024, while the highest daily consumption was 454.320 million units on April 30, 2024.

A senior TNPDCL official told TNIE that the utility is taking multiple steps to ensure uninterrupted supply.

"We have recently signed agreements with 11 companies, including Vedanta, OP Jindal Super and PTC India Ltd, to procure 1,580MW of power from February 1, 2026 to January 31, 2031. In addition, we have requested the union government to allocate 1,500MW extra power to Tamil



Nadu in April and May next year, keeping in mind the assembly elections. At present, the state is receiving 6,953MW of power as share from central generating power stations," the official said.

Highlighting the swap arrangements, another official said that the swap power arrangement is an energy to energy transaction between two utilities without monetary considerations. TNPDCL receives power from other state utilities during peak summer of March and April and returns the surplus power of TNPDCL during the wind season of June to

September.

"Under swap arrangements, TNPDCL had received power up to 750MW power from Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited, Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, BSES Yamuna Power Limited for the months of March and April 2025. Talks are going on to receive additional power from these states" the official added.

The official pointed out that the utility is also working on strengthening substations and transmission lines in vulnerable pockets especially coastal areas before the next summer.

Steps are being taken to ensure that there are no major outages during peak hours.

TNPDCL is also coordinating with the Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Limited to monitor the availability of power from wind, solar and thermal stations, especially during the election months when the demand is expected to shoot up.

The official noted that early planning is crucial as TN has been witnessing a steady rise in electricity usage every year due to industrial growth, rising temperatures and increased domestic consumption.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 20 November 2025, p. 5

CM launches day care centres for the elderly

The centres, called *Anbu Solai*, have been established in 25 places in the State. They will enable the elderly to engage in activities such as indoor games and handicraft training. The centres will be run with support of voluntary organisations and provide assistance through trained personnel

The Hindu Bureau
TIRUCHI

In an initiative aimed at promoting the well-being of senior citizens, especially those from the working class, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Monday launched day care centres for the elderly, called *Anbu Solai*, in 25 places across Tamil Nadu.

The scheme was announced by the State government in its Budget for 2025-26.

Established with a financial allocation of ₹10 crore, the elderly can find companionship and engage in meaningful activities at the centres set up by the Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment. Mr. Stalin inaugurated



Taking a shot: Chief Minister M.K. Stalin playing carrom with senior citizens after inaugurating the *Anbu Solai* in Tiruchi on Monday. R. VENGADESH

Source: *The Hindu*, 11 November 2025, p. 6

tives of the scheme, while speaking at a government function in Pudukkottai earlier in the day, Mr. Stalin pointed out that the elderly were alone at many households of employed couples.

Meals to be provided

"The *Anbu Solai* centres will drive away their loneliness by creating a friends circle for them and keeping them active, physically and mentally. Twenty-five centres have been opened in the first phase. Indoor games, physiotherapy, training in handicrafts, and other necessary support will be provided to them at these centres. They will also be given tiffin and lunch. The initiative will ease the tension among

working couples as the elders are happy and safe," Mr. Stalin said.

The *Anbu Solai*, to be run with the support of voluntary organisations, will provide various services, including day-care assistance through trained personnel.

Two centres each have been established in the Tiruchi, Madurai, Coimbatore, Salem, Erode, Thanjavur, Thoothukudi, Tiruppur, Dindigul, and Vellore Municipal Corporations. One centre each has been set up in the industrial districts of Ranipet and Krishnagiri.

In the Greater Chennai Corporation, three centres were established in Sholinganallur, Tondiarpet, and Virugambakkam.

TN sanctions ₹17cr for India's 1st green int'l standard-6 trap range

Vivek.Narayanan
@timesofindia.com

Chennai: The TN govt has sanctioned ₹17.01 crore for the establishment of India's first green international standard-6 trap range and trap and skeet shooting academy at Keerapakkam village in Vandalur taluk, Chengalpet district. The project, announced during the 2023-24 budget session by Udhayanidhi Stalin, aims to create a world-class facility for shooting sports in Chennai.

According to a govt order, the 18.3-hectare site in Keerapakkam was earlier transferred to the youth welfare and sports development department for setting up the shooting academy and a cycling motorcross (BMX) track.

Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu (SDAT) plans six trap houses, six high houses, six low houses, control rooms, shooting platforms with shaded stands, partition walls, an administrative building, ar-



The decision to set up a dedicated trap and skeet academy was taken as TN shooters have been excelling on international platforms.

moury, toilet blocks, clay bird storage rooms, spectator galleries, gazebos, and landscaped paved areas.

"The academy, designed to international standards, will serve as a specialized training and competition venue for trap and skeet shooting, disciplines that are part of Olympics and other international events. The project is also being promoted as a 'green' facility with eco-friendly features," said J Meghanatha Reddy, SDAT member secretary.

He said the decision to set the academy was taken as TN shooters have been excelling on international platforms. "A lot of care has gone into selecting the site. The project is expected to be completed within a year, and

soon there will be a strong ecosystem for rifle and trap shooting, especially with a rifle shooting academy coming up in the Global Sports City as well," he said.

T R S Muthukumar, a competitive shooter, said a minimum of five to six ranges are necessary to host national and international competitions. "As of now, we depend on Delhi for such facilities. Once this academy is opened, we can host international championships," he said.

"Trap and skeet shooting is an expensive discipline. With this upcoming academy, aspiring shooters will get access to quality weapons, ammunition, and a professional shooting range," Muthukumar added.

Source: *The Times of India*, 07 November 2025, p. 6

State govt sanctions ₹261 crore for global sports city in Chennai

Vivek.Narayanan@timesofindia.com

To turn Chennai into a global sports powerhouse, TN govt has cleared a ₹261-crore plan to build a world-class facility in Semmancheri. It will have Olympic-grade arenas, a water-sports lake, and other facilities designed to groom medal winners. The project is expected to be completed by early 2027.

The govt has released a financial sanction of ₹30 crore for 2025-26. The remaining ₹231 crore will be allocated in 2026-27, according to a govt order issued by the youth welfare and sports development department on Monday.

The project was first announced by CM Stalin in the Assembly in April 2022 to help sportspersons train at international standards and compete for Olympic medals. A year later, the govt reaffirmed the plan to build the facility through the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority to attract major sports events. The govt earlier transferred 112.12 acres of barren land in Semmancheri to the Sports



FUTURISTIC: The complex is expected to be completed by early 2027, say officials. Phase 1 will include water sports, shooting range, archery and other facilities

Development Authority of Tamil Nadu (SDAT).

A high-level inspection in March 2025 identified major interventions required for the project, including the creation of primary and secondary access roads, developing a wider primary access road from Rajiv Gandhi Salai, and a secondary link from Nookampalayam, along with flood

mitigation measures. "A major component of Phase 1 is a comprehensive flood-mitigation project by the water resources department (WRD), costing ₹55.5 crore, which includes deepening of surrounding tanks, creation of a new water body within the site, formation of peripheral drains, and a cut-and-cover linkage to an adjacent swamp. The water body will also host

WHAT'S PLANNED

Total area **127.44** acres | Phase 1 Highlights **76.44** acres **₹240.5 Cr**

1 km Water Sports Channel (Rowing, Archery, Shooting, Aquatics, Kayaking, BMX)

Multi-purpose Arena & Athlete Hostels | **Supporting infra:** Sewage plant, roads, lighting, admin offices

rowing, kayaking, and canoeing facilities," said an SDAT official.

Phase 1 covers 76.44 acres and will include water sports, shooting ranges, archery, football, skateboarding, BMX cycling, aquatics, multipurpose arenas, and administrative facilities. SDAT will execute all sporting and infrastructure works, costing ₹245.5 crore. "This is a first-of-its-kind initiative where a sports complex has an integrated water sports facility," said J Meghanatha Reddy, SDAT member secretary.

Source: *The Times of India*, 19 November 2025, p. 4

Meal scheme for sanitary workers in all civic bodies by Dec 6: Stalin

CM launches free meal scheme in Chennai, says resting rooms will be set up for workers in 200 wards

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

CHIEF Minister M K Stalin has announced that the free one-meal-a-day scheme for sanitary workers will be extended to all the municipalities and municipal corporations in Tamil Nadu by December 6.

The scheme, which the CM inaugurated in Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) on Saturday, will cover 31,373 conservancy workers, the majority of whom engaged via private agencies, in the civic body.

Based on the demand expressed by the workers, the CM also announced that resting rooms (300 square feet in size) with toilet facilities will be set up for conservancy workers in each of the 200 wards of GCC.

Under the free scheme, the workers will get hygienically prepared nutritious meals, packed in tiffin boxes and delivered in thermal bags to ensure it is served warm. Meals will be served near their workplaces. "We are implementing this scheme with the feeling that it is the responsibility of the government to provide food to the people who work for our welfare," Stalin said, adding



Chief Minister MK Stalin inaugurating welfare schemes for sanitation workers in Chennai on Saturday | ASHWIN PRASATH

that "despite all these welfare initiatives, I understand that workers still have needs which will be addressed step by step soon".

He said the DMK government since 2006 has brought several initiatives for conservancy workers, including the formation of the sanitation workers welfare board in 2007 by Kalaignar and the launch of sanitary workers development scheme in 2022 under his (Stalin) leadership.

Stalin also stressed on the need for the public to cultivate "self-discipline" and maintain cleanliness in public places as a mark of

respect to the frontline conservancy workers.

During the event, allotment orders for houses under the TNUH-DB schemes in Kargil Nagar and Perumbakkam Phase 3 were handed over to 830 beneficiaries. Financial assistance of ₹10 lakh each was provided to the heirs of two conservancy workers who died on duty. As many as 25 beneficiaries received loan assistance with subsidy under CM-ARISE scheme. A total of ₹2.82 crore was granted to 1,260 students to cover educational expenses.

The CM also provided welfare assistance worth ₹35 lakh to 1,000 beneficiaries under special schemes implemented by TAHD-CO for sanitary workers.

Meanwhile, the Uzhaippor Urimai Iyakkam, which is spearheading the protest of sanitary workers from the Royapuram and Thiru-Vi-Ka Nagar zones demanding reinstatement of their jobs directly under the city corporation, has announced that their indefinite fast protest, approved by the high court, will begin on November 17 at the association's office in Ambattur.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 16 November 2025, p. 4

GI tag sought for Sirumugai sarees

Chennai: The Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology through its Patent Information Centre has filed an application seeking a Geographical Indication (GI) tag for the renowned Sirumugai Menpattu Pudavaigal (Sirumugai Soft Silk Sarees) produced in Coimbatore district. The application, filed under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999, aims to secure official recognition and protection

for this traditional handloom product.

The GI application lists the Sirumugai Anaithu Kaithari Pattu Selai Urpathi Mattrum Virpanaiyalargal Sangam, Coimbatore, and the Patent Information Centre, TNSCST, as joint applicants, with Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, serving as the facilitator.

Located near Coimbatore, the town of Sirumugai has long been a celebrated centre for soft silk weaving.

Source: *The New Indian Express*,
ENS 06 November 2025, p. 5

Stalin launches 25 Anbucholai centres across Tamil Nadu

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Trichy: Chief minister M K Stalin on Monday inaugurated 25 'Anbucholai' centres across Tamil Nadu via video conference at an event held at the Trichy centre.

Launched by the department of social welfare and women's rights, the centres will serve as day-care facilities for senior citizens, focusing on their physical, mental, and social well-being.

During the event, Stalin interacted with the elderly, distributed nutritional supplements prepared by women's self-help groups, and joined them for a game of carrom.

The initiative, announced in the state budget, aims to support working families—especially women—by offering safe and engaging spaces for

Source: *The Times of India*, 11 November 2025, p. 6



OASIS OF LOVE: The initiative aims to support working families

The centres will serve as day-care facilities for senior citizens, focusing on their physical, mental, and social well-being

senior citizens during the day.

Later, residents of Kotappattu submitted a petition to the chief minister seeking basic amenities such as drinking water

under the Jal Jeevan scheme and toilet facilities.

They also urged measures to remove encroachments and prevent flooding in the area.

12 more districts to get Thozhi hostels

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Tamil Nadu govt, which has already built Thozhi hostels for working women in Chennai and other places, will soon build 12 such hostels in 12 districts, including Tirupathur, Namakkal, Dindigul, and Tuticorin.

The hostels will offer single-occupancy rooms with AC and non-AC options, two-sharing rooms with AC and non-AC options, and a third type of room for differently-abled people (double occupancy).

On Thursday, chief minister M K Stalin laid foundation stone for the project worth ₹62.5 crore. The buildings can accommodate 740 working women with a biometric-entry system for security and 24x7 CCTV cameras. The hostels will also have free Wi-Fi, RO-purified drinking water, and three meals provided in cafeteria.

People can book the hostels through the Tamil Nadu Working Women Hostel's Corporation website with address proof information. In Chennai, there are such hostels in Adyar, St Thomas



SAFE SHELTERS

Mount, Tambaram, and Guvanchery.

The chief minister also inaugurated a children's home costing ₹7 crore in Royapuram, apart from two govt observation homes in Coimbatore and Trichy at ₹28 crore. He also inaugurated the renovated Anna Silk Sales Complex in Kancheepuram, rebuilt at a cost of ₹3 crore under the handloom department. The 6,597sqft AC complex features traditional silk and cotton varieties. The upgraded facility is expected to generate annual sales of around ₹10 crore.

In another event, Stalin presided over the signing of an MoU with SCM Garments Pvt Ltd, part of The Chennai Silks Group, to establish an apparel manufacturing unit in Tiruvarur.

Source: *The Times of India*, 14 November 2025, p. 2

Ration on doorstep: TN lowers eligibility age from 70 to 65 yrs

B ANBUSELVAN @Chennai

THE Tamil Nadu government has lowered the eligibility age for home delivery of PDS (public distribution system) goods for senior citizens from 70 years to 65. Official sources from the cooperation department said the decision was taken following several representations from the public, requesting that the benefit be extended to those aged 65 and above.

The department also announced that, starting November, commodities will be delivered in the first week (Saturday and Sunday) of every month instead of the second week.

On September 29, *TNIE* published a report revealing that only 40-45% of the targeted beneficiaries received the their commodities through door delivery in August and September. The remaining cardholders continued to collect their goods directly from PDS outlets. Consequently, the overall share of people availing of PDS goods via home delivery has not increased significantly, raising concerns over the scheme's design and implementation.

Officials said the tepid re-



sponse to the home delivery initiative was attributed to the delays in distribution, along with the migration or demise of several beneficiaries. In response, the cooperation department has decided to begin deliveries from the first week of every month. For December, goods will be distributed on November 3 and 4, the department said.

The scheme was initially launched to benefit 20.42 lakh elderly aged above 70 years and 1.27 lakh PwDs. "About 8% of the listed beneficiaries were found to be deceased and were removed from the list. The revised list now includes beneficiaries aged 65 and above, along with PwDs whose names were previously omitted. The final list of eligible beneficiaries will be finalised in the coming months," an official said.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 01 November 2025, p. 6

CM to open Classical Tamil Park in Coimbatore on Nov 25

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Coimbatore

COIMBATORE'S long-awaited Semmozhi Park is gearing up for its grand opening, with final works progressing rapidly ahead of Chief Minister MK Stalin's visit to the district and Erode on November 25 and 26 respectively.

The park, spread on 45 acres on the former Central Prison premises at Gandhipuram, has been developed by the Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation (CCMC) at a cost of ₹214 crore. The facility features herbal gardens, fountains, landscaped hillocks, study corners, food court, and extensive play zones for children, making it one of the city's most ambitious urban recreation projects.

Municipal Administration and Water Supply Minister KN Nehru inspected the project site on Saturday and expressed confidence that all works would be completed within the stipulated timeline. "The CM will inaugurate the park at 11 am on November 25. After the ceremony, he will tour all sections of the park, including the herbal gardens, and interact with school students," he said.

The park would be opened to the public from December 1. "Even if it rains, works will be completed as scheduled," he said.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 23 November 2025, p. 4



Minister KN Nehru along with former minister V Senthil Balaji inspect the Semmozhi Park in Coimbatore on Saturday | EXPRESS

Nehru was accompanied by former minister V Senthil Balaji, Coimbatore MP Ganapathy P Rajkumar, and other officials. The team walked through various sections of the park as engineers explained the ongoing works.

NOCs not yet secured

Reporters, however, questioned whether the corporation could secure all necessary No Objection Certificates (NOCs) from various departments within the short window before the inauguration. Senthil Balaji responded that the event would go ahead only after fulfilling all statutory requirements. He also revealed that the entry fee will be nominal and affordable

for everyone.

During his visit to Coimbatore, Stalin is also expected to meet and interact with around 150 eminent personalities across the region at a special event organised by Senthil Balaji.

On November 25, Stalin will preside over the TNRise investors' meet, where multiple industries are expected to sign MoUs.

On November 26, the chief minister will unveil a memorial hall with the statue of freedom fighter Maaveeran Pollan at Jayarampuram in Modakurichi, Erode, and will also inaugurate completed works worth ₹605 crore at the Erode Solar New Bus Stand.

Porunai Museum work nearing completion, may be opened before Pongal



Tirunelveli Collector R. Sukumar reviewing work at Porunai Museum near Palayamkottai on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Hindu Bureau TIRUNELVELI

More than 90% of the Porunai Museum work has been completed, Collector R. Sukumar has said.

The Porunai Museum, with an area of 54,000 sq. ft. is being established near Reddiyarpatti hillock at an outlay of ₹56.57 crore on 13 acres of land to tell the world about the ancient civilisation of Tamils.

It is expected to be ready for inauguration before Pongal. Artefacts recovered at Adichanallur, Korkai, and Sivakalai excavation sites would be displayed on the premises.

While the artefacts recovered at Adichanallur would be on display in a wing with 16,486 sq. ft., the artefacts of Korkai will be in the building with 17,429 sq. feet.

The artefacts of Sivakalai

Source: *The Hindu*, 05 November 2025, p. 8

Artefacts recovered at Adichanallur, Korkai, and Sivakalai excavation sites would be displayed on the premises

lai will be on display in a building built with 8,991 sq. ft.

Apart from this, administrative building, park with ornamental lights, pond, fountain, amphitheatre, and so on have been created on the premises. Battery cars will be operated for senior citizens to move around within the museum premises.

"More than 90% of Porunai Museum work has been completed and the showcases carrying the artefacts are being spruced up. So, the museum will be formally inaugurated soon," said Dr. Sukumar.

