



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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# TEN

*from*

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**I** Institute of  
**D** Development  
**S** Studies

# Tamilnadu Economy in News

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## An MIDS Briefing

Volume 2 Issue 12 December 2025



Balanced Sectoral Growth, Manufacturing Strength And Policy-Led Investment Push Propelled TN To Fastest GDP Expansion

# TAMIL NADU AT FULL THROTTLE

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Tamil Nadu delivered a stand-out economic performance in 2024-25; its well-balanced growth model translated into a sustained surge in gross state domestic product (GSDP). A pickup across sectors enabled the state to post the highest nominal GDP growth of 16% in 2024-25, according to the latest RBI data. This momentum has cemented TN's position as India's second-largest state economy, behind only Maharashtra, while delivering the fastest compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 14.59% between 2020-21 and 2024-25.

After a marginal slowdown during the pandemic years, growth gathered momentum from 2021-22. "Between FY22 and FY25, Tamil Nadu's economy expanded by about ₹10.5 lakh crore. This growth rate has outpaced that of comparable, developed large states such as Maharashtra, Karnataka and Gujarat," said chief minister M K Stalin.

"While the 16% growth is in nominal terms, the real growth rate of around 12% is particularly impressive. For a state of Tamil Nadu's size to grow at double digits when many countries of similar scale are expanding at low single digits is noteworthy," says Nithin Chandra, senior partner, Kearney, a global management consulting firm. The growth is broad-based and well-diversified, not dependent on any single segment, he adds. Industry, services—including IT and ITes—and agriculture have all contributed, signalling sustainability.

The gap with Uttar Pradesh has widened. While the two were nearly equal in 2018-19—Tamil Nadu at ₹16.30 lakh crore and Uttar Pradesh at ₹16.22 lakh crore—by 2024-25, Tamil Nadu's GSDP exceeded Uttar Pradesh's by about ₹1.4 lakh crore. The state has also stayed ahead of Karnataka and Gujarat throughout the period.

Purushothaman Ravichandran, deputy chairman, CII southern region, attributes the momentum to sector-specific policies that unlocked large FDI inflows and the state gov's focus on tier-2 and tier-3 cities.

## MANUFACTURING LEADS THE CHARGE

"The industrial sector helped Tamil Nadu grow faster, and the services sector is also picking up. We also have high imports as well as strong FDI inflows. Inflation has come down significantly, so all the macro fundamentals are favourable for Tamil Nadu's faster growth," says K. R. Shanmugam, former director, Madras School of Economics.

Tamil Nadu's industry sector surged 13.4% (at constant prices) in 2024-25, with manufacturing growing 14.7%, far outpacing the national average of 4.5%. State finance secretary T Udhayachandran attributes it to sustained manufacturing momentum—especially in automobiles, electronics, textiles, and emerging EV and semiconductor ecosystems—a diversified and regionally balanced economic base, and high urbanisation driving services such as IT/ITes, e-commerce, finance, and tourism.

The transition from an outsourcing-led model to global capability centres (GCCs) and R&D centres engaged in chip design and other high-value work has also played

a role. "Much of this now happens in Tamil Nadu. GCCs are inherently sticky and tend to remain in a location long term; they cannot shift easily to other outsourcing hubs," says Chandra.

## MSMEs: QUIET GROWTH ENGINE

A vibrant MSME ecosystem, major ports driving exports, and strategic infrastructure investments have further strengthened the industry-services synergy MSMEs are deeply integrated into manufacturing clusters such as automobiles, textiles, leather, engineering goods, electronics, and food processing. They support innovation, resilient supply chains, and grassroots entrepreneurship, including women-led businesses.

"TN's MSME sector is a cornerstone of our economic leadership, acting as the true engine of inclusive growth. With more than 35 lakh Udyam-registered enterprises as of early 2025—ranking third nationally after Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh—this ecosystem employs around 2.5 crore people," says Ravichandran.

Human capital and strong social indicators have also supported growth. Govt initiatives such as Naam Mudhalvan and TN Startup have laid the foundation for accelerated expansion.

"This is complemented by a strong industrial ecosystem created through consistent spending on roads, industrial parks, ports, and logistics, and an improved investment climate driven by faster single-window clearances and sector-specific policies," says Udhayachandran.

However, challenges persist, particularly in agriculture, which has recorded negative growth over the past two years.

## GROWTH, FISCAL TRADE-OFFS

Tamil Nadu also carries the highest outstanding debt among the States at ₹9.56 lakh crore. Industry observers say Tamil Nadu followed an expenditure model combining extensive welfare schemes with strong capital investment, resulting in higher liabilities. However, if growth remains robust, these may not pose a major concern.

"With easing interest rates, borrowings are likely to be raised on more favourable terms, while strong growth should continue to support revenues," says Shyam Sekhar, founder-CEO, iThought Financial Consulting LLP.

"The debt levels largely reflect the size of the economy, making the debt-to-GSDP ratio a better gauge of sustainability," says Udhayachandran.

"Much of the borrowing has gone into capital formation and human-capital-oriented welfare spending, supporting long-



Graphic: © Joy Theophilus

GSDP data for 2023-24 and 2024-24 are based on revised budget estimates of the state (Source: RBI handbook of statistics on Indian states)

## Gross state domestic product (Current Prices) (₹ lakh)

State	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Maharashtra	261,065,110	314,382,142	364,154,290	405,584,723	453,151,842
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	<b>178,807,437</b>	<b>207,249,579</b>	<b>237,246,927</b>	<b>268,896,332</b>	<b>311,859,030</b>
Uttar Pradesh	168,294,255	202,803,029	229,576,318	264,287,702	297,822,351
Karnataka	164,081,146	199,202,931	231,969,623	255,724,135	288,390,323
Gujarat*	161,610,636	192,092,658	220,341,897	242,600,000	267,200,000

## States with highest outstanding debt (As of March 31 / ₹ crore)

State	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	<b>568,893</b>	<b>667,975</b>	<b>758,931.50</b>	<b>847,022.70</b>	<b>955690.5</b>
Uttar Pradesh	600,110	646,321	693,865.30	788,463.70	857844
Maharashtra	548,348	606,407	660,880.10	741,258.40	812068.2
Karnataka	421,504	503,988	569,471.10	635,618.50	725455.5
West Bengal	497,266	548,236	598,353.60	651,747.40	714195.6

## GSDP growth rate (%) - Year on Year

State	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Maharashtra	-1.74%	20.42%	15.83%	11.38%	11.73%
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	<b>2.58%</b>	<b>15.91%</b>	<b>14.47%</b>	<b>13.34%</b>	<b>15.98%</b>
Uttar Pradesh	-3.56%	20.50%	13.20%	15.12%	12.69%
Karnataka	1.55%	21.41%	16.45%	10.24%	12.77%
Gujarat*	-0.06%	18.87%	14.71%	10.10%	10.14%

term growth and productivity. Borrowings have remained within the FRBM framework, with fiscal consolidation pursued as a medium-term goal," he adds. Tamil Nadu has many of the ingredients of a trillion-dollar economy—scale, diversification,

human capital, a strong industrial base and a fast-growing services sector. The next phase will depend on disciplined execution, fiscal prudence and continued focus on high-value manufacturing and innovated services.

Source: The Times of India, 15 December 2025, p. 4

# 91 MoUs worth ₹36,660 cr. inked at T.N. Rising Summit in Madurai

CM M.K. Stalin says his government has taken steps to put the southern region on a par with the other regions in industrial progress. State attracted ₹11.38 lakh crore in committed investment in the past four years and created 34 lakh jobs, he adds

**The Hindu Bureau**  
MADURAI

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Sunday underscored the Tamil Nadu government's commitment to uniform and regionally balanced development.

He also announced that the State had attracted ₹11.38 lakh crore in committed investment in the past four years, with the creation of 34 lakh jobs.

Speaking at the T.N. Rising Summit in Madurai, he said the conclave had resulted in the signing of 91 memoranda of understanding (MoUs), entailing a cumulative investment of ₹36,660 crore, marking a major step in the government's plan to accelerate industrial growth in the southern districts.

Highlighting the focus on balanced development, Mr. Stalin said, "Our effort to transform the Madurai region into an industrial hub through the creation of 56,766 jobs is part of our promise to ensure uniform development across the State..."

He noted that attracting investment required more than political appeal from the Chief Minister.

Source: *The Hindu*, 08 December 2025, p. 4



**Key project:** Hyundai signed a memorandum of understanding for a shipbuilding project in Thoothukudi, in the presence of Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, on Sunday. R. ASHOK

"Investors examine policies, human resources, infrastructure, law and order, administrative efficiency, and long-term stability before choosing a location. I take pride in the fact that Tamil Nadu has become their first choice," he said.

Mr. Stalin said his government had taken steps to put the southern region on a par with the other regions in industrial development. Among the major projects was the PM MITRA Integrated Textile Park coming up in Virudhunagar district. It is being developed jointly with the Union government, at a cost of ₹1,894 crore, on 1,052 acres. Once function-

al, the park is expected to generate nearly one lakh jobs and modernise the State's textile sector.

He also pointed to a series of ongoing and upcoming initiatives in the region: a common engineering park and a mega food park in Theni district; land allotment for industrial parks in Sivaganga (108 acres in Iluppaikudi and 102 acres in Kazhanivasal); and a ₹314-crore TIDEL Park in Madurai and TIDEL NEO Parks in Sivaganga, Virudhunagar, Tirunelveli, and Kanniyakumari. An airport has also been proposed in Ramanathapuram.

The Chief Minister added that the earlier investors' conferences in

Thoothukudi, Hosur, and Coimbatore had helped secure nearly ₹1 lakh crore in assured investment, while the Madurai conference alone attracted 186 projects across sectors, including shipbuilding, electronics, food processing, and non-leather footwear.

The highlight is the Taiwanese company Pei Hai, which is establishing a non-leather footwear manufacturing unit in the upcoming SIPCOT Industrial Park in Madurai. The project will generate 15,000 jobs, with priority for local women workers.

He said the MoU signed with Hyundai for a shipbuilding project in Thoothukudi had placed Tamil Na-

du at the forefront of the sector.

In the education sector, Mr. Stalin announced the establishment of the Tamil Nadu University Research Park Foundation to strengthen industry-academia collaboration. In the Madurai region, a University Research Park is being developed in partnership with Madurai Kamaraj University and other institutions, with ₹13 crore as the initial funding and ₹2.25 crore for applied research grants.

He also released Madurai Master Plan 2044, prepared by the Directorate of Town and Country Planning, for a projected population of 42 lakh.

Ministers Thangam Thennarasu (Finance), T.R.B. Rajaa (Industries), K.N. Nehru (Municipal Administration), E.V. Velu (Public Works), K.K.S.S.R. Ramachandran (Revenue and Disaster Management), K.R. Periakaruppan (Cooperation), R.S. Rajakannappan (Forests), P. Moorthy (Commercial Taxes and Registration), and Palanivel Thiaga Rajan (Information Technology and Digital Services), and Madurai MP Su. Venkatesan, among others, took part at the event.

# Manufacturing sector played key role in TN's GDP rise: Min

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** State finance minister **Thangam Thennarasu** said on Wednesday that the



manufacturing sector emerged as the key growth engine of the state's economy,

propelling the state to a robust 16% growth in 2024-25.

The sector pushed the state's gross state domestic product (GSDP) to ₹31.19 lakh crore and the state's economy marked a sharp rise to ₹26.88 lakh crore in 2023-24, he said.

Source: *The Times of India*, 18 December 2025, p. 5

Thangam Thennarasu told reporters in secretariat citing the RBI's Handbook of Statistics on Indian States 2024-25 released recently, the state has outperformed other industrialised regions, including Maharashtra.

"Tamil Nadu currently has over 40,000 factories providing employment to about 27.7 lakh people," he said.

He said the high growth rate was a continuation of the strong economic momentum witnessed over the past three years under the present govt.

"TN recorded growth of 15.9% in 2021-22, 14.4% in

2022-23, and 13.3% in 2023-24, before touching 16% in 2024-25," he said. He added the construction and service sectors also supported the state's growth.

The export sector, which is a key pillar to achieve the state's trillion-dollar economy target by 2030, also saw a major surge, particularly in electronics, he said.

Welfare schemes and fiscal discipline were pursued alongside growth, with the fiscal deficit kept within 3% in 2025-26 and the debt-to-GSDP ratio declined to about 26% in 2024-25 from 27% in 2021-22, Thangam said.

## TN will be #1 in all sectors by 2031, says Stalin

CM hints at DMK win in 2026, says the state witnessed high growth for past 3 years even without centre's support

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@Chennai

CHIEF Minister M K Stalin on Saturday asserted that Tamil Nadu will attain the number one position in India across all sectors when the 'Dravidian Model 2.0' is completed in 2031, implying confidence that the DMK government under his leadership would return to power in the 2026 Assembly election.

He made the assertion while highlighting the state's economic performance of 16% growth rate in the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) in current prices in 2024-25, the highest compared to all other states, as highlighted in the Handbook of Statistics on Indian States released by the Reserve Bank of India on Thursday.

In a post on X, he said, the state has achieved this despite not being a large state in terms of area or population. "There is largely no support from the union government. Yet, if Tamil Nadu is number one in GSDP with 16%, that is the Dravidian Model".

"Tamil Nadu has witnessed stable, and at the same time, very high growth in the past three years. It is the RBI, not us, which is saying this," he said.



Highlighting that Tamil Nadu's economy has risen by ₹10.5 lakh crore (in current prices) in the financial years between 2021 to 2025 alone (during the DMK government's present term), bringing the total value to ₹31.19 lakh crore, he said the state's success continues in per capita income growth as well.

He added that Tamil Nadu's growth rate has surpassed other economically bigger states like Maharashtra, Karnataka and Gujarat.

"By the time the Dravidian Model 2.0 gets completed in 2031, I will ensure that there is no sector in India in which Tamil Nadu is not the number one state. This is certain," he said.

## If state maintains 9% growth, it can become \$4tn economy by 2040s: PTR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@Chennai

TAMIL Nadu's ability to convert its large workforce into sustained economic growth will determine whether the state can deliver two decades of expansion and emerge as one of India's most advanced regional economies, Information Technology Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan said on Saturday.

Addressing a gathering during the second day of the UEF Trade Summit 2025, part of the three-day event at the Chennai Trade Centre, he said human capital, not physical infrastructure alone, will be the decisive growth driver in an era of artificial intelligence and automation.

Thiaga Rajan said Tamil Nadu could realistically aspire to be a \$4-trillion economy by the mid-2040s if it sustains annual growth of around 9 per cent. The state's longstanding emphasis on education, social equity and inclusion, he said, gives it a structural advantage in preparing workers for a



Information Technology Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan at a gathering during the second day of UEF Trade Summit 2025 in Chennai on Saturday | EXPRESS

rapidly changing global labour market.

"Seventy-five years ago, Tamil Nadu was among the poorer regions of the country. Today, it ranks among the richest and performs strongly on human and social development indicators," he said, describing the transition as evidence that sustained investment in education and skills yields long-term economic returns.

Thiaga Rajan warned that the global environment is becoming more fragmented, with US-centric institutions losing influence and technology re-

shaping production and employment.

In such a setting, he said, education systems must be reoriented towards skills that differentiate humans from machines, as automation and artificial intelligence increasingly absorb routine tasks.

"Our greatest asset is human capital," Thiaga Rajan said. "Equipping the next generation with the right skills - and having the courage to reform education for that future - is the only way Tamil Nadu can sustain high growth over the next two decades."

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 14 December 2025, p. 6

# 'Robust fiscal management and visionary leadership drive T.N.'s economic growth'

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

Minister for Finance Thangam Thennarasu on Wednesday said the Chief Minister M.K. Stalin-led government's visionary and long-term outlook, new industrial policies, and robust fiscal management have helped Tamil Nadu achieve new heights in economic growth.

Addressing the media at the Secretariat in Chennai, Mr. Thennarasu said that according to data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Tamil Nadu's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) at current prices increased from ₹26.88 lakh crore in 2023-24 to ₹31.19 lakh crore in 2024-25, registering a

Source: *The Hindu*, 18 December 2025, p. 8



The State has recorded double-digit growth at current prices over the past four years

**THANGAM THENNARASU**  
Minister for Finance

growth of 16%. This marked a significant step towards the government's target of achieving a \$1 trillion economy by 2030, he said.

Mr. Thennarasu said the State had recorded double-digit growth at current prices over the past four years, with the manufacturing sector playing a crucial role. Over the same period, Tamil Nadu's manufacturing GSDP in-

creased by ₹1.46 lakh crore. The State had 40,121 factories, providing employment to about 24.75 lakh people. The construction sector had also made a significant contribution to growth, recording nearly 11% growth in 2024-25, he added.

The Finance Minister pointed out that the services sector, which accounts for nearly 53% of the State's Gross Value Addition, registered a real growth of 11.3% in 2024-25. The State government had also been focusing on the export sector, and the Chief Minister's visits to foreign countries had helped attract investments worth ₹11.47 lakh crore and generate employment for 34.08 lakh

people. The export sector recorded a nearly seven-fold growth over the last four financial years, he said.

According to the Minister, the fiscal deficit is projected at 3% of GSDP in 2025-26, while the debt-to-GSDP ratio has declined from 27% in 2021-22 to 26% in 2024-25.

He alleged that the Centre was reducing its contribution to welfare schemes while increasing the contribution of States. Mr. Thennarasu said the Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin), which replaces the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, would increase the State's fiscal burden.

## TN received only 17% of funds sought over 10 years

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**Chennai:** Tamil Nadu received ₹4,136 crore in disaster relief against its demand for ₹24,679.77 crore over the past ten years for losses from cyclones Nivar, Vardah, Ockhi, and Michaung, as well as repeated floods, according to data tabled in Parliament on Tuesday. The assistance sought covered the loss of lives, cattle deaths, damaged houses, and crop loss. The sanctioned amount is 17% of the state's request. The Union home ministry said disaster response begins with the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), which is placed at the disposal of state govts. Relief is drawn from this fund based on app-

<b>TRICKLE-DOWN ECONOMICS?</b>	
<b>Disaster Relief Fund (2014 to 2025)</b>	<b>Amount (₹ crore)</b>
Sought by Tamil Nadu	24,679.77
Approved by high-level committee	5,339.41
Released by Union govt	4,136.53

proved norms. SDRF is released in two instalments each year, in June and Dec, after states submit expenditure details for earlier releases.

TN received ₹12,208 crore under SDRF between 2014-15 and 2025-26. This is lower than allocations made to Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh, each of which received more than ₹24,000 crore over the same period. TN ranks ninth in total SDRF allocation during this

span. Additional support from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) is provided when a disaster is classified as severe. Funds are finalised after a three-step process involving an on-site assessment by an Inter-Ministerial Central Team, scrutiny by a sub-committee of national executive committee chaired by the Union home secretary, and approval by a high-level committee chaired by the Union home minister.

Source: *The Times of India*, 10 December 2025, p. 4

# Speedily resolve the fallout of US tariff war: RBI ex-guv Rangarajan

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ramesh Shankar R

**Chennai:** Former RBI governor C Rangarajan has emphasized the need for a quick resolution to the US imposing a 50% tariff on exports from India. "It has something to do with the weaponization of tariffs or geopolitical considerations. So, in this situation, I would say that we really need to shift our attention towards a quick resolution of our problems with the US, because it is not a purely economic consideration that is driving what is happening there," he said in his address at the Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS) Founder's Day lecture on 'Evolving contours of India's monetary policy' here on Thursday.

Noting that India is among the few countries facing a high tariff level of 50%, he said each country is attempting to get the better of the other and come to an understanding. "I hear now and then that the pact between In-



**CALL FOR ATTENTION:** Reserve Bank former governor C Rangarajan spoke at the Founder's Day lecture at Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS), on Thursday

dia and the US is nearing completion, but we just don't see it. It's always a matter of give and take, and what to give and what to take is the issue," he said.

He was referring to the US tariff war in the context of the exchange rate, which recently fell against the US dollar to ₹91. "What is happening now is capital outflows. Many institutional investors abroad are selling shares in India and repatriating the

money," he said. On inflation, Rangarajan said it is important that the monetary authority has a special responsibility to monitor, assess, and take appropriate action to control inflation. "I would say flexible inflation targeting is a good balance between the twin objectives of growth and price stability. It takes care of the need to control inflation beyond a particular level, and it ensures that growth is not affected," he added.

Source: *The Times of India*, 19 December 2025, p. 4

## CM urges Modi to find a resolution to U.S. tariffs issue, citing impact on T.N.'s exports

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

Following up on his earlier representations, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Thursday wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, reiterating his request for a resolution to the issue of the 50% tariffs imposed by the U.S. He went on to explain how Tamil Nadu had been affected by the tariffs.

The tariffs had translated into a "combined daily loss of ₹60 crore in revenue" for exporters across various districts of Tamil Nadu, he said.

Expressing a "deep sense of urgency and concern" over the escalating crisis in Tamil Nadu's ex-



port sector following the imposition of the tariffs on Indian exports, Mr. Stalin said the State formed the backbone of India's textile and apparel exports. Tamil Nadu accounted for 28% of the country's textile exports, and provided employment to around 75 lakh workers, he said, ad-

ding that the State also contributed nearly 40% of the country's leather and footwear exports, employing over 10 lakh workers.

"The current trade stalemate is not merely an economic setback, but a looming humanitarian challenge due to the irreparable damage caused by

the tariffs. In Tiruppur - the knitwear capital of India - exporters have reported a staggering wipe-out of ₹15,000 crore in confirmed orders, coupled with enforced production cuts of up to 30% across units. New orders are also drying up at an alarming rate," Mr. Stalin said.

The tariffs have translated into a "combined daily loss of ₹60 crore in revenue" for exporters in Tiruppur, Coimbatore, Erode, and Karur districts, pushing many small and medium enterprises to the brink of collapse, Mr. Stalin said.

**CONTINUED ON**  
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## U.S. tariffs: Stalin urges PM to find a resolution

A similarly dismal scenario is being witnessed in the footwear clusters of Vellore, Ranipet, and Tirupattur districts, Mr. Stalin said.

These tariffs were squeezing profit margins and compelling exporters to offer deep discounts just to retain their clientele, thus eroding their competitiveness and viability, the Chief Minister said. "The ripple effects are profound: lakhs of jobs hang in the balance, with the sector already witnessing layoffs and wage deferrals that threaten the stability of entire communities. Worse still, international buyers are rapidly diverting orders to competitors such as Vietnam, Bangladesh, and Cambodia, which have a tariff advantage over us," he added. Once these markets are lost, "regaining them would be an uphill battle, as entrenched supply chains rarely revert," Mr. Stalin said, and added that it had "ominous long-term implications for the future employment prospects of our youth, especially women".

Mr. Stalin urged the Prime Minister to prioritise a resolution of the tariffs issue through a bilateral agreement at the earliest. "A swift decision would not only revive our exporters' fortunes, but also reinforce India's position as a reliable global manufacturing hub. Being confident in your commitment to fostering equitable trade and protecting domestic industries and jobs, I look forward to an early resolution of this impasse," he said.

Source: *The Hindu*, 19 December 2025, p. 1 and 6

# TN may face ₹4,300cr annual burden if Union govt alters MGNREGS funding pattern

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**Chennai:** Tamil Nadu may have to spend an additional ₹4,300 cr every year on the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) if the Union govt replaced it with the proposed Viksit Bharat - Guarantee For Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission - Gramin (VBGRAM G), said senior state govt officials.

The Viksit Bharat - Guarantee For Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission - Gramin Bill with the altered funding pattern is set to be introduced in Parliament. While the Union govt fully funded the wages for unskilled labourers given under MGNREGS, the contribution would drop from 100% to 60% under the proposed bill, leaving states to bear the remaining 40%.

The state govt's share of the cost of materials used under the employment scheme would rise from 25% to 40%. Officials said the revised funding structure would place a significant strain on the state exchequer and dilute the objective of the employment guarantee scheme. MGNREGS currently guarantees 100 days of wage employment for rural households, with wages fully borne by the Centre.

According to govt data for 2020-21 to 2024-25, the Union govt released an average of ₹10,758 cr annually to Tamil Nadu, supporting employment for 88.57 lakh active rural workers.

"If the same level of employment is to be sustained under the new funding pattern, the state will have to spend at least

## SHIFTING BURDEN

Active workers   88.57 lakh		Total expenditure - wage/ material components	TN allocated 12 cr mandays for 2025-2026, so far received ₹4,354 cr. TN govt sought 9 cr additional mandays after exhausting the allocated mandays.
Financial year			
2020-2021	₹8,435		
2021-2022	₹9,795		
2022-2023	₹11,420		
2023-2024	₹13,395		
2024-2025	₹10,744		
Average   ₹10,758			

## Stalin slams Union govt for name change

**Chennai:** Chief minister M K Stalin said the Union govt was renaming MGNREGA with 'unpronounceable Sanskrit' due to BJP's grudge against Mahatma Gandhi. Condemning the move of the Union govt to replace MGNREGA with Viksit Bharat Guarantee For Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission Gramin (VBGRAM G), Stalin said the BJP was "sabotaging and destroying" the scheme.

"Out of sheer malice towards the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, his name is being removed from the scheme and replaced with an unpronounceable Sanskrit/North Indian name," he said in an X Post. Stalin said the scheme was implemented with 100% funding from the Union govt all these years. "But now they will allocate only 60% funds," Stalin said.

The new criteria for work allocation under the scheme have also been changed, he said. "Tamil Nadu is being punished because it has completely eradicated poverty. Because it is a state without poverty, the benefits of this scheme will not be available to the people of the state entirely," Stalin said. Congress and left party leaders have also condemned the Union govt's move. TNN

₹4,300 cr every year," an official said, adding other states, which are proactive in implementing the scheme, would also find themselves in a similar situation. "If the proposed changes are implemented, then this will lead to state govt cutting down the number of work days or workers to lower its expenditure," said a senior govt officer involved in monitoring of MGNREGS.

Though the proposed bill enhanced the number of workdays from 100 to 125 days, officials point out that the average number of days jobs we-

re provided was 52 nationally.

Vice-chairman of the state planning commission J Jayaranjan described the move as "anti-federal and anti-people". He said a similar approach was being followed in other centrally sponsored schemes.

"The state is forced to use its own resources or go for loans to run welfare schemes as the Union govt has failed to release its assured share after launch. The same approach is now being applied to MGNREGS, affecting the people's right to demand work," he said.

Source: *The Times of India*, 16 December 2025, p. 5

# Ditwah aftermath: Four killed in TN, 56K ha of paddy inundated

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@Chennai

THE cyclonic storm Ditwah, which weakened into a deep depression on Sunday night, resulted in at least four deaths in Tamil Nadu and the inundation of around 56,000 hectares of paddy fields in the delta districts even as it brought relatively less rainfall than expected.

Revenue Minister K K S S R Ramachandran, addressing reporters at the State Emergency Operations Centre in Chennai on Sunday, said that two persons died due to wall collapse in Thoothukudi and Thanjavur districts, while one died of electrocution in Mayiladuthurai, as per official records. In Villupuram, meanwhile, a farmer was killed late on Saturday when he came into contact with an electric wire that had snapped and fallen to the ground.

According to officials, M Renuka (20) was killed in Kumbakonam in Thanjavur district and three of her kin were injured when the wall of their old tile roof house collapsed during heavy rains on Saturday night. In Thoothukudi, 86-year-old S Ayyakutti alias



According to the agriculture minister, 149 cattle had died in rain-related incidents, while 234 houses and hutments had incurred damage | EXPRESS

Palavesam of Sivagalai died after the mud wall of his house collapsed on him while he was asleep on Saturday night.

R Prathap (19) of Mayiladuthurai died after being electrocuted by a snapped power line hanging over the road on Saturday night while he

was returning home on a two-wheeler. K Subramani (55) of Peramandur in Villupuram, who had taken his cow for grazing, died after a tree fell over an electric post, causing a live wire to fall on Subramani and his cow on Saturday. Both died on the spot.

The minister added that 149 cattle had died in rain-related incidents, while 234 houses and hutments had incurred damage. He said that in the delta districts, which received the most rainfall from the cyclonic storm, 56,000 hectares of paddy fields were inundated. **P7**

## Karaikal hit hardest

CHENNAI: Despite its weakening, cyclonic storm Ditwah delivered very heavy rain across the coastal belts. Karaikal received highest rainfall of 191mm between 8:30 am on Saturday till 5:30 am on Sunday, the RMC said | **P3**

## 'CM will decide on compensation for crop loss'

Continued from page 1: Answering queries of reporters after reviewing the rain situation in various parts of TN, Ramachandran said 24,000 hectares of paddy fields were in Nagapattinam district, 15,000 hectares in Tiruvarur district and 8,000 in Mayiladuthurai district. Assessment of damages will begin once the rainwater recedes, he said, adding that Chief Minister M K Stalin will decide on the release of compensation for crop loss. "We expected heavy rains in Cuddalore and Villupuram districts. But so far, these districts have received only moderate rains. The situation in Chennai is also similar," Ramachandran added. The minister said 38 relief camps had been set up in districts where heavy rainfall was expected, which included Pudukkottai (nine), Mayiladuthurai (two), Ramana thapuram (two), Tiruvarur (four), Thanjavur (two), Nagapattinam (10), Villupuram (seven) and one relief camp each in Ranipet and Chengalpattu. As of Sunday morning, 2,393 people were given shelter in these camps.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 01 December 2025, p. 1 and 7

# Farm sector's continued poor performance, an area of concern for T.N.

**T. Ramakrishnan**  
CHENNAI

Agriculture is the weak spot of Tamil Nadu's economy, as the sector has registered only a negative growth in the last two years (2023-24 and 2024-25), according to a perusal of the Reserve Bank of India's latest handbook of statistics on Indian States.

However, thanks to the much better performance of the secondary and tertiary sectors, the State has been able to grow in an impressive manner. For the purpose of this study, constant prices (base: 2011-12) have been considered.

As for total foodgrains (which cover rice, pulses, and coarse cereals in the context of Tamil Nadu), the production hovered around 107-120 lakh tonnes.

The highest of 119.98 lakh tonnes was achieved in 2021-22 – the year after the COVID-19 pandemic, and the lowest of 107 lakh tonnes was recorded in 2023-24.

As far as the State is concerned, while rice remains the lead component of the total foodgrains, coarse cereals, especially millets, come next, with pulses contributing marginally.

## More focus on pulses

While the production of rice and coarse cereals has been, by and large, comfortable over the years, experts are of the view that the State should focus on producing more pulses, whose production is around 3.6 lakh tonnes. In 2014-15, the production was as high as 7.5 lakh tonnes.

As for non-foodgrains,

Source: *The Hindu*, 17 December 2025, p. 6

## Negative growth

A look at the performance of the agriculture sector in Tamil Nadu



Net State Value Added (added by economic activity)

### Agriculture

(At constant prices - Base: 2011-12)

Year	Value (₹ in lakh)	Y-O-Y growth rate
2020-21	46,79,987	4.00%
2021-22	51,36,564	9.76%
2022-23	54,58,837	6.27%
2023-24	52,83,120	-3.22%
2024-25	51,86,276	-1.83%

### Rice production (in thousand tonnes)

Year	Quantity	Y-O-Y growth rate
2020-21	6,881.20	-4.04%
2021-22	7,906.60	14.90%
2022-23	7,557.00	-4.42%
2023-24	6,799.20	-10%
2024-25	7,093.60	4.33%

### Total foodgrains production (in thousand tonnes)

Year	Quantity	Y-O-Y growth rate
2020-21	10,823.60	-3.96%
2021-22	11,998.00	10.85%
2022-23	11,680.40	-2.65%
2023-24	10,700.10	-8.40%
2024-25	10,926.40	2.11%

Note: Total foodgrains include rice, pulses, and coarse cereals

**The sector has registered only a negative growth in the last two years (2023-24 and 2024-25), according to the RBI's latest handbook of statistics on Indian States**

the production of cotton, sugarcane, and oilseeds has seen a downward trend. Improvement in this area will certainly boost the performance of agriculture, the experts say.

For example, 20 years ago, the State produced oilseeds to the tune of 11.5 lakh tonnes, a figure that has not been exceeded so far.

Again, in the case of cotton, the production dwindled to 2.1 lakh bales last year, whereas it was 6.86 lakh bales in 2014-15.

The fall in sugarcane production was more apparent, with the figure being around 133.5 lakh tonnes. In 2006-07, the State produced 411 lakh tonnes.

## Several factors

The experts cite a host of factors for the performance of the farm sector. Vagaries of the monsoon, price fluctuations in the open market, lack of procurement arrangements for crops other than paddy (rice), and non-availability of many new varieties are mentioned by the experts, who emphasise that coordinated efforts among policy-makers at the Union and State levels, agricultural scientists, and farmers have to be made to improve the showing of the farm sector.

More importance should be given to raising horticultural crops, particularly in rain-fed areas, the experts add.

# CM inaugurates ₹98-cr fisheries infra projects

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@ Chennai

CHIEF Minister M K Stalin on Monday inaugurated fisheries infrastructure projects worth ₹98.92 crore, including upgraded fishing harbours, a modern fish landing centre and a new fish seed farm on behalf of the Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department.

According to a release, the projects inaugurated include additional infrastructure at the Thengapattanam fishing harbour in Kanniyakumari district, created at a cost of ₹60 crore; an upgraded fish landing centre with a trawl-net loop at Periyanyagi Patti fishing village costing ₹26 crore; a modernised fishing harbour at Tharangambadi in Mayiladuthurai district built at a cost of ₹10 crore; and a government fish seed farm established at Kadana in Tenkasi for ₹2.92 crore.

The statement also said the state is consistently upgrading coastal infrastructure to ensure safe berthing facilities for fishing boats, promote sustainable fishing practices and improve hygiene standards from catch to consumer. It added that the government has been implementing several welfare schemes to strengthen fishermen's livelihoods, including financial assistance during the annual fishing ban, supply of tax-exempt diesel to mechanised boats, subsidised kerosene for traditional crafts, and 50% subsidy for purchasing new tuna long-liners and gill-net boats.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 09 December 2025, p. 6

# 'App-based survey of crop damage slows enumeration'

Antony.Fernando @timesofindia.com

**Trichy:** Agriculture department's pioneering use of a mobile app to assess crop damage caused by Cyclone Ditwah has run into technical and practical hurdles, delaying enumeration process across the delta region.

Since Dec 1, officials have been using 'Crop Damage Assessment' app to record losses and determine farmers' eligibility for relief from the state disaster response fund.

While surveying, officials must log land survey numbers, farmer details, crop type, extent of damage, and geotagged photos of the farmer standing in the flooded field. Waterlogging has made such photography difficult, as many fields are reachable only through knee-deep slush. Frustrated farmers are demanding a return to manual enumeration.

Tenant farmers say the app's geos-

Source: *The Times of India*, 08 December 2025, p. 6

patial tagging links land parcels only to the registered owner's name. Unless their cultivator status is verified, tenants risk being denied compensation altogether, which has slowed down field work considerably. Officials say they are coordinating with revenue department to resolve disputes.

Heavy rainfall from Cyclone Ditwah submerged more than 82,000ha (about 2 lakh acres) of month-old samba and two-week-old thaladi paddy in Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai and Cuddalore.

State govt announced ₹20,000 a hectare (about ₹8,086 an acre) for paddy fields where damages exceed 33%. With govt's deadline of Dec 12, the existing strength of assistant agricultural officers is inadequate. "The department has deployed more staff from non-delta districts to help complete the survey on schedule," a senior official said.

# TN launches eighth round of seed fund for startups

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@ Chennai

STARTUPTN — the government's startup and innovation agency under the MSME department — will open applications on December 6 for eighth round of its flagship seed-funding programme TANSEED 8.0. The scheme, introduced in 2021 to bridge funding gaps faced by budding startups, has so far sanctioned grants to 169 such companies.

The programme offers up to ₹15 lakh for green-tech, rural-impact and women-led ventures, and up to ₹10 lakh for startups in other sectors. In return, StartupTN takes a 3 per cent "support stake" and provides beneficiaries a year-long accelerator programme that includes mentorship, networking access and opportunities to join national and international delegations. To qualify, startups must be registered in Tamil Nadu, recognised by StartupTN and certified by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade. Applications for TANSEED 8.0 will be accepted online until December 20. Guidelines are available on the StartupTN portal.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 06 December 2025, p. 4

# TN limits use of app to survey crops damaged by cyclone

Antony.Fernando @timesofindia.com

**Trichy:** Following protests from farmers' associations in the Cauvery delta districts, the state agriculture department has scaled down the use of an mobile app for assessing crop losses from Cyclone Ditwah and opted instead for manual surveys in some places.

A senior agricultural official from Nagapattinam said, "Following objections

from farmers, we are now carrying out surveys manually in 90% of cases and using the app in only 10%. Our staff are visually assessing the damage, re-

## RESULT OF PROTESTS

cording details in registers, and obtaining photocopies of farmers' documents."

Officials said manual surveys will cover 60% of affected areas in Tiruvarur, 50% in

Mayiladuthurai, 30% in Thanjavur, and 5% in Cuddalore districts. Heavy rain from Ditwah flooded around 82,000 hectares of month-old samba paddy and two-week-old thaladi paddy crops.

Farmers pointed out that GPS tracking does not recognise tenant farmers who were forced to get certificates from village administrative officers for availing the benefits. There were also practical difficulties in getting geotagged photos.

Source: *The Times of India*, 14 December 2025, p. 5

# To avert supply glut, Trichy research centre plans to monitor banana cultivation using Isro sat mapping

Antony.Fernando  
@timesgroup.com

**Trichy:** For banana farmers in Tamil Nadu, price fluctuations of popular varieties due to glut in supply have been a recurrent shocker. Prices of varieties such as yelakki (*Musa acuminata*) and poovan (*Musa paradisiaca*) have plunged from ₹45/kg to ₹5/kg, often driving many to debt.

Such shift in fortunes could become a thing of the past as ICAR-National Research Centre for Banana (NRCB) in Trichy plans to provide farmers with specific data on cultivation using satellite remote sensing technology in collaboration with Indian Space Re-

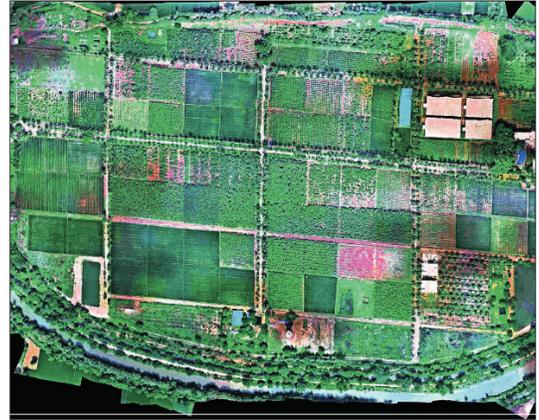
search Organisation (Isro).

Isro's National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) is partnering with NRCB on satellite-based aerial mapping, and a proposal for the two-year project, estimated at ₹6 crore, has been submitted to the ministry of agriculture for funding. "We will use drone and satellite data to evaluate growth stages and identify banana varieties across various blocks, then advise farmers in other areas to adjust their planting schedules accordingly," R Selvarajan, director of ICAR-NRCB, told TOI.

NRCB researchers will now interpret the satellite images provided by NRSC, and assess cultivation areas by ex-

amining spectral indices. "The lighter indices of spectrum signal early growth stages and denser ones indicate an advanced stage. Thus, the growth can be estimated," said G Prabhhu, a researcher at NRCB, adding that variety identification can also be done manually or via closer drone views.

"Prices fluctuate significantly, and while investment costs remain largely consistent, banana farmers suffer heavy losses when oversupply causes prices to plummet," said Trichy-based V A Subramanian, who cultivates banana in about 10 acres of land in Thottiyam.



**GOING BANANAS:** An orthomosaic map of ICAR-National Research Centre for Banana's farm in Trichy captured through drone survey

► To share data, P 4

Source: *The Times of India*, 27 December 2025, p. 1

# Kovai's TNAU gets patent for formulating chemical to control melon flies in gourds

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Coimbatore:** Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), Coimbatore, has received a patent for a chemical formulation to control melon flies in cucurbits (plants in the gourd family).

Trials were held at 20 locations across the state, including Theni, Dindigul, Tirupur, Coimbatore, Oddanchatram, and Krishnagiri.

The controller of patents at the patent office in Chennai granted a process patent to TNAU for inventing the "Nano Parapheromone Formulation and Preparation Method".

Cucurbit crops such as bit-



ter gourd, ash gourd, bottle gourd, snake gourd, and melons are particularly vulnerable to the melon fly. Female melon flies, after mating, lay eggs on the vegetables, creating small pores. In some cases, these eggs develop into larvae inside the vegetables. When the plants are affected by the flies, the fruits may fall off prematurely. These factors result in considerable market losses

for farmers, as the affected vegetables are often rejected.

The invention was developed over a course of seven years by Dr M Kannan, a professor at centre for plant protection studies, department of agricultural entomology, TNAU. He told TOI that farmers usually face a 30-50% loss due to melon flies, and in severe cases, up to 70%. To mitigate these losses, farmers often resort to applying pesticides 10 to 15 times before the harvest, which can lead to potential pesticide poisoning among consumers.

Commercial fly traps last no more than six weeks and typically consist of a chemical

composite that attracts male flies but lose effectiveness when exposed to sunlight.

"This invention offers a longer-lasting effect for up to 100 days. The nano parapheromone formulation (synthetic mimic for trapping pests) features a mixture in which the cue lure is embedded in a nano mesoporous material (material with tiny channels that create a large surface area), allowing for slow release. This will help farmers reduce the frequency of pesticide applications and the labour involved in pest control. They also won't need to purchase commercial traps every two months," he said.

Source: *The Times of India*, 13 December 2025, p. 8

## Swift approach led to implementation of 80% of MoUs: CM



**GOOD START:** Minister T M Anbarasan and TNCC president K Selva-purathagai at the inauguration of the manufacturing unit in Kancheepuram with chief minister Stalin

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** Chief minister M K Stalin on Friday said Tamil Nadu's "swift, transparent and investor-friendly" governance model had ensured that nearly 80% of the Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) signed by the state had translated into actual investments. This conversion rate was a strong signal of investor confidence, he said.

Inaugurating a manufacturing unit of Bharat Innovative Glass Technologies Limited (BIGTECH) at SIPCOT estate in Pillaipakkam in Kancheepuram district, Stalin said the commencement of production by a Fortune 500 firm—Corning International—within 17 months of signing an MoU, was a milestone that underscored Tamil Nadu's facilitative environment for industries. The BIGTECH plant established at a cost of ₹1,003 crore would provide jobs for more than 840 people, he said.

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

The MoU for setting up the plant, which would manufacture gorilla glass for mobile phones, was signed in Jan 2024 and the foundation stone was laid in June.

"This project being completed in such a short period sends a clear message to global investors that Tamil Nadu delivers," Stalin said.

The plant will be the first in India to manufacture precision front-cover glass using advanced processing technology. "The government has signed more than 1,000 MoUs and ensured that nearly 80% have materialized. This is the result of our swift decision-making, transparency and sustained focus on world-class infrastructure," he said.

Reiterating the government's goal of making TN a one-trillion-dollar economy by 2030, Stalin said development would be broad-based, covering all districts and sectors, with emphasis on creating jobs for youths across the state.

## Textile industry calls for removal of import duty on cotton

Removal of import duty will help MSMEs get raw material at affordable prices and reduce the divergence between domestic and global prices

**M. Soundariya Preetha**  
COIMBATORE

**T**he Committee on Cotton Production and Consumption recently estimated cotton production this year to be 292.15 lakh bales (of 170 kg each), which will be nearly five lakh bales less than the previous season that ended on September 30, 2025.

However, the demand is expected to be 337 lakh bales compared with 340 lakh bales last season. "When the availability is less than the production, why should there be restrictions on imports," said K. Selvaraju, secretary general of the Southern India Mills Association.

The government extended the import duty exemption on cotton in August this year till December 31, 2025.

The industry is demanding removal of the import duty so that the micro, small and medium-scale enterprises get raw material at affordable prices.

Source: *The Hindu*, 14 December 2025, p. 13



**Non-starter:** The ₹5,900 crore Cotton Mission announced by the Centre in the Union Budget is yet to take off. FILE PHOTO

The average cotton productivity in India is 440 kg a hectare as against 1,900 to 2,000 kg a hectare in Brazil. The ₹5,900 crore Cotton Mission announced by the Centre in the Union Budget is yet to take off. India needs to focus on seed quality and productivity so that cotton production does not decline.

The Confederation of Indian Textile Industry chairman Ashwin Chandran said that at a time when the ongoing uncertainty on the U.S. tariff remains a major concern for the textile and apparel sector, and

with cotton production likely to decline and fibre quality expected to deteriorate due to unseasonal rains, removal of import duty will reduce the divergence between domestic and global prices.

Atul Ganatra, president of the Cotton Association of India, said the CCI buys cotton at MSP and sells it after four months at ₹65,000 a candy. Brazil cotton is available at a lower price even with the import duty. If the CCI sells the cotton it buys immediately, cotton imports will decline, he added.

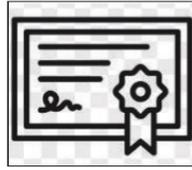
# 23% of all patents filed in India in 2024-25 were from Tamil Nadu

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** Tamil Nadu gov't has said 23% of total patents in India for the period 2024-25 were from the state.

According to an official release on Saturday, of 68,201 patents filed across the country in 2024-25, 15,440 were filed from Tamil Nadu, making it nearly 23% of the total patents filed. The state's figure grew by 62% compared to the previous year, as only 9,565 patents were filed in 2023-24.