T.N. archaeologists join excavations in Egypt to unearth ancient trade links

N. Sai Charan
CHENNAI

To deepen the understanding of ancient maritime trade links, two archaeologists of the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology (TNSDA) have joined the team that has begun excavations at Berenike in Egypt, where Tamil-Brahmi-inscribed potsherds were unearthed earlier, offering evidence of trade links between the ancient Tamils and the Romans.

TNSDA Joint Director R. Sivanantham and M. Ramesh, the archaeological officer who worked on the Keeladi excavations, have joined a 30-member team of archaeological and tech-

Earlier excavations at Berenike in Egypt had yielded potsherds inscribed with Tamil-Brahmi script

nical experts from the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology, University of Warsaw, Poland, along with specialists from other countries.

'Ancient port city'
Speaking to *The Hindu* from Berenike, Mr. Sivanantham said, "A series of excavations had been carried out at Berenike, the ancient port city on the Red Sea coast, which served as a vital link in Me-

diterranean trade. The objective of the TNSDA's participation in the current season of excavations – undertaken after an agreement was signed with the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology – is to identify further evidence of ancient Mediterranean trade connections between the Tamils and the Romans."

The earlier excavations at the Red Sea ports in Egypt, including Berenike and Quseir al-Qadim, yielded Tamil-Brahmi-inscribed potsherds.

In his book, *Early Tamil Epigraphy: From the Earliest Times to the Sixth Century A.D.*, veteran epigraphist Iravarathan Mahadevan lucidly docu-

mented Tamil-Brahmi pottery inscriptions found outside India, including those in ancient Roman settlements along the Red Sea coast in Egypt.

During an excavation at Berenike in 1995, archaeologists unearthed a potsherd bearing the Tamil-Brahmi text *korrapuman*. Excavations at Quseir al-Qadim yielded potsherds bearing the Tamil-Brahmi texts *kanan* and *catan*.

Mr. Sivanantham said the current season of excavations began on Monday near the 10-acre site where a temple had been discovered in one of the earlier phases.

The excavations would continue until December 17, he added.

Source: *The Hindu*, 18 November 2025, p. 6

An event by

THE HINDU



Timely appeal: From left, G. Ravikumar, Professor and Director, Centre for Water Resources, Anna University; P. Kannan, Director (Operations), CPCL; Gaurav Kumar, Executive Director, CMWSSB; and Navin Kumar, MD, Navin's, in conversation with K. Lakshmi, Deputy Editor, *The Hindu*. R. RAGU

Water recycling through advanced technologies can help meet rising demand'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

With Chennai's growing demand for water and rising stress on local sources, experts at a panel discussion on 'Water for Tomorrow: Sustainable Management and Industrial Responsibility' at The Hindu Sustainability Summit 2025 highlighted the need to recycle and reuse every drop through advanced treatment technologies, and for better integration between policy, industry, and research.

G. Ravikumar, Professor and Director of the Centre for Water Resources at Anna University, said that while civil engineers currently handle most of the water-related work in departments such as the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), the Water Resources Department (WRD), and the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage (TWAD) Board, they often lack a deep understanding of hydrological systems. "Most civil engineering graduates study very little about water resources or environmental management," he said,

Source: *The Hindu*, 08 November 2025, p. 11

proposing a dedicated undergraduate programme in Water Resources Engineering to build expertise.

Speaking from the industry's perspective, P. Kannan, Director (Operations), Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (CPL), said industries are increasingly adopting technologies to reduce freshwater use and achieve zero liquid discharge. "Nearly half of the water used in refineries goes into cooling and generation processes. We treat and reuse most of this water within the plant itself, cutting down on fresh water consumption," he said.

He added that closer collaboration between industry, government, and research institutions was needed to develop indigenous water treatment technologies.

Gaurav Kumar, Executive Director of the CMWSSB, explained that the city is advancing circular water use through its Tertiary Treatment Reverse Osmosis (TRO) and Tertiary Treatment Ultra-Filtration (TTUF) plants. "Through these facilities, used and black water are thoroughly treated and reused or released into

lakes for recharge," he said. He added that the board plans to invite school and college students to visit these plants to build awareness and encourage water conservation from a young age.

Navin Kumar, Managing Director of Navin's, said the real estate sector has steadily adopted water-efficient technologies, including grey-water recycling, rainwater harvesting, and low-flow fixtures.

Government incentives

"In commercial buildings, recycled water can meet up to 60% or 70% of the requirements," Mr. Navin said. He also urged the government to offer incentives such as temporary tax rebates for developers who construct certified green buildings.

Mr. Navin added that creating public awareness of water conservation cannot be a one-time exercise and long-term awareness campaigns and stronger citizen participation are key to building a circular water economy.

The session was moderated by K. Lakshmi, Deputy Editor, Reporting, *The Hindu*.

Metrowater ramps up sewer upgrade to reduce pollution in waterways

Residents call for action against pollution and projects for clean rivers and canals; in recent months, the agency has added 38 new pumping stations with increased capacity

WATER WATCH

K. Lakshmi
CHENNAI

In a push to reduce sewage pollution in city waterways, Chennai Metrowater has stepped up efforts to upgrade sewer infrastructure and build additional roadside sewage pumping stations and modular sewage treatment plants.

Residents noted that while sewage outflow and blocks have eased in areas that underwent recent improvement works, concerted efforts are needed to ensure cleaner minor canals in the city.

This year, the water agency has identified nearly 518 sewage outfalls in the Adyar river within city limits and is working to plug them in phases. While projects are in place to plug 29 outfalls, 250 sewage outfalls would be arrested through works proposed under Adyar River Restoration Project, which will be executed using hybrid annuity model.

Similarly, 365 sewage outfalls have been identified in Buckingham Canal, and three of them have been plugged so far. Of this, nearly 128 are dry outfalls wherein wastewater is discharged during summer. Of the 201 outfalls in the Cooum river, nearly 41 of them have been arrested so far.

Residents of Kodambakkam and MGR Nagar noted that the recurring problem of sewage overflow has reduced after sewer infrastructure was improved.

V. Gopalakrishnan of MGR Nagar said sewage continues to find its way into minor canals like MGR Canal and Trustpuram Canal.

While old sewer lines have been replaced in areas like Devar



Eco-friendly: A view of the newly constructed 4-MLD Modular Sewage Treatment Plant at Todd Hunter Nagar in Saidapet on Tuesday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Nagar to prevent collapses. P. Boominathan of Anna Nagar West Extension said that stringent action and more projects are needed to stop sewage entering canals leading to Cooum river, including Padikuppam drain.

Metrowater officials said the quantity of sewage collected and treated through the network has increased from 600 million litres a day (mld) in 2024 to 675 mld in the city through various initiatives. The ongoing efforts are expected to further reduce sewage flow into waterways.

According to Metrowater, nearly 23 roadside sewage pumping stations have been added to various localities, including Pillaiyarpalai Koil Street, Kodambakkam and Madhavaperumal West Street, Alandur. These facilities would act as lift stations, conveying sewage from low-level collection points to main sewage pumping stations and preventing sewage outflow.

In recent months, the water agency has also added 38 new sewage pumping stations with improved pumping capacity in areas like Aminjikarai and Trustpuram. Modular sewage treatment plants have been added in Chetpet, Kundrathur, Choolaimedu, Todd Hunter Nagar, Maduravoyal and Kotturpuram, with the facility in Todd Hunter Nagar built with a larger capacity of four mld.

With a goal to prevent pollution into waterways and ensure that maximum quantity of sewage reaches STPs, Metrowater has also laid lines to intercept and divert sewage flowing into waterways, including in Chintadripet, Adyar, Kotturpuram, Ekkaduthangal, Nandambakkam and Jafferkhanpet. Similar works were carried out in places like Mehta Nagar and Anna Nagar under the Integrated Cooum Eco-Restoration project.

Besides improving sewage pumping stations in several areas, including Ice House and Namachivayapuram, old sewer lines have been replaced with pipes of larger capacity for a length of 247 km. Additional sewer lines have been laid for another 213.4 km in core and added areas as part of the ₹385.38 crore worth projects to strengthen the infrastructure. Some of the works to replace sewer network in Nesapakkam and Saidapet are under progress, officials said.

Source: *The Hindu*, 19 November 2025, p. 3

Over 3,000 cases of WhatsApp hacking scam reported in T.N.

The scammers trick a target into revealing the 6-digit SMS or in-app code that WhatsApp sends during login; it is typically done by phone calls or chat messages in the guise of tech support

R. Sivaraman

CHENNAI

WhatsApp, once merely a social media platform for communication, has evolved into an essential part of daily life – extending its reach from personal messaging to business coordination and even official communication such as service of summons. However, the increasing reliance on the app has also exposed users to new forms of cyber threats, police said.

Despite its end-to-end encryption, WhatsApp is witnessing a surge in hacking-related scams that exploit user negligence. In Tamil Nadu alone, the Cyber Crime Wing has recorded over 3,000 such complaints in 2025.

Additional Director General of Police, Cyber Crime Wing, Sandeep Mittal said, "Being an end-to-end encrypted message medium, any careless or negligible usage costs huge sums of money, reputational damage, emotional stress and even life as a penalty. Recently, we have seen an increase in What-

Stepping up vigil

Steps to prevent WhatsApp hacking

- Never install any .Apk files shared through WhatsApp or any social media platform
- Install mKavach app to verify if there's any hidden malicious app running in your mobile
- Never send money to any accounts without verifying the sender. Always make normal phone call to verify the sender
- If you lose access, immediately re-register your number on WhatsApp (which will log others out), enable two-step verification, and inform your bank/financial services provider if any financial information may have been exposed



- Check the linked devices in your WhatsApp settings frequently
- Be extremely cautious if your phone battery drains unusually fast
- In case of any financial loss, immediately dial 1930 helpline

sApp hacking scams." There is no uniform modus operandi in WhatsApp hacking scams. But all the common tactics involve a mix of technical tricks and convincing users their actions are harmless or even necessary.

A common approach is an OTP/verification-code scam, where the scammers trick a target into revealing the 6-digit SMS or in-app code that WhatsApp sends during login. This is typically done by phone calls or chat messages pretending to be tech support,

a bank, or even a friend asking - "I didn't get the code – please forward it."

A new wave of targeted WhatsApp fraud uses fake RTO (Regional Transport Office) challan messages to trick vehicle owners into installing malicious software. The message looks alarmingly real which includes the victim's vehicle number, a brief description of the alleged offence, and a clickable "pay challan" link. Because traffic fines are time-sensitive and many people treat RTO notices as official, recipi-

ents often act quickly without pausing to verify the source, an officer of the Cyber Crime Wing explained.

As soon as the user taps the link, he/she is prompted to download an Android APK file. Once installed, the app requests intrusive permissions (access to SMS, contacts, notifications, or accessibility services). Those permissions allow the malware to read one-time passwords (OTPs), capture verification messages, capture personal contacts and messages.

Also, the contacts are used for unauthorized transactions or to impersonate the victim to defraud their contacts. The scammers often abuse the trust of group chats and contact lists to propagate payment requests, fake invoices.

"Tamil Nadu Cyber Crime Wing has received around 3,161 complaints in 2025 on the WhatsApp Hacking scam and this scam can be easily prevented when our common sense is applied. Certain measures can easily safeguard people from such scam," said Mr. Mittal.

Source: *The Hindu*, 03 November 2025, p. 4

Social Media Trends Drive Travellers To Japan, Korea And Vietnam For Holidays; A Record 2.33 Lakh Indian Tourists Visited Japan Last Year

Chennai sets eyes on Japan and Korea

Vivek.Narayanan
@timesofindia.com

Acandid snapshot at Shibuya Crossing and a frothy latte at the Pokémon Café in Tokyo or a selfie at Da Nang's famous Hand Skywalk in Ba Na Hills — Chennai's travellers are choosing holiday destinations not from brochures, but from what trends on Instagram and YouTube.

Tour operators say young couples and families prefer Japan, Korea, and Vietnam this holiday season. "The craze for Japan is due to a fascination with anime culture. Many youngsters fly there just to visit Pokémon Café, Disneyland or try trending treats such as Mo-

vited Indian tour agencies to promote newer destinations beyond the Golden Route, such as Hiroshima, Hokkaido, Nara, and Toyama, to ease pressure.

Midhun Chulliel Hari, who visited Japan recently with family, said, "I enjoyed the food and attended Nebuta festival. We need direct flights to Japan."

Next in line is South Korea, especially among families with Gen Z children who devour K-dramas and BTS.

Packages averaging ₹6 lakh offer themed experiences around K-pop studios, street fashion, and localised food tours. Chang Nyun Kim, consul-general of Republic of Korea in Chennai, said, "The global rise of K-culture has significantly influenced travellers' interests, inspiring many to explore food, landmarks, and traditions," he said.

Myong Kil Yun, regional director, India and SAARC Countries, Korea Tourism Organisation, said Korea welcomed 1.7 lakh Indians in 2024, a 44% rise compared to the last year. "The strong momentum has continued in 2025, with more than 1.3 lakh Indian visitors recorded between Jan and Aug," he said.

"A new destination catching up in Vietnam is Phu Quoc, where Indians don't even need a visa if travelling directly," said

LET'S PLAN A TRIP

chi Matcha. Families with Gen Z kids are choosing South Korea to experience the K-pop vibe," said Sriharan Balan, managing director, Madura Travels.

Among travellers, Japan's Golden Route — Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka — is the hottest ticket, with average family packages costing around ₹5.5 lakh. Officials from the Consulate of Japan in Chennai said a record 2.33 lakh Indian tourists visited Japan in 2024, marking a 40% increase over the previous year.

But the boom has led to overcrowding. "The destinations are saturated — there's literally no hotel room vacant in Tokyo or Osaka on weekends," Sriharan added. Japanese govt has in-

Basheer Ahmed, office-bearer of Outbound Travel Association of India and MD, Chennai Metro Travels Pvt Ltd.

For middle-income families, Vietnam and Cambodia are new favourites. Families can spend two to three days each in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Da Nang, and Phnom Penh, completing a 10-day trip for ₹2 lakh. So, where's your next trip to?



AIRFARES FROM CHENNAI (Holiday season 2025)

DESTINATION	ROUND-TRIP AIRFARE (₹)	10-DAY PACKAGE COST FOR 3-MEMBER FAMILY (₹lakh)
JAPAN (Tokyo-Osaka)	55,000 - 70,000	5.5
SOUTH KOREA (Seoul)	50,000 - 65,000	6
VIETNAM (Hanoi-Da Nang)	25,000 - 30,000 Domestic flights: 4,000 - 5,000	2
CAMBODIA (Phnom Penh)	28,000 - 35,000	2
BALI (Indonesia)	35,000 - 40,000	2.5

“Enthusiasm for K-culture is also visible in south India – especially in Chennai, where the number of Korean restaurants has been steadily increasing

Chang Nyun Kim, Consul General of Republic of Korea in Chennai

Source: *The Times of India*, 05 November 2025, p. 2

WANDERLUST

The global rise of Korean culture, Instagram reels has significantly influenced the travellers' interests



Map not to scale

Trek Tamil Nadu initiative to expand with additional routes

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

Building on its success over the past year, with 15,500 trekkers, including over 1,400 students and 150 international visitors, exploring the forest trails, the Trek Tamil Nadu initiative is set to expand its eco-sensitive adventure experiences to more destinations across the State.

Launched in 2024, the initiative has been offering sustainable trekking opportunities in select forest and wildlife areas, combining adventure, conservation, and community participation. It provides trekkers with a safe, guided, and enriching experience of Tamil Nadu's natural heritage.

The most popular routes by footfall include Yelagiri-Swamimalai (2,209), Gudiyam Caves in Tiruvallur (1,743), Baraliyar in Coimbatore (982), and



Launched in 2024, the initiative offers a safe, guided, and enriching experience of Tamil Nadu's natural heritage. FILE PHOTO

Parsons Valley-Mukurthi Hut (835) and Avalanche-Kolaribetta (729) in the Nilgiris.

Following the positive response, the programme aims to expand from its current 40 curated routes to over 50. Plans are also under way to collaborate with the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation (TTDC) to launch integrated eco-tour packages, hold refresher

training and exposure visits for guides, and introduce school and college trekking programmes to promote experiential learning, an official release said. The initiative has also been recognised for its innovative approach, receiving the 'Most Exclusive Product Award' at TTF Chennai 2025 and the 'Best Niche Tourism Operator Award' at the Tamil Nadu Tourism Awards 2025.

Source: *The Hindu*, 02 November 2025, p. 4

தமிழ் நாளிதழ்கள்

கோவையில் தொழிலில் முதலீட்டாளர்கள் மாநாடு

ஓ.43,844 கோடியில் 158 ஓப்பந்தம்

→ முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் முன்னிலையில் கையெழுத்து



இந்த மாநாட்டில் முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் பேசியதாவது

இங்கு வந்துள்ள முதல்டாஸ் களையில் நிவங்கள் கடந்த நான்கு வருடங்களில் கட்டுப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. கட்டுப்பை செலுத்தி, ஏராளமான முதல்டாஸ் கள், தொழில் நிறுவனங்களின் நம்பிக்கையை மூலம், இந்தியாவிலேயே அதிகமாக 11.1 லிமிக்கூடு போருளாதார வளர்ச்சியை சாதியிடப்படுத்தி வருகின்றன.

இதுவரை நடந்திரு 17 முதல்தாலைகள் மாநாட்டின் விளைவாக 1,016 புறிநிலையங்களுக்கு மேற்கூடிய விளைவாக நடந்திரு 17 முதல்தாலைகள் மாநாட்டின் விளைவாக 4 ஆண்டுகளை விட இரண்டாண்டுமாக்கு அதிகமாக நின்றது புறிநிலையங்களுக்கு மூலமாக 11 லட்சத்தோற் 40,731 பேரே சூரிய முதல்தாலை உறுதி செய்யப்பட்டு, தீர்த்தாகவும் நிறைமுக மாக வகு 34 லட்சம் பேருக்கு விளைவாய்ப்பு உறுதி செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது.