This proves that the state is the knowledge capital of the



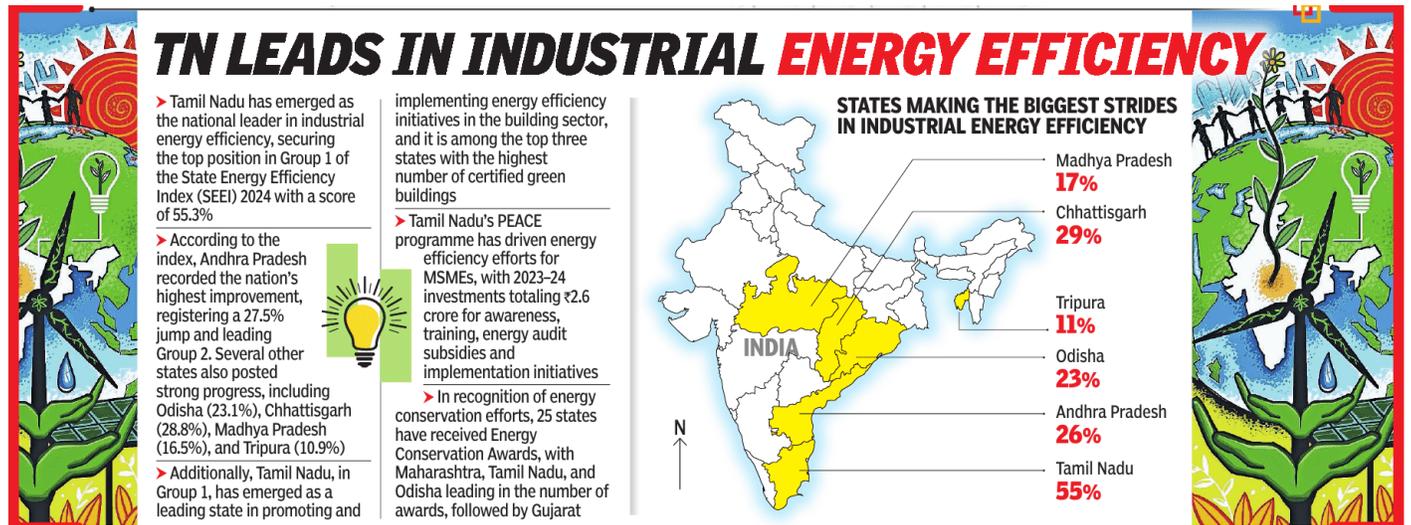
**Gov't attributed the achievement to platform for intensive research, strong industrial presence, and link between academia and industry ecosystem**

country, the release said, adding, "This shows that domestic inventions and research have increased in the state." Explaining the reasons for the increase in patent filings, the release said, "The platform for intensive research, strong industrial presence, and strong link between academia and in-

dustry ecosystem contributed to such a large number of patents filed in Tamil Nadu."

Recently, the Handbook of Statistics of Indian States released by the RSI revealed that Tamil Nadu registered a nominal GDP growth rate of more than 16% in 2024-25 compared to the previous year.

Source: *The Times of India*, 21 December 2025, p. 6



Source: *The Times of India*, 01 December 2025, p. 2

## Reliance plans ₹12K-cr bio-energy project in state

**C SHIVAKUMAR** @Chennai

A ₹11,760-crore bio-energy investment proposed by Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is set to be a part of Tamil Nadu's thrust for industrial expansion in the South. A memorandum of understanding is expected to be signed at the TN Rising investment conclave in Madurai on Sunday, sources confirmed

to TNIE. However, they did not divulge further details.

While specifics on the exact site, technology or timeline remain under wraps, the move aligns with RIL's green energy ambitions. The project, expected to generate around 5,000 jobs, will supply clean energy for domestic and industrial use across the



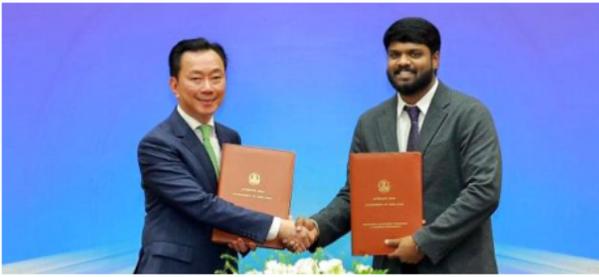
state, marking one of the largest investments announced for the region. Official sources said that the scale and location of the investment reflected TN's efforts to push major capital spending beyond the traditional industrial hubs of Chennai and the western corridor.

Despite a large and skilled workforce, the southern region,

with Madurai being the hub, has long struggled to attract large industrial investments.

It can be recalled that RIL chairman and managing director, who virtually addressed the Global Investors Meet in Chennai in January 2024, had emphasised the group's commitment to making new investments in TN in the renewable energy and green hydrogen sectors.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 07 December 2025, p. 1



**Sealing the deal:** Pham Sanh Chau, VinGroup Asia CEO, and Prabakaran Andi Saravanan, Associate Vice-President, Guidance Tamil Nadu, at the signing of the MoU. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

# VinFast to expand Thoothukudi plant at \$500 million

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

Vietnamese automaker VinFast and the Government of Tamil Nadu have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the allocation of 200 hectares of land in the SIPCOT Industrial Park in Thoothukudi to support the development of the company's existing facility.

VinFast will broaden its portfolio from electric cars to electric buses, e-scooters, and charging infrastructure. Under the second phase of its existing \$2 billion commitment, VinFast will invest \$500 million in Thoothukudi to develop dedicated workshops and production lines for electric buses and e-scooters, covering manufacturing, assembly, testing, and other related operations.

Under the MoU, the Government of Tamil Nadu will allocate approximately 500 acres (around 200 hectares) of land adjacent to VinFast's existing facility in Thoothukudi. The State will also provide support in securing the required permits, and in establishing essential infrastructure

Source: *The Hindu*, 05 December 2025, p. 7

such as electricity, water, internal road access, drainage, and waste management. For VinFast's proposed \$500 million investment, the State government will apply all applicable incentives, financial support measures, and statutory exemptions, in accordance with the State's prevailing regulations and relevant policies.

The existing plant covers 400 acres (160 hectares), and has an initial annual capacity of 50,000 electric vehicles, which is being expanded to 1,50,000 units.

"We welcome VinFast's next phase of planned development of electric cars in Tamil Nadu. The introduction of electric buses and e-scooters will generate additional momentum for the green transportation strategy of Tamil Nadu and India," Industries Minister T.R.B. Rajaa said.

Pham Sanh Chau, VinGroup Asia CEO and VinFast Asia CEO, said, "The proposed expansion of the Tamil Nadu plant will enable us to broaden our product line-up in India, allowing us to meet a wider range of customer needs."



The investment plan was formalised through a memorandum of understanding signed on Wednesday | EXPRESS

# Schneider inks ₹718-cr deal to expand TN ops, build new unit in Hosur

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
@ Chennai



**When existing investors choose to expand, it is proof that in TN approvals are fast, talent is available in abundance and industrial infrastructure is top-notch**

TRB Rajaa, Industries Minister

SCHNEIDER Electric India is expanding its manufacturing units in Chennai and Coimbatore and setting up a new green-field plant in Hosur with an investment of ₹718 crore, a move expected to create 663 direct jobs. The move is expected to help reinforce Tamil Nadu's position as a preferred destination for advanced electrical equipment and energy management solutions.

The investment plan was formalised through a memorandum of understanding signed on Wednesday between the Tamil Nadu government and the Schneider Electric Group, in the presence of CM MK Stalin.

Under the agreement, Schneider Electric India Private Limited (SEIPL) will scale up capacity at its smart manufacturing units in Chennai and Coimbatore. In addition, Schneider Electric IT Business India Private Limited (SEITB) will establish a new manufac-

turing facility in Hosur, focusing on prefab solutions and cooling systems. The Hosur facility is expected to come up on a 5,00,000 sq ft plot at Horizon Industrial Park. It will integrate rooftop solar power, energy-efficient HVAC systems and EV charging infrastructure.

Industries Minister TRB Rajaa said, "When existing investors choose to expand in Tamil Nadu, it is proof that in Tamil Nadu, approvals are predictably fast, talent is available in abundance and industrial infrastructure is top-notch." The MoU signing was attended by Rajaa, chief secretary N Muruganandam, senior officials from the Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce Department, and senior executives of Schneider Electric.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 19 December 2025, p. 4

# Stalin inaugurates Corning's ₹1,000-cr glass unit in Kanchi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

CHIEF Minister M K Stalin on Friday inaugurated US-based Corning's new manufacturing unit in Kancheepuram on Friday, built through a joint venture, and said the investment marked a "significant milestone" in the state's ambition to position itself as India's electronics hub.

Corning, a Fortune 500 company best known for its Gorilla Glass, has invested ₹1,000 crore in the facility, which is expected to create around 840 direct jobs. The plant has been established through Bharat Innovative Glass Technologies, a joint venture between Corning and its Indian partner, Optiemus.

Speaking at the event, Stalin said the state was developing an Electronics Manufacturing Cluster in Thoothukudi with port-linked infrastructure, and invited Corning and other global manufacturers to consider future investments there. He urged Corning's leadership to prioritise "high-quality, high-value employment" for local youth, saying the company's expertise in advanced manufacturing aligned with the skill



Chief Minister M K Stalin inaugurates US-based Corning's new manufacturing unit at Kancheepuram on Friday; (right) machines installed at the facility | EXPRESS

development goals of the state.

Stalin highlighted his government's investment track record, arguing that Tamil Nadu's "business-friendly ecosystem" had enabled projects to move rapidly from memorandum of understanding (MoU) to commissioning. The Corning facility — for which the MoU was signed in January 2024 and the foundation stone laid in June — was completed within 17 months.

The CM said the state had signed more than 1,000 MoUs over the past four years, with nearly 80% progressing to implementation. "The speed and transparency with which we operate sends a clear message

to global investors," he said.

The state has emerged as India's top exporter of electronics, recording shipments worth \$14.65 billion — 41% of the national total. Stalin described the nine-fold rise in exports over four years as evidence that the state had become the "Electronics Capital of India".

To strengthen the supply chain, the government has launched an Electronic Components Manufacturing initiative and announced a Semiconductor Mission 2030. Electronics manufacturing is now expanding beyond Sriperumbudur and Oragadam to Hosur; Coimbatore, Tiruchy and Tirunelveli, Stalin added.

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

# Tsugami launches ₹300-cr assembly plant in Chennai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@Chennai

IN a bid to deepen India's precision-engineering supply chain — including components used in Apple's iPhone — Japanese machine-tool maker Tsugami has inaugurated a large-scale assembly plant and foundry on the outskirts of Chennai.

The ₹300-crore facility was inaugurated by Kaoru Shirai-shi, director general of JETRO, in the virtual presence of Tamil Nadu's Industries secretary Arun Roy.

Located in SIPCOT Oragadam, the 3,00,000 sq ft plant sits on 15 acres and includes Tsugami's first foundry in India and only its third worldwide after Japan and China. Designed to produce 3,000 machines and 6,000 tonnes of castings annually, the complex is expected to generate more than 1,000 jobs across the ecosystem, including 700 direct positions.

The facility, aimed at supplying local vendors such as Foxconn or other mobile phone manufacturers as well as aerospace and medical-device manufacturers, reflects the company's push to tap into Tamil Nadu's skilled precision-engineering workforce at a time when labour shortage and ris-

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 05 December 2025, p. 4

ing manufacturing costs are squeezing Japan's machine-tool sector. "The lack of skilled workforce in precision engineering and the rising cost of manufacturing in Japan have created challenges for machine-tool makers. Chennai's skilled industrial workforce was a decisive factor," said K Balasubramaniam, founder of Tsugami India.

By building high precision machinery supply base in Chennai where Foxconn, Pegatron and Tata Electronics operate, Tsugami's expansion would strengthen local ecosystem that supports iPhone assembly.

Arun Roy said the project strengthens Japan's long-standing industrial presence in the state. The facility will enable end-to-end manufacturing — "from bare metal to finished machines" — enhancing localised production and reducing import dependence, said Balasubramaniam.

Tsugami had long relied on Proteck Machinery India — its local partner since 1998 — to assemble its machines at a nearby facility. That work will now move in full to Tsugami's new Chennai complex, marking a complete transition of assembly operations, said Balasubramaniam.

# Toy industry in the State is now worth around ₹1,000 crore

Sangeetha Kandavel  
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu's toy market has grown to around ₹1,000 crore, with a surge of new entrants and existing players expanding into newer segments and markets. Those tracking this particular segment say with the State unveiling a dedicated policy for the sector and targeting the establishment of a toy manufacturing park, more start-ups and MSMEs are expected to enter the space over the next two years.

December witnessed two significant developments. Funkskool announced its foray into the electronic toys segment with the launch of a new product range, while Madurai-based Rigwheels, which began operations in 2024, unveiled its debut product — the Vande Bharat toy train. "The decision to enter the toy industry was profoundly influenced by a business trip to Japan in February 2024. I was genuinely astonished by the sheer variety, infrastructure, and sophisticated ecosystem dedicated to high-quality toys there. I wanted to make similar toys here in Tamil Nadu," said Saravana Bhava, chief operating officer of Rigwheels. The manufacturing is done in India, with the primary assembly unit located in Madurai, and a significant portion of the specialised component manufacturing outsourced to facilities in Coimbatore.

Source: *The Hindu*, 26 December 2025, p. 8

K.A. Shabir, CEO, Funkskool India Limited, said: "Our collaboration with Moose Toys (Australia) has grown significantly this year, registering a nearly three-fold growth compared to last year, making it one of our most successful partnerships." Funkskool has manufacturing alliances with several other international brands such as Learning Resources, Hand2Mind, and Buffalo Games.

"There are 25-30 big players in the toy industry in Tamil Nadu. The industry is currently valued at approximately ₹1,000 crore. And it is expected to grow by 25% year-on-year," Santhosh Kumar, president of The Tamil Nadu Toy Dealers Association said. The toy manufacturers are worried about the higher U.S. tariffs and also Chinese products flooding the market.

Darez Ahamed, Managing Director and CEO of Guidance, the nodal agency for bringing investments into Tamil Nadu, said: "What sets Tamil Nadu apart is our full-stack manufacturing ecosystem. Whether it is injection-moulding, electronics for smart toys, wooden craftsmanship, textiles for plush toys, or packaging — the State already has established clusters. The new policy strengthens these linkages and empowers Tamil Nadu's toy makers to go global and global brands to design, develop, and manufacture in the State."

# TN Space Tech Fund open for applications via StartupTN

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

STARTUPTN, the state's nodal agency for startups and innovation, has opened applications for the Tamil Nadu Space Tech Fund (TNSTF), a ₹10-crore programme for 2025-26 structured as a 1:1 matching equity fund for early-stage space technology ventures.

Under the scheme, eligible startups must first secure confirmed third-party investment — from angel investors, venture capital firms, institutional partners or corporates — which the fund will then match rupee for rupee, subject to a cap of ₹50 lakh per company.

Funding will be deployed as equity and released in tranches linked to clearly-defined milestones. An expert committee will evaluate applications and recommend firms for support, with disbursements contingent on verification and compliance with scheme guidelines.

Applicant startups must be registered in TN and recognised by the department for promotion of industry and internal trade, a release said.

To avoid misuse, the scheme excludes entities formed through the splitting or reconstruction of existing businesses, as well as subsidiaries, joint ventures or associates of other companies. Indian subsidiaries of foreign or multinational firms are also ineligible, it added.

Applications are being accepted online through StartupTN's portal, with detailed guidelines and eligibility conditions available on its website. Queries related to the scheme can be addressed to [spacetech@startuptn.in](mailto:spacetech@startuptn.in)

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 23 December 2025, p. 2

# TIDCO floats tender to set up chip building & testing centre

C SHIVAKUMAR @ Chennai

TAMIL Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) has floated a tender to establish a Centre of Excellence for Semiconductor Design and Testing Infrastructure Development which will support the full product lifecycle — from design and validation to pilot manufacturing.

According to sources, the centre will serve as a state-of-the-art facility supporting industries in semiconductor design, prototyping and testing. The initiative will act as a bridge between academia, start-ups and established manufacturers with emphasis on supporting medium small and micro enterprises and early stage ventures that typically lack access to capital intensive testing and fabrication infrastructure.

The centre will be housed in a for-profit special purpose vehicle (SPV) structured as a joint venture between TIDCO and the selected private proposer. TIDCO has offered grant support of up to 40% of the project cost, capped at ₹75 crore, excluding land costs. Grant disbursements will be milestone-linked and subject to verification by the state agency, while the remaining investment will be brought in by the private partner and its consortium members. Irrespective of the size of the grant, TIDCO will retain a minimum 20% equity stake in the SPV or an equity share proportionate to the grant contribution, whichever is higher. This holding may be diluted to as low as 5%

to accommodate future investors, subject to board approval, and the state agency has also kept the option open for additional equity investments. TIDCO will appoint the chairman and one director to the SPV's board, while the managing director will be selected through a defined process.

The indicative facilities envisaged for the centre include product testing, validation and certification laboratories equipped with automated test equipment, system-level testing, EMI/EMC, reliability, failure and safety testing infrastructure. Other proposed components include a battery management systems lab, a small-scale "inch fab", a design and prototype development centre capable of assembly and pilot fabrication, a customer experience gallery, and an authorised training and skill development centre. Bidders are free to propose additional facilities aligned to emerging technologies or market demand. Operationally, the SPV will be responsible for marketing, operations and maintenance, and revenue generation. Potential income streams outlined in the tender range from testing and validation services and design support to component production, consulting and training programmes.

On land, bidders must specify their requirement and preferred location within Tamil Nadu. TIDCO has said it will facilitate land allotment on a nominal rental basis, subject to availability, though proposers may alternatively choose to house the centre in facilities developed on their own premises.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 28 December 2025, p. 3



# Nanotech will dominate industries: Min

**Chennai:** State govt is strengthening higher education and research with nanotechnology, said transport and electricity minister S S Sivasankar at the launch of the 3rd International Conference on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology at VIT University on Wednesday. "Nanotechnology represents a true revolution. It enables the de-

Source: *The Times of India*, 18 December 2025, p. 5

sign of materials capable of addressing the world's greatest challenges. Nations leading in nanotechnology will dominate future industries," he said. VIT chancellor G Viswanathan said the conference had 300 participants from 20 countries. Nobel laureate Mounji Bawendi said, "The aim is to discover new scientific properties and create novel materials with diverse applications. Directing students' intellectual growth towards science and technology is crucial, and institutions must encourage this." .TNN

# Solar PLI fuels production surge, but key hurdles persist

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**Chennai:** India's Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for high-efficiency solar PV modules has boosted domestic manufacturing. Still, persistent structural and policy challenges continue to slow progress toward supply-chain self-reliance, according to a report by JMK Research and IEEFA.

The PLI scheme has helped build long-term industrial capacity by linking government support to actual manufacturing output. Since 2022, India's solar module and cell capacities have expanded sharply, reaching 120 GW and 29.3 GW, respectively, by June 2025. Post-2022 additions alone account for 82GW in modules and 22.7 GW in cells—representing a 216% and 344% jump over 2022 levels. All of India's polysilicon and wafer capacity, still limited in scale, has emerged solely through the PLI scheme. About 36% of to-



NOT SO SUNNY

tal cell capacity and 24% of module capacity also trace back to PLI allocations.

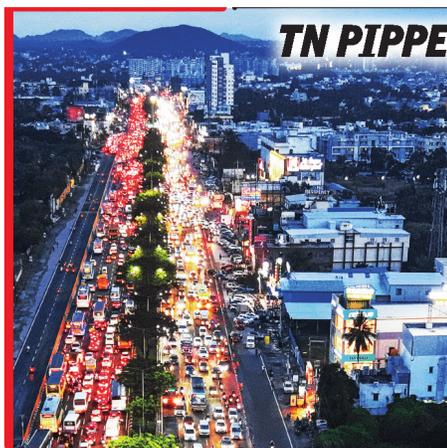
Yet, the report warns that India's upstream reliance on imports remains high, constraining its progress toward an integrated, self-reliant solar supply chain. It also flags high capital requirements for polysilicon and wafer units, inadequate incentives, inconsistent trade policies, and frequent ALMM revisions as major impediments. Reliance on imported machinery and Chinese technical expertise—compounded by visa restrictions—has further slowed capacity ramp-up. Global volatility in polysilicon and wafer prices continues

to erode cost competitiveness. Despite strong industry interest, PLI-linked commissioning lags targets. Only 31 GW of the planned 65 GW module capacity was operational by June 2025, attracting Rs 48,120 crore in investment—well below the Rs 94,000 crore goal. Job creation, too, remains far short of projections—38,500 against the targeted 1.95 lakh.

JMK Research estimates that PLI awardees face cumulative financial risks of up to Rs 41,834 crore due to penalties, lost incentives, and unrealised revenue.

The report calls for a broader redesign of the scheme, urging tax credits, low-cost financing, longer policy certainty, and stronger support for upstream segments. The challenge is heightened by the US move to impose a 50% tariff on Indian solar imports, adding further pressure on domestic manufacturers. The US is India's largest export destination, accounting for nearly 90% of module exports.

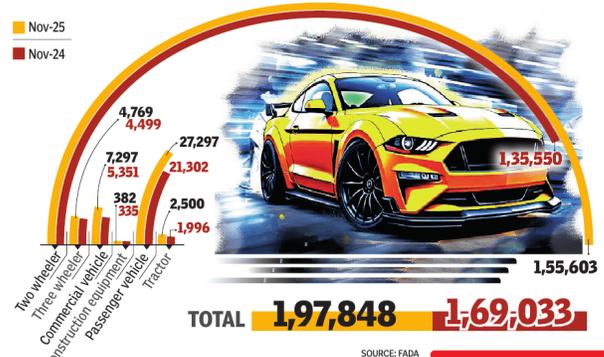
Source: *The Times of India*, 12 December 2025, p. 16



## TN PIPPED NATIONAL AUTO RETAIL GROWTH IN NOV: FADA

Tamil Nadu's automobile retails pipped the national average in November by a wide margin. According to the latest data from the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA), overall sales were up 17% in TN while they were up just over 2% all India. Two wheelers were up 15% while the segment was down 3% nationally. Three wheelers as a segment fared better nationally up 24% compared to up 6% in the state. Passenger vehicles were up 20% nationally and 28% in TN while trucks and buses were up 20% nationally and 36.4% in Tamil Nadu. In tractors and construction equipment the stats are skewed. Tractor sales nationally were up 56.5% whereas the trend in TN was that retails were up 25.25%. In construction equipment, TN was up 14% but nationally the sector was down 16.5%. Demand was boosted by GST cut, wedding season purchases, tourism and better supply of bestselling models said FADA.

### TAMIL NADU AUTO RETAILS IN NOVEMBER



Source: *The Times of India*, 15 December 2025, p. 4

# EV spark in Nov: e-3Ws surge MoM & YoY, e-2Ws soften

## TVS Bucks Trend With Sequential Growth; Others Gain YoY

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**Chennai:** After a record-breaking Oct driven by festive demand, battery-electric vehicle (BEV) sales moderated in Nov — but still posted one of the strongest monthly performances of 2025. Total EV registrations crossed the two-lakh mark, making Nov the second-highest month of the calendar year, with just one month left to go. Nov also recorded year-on-year growth of 12%.

According to data from the Vahan Dashboard, total EV registrations — covering all battery-powered vehicles but excluding hybrids — touched 2.17 lakh units in Nov 2025, up from 1.93 lakh units a year ago, though lower than the 2.36 lakh units recorded in Oct 2025.

Electric two-wheeler registrations dipped from Oct's highs but grew 7% ye-

TOTAL EV REGISTRATIONS (in lakh units)		
Nov 2025	Nov 2024	Oct 2025
2.17	1.93	2.36
E2W REGISTRATIONS		
Nov 2025	Nov 2024	Oct 2025
1.2	1.12	1.45



ar over year, signalling steady market confidence supported by several new launches. Among the top players, TVS Motor was the only one to register not just year-on-year growth but also a marginal month-on-month increase in Nov. Other leading manufacturers posted strong year-on-year gains, although their volumes moderated sequentially.

TVS Motor maintained its leadership position with nearly 30,310 units, up from 27,330 units in Nov 2024 (and 29,660 units in Oct 2025). Bajaj Auto followed with just

over 25,500 units, compared with about 26,400 units a year earlier. Ather Energy secured the third position with a little over 20,300 units (up from about 13,000 units in Nov 2024). Hero MotoCorp registered close to 12,200 units, significantly higher than the 7,350 units a year ago. Ola Electric, once the segment leader, saw volumes fall steeply to around 8,400 units, compared with 29,320 units a year ago.

### E3Ws buck the trend

Electric three-wheeler sales defied the typical post-

festive slowdown, posting growth both sequentially and year-on-year. Registrations crossed 83,700 units in Nov 2025, up from 63,400 units in Nov 2024 and 70,600 units in Oct 2025.

This surge comes despite ICE three-wheelers becoming more attractive after the recent GST rate cut. Whether this momentum in the electric three-wheeler segment will sustain in the coming months remains to be seen.

The electric passenger vehicle category — which includes electric cars and SUVs — also recorded robust year-on-year growth. Registrations rose to about 14,700 units in Nov 2025, significantly higher than the 9,200 units logged in Nov 2024. However, the numbers trailed Oct 2025's 19,000 units, reflecting a general cooling-off after the festive surge.

Source: *The Times of India*, 02 December 2025, p. 13

# TN extends 100% EV road tax waiver till 2027

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**Chennai:** In a major relief to the EV industry, the Tamil Nadu govt has decided to extend the road tax exemption for electric vehicles by a further two years and has issued an order to this effect.

The current DMK government had earlier extended the exemption benefit — which expired on Dec 31, 2022 — until Dec 31, 2025.

With EV adoption in Tamil Nadu remaining relatively low, players in the EV ecosystem had appealed to the state govt to extend the exemption further, noting that the absence of such incentives could discourage potential buyers and create viability challenges for charging operators and related businesses. The industry sought a road tax exemption until the state achieves at least a 20% EV adoption level.



**GREEN FUTURE:** The industry sought a road tax exemption until the state achieves at least a 20% EV adoption level

ast a 20% EV adoption level.

“This decision to further extend the 100% motor vehicle tax exemption on EVs until Dec 31, 2027, will make EVs more affordable for people across the state and sends a strong signal of Tamil Nadu’s commitment to clean and sustainable mobility. The move will also encourage people to make the most of

this opportunity and consider switching to EVs,” said Karthikeyan Palanisamy, director, Indian Charge Point Operators Association (IC-POA), and managing director & co-founder, Zeon Electric.

Although EV penetration in the two-wheeler and passenger vehicle (PV) segments in Tamil Nadu increased in 2025 compared with 2024, it remains in single digits.

With the state government extending the exemption benefits, industry players say the move will accelerate adoption, as many concerns around EVs are receding and consumers are increasingly opting for battery-powered vehicles.

“The extended road tax waiver is very welcome, especially since the demand-side incentive from the Union government is expected

not to be extended. However, there should be a greater focus on supply-side initiatives,” said Thiru Srinivasan, senior advisor (EV Sector), FaMe TN – Department of MSME, govt of Tamil Nadu.

The extension of sops is also expected to benefit new EV players such as VinFast, which has set up a factory in Tamil Nadu, and has been aggressively opening dealership outlets in major towns.

“VinFast has shown signs of early traction, with its electric car sales in November nearly doubling on a month-on-month basis. Cumulatively, the company sold 428 units during these three months. Within just three months of market entry, it has established a footprint of 27 dealership outlets and 84 service centres across multiple cities—a faster rollout than other new entrants,” according to JMK Research.

Source: *The Times of India*, 31 December 2025, p. 19

# State seeks additional funds from union govt for battery storage system project

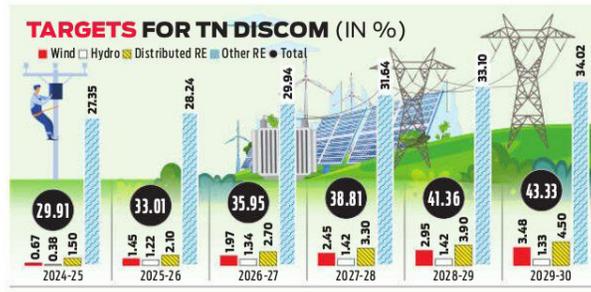
S. GURUVANMIKANATHAN @ Chennai

THE Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Limited (TNGECL) has requested the union government to sanction an additional fund of ₹18 lakh per Megawatt (MW) for its Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project. "The Ministry of Power has already approved setting up BESS units with a total capacity of 2,500 MW. In this, we have already allocated 1,000 MWh of BESS, unlocking annual savings of approximately ₹90 crore and we are also in the process of finalising the bids for the remaining 1,500 MWh of BESS to be implemented under

the ministry's viability gap funding," Aneesh Shekhar, Managing Director of TNGECL, told *TNVE*.

In addition to this, the TNGECL is planning to add another 1,000 MW as the state has significant potential in renewable energy. Tamil Nadu has currently an installed capacity of 44 Gigawatt with renewables contributing 55% of the mix. Studies project that the state will require 13 GW of energy storage by 2035 to managing variability and ensure grid stability, he explained.

Aneesh said that the expansion is required due to the steady increase in solar and



wind generation in the state. Many a times, power produced during non-peak hours goes unused because the grid cannot absorb it fully. With large-scale battery storage, Tamil Nadu will be able to store surplus green power and supply it during evening and night hours when demand is high.

Highlighting the role of Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO), another senior official from TNGECL said that buying power from wind, solar, wind-solar hybrid and round-the-clock renewable sources should follow the tariff-based competitive bidding guidelines issued by the Ministry of Power.

With Tamil Nadu adding a large amount of green energy to its grid, thermal plants are being forced to frequently ramp up and ramp down their generation, which puts stress on the grid.

"To manage these challenges, energy storage systems will play an important role. They help in balancing the grid, storing extra renewable power when generation is high, and supplying it when demand rises. This will support smooth integration of renewable energy and help grid operators handle fluctuations in both demand and supply," the official added.

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

# NLC India: Reinvention via clean energy, mining, storage push

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NLC India Ltd, the Navratna lignite-cum-power PSU, is at the cusp of one of the most ambitious transformations in its five-decade history. It has announced a capital outlay of ₹1.17 lakh crore over the next four to five years with a vision to shift from being a lignite-centric utility to a diversified, integrated energy and mining enterprise.

Of the total outlay, ₹41,000 crore is earmarked for green energy, including ₹22,000 crore for upcoming renewable energy projects and ₹10,000 crore for pumped hydro, with the balance going toward other clean-energy initiatives. The company has set aside ₹50,000 crore for thermal power projects and ₹14,000 crore for mining expansion and modernization. A further ₹11,000 crore will be invested in diversified ventures such as EV charging infrastructure, lignite-to-coal gasification, and overburden-to-sand conversion.

The proposed roadmap includes building 104.35MTPA of mining capacity and reaching 10GW of installed thermal capacity and 10GW of renewable capacity by 2030, while advancing new-age technologies such as battery storage, electric-charging infrastructure, and green hydrogen.

The Neyveli (Tamil Nadu) headquartered NLC India's integrated lignite-mining capacity is 30.1 million tonnes, and its coal-mining capacity is 20 million tonnes. Overall, its total mining capacity is about 50 million tonnes a year. Similarly, it aims to boost thermal capacity from the existing 6GW to 10GW and renewable capacity from about 1.6GW to 10.1GW.

The 2030 Vision aims to align its business with India's long-term decarbonization goals. The diversification blueprint lays out a multilayered strategy: aggressive scaling of renewable energy; development of energy-storage infrastructure; creation of green hydrogen-ready ecosystems; lignite-to-methanol conversion pro-



jects, and a national EV-charging network. While it is executing projects across half a dozen states, Tamil Nadu will also witness significant expansion as NLC modernizes its conventional capacity and builds new renewable and storage assets in the state. Over the next five to six years, it will add 1,000MW of high-efficiency thermal capacity and step up upgrades of lignite-based units. On the renewables side, new solar, wind, and hybrid plants are planned with battery-storage integration, says Prasanna Kumar Motupalli, CMD, NLC India Ltd.

The company is also preparing to deploy 500MWh of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) connected to substations across southern Tamil Nadu to support

renewable balancing. NLC currently operates more than 1.4GW of renewable projects in Tamil Nadu, with the new storage facilities being developed within substation clusters across the southern districts.

A feasibility study is complete, and tenders for the Tamil Nadu BESS projects have been floated. "We are participating in BESS tenders across the country as well. Storage will play a pivotal role in renewable integration," Motupalli notes. NLC's corporate plan envisions building 5GWh of BESS capacity over the medium term.

NLC is simultaneously advancing pumped storage projects (PSPs), which it sees as a key anchor for future grid stability. Partnerships with multiple state governments are under discussion, and preliminary studies for PSPs in the Neyveli mine voids are complete. Feasibility assessments are also underway for sites in Tamil Nadu and Odisha under new government guidelines.

"PSPs offer clear advantages over

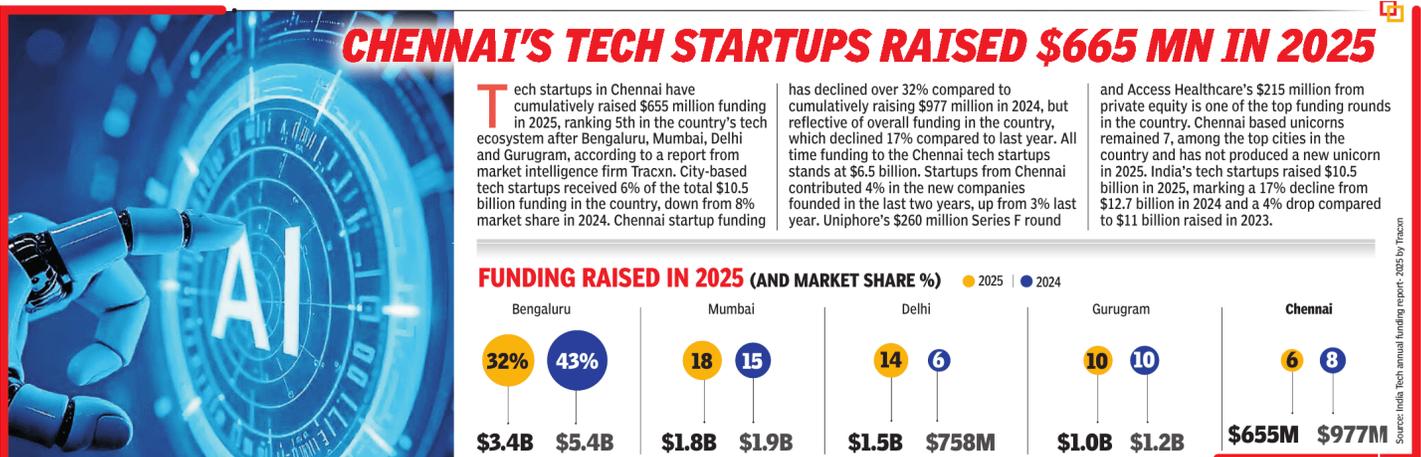
other storage technologies. However, obtaining environmental clearances and creating evacuation infrastructure remain crucial challenges," says Motupalli.

The company is also expanding into electric mobility, with plans for EV-charging corridors across operational regions and key highways. These will include DC fast-charging stations and solar-powered charging hubs. NLC has many notable achievements: it was the first central PSU to reach 1GW of renewable capacity; has paid consistent dividends for the last 26 years, and has been profitable for 48 consecutive years. Govt of India holds a 72.20% stake in NLC, whose total assets stand at around ₹60,943 crore, with a net worth of ₹19,966 crore.

NLC says its diversification plan is designed to support India's decarbonization pathway while strengthening national energy security. The new portfolio mix, it believes, will improve long-term revenue stability and reduce dependence on lignite amid a rapidly shifting energy landscape.

**“ WE ARE PARTICIPATING IN BESS TENDERS ACROSS INDIA. STORAGE WILL PLAY A PIVOTAL ROLE IN RENEWABLE INTEGRATIONS – Prasanna Kumar Motupalli | CMD, NLC INDIA LTD**

Source: *The Times of India*, 08 December 2025, p. 2



Source: *The Times of India*, 22 December 2025, p. 2

# TVS Srichakra to boost OHT biz with domestic mkt entry

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**Chennai:** TVS Srichakra, the manufacturer of two-wheeler and three-wheeler tyres under the Eurogrip brand, plans to strengthen its off-highway tyre (OHT) business with an entry into the domestic market next fiscal. The move marks a strategic decision for the company, which has so far focused exclusively on exports in the off-highway tyre segment. It plans to enter the tractor tyre segment, marking its debut in the domestic OHT space.

“These tractor tyres will be launched in the aftermarket, primarily targeting sub-50 HP tractors, although the company has largely been focusing on the high-HP segment for ex-

ports,” said T K Ravi, COO, TVS Srichakra, speaking to **TOI**.

The company expects its OHT business to double over the next two years from the current 10% share of its topline. “The company has products and resources in place now to support this expansion

## SUB-50 HP TRACTORS

and has also recruited talent across select global markets to drive growth. In addition, TVS Srichakra has recently doubled the capacity for off-highway tyres,” Ravi added.

While the global OHT market will continue to remain a key focus area, the company said growth in the domestic market is also becoming incre-

asingly important. TVS Srichakra has launched over 200 new products across global agricultural and construction segments. The domestic tractor market has seen strong growth over the past few years, with the momentum continuing this year as total annual volumes crossed one million units for the first time in a calendar year.

Headquartered in Madurai, the Rs 3,031 crore TVS Srichakra operates production facilities in Madurai (Tamil Nadu) and Rudrapur (Uttarakhand), with a combined production capacity of over three million tyres a month. The company also has a design centre in Milan (Italy) supporting its R&D centre in Madurai.

Source: *The Times of India*, 23 December 2025, p. 11

# StartupTN launches rural entrepreneurial communities in eight central TN villages

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**Trichy:** StartupTN, the state government’s startup promotion agency, has launched rural startup communities in eight villages across central TN under the Gramam Thorum Puthozhil (GTP) scheme, aimed at decentralizing tech-based entrepreneurship beyond tier-II cities.

In the first phase, the Trichy and Thanjavur satellite hubs have identified four villages each to support rural

entrepreneurs through financial assistance and regular workshops to validate startup ideas pitched by local youth.

Officials said the state govt plans to identify 100 villages through 10 satellite hubs. Under GTP, each recognized rural startup community will be eligible for a subsidy of up to ₹1 lakh. An existing rural startup or a nearby college-run pre-incubation centre will act as a spokesperson for each community, guiding members on government funding, bank loans,

registration, GST filing and market access.

“IT and fintech startups are already operating from small villages in the central region, generating local employment. We are also focusing on value-added food production in agrarian areas,” said Prabhu Karupannan, lead, StartupTN Trichy hub.

In Perambalur district, a startup community has been launched in Esanai village with support from a local fintech firm. A facilitation centre has been opened in the village community hall to

enable youth to meet and discuss startup ideas.

At present, three startup communities are operational in Pudukottai district, two in Tiruvarur, and one each in Mayiladuthurai and Thanjavur districts. More rural startup communities are expected to be launched in Jan.

“People in our village are slowly becoming aware of startups, but many are still unaware of government subsidies and grants for branding and marketing,” said R Deepan, managing director, Adcaps Fincub, Perambalur.

Source: *The Times of India*, 26 December 2025, p. 6

# HD Hyundai picks Thoothukudi for mega shipbuilding cluster

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@Chennai

HD Hyundai, one of the world's largest shipbuilders, has chosen Thoothukudi in Tamil Nadu as the site for a proposed mega shipyard, marking a major endorsement of the state's industrial and maritime strategy.

The Memorandum of Understanding to this effect was signed in the presence of Chief Minister M K Stalin, Industries Minister T R B Rajaa and sen-

ior executives from HD Korea Shipbuilding and Offshore Engineering at the TN Rising conclave in Madurai on Sunday.

For TN, the project bolsters a long-running effort to position itself as a hub for high-value maritime manufacturing, at a time when India is seeking to expand its domestic shipbuilding capacity.

"This decision reflects the confidence global industry leaders place in TN's vision, stability and economic strength," said a statement



from Rajaa's office, adding that the state had identified viable coastal sites early on and backed them with infrastructure, talent and incentives.

Speaking at the event, Han-nae Choi, senior vice-president in charge of global shipbuilding at the HD Hyundai Group, said the India project marked "the beginning of a shared dream" for the shipbuilding industries of India and Korea.

"This year, HD Hyundai delivered a cumulative total of 5,000 vessels since our founding — a milestone rarely matched in global shipbuilding," Choi said, noting that the company already operates shipyards in Vietnam, the Philippines and

Saudi Arabia.

"And now we are here in India — a nation full of energy and talent, with limitless potential."

After visiting Thoothukudi, Choi said he could "clearly imagine a mega shipyard being built here", citing the location's strategic advantages and skilled workforce. The vision, he added, would be realised together with the governments of India and TN, aligning with India's long-term Amrit Kaal 2047 goals. **P7**

## 'SMITH' PROJECT

### Thoothukudi's deep-water port favours shipbuilding

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Within the group, the collaboration has been termed the "SMITH Project" — Shipbuilding Make in India Together with Hyundai. "But standing here in Tamil Nadu," Choi said, "it is time to say: Shipbuilding Make in Tamil Nadu with Hyundai."

Shipbuilding has one of the highest employment multipliers in manufacturing, often estimated at around 6.4 times. This means one direct job can support nearly six ancillary jobs across services, logistics and component manufacturing. Around 60-65% of value addition in shipbuilding typically comes from ancillary and supplier industries.

Thoothukudi's selection was shaped by a mix of geography and economics. The deep-water port, favourable climatic conditions and existing industrial base provide what officials describe as a clear pathway for a world-class shipyard, supported by planned investments in port and logistics infrastructure. The district has also emerged as a focal point for southern Tamil Nadu's industrial push, spanning energy, ports and manufacturing.

"Incentives, modern infrastructure and focused policy have created an environment where global companies can grow with confidence," the minister's office said. "That is why HD Hyundai has chosen Tamil Nadu as its preferred partner."

The Tamil Nadu government is also preparing to roll out a dedicated maritime manufacturing policy to provide a clear framework for investors and accelerate project execution.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 08 December 2025, p. 1 and 7

# Chief Minister inaugurates Bigtech's Gorilla Glass manufacturing unit in Kancheepuram district

The Hindu Bureau  
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Friday inaugurated a manufacturing unit of Bigtech, which makes Gorilla Glass for smartphones. Bigtech, a joint venture between U.S.-based Corning and Indian company Optimus, has established the unit at the SIPCOT Industrial Park in Pillaipakkam in Kancheepuram district near Chennai at an investment of ₹1,003 crore.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Stalin hoped that Bharat Innovative Glass Technologies (Bigtech) would continue to grow, attract even larger investments, and create many more jobs for the people of Tamil Nadu.

"I would like to take this opportunity to make a re-



**Big-ticket investment:** Chief Minister M.K. Stalin inaugurating the manufacturing unit at Pillaipakkam on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

quest to the leadership of Corning. You have set global benchmarks in advanced technology, high-value manufacturing, and top-quality employment. On similar lines, I hope this project will have a special emphasis on creating high-quality, high-value job opportunities for the youth of Tamil Nadu. I am confident that you will do this for Tamil Nadu," he said.

Listing the steps being taken by the DMK government for accelerating investment, Mr. Stalin said, "The speed and transparency with which we operate send a clear and powerful message to global investors about Tamil Nadu's business-friendly environment."

Mr. Stalin said the trust that global companies reposed in the State enabled

Tamil Nadu to achieve remarkable growth over the past four years across various sectors, including electronics, global capability centres, and research and development.

Tamil Nadu ranked first in exports in the country with \$14.65 billion, he said. "We account for a substantial 41% of the country's total electronics exports. Over the past four years, we have achieved a nine-fold growth in this sector. Let me assure you, this is not merely a statistic — it is a clear and emphatic statement that Tamil Nadu is truly the Electronics Capital of India," the Chief Minister contended.

To make the State a key hub of electronics manufacturing on the global stage, his government launched the electronic components manufactur-

ing initiative, a policy designed to bring the entire value chain — from design to production — to Tamil Nadu, he said. "As a result of our concerted efforts, global giants of the electronics sector have established operations across regions, including Kancheepuram, Hosur, Coimbatore, Tiruchi, and Tirunelveli. As the next step, we are setting up an Electronics Manufacturing Cluster in Thoothukudi, which will be well connected with excellent port facilities. I take this opportunity to warmly invite you to bring your future projects there," he said.

Minister T.M. Anbarasan, State Congress chief and Sriperumbudur MLA K. Selvaperunthagai, and Corning Gorilla Glass vice-president Andrew Beck were among those present.

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

# Tamil Nadu, iVP Semi launch ‘TN 100 Chip Varsity’ to build semiconductor talent network

**Sangeetha Kandavel**  
CHENNAI

In a major step towards strengthening Tamil Nadu’s semiconductor ecosystem, Guidance Tamil Nadu, in partnership with iVP Semi, has launched the ‘TN 100 Chip Varsity’ programme.

Under the programme, Guidance Tamil Nadu and iVP Semi will jointly support the creation of a State-wide network of chip design facilities embedded within engineering colleges. The project has a dual mandate: enabling the development of 100 new chip designs, and training 5,000 students in advanced semiconductor design skills every year.

An MoU formalising the collaboration was signed recently at the TN Rising conclave in Coimbatore, in the presence of Chief Minister M.K. Stalin. “We will help in establishing chip

## **An MoU formalising the collaboration was signed recently at the TN Rising conclave in Coimbatore**

design labs across academic institutions in Tamil Nadu. We will give them certain products to design. In the next five years, more than 1,000 products will come out of colleges and universities in the State,” P. Raja Manickam, CEO of iVP Semi, told *The Hindu*.

The programme will identify and onboard eligible colleges across Tamil Nadu, equipping them with industry-grade tools, curricula, and mentorship from global semiconductor experts. By exposing students to real-world chip development environments, the initiative aims to create a future-ready workforce and significantly expand Tamil Nadu’s semi-

conductor talent pool.

According to Mr. Manickam, a few colleges have already been identified for the project. “Some more have reached out to us,” he said.

SRM Institute of Science and Technology is among these institutions, and they have already been given chips for training. Through this initiative, iVP Semi aims to provide two to three chips per college.

Tamil Nadu is looking to grab a major share of the semiconductor industry. In August, the State government sanctioned the Semiconductor Design Promotion Scheme under the ₹500-crore Tamil Nadu Semiconductor Mission 2030 (TNSM 2030). The State is also making a strong push to set up Centres of Excellence (CoEs) to provide the necessary infrastructure for chip design, testing, and validation.