நம் நீராவில் மாடல் அரசு போய் இனி 1.016 புந்துறைப் பயிர்கள் பயிர்கள் 809 நிட்டப்பூச்சிகள் நிலையாக வருகின்றன. சேய்வப்படில் உள்ளன. புதிய தொழில் தொடர்பு கொண்டு இனாருக்காத தொழில் தொடர்பு கொண்டு இனாருக்காத தொழில் மாடல் அரசு அவர்களுக்கு தழுவுவது அரிக்கிறது. பட்டத் தமிழ்நாட்டின் புதிய தொழில் நிலையாக விடுதலை போன்று கொண்டு வருந்து உலை பழுப்பு தொழிலில் மாநாடு நோட்டுப்பிரிவைக்கு வேண்டும் என்று சொன்ன நாற்காரர்களுக்கு கூட சென்று ஸ்பார்ட் அப் தமிழ்நாடு நிலையாக கொண்டு வருகின்றன தொழில் நிலையாக விடுதலை போன்று கொண்டு வருக்குவதிர்கிறார்கள். அதனால் தமிழ்நாட்டில் உள்ள ஸ்பார்ட் அப் திறநுங்கையில்லை என்னிக்கை நிறுவும் ஆகு உருக்குவதன்து.

வருகிறோம். அப்படி தூத்துக்குடி, தூதுநூ தொடர்ந்து தொண்டையில் தமிழ்நாடு சிலைகள் மாநாட்டுத் தடவத்தில் வருகிறோம்.

தமிழ்நாட்டில் முதலீடு செய்ய வந்துள்ளவர்களுக்கு எந்த வித தாமதமும் ஏற்படாது. எந்த தலையிலிருந்து கருக்கா விசுகு எல்லா மேவைமாகவும், தெளிவாகவும், வெளிப்படைத் தன்மையுடனும் இருக்கும். ஒரு பிர்லின்மீன் டால்போராஸ்தாதாத் தேங்கிக் கிராண்ட்மாடல் துருக்கி வேலைக்கிறது. இன்னு 158 நிறுத்துக்கள் புதுப்பாக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. 170 நிறுத்துக்கள் 43.44 மேட்டர் பூரிமா மதிப்பீட்டுள்ளன. முதல் பூரிமா முழுமாக வருந்து 70 பேர்க்கு வேலைவாய்ப்பு அளிக்க உள்ளன. உங்களை சுவேஷ்டிக்ரேன்.

இவ்வாறு முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் பேசினார்.

Source: *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 26 November 2025, p.1

ரூ.26,000 கோடிக்கு புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தங்கள்

காமராஜர் துறைமுக மேலாண்மை இயக்குநர்

திருவெற்றியர் நவ. 2: மும்பையில் நடைபெற்ற இந்தியக் கலைஞர்மாநாட்டில் கார்யாளத் துறைமுகம் சார்பில் ரூ. 26,000 கோடி மதியிப் பிலனா திட்டங்களுக்கு புரித்து வர்கள் பூப்பாந்தாக மேற்கொண்ட அளவிற்குள்ள என கார்யாளத் துறைமுக மேலாண்மை இயக்குஞர்

ஐரின் சிந்தியா தெரிவித்துள்ளார்.

முனை விடுவதைப்படி கொய்கிக் குறிப்பு:

மத்திய துறைமுகங்கள் கப்பல் ரத்து மற்றும் நீர்வழி பாதைகள் அசார்க்கல் மூலம்பெயின்கள் கந்த அக். வராநாலை பெற்ற சர்வீசுத் துறை திய கடல்சார் மாநாட்டில் கூமர முகம் பங்கேற்று.

இதில் துறைமுகத்தின் செயல்பாடுகள் எதிர்கால திட்டங்கள், வளர்ச்சி பணிகள் உள்ளிட்டவை குறித்து தொழில் துறையின்

ஞக்கு எடுத்துரைக்கப்பட்டது.
அதன் அடிப்படையில் ரூ.26,000 கோடியில் வான் புதிய திட்டப் பணிகளுக்கு பல்வேறு நிறுவனங்களுடன் 25 புரிந்துணர்வு வெப்பந்

தங்கள் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டுள்ளன.

இதில், 12 ஒப்பந்தங்கள் மத்திய அமைச்சர் சர்வாங்கத் தொகை வால், சென்னை மற்றும் காப்பராத்து திருமூலங்களின் தலைவர் சர்வீஸ் பாவிலால் ஆகியோ முன்விலையில் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டுள்ளது.

இந்த முதலீடுகள் மூலம் துறை முகத்தில் தொழில்மயமாக்கல் உள்கூட்டு வைப்பு மான்னோய்யும்

தாக்கட்டமைப்பு முன்னேற்றம் நிலையான வளர்ச்சி, நவீனம் திறன் மேம்பாடு, கட்டமைப்பு வைப்பு சாலைகள் ரயில் பாதை

வகையில் புதிய கட்டமைப்பு வகை மேம்பாட்டுத் திட்டங்களைக் கீழ்க்கண்டுத் துறைமுகத்தின் வகுப்பில் விவரிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது:

ஈச்சிக்கான பலவேறு திட்டங்களைய முதலீடுகள் மூலம் துறைமுகத்திட்டங்கள் உதவிகரமாக இருப்பதை விக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.



ଶ୍ରୀମିଣ୍ଣ ଶିନ୍ତିଯା

Source: *Dinamani*, 3 November 2025, p.2

■ சென்னை தமிழகத்தில் அதிக அளவில் உலகளாவிய திறுக் கலையங்களை (ஜிசிசி) அமைப்பது தொடர்பாக பன்னாட்டு நிறுவனத்துடன் தமிழக அரசு புரிந்து வருமாறு ஒப்பந்தம் செய்துள்ளது.

செல்வைக் குறைக்கவும் திறமைப்படுத்தி கொள்ளவும் செய்யப்படுகின்ற மேம்புத்தவும் பன்னாட்டு நிறுவனங்கள் வெளிநாடுகளில் 'ஐசிசி' எனப்படும் உலகளாவிய திறன் மையங்களை அமைத்து வருகின்றன. அந்த வகையில், தமிழக அரசின் தொழில் வழிகாட்டு மையம், என்னால் ஆறு என்ற பன்னாட்டு நிறுவனத்துடன் புரிந்துவரைவு ஒப்பந்தம், தொல்லதுறை அமைச்சர் திறப்பிராஜா முன் விழைப்பில் நேற்று கையெழுத்தான்து.

ஏன் எஸ் ஆர் நிறுவனம் பார்ச்சுன் 500 நிறுவனங்கள் மற்றும் அதிக வளர்ச்சி கொண்டு கொயிலு நிறுவனங்

களஞ்சியக் கானம் உலககளாவிய திறமையங்களை நிறுவ வரும் ஒரு பன்னாட்டு நிறுவனம் ஆகும். மேலும், ஏஜ் தொழில் நுட்பம், தினைய பாதுகாப்பு, டிஜிட்டல் வணிகம், ஆராய்ச்சி மற்றும் மேம்பாடு, டேப்டா சமிக்கை என பலதரப் பட்ட துறைகளில் நிபுணத் தவம் பெற்று கிடக்கிறது.

இந்த ஒப்பந்தம் குறித்து

தொழில்துறை அமைச்சர் டிஆர்பி ராஜா கூறியதாவது: “தி மு தக தி லி அதிக அளவில் உலகளாயிய திறன் மையங்கள் (ஐசிசி) வருவதற்கு ஏன் எஸ் ஆர் நிறுவனம் உதவும். ஐசிசி அமைப்பு

புதற்கு உக்நத் கொள்கைகள், உடனடி அனுமதி, தேவைப் படும் இடங்களை ஒதுக்கீடு செய்வது, திறமையான பணி மாளர்கள் கிடைக்கச் செய்வது என தமிழக அரசு அனைத்து விதமான ஆதரவையும் அளிக்கும்.

இவ்வாறு அமைச்சர் தெரிவித்தார்.

ஜரோப்பிய நாடுகளுக்கு
ஆடை ஏற்றுமதி 10% வளர்க்கி
திருப்புர் ஏற்றுமதியாளர்கள் ஆர்வம்

இன்றுபூர், நாள் 23-
ஸ்ரோவ்பயாகுகளுக்கு
இந்திய ஆடை இருக்கு
மதி, கடத்த ஜூ. முதல்,
செப். மாதம் வரை, 7.14
சுதாவீதம் அதிகரித்துள்ளது;
இந்தியாவை ஏற்றுமதி
யும், 10 சுதாவீதம் அதிகரித்து
ள்ளனது.



‘ஒரேப்பிய நாடுகளுக்கு
‘டாப் 10’ ஏற்றுமதி விபரம்
(கால் - இனப்.)

சௌ	1,97,600
வங்கதூசு	1,52,500
ரூபங்கி	64,200
ஈழந்தியா	37,600
கம்போர்மா	33,600
விட்டநாம்	32,500
பாரிசுபாளி	28,600
மொராக்டோ	20,900
ஒளுங்கை	10,900
ஈழந்தோண்டியா	7,500
ஆ.கோ.கவ	

குழப்பத்தூர், அந்தாடி
தின் போர்ப்பி வற்று
மதி குத்துவதும் குறைந்து
உள்ளது. இதை, இந்தியாவுக்
கான் வாய்ப்பாக மாற்றி
மாற்றுவதும் ஆகும்.

“ஒரே பொருட்டன்,
2022 கல்வெளிகளை வெட்டி
தக ஒப்பந்தம் கைவிடி
(தூத்துக்குடி) 2027 முதல்
நடைமுறைக்கு வர
வாய்மிகள்க்கு,” என்றார்.

3 November 2025, p. 12

source: *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 21 November 2025, p.5

ரூ.90,936 கோடிக்கு முதலீட்டு
ஐப்பந்தங்கள் பெற்ற வ.இ.சி. குறைமுகம்

இதுகுறித்து வெளியிடப்பட்டுள்ள செய்கிக்குறிப்பு:

கடந்த அக். 27 முதல் 31 வரை இந்தியா கடல்கார் வாரம் 2025 நிகழ்ச்சி மும்பையில் நடை பெற்றது.

இந்நிதங்கஷ்டியின்போது துத்துக்குடி வ.ஏ.சிதம்பரனார் துறை முக ஆணையம், துறை முக மேம்பாடு, கப்பல் கட்டுமானம், தகவல் வல் தொழில்நுட்பம், நிலைத்துறை தலைமை, பிரி செவகல் தொடர்பான முதலிட்டாளர்களுடைய முகிய தலைமையாக விதியூத்துநங்கள் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டன. மொத்தம் ரூ. 90,936 கோடி மதிப்பு முதலிட்டிற்கான 29 முதலிட்டு ஒப்பந்தங்கள் கையொப்பமாகின.

இந்த நிகழ்ச்சியில் வ.உ.சி. துறைமுகத்துக்கு 'பக்ஷம் தொலை நோக்கு பார்வையாளர்' விருது



மும்பையில் நடைபெற்ற நிகழ்ச்சியில் பல்கேற்ற வ.க.சி. துறைமுக துணையத் தலைவர் கலைநகருமர் புரோவித் துணைத் தலைவர் ராஜேஷ் சௌந்தராஜன் உள்ளிட்டோர்.

வழங்கப்பட்டது. இந்த விருதை துறைமுகங்கள் துறை அமைச்சர் அமைச்சர் சர்வாஸ்த் சோனோ வாவிடமிருந்து வ. உ. சி. துறைமுக ஆணையாத் தலைவர் சுலகாந்தரு மார் புரோ விந். துறையாத் தலைவர் ராத்ரேஷ் செலாந்தராஜன் ஆகியேர் பேர்களானர்.

வட்டத்துறைமுகத்துடன் பல் குப்புகள் வரும் என்று அந்த செய்திக்குறிப் பில் தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

Source: *Dinamani*, 6 November 2025, p.15

ಗ್ರ.11 ಲಟ್‌ಸಮ್ ಕೋಡಿ ಮತಲ್‌ಕೆಕಳ್

கோவை, நவ. 25: திமுக ஆட்சியில் இது வரை நடத்தப்பட்ட 17 முதலிட்டாவர் மாநாடுடன் மூலம் ஆறு.11.40 வத்சம் கோட்டை முதலிடு உறுதி செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளதாக முதல்வர் மு.கல்பாலின் பெருமி தெருத்துடன் கூறினார்.

கோவையில் தமிழ்நாடு தொழில் முதலீடு உயக்குப்பிடி, வர்த்தகத் துறை காரரில் டிஎன். வாலின் முதல்டீட்டாரா மாநாடு செல்வாய்க்கிழவு நடைபெற்றது. இதில் ரூ.42,792 கோடி முதலீட்டில் 96,207 பேருக்கு வேலைவாய்ப்பு வழங்கல் வகையில் 111 புரிந்துள்ளார்வைப்புத்தங்கள் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டன. குறு, சிறு, நடுத்தரத் தொழில் துறை காரரில் ரூ.1,052 கோடி முதலீட்டில் 4,502 பேருக்கு வேலைவாய்ப்பு வழங்கும் வகையில் 47 ஒப்புத்தங்கள் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டன.

இந்த நிகழ்ச்சியில் முதல்வர் மு.கன்ஸ்டாலின் பேசியதாவது கூடந்த 4 ஆண்டுகளின் கடுமையான உழைப்பைப் பெற்றுத், இந்தியாவிலேயே அதிக அளவாக 19 தங்கீத் பொருளாதார வளர்ச்சியை துழிந்தாடு சாத்தியப்படுத்தி உள்ளது.

திமுக ஆட்சியும், தமிழ்நாட்டின் வளர்ச்சியும் பிரிக்க முடியாதவை. மற்ற மாநிலங்களுக்கெல்லாம் 25 ஆண்டுகள் முன்னோட்டு சித்தித்தலு, திட்டங்களைச் செயல்படுத்தி குறையாம்.

கோவை இரண்டாம் நிலை நகரமாக இருந்தாலும் ஏராளமான பெருநிறுவனங்கள், 90-க்கும் மேற்பட்ட உலகாளவியத்தின் மையங்கள், 1,702 புத்தொழில்நிறுவனங்கள் இங்கு உள்ளன.

திருவாவணி திருவாவணி.

മുതல്വർ മു.ക.സ്ടാലിൻ പെരുമിതുമ്



1,016 புரிந்துவர்வு ஒப்பு பந்தங்கள் ஜூக்கியில் அரபு அமீரகம், சிங்கப்பூர், ஜப்பான், ஸ்லெயின், அமெரிக்கா, ஜூரூஸி, பிரிட்டன் ஆகிய நாடுகளுக்கு நேரடி சாகச் சென்று முதலீடுகளைத் தீர்ட்டியிலிருக்கிறேன். அப்படி நடத்துப்பட்ட 17 முதலீட்டானார் மாநாடு டின் விளைவாக இதுவரை 1,016 புரிந்துவர்வு ஒப்பு நீதிமன்றத்தில் நடந்துள்ளது.

தமிழ்நாட்டின் வளர்ச்சி மைப்பிக்காதவர்கள் அரசியல் காரணங்களுக்காகதான் ராண் புள்ளிவிவரங்களைப் பற்படுகின்றனர். தமிழ்நாட்டில் திமுக ஆட்சிக்கு வருத்தங்கள் முன்னால் 62413 நிறுவனங்கள் இருக்கும் நிலையில் தற்போது 79,185 நிறுவனங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. அதாவது, 16,772 நிறுவனங்கள் அதிகரித்துள்ளன. புதுதாக வேலைக்குத் தேர்ந்தவர்கள் நெக்கு வருக்கால வைப்புற்றித் தொண்டுத் தொடர்பு மத்திய அரசு பராமரிக்கிறது. அதுபோல் நாம்கள் ஆட்சிக்கு வந்த பிறகு, 29,64 லட்சம் பணியாளர்கள் அதிகரித்துள்ளனர்.

நெக்டு வருங்கால வைப்புத்தி கணக்கு தொடங்கி அதை மத்திய அரசு பராமரிக்கிறது. அதன்படி நாங்கள் ஆட்சிக்கு வந்த பிறகு, 29.64 லட் சம் பணியாளர்கள் அதிகரித்துள்ளனர்.

இந்திய மாநிலங்களுடன் மட்டுமல்லத்தில் வியத்தாம், தாய்லாந்து போன்ற நாடுகளுடன் கூட போட்டியில் டு நாம் முதல் டு கலை தமிழ்நாட்டிற்கு கொண்டு வரு

மத்திய அரசு அன்றையில் வெளியிட்டு தொழில் செய்ய உக்காட் மாநிலங்களுக்கான துறவிகளையில், 4 பிரிவுகளில் சாதனமாயான எஞ்ச அந்திகாத்தைத் தமிழகத்துக்கு வழங்கியுள்ளது என்றார் கிறோம்.

விழாவில், அமைச்சர்கள் டி.ஆர்.பி. ராஜா, கே.என்.நேரு, மு.பெ.சாமிநாதன் கயல்விழி செல்வராஜ் உள்ளிட்டோர் முதல்வர்.

Source: *Dinamani*, 26 November 2025, p.1

பிரிட்டனுக்கு ஆடை ஏற்றுமதி
அதிகாரிக்கீற்று வர்த்தக போட்டு

திருப்பூர், நவ. 1-
வங்கதேசம், வியட்நாம், கம்போட்யூன் நாடு களின் போட்டி அதி கரிம்யால், தடையற்ற வர்த்தக ஒப்பந்தத்தை யம்புபடுத்தி, பிரிட்ட துக்கு தடை ஏற்று நியை அதிகரிக்க இந்திய ஏற்றுமதியாளர்கள் தயாராக வேண்டிய கட்டாயம் எழுந்தார்களது.

இந்தியா - பிரிட்டன் இடையேயான ஆயத்துக்காட்டு ஏற்றுமதி வந்தது தமிழ்நாட்டு நிலைமீவில் இருந்து வந்தது. டைம்ஸ் வார்த்தை ஒப்பந்தம் கார்ப்பரேஷன், பிரிட்டன் இருந்து குமதியில் இந்தியாவின் பயக்களிப்பு, குழுதல் சுதா வீதமானது. இது இரண்டு அல்லது மூன்று ஆண்டுகள் வருகின்றன. இடைத்தால் இவ்விலக்குத் தடவிட எட்டும் என்ற எதிர் பரிசீலனை அதிகரிக்கின்றது.