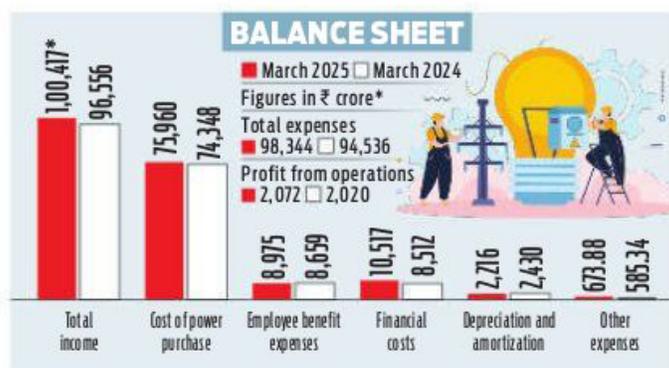
Source: *The Hindu*, 01 December 2025, p. 5

# TNPDCL sees marginal rise in profit post trifurcation

**S GURUVANMIKANATHAN**  
@Chennai

THE Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TNPDCL) has reported a marginally higher profit from its operations for the financial year 2024–25, according to its 16th annual report released on Tuesday and accessed by *TNIE*.

This is the first balance sheet prepared separately by TNPDCL after the breakup of Tangedco into three separate entities. As on March 31, 2025, TNPDCL recorded a profit of ₹2,072 crore, marking an increase of ₹52 crore (2.5%) over the previous year. In 2023–24, the corporation’s profit stood at ₹2,020 crore. TNPDCL’s total income for 2024–25 was ₹1,00,417 crore, while its total expendi-



ture stood at ₹98,344 crore. A major share of this expenditure was for power purchase, which rose from ₹74,348 crore in the previous year to ₹75,960 crore.

The corporation’s non-current (long-term) liabilities stood at ₹1,18,343 crore, while

current liabilities (short-term) were ₹80,074 crore. The report highlighted progress under the central government’s Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), which aims to bring down the Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses to 11.92% by

2024–25. To achieve this, TNPDCL has taken up multiple loss-reduction projects such as agriculture feeder segregation, high voltage distribution systems, and re-conductoring of existing 33 kV feeders. These works are being carried out at a combined cost of ₹8,929 crore. In addition, TNPDCL received grants worth ₹447 crore during the financial year, which supported ongoing infrastructure upgrades. A senior TNPDCL official told *TNIE*, “We have awarded tenders for these loss reduction works in 44 packages. In some areas, feeder segregation is already completed. In other places, contractors are surveying feeders and procuring materials. We expect all feeder segregation works to be completed in the next financial year (2026–27).”

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

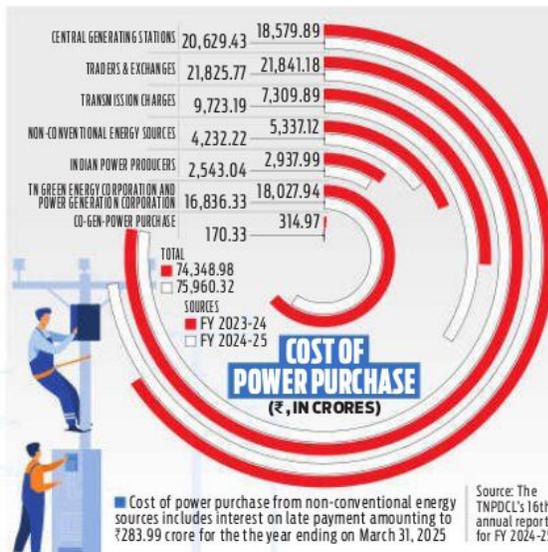
# Discom power purchase cost jumps ₹29K crore in 5 years

S GURUVANMIKATHAN  
@ Chennai

THE cost of power purchase by the Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TNPDC) has increased sharply over the past five years, mainly due to rising electricity demand and higher sourcing costs. The expenditure has gone up from ₹47,145 crore as on March 31, 2020, to ₹75,960 crore as on March 31, 2025, an overall increase of about ₹28,814 crore.

According to the 16th annual report, the state-run power utility spent around ₹75,960 crore on buying electricity during the financial year 2024-25. This is about ₹1,500 crore more than the previous year (2023-24) when the TNPDC had purchased power worth ₹74,348 crore.

Officials said the steady rise



in power purchase cost reflects higher demand for electricity across the state and the growing expenses involved in sourcing power from different agencies to meet consumer needs.

The 16th annual report, accessed by *TNIE*, shows that the TNPDC purchased 1,14,420 MU (million units) of power from various sources during 2024-25. However, it sold only 96,803 MU, earning a revenue of ₹61,911 crore. The transmission and distribution loss during the year stood at 17,617 MU.

A senior official told *TNIE* that the utility has managed to reduce Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses from 11.82% in 2020-21 to 10.73% in 2024-25. "We expect the losses to fall below 10% in the current financial year 2025-26. However, it is difficult to reduce private power purchase

as electricity demand continues to rise," the official said.

The official added that power purchase costs can come down in the coming years as the state is focusing on renewable energy generation and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

Another official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the discom spent ₹20,629 crore on power purchase from traders and power exchanges, which is significantly higher compared to purchases from central generating stations and the Tamil Nadu Power Generation Corporation.

"During peak hours and summer months, huge amounts are spent on buying power from exchanges. This can be reduced by entering into more short-term agreements and swap arrangements," the official said.

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

# Dy CM launches slew of projects under North Chennai Development Scheme

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** Deputy chief minister Udhayanidhi Stalin on Sunday launched a series of infrastructure projects in North Chennai, including power, water supply, street lighting and education-related works, under the North Chennai Development Scheme.

He inaugurated the Broadway 33/11kV substation on Davidson Road and flagged off power supply. Built by Tangedco at a cost of ₹18.24 crore, the substation is part of state govt's efforts to ensure balanced and inclusive development across the city, with a special focus on North Chennai. Under the scheme, 16 power projects are being implemented at a total cost of ₹1,034.24 crore, with ₹1,000.39 crore funded by Tamil Nadu



**FOR INFRA:** Projects were on power, water street lighting, education

Electricity Board and ₹33.85 crore by Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority.

The newly commissioned substation has been energised with two 8mVA transformers and five 11kV feeders. Officials said the facility would address low-voltage issues and ensure uninterrupted power supply in the area.

More than 15,000 domestic and commercial consumers in areas such as Broadway, Mannadi, Sowcarpet, Kothawal Chavadi, NSC Bose Road, Muthialpet and Seven Wells are expected to benefit. Around 10mVA load from the existing East George Town and Pookadai 33/11kV substations, as well as the High

Court 110kV substation, will be diverted to the new facility, easing pressure on the older infrastructure.

Udhayanidhi also inspected works for 15-lakh-litre capacity underground and overhead drinking water storage tanks being constructed by the Metrowater at a cost of ₹27 crore. He commissioned 128 new streetlights installed on both sides of Prakasam Road at Broadway by Greater Chennai Corporation at a cost of ₹1.26 crore, and laid the foundation stone for the Chief Minister's Study Centre and Modern Library building to be built by CMDA at an estimated ₹23.06 crore.

Udhayanidhi was accompanied by HR&CE minister P K Sekar Babu, electricity minister S S Sivasankar and mayor R Priya.

Source: *The Times of India*, 29 December 2025, p. 3

# Intricately-Layered Station Features Stacked Tunnels With The Lowest 38m From Street Level

## DEEPEST UNDERGROUND RAILROAD COMING SOON AT THIRUMAYILAI

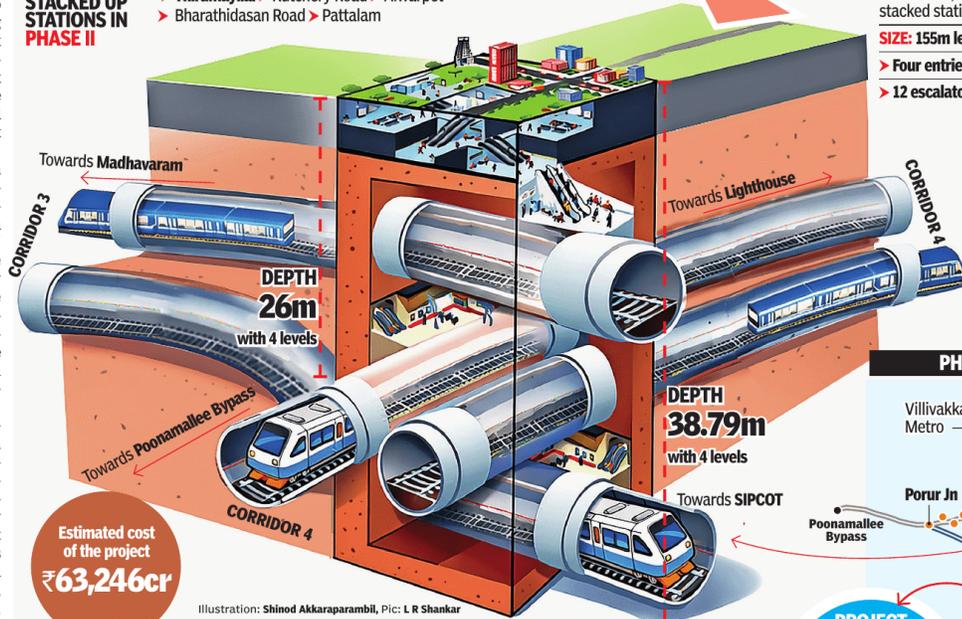
Venkadesan.S@timesofindia.com



### BLUEPRINT OF A MULTI-LAYERED PROJECT

#### STACKED UP STATIONS IN PHASE II

- > Thirumayilai > Kutchery Road > Alwarpet
- > Bharathidasan Road > Pattalam



Estimated cost of the project  
**₹63,246cr**

Illustration: Shinod Akkaraparambil, Pic: L R Shankar

**IN CORRIDOR 3:** Depth: 38.79m below street level, with 4 levels (depth of other stacked stations: 19m)

**SIZE:** 155m length, 11m width

> Four entries/exits

> 12 escalators and 3 lifts

#### IN CORRIDOR 4

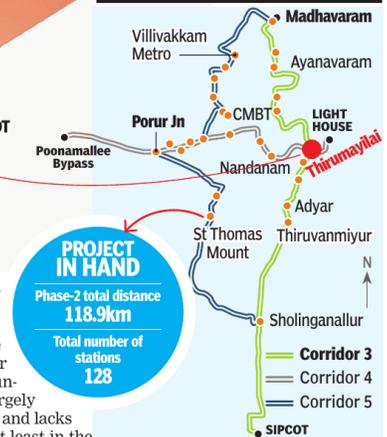
**DEPTH:** 26m below street level; will have 3 levels

**SIZE:** 152m length, 19.7m width

> Two entries/exits

> 12 escalators and 3 lifts

#### PHASE II OF CMRL



Beneath the narrow streets of Mylapore, Chennai Metro Rail Ltd (CMRL) is building stacked metro tracks that promise to ease traffic woes. The Thirumayilai metro station—the deepest and most intricately layered in the city—will have trains dip, rise and crisscross in stacked tunnels without commuters realizing it.

The station lies at the intersection of Corridor 4, which connects Lighthouse with Poonamallee, and Corridor 3, which links Madhavaram with Siruseri SIPCOT, under Phase II of the CMRL project. On Corridor 4, the twin tunnels run in a vertically stacked configuration beneath the narrow Kutchery Road, before fanning out into parallel tracks at Thirumayilai station. After crossing the station, the tracks stack once again as they approach Alwarpet metro station.

On Corridor 3, which links Madhavaram with SIPCOT, the twin tracks will run in a parallel configuration from Royapettah up to Radhakrishnan Salai station, before shifting to a stacked alignment as they approach Thirumayilai station. At Thirumayilai, one tunnel will pass over Corridor 4, while the other will run beneath it. Beyond the station, the tunnels will fan out once again, returning to a parallel alignment as they head towards Mandaveli metro station.

CMRL said it adopted such a complex structure to avoid land acquisition on narrow stretches such as Kutchery Road and Royapettah High Road. "On Corridor 4, we need to have a station at Thirumayilai since Fore-shore Estate station was removed. We had space in Thirumayilai and came up with the plan at the intersection," said CMRL project director T Archunan. Additionally, the Corridor 3 tunnels were planned to run above and below the Corridor 4 lines as it was

comparatively less cumbersome for passengers to shift from one corridor to another. However, Thirumayilai will be one of the deepest underground stations, with lowest tunnel at a depth of 38.79m from street level.

As on date, the Central metro station in Phase I, where two corridors come together underground, is the deepest at 28m deep from the street level. Thirumayilai station will have four levels below the ground, including the concourse, while Central metro has three levels. This leg of the

project is slated for inauguration in 2028.

Currently, tunnel boring machines (TBMs) are ploughing through Thirumayilai station from different directions. TBM Thamirabarani will be deployed from RK Salai to Thirumayilai, while TBM Vaigai will probe through from Mandaveli to Thirumayilai. Similarly, two TBMs—Eagle and Flamingo—have been engaged from the Lighthouse to Thirumayilai.

This won't have any long-term implications for residents of Myl-

apore, says Ilango Lakshmanan, a hydrogeologist and visiting faculty at IIT Madras. "Unlike Kolkata, where river sediments are found underground, Chennai largely comprises rocky layers and lacks any potential aquifer, at least in the core city. So, this will not affect the groundwater table, but any intervention with nature will have a consequence. However, this is the way forward for a city such as Chennai," he

added. Mylapore MLA Dha Velu said, "In three years, the area will likely have vehicle-free zones and ample parking. Till then, people have to bear with the mess," he said.

Source: *The Times of India*, 30 December 2025, p. 2

Of 4.66 Lakh Tonnes Generated, Only 17,205 Tonnes Of E-Waste Is Recycled In TN

# 95% e-waste in dumpyards as policy fails to gain traction

## TRASH HANDLING

Here's how e-waste poses a threat to the environment & what you can do about it

### What WHO says

➤ Lead is a common substance released into environment when e-waste is recycled, stored or dumped using informal activities, including open burning



➤ When e-waste is recycled informally, up to 1,000 different chemicals are released into environment

### Threats to environment

➤ Unsound methods to dispose of items such as refrigerators can result in mixing of polyurethane foam with environment. It contaminates groundwater and releases toxic gases upon burning

➤ Unorganised sectors use rudimentary processes and practices such as open burning, acid baths and heating of circuit boards, releasing toxic gases, dioxins and furans into environment

➤ Toxic chemicals and byproducts from informal e-waste recycling leach into soils and waterbodies, degrade soil quality, and harm microorganisms, plants, and animals

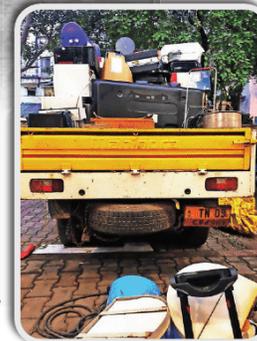
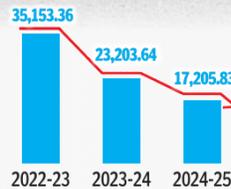


**WHAT IS E-WASTE?**  
Electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) discarded as waste, including parts or rejects from manufacturing, refurbishment and repair processes

### What can residents do

- Return old products to manufacturers, make use of exchange policies whenever feasible
- Organise community e-waste collection drives and sell the waste to authorised recyclers
- Segregate e-waste at homes, and ensure that they are dumped into black/grey bins by garbage collectors

### What the state has recycled over the years



R.Saivenkatesh@timesofindia.com

**C**hennai is the top e-waste producer in TN and an informal industry comprising ragpicker as well as small and large-scale scrap dealers handle more than 95% of it. A Central Pollution Control Board report says TN generated 4.66 lakh tonnes of e-waste in 2024-25. But data reveals a mere 17,205 tonnes is recycled, although the state's formal recycling capacity exceeds 90,000 tonnes per annum.

"Most of the e-waste from homes enters the main

dumpyard, where ragpickers identify it by burning, and take it to an aggregator. The aggregator employs unscientific methods to break components apart and extract tiny bits of metals, including gold and silver. The rest is sold as scrap," said T K Ramkumar, principal advisor, Exnora International, an NGO working to prevent eco-degradation.

In New Avadi Road, washing machines and refrigerators are dumped by the roads. Ganesh, who works at a scrap outlet, says copper and aluminium are removed from compressor units, with steel, while other items are discarded. "This is unsafe for workers who use unsanitary methods to break apart items," said L Vijay Mani Shankar of E-cycle Solutions, an authorised

recycler. "Refrigerators have polyurethane foams, which turn toxic when mixed with water or pounded. It must be processed in expensive furnaces. But small-scale manufacturers cut out the components needed and dump the rest."

Authorised recyclers are registered with CPCB, are subjected to state audits, and must update their operation records annually. "A recycler must receive three levels of authorisation: air and water clearance, hazardous waste handling authorisation, and extended producer responsibility licence. Bogus firms obtain only one level of these authorisations," an environmental engineer with the TNPCCB said. The official added that TNPCCB has not carried out any audits of

these firms in the recent past.

TN lags in the number of authorised recyclers. As of date, 31 firms are registered as recyclers, of which only five are in Chennai — grossly inadequate compared to states such as UP (125) and Maharashtra (75). Implementing extended producer responsibility (EPR), which mandates manufacturers to safely collect and dispose their products, is lacking in TN. "Though hazardous waste rules mandate an EPR, most e-waste does not fall under mandatory EPR. This absolves some manufacturers from taking back old items," Ramkumar said.

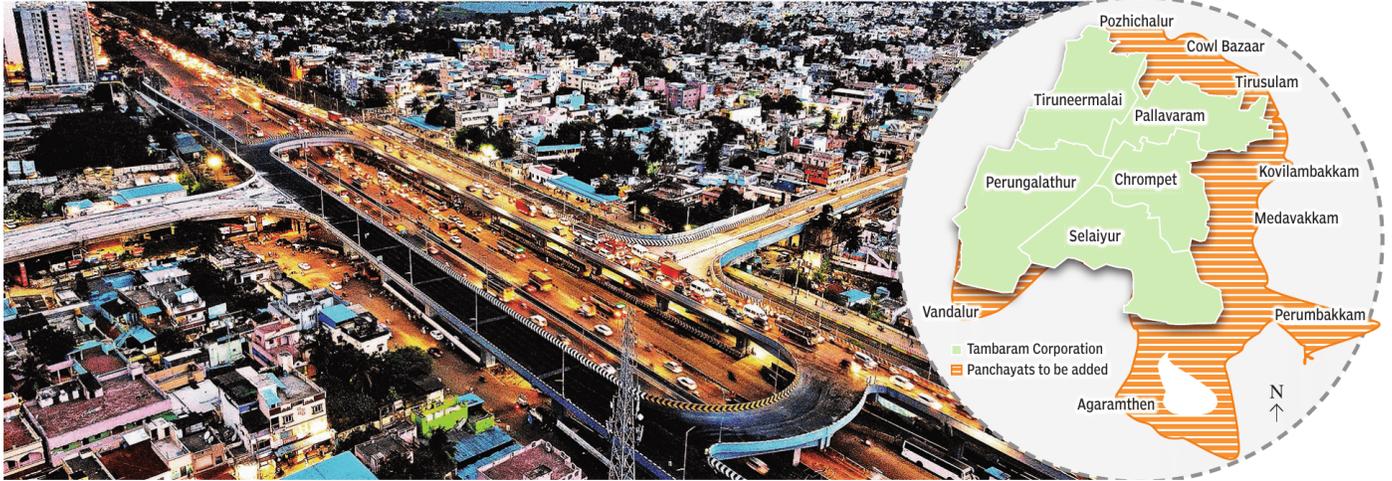
The state has failed to integrate formal and informal sectors, despite e-waste rules mandating it. "The onus is on the state to take adequate steps to train informal players in handling e-waste and bring them under the formal chain," said Mathew Jose, founder-CEO, Paperman, which works in the plastic management space.

TNPCCB chairperson M Jayanthi said the agency only monitors violations and compliance failures of authorised recyclers. "Local bodies must work on integrating the informal sector," she added. GCC commissioner J Kumaragurubaran said there hasn't been a systematic way of collecting e-waste alone. But the council recently passed a resolution to bring in a TNPCCB-approved concessionaire to handle hazardous waste. "The firm will nudge BOV operators to collect e-waste with hazardous waste. This will improve door-to-door pickup."

Siddharth Hande, CEO of Kabadiwalla Connect, said, "Local scrap dealers must be incentivised, and authorised recyclers partnered with them."

Source: *The Times of India*, 23 December 2025, p. 2

# HOW TO QUENCH THEIR THIRST?



## Deficit Of Overhead Tanks, Inadequate Pipe Networks Leave Suburbs High & Dry

Christopher.Miltus@timesofindia.com

**T**ambaram might have evolved into a municipal corporation five years ago, but its water network hasn't kept up. In many parts, there is no supply, and where water is available, supply is hampered by a shortage of overhead tanks and patchy pipeline networks. This has left many neighbourhoods parched.

According to the 2011 census, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation serves a population of 7.23 lakh. More than 14 years later, stakeholders in the realty space estimate the population to have crossed 10 lakh.

Next year, 19 surrounding village panchayats, including Agaramthen, Medavakkam, Kovilambakkam, Mudichur and Perumbakkam, will be added to the corporation as part of delimitation, doubling its area from 84.7sqkm to 172.34sqkm, pushing its population beyond 12 lakh - nearly one quarter the size of Greater Chennai Corporation.

Tambaram requires 125 million litres per day (MLD) to meet its daily needs across five zones, said Tambar-

## MORE MOUTHS TO FEED



Tambaram population now **10 lakh**

No. of village panchayats to be added **19**

Population after addition of areas **13 lakh**



### WATER SOURCES

- > Dedicated Scheme (Corporation) | **13.70MLD**
- > TWAD | **11.15MLD**
- > Metro water | **21.00MLD**
- > RO Plant | **8.00MLD**
- > Own source | **20.3MLD**

Total houses with piped water infrastructure **2.28 lakh**

No of houses with piped water supply **1.9 lakh**



Distribution pipe line **1091.3 km** as per GIS data

**“**The new desalination plant will supply drinking water to 22.67 lakh people in Chennai, Tambaram and 20 village panchayats **”**  
T G Vinay | Metro water MD

Tambaram's water requirement **125MLD**

Deficit **50MLD**  
LPCD **135**

Water supplied now **76MLD**

### AREAS TO BE INCLUDED

- > Agaramthen
- > Medavakkam
- > Kovilambakkam
- > Cowl Bazaar
- > Mudichur
- > Perumbakkam
- > Nanmangalam
- > Pozhichalur
- > Tirusulam
- > Ottiyambakkam
- > Thiruvanchery
- > Madambakkam
- > Mappedu
- > Vengaivasal
- > Madurapakkam
- > Moovarasampattu
- > Sithalapakkam
- > Vandalur
- > Vengambakkam



am commissioner S Balachander: However, it receives 76MLD, leaving a shortage of nearly 50MLD. On average, each zone faces a deficit of at least 10MLD. This forces many localities to rely on unsafe and costly water supply through tankers. Under the corporation, Chromepet and Pallavaram are the only zones with piped water supply. Among them, 25% of residential areas

are yet to get piped water connections. Areas such as Selaiyur, Camp Road, Mudichur, Irumbuliyur, Anakaputhur and Thiruneeermalai are mostly dependent on tankers.

David Manohar, a civic activist and Pallavaram resident, said, "The corporation supplies water only once in two or three days. Residents of gated communities who can afford to purchase

tanker water are oblivious to scarcity. But it is a never-ending problem for those who can't afford to buy water." P Saragadoss, president, Perumbakkam Residents Welfare Association, said, "After several years, the village panchayat will be finally merged with Tambaram corporation. However, the issue of inadequate supply must be addressed as Perumbakkam is dependent

on water tankers. Corporation should provide infrastructure for piped water supply before merging the panchayat."

Metro water MDTG Vinay said the Perur desalination plant could offer a solution. "Deadline for operations to begin is March 2027. Nearly 50% of the work on the ₹6,078-crore project has been completed. The plant will treat 400MLD of seawater every day and will supply drinking water to 22.67 lakh people," he added.

"An additional 5MLD will be drawn from Palar River, and when the Perur desalination plant is completed, 150MLD will be supplied to us through the Ring Main pipeline from Perur via Sembakkam, Madambakkam, and East Tambaram," said Balachander.

However, the storage and supply infrastructure is still lacking. Former additional director of municipal administration and water supply, D S Sivasamy, said, "Only Pallavaram, Chromepet, and a few other locations have piped water infrastructure. Among them, most connections are yet to be given. It is a mandate to build piped water supply for all the other zones as well."

"In the past five years, no new reservoir was built in Tambaram corporation. These could have stored the water released from the desal plant. Similarly, rainwater too gets mixed with sewage in stormwater drains. Corporation should have taken measures to mitigate these issues," he said.

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

# Northeast monsoon boosts state reservoirs, eases water concerns

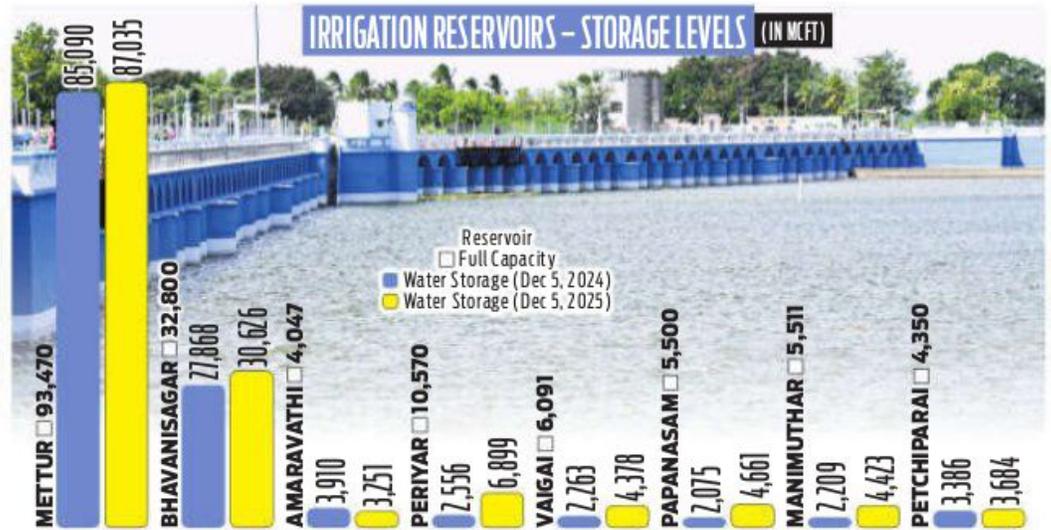
Water level in 90 reservoirs reaches 87% of total capacity; red alert issued for Red Hills dam

S GURUVANMIKANATHAN  
@Chennai

STEADY northeast monsoon rains over the past two months have significantly improved Tamil Nadu's water storage levels, with reservoirs across the state recording a healthy rise. Officials said the increase would help sustain both drinking water supply and irrigation in the coming months.

According to Water Resources Department (WRD) data, the state's 90 reservoirs together hold 195.835 TMC ft of water as on December 5, or 87.29% of their total capacity of 224.343 TMC ft. This is a notable rise from 78.55% on October 5, just before the monsoon began. Storage is also higher than the same period last year, when reservoirs held 180.411 TMC ft, or 80.43% of capacity. "The figures clearly show that storage this year is better," an official said.

A senior WRD official noted that nine reservoirs, including Gundar in Tenkasi and Sotherparai in Theni, are full. Another 34 reservoirs are near-



ly full, with storage at 99.76%. Eighteen reservoirs are under red alert for exceeding 95% capacity, while 10 reservoirs are on orange alert at 90-95%.

In the Chennai zone, the Red Hills reservoir in Tiruvallur, one of the city's major drinking water sources, has been issued a red alert. Officials said the precautionary status is not a

cause for concern. The reservoir currently holds 3.144 TMC ft, or 95.27% of its 3.300 TMC ft capacity. In the 24 hours ending 6 am on Thursday, its catchment received 40 mm of rainfall, the second highest in the state. Cholavaram reservoir recorded the highest at 51 mm.

On the irrigation front, 15 major reservoirs, including Mettur,

Bhavanisagar, and Amaravathi, have better storage than last year. "This will support farmers in the delta and western regions," a senior official said.

With the monsoon still active in parts of the state, WRD officials expect storage to improve further, easing concerns over water availability in the months ahead.

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

## WRD to take up large-scale recharge shafts project in Jan.

Installation of artificial recharge shafts is expected to replenish groundwater levels; the project involves drilling 576 of these structures across districts. Tender is being finalised for the ₹674 crore project

### WATER WATCH

K. Lakshmi  
CHENNAI

After a gap of nearly five years, the Water Resources Department (WRD) will start work in January to install artificial recharge shafts across 23 districts to replenish groundwater level in over-exploited and critical blocks in the State.

While artificial recharge shafts have been installed in the past, the WRD's State Ground and Surface Water Resources Data

Centre will implement the project on a large scale for the first time in several years to boost the groundwater table.

The project involves drilling 576 artificial recharge shafts across districts, including Tirupattur, Vellore, Karur, Ranipet, Thanjavur, Salem, Cuddalore, and Villupuram. Recharge shafts would also be installed in Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram, and Sivaganga to improve declining water quality. Places like Chennai would be covered in the next phase.

Tender is being finalised



Boosting a resource: Recharge shafts would be constructed near waterbodies and storage structures like check dams to ensure faster infiltration. FILE PHOTO

for the ₹674 crore project, and administrative process has delayed the work. Officials of the WRD said the vertical structures would channel rainwater runoff

into deep aquifers and recharge groundwater in areas experiencing severe depletion.

Sites have been chosen based on lithology, declin-

ing water levels, and quality, as indicated in survey reports prepared by a team of geologists. These structures would be constructed near waterbodies and

storage structures like check dams to ensure faster infiltration.

### Water extraction

According to the Central Ground Water Board's 'National Compilation on Dynamic Groundwater Resources of India 2025,' nearly 32.91% of the 313 assessment units in taluk level have been identified as over-exploited, while 7.35% units fall under the critical category where more than 90% of available groundwater has been extracted. Tirupattur, Vellore, Salem, and Perambalur are among the districts

where over 75% of blocks have been identified as over-exploited.

However, the State's total annual groundwater recharge has marginally increased from 21.51 billion cubic metre (bcm) in 2024 to 22.61 bcm this year. According to CGWB, the stage of groundwater extraction of the State has declined marginally from 74.26% last year to 73.50% this year.

Officials of the WRD said the structures would be drilled to a depth ranging from 10 metres to 100 metres to reach deep aquifers, and enable 30% more

recharge than natural process. About 100 of them would also function as monitoring wells, adding to the existing network of nearly 4,300 monitoring wells across the State.

Officials said once the recharge shafts are installed in four months, groundwater impact would be studied through monthly and annual assessments. "We expect some blocks to move to semi-critical and safe category in the next few years. The impact of the structures can be felt for a radius of 500 metres to 1 km," said an official.

Source: *The Hindu*, 23 December 2025, p. 2

## TN seeks 9cr more man days under MGNREGS

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**Chennai:** After exhausting the 12 crore man days allocated to Tamil Nadu under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MGNREG) scheme for the current financial year, the state govt requested the Union govt to sanction an additional nine crore person days to provide employment opportunities for rural workers.

The state department of rural development and panchayat raj submitted a pro-



File Photo

### OVER AND ABOVE

posal to the Union Ministry of Rural Development a fortnight ago, seeking approval for the additional allocation of man days to support the 88 lakh active workers during the final quar-

ter of the fiscal year. Going by the MGNREGA rules, a man day defines one day of work performed by a single worker enrolled under the scheme.

The state, as of Dec 8, had generated 34,000 man days more than the sanctioned limit providing employment to 52.33 lakh households.

“We submitted the proposal on Nov 20 after utilizing more than 11.70 crore man days by providing work to more than 55 lakh workers. We are awaiting approval for additional man days

for the remaining period of the year,” said a senior state govt official, expressing confidence that the request would be cleared soon, given that the scheme is demand-driven.

The cost of the additional person days will be calculated based on the average wage rate of ₹266.70 a day paid to workers in TN, amounting to an estimated requirement of around ₹2,700 crore. This will be over and above the ₹3,402 crore sanctioned for the current year, the official added.

Source: *The Times of India*, 09 December 2025, p. 5

## PLI scheme drives 43k jobs in solar module mfg

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**Chennai:** India's ambitious Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme to boost domestic production of high-efficiency solar PV modules has created about 43,000 jobs — including 11,220 direct jobs — across the country as of Oct 2025, according to data submitted in the Lok Sabha.

As per information provided by solar manufacturers establishing facilities under the scheme, employment has been generated across nine states — Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, and Odisha.

Gujarat has emerged as the biggest beneficiary, accounting for over 22,400 jobs via large-scale projects led by Reliance Industries, Adani New Industries, and others. Tamil Nadu followed with nearly

6,800 jobs generated by FS India Solar Ventures, VSL Green Power and TP Solar. Andhra Pradesh reported 1,620 jobs from two solar manufacturing units, while Odisha contributed an additional 200 jobs through AMPIN Solar. The remaining employment was created through multi-location projects across states

### AS OF OCT '25

implemented by ReNew Photovoltaics, Grew Energy, Avada Electro and others.

The Government of India is implementing the PLI Scheme for High Efficiency Solar PV Modules to build GW-scale domestic manufacturing capacity, backed by an outlay of Rs 24,000 crore. Under the scheme, Letters of Award have been issued for the establishment of 48.3 GW of fully or partially integrated solar module manufacturing units.

According to the latest

Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) issued on November 25, 2025, India's installed solar PV module manufacturing capacity stood at 121.68 GW. During FY26 (up to Sept 2025), the country imported 180.58 lakh solar PV modules valued at \$386.33 million, indicating continued expansion alongside efforts to strengthen domestic manufacturing. The global solar PV supply chain remains dominated by China, which holds over 90% share in polysilicon and wafer manufacturing capacity, more than 85% in cells and nearly 80% in modules.

Rating agency ICRA projects India's solar PV module manufacturing capacity to rise to over 165 GW by March 2027, driven by strong policy support in the form of the ALMM — which effectively restricts direct module imports, along with basic customs duty on imported cells & modules, and the PLI scheme.

Source: *The Times of India*, 04 December 2025, p. 15

## TN govt, JioHotstar ink ₹4,000-crore deal to nurture young talent

Streaming platform plans regional-first formats, to launch writing labs, mentorship programmes, skill-building workshops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

THE state government on Tuesday signed an MoU with JioHotstar to identify and nurture young creative talents by providing them with all the support for their creative excellence.

Sushant Sreeram, head, SVOD Business & chief marketing officer at JioStar, at an event held in Chennai, said JioHotStar will invest ₹4,000 crore over the next five years to strengthen South India's creative economy.

Earlier in the day, JioHotstar formalised a Letter of Intent with the state government in the presence of the Chief Minister MK Stalin. Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin, who inaugurated the 'JioHotstar South Unbound' event, said in his post on the X handle, “Jio Hotstar has announced a ₹12,000 crore investment across the four southern states, including ₹4,000 crore for Tamil Nadu. This will create thousands of jobs and open new opportunities for young creative minds.”

A release said according to the MoU signed with the state government, JioHotStar will introduce regional-first formats, new-age stories and storytellers, scaling their work beyond geographical boundaries. Complementing this effort, the online streaming platform will also introduce creator-focused initiatives such as writing labs, mentorship programmes and skill-building workshops aimed at nurturing the next generation of filmmakers, writers, editors and digital storytellers.

Udhayanidhi unveiled JioHotstar's 'blockbuster South lineup' of 25 new titles. Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy CM said Chennai's tradition and passion for art and culture are ages old, and even Telugu and Malayalam films are made here.

“Art is a powerful force in politics and life; art can liberate, and movies can educate. We have a history of stories causing social changes, with leaders like Arignar Anna and



Deputy CM Udhayanidhi Stalin inaugurated the 'JioHotstar South Unbound' event on Tuesday. Actor Kamal Haasan is also seen | x

Art is a powerful force in politics and life; art can liberate, and movies can educate. We have a history of stories causing social changes

Udhayanidhi Stalin, Deputy CM

Kalaignar M Karunanidhi instrumental in revolutionary changes in Tamil cinema,” he said.

Pointing out that the contribution of South India has created a new benchmark for Indian cinema, he said, “Content is the king, and we have a long way to go. We recognise that OTT is not replacing cinema, it is expanding it. Today, everyone has a voice - a filmmaker in Madurai or Salem can upload a story and reach the audience across the world.”

Udhayanidhi also said the partnership with JioHotstar will create 1,000 direct jobs and 15,000 indirect jobs. “Our government is committed to building a strong economy hand-in-hand with cinema,” he added. Information Minister MP Saminathan, MNM president and Rajya Sabha MP Kamal Haasan, and many film personalities attended the event.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 10 December 2025, p. 5



**The State Banks On Power Of Global Collaborations And Govt Support To Drive Upskilling Agenda**

# TN'S STRIDES IN SKILLING

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**H**ome to the largest number of factories in the country, Tamil Nadu is stepping up efforts to skill its workforce by adopting global best practices. The state is going the extra mile by incorporating international methodologies to prepare workers for advanced and high-tech industrial demands.

Last month, the Indo-German Chamber of Commerce (IGCC) signed a key MoU to strengthen skill development. The tripartite MoU between MEPZ special economic zone (MEPZ), Gedee Technical Training Institute (GTTI), Coimbatore, and a group of firms represented by IGCC aims to establish a dedicated manufacturing skill development centre at MEPZ, Tambaram. The centre is envisaged as a model for future-ready and globally-aligned manufacturing skills.

The facility will offer short-term, industry-aligned programmes in CNC machining, lathe and milling operations, CNC programming, ANSYS simulation, and Mastercam-based CAM. In phase II, a long-term, deep-domain programme tailored for high-precision manufacturing will be launched, enabling trainees to specialise in sectors facing critical skill shortages globally.

Interestingly, GTTI, run by GD Naidu Charities, already offers courses such as diplomas in tool and die-engineering, mechatronics, precision machining technology, and post-diploma programmes in tool design, mechatronics, and automation technology. These courses, offered at its Coimbatore institute, are based on German and Swiss educational standards. GTTI is also a pioneer in implementing German dual vocational education and training (VET) in India, as per standards defined by the Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK), Germany.

G D Rajkumar, director, GTTI, said the syllabus is structured with 30% theory and 70% practical training, focusing on hands-on manufacturing skills. "The programme develops problem-solving and critical-thinking abilities, along with a foundation in

shopfloor, machining skills, making students industry-ready from day one," he said.

Students train in a simulated shopfloor environment within the institute, equipped with the latest machinery and software used in industry. Tool and die mechanics students undertake real-time projects involving the manufacture and assembly of production tools and moulding of plastic components, which helps them learn machinery planning and costing. Mechatronics technician students design real-time automation systems for continuous process industries as part of their final-year projects, with viva voce exams conducted by industry experts to assess industry readiness, he added. The evaluation of test results follows German assessment standards. Question papers are sourced from Germany, translated into English, and administered by IGCC, Pune. "Our students are exposed to practical training and problem-solving techniques, which prepare them to face the manufacturing world with confidence, clarity, and capability," Rajkumar said.

Alex Paul Menon, Zonal Development Commissioner of the MEPZ special economic zone, which covers Tamil Nadu, Andaman, and Puducherry, stated that the manufacturing skill development centre at MEPZ, Tambaram, is a first-of-its-kind facility with deep industry collaboration. "We want to create a very different ecosystem—not just routine training leading to employment. The German model encourages innovation. The centre aims to bridge the gap between the skills available in the market and those required by industry," he said.

Rather than offering generic courses, the focus is on customising programmes to suit industry needs and creating a pool of industry-ready talent for MSMEs, which currently spend considerable time and resources on training new hires. The centre will also cater to the continuous upskilling

of existing workers, Menon added.

CII Southern Region deputy chairman Ravichandran Purushothaman said India faces a critical challenge. "While we produce a large number of graduates, the industry continues to struggle to find job-ready technicians. If India is to succeed in manufacturing, automation, and the energy transition, vocational skills must be elevated into aspirational careers, not treated as second choices," he said.

He pointed out that more than 60% of MSMEs require job-ready technicians and supervisors, yet fewer than 5% of young people receive vocational training. Existing schemes, he said, have failed to bridge this gap. CII's policy recommendations—including industry-led curriculum design, dual and public-private partnership delivery models, National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) alignment, and competency-based assessment—offer a coherent framework for vocational education. By embedding these principles into ITI upgrades, school-based vocational streams, and new dual-system centres, states like Tamil Nadu can create visible and aspirational career pathways for skilled technicians, he added.

The Tamil Nadu govt has also placed strong emphasis on upskilling. Under the



**MACHINE MASTERY:** (above) Diploma trainees in mechatronics; a student working on conventional machines at GTTI, Coimbatore

state's Electric Vehicles Policy 2023, automotive companies are eligible for upskilling allowances covering up to 10% of their existing workforce engaged in EV production. Transition support is provided through training subsidies for up to six months. V Arun Roy, secretary, industries, govt of Tamil Nadu, said this is one of several initiatives taken to support the EV sector. "Depending on requirements, we will explore the possibility of replicating this model in other rapidly expanding sectors in the future," he said.

Meanwhile, the Tamil Nadu Apex Skill Development Centre for Logistics is designing a curriculum incorporating IoT, automated warehousing, and robotics to upskill workers already employed in the logistics sector. Its managing director, Bana Bihari Nayak, said the curriculum will be on par with global standards. Noting that such initiatives could reduce manhours in warehouses by 30-40%, he said this would significantly improve productivity and capacity utilisation.

**“WE WANT TO CREATE A DIFFERENT ECOSYSTEM—NOT ROUTINE TRAINING LEADING TO EMPLOYMENT**  
— Alex Paul Menon | ZONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER OF MEPZ SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE

Source: *The Times of India*, 22 December 2025, p. 5

# State govt trains 30,000 construction workers in 2 months under skill drive

VIVANESH PARTHIBAN

@ Tiruchy

IN a first-of-its-kind initiative, the Tamil Nadu Labour Welfare Department has trained nearly 30,000 construction workers across the state over the last two months and plans to cover another 50,000 workers in the next two months under a skill-upgradation scheme at a total cost of ₹45 crore.

Implemented through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) with the support of a training agency, the one-week programme offers hands-on training in trades such as bar bending, carpentry, electrical work, plumbing, welding, glassfixing, and general construction work. Trainees receive a stipend of ₹800 per day along with one meal.

“Out of the 38 districts in TN, 12 districts have already achieved their targets within the first two months. The remaining districts are expected to complete their targets in the coming weeks,” a State Labour Department official said.

The programme has also helped identify and register unorganised construction workers with the TN Construction Workers Welfare Board, as enrolment with the Board is mandatory to receive the Recognition of Prior



Learning (RPL) certificate issued after assessment.

“A trainer is assigned for every batch of 25 workers. Tiruchy district has already met its target by training around 1,600 workers,” a senior official from the Tiruchy Labour Department said. According to officials, the RPL certification improves employability and income prospects and can also assist workers in getting jobs abroad.

T Arun GnaveL (32), who underwent training at Manikandam ITI in November, said, “The certificate helped us get more training from experienced workers, and we were also introduced to a few local build-

ers,” he said.

During a visit by *TNIE* to one of the ITIs in Tiruchy, a villager undergoing training, who requested anonymity, said most trainees were already working as construction labourers. “The training mainly helps us register with the welfare board. But seven days is not enough for proper skill training,” he said.

M Samad, a foreign job consultant from Madurai, said most unskilled labourers from TN migrate to Arab countries, Singapore and Malaysia for construction work. “This certification may help them, but so far we have not received candidates with RPL certificates for foreign placements,” he said.

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

# Job fair held to provide employment opportunities to transgender persons

The fair was organised to guide transgender persons in preparing resumes, equip them with skills to face interviews, connect them with recruiters and address various problems they face at workplaces; 15 firms took part in the event held under Project MEPZ Pride

**Meenakshy S.**  
CHENNAI

**A**kshara, a 32-year-old trans woman based in Chennai, has been looking for a job for nine months now. A communication specialist, she has attended more than 300 interviews with various companies, but no one seemed willing to hire her.

“As a trans person, finding a job - and keeping it - is far more difficult compared to how it is for cisgender men and women. A lot of companies say they have inclusive workplace policies. But some just give you the perception that they are including you, and there are others, who will outrightly say they will not hire you on the basis of your identity,” she says.

Janaki, 22, is a trans woman who is fresh out of college. She was excited to learn that she had been placed during campus recruitment. However, once she began growing her hair and transitioning, the company withdrew its offer, she alleges.

Both Akshara and Janaki were among the participants at a job fair for transgender job-seekers organised by the MEPZ Special Economic Zone in Tambaram last Wednesday. The event, held under Project

Source: *The Hindu*, 15 December 2025, p. 2



**Crucial support:** Transgender persons attend a job fair organised by Madras Export Processing Zone (MEPZ), at the MEPZ Administrative Office, Tambaram. V. UMESH KUMAR

MEPZ Pride initiative, aimed to help transgender people access employment by providing skill support - including building resumes and prepping them for interviews - and connecting them with recruiters from various companies.

### Candidates shortlisted

Totally, 24 transgender people and 15 companies took part in the event. MEPZ has been inviting resumes since October; in total, about 145

resumes were received, and 33 candidates have been shortlisted by companies.

Gouthami, a 30-year-old trans woman, says pre-transition, she worked as a Photoshop designer and at a textile shop.

“At both places, I underwent sexual harassment. When I complained, I ended up being fired.” After struggling to find work and facing repeated rejections, she joined a Therukoothu troupe, only to face further harass-

ment there as well, she alleges.

For many trans people, especially trans women, a stable job helps them avoid being pushed into the cycle of sex work and begging, Ms. Gouthami - who has studied till Class XII and is the sole breadwinner of her family of three - says, adding that opportunities like these are important to bring the community forward.

Ms. Akshara says that even as companies hire, they must

ensure their employees are sensitised and that adequate amenities, such as accessible washrooms, are provided. “At one of my former workplaces, while I was transitioning, I was not allowed to use the women’s washroom. I had to walk nearly a kilometre to access one, and there were days when I relieved myself only once in an eight-hour shift because of the effort involved,” she says.

### Inclusive workplaces

“Trans people already face a lot of stigma even after being hired, so we work with companies to ensure an inclusive workplace,” says Jennifer Difiya, Deputy Development Commissioner, MEPZ.