பாபாபு அனுகார்த்துவாளரு.
நடப்பு நிதியாண்டில்,
மிரிட்டனுக்கு ஏப்., முதல்
ஆக., வரை, ச. 168 கோடி
நாபாய்க்கு, அயத்த அனை—



ஏற்றுமதி	
(சூ. கோடியில்)	
ஏப்ரல்	1,101
மே	1,084
ஜூன்	997
ஜூலை	1,049
ஆகஸ்ட்	937

ஏற்றுமதி நடத்துவது. கடந்த நிதியாண்டின் இடை கால நிதியாண்டில், 1,930 கோடி ரூபாய்க்கு ஏற்றுமதி நடந்து, 2023 - 24 நிதியாண்டில் இது 4,687 கோடி ரூபாய்கள் இருக்கும். கொங்கானம், வங்காசோ

வளர்வதைத் தூண்டித்து விட்டு, பிரிட்டனின் 10 தட வீத் நிறையை வெட்டுவது என. வரியில்லா வர்த்தக ஒப்பந்தம் செய்த வியட்நாமின் வற்றுமியும், இந் தான்து. 3.5 சதவீதம் வளர்வது; கவன்டுள்ளது; கம்போட்டியா, 4.3 சதவீதம் போட்டுவர யமோகிரி திருப்புர் தயார்க்க வேண்டும். போட்டித்திறமை வர்த்து, நவீன் ஆட்டை டிப்பதி, செய்றகை நூலிலிருக்கும் கவுப்பு ஆட்டை உற்பத்தி கட்டுவது கவனம் பெறுவது; வேண்டியது அவசியம் கிடைவது கேட்க இருக்கும்.

நிறுவனங்கள், பிரிட்ட் வில் மட்டும், 20,000 கோடி ரூபாய்க்கு வருட்தகம் செய்து, புதிய போட்டியாக உருவாக்குகிறார்களா?

சற்றுக்குழம்பை பாது
காக்கும் நிதித்த நிலைமை
யான வளர்ச்சி நிலை சாத
னைகளை எடுத்துவரைத்து,
அதன் வரமிலாக கட்டுதல்
ஆர்டர்களை கவர முயற்
சிக்க வேண்டும்.

இவ்வாறு அவர் கூறினார்.

Source: *Dinamalar*, 1 November 2025, p. 12

கோவையில் இயற்கை வேளாண் மாநாட்டை தொடங்கினார் பிரதமர்

விவசாயிகளுக்கு ரூ.18,000 கோடி விடுவிப்பு

● விவசாயத்தில் பல்லடுக்கு வேளாண்மையை ஊக்குவிக்க மாநில அரசுகள் முன்வர வலியுறுத்தல்

வினாக்கள்

வெள்ளையில் விப்பந்தாக வெள்ளான் மாநாட்டை ட்ரைவ்ஸ் என்றுத் தீர்த்து இருப்பது, பின் கீழ்க்கண்ட பதினாற்கண்டுக்கு வினாக்களைக் கண்டுத் தீர்த்துக் கொள்ள விரும்புகிறீர்களா? மூலம், விவராயத்தில் பல்லவர்களுக்கு கொண்டுமையை கண்டுக்கொள்ள மாற்றும் அரசாங்கம் முன்வர வேண்டும் என்று வலியுறுத்துகின்றார்.

உத்திரம், மத்திய மாநில பிரதிவேகம்



மாக ஈருவம். மன்னின் பார
மரிப்பு முறை, குளம்கள், நீர்ப்
பாசன திட்பக்கள் வழிகாட்டும்
வகையில் அமைந்தன.

Source: *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 20 November 2025, p.1

வேளாண் விளைபொருள் மதிப்புக் கூட்டும் மையங்கள்: தமிழகம் முழுவதும் 130 பயணாளிகள் பதிவு

வேளாண் துறை அமைச்சர் தகவல்

சென்னை, நவ. 18: வேளாண் விலை பொருள்களுக்கான மதிப்பு கூட்டும் மையங்கள் அமைக்கும் திட்டத்தில் தமிழகம் முழுவதும் 130 யானாளி கள் பதிவு செய்துள்ளனர் என்று தமிழக வேளாண்மை, மூலப் ரூபத் துறை அமைச்சர் எம்.ஆர்.கே.பந்ஸர்க்கெல்வம் தெரிவித்துள்ளார்.

இதுகுறித்து அவர் வெளியிட்ட
கொஞ்சம் வகுப்பை:

வருகிறது 2030-ஆம் ஆண்டுக்குள்ளும் தமிழகத்தை ஒரு டிரில்லியன் டாலர் பொருளாதாரம் கொண்ட மாநிலமாக மாற்ற வேண்டும் என்று முதல்லீவர் மு.க.ஸ்ரீவீன் அறிவித்துள்ளார்.

இதில், வேளாண் விளைப்பொருள்களின் மதிப்புக் கூட்டுதல் மற்றும் பதப்பறுத்துதல் முகியானது. அதன்படி, இந்தத் துறை தொழில்முனைவோர் மற்றும் நிறுவனங்களை ஒன்றுக்கூட்டுத்துவதற்கான சிறப்புத்திட்டம் அறிவிக்கப்பட்டது.

இதில் கு 10 கோடி வரையில்லை தீட்டுப்பக்ஞங்கு பொது பிரிவின் குடுக்கு முதல்டீ மானியமாக 25 சதவீதத்திற்கும், பெண்கள், தொழில் வளர்ச்சியில் பின்தங்கியுள்ள வட்டாரங்களில் தொடர்ச்சிபடும் தொழில்களில்



கன், ஆதித்திராவிட்ட மற்றும் பழங்குடியினருக்கு 35 சதவீதம் என அதிகப்படசமாக ரூ 1.5 கோடி ரூ 5 கோடி ரூ 5 அன்றையினருக்கு வழங்கப்படும். இதுதான் அவைகளுக்கு பிரிவினருக்கும் 5 சதவீத வெட்டு மானி யம் 5 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு வழங்கப்படும்.

மதிப்புக் கூட்டுதல் பலரை விதைப்பவர்கள், முந்திரி மதிச்சுக்கூட்டு பொருள்கள், நெடுஞ்சிசாரூபாலே விப்பவர்கள், சுற்றுலையை விருந்து அழகு சாதனம் பொருள்கள், முருங்கை இலை சேஷ்குல் பிள்ளைகள், சிறு தாங்களின் களில் பாங்கா கால்விள் கலைஞர்

எனவே, வேளாண் விளைப் பொருள்களை மதிப்பிடுக் கூட்டுதல், பழுப்புத்துதல் போன்ற பல்வேறு தொழில்நுட்பங்களைச் செய்யப் பட்டதி துமான நற்பதி பொருள்களை உள்ளடக்கி, வெளிநாட்டு சந்தைகளில் விற்பாடு செய்து பொரு யாதார ஏற்றும் பெற ஆர்வமுள்ள தொழில்விளைவர் இந்தத் திட்டத் தில் யான்பெறுவாம் என அமைச்சர் எம்.ஆர்.கே.பனிவர்சுசெல்வம் தெரிவித்துள்ளார்.

Source: *Dinamani*, 19 November 2025, p.2

குரிய மின் உற்பத்தி விவசாயிகளிடமிருந்து மின் கொள்முதலுக்கு ஒப்பந்தம் கோர அனுமதி

கெள்ளென்றவு15: குரியமின் உற்பத்தி செய்யும் தமிழக விவசாயிகளிடமிருந்து, மின் சாரம் கொள்முதல் செய்ய, யூனிட்டுக்கு அதிகப்பட்சமாக, ரூ.3.10 விலை நிர்ணயம் செய்து ஒப்பந்தம் கோர, மின் வாரியத்துக்கு மின்சார ஒழுங்குமுறை ஆணையம் அனுமதி அளித்துள்ளது.

தமிழக விவசாயிகள் தங்கள் விவசாய இடங்கள் போக, தங்களுக்கு சொந்தமான பிற இடங்களில் குரிய சக்தி மின்நிலையங்களை அமைத்து அதன் மூலம் வருவாய் ஈட்டும் திட்டமான பிரதமர் உழவர் சக்தி பாதுகாப்பு மற்றும் மேம்பாட்டு திட்டம் எனும் திட்டத்தை மத்திய அரசு செயல்படுத்தி வருகிறது.

இத்திட்டத்தின் கீழ், விவசாயிகள், விவசாயக் குழுக்கள், கூட்டுறவு சங்கங்கள், உழவர் உற்பத்தியாளர் குழுக்கள் தங்களின் நிலங்களில், குரியசக்தி மின் நிலையம் அமைக்கலாம். அதில் கிடைக்கும் மின்சாரத்தை, சொந்த தேவைக்கு பயன்படுத்திக்கொள்ளலாம். இதுபோக, உபரி மின்சாரத்தை மின் வாரியங்களுக்கு விற்பனை செய்து கொள்ளலாம். இத்திட்டத்தின் கீழ் தமிழகத்தில் ஏராளமான விவசா

யிகள், விவசாய குழுக்கள், கூட்டுறவு சங்கங்கள், உழவர் உற்பத்தியாளர் குழுக்கள் தங்கள் நிலங்களில் குரிய மின் உற்பத்தி செய்துவருகின்றனர்.

இவர்களிடம் இருந்து, 420 மேகாவாட் மின்சாரத்தை வூப்பந்தும் மூலம் கொள்முதல் செய்ய, மின்வாரியம் முடிவு செய்துள்ளது.

அதன்படி, ஒரு யூனிட் மின்சாரத்துக்கு அதிகப்பட்சமாக கு.3.28 நிர்ணயம் செய்து அதை விட குறைந்த விலை கோருவவர்களிடமிருந்து மின்சாரம் வாங்கப்படும். இதற்காக, ஒப்பந்தம் கோர, ஒழுங்குமுறை ஆணையத்திடம், கூந்த ஜனன் மாதம் மின் வாரியம் அனுமதி கேட்டிருந்தது.

இந்த நிலையில், மின் வாரியத்தின் மறுவை விசாரித்த ஆணையம், விவசா யிகளிடமிருந்து வாங்க உள்ள மின்சாரத் துக்கு, யூனிட்டுக்கு அதிகபாக சமாக, ரூ.3.10 என நிர்ணயம் செய்து, ஒப்புந்தம் கோர மின்வாரியத்துக்கு மின்சார ஒழுங்குமுறை ஆணையம் தற்போது அனுமதி அளித்துள்ளது. இதையடுத்து மின்வாரியம் ஒப்புந்தம் கோரும் நடவடிக்கைகளை மேற்கொள்ளும் என மின்வாரிய அதிகாரிகள் தெரிவித்தனர்.

Source: *Dinamani*, 16 November 2025, p.2

6,000 ටන් කෙෂ්ට්‍රකු
කොංමුත්තල් සේය්‍ය අනුමති

கெள்ளை, நவ. 8:
தரும்பரி, கிருஷ்ண
கிரி, சேலம், சுரோடு
மாவட்டத்தில் களில்
6,000 மெட்டரிக் டன்
நூற்றாலூ கொண்டு
தல் செய்ய ஆழிமக
அரசு அனுமதி அளித்
துள்ளதாக கணவத்
துறவு அளவிச்சீர் அர்.
சக்கரபாணி தெரிவித்து



இதுகுறித்து அவர் சனிக்கி
முமை வெளியிட்ட செய்திக்
குறிப்பு:

தொடர்ந்து, 2024-2025 கொன்று முதல் பருவத்தில் மேற்குறிப் பிரிட் 4 மாவட்டம் விவசாயிகளிடம் இருந்து 4,050 மேற்கிக் டன் கேழ்வாகு கொன்று முதல் செய்யப்பட்டது. கடந்த

ஏலக்காய் உற்பத்தியில்
மீண்டும் இந்தியா முதலிடம்

கம்பம், நவ. 5-

சங்கதேச அளவில் அதிக வகையாக உற்பத்தி செய்யும் நாடு என்ற பெருமையை 1981 - 82க்கு பின் இந்தியா பெற விரைவில் தொடர்ந்து, முதலிடத்தில் இருந்த குவாஜிமலா மீட்டிடத்திற்கு தனியாபட்டு வரும்படி விடும்.



வாருகிறது.

சர்வ தேச அளவில் இந்திய வழக்காய்க்கு போட்டியாக இருந்து வரும் குவா இமாலா நாட்டின் உற்பத்தி சாதாரணமாக 15 ஆயிரம் டன்கள். ஆனால் இந்தானிடு 16 ஆயிரம் முதல் 20 ஆயிரம் டன்னாக குறைந்துள்ளது. கடந்தாண்டு அங்கு ஏற்பட்ட வருட்டி அதற்கு காரணமா ஆம்.

அக்டோபர் வரை பெய்த மழையால் 20 சதவீத மக்குல் இழப்பு இருக்கும் என மதிப்பிடப்பட்டது.

ஆண்ணல் காகுபடி பறப்பு அதிகரிப்பு, நவீன் தொறிலில் நுட்ப பயன்பாடு கருண மகா இந்தாண்டு மக்குல் கும் அழியாத டன்கீஸ் திட்கை கும் என மதியிடப்பட்டு உள்ளது. சில மாதங்களை கவே நிலைமை சார்ந்திருக்கிறோ கு.2,400 முதல் கு.2,700 வரை கிடைத்து செய்யும் நாடு என்ற பெரு அளவிலும் குவாகிமாவா நாட்பட்டம் இருந்து, இந் தியா கைப்பற்றியிருக்கிறது. குவாகிமாவா நாட்பட்டம் ஏற்பட்டுள்ள மக்குல் குறைவால் இந்திய ஏலக் காம்க்கு அதிக ஏற்றுமதி ஆர்த்தகோம் கிடைத்து வருகின்றன.

Source: *Dinamani*, 9 November 2025, p.9

Source: *Dinamalar*, 5 November 2025, p. 12

ஹோட்டல், ஷோரூம் களுக்கு அனுமதியில்லை தொழிற்பேட்டை விதிகளை மாற்றும் ‘சிட்கோ’

சென்னை, நவ. 18-
சென்னை தெயில்பேடு
பதிதூர் கூமாரசியல்
கேள்வியில் தீர்த்து
கீட்டங்கு, பார்த்த
அதுவிட்டுத்தை அனுமதி
திட்டங்கு, தேவைப்பட்டு
நிறுத்த வேண்டும் என்று
கீட்டங்கு கூடாது எனவும்,
கீட்டங்கு முடிவு செய்து
உள்ளது.

கிண்டி, அம்பத்தும், தொழில் பேட்டகைவு, முறிப்பாக கிண்டியில் கான், பைக் கோரும்கள், தங்கும் வசதி உடைய வேறாட்டல்கள் என, 'கம்பியலியில் ரிதிலாவு தொழிலில் நிறுவனங்கள் அதிகங்களில் துவக்கப்பட்டு வருகின்றன.

உற்பத்தி தழை கார்ந்த
நிறுவனங்களின் எண்
விவரங்களை நீர்மூடு
தால், தொழிற்போட்டு
யின் அடிப்படை மேக்கம்
சிவப்பதாக, தொழில்
முனையேற் அரிசின்
கவனத்திற்கு எடுத்து
சென்றன.

இதையுடைக் கொழிற்

பேட்டெக்னிலஜும் கமர் வியல் பிரிவில் எந்தெந்த



வினாக்கள் உள்ள 404 க்காக்கார் தொழிற் போட்டையில், வர்கள் உதிரி பாக்கக்கள் உப்பத்தி உள்ளிட்ட அற்பத்தி துறை சாந்தி, 400க்கும் மேற்பட்ட சிறு, குழு, நடுத்தர திறுவனமக்கள் செயல்படுகின்றன

அம்பத்துவரில்
1,200 ஏக்கர்
தொழிற் பேட்டையில்,
1,600க்கும்
மேற்பட்ட உற்பத்தி
சாந்த தொழில்
நிறுவனங்கள்
செயல்படுகின்றன

செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது. இதற்கான அதிகாரப்பூர்வம் உத்தரவு, 'சிட்கோ' நிறுவனம் வரவிலக்கு விண்ணவில்லை என்று வெளியிடப்படும்.

இவ்வாறு
கூறினார்.

Source: *Dinamalar*, 18 November 2025, p. 12

சுஸ்லான் எனர்ஜி நிறுவனம்
கோவையில் ரூ.58 கோடி முதலீடு

சென்னை, நவ. 18-
கோவையில், கல்வி
வாண் என்றும் நிறுவனம்,
தா கோடி ரூபாய், கூடியில்,
இந்தியா நிறுவனம்,
தா கோடி ரூபாய் முதலிட-
தில் தொழில் துவக்க,
'மெப்ஸ்' திறப்பு பொரு-
ளதார மண்டலம் ஒப்பு
தல் அளித்துள்ளது.

சென்னை தாம்பரத்திலு
உள்ள, சென்னை ஏற்றுமதி
செயலாகக் கண்டவைமான,
‘மெப்ஸ்’ திறப்பு பொரு
ளாதார மண்டலத்தின்
தொழில்களுக்கு ஒப்புதல்
அளிக்கும் குழுவின் கூட
மீட் நேற்று தடந்தது.

அதன் வளர்ச்சி ஆணையர் அவைக்கூட் பார்த்து மேனன் தலைவரமையில் நடந்த கட்டத்தில், தமிழ்மகங், புதுச்சேரி, அந்திராவில், 2,700க்கும் மேற்பட்ட வேலைவாய்ப்பை உருவாக்கும் வகையில், 158 கோடி ரூபாய் மதிப்பிலான தொழில் திட்டத்தைக்கு ஒப்புதல் அளிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

தமிழகத்தில் ஒப்புதல் அளிக்கப்பட்டதில், கஸ் வான் எண்ணில் நிறுவனம், கோவையில், 58 கோடி நூபாய் முதலிட் மல். 1.010



தமிழகம், புதுச்சேரி,
அந்தமானில்,
2,700க்கும் மேற்பட்ட
வெளைவாய்ப்பை
உருவாக்கும்
வகையில், 158
கோடி ரூபாய்
மதிப்பிலான தொழில்
திட்டங்களுக்கு
ஒப்பகல்

நடந்த கூட்டத்தில், தமிழ்முகம், புதுச்சேரி, அந்தாளையில், 2,700க்கும் மேற்பட்ட வேலைவாய்ப்பை உருவாக்கும் வகையில், 158 கேசு சூப்பாய் மதிய பிளான் தொழில் திட்டம் கணக்கு ஒப்புதல் அளிக்கப்பட்டிருள்ளது.