“We sensitise them on issues such as washroom access, and have also put redressal mechanisms in place,” she adds.

According to Alex Paul Menon, IAS, Zonal Development Commissioner, MEPZ: “Diversity today is not an act of charity but a strategic necessity that drives innovation, resilience, and sustainable growth. Through Project MEPZ Pride, we aim to translate intent into action by helping industries build custom, bias-free, and enabling workplaces, both physically and mentally.”

## TO CUT DROPOUTS

### TN to set up 100 ITIs on govt school campuses

SUBASHINI VIJAYAKUMAR  
@Chennai

THE Tamil Nadu government will establish 100 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) on the campuses of government high and higher secondary schools across the state as part of a pilot initiative to expand vocational education.

District administrations have been instructed to shortlist four to five schools each with at least 50 cents of unused land for the project. Officials said integrating ITIs with schools would help identify potential dropouts early and direct them towards skill-based courses that can improve employability.

A circular from the School Education Department stated that the proposal was finalised after a meeting between the Director of School Education and the Director of Employment and Training under the Labour Department.

District officials have been asked to identify not only vacant land but also underutilised laboratories and buildings that can be repurposed for the institutes.

Schools located near industrial hubs or corridors are to be prioritised to ensure students have direct access to local employment opportunities. Localities already served by an ITI will be excluded, with preference given to areas lacking vocational training facilities.

CONTINUED ON P7

### Govt ITIs offer training in 23 non-eng trades

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ONCE the list of schools is finalised, the Directorate of Employment and Training will set up and operate the institutes, school education department officials said.

“Under centre’s norms, a standard ITI must offer at least four trades. However, school-based ITIs will be allowed to function with two trades, selected based on local industry requirements to ensure better job opportunities,” an official from the Directorate of Employment and Training said. Service-oriented trades for girls who may be unable to travel long distances for higher studies are also planned. TN currently has more than 500 ITIs, including 132 run by the government. Government ITIs offer training in 56 engineering and 23 non-engineering trades, from conventional programmes such as Fitter, Welder and Motor Vehicle Mechanic to newer courses. Officials said the school-linked model would strengthen the state’s vocational training network and widen access for rural students, noting that over 90% of ITI graduates secure jobs in local industries.

## Classes VI-IX students to receive training in robotics laboratories

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Chennai: Students studying in Classes VI to IX in govt schools are set to learn basic electronics, building of robots, and operating drones through experiments in robotics labs.

To create an interest in science, technology, engineering, and maths (STEM) among young students, the school education department has established 15 robotics labs in as many districts on a pilot basis. The state council for educational research and training (SCERT) is drafting the syllabus in partnership with Anna University for these lab classes.

“The lab course will have 10% theory and 90% practical classes. Students will work on 10 experiments designed by Anna University,” an official from the school education department said. Each lab, which is being established at the cost of ₹40 lakh, will have 11 types of kits, including robotics STEM workstation, design and prototype virtual labs, multifunctional robotics, and smart dustbin programme.

Students will get two hours every week to perform experiments and projects at the lab. Along with electronics, they will also learn about ba-

sic science principles. The experiments will be based on real-life examples and obstacles. “During the course, a student will do 10 different experiments. Anna University, which is a knowledge partner, will conduct practicals and assessment at the end of the course. After assessment, students will get certificates from Anna University,” the official added.

Under the Samagra Shiksha scheme, the robotics labs were planned to be established in 38 schools in all districts in the state.

However, the Union govt did not release the funds approved by the project approval board (PAB), citing the state’s opposition to the three-language formula in PM SHRI schools. Now, the state govt is funding the scheme, and it is being implemented in a phased manner.

In the first phase, robotics labs are being established in 15 districts, including Chennai, Kancheepuram, Kanyakumari, Pudukkottai, Vellore, Salem, Tuticorin, Tirupathur, Tiruvarur, Dharmapuri, Trichy, Kallakurichi, Coimbatore, Sivaganga, and Virudhunagar. After preparing the syllabus and textbooks for the robotics classes, the students will be trained in these labs.

Source: *The Times of India*, 08 December 2025, p. 4

# Education is the foundation for social progress, says CM

**The Hindu Bureau**

CHENNAI

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Saturday said education remained the foundation for social progress and his government had been giving special focus to education by strengthening learning through various schemes.

Mr. Stalin inaugurated two social justice hostels for women college students, additional buildings for 21 schools, and 25 village knowledge centres built at a total cost of ₹74.2 crore in various places in the State. He also distributed welfare assistance under the *Thaayumanavar* scheme, education scholarships, self-employment grants, and other welfare assistance worth ₹265.50 crore to 9,371 beneficiaries at the Anna Centenary Li-



M.K. Stalin

brary in Chennai. Speaking at the event, Mr. Stalin said his government's objective was to create an egalitarian society. "That is why whenever the DMK comes to power, we give special focus to implementing many social welfare schemes," he said.

Listing several schemes implemented by the State government for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, includ-

ing the *Tholkudi*, *Nannilam*, and Annal Ambedkar Overseas Scholarship Scheme, the Chief Minister said: "The Dravidian model government focuses on those who were denied opportunities in order to uplift them."

During the event, the Chief Minister also presented awards to 10 village panchayats for upholding social harmony and handed over ₹1 crore to each panchayat for development activities. The selected panchayats were Melamadai in Ramanathapuram district; Paraiyanthangal in Villupuram; K. Alangulam and Kalingapatti (Tenkasi); Suriyarnarkoil and Venkatasamudram (Thanjavur); Manivizhundan (Salem); Mannivakkam (Chengalpattu); Ottarpalayam (Coimbatore); and Thevoor (Nagapattinam).

Source: *The Hindu*, 07 December 2025, p. 6

# TN tightens safety norms for private schools

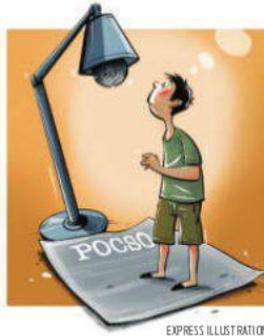
CCTVs at all vantage points, pocso training for staff made mandatory, prior nod needed to conduct special classes

**SUBASHINI VIJAYAKUMAR**  
@Chennai

THE directorate of private schools under the school education department has issued detailed guidelines to private schools across the state to ensure the safety and well-being of students and teachers.

The guidelines mandate installation of CCTV cameras at all vantage points, with footage to be stored for a minimum of two months. Schools have also been directed to obtain prior permission from the directorate before conducting special classes or organising educational tours.

Among the key directions,



schools have been asked to create awareness among students about "safe and unsafe touch"

and to conduct annual training programmes for teaching and non-teaching staff on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Pocso) Act, 2012.

The guidelines further mandate the formation of an internal complaints committee, as stipulated under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, to enable woman employees to file complaints.

The directorate has advised schools to avoid conducting special classes, except during examination time and only with prior permission from the district private schools officer. Schools have also been instructed

to seek permission from the directorate before taking students on educational tours and to bear full responsibility for any untoward incidents during such trips.

Functions such as annual day, sports day and food festivals, among others, should be completed by December. They must be held with prior permission from the directorate wherever required. The guidelines prohibit the conduct of religious functions and bar the use of school premises for non-academic activities.

Schools have been instructed to appoint a special officer to oversee overall functioning, ensure the proper functioning of

the Student Safeguarding Advisory Committee, and hold School Committee meetings once every three months.

The guidelines stress on the need to ensure the structural safety of school buildings and to prevent students from accessing under-construction areas by erecting barricades. Schools must also ensure that vehicles transporting students have the necessary permissions and are fitted with proper doors and windows.

Schools have also been directed to create awareness about toll-free helpline, including 14417 (school education directorate), 1098 (child helpline) and 181 (women's helpline).

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 22 December 2025, p. 2

# Survey finds half of college students in TN are stressed

## Students Wanted Access To Therapists

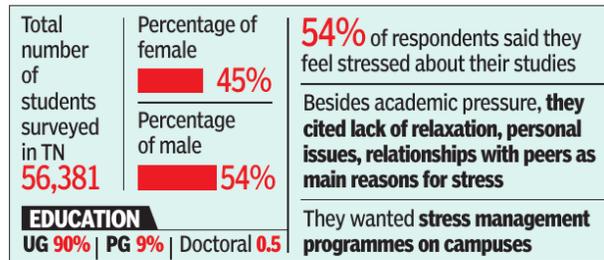
Ragu.Raman@timesofindia.com

**Chennai:** A survey among college students in Tamil Nadu found that 54% of participants were stressed or anxious about their studies on campus. According to the survey, one of the main causes for the stress was academic pressure.

As many as 56,381 students from colleges and universities in TN took part in the online survey conducted by QS I-GAUGE, an independent education rating system for Indian institutions. The survey included questions on emotional health, campus safety and support systems in colleges and universities.

In response to a question

### CAMPUS PRESSURE



on how often they feel stressed or anxious because of their studies, 15% said they feel stressed very often, while 39% said they feel stressed sometimes. Among them, 45% cited academic pressure as a cause for stress, while 29% cited a lack of relaxation or free time as a reason for their stress. While 15% cited personal or family issues, 10% cited relationships with peers and teachers.

Students wanted activities that encouraged positive thinking, stress management programmes, a supportive environment, and access

to counsellors and therapists. While 24% rated the support from institutes for mental and emotional well-being as average, 3% said it was poor.

Regarding campus safety, 29% of the students said crowded and chaotic areas made them feel unsafe on campus. Further, unsafe facilities (23%), poor lighting and darkness (19%), lack of security personnel (17%), and bullying and harassment (11%) were cited as key reasons for an unsafe campus.

In the survey, 92% of the

respondents said they did not experience bullying or ragging on campus. Of the participants, 44% wanted academic or career mentoring by institutions.

Further, students wanted open discussions with teachers and management, feedback sessions, suggestion boxes or online forms, and student representation in decision-making. They also wanted skill development workshops and internship or project opportunities from the institutions.

"The survey aimed to understand the satisfaction levels of students, teachers, parents, and alumni and identify practices and initiatives that promote emotional resilience, happiness, and overall well-being on campuses," said Ravin Nair, managing director, QS I-GAUGE.

Overall, 5.44 lakh people, including 4.23 lakh students, 67,262 alumni, 42,656 faculty, and 11,423 parents, participated in the online survey from across the country.

Source: *The Times of India*, 21 December 2025, p. 5

# 300 state govt school students selected for residential JEE training programme

**SUBASHINI VIJAYAKUMAR**  
@ Chennai

FOR the first time, the school education department is organising a state-level residential training programme for 300 government school students across Tamil Nadu to prepare them for the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE-Mains). The training will be held from December 24 to January 18 in Cuddalore district.

The students have been selected from the newly created Vetri (Vibrant Education Targeting Reputed Institutions) Palligal, a school education department initiative aimed at expanding access to academic support for



government school students preparing for competitive examinations. Implemented in existing government higher secondary schools, a key feature of the Vetri Palligal scheme is the conduct of weekend support classes for students of classes XI and XII, where interested students receive coaching for examinations such as JEE, NEET, CLAT, CUET and IPMAT.

District model schools function as academic hubs, providing study material, career guidance and academic support to these centres. While the government had announced plans to establish 414 Vetri Palligal, 272 centres set up in the first phase are currently functioning

across the state, offering weekend coaching classes.

Sources in the school education department said that earlier, the majority of students who attended residential coaching programmes were drawn from model schools. "Now, students who have been consistently attending weekend classes and performing well have been selected for the training. This is the first time we are conducting a state-level residential programme specifically for the JEE-Main examination," an official said. The students will receive training from specialised subject teachers who have expertise in coaching for competitive examinations and will be given online tests apart from guidance from former students.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 19 December 2025, p. 2

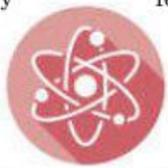
# Periyar Science Centre set for major upgrade into full-fledged Science City

**BINITA JAISWAL** @Chennai

CHENNAI may soon get a modern Science City, with the Periyar Science and Technology Centre set for a major upgrade. A team from the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), Kolkata, recently inspected the centre and gave a positive assessment of its infrastructure and steady footfall. Following the visit, the team has asked the higher education department to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) to convert the 36-year-old institution into a full-fledged Science City.

The Periyar centre draws about 1,500 visitors on week-

days and more than 3,000 on weekends. However, its galleries, set up in the late 1980s, have had minimal technological improvements. The proposed upgrade includes digital and immersive exhibits, interactive demonstrations, AI-enabled learning modules and a 500-seater auditorium.



Officials said the NCSM team has asked the state to carry out a detailed survey of the centre's infrastructure needs before drafting the DPR. "The report can be submitted only after April next year, once NCSM completes its ongoing projects," an official from the Periyar centre said.

"We have already allocated ₹100 crore for the centre in this year's budget. The NCSM team told us that if our DPR is approved, the union government will also contribute," a senior higher education department official said.

"The NCSM team has shared a roadmap. We will soon begin the survey and DPR preparation," added Higher Education secretary P Shankar.

For the Periyar centre, the upgrade would be a major shift. The plan includes immersive digital galleries, AI-based interactive spaces, outdoor science parks and expanded facilities for school groups and tourists, repositioning it as a significant public science destination.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 09 December 2025, p. 4

# TNMC details process for verifying foreign medical graduates

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

After a section of Foreign Medical Graduates (FMG) recently said there were delays in the issuance of provisional eligibility certificates, the Tamil Nadu Medical Council (TNMC) clarified that it scrutinised and verified screening test certificates, passport entries, embassy verification, and university authentication of the medical qualification certificates submitted by FMGs. The TNMC said each step had certain timelines, and that the process had led to the identification of several fake certificates.

In a clarification issued on Tuesday, TNMC's Registrar said its role was limited to the issuing of provisional eligibility certificates and provisional registration certificates. For FMGs

Source: *The Hindu*, 17 December 2025, p. 2

who undertook online courses/examinations during the COVID-19 pandemic and war, the National Medical Commission (NMC) has issued a circular for allotment of Compulsory Rotatory Medical Internship (CRMI). The duration of CRMI posting is followed in accordance with the NMC's circular.

## Current 7.5% quota

In addition, it said the Directorate of Medical Education and Research had been allotting CRMI in NMC-recognised medical colleges as per the present quota of 7.5%, noting that there were still vacancies in some of these colleges.

The NMC is functioning in a responsible and balanced manner in supporting FMGs, and also in identifying fake medical graduates to protect the public, the statement said.

# Chief Minister opens village knowledge centres in 3 districts

**The Hindu Bureau**  
VELLORE

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin virtually inaugurated village knowledge centres (VKCs) at remote hamlets in Vellore, Ranipet, and Tirupattur districts on Saturday, on the occasion of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's death anniversary.

Officials of the Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Corporation (TADCO), which will maintain the facilities, said the centres would provide skill training, digital literacy, and community-based learning to residents, especially Adi Dravidar youth, in villages. "The centres can also be used to conduct free marriages by the Adi Dravidar community as facilities such as sepa-

rate bride and groom rooms and dining hall with power and water connections have also been provided," A. Sudha, Executive Engineer, TADCO (Vellore), told *The Hindu*. Vellore Collector V.R. Subbulaxmi and District Revenue Officer M. Sivasubramanian also inspected the new centres in Katpadi and Gudiyatham taluks.

"The centres will help children from the community [Adi Dravidar] spend time in the library," said B. Sudalai, a resident.

Funded under the NABARD XXX scheme, the centres were built in villages such as Vandathangal (Katpadi), Sattur (Ranipet), Ranga Samuthiram (Gudiyatham), and Kullacheri and Madapalli (Tirupattur).

Source: *The Hindu*, 07 December 2025, p. 6

# To cut delay, TN to roll out new portal for PhD scholars from next academic yr

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** A majority of 47,000 PhD scholars enrolled in colleges and 13 state universities are facing extraordinary delays in getting approvals at various stages, including course work completion, synopsis submission, selecting foreign examiners, and conducting viva-voce after submission of their thesis. To prevent delay and hardships for research scholars, the Tamil Nadu higher education department is planning to roll out a new portal from the next academic year.

Source: *The Times of India*, 07 December 2025, p. 4

This new portal will track the progress of PhDs in real-time, including the formation of doctoral committees, research journal publications, formation of examination panels, thesis submission, thesis evaluation and examiner reports, and viva-voce scheduling and completion.

"After the admissions, the PhD scholars will be monitored through this portal. Live status progress of every scholar will be accessible to scholars, supervisors, university officials, and the higher education department. It will send alerts and reminders

for critical stages," a source from Tamil Nadu State Council for Higher Education (TANSCHHE) said.

As of now, scholars can complete the research work in a minimum period of three years and a maximum of five years; a one-year extension will also be allowed.

"The research scholars face hardships in getting approvals for their travel to conferences. Such approvals and permissions can be made online. It would enable them to complete their research work within the specified time and allow them to concentrate on their research," the source added.

TANSCHHE is also conducting a survey among the PhD scholars in 13 state universities. The survey has questions on issues in admission, access to research journals, availability of equipment, grievance redress mechanism, hostel facilities, fellowships, and reasons for delay in submitting research theses.

So far, it has received responses from more than 3,000 scholars. TANSCHHE will analyze the responses and design the portal to address the needs of PhD scholars.

# T.N. to expand cool roof initiative to 297 green schools, says Stalin

The one-day summer and winter environmental awareness camps for schoolchildren will be conducted as two-day camps, says CM. He adds that T.N. stands as an example in taking pioneering initiatives to mitigate the impact of climate change

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Wednesday said the Tamil Nadu government will expand the cool roof initiative to 297 green schools across the State, and the one-day summer and winter special environmental awareness camps for schoolchildren will now be conducted as two-day camps.

Addressing the third meeting of the Tamil Nadu Governing Council on Climate Change at the Secretariat in Chennai, Mr. Stalin recalled the impact of Cyclone Ditwah in Sri Lanka, and said the world was witnessing the effects of climate change. Due to various precautionary measures taken by the government, Tamil Nadu had averted large-scale damage, he said.

Listing various initiatives implemented by his government over the past three years, including the Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission, the Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission, and the Tamil Nadu Coastal Restoration Mission (TN-SHORE), Mr. Stalin said the State today stands as an example in taking pioneering initiatives to mitigate the impact of climate change.

A total of 4,000 teachers had been selected under the climate literacy initiative, and the programmes would commence soon, he said. To create environmental awareness among schoolchildren, the State government had launched one-day summer and winter special camps, conducted twice a year through the District Climate Change Mission. The initiative is set to be expanded into two-day camps through the School Education Department, he added.



**Going green:** Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, Minister for Finance Thangam Thennarasu, Chief Secretary N. Muruganandam, and Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests, Supriya Sahu, at the third meeting of the Tamil Nadu Governing Council on Climate Change on Wednesday.

Mr. Stalin said the cool roof initiative had been included in the 2025-26 action plan of the Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission. Under the initiative, the classrooms of a government school in Ambattur had been coated with heat-reflective white paint. Monitoring using sensors had shown a reduction in indoor temperature, ranging from 1.5 to 3 degrees Celsius. Following this, the State government was planning to implement the initiative in 297 green schools, he said.

**Climate and gender**  
Mr. Stalin also highlighted the measures taken by the State government to transform Killai near Pichavaram in Cuddalore district under the climate resilient village programme. He

said the mangrove cover in Tamil Nadu had increased from 4,500 hectares to 9,000 hectares.

Research shows that women and girls are among those most affected by natural disasters worldwide, he said, urging officials to ensure gender equality while formulating climate mitigation and adaptation measures. Women play an important role in combating climate change. Under the climate warriors programme, 100 e-autorickshaws have been provided to 100 women's self-help groups to carry out awareness campaigns on climate change and plastic elimination, he added.

Mr. Stalin said the transport sector's share of Tamil Nadu's total greenhouse gas emissions had increased from 12% to 19%. Considering the increasing traffic congestion in metro cities such as Chennai, Mr. Stalin emphasised the need to use public transport. He said 120 electric buses had been introduced through the Metropolitan Transport Corporation as part of the first phase. The State government was planning to introduce 600 more electric buses soon, he added.

With regard to global warming, he said Tamil Nadu should achieve its target of net zero emissions before 2070, adding that the State had been making efforts at the policy and action levels over the past four years. He said the State government had sought ₹24,679 crore in disaster relief funds from the Centre, but had received only ₹4,136 crore.

Mr. Stalin also released a technical report on the blue carbon wealth of Tamil Nadu, and one on reducing marine litter on the State's coast under the Tamil Nadu fishnet initiative. Finance Minister Thangam Thennarasu, Chief Secretary N. Muruganandam, and Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forests, Supriya Sahu, were present.

Source: *The Hindu*, 18 December 2025, p. 8

## T.N.'s HPV vaccination programme to begin in four districts soon

The first dose will be administered to 27,000 girls initially and 3,38,000 girls across the State will benefit, says Health Minister Ma. Subramanian

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu is set to roll out the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination programme by the end of next month.

While the programme will be implemented in all 38 districts, it will start off with four districts with high incidence of cervical cancer – Ariyalur, Perambalur, Tiruvannamalai, and Dharmapuri. A total of 3,38,000 girls across the State will benefit from this vaccination programme. The first dose will be administered to 27,000 children in the four districts, Health Minister Ma. Subramanian told reporters on the sidelines of an event to mark World AIDS Day on Friday.

The State government had allocated ₹36 crore in its previous budget for the HPV vaccination programme for girls aged 9 to 14 years to prevent cervical cancer. The vaccination

Source: *The Hindu*, 14 December 2025, p. 4



The vaccination programme will be launched by the end of next month. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

programme will be launched by the end of next month.

“The tender has been finalised, and the work is nearing completion. Once the process is over, the vaccines will be procured,” he said, adding that training on administering the vaccine began for doctors and nurses this week.

Girls aged 14 years would be vaccinated initially and the programme would then go on to cover those aged between 9 and

14 years. Each child would receive two doses.

“The programme will start off by vaccinating girls studying in government and government-aided schools,” he said. Tamil Nadu will be the first State in the country to provide the HPV vaccine free of cost, he added.

While HIV prevalence was 0.23% in India, it was 0.16% in Tamil Nadu. The State was ensuring 100% screening of pregnant women for HIV and syphilis, thereby preventing transmission to the baby.

There were 2,600 *Nambikkai Maiyams* (Integrated Counselling and Testing Centres) and 81 Anti Retroviral Therapy centres in the State.

A few years ago, shops doing ‘blood art’ had been shut down, and monitoring of such practices continues, he said, adding various awareness initiatives are being taken continuously to make Tamil Nadu free of HIV/AIDS by 2030.

## INBRIEF



## ‘Over 13 lakh people benefited from *Nalam Kaakkum Stalin*’

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin said on Sunday that 13 lakh people had benefited from *Nalam Kaakkum Stalin* medical camps being conducted by the Department of Health and Family Welfare. These camps are being held in all 38 districts. “Through full-body health check-ups and consultations with specialist doctors, health issues affecting several lakh people have been identified at an early stage, and they have been referred for advanced treatment. People have also been enrolled on the spot into the Chief Minister’s Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme during the camps,” he said in a post on X. Mr. Stalin was responding to a social media post from Congress veteran and former Union Minister P.