தமிழகத்தில் ஒப்புதல் அளிக்கப்பட்டதில், கஸ் வான் எண்ணில் நிறுவனம், கோவையில், 58 கோடி நூபாய் முதலிட் மல். 1.010

Source: *Dinamalar*, 18 November 2025, p. 12

ராணுவ சாதனங்களுக்கு
பரிசோதனை மையங்கள்
விடையில் அமைக்க அறிவுறுத்தல்

வரைவில் அமைக்க அறவுறுத்தல்

சென்னை, நவ. 27-
தமிழகத்தில் அமைக்கப்படும் ஆன்ஸிலூ சிறிய
விமானம் உள்ளிட்ட ராணுவ சாதனங்களின்
தற்காலிக பிரசோத்திரும் மையங்களை வருகிறார்கள்
பயன்பாட்டிற்கு கொண்டு வருமாறு, 'டிட் கோ
அதிகாரிகள் போன்றவர்கள், ராணுவ அமைச்சக அதிகாரிகள்
அறிவுறுத்தியுள்ளனர்.
தமிழகத்தில் சென்னை, திருச்சி, கோவை,

கேலம், கிருஷ்ணகிரி ஒருக்கரை உள்ளடக்கத்திற்கு ராணுவத்தைப் பழித்தது அமைக்கப்படுகிறது. இந்த வழித்தடத்தில், வாள்வெளி மற்றும் ராணுவத்தைவாடங்களை உற்புத்தி செய்யும் நிறுவனங்கள் தொழில் துவங்க நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்படுகிறது.

கப்படுகிறது. ஆனால்லா விமானம், ரேடார் உள்ளிட்ட நான்கு வகையான தாங்களைத் தடுத்ததைப் பரிசீலித்தும், பொது சோதனை மையங்களிலும், அனால்சியரும், திருச்சியில், 'டிட்டகோ' நிறுவனம் அமைக்கிறது.

அவர்களை விட்டு நிற்க சோதனை மையங்களின் தற்போதையை நிற்கவில்லை. நிற்கவில்லை, சோதனை மையங்களின் தற்போதையை நிற்கவில்லை, ராணுவத் துறையை அதிகாரிகள் ஆய்வு நடத்த விரும்புகின்றன. அதில், பலனாக்களை முடித்து, சோதனை மையங்களை விட்டு வருமாறு அறிவுறுத்தினான்.

சோதனை மையங்கள்		
நூல்	தொழில் பிரிவு	மதிப்பு (நூல்கோரையில்)
ஸ்ரீவெநும்புதூர்	ஊரில்லூ விமானம்	45
ஸ்ரீவெநும்புதூர்	மின்னணலூ போர் அமைப்பு	50
ஸ்ரீவெநும்புதூர்	மின்னணலூ ஓளியியல்	41
திருச்சி, துவாக்குழு	உலோகவியல், கூம்பிராண்தாந்	49

Source: *Dinamalar*, 27 November 2025, p. 12

திறன் பயிற்சி பெற்ற 170 பேருக்கு பணி நியமன ஆணை

சென்னை, நவ. 11: தமிழ்நாடு திடுங் பேரவையால் இதே காலத்தில் கூறப்பட்டிருக்கின்ற நிச்சயம் திட்டம் த்தின் மூலம் திடுங் பேரவையில் தீர்மானம் பெற்றிருக்கிறது. தீர்மானம் பெற்று நிர்வாகத்திற்கு பயிற்சி சொன்னிடம் கூறுகிற திருப்புவர்யின் பயிற்சிசானித்தும்கூற்று வரை கூறுகிற தொகை கார்சோலை முதலாக நிறுத்தப்பட்டு வருகிறது. முதலாக நிறுத்தப்பட்டு வருகிற தொகை முதல்வர் உதயந்தி ஸ்டாக்கிலிருந்து விடப்பட்டு வருகிறது.

திறப்பு திட்ட செயலாக்கங்களை துறையின் தீர்மைப்பட்டு வரும் தமிழ்நாடுத் திறன் மேம்பாட்டுக் குழுமம் சர்வதேச சென்னை பிரைவே மேப்ரோ ரயில் திறுவன தாலு ராங்கில் செயல்வழிக்கிழமை நடைபெற்ற திசுக்கசியில் துணை முதலாவர் உதயநிதி ஸ்பாலின் முனிவிலை வகித்தார் இதில், துமிழ்நாடு திறன் மேம்பாட்டுக் குழுமத்துறையும் ஸ்பெல்லை கூட்டுறவு கூண்ட்கு இடையே திறன் பயிற்சியின் அளிப்பதற்காக புரிந்துணவு ஒரு பந்தங்கள் கையொப்பமாகின.

சென்னை காட்டுப்பள்ளியில்
உள்ள எல் அண்ட் டி நிறுவனங்கள்

Source: *Dinamani*, 12 November 2025, p.3

துணை முதல்வர் வழங்கினார்



கெள்ளை நந்தனம் மெட்டோ ராயில் நிறுவன கூட்டரங்களில் கெவ்வாய்க்கிழமை நந்தபெற்ற நிதங்க்கியில் இளைஞருக்கு நிறுவன பயிற்சி சார்ந்து கொண்டுள்ளது. அதை மேற்கொண்டு நாசேலை மற்றும் பணிகளில் மயன் மற்றும் வாய்க்காலம் முதலால் உதவத்தின் ஸ்டாலின், அட்சி ஸ்ரீப்பதி திட்ட செயலாகக் கூறுவது தலைவரம் செய்யார் பிரதிபொயதும், தமிழ்நாடு நிறுவன மேம்பாட்டுக் கூக்குத்தின் மேலங்கணம் தியக்கூரூபாகிராந்தி குழுமம் பாடி,

கையொப்பமானது

வேச்சினால் கெட்கிறுவனாத்தில் தூத்துக்குடி மற்றும் வினாத்திக் குனம் பகுதிகளைச் சேர்ந்த 2,500 இலைஞர்களுக்கு தொழில் பயிற்சி அளித்து வேலைவாய்ப்பு பெற நடத்த தரும் புரிந்துவர்வு ஒப்பந்தம் கையொப்பானது. மேலும் 2 தனியார் நிறுவனங்களில் தொழில் நுட்பப்பிற்சி பெறுவது ஒப்பந்தம் கையொப்பானது.

இந்த நிகழ்ச்சில், இறுப்பத் திட்ட செயலாக்கத் துறை கூடுதல் தலைவர் மினித் தயவு, தமிழ்நாடு திறன் மேம்பாட்டுக் கழக மேலாண்மையினருக்கானதி குமர் பாடு நான் முதல்வன் திட்ட முதன்மை செயல் அனுவர்கள் மீண்டுமிரகாசம் ஜிதிடி என் தமிழ்நாடு திறன் மேம்பாட்டுக் கழக திட்ட இயக்குநர் ரெந்தில் நுப்பம் என்காந்தி, தமிழ்நாடு திறன் மேம்பாட்டுக் கழக திட்ட இயக்குநர் கேவிராஜகுமர் உள்ளிட்டோர்களுக்கேற்றவர்.

கட்டுமொனத் தொழிலாளர்கள்

50 ஆயிரம் பேருக்கு தீறன் மேம்பாடு பயிற்சி

→ വേലവായ്പ്പു, പയിർശിൽ തുരൈ ഇയക്കുന്ന് തകവല്

ବିଜ୍ଞାନୀ

கட்டுமானத் தொழிலாளர்கள் 50 ஆயிரம் பேருக்கு திறன் மேம் பட்டுப் பயிற்சி அளிக்கப்படுவது தாக் வேலைவாய்ப்பு பயிற்சித் துறை இயக்குநர் சி.பழனி தெரி வித்துள்ளார்.

இதுதொடர்பாக அவர்
வெளிப்பட்ட செய்திக்குறிப்பு:

தமிழக பொருளாதார வளர்ச்சியில் மரிது வளத்தின் திறன் மேம்பாடுமிகவும் அலசியம். அனால், தமிழ்நாடுக்கட்டுமானத் தொழிலாளர்கள் நலவாரியத் தில் பதிவு பெற்ற தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு கட்டுமானம், கம்பி

வளைப்பு, தக்க, மின்பணியாளர், பிளம்பர், வெல்டர், ஏசி மேக்கா வீக், கண்ணாடி அமைத்தல், சலவைக்கல் ஓட்டுநூல் உள்ளிட்ட தொழில் இனக்களில் ரூ.45.21 கோடி செலவில் திறந் மேம்பாட்டு பயிற்சி வழங்க முதல்வர் ஆணையிட்டுள்ளார்.

அதன்படி கூடுமானத் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கான 7 நாள் திறன் மேம்பாட்டு பயிற்சியை கிண்டி அரசு தொழில்பயிற்சி நிலையத்தில் உள்ள பயிற்சி மையத்தில் கடந்த செப்பு-22-ம் தேதி தொழிலாளர் நலன் மற்றும் திறன் மேம்பாட்டுத் துறை அமைச்சர் சி.வி.

தனிச்சல் தொ ந்திலைக்கரை.

இந்தத்தின்கீழ் 50 ஆயிரம் தொழிலாளர்கள் பயன்பெற ஏதுவாக தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டு தொழிற்பயிற்சி நிலையங்களில் முன்னினி பயிற்சி நிறுவனங்கள் மூலம் பயிற்சி வழங்கப்படுகிறது ஒவ்வொரு தொழிலாளிக்கும் நாளோன்றுக்கு ரூ.800 வீதம் ஊதியம் மழுவும் உணவு பயிற்சி காலத்தின்போது வழங்கப்படுகிறது. இப்பயிற்சியின் மூலம் கட்டுமானத் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு புதிய தொழிலுறப்பங்கள் டிஜிட்டல் அளவிறும் கருவிகள் பயன்பாடு, சுயதொழில் வாய்ம்பு

பணியிட பாதுகாப்பு, உல்நலை பேற்றுதல், அமல்நாட்டு வேலை வாய்ப்பு, நிதி சேமிப்பு குறித்து பயிற்சிகள் வழங்கப்படுகின்றன.

பயிற்சி நிறைவ பெற்றபின்
திறன் மதியீடு செய்யப்பட்டு
சான்று வழங்கப்படுகிறது. கந்தக
22 முதல் நவ.18 வரை 21,334
கட்டுமானத் தொழிலாளர்கள்
பயிற்சியில் பங்கேற்று யமன்
பெற்றுள்ளனர். எஞ்சியுள்ள
அனைத்து தொழி வாளர்களுக்கும்
சுமார் 45 இறுதிக்குள்
பயிற்சி அளிக்கப்படும்.

இவ்வாறு அறிக்கையில்
கூறப்பட்டுள்ளது.

Source: *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 27 November 2025, p.5

குருப்-2 காலிப்பணியிடங்கள் 1,270 ஆக அதிகரிப்பு

▶ எண்ணிக்கை மேலும் உயரும் என டின்பிளஸ்சி துகவல்

சென்னை

டின்பிளஸ்சி குருப்-2 தேர்வில் தற்போது கூடுதலாக 625 காலிப்பணியிடங்கள் சேர்க்கப்பட்டு மொத்த எண்ணிக்கை 1,270 ஆக அதிகரித்துள்ளது. இந்த எண்ணிக்கை மேலும் உயர் வாய்ப்பு உள்ளதாகக் கூறப்படுகிறது.

இது தொடர்பாக டின்பிளஸ்சி செயலாளர் எஸ். கோபாலசுந்தரராஜ் நேற்று வெளியிட்ட செய்திக்குறிப்பில் கூறியிருப்பதாவது:

சார்-பதிவாளர், இன்றிலை வேலைவாய்ப்பு அலுவலர், வனவர், முதுநிலை வருவாய் ஆய்வாளர், உதவியாளர் உள்பட பல்வேறு பதவிகளில் 645 காலிப்பணியிடங்களை நிரப்பும் வகையில் ஒருங்கிணைந்த குருப்-2, மற்றும்-2-ஏதேர்வுக்கான அறிவிப்பு கடந்த ஐந்தை 15-ம் தேதி வெளியிடப்பட்டது.

தற்போது 625 கூடுதல் காலிப்பணியிடங்களுக்கான பிற்சேர்க்கை வெளியிடப்பட்டுள்ளது. இதனால் அறிவிக்கப்பட்ட மொத்த காலிப்பணி

“

அரசுக்குறை மற்றும் அரசு பொதுத்துறை நிறுவனங்களிடமிருந்து காலிப்பணியிடங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை அதிகரித்து பெறப்படும் பக்ததில் கலந்தாய்வுக்கு முன்பாக மேலும் அதிகரிக்கப்படும்

”

யிடங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 1,270 ஆகும்.

அரசுக்குறை மற்றும் அரசு பொதுத்துறை நிறுவனங்களிடமிருந்து காலிப்பணியிடங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை அதிகரித்து பெறப்படும் பக்ததில் கலந்தாய்வுக்கு முன்பாக மேலும் அதிகரிக்கப்படும்.

இவ்வாறு அவர் கூறியுள்ளார். புதிய பதவிகள் சேர்ப்பு

குருப்-2 மற்றும் 2-ஏ முதல் நிலைத்தேர்வு கடந்த செப்.28-ம் தேதி நடந்தது. இத்தேர்வை 5

லட்சத்து 53 ஆயிரம் பேர் எழுதி ஈர். தேர்வு முடிவு டிசம்பரில் வெளியிடப்பட உள்ளது. இந்நிலையில், தற்போது புதிதாக 625 காலிப்பணியிடங்கள் சேர்க்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. டின்பிளஸ்சி வெளியிட்டுள்ள பிற்சேர்க்கை அறிவிப்பின்படி, தொழிலாளர் உதவி ஆய்வாளர், இளநிலை வேலைவாய்ப்பு அலுவலர், பால்வளத்துறை முதுநிலை ஆய்வாளர், உதவியாளர், உள்ளாட்சிதனிக்கை உதவி ஆய்வாளர் உள்ளிட்ட பதவிகளில் காலியிடங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை திருத்தியமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

அதேபோல், தலைமைச் செயலகம் மற்றும் சட்டப்பேரவை உதவிபிரிவிலுள்ளவர் (எஸ்எஸ்), கால்நடைபராயிரிப்பு ஆய்வாளர் (கிரேட்டு-2), கணக்கு மற்றும் கருவுலத்துறை கணக்காளர், தலைமைச் செயலக உதவியாளர் உள்ளிட்ட புதிய பதவிகளிலும் காலியிடங்கள் சேர்க்கப்பட்டுள்ளன என்பது குறிப்பிடத் தக்கது.

Source: *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 19 November 2025, p.10

சிறுவர் அறிவியல் பூங்கா
ஞ.80 கோடியில் திறப்பு

சென்னை, நவ. 20-

கோட்டுரும் அண்ணா நூற்றாண்டு நூலாகத்தில், 80.24 கோடி ரூபாயில் அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ள சிறுவர் அறிவியல் பூங்காவை, பள்ளிக்கல்வி துறை அமைச்சர் மகேஷ், நேற்று திறந்து வைத்தார்.

கோட்டுப்புறம் அண்ணா
நூற்றாண்டு நூலாகத்தில்,
குழந்தைகளுக்கு விளை
யாட்டின் வழியே அறிவியி
யல் அர்வத்தை தூண்டும்
வகையில், 80.24 கோடி
ரூபாயில், சிறுவர் அறிவியி
யல் பூங்கா அமைக்கப்பட்ட
டுள்ளது.

இதில், 'ஸ்டெம்' எனும், அறிவியல், தொழில்நுட்பம், பொறி யியல், கணிதம் ஆகிய துறைகள் சார்ந்த கோட்பாடுகளை விளக்கும் வகையில், 10 கருவிகள் இடம் மாவட்டநாலக ஆணைக்குழு தலைவர் மனுஷ யபுத்திரன், அன்னா நூற்றாண்டு நூலாலக முதன்மை நூலாலகர் காமாட்சி உள்ளிட்டோர் பங்கேற்றனர்.

Source: *Dinamalar*, 20 November 2025, p. 2

புதிய அரசு கல்லூரிகளுக்கு ரூ.59 கோடியில் கட்டடங்கள்

முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் திறந்து வைத்தார்



தமிழகத்தில் பல்வேறு மாவட்டங்களிலுள்ள அரசு கலை மற்றும் அறிவியல் கல்லூரிகளில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள கல்வி சர்க்கரை கட்டடங்களை வியாழக்கிழமை தலைமைக் கெயல்களுக்கு முன்து காலினாலிக் காட்சி மூலம் திறந்து வைத்த முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் உடன் உயர்கல்வித்துறை அமைச்சர் கே.வி.செழியன், தலைமைக் கெயலாளர் நா.மு.ராகாணந்தம், உயர்கல்வித் துறைச் செயலர் பொ.சங்கர், கல்லூரி கல்வி இயக்குநர் எ.சந்தூரவல்லி, தொழில்நுட்பக் கல்வி ஆணையர் ஜெ.இன்னிசென்ட் திவ்யா.

கெள்ளன, நவ.20: துமிக்கத்தில் 4 மாவட்டங்களில் ரூ. 57.73 கோடியில் புதிய அரசு கலைக் கல்லூரிகளுக்கான கட்டங்கள் மற்றும் ரூ.2.20 கோடியில் கட்டுதல் வகுப்பு வாழ்வதை கெள்ளன கலை மைச் செயலகத்திலிருந்து காணலால் வாயிலாக முதல்வர் முகப்படாவில் வியாழக்கிழமை திறந்து வைக்கார்.

கடவுர், விழுப்புரம், திருப்பதி தூர், அரியலூர் ஆகிய மாவட்டங்களில் முறையே வட்டுர், செஞ்சித் தொட்டறும்பள்ளி, ஜெயங்கொண்டாய் ஆகிய இப்பகுதிகளில் புதுதாக உருவாக்கப்பட்ட அரசு கலை மற்றும் அறிவியல் கல்லூரிகளுக்கு மூ. 57.73 கோடி யில் புதிய கட்டடங்கள் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ளன. மயிலாடுதுறை மாவட்டம் மனவட்மேடு அரசு கலை மற்றும் அறிவியல்

வியல் கல்லூரியில் ரூ.2.20 கேட்டியில் கூடுதல் வகுப்பினர்கள் கட்டப்பார்கள் என் என. இவற்றை முதல்வர் முக.ஸ்தாவின் திறுந்துவைத்தார்.

தொடர்ந்து, தமிழகத்தில் உள்ள 44 அரசு பாலிடெக்னிக் கல்லூரிகளை ரூ. 2,590.30 கோடியில் திறன்மிகு சிறப்பு மையங்களாக மேம்படுத்துவதற்கு டாரா பெக்னால்டிஸ் நிறுவனம், துமிக் கார்சின் தொழில்நுட்பக் கல்வி ஆணையரகம் இவ்வே முதல்வர்முக்கள்டாலின் முன்னிலையில் புரிந்துவரவு ஒப்புந்தழும் எக்சியூப்ரைமானது.

பணியியமன் ஆணைகள்: அன்னா பல்கலைக்கழக இணைப்பு கல்லூரிகளில் 190 உதவிப் பேராசிரியர்கள், 12 உதவி நூலகர்கள், 11 உதவி

கல்வி உதவி இயக்குநர்கள் பணியிட பங்களுக்கு தேர்வு செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது கனுக்கு பணி நியமன ஆணைகளை முதல்வர் வழங்கினார்.

இந்த நிதாரங்கில் உயர்கல்வித் துறை அமைச்சர் கோவி. செழியன் தலைவரைச் செயலர் நா. முருகானந்தம் உயர்கல்வித் துறைத் தலைவர் பொ. சென்கார், கல்லூரிகள் கல்வி அணையார் பா. கந்தராவல்லி, தொழில்நுட்பக் கல்வி அணையார் ஜெ. இன்னசென்ட் திவ்யா, அண்ணா பல்கலைக்கழகப் பதிவுவாளர் பொ. வெ. துமகேஸ்ந. டாடா டெக்னாலஜிஸ் நிறுவன செயல் துறைத் தலைவர் வரவேலேஷன் சபா, சுவ. வதேச தலைவர் (அரசு திட்டங்கள் - திறந்கள்) சுவதில் குமார் உள்ளிட்டேர் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

சென்னை ஆவண காப்பக ஆவணங்கள் உதவியுடன்

தமிழக வரலாற்றை ஆய்வுசெய்ய மாதும் ரூ.50 ஆயிரம் உதவித்தொகை

அமைச்சர் கோவி.செழியன் அறிவிப்பு

செம்புலில் உள்ள ஆவனைக்காப்பகத்தின் அறிய ஆவனைக்களை தெவியுடனத்திலும் வரலாறு குறித்து ஆயுஷ்மையை மாத்தை ரூபி அழிரம் உதவித் தொகை வழங்கப்படும் என்று உயர்கல் விதி துறை அமைச்சர் கோவி. செழியன் அறிவித்துள்ளார். இது தொர்பாக அவர் வெளி யிட்ட செய்திக்குறிப்பு:

சென்னை எழும்புறில் தியங்கு வரும் விவரங்களையும் தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகத்தில் 1633-ம் ஆண்டு முதலான புத்தகங்களும், 1670-ம் ஆண்டு முதலான பழங்குமரம் யான அவனங்களும் பராமரிக்கப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. தமிழகத் தின் விவரங்களை அவனங்கும் அறிந்து கொள்ள வேண்டும் என்ற நோக்கில் 1973-ல் தொடர்க்கப்பட்ட தமிழ்நாடு விவரங்களை அராய்ச்சி மன்றம், மாநிலவரும் காலத்திற்கேற்ப மீண்டுமிருவாக்கம் செய்யப்படும் விவரங்கள் அன்று தோறும் 10 மத்து 15 அடிவீசு

கன் வரை மேற்கொள்ளப்படும் என்றும் சுட்டப்பேரவையில் முதல் வர் அழிவித்தார்.

அதன்படி, 20 நூற்கணக்கு அராய்ச்சி உதவித் தொகை வழங்கப்பட்டு வரலாற்று ஆய்வுகள் மேற்கொள்ளவும் அனைத்தைக் கொள்கிடப்பட்டன. தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காபகத் தின் அரிய ஆவணங்களை அராய்ந்து, தமிழகத்தின் பெருமைக்கு வரலாற்றை வெளிகொண்டு வரும் வகையிலான அராய்ச்சியை ஓவண்டுக்கு மத்திரு 20,000 லட்சவித்தெள்ள யுடன் மேற்கொள்வதற்கு முதுகைலை பட்டதாரிகள் அல்லது தலைவர்கள் அராய்ச்சியாளர் கல்பிதிருந்து விண்ணப்பங்கள் வரவேற்கப்படுகின்றன.

இதற்கானவினணப்பப் படி வம், தகுதி மற்றும் பிற விவரங்கள் [www.tamilnaduarchives.tn.gov.in](http://www.tamilnaduarchives.tn.in.gov.in) என்ற இணையதளத்தில் வெளியிடப்பட நின்னன். இவ்வாறு அவர் தெரிவித்துள்ளார்.

Source: *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 18 November 2025, p.10

ஞ.19 கோடியில் 87 புதிய ஆம்புலன்ஸ்கள்

→ முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் கொடியசைத்து தொடர்பு வைத்தார்

தமிழக அரசு சார்பில் ரூ. 19 கோடி யில் 87 புதிய '108' ஆம்புவள்ளுக்களை முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் கொடிய வசதித்து தொடங்கி வைத்ததார். வீட்டுவசதி துறையில் டின்பி எஸ்சி முலம் தேர்வு செய்யப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு பணி நியமன அனைகளையும் வழங்கினார்.

இதுகுறித்து தமிழக அரசு வளியிட்ட செய்திக்குறிப்பு:

‘108 அவசராகல ஆம்புலன்ஸ்’ சேவையைகடந்த 2008 செப்.15-ம் தேதி அப்போதைய முதல்வர் கருணாநிதி தொடங்கி வைத்த தார். EMRI GHS என்ற தலியார் நிறுவனத்துடன் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்ட புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தத் தின் அடிப்படையில் 108 ஆம்புலன்ஸ் சேவை வழங்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. தற்போது 1.35 அவசராகல ஆம்புலன்ஸ்கள் செயல்

பட்டு வருகின்றன. இந்த அரசு பொறுப்பேற்றில் இருந்து இது வரை இந்த சேவை மூலம் கர்ப்பினிகள், சாலை விபத்துகளில் காயமடைந்தவர்கள், இதர அவசராகால மருத்துவ தேவைகள் என 85.98 லட்சம் பேர் பயன்பைந்துள்ளனர்.

இந்த சேவையை மேம்படுத்துவது தமிழக அரசு சுருப்பில் ரூ. 18.90 கோடியில் 87 புதிய '10⁸' ஆம் புலன்ஸ் களை சென்னை தலைமைக் கெயலாகத்தில் முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் நேற்று கொடியசை த்து தொடங்கி வைக்கார்.

പണ്ണിനിയമണം ആരാഞ്ഞ

வீட்டுவசதி, நகர்ப்புற வளர்க்கும் சித்த துறையின்கீழ் இயங்குமும் தமிழ்நாடு வீட்டுவசதி வாரியத்து தில தொழில்நுட்ப உதவியாளர்

(சிலில்) பணியிடங்களுக்கு
36 பேர், நகர் ஊழையைப்பு இயக்க
க்கத்தில் அளவர், உதவி வரை
வாரீ பணியிடங்களுக்கு 24 பேர்
தமிழ்நாடு அரசுப் பணியாளர் தேர்
வாணையம் (தினன்பிள்ளசி)
வாயிலாக தேர்வு செய்யப்பட்ட
னர், அவர்களுக்குப் பளிநியமனம்
வழங்கு கும் அடையாளமாக
பணிநியமன ஆணைக்களையும்
முதல்வர் வழங்கினார்.

சிறுபான்மையினர் நலத்து
துறை சார்பில்லி நிறுநூர், தேவீ,
திருவள்ளுநர், பெரம்பலூர்,
சிவகங்கை மாவட்டங்களில்
முஸ்லிம்களுக்கான அரசு பொது
கப்ரஸ்தானகளும் (நல்லடக்கத்து
தலம்), மேற்கண்ட மாவட்டங்கள்
மற்றும் ராமநாதபுரம்
மாவட்டத்தில் கிறிஸ்தவர்களுக்கான
அரசு பொதுக் கல்லறைத்
தோட்டங்களும் அமைக்க நிலம்

ତୁମକେଣ୍ଟିରେ ଶେଯପଟ୍ଟିବୁ. କର୍ତ୍ତରୁଷ
କଲର, ପେଯର୍ ପଲକେ ଉଣ୍ଠିଟି
ଅଧିପତେ ବସତିକିଳ ଅମେତ୍ତୁ
ପ୍ରାୟମିକକ ଉଣ୍ଠାତ୍ତି ଅମେତ୍ତୁ
କଣିମ ବ୍ୟାଙ୍କରୁମ ବିତାକ ଅନ୍ତର୍ଭ
କାଣ ଆଜନ୍ତାପାତ୍ରମ ଅଲୁବଲାର
କଣିମ ମକଳବାର ବ୍ୟାନକିନ୍ତାର,

இந்தநிகழ்வில் அமைச்சர்கள் முத்துசாமி, மா.சப்பிரமணியன், சா.முநாசர், தலைமைச் செயலர் முருகானந்தம், வீட்டுவசித் துறை செயலர் காகர்லவ உதா, சுகாதாரத் துறைச் செயலர் செந்தில்குமார், தேசிய நல்வாழ்வுக் குழும தியக்குநர் அருள் தம்புராஜ், பிறப்புத்துப் பட்டோர், மிகவும் பிறப்புத்துப் பட்டோர், சிறுபான்மையினர் நலத் துறை செயலர் லட்சமி பிரியா, துறை ஆணையர் ஆசியா மறியம் உள்ளிட்டோர் பங்கேற்றனர்.

Source: *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 1 November 2025, p.2

பேருகால சர்க்கரை நோயைத் தடுக்க சிறப்புத் திட்டம்

கெண்ண நவ: 14: பேறுகால சர்க்கரை நோயை ஆரம்பத்திலேயே தடுக்கும் சிற்பத்திட்டம் ஒரு நாள்தேவையில் தொடர்ச்சுப்படி என்று மக்கள் நல்லாழிவுத் துறை அமைச்சர்மா.கப்பல் பிரமணியன் தெரிவித்தார்.

உலக சர்க்களை நோய் விழிப் பூண்டுவது தின் (நுவா) நிதவாய் கொண்டுள்ள கலைவாணர் அரங்கில் கிள் பங்கீடுகளை வழங்கி நற்று. அதில் பங்கீடுகளுக்கு அமைச்சர் மாக்கப்பிரமணியன் விழிப்புதான்கூடாகவாய் மற்றும் கைப்போ வைகளினால் பார்.

தொடர்ந்து செய்தியாளர்களிடம் அவர் கறியதாவது: உலக அளவில் பெரும் அச்சுக்குற்தலாக உள்ள சர்வதே
நூற்றையெட்டு தடுக்கவும், கட்டுப்பா
பாம் பல் வைக்கவும் தமிழக அரசு
சார்பில் பல்வேறு திடப்பங்கள் முன்னிட

நோயாளி நோயாளி முறையில் தாய்த்துவம் கொடுக்கப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. சர்க்கார் நோயாளி முறையில் தாய்த்துவத்தில் முன்னோட்டினால் ஒருவரான பாட்டர் சேவையா, தமிழக முதல்வர்கள் டம் ஒரு சிகிச்சை முறையை பரிந்து துறைத்திருக்கிறார். பேறு காலத்தில் சர்க்காரான நோயாளி துறைத்துறை அதன் வரவீலாராக குழுநேர்த்துக்கு அந்தப் பாதிப்பு வரமால் தற்காக்கவும் ஒரு சிகிச்சைத் திட்டத்தை அவர் முன் மொழிந்திருக்கிறார்.

அடுத்த ஒரு வருத்தத்துக்குள் அந்தக் கிட்டப் பிரச்சினையில் ஒரு முறையாக வருத்தத்துக்கு அந்தப் பாதிப்பு வரமால் தற்காக்கவும் ஒரு சிகிச்சைத் திட்டத்தை அவர் முன் மொழிந்திருக்கிறார்.

தூட்டம் சென்னையில் நடைமுறைப் படுத்தப்பட உள்ளது. சென்னை, தஞ்சாவூர், கோவை, சேலம், திருநெல்வேலி, தருமபுரி, திருச்சி மகுத்துவக்கு

அமைச்சர் மா.குப்பிரமணியன்



கல்லூரி மருத்துவமனைகளில் குழந்தைகளுக்கான நடைப் 1, நடை 2 பிரத்யேக சிகிச்சை மையங்கள் தொடர்பு கூட்டு தற்போது யான்பாட்டில் உள்ளன.

யான்பெறும் 2.5 கோடியாவது யானங்கு மறுந்து பெட்டகம் வழங்கும் நிச்சயத்துறை நாள்களில் நடை பெற உள்ளது.

பாதுகாப்போய் திட்டத் தொற்று நோய்களால் ஏற்படும் வரிசியுய்கள் அண்டுக்கு 17,000-ஆக இருந்து, தற்போது அது வெளுக்கி குறைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. அதிக முன்று அண்டுகளில் அந்த

Source: *Dinamani*, 15 November 2025, p.5

உறுப்பு தாங்கதை ஊக்குவிக்க மாணவர் தூதுவர் குழு

நமது நிருபர்
சென்னை, நவ. 27: உடல் உறுப்பு தாங்கதை ஊக்குவிக்கும் வகையிலும், சமூகத்தில் அதுதாடர்பான விழிப்புணர்வை ஏற்படுத்தும் நோட்கிள்கும் மீருந்துவக்க கல்லூரி கனில் மாணவர் தூதுவர் குழுக்கள் அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளதாக மாநில உறுப்பு மாநாடு ஆணைய உறுப்பினர் செயல்பாட்டு என்.கோபாலகிருஷ்ணன் தெரிவித்தார்.

அதுதாடர்பாக கல்லூரி கனிலும் அதை விரிவு படித்துத் தொகைக்கை எடுத்து வருவதாகவும் அவர்களினார்.

பொதுமக்களிடையே உறுப்பு தாங்கதை ஊக்குத் தொடர்பாக, அவசியத்தையும் உணர்த்தும் மாணவர் தூதுவர் தீட்டும் கடந்த பிரதிவரிமார்கள் மாநாடு கொண்டுள்ளன மருத்துவக் கல்லூரியில் தொகையைப்பட்டது. அதன் தோடர்பாக மாநில உறுப்போது வரவரையில் தீட்டிப்பதைக் கூற்றுகின்றன. மூந்தாராக அரசு மருத்துவக் கல்லூரிகளில் வூம், திருநூல், கோவை, தேங்கியில், மாணவர் தூதுவர் அரசுக்கும் அதை விரிவு படித்துத் தொகைக்கை எடுத்து வருவதாகவும் அவர்களினார்.

இதுதாடர்பாக மாநில உறுப்பு மாநாடு கொண்டுள்ளது. இதைத் தாங்க கோபாலகிருஷ்ணன் வேண்டும் மருத்துவக் கல்லூரியிலும் மாணவர் தூதுவர் குழு தோடர்பாக கொண்டுள்ளது.

இதுதாடர்பாக மாநில உறுப்பு மாநாடு கொண்டுள்ளது. இதைத் தாங்க கோபாலகிருஷ்ணன் செயல்பட்டுள்ளது:

நாட்டின் பிற மாநிலங்களைக் காட்டி வூம் அதிகமாக உறுப்பு மாநாடு நடவடிக்கைகள் தீட்டியாகவும் மேம்பட்டினவையில் வூம் உள்ளன. அதன் காரணமாகவே இந்திய அளவில் தமிழகம் தோட்டிந்து உடல் உறுப்பு தாங்கதை முதலிடத்தில் உள்ளது:

ஒருவர் மூன்று கால அடையூம்போது

அதைக்குறிப்பிட்டு கால இனால் செயல்கிடில் உரியமாக உறுப்பு அளவில் முறையில் உறுப்பு செய்வது அவசியம். அதன் பின்னர், சம்பந்தமாக உறுப்பு தாங்கதை ஊக்குவிக்கும் கூடுதல் கோபாலகிருஷ்ணன் செயல்பட்டுள்ளது:

10 மருத்துவக் கல்லூரிகளில் அமைப்பு



உடல் உறுப்பு தாங்கதை ஊக்குவிக்கும் வகையில் அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ள மாணவர் தூதுவர் குழு.

தப்பட்ட நோயாளியின் உறவினர்களிடம் ஆலோசித்து உறுப்பு தாங்கதைக்கு ஒப்புதல் பெறுவது முக்கியம். அதைத் தொடர்பாக உறுப்புகளும் முறையாக அகற்றி பாதுகாப்பாக மருத்து நோயாளிகளுக்கு வெற்றிகரமாக போகுத்து வேண்டும்.

இந்த நவூமுறைகளுக்குள் மருத்துவம் கல்லூரியில் உறவியில், உள்ளியல் நியாகங்கும், சுதாங்கும், துணை முதல்வர் மற்றும் போர்டரியர்களின் வழி காட்டுவதில் இருக்குமார்க். தன்னார்வத்துடன் இந்தக் குழுவில் இணையும் மருத்து வகு இளைநிலை மாணவர்களுக்கு உறுப்பு தாங்க அறித்து பயிற்சி வழங்கப்படும்.

அதுதாடர்பாக புரிதலை சமூகத் தில் ஏற்படுத்தினால் மட்டுமே உறுப்பு தாங்கதை பாவாக அதிகரிக்க முடியும். அதைக் கருத்தில் கொண்டு கல்லூரிகளில் என்கிடி, இருப்பதைப் போல உறுப்பு தாங்க மாணவர் தூதுவர் குழு அளவுக்கு முடிவு செய்யப்பட்டது.

முதல்வர்ப்பாக சென்னை மருத்துவக்

கல்லூரியில் அந்த தீட்டும் செயல்படுத்தப்பட்டது. அதன் தீட்டியாக தற்போது 10 மருத்துவக் கல்லூரிகளில் விரிவபடுத்தப்படுவதனாலும், ஒரிடு நூல்களைக் கல்லூரியில் மருத்துவக் கல்லூரியிலும் அதை நூல் முறையில் படித்து உள்ளேர்க்கும்.