Chidambaram, who recently visited a *Nalam Kaakkum Stalin* camp at Kandaramanickam village in Sivaganga district and appreciated the scheme for catering to the health requirements of the people. The government had sanctioned ₹13.58 crore for organising 1,256 camps across the State, with priority for areas having limited access to healthcare facilities. Mr. Stalin launched the initiative on August 2 this year.

Source: *The Hindu*, 29 December 2025, p. 6

# Following talks, T.N. to regularise services of 1,000 contract nurses

**The Hindu Bureau**

CHENNAI

Minister for Health and Family Welfare Ma. Subramanian on Wednesday said 1,000 nurses working on a contractual basis would be regularised in the first phase, and the regularisation of the remaining nurses would be carried out in a phased manner.

The Minister's announcement came after he held talks with the representatives of protesting nurses' associations on Wednesday.

Contract nurses appointed through the Medical Services Recruitment Board have been staging continuous protests demanding the regularisation of their services. Earlier, he had held two rounds of talks with them on December 19 and 22.

Source: *The Hindu*, 25 December 2025, p. 8

In view of appointing the nurses currently employed on a contractual basis to regular posts, the State government would effect pending promotions and create new posts. Following this, more than 1,000 contract nurses would be appointed to permanent posts, he said.

He added that the State government was taking measures for the welfare of nurses employed on contractual basis.

Steps are under way to provide paid maternity leave through the National Health Mission. A government order in this regard will be issued soon, the Minister said.

The protesting nurses have accepted the State government's decision and decided to withdraw their protest, Mr. Subramanian added.

# TN health department orders 16,610 promotions

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** Tamil Nadu's health and family welfare department has ordered 16,610 promotions, created 17,780 new posts, made 35,702 new appointments, and completed 43,375 transfers since the current govt took office, benefiting more than 1.1 lakh employees. On Tuesday, 405 block health nurses and 117 zonal health supervisors received promotion orders from health minister Ma Subramanian at the Directorate of Public Health (DPH) in Chennai. Their work includes village health surveys, maternal and child care, vaccination drives, nutrition programmes, disease prevention, and family welfare initiatives.

Source: *The Times of India*, 10 December 2025, p. 4



**Manpower demand:** According to the Tamil Nadu Nurses Empowerment Association, a minimum of 10,000 regular nursing posts must be created immediately, and the 8,000-odd nurses recruited through the Medical Services Recruitment Board must be regularised. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

# T.N. healthcare: where less meets more

More people are walking into government hospitals in the State than ever before. But the healthcare workforce has not kept pace with the rising patient numbers. Despite the State's significant investment in health infrastructure, manpower shortages remain unaddressed, and certain policy missteps have impacted both the workforce and patients, reports **Serena Josephine M.**

**B**etween 2021-22 and 2024-25, the average daily outpatient numbers in Tamil Nadu's public tertiary health facilities increased by 49% and bed capacity by 37%. As patient volumes swell and infrastructure expands, human resources become crucial to sustaining services. This raises a crucial question: has the State's health workforce grown proportionately to meet this rising demand? In other words, do government hospitals have enough doctors, nurses, and other health staff to sustain the system's expansion?

Over the years, the State's health infrastructure has grown substantially. The State now has over 11,000 government health facilities, including 2,336 primary health centres (PHCs), 8,713 health sub-centres (HSC), 372 government hospitals, and 36 government medical college hospitals. The addition of new multi and super-specialty hospitals, upgrades to existing government hospitals, and the rollout of numerous health schemes have improved public access to healthcare. However, while the State government has spent heavily on infrastructure, investment in human resources has been lacking.

Health administrators insist they are working toward "zero vacancy" in the Health Department, but many in the workforce argue that this overlooks the bigger picture. There are simply not enough personnel, especially doctors and staff nurses, not only due to long-standing vacancies, but also because no new positions have been created in proportion to the rising patient load and newer facilities and schemes.

Moreover, certain "flawed" policy decisions proved both expensive and damaging. One such decision was a restructuring exercise introduced through a Government Order by the previous government, which resulted in the reduction of nearly 500 doctor posts. Critics argue that this led to reduced manpower, a decline in the quality of services, and increased workload for doctors in government medical colleges. Now, a similar "misstep" is being repeated through the redeployment of doctors, with 572 junior resident (JR) posts already reduced – a move that, the doctors warn, could affect the workforce in more ways than one. Contractual appointments, instead of permanent appointments, have also become common in the health sector.

## Diversion and redeployment

Instead of evaluating on-the-ground realities, the department has lately been diverting, redeploying, or redistributing staff and creating new posts by surrendering existing ones, justifying these moves using the National Medical Commission's (NMC) minimum standards that are meant for medical education rather than patient care. A. Ramalingam, secretary, Service Doctors and Post Graduates Association (SDPGA), said, "This approach is evident in a series of recent Government Orders. New facilities and services have been approved without a corresponding increase in sanctioned manpower, relying instead on redeployment or surrendering of posts from existing institutions."

In a Government Order dated November 3, approval was granted to create 59 new posts to strengthen cancer care across 16 tertiary care hospitals by surrendering an equal number of posts from various medical institutions. Earlier this year, the State government approved the establishment of 617 new HSCs in rural areas and 25 in urban areas, specifying that no new posts would be sanctioned; instead, Auxiliary Nurse Midwives from existing PHCs were redeployed to staff the



**GIs are upgraded on paper with no increase in human resources, resulting in an exploited and overworked workforce. This impacts patients as they are led to believe that these are new facilities and speciality services will be available**

**P. SAMINATHAN**  
SDPGA president

new facilities. Similarly, 78 medical officers were redeployed from existing upgraded PHCs to 50 new PHCs. Likewise, no posts were sanctioned for the newly opened Government Pentland Multi Super Speciality Hospital, Vellore, and peripheral hospitals in Sholinganallur, Salem, and Tirunelveli. These hospitals are functioning thanks to the redeployment or diversion of personnel from nearby medical college hospitals, doctors said.

Some of the Government Orders specifically state that new or upgraded facilities should be operated with existing workforce and that no additional manpower has been granted. "There have been so many new health-oriented schemes and programmes, such as *Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam* and *Innuyir Kapponn-Nammai Kaakum 48*, and upgrading of hospitals but no consequent increase in workforce. In fact, for the Kalaignar Centenary Super Speciality Hospital (KCSSH) in Guindy, many posts were diverted from existing medical college hospitals rather than creating new posts. Wouldn't this affect the quality of work in both places?" a government doctor asked.

## NMC minimum standards

At the core of the staffing issue lies the State's growing insistence on adhering to the minimum standards prescribed by the NMC – a move that many government doctors view as reflecting a "narrow, convenient interpretation of the regulatory framework."

"NMC's minimum standards apply only to teaching requirements. For instance, institutions with 250 MBBS seats, such as Madras Medical College, Stanley Medical College, and Madurai Medical College, are required to have an outpatient inflow of 2,000. In reality, these colleges handle nearly three times that number. NMC standards do include a provision allowing manpower to be increased proportionately in line with the patient load," contended K. Senthil, president of the Tamil Nadu Government Doctors' Association. The State, he added, has nearly 22,000 sanctioned doctor posts, including about 800 service post-graduates. However, roughly twice this number is required to meet the demand, he said.

A physician at a hospital in Chennai paints a familiar picture: for years, government hospitals have been busy and overcrowded, with patients waiting in long queues.

"One major reason for this is that the staffing

patterns for doctors and nurses have remained the same for the past several years. No new posts have been created. Doctors and nurses are not recruited on the basis of the number of outpatients," he said.

The paramedical workforce is almost entirely absent in Tamil Nadu healthcare. "The roles of physician assistants for documentation, nursing assistants, research assistants, insurance managers, public relations, health educators, and data entry operators are performed by doctors, post-graduates, and nurses. This frustrates many, resulting in poor concentration on the actual work of clinical care," he added.

While Dr. Senthil describes the current scenario as among the best in the past two decades, with most doctor vacancies filled and only about 1,000 to 1,200 remaining vacant, he makes a key observation: "This addresses only vacancies. The doctor-patient ratio has remained inadequate for most specialties and is expected to increase proportionately with manpower," he stressed.

## Nursing staff affected

The shortage is not limited to doctors and is acute among the nursing staff too. In a communication dated December 12, the Directorate of Medical Education and Research requested heads of medical college hospitals in Karur, Nagapattinam, and Pudukkottai to depute the prescribed number of staff nurses – 20, 10, and 10 respectively – to the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Government Hospital, Tiruchi, on rotational basis. This was to address shortage of staff nurses at the hospital. When the Government Peripheral Hospital, Periyar Nagar, was upgraded as a 300-bed hospital, the creation of 375 posts of various categories (109 regular and 266 contract) was approved. What irked a section of nursing staff was that 20 staff nurses were redeployed from the Tamil Nadu Government Multi Super Speciality Hospital, Omandur Estate, and the Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Egmore, and 156 nursing posts were filled on contract pay basis. This, when some 8,000-odd nurses recruited through the Medical Services Recruitment Board on consolidated pay are demanding regularisation of their services.

Both doctors and nurses frequently stress the need to have manpower in line with the Indian Public Health Standards recommendations. For example, the guidelines recommend one staff nurse for every six beds in a general ward and a one-to-one nurse-to-bed ratio in the intensive care unit (ICU). However, these recommendations are far from being implemented.

N. Subin, general secretary, Tamil Nadu Nurses Empowerment Association, highlighted the shortage of nurses. "In a city hospital, a single staff nurse handles a 12-hour shift in the ICU. In some hospitals, it is common for one nurse to manage two wards, each with 30 patients, during a shift. At times, they even manage an entire floor," he said. In fact, a senior surgeon added that there had been situations when one staff nurse had to manage three floors.

"A minimum of 10,000 regular nursing posts should be created immediately, and the 8,000-odd nurses recruited through the Medical Service

Recruitment Board (MRB) on consolidated pay should be regularised for these posts," Mr. Subin said.

Doctors agree that the many institutions under the Directorate of Medical and Rural Health Services (DMS) are worst-hit. One of them said a number of district headquarters hospitals, taluk, and non-taluk hospitals run with skeletal staff.

P. Saminathan, SDPGA president, said the previous AIADMK government upgraded 11 district headquarters hospitals into medical colleges and the nearby taluk hospitals were re-designated as district headquarters hospitals without a corresponding increase in doctors, staff nurses, and paramedical posts. Going back a little further, during 2004-05, the Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (CEmONC) centres, a significant milestone in improving maternal and child healthcare, came up with no extra posts for doctors.

CEmONC centres in certain government hospitals (GHs), which had performed around 80 deliveries per month in 2005, witness nearly 300 deliveries now but are run with the same number of sanctioned posts of doctors – four obstetrician-gynaecologists, four paediatricians, and two anaesthetists, said Dr. Saminathan.

Dr. Saminathan added that GHs were upgraded on paper with no increase in human resources, resulting in an exploited and overworked workforce. This impacts patients as they are led to believe that these are new facilities and speciality services will be available. He said hospital administrations were forced to employ paramedical staff, including nurses, on an outsourcing basis using funds generated through the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme.

Another doctor, who worked at a DMS hospital, said most facilities largely manage their workload because of Non-Service Post Graduates (NSPGs) posted there during their bond period. "Once their tenure ends, the hospitals face severe understaffing until the next batch arrives," he said.

A doctor in a newly-established hospital in Chennai said the patient footfall was huge. "In fact, people from middle-income groups are seeking services here. Patients expect that all speciality services will be available on a full-fledged basis. But on the ground, departments such as general medicine and general surgery are inadequately staffed. Ophthalmology and pulmonology departments have only one doctor each," he said.

"There are doctors who have completed post-graduation and have entered government service through MRB and there are NSPGs on bond period, another doctor said, adding: "What is the point of posting an obstetrician-gynaecologist at a PHC, a plastic surgeon at a GH with no equipment, a nephrologist at a GH with no dialysis facility, and a neurosurgeon when there is no CT scan facility? In many places, qualified manpower is being wasted. This has to be rationalised."

"When the government is willing to invest 200 crore in new buildings and 500 crore in equipment, why is it reluctant to create new doctor posts?" an Assistant Professor asked. "These deputations and redeployments are essentially cost-cutting measures," he added. A senior surgeon said: "Most government medical institutions, including the one I work at, are severely understaffed. Patient loads are overwhelming, and we often push ourselves to work even when we are extremely unwell or exhausted."

## Will create new posts: Minister

Tamil Nadu Health Minister Ma. Subramanian said though not regular posts, the government had created several posts, including through the National Health Mission, Tamil Nadu, and District Health Society. "In certain places, there is uneven distribution of workforce, and so we have been redeploying staff. Nearly 17 to 18 new District Headquarters Hospitals are coming up, for which we are in the process of creating new posts," he said.

Many State governments, he said, were recruiting staff on consolidated pay without having permanent posts. "In Tamil Nadu, more patients are turning to government hospitals for healthcare services. We are also taking effort to fill nearly 400 specialist posts and 1,100 doctor posts through the MRB. We are aiming for a 'zero vacancy' position for the first time in the Health Department, and will achieve this in January. In the future, we will take measures to create new posts based on the patient load," Mr. Subramanian added.

## Short of hands

The Medical Services Recruitment Board (MRB), started in 2012, has so far recruited 42,151 candidates for 49 categories of posts, including 18,144 assistant surgeons, 13,267 nurses, and 10,720 paramedical staff, till March 31, 2025

## Some of the demands of the health workforce and representing associations

- New hospitals should be constructed after sanctioning posts
- Display statistics of sanctioned posts and vacancy details at every hospital and on the Health and Family Welfare Department website
- Review vacancies periodically
- Give in principle approval to make new appointments to implement new schemes so routine patient care will not be affected
- Doctors and nurses should be appointed based on the outpatient and in-patient strength of hospitals
- Existing posts should not be diverted to other hospitals, rather new posts should be created
- Paramedical workforce should be strengthened
- Streamline posting of specialist doctors
- Conduct MRB exams every year according to available vacancies

Since 2022, two batches of assistant surgeons – **1,021 & 2,553** – were recruited through the MRB. A few additional vacancies identified during the process were also filled

In a recent press meet, Health Minister Ma. Subramanian listed the various recruitments in progress: **1,100** doctors, **2,145** village health inspectors, **2,145** health nurses

## A glimpse at the clinical services in govt. tertiary care hospitals

Parameter	Data		Increase (%)
	2021-22	2024-25	
No. of beds	47,451	64,792	37%
Outpatient strength (per day)	77,325	1,15,634	49%
In-patient strength (per day)	35,660	39,961	12%
Cath lab procedures	17,806	40,112	125%
Major surgeries	3,56,678	5,75,377	61%
Dialysis cycles	3,13,021	5,05,491	58%
Laboratory tests	8.52 crore	12.43 crore	45%
MRI scans	1,49,823	2,10,873	40%
CT scans	13,03,931	16,55,421	26%

Source: Health and Family Welfare Department Policy Note 2025-2026

Source: *The Hindu*, 21 December 2025, p. 6

# State spends more than ₹1,500 cr. on high-end procedures under CMCHIS

More than 18,000 patients underwent the procedures under Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme. Renal transplants accounted for the highest number of beneficiaries, followed by cochlear implants. Liver transplants incurred the highest expenditure, according to official data

Serena Josephine M.  
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu has significantly improved access to high-end medical procedures through its State health insurance scheme. More than 18,000 patients have undergone high-end procedures such as organ transplantations under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS), with the State spending more than ₹1,500 crore so far.

The eight high-end procedures covered under the CMCHIS are renal transplantation, liver transplantation, heart transplantation, heart and lung transplantation, lung transplantation (single and double), cochlear implantation, auditory brainstem implantation, and bone marrow transplantation/stem cell transplantation.

According to official data, a total of 18,182 persons have benefited from January 11, 2012, to November 30, 2025, with the total amount approved under the scheme standing at ₹1,556.35 crore.

Among the procedures covered, renal transplants accounted for the highest

## Prioritising health

The Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS) in Tamil Nadu has improved access to high-end procedures, including organ transplants. Eight high-end procedures are covered under the scheme

### A LOOK AT THE PROCEDURES AND THEIR COST

1. Renal transplant: ₹4,00,000
2. Liver transplantation: ₹22,00,000
3. Heart transplantation: ₹15,00,000
4. Heart and lung transplantation: ₹20,00,000
5. Lung transplantation: ₹15,00,000 and ₹20,00,000 (Single and Double)
6. Cochlear implantation: ₹6,39,000
7. Auditory brainstem implantation: ₹18,24,120
8. Bone marrow transplantation and stem cell transplantation: ₹3,00,000 to ₹17,00,000 [depending upon type]



### HIGH-END PROCEDURES UNDER CMCHIS FROM JANUARY 11, 2012 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2025

Procedure	Number of patients approved	Amount approved (₹ in crore)
Cochlear implant	6,276	437.74
Renal transplant	6,524	257.70
Liver transplant	2,366	515.83
Bone marrow transplant	2,625	274.50
Heart transplant	247	41.775
Heart and lung transplant	37	8.80
Double lung transplant	50	10.62
Auditory brainstem implantation	57	9.39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18,182</b>	<b>1,556.35</b>

Source: Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme

### Officials say the cost of treatment is covered by the CMCHIS Corpus Fund

number of beneficiaries (6,524), followed by cochlear implants (6,276). In terms of the amount spent, liver transplants incurred the highest expenditure (₹515.83 crore). Under the CMCHIS, ₹22,00,000 is allotted for liver transplantation.

Officials said the cost of treatment, over and above the insured amount of ₹5,00,000 for these procedures, was covered by the CMCHIS Corpus Fund.

The Corpus Fund is augmented by deducting 27% of the CMCHIS claim amount from government hospitals.

M. Edwin Fernando, professor and head of department, Nephrology, Government Stanley Medical College Hospital, said, "Organ transplants can cost a fortune in the private sec-

tor. A renal transplant may cost ₹8 lakh to ₹10 lakh in any high-end hospital. In the government sector, the entire process – starting from donor work-up, recipient work-up, cross match testing and all other investigations to the transplant, post-transplant medications and investigations – are free for life for a CMCHIS cardholder, who requires kidney transplant and has a near-related donor."

He said it was a boon for persons from the marginal-

ised sections of society. "Finance is not a constraint for them to access procedures such as renal transplants," he added.

Mohan Kameswaran, managing director and chief surgeon, Madras ENT Research Foundation, said more than 5,000 children received cochlear implants under the CMCHIS in the State.

"This is a phenomenal number for a government-sponsored programme. We must remember that all the children who received

cochlear implants are from below poverty line families, who never had access to such treatments. The scheme has addressed social disparities. The investment is the most cost-effective as children, who form the future society, have benefited," he said.

According to him, Tamil Nadu is at the forefront of reaching the most number of children with cochlear implants through the government-sponsored programme.

"Many States have followed the model. From here, we need to do two things. The State should introduce a universal newborn hearing programme, which is already in practice in all developed nations and many developing nations. When we pick up [hearing issues] early, the treatment outcomes are better. Similarly, we need to expand the habilitation network in the State. Children travel long distances for habilitation after cochlear implantation. We now have government medical college hospitals in almost every district, and need to establish satellite habilitation centres to enable better access for children," he said.

Source: *The Hindu*, 30 December 2025, p. 6

# More donors, but heart, lung transplants lag

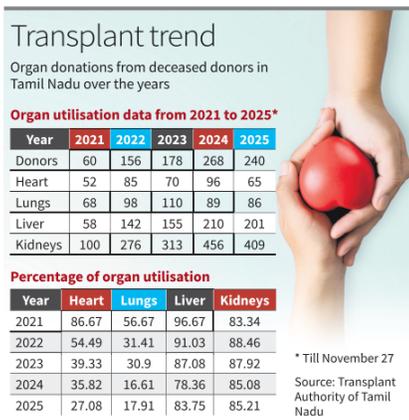
There have been fewer heart and lung transplants due to organ-specific challenges such as viability thresholds and limited preservation windows; while the number of deceased donors has increased, organ utilisation has not risen proportionately; 65 hearts and 86 lungs were utilised in 2025

Serena Josephine M.  
CHENNAI

From 2021 to 2025 (up until November 27), the number of major organ transplants rose from 280 to 785 in Tamil Nadu, an increase of nearly 180%. While kidneys and liver continue to be utilised at high rates – averaging 80% to 90% – heart and lung transplants remain far behind due to organ-specific challenges such as viability thresholds and limited preservation windows.

Tamil Nadu has witnessed a steady rise in the number of deceased donors in recent years – 156 in 2022, 178 in 2023, 268 in 2024, and 240 in 2025. However, the proportion of donors whose hearts and lungs are utilised remains low, highlighting the challenges in transplanting these two vital organs.

According to organ utilisation data, 65 hearts and 86 lungs were utilised in 2025, accounting for



27.08% and 17.91% respectively. In 2024, 35.82% hearts and 16.61% lungs were utilised.

Officials agreed that though the number of deceased donors has increased, organ utilisation has not risen proportionately. "Globally, lung utilisation rates are low. One of the most common reasons

for rejection is donor-recipient size mismatch. Often, the organ retrieval team performs a bronchoscopy on the spot and rejects the organ due to reasons including secretions that indicate infection. Prolonged ventilation can impact the lungs. We should focus on making the process quicker and prevent

sepsis," an official said.

Paul Ramesh, Senior Consultant, Heart and Lung Transplant Surgeon, Kauvery Hospitals, Chennai, said it was necessary to look at the ischemic time and the number of units performing kidney and liver transplants. "The chance of getting an organ from a donor pool is highest for liver and kidneys, accounting for 70% to 80% of the donor pool. Nearly 25% to 30% of hearts and 15% to 20% of lungs from the donor pool are usable. The reason for the organs being unusable lies in the ischemic time for heart transplant, which is four to six hours, while it is eight to 10 hours for lung transplant," he explained.

D. Senthil Kumar, Senior Consultant, Cardiac Sciences, Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, Heart and Lung Transplantation, Rela Hospital, said once a heart and lung becomes available for donation, they review medical reports thoroughly and

evaluate heart function, ejection fraction, and inotropic support to decide suitability. "Lung utilisation depends on factors like aspiration, infection, ventilator-associated pneumonia, and arterial blood gas analysis. Often, organs are rejected on the operating table due to issues such as heart plaques, on table dysfunction, size mismatch, lung contusion, or aspiration. Approximately in 10 donor assessments, typically only three to four hearts and one lung are usable, considering all vital parameters and ischemic time," he said.

Cadaver management is the crucial step in increasing the number of organs made available, he said, stressing the importance of cadaver management teams to maintain brain-dead donors and ensure aseptic precautions.

Dr. Paul Ramesh added that since many centres perform liver and kidney transplants, organs often travel shorter distances.

"Considering the ischemic time, there are certain logistical issues for teams retrieving and transporting heart and lungs. This includes transportation, air access to places, as well as cost for logistics. This also limits the use of good organs as the donor team should be able to reach the hospital within the organ ischemic time. Once brain death occurs, the heart and lungs have a lesser ability to survive longer times without oxygen," he said.

Dr. Senthil Kumar said that organs from places like Salem, Dharmapuri, Thoothukudi, or remote areas may have limited access to commercial flights and require long road transport. Teams may need chartered flights or helicopters, increasing costs that recipient patients often bear.

Experts stressed the need to maintain optimal cardiac status including acidosis correction and judicious