அந்த மாணவர் குழுவைச் சேர்த்துவர்கள், சம்பந்தப்பட்ட கல்லூரிமுதல்வர், துணை முதல்வர் மற்றும் போர்டரியர்களின் வழி காட்டுவதில் இருக்குமார்க். தன்னார்வத்துடன் இந்தக் குழுவில் இணையும் மருத்து வகு இளைநிலை மாணவர்களுக்கு உறுப்பு தாங்க அறித்து பயிற்சி வழங்கப்படும்.

அதுதாடர்பாக மாநில உறுப்பு தாங்கதை ஊக்குவிக்கும் கூடுதல் கோபாலகிருஷ்ணன் விளைவில் தமிழகம் முழுமொழியில் அனைத்து கல்வி நிறுவனங்களிலும் இந்தக் குட்டுமலர் தமிழ்நாட்டு என்றார்.

Source: Dinamani, 28 November 2025, p.6

‘மக்களைத் தேடி மருத்துவம்’ திட்டத்தில் 2.50 கோடி பேர் பயன்

தஞ்சாவூர், நவ. 17: தமிழகத்தில் மக்களைத் தேடி மருத்துவம் திட்டத்தின் கீழ் இதுவரை 2.50 கோடி பேர் பயன்தைந்துள்ளனர். தஞ்சாவூர் அருகே பிள்ளையார்நுத்தம் கிராமத்தில் திங்கள்கிழமை நடைபெற்ற நிகழ்வில் 2.50 கோடியாவது பயனாளிக்கு மக்கள் நல்வாழ்வுத் துறை அமைச்சர் மா.க.சப்பிரமணியன் மருந்துப் பெட்டக்கதை வழங்கினார்.

பிள்ளைர் அவர்களைத்துவம் தெரிவித்து:

தமிழகத்தில் கடந்த 11 மாதங்களில் பெங்கு நோயால் 9 பேர் மட்டுமே உயிரிழந்துவர்கள். இவர்களும் இவை நோய் நாயித்துப் பாதிப்பு, சரியான நேரத்தில் மருத்துவ சிகிச்சை பெறாதது போன்ற காரணங்களால் இறந்தனர்.

திமுக அரசு பொறுப்பேற்ற பிறகு தொடர்ச்சியாக டெங்கு பாதிப்பு பாராம் தடுப்பதற்கும், பாதிப்பு வந்தவுடன் உடனடியாக எடுக்கப்பட்ட விழிப் புணர்வு நடவடிக்கை மூலம் கடந்த நான்கரை ஆண்டுகளில் ஒன்றை இலக்க அளவிலேயே உயிரிழப்புகள் இருக்கின்றன என்றார் அமைச்சர் மா.க.சப்பிரமணியன்.

Source: Dinamani, 18 November 2025, p.10



‘மக்களைத் தேடி மருத்துவம்’ திட்டத்தின் 2.50 கோடியாவது பயனாளி மனோங்களிக்கு மருந்துப் பெட்டக்கதை வழங்கிய அமைச்சர் மா.க.சப்பிரமணியன், உடன், அமைச்சர் கோவி. செழியன் உள்ளிட்டேர்.

முதல்வர் வழங்குதல்

சென்னை, நவ. 17: ‘மக்களைத் தேடி மருத்துவம்’ திட்டத்தின் கீழ் 2.50 கோடி மக்களின் நவன் காக்கப்பட்டுள்ள நிலையில், இது குறித்து முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் ‘எக்ஸ்’ தளத்தில் வெளியிட்ட பதில்:

தடம் மாராத பயனாம் – தொற்றா நோய்களின் கட்டுப்பாடு என்க சாதனம் படைத்து, ஜ.நா. விருதை வென்று ‘மக்களைத் தேடி மருத்துவம்’ திட்டத்தின் 2 கோடி மேற்கொண்டு வரவே வரும் பயனாளிக்கு மருந்துப் பெட்டக்கதை வழங்கியுள்ள அமைச்சர் மா.க.சப்பிரமணியன் குட்டுமலர் வழங்குதல் வரும்.

நலமான தமிழ்நாட்டை உருவாக்கும் இந்தத் திட்டத்தைக் கண் காணித்து சிறப்புச் செயல்படுத்திவரும் துறையின் விரைவாக மருத்துவம் அனைத்து கல்வி நிறுவனங்களிலும் இந்தக் குட்டுமலர் வரும் தமிழ்நாட்டு என்றார்.

முத்து சூழ்மக்கள் நல்வாழ்வுக்காக 25 இடங்களில்

‘அன்புச்சோலை’ மையங்கள் தீரப்பு

திருச்சியில் நடைபெற்ற விழாவில் முதல்வர் தொடர்ச்சி வைத்தார்

திருச்சி

முத்து சூழ்மக்களின் நல்வாழ்வுக்காக தமிழ்மக்களில் 25 இடங்களில் ‘அன்புச்சோலை’ மையங்களை திருச்சியில் நேற்று நடைபெற்ற விழாவில் முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டா வின் தொடர்ச்சி வைத்தார். அப்போது அவர் முதியோருடன் கேரம் விளையாடி மகிழ்ந்தார்.

தமிழக அரசின் சமுகநலன்மற்றும் மகளிர் உரிமைத் துறை சார்பில், முத்து சூழ்மக்களின் நல்வாழ்வை உறுதி செய்வதற்காக மதுரை, கோயம்புத்தூர், திருச்சி, சேலம், திருப்பூர், சாலூர், தூத்துக்குடி, வேலூர், தருசாவூர், திண்டுக்கல் என 10 மாநகராட்சிகளில் தலா 2 மையங்கள், சென்னையில் தன்னையார்பேட்டை,

சோழிங்கநல்லூர், விருக்ம்பாக்கம் மற்றும் ராணிப்பேட்டை, கிருஷ்ணகிரியில் தலா 1 என 25 இடங்களில் ‘அன்புச்சோலை’ மையங்கள் அமைக்கப்பட்டன.

இதில், திருச்சிபொன்மலைப் பட்டி பாலை அறக்கட்டளை முதியேற் தில்லத்தில் நேற்று நடைபெற்ற நிகழ்ச்சியில் 25 இடங்களில் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டுள்ள ‘அன்புச்சோலை’ மையங்களை முதல்வர் திருந்து வைத்தார்.

கேரம் விளையாடிய முதல்வர்

அதன்பின், முதல்வர் ஸ்டா வின் அங்கிருந்த முதியோருக்கு மகளிர் சயலத்தில் குழுவினரால் தயாரிக்கப்பட்ட சிறு தானிய உணவு வகைகள், சுத்து

மாவு கொண்ட பெட்டகங்களை வழங்கினார். பின்னர், அவர்கள் கீருந்த சிலருடன் கேரம் விளையாடி மகிழ்ந்தார்.

ஆன், பெண் இருவரும் வேலை பார்க்கும் குடும்பங்களுக்கு, அவர்களுதுபீடில்தனி மையில் உள்ள முத்து சூழ்மக்களை பாதுகாப்பாக பராயிக்கப்படுவதை உறுதி செய்வது, இயன்முறை மருத்துவ சேவை, பொழுதுபோக்கு, திறன் மேம்பாடுநிகழ்வுகள் மூலம் மனமும், உடலும் சுறுசுறுப்புடன் இருக்கச் செய்தல், ஒருவருடன் ஒருவர் தொற்பு கொண்டு சமூக உறவுகளை வலுப்படுத்துதல் ஆகிய வற்றை நோக்கமாக கொண்டு இம்மையங்கள் அமைக்கப்பட்டு உதவிகளையும் வழங்கினார்.

இந்தியச்சிகளில், அமைச்சர்கள் கே.என்.நேரு, எஸ்.ரகுபதி, தேஷ்வீன், சௌகங்கர், அன்பில் மகேஸ், மெய்யநாதன், துறை செயலாளர் ஜேயர்ஜ் முரளிநீரன், உட்பட பலர் பங்கேற்றனர்.

பின்னர் புதுக்கோட்டைமாவட்ட சென்னை அருகே களமாவூரில் நடைபெற்ற அரசு விழாவில் ரூ.201.7 கோடி மதிப்பிலான 103 புதிய திட்டங்களை முதல்வர் ஸ்டா வின் தொடர்ச்சிவைத்தார். மேலும், ரூ.223 கோடி மதிப்பில் 577 முடிவுற்ற பணிகளை திறந்து வைத்ததுடன், ரூ.341.7 கோடி மதிப்பில் 43,993 பேருக்கு நலத்திட்ட உதவிகளையும் வழங்கினார்.

இந்தியச்சிகளில், அமைச்சர்கள் கே.என்.நேரு, எஸ்.ரகுபதி, தேஷ்வீன், சௌகங்கர், அன்பில் மகேஸ், மெய்யநாதன், துறை செயலாளர் ஜேயர்ஜ் முரளிநீரன், உட்பட பலர் பங்கேற்றனர்.

Source: *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 11 November 2025, p.2

தமிழகத்தில் ரூ.62.51 கோடியில் 12 புதிய ‘தோழி’ விடுதிகள்

அடிக்கல் நாட்டினார் முதல்வர் மு.க. ஸ்டாவின்



சென்னை, நவ. 13: தமிழகத்தில் ரூ.62.51 கோடியில் புதுதாக 12 இடங்களில் விடுதிகள் கட்ட முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாவின் தலைவரைச் செயலக்குத் திட்ட இருந்து கண்ணால் மூலம் வியாழக் கிழமை அடிக்கல் நாட்டினார்.

சமூக நலன் மற்றும் மகளிர் உரிமைத் துறை சாலூரில், திருச்சித்தூர், தூத்துக்குடி, வேலூர், தருசாவூர், திண்டுக்கல் என 10 மாநகராட்சிகளில் நேற்று பல்வேறு வகையான வசதிகள் வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. தோழி விடுதிகளின் அமைவிடம், வசதிகள், கட்டுமானப் பணிகள் நடைபெற்று தகவல்களையும், முன்பதிவு செய்வதற்கான வசதியை www.thozhi.in என்று இணையதளம் மூலம் போல்வர்கிறது.

தமிழகத்தில் ஏற்கெனவே 19 தோழி விடுதிகள் செயல்பட்டு வருகின்றன. மேலும், 14 விடுதிகளுக்கான

முழுகாண்தும், துறைச் செயலர் ஜேயர்ஜ் முரளிநீரன், குழந்தைகள் நலத் துறை அமைச்சர் தீது ஜீவன், தலைவரைச் செயலர் நா. முருகனன்தம், சமூக நலத் துறைச் செயலர் ஜீயபதி முருகிருதான், கூடுதல் தியக்குநாட்டாண்யா.

முழுகாண்தும், துறைச் செயலர் ஜேயர்ஜ் முரளிநீரன், குழந்தைகள் நலத் துறை அமைச்சர் தீது ஜீவன், தலைவரைச் செயலர் நா. முருகனன்தம், சமூக நலத் துறைச் செயலர் ஜீயபதி முருகிருதான், கூடுதல் தியக்குநாட்டாண்யா.

புதுச்சோலை இல்லம்: மேலும், கோவை மாவட்டத்தில் புதுச்சோலை எலும் பெயரில் அமைவிடம் அரசு மாநிரி கூடுதல் திட்டத்துடன் 16.95 கோடியிலும், திருச்சி அரசு கூடுதலுக்கு இல்லத்தில் ரூ.10.95 கோடியிலும் புதிய

முழுகாண்தும், துறைச் செயலர் ஜேயர்ஜ் முரளிநீரன், குழந்தைகள் நலத் துறை அமைச்சர் தீது ஜீவன், தலைவரைச் செயலர் நா. முருகனன்தம், சமூக நலத் துறைச் செயலர் ஜீயபதி முருகிருதான், கூடுதல் தியக்குநாட்டாண்யா.

புதுச்சோலை இல்லம்: மேலும், கோவை மாவட்டத்தில் புதுச்சோலை எலும் பெயரில் அமைவிடம் அரசு மாநிரி கூடுதல் திட்டத்துடன் 16.95 கோடியிலும், திருச்சி அரசு கூடுதலுக்கு இல்லத்தில் ரூ.10.95 கோடியிலும் புதிய

முழுகாண்தும், துறைச் செயலர் ஜேயர்ஜ் முரளிநீரன், குழந்தைகள் நலத் துறை அமைச்சர் தீது ஜீவன், தலைவரைச் செயலர் நா. முருகனன்தம், சமூக நலத் துறைச் செயலர் ஜீயபதி முருகிருதான், கூடுதல் தியக்குநாட்டாண்யா.

தமிழகத்தில் ஏற்கெனவே 19 தோழி விடுதிகள் செயல்பட்டு வருகின்றன. மேலும், 14 விடுதிகளுக்கான

Source: *Dinamani*, 14 November 2025, p.8

மேம்படும் பழங்குடி மக்களின் வசிப்பிடம்
தாட்கோ நிறுவனத்தால் கட்டப்படும் வீடுகள்

மலைகளில் வேறுன்றும் ‘தொல்குடி’

துடம் பதிக்கும் பழங்குடியினர் நலத்துறை



சு முக நீதியையும், அனைவருக்கும் சமயம் கிடைத்த காரணத்தையும் உயித் தெவில்தே ஒரு மக்கள் நல அரசின் தலையாய் கூலையாம். அதை விடுதலைக் கொடுக்க மயன்போன்ற தமிழக அரசு பழங்குடியினர் நலத்துறையினர் கீழ் செயல்படுத்த வரும் “தெலுஷு” திட்டம் ரூப் முக்கியான மைல்கல்லாப் பார்க் கப்பல்க்கிரகம்

கடவுள்களை விட்டு தெவையான பாதுகாப்பான, நிற்கால மனவிலீர்கள் அனுமதித்து, தூர்ப்படுகின்றன. இப்பணியை தமிழ்நாடு ஆகு தீவிரப்பிடிவிட்டு, வசதி மற்றும் மேம்பாட்டுக் கழகம் (தாட்கோ) ஏற்றுக்கொண்டுள்ளது.



Source: *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 9 November 2025, p 7

1979 வரு அதித்ராவிட்டர் மக்களுக்கு தினமலை வீடு கூடுதல் தங்கள் 45 ஆண்டு இல்லைக்குப் பிறகு, மீண்டும் பார்த்து பயிருக்கள் வீடு வசைத் திட்டத்தை, தொகுதி தட்டத்தின்மீது தாட்கொ முன்னெடுத்துள்ளது.

பழங்குடுமக்களுக்கான விடுதிகள் தொடர்பாக தமிழ்நாட்டின் பிரதான நூல்களும், கட்டுமான செலவுகளுக்கு துறை வகையில் நாட்கெப்பி மூலமாகவே கட்டுநூல்கள் மீண்டும், கம்பி சீமெந்ட் துறை நூல்கள், மின்சாரப் பொருள்கள் மற்றும் நிலைச் சிபா செப்புக் கேட்கக் கண்டிட்ட அனைத்தும் மிகக் குறைநூல்களையில் மொத்தாகக் கொடுமுடிந் செய்யப்பட்டு, கட்டுமானப் பணிகளின் கஞ்சகீக் கேள்விகளை வழங்கவேண்டும் என்றும் இத்தொடர்பிலே, நரிக்குறவர் மற்றும்

இத்திட்டத்தின்கீழ், நரிக்குறவர் மற்றும்

பிற பழங்குடியினருக்கான வீடுகள், கள் நூல்களுக்கிட வீல்வாய்ம் மலை, திருவாவண்ணமலை (வீல்வாய்ம் மலை) மற்றும் நீலகிரி போன்ற கடினமான மலைப்பகுதிகள் களில், கட்டப்பட்ட வாசாடுகள், சில இடங்களில், வகைப்படி பாந்து அறை ஒத்துநையம் பாதங்களில் விழாக்கலீல கிழமைகள் பொருட்கள் கொண்டு செலவிடப்பட வேண்டும். தொலைவர்கள், போகுகளை துறைக் கலையாகத்துடன் கிழமையை கூறி, மிகக் காலம் கிடைக்காது என்றும் கூறுகின்றன.

மாதாந்திர திருவிழா சுற்றுப்பு போன்ற பிரபுத்துக்கு அநேகமாக உயர்த்துக்கூட கொண்டு வெள்வது போன்ற பல்லியூபு சுவால்களுக்கு மத்தியில்லாத தோற்று நிறைவேற்ற பணியில் நிரப்பினால்படியாக செய்கிறது. முழுத் தெருத்துமில் அமைத்துக் கூடிய கூட்டுரை மூட்டு 1,500 விருத்திலிருந்து 1,250 விருத்திலிருந்து 1,000 விருத்தி தைப் பிரபுத்துக்கு அனுமதி, 250 விருத்திகள் அதை அனுமதி முழுவாலாவ் பயணாளி களிடம் வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளன.



கூடுதல் சுதூர அடியில் நவீன வீடுகள்

தாடோவின் குடும்ப செலவு குறைப்பு கூல்வக்கால், அரசாணையில் குறிப்பிடப்பட்ட 49 சது குறைப்பு 40 தாடு அதால் குறைப்பு 35 சது குறைப்பு கூல்வக்கால். வசீர்வாடு, பட்டுக்கமனம் சமாப்பெற்று மற்றும் குறிப்பெற்று என அதைகுறிப்பு வகுக்கால், விரிக்கை தாநா, பூரித் தன்மையை கூறி விரிவாக்கப்பட்டு வருமாறு மற்றும் பூரித்து வகுக்கால், கதவுகள், மற்றும் மீதுகிடைவு உள்ளது கட்டுப்பை அம்சங்களை நடை மறைக்கும் கட்டப்படுகிறது. குறைப்பு குறைப்பு குறைப்பு குறைப்பு பகுதிகளில் சாலை, மின்சாரத் துறை மற்றும் அவைநிலை கால்வரை போன்ற அதைகுறிப்பிட அடிப்படை வகுக்காலம் இல்லை கூல்வக்காலம் ஆகிறது.

ஞ.20 கோடியில் வளர்ச்சித் திட்டங்கள்

கென்னை, நவ. 20: வீட்டு வசதித் துறையின் கீழ் இயங்கும் சென்னை பெருநகர் வளர்ச்சி குழுமத்தின் (சிளம்டிர) சார்பில் மேற்கொள்ள அப்பட்ட ரூ.20.89 கோடியிலான வளர்ச்சித் திட்டங்களை முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாவின் தலைமைச் செயல் குத்தில் இருந்து காணேவீ மூலம் வியாழக்கிழமை திறந்து வைத்தார்.

ஆவடு, அன்னனார், கோணாம் பேடு அரசு உயர்நிலை பள்ளிகளில் ரூ.10.86 கோடியில் 20 வகுப்பு பறைகள், பல்நோக்கு கூடம், அறிவியல் மற்றும் கணினி ஆய்வுகள், நூலங்கள், ஆசிரியர் அறைகள், அலுவலகம், நவீன கழிப்புறை வசதி உள்ளிட்டவையும், கோயம்பேடு மொத்த விற்பனை அங்காடி வளாகத்தில் ரூ.4.47 கோடியில், 4,100 ச.அடி யில் பழங்கள், காய்கறி கள் மற்றும் தானியங்களுக்கான 6 குளிர்ச்சாதன சேமிப்பு கிடங்குகளும் புதிதாக கட்டப்பட்டுள்ளன.

புழல், மேட்டுப்பாளையம் சீன் வாசன் தெருவில் உள்ள கால் பந்து மைதானம் பார்வையாளர்



கன் இருக்கை பகுதி, வீரர்களுக்கான அறை, உடற்பயிற்சிக் கூடம் மற்றும் நவீன கழிப்பறை வசதிகள் மூடன் ரூ.4.27 கோடியிலும், சேத் துப்பட்டு, அப்பாசாமி தெருவில் உள்ள சிறிய கால்பந்து மைதானம் பார்வையாளர்கள் இருக்கை பகுதி வீரர்களுக்கான அறை மற்றும்

நவீன குழிப்பறை வசதிகளுடன் ரூ.1.29 கோடியிலும் மேம்புடுத்தப் பட்டுள்ளன. இவற்றை பயன்பாட்டுக்கு முதல்வர் முக.ஸ்டாலின் காணொலி வாயிலாக வியாழக் கிழமை திறந்து வைத்தார்.

ரുம், ചിണമ്പിൽ തലൈവരുമാൻ പി.കേ.ചേരുപ്പാടു, തലൈമാമ്പ് ചെയ്യലർ നൊ.മുരുകാന്തതുമ്, വീട്ടുവെച്ചി മർത്തുമ് നകർപ്പുഡു വാരാസ്ചീതി തുരൈ കൂടുതൽ തലൈമാമ്പ് ചെയ്യലർ കാക്കലാ ഉഖാ, ചിണമ്പിൽ ഉറുപ്പ് പിന്ന് ചെയ്യാൻ കോ.പിരികാബ്ജ് ഉൻ സിറ്റ്-ടോർ പന്ന് കേന്ദ്രാന്ന്.

Source: *Dinamani*, 21 November 2025, p.3

சென்னை மாநகர் போக்குவரத்துக் கழகத்துக்கு தேசிய விருது

சென்னை, நவ. 9: நாட்டிலேயே சிறந்த பொதுப் போக்குவரத்து அமைச்சர் சென்னட நகரம் என்ற உயிரை தேசிய விருதான நகர்ப்புறம் போக்குவரத்து திறன் விருதை மத்திய அரசு சென்னை மாநகர் போக்குவரத்துக் கழகத் துக்க வழங்கியுள்ளது.

வறியானா மாநிலம் குருதிரா மில் உள்ள தனியார் விடுதியில் இந்திய நகர்ப்புற இயக்கமாநாடு மற்றும் கண்காட்சி 2025 கூழிற் நகர்கிழமை நடைபெற்றது. இந்தி, மத்திய நகர்ப்புற வட்டு வசதி மற்றும் நகர்ப்புற விவகாரங்கள் துறை அமைச்சர் மனோகர் வால் கட்டர், இணை அமைச்சர் போக்குவரத்து அமைச்சர் வாங் துகோண்டு நகர்ப்புறம் போக்குவரத்து திறன் விருதை வழங்க அனுமதி போக்குவரத்து மற்றும் மின்துறை அமைச்சர் கா.வி. சிவசங்கர், சென்னை மாநகர் போக்குவரத்து மேலாண் இயக்கு



வறியானா மாநிலம் குருதிரா மில் உள்ள தனியார் விடுதியில் இந்திய நகர்ப்புற இயக்கமாநாடு மற்றும் கண்காட்சி 2025 கூழிற் நகர்கிழமை நடைபெற்றது. இந்தி, மத்திய நகர்ப்புற வட்டு வசதி மற்றும் நகர்ப்புற விவகாரங்கள் துறை அமைச்சர் மனோகர் வால் கட்டர், இணை அமைச்சர் போக்குவரத்து அமைச்சர் வாங் துகோண்டு நகர்ப்புறம் போக்குவரத்து திறன் விருதை வழங்க அனுமதி போக்குவரத்து மற்றும் மின்துறை அமைச்சர் கா.வி. சிவசங்கர், சென்னை மாநகர் போக்குவரத்து மேலாண் இயக்கு

Source: *Dinamani*, 10 November 2025, p.3

குவரத்தில் சென்னை மாநகர் போக்குவரத்து கழகத்தின் தரம் உயர்த்தப்படுவதுடன், சென்னையை நினைவு மற்றும் சிறப்பான பொதுப் போக்குவரத்துநகர் மற்றும் என உயர்த்தும் என மாநகர் போக்குவரத்துக் கழகம் தெரிவித்துள்ளது.

மெட்ரோ ரயிலுக்கு விருது கண்: இந்த விழாவில் சிறந்த பல் முனை ஒருங்கிணைப்புடன் கூடிய மெட்ரோ ரயில் என்றும் பிரிவில் சிழ்பு, நகர்ப்புற போக்குவரத்தில் சிறந்த விழாவிலே விருதும், சிறந்த பயணிகள் கேவலமர்யும் திரும்புதல் மூலம் போக்குவரத்துக்கான பாராட்டுச் சான்றிதழும் சென்னை மெட்ரோ ரயில் நிறுவனத்துக்கு வழங்கப்பட்டன. இந்த விருதுகளை தமிழகபோக்குவரத்து மற்றும் மின்சாரத் துறை அமைச்சர் கா.வி. சிவசங்கர் பேர் நிறுவுக்கொண்டார்.

‘சென்னை ஒன்’ செயலியில் ரூ.1,000, ரூ.2,000 பயண அட்டை

சென்னை, நவ. 27: சென்னை மாநகர் போக்குவரத்து மற்றும் பயண அட்டைக்களை ‘சென்னை ஒன்’ செயலியில் பெறும் வசதியை போக்குவரத்துத் துறை அமைச்சர் சா.கி.சிவ சங்கர் வியாழக்கிழமை தொடங்கி வைத்தார்.

சென்னை மாநகர் போக்குவரத்து மற்றும் பயணிகளுக்கும் வசதிக்காகவும், பணமில்லா பரிவர்த்தனையை அதிகரிக்கும் நோக்கிலும் ‘சென்னை ஒன்’ செயலி தொடங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

இந்த செயலியை ஏராளமான பயணிகள் பதிவிற்கக்கூடும் செய்து பயன்படுத்தி வருகின்றனர். இதில் பயணிகள் டிக்கெட் எடுத்து பயணிக்கும் நடைமுறை மட்டுமே இருந்துவந்தது.

தற்போது ரூ.1,000-க்கான கோல்டு அட்டை, ரூ.2,000-க்கான கான டைமெண்ட் சலுகை பேருந்து அட்டை ஆகியவற்றை ‘சென்னை ஒன்’ செயலியில் பதிவிற்கக்கூடும் செய்து கொள்ளும் வசதி செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது.

கோல்டு அட்டை குளிர்சாதன வசதி இல்லாத அனைத்து பேருந்து

அமைச்சர் சா.கி.சிவசங்கர் தொடங்கி வைத்தார்



‘சென்னை ஒன்’ செயலியில் மாநகர் போக்குவரத்துக்கான மாதாந்திர பயண அட்டை பெறும் வசதியை அறிமுகம் செய்து வைத்தத் தோக்குவரத்து மற்றும் மின்சாரத் துறை அமைச்சர் சா.கி.சிவசங்கர். உடன் மாநகர் போக்குவரத்துக் கழக மேலாண் இயக்குநர் தா.பிரபுசங்கர், சென்னை ஒருங்கிணைந்த போக்குவரத்துக் குழுமக் செயலாளர் ஜெயக்குமார், மாநகர் போக்குவரத்துக் கழக மேலாண் இணை இயக்குநர் ராம.சுந்தரபாண்டியன்.

துகளிலும் செல்லுபடியாகும். தைமெண்ட் அட்டை குளிர்சாதன தலை பேருந்துகள் உள்பட அனைத்து பேருந்துகளிலும் செல்லுபடியாகும் தைத்துத் துறை அமைச்சர் சா.கி.சிவசங்கர், திட்டத்தைத் தொடங்கி வைத்தார்.

பின்னர், நாட்டிலேயே சிறந்த பொதுப் போக்குவரத்து அமைப்புக்கிழமை நடைபெற

பைக் கொண்டநகரம் என்ற தேசிய விருதை பெற்றதற்கு பணியாளர்களுக்கு பாராட்டுச் சான்றிதழ், பதக் கங்களை வழங்கிய அமைச்சர், பிரசாரங்கள் வாகனத்தையும் தொடங்கி வைத்தார்.

செயலி மூலம் அட்டைகளை பெற்று பயன்படுத்தும் முறை: ‘சென்னை ஒன்’ செயலியின் உள்ளே நூழைந்து அதில் ‘பாஸ்’ என்பதைத் தேர்வு செய்ய வேண்டும்.

பின்னர் ‘பாஸ்’ பயண அட்டை என்ற பகுதியில் ரூ.1,000 அல்லது ரூ.2,000 அட்டை வகையை விருப்பத் தேர்வு செய்து கொள்ளலாம்.

இதையடுத்து, அதற்கான கட்டணத்தையுபில் பரிவர்த்தனைமூலம் செலுத்தும் வசதிக்குச் சென்று, கட்டணத்தைச் செலுத்தினால் டிஜிட்டல் வடிவிலான பயண அட்டை கிடைத்துவிடும். அதைப் பேருந்து பயணத்தின்போது நடத்துநிடம் காணப்பிக்க வேண்டும். நடத்துநர் அதை சரிபார்த்து பயன்கொடுவது வழங்குவார்.

Source: *Dinamani*, 28 November 2025, p.3

முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் 15-ம் தேதி தொடங்கி வைக்கிறார்

சென்னை

சென்னை மாநகராட்சியில் பணிபுரியும் தூய்மைப் பணி யாளர்களுக்கு இலவச உணவு வழங்கும் திட்டத்தை தமிழக முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் வரும் 15-ம் தேதி தொடங்கி வைக்கிறார்.

சென்னை மாநகராட்சியில் பணிபுரியும் தூய்மைப் பணி யாளர்களுக்கு 3 வேளையும் உணவு வழங்கும் புதிய திட்டத்தை முதல்வர் அறிவித்தார். சென்னை மாநகராட்சிக்கு உட்பட்ட பகுதிகளில் பணிபுரியும் 29,000 தூய்மைப் பணியாளர்

கஞ்சகு இத்திட்டத்தின் கீழ் உணவு விலை வசமாக வழங்கப்பட உள்ளது. 550 இடங்களில் உணவு வழங்கவும் ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்படுகின்றது.

இத்திட்டத்தை முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் வரும் 15-ம் தேதி தொடங்கி வைக்கிறார். இத்திட்டத்துக்கான விரிவான ஏற்பாடுகளை மாநகராட்சி நிர்வாகம் செய்து வருகிறது.

இதற்கிடையில், இந்து சமய அறநிலையத் துறை அமைச்சர் பி.கே.சேகர்பாடு, மேயர் ஆர்.பிரியா ஆகியோர் துறை முகம் தொகுதிக்கு உட்பட்ட வால்டாக்ஸ் சாலையில் புதி

தாக்க கட்டப்பட்டு வரும் சமுதாயக் கூட்டுத்தை நேற்று ஆய்வு செய்தனர். பின்னர் மாநகராட்சி மேயர் பிரியா கூறியது:

சென்னை மாநகராட்சி பள்ளிக் கட்டிடங்கள் மேம்படுத்தப் படுகின்றன. இதேபோல, சமுதாய நலக்கூடங்களை மேம்படுத்த வேண்டுமென மக்கள் கோர்க்கை வைத்தனர். அதன் படி துறை முகம் பகுதியில் கார், இருசுக்கர வாகனங்கள் நிறுத்தும் வசதியுடன் சமுதாய நலக்கூடம் அமைக்கும் பணி நடைபெறுகிறது.

ஏற்கனவே பருவமழை முன் நேற்பாடு பணிகள் தொடர்ச்சி யாக நடைபெறுகின்றன. இவ்வாறு அவர் கூறினார்.

கள் முடிவடையும், கொளத் தூர் தொகுதிக்குப்பட்ட பகுதி யில் சமுதாய நலக்கூடப் பணி தீவிரமாக நடைபெறுகிறது.

இது தவிர, சென்னை பெருநகர வளர்ச்சிக் குழுமம் சர்பில், ரூ.180 கோடி மதிப்பீட்டில் பல்வேறு சமுதாய நலக்கூடங்கள் கட்டுமானப் பணிகள் நடைபெறுகின்றன. இதில், வடக்கெனபுகுதிகளில் சமுதாய நலக்கூடங்கள் அமைக்கப்படுகின்றன.

தூய்மைப் பணியாளர்களுக்கு இலவச உணவு வழங்கும் திட்டத்தை முதல்வர் கூறினார்.

மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் வரும் 15-ம் தேதி தொடங்கி வைக்கிறார். முன்பெல்லாம் தூய்மைப் பணியாளர்கள் உணவு சாப்பிடாமல் மனினார்மூலம் பணியில் ஈடுபடும் குழல் இருந்தது. அவர்களுக்காக தனித்துவமாக இந்த திட்டத்தை முதல்வர் கொண்டிரவர் உள்ளார். விக்டேரியா அரங்கம் பணிகள் முடிவும் நிலையில் உள்ளன. விரைவில் பயன்பாடு கீழ்க்கண்ட படிப்படியாக நடைபெறுகிறது. ஏற்கனவே பருவமழை முன் நேற்பாடு பணிகள் தொடர்ச்சி யாக நடைபெறுகின்றன. இவ்வாறு அவர் கூறினார்.

Source: *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 13 November 2025, p.3

5 மாவட்ட கல்வூரிகளுக்கு ரூ.50 கோடி யில் புதிய கட்டிடங்கள் திறப்பு

உயர்கல்வித் துறையில் 213 பேருக்கு பணி ஆணை வழங்கும் பணியாளர்கள் வைக்கினார்



முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் வழங்கினார்

சென்னை

உயர்கல்வித் துறை சார்பில் ரூ.59.93 கோடியில் கட்டப்பட்ட கல்விசார் கட்டிடங்களை திறந்து வைத்த முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின், உதவி பேராசிரியர்கள், உதவி நாலக்கர்கள் உட்பட 213 பேருக்கு பணி நியமன ஆணை களை வழங்கினார்.

இதுகுறித்து தமிழக அரசு வெளியிட்ட செய்திக்குறிப்பு:

உயர்கல்வித் துறை உட்கட்ட மனைப்புகளை மேம்படுத்தும் வகையில் கடலூர், வடலூர் அரசு கலை மற்றும் அறிவியல் கல்லூரி, விழுப்புரம் மாவட்டம், செஞ்சி கலை மற்றும் அறிவியல் கல்லூரி, திருப்பதி தூர் மாவட்டம், நாட்ராமபாளி

அரசு கலை மற்றும் அறிவியல் கல்லூரி, அறியலூர் மாவட்டம், ஜெயங்கொண்டம் அரசு கலை மற்றும் அறிவியல் கல்லூரி, மயிலாடுதுறை மாவட்டம், மணல்மேடு அரசு கலை மற்றும் அறிவியல் கல்லூரி கலைக்கு ரூ.59.93 கோடியில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள புதிய கட்டிடங்களை முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் நேற்று திறந்து வைத்தார்.

புதிநூல்வரவு ஒப்பந்தம்

தமிழகத்தில் உள்ள 44 அரசு பாலிடெக்னிக் கல்லூரிகளை உலகத் தரமான தொழிற்துறை 4.0 தரங்களுக்கு ஏற்ப திறன் மிகு மையங்களாக ரூ.2,590.30 கோடி செலவில் மேம்படுத்த

பாடா டெக்னாலஜிஸ் நிறுவனம், தமிழக அரசின் தொழில் நுட்ப கல்வி ஆணையர் கம் இடையே முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் முன்விலையில் புரிந்துள்ளவு ஒப்பந்தம் கையெழுத்தானது.

மேலும், அண்ணாபலகலைக் கழக உறுப்பு கல்லூரிகளில் 190 உதவிப் பேராசிரியர்கள், 12 உதவி நாலக்கர்கள் மற்றும் 11 உதவி இயக்குநர் (உடற்கல்வி) பணியிடங்களுக்கு ஆசிரியர் தேர்வு வாரியம் மூலமாக தேர்வு நடத்தப்பட்டு, பின்னர் அண்ணாபலகலைக் கழகத்தால் நேர்முகத்தேர்வு நடத்தப்பட்டு, இப்பணியிடங்களுக்கு தேர்வு செய்யப்பட்ட வர்களுக்கு முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்

பாலின் நேற்று பணி நியமன ஆணைகளை வழங்கினார்.

இந்நிகழ்வில், அமைச்சர் கோவி.செழியன், தலைமைச் செயலர் நா.முருகானந்தம், உயர்கல்விச் செயலர் பொ.சுவகர், கல்லூரி கல்வி ஆணையர் எ.ஈந்தாவல்லி, தொழில்நுட்பக் கல்வி ஆணையர் ஜே. இன்னைசன்ட் திவ்யா, அண்ணாபலகலைக் கழகத்தின் பதி வாளர் வெ.குமரேசன், டாடா டெக்னாலஜிஸ் நிறுவன செயல் துணைத் தலைவர் சைலேஷ் சரப், உலகளாவிய தலைவர் கவுதில் குமார் உள்ளிட்டோர் பங்கேற்றனர்.

இவ்வாறு அதில் கூறப்பட்டுள்ளது.

Source: *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 21 November 2025, p.5



Madras Institute of Development Studies

79, Second Main Road, Gandhi Nagar

Adyar, Chennai 600020 India

Phone: 044-2441 1574 / 2589 / 9771

Email: pub@mids.ac.in Website: www.mids.ac.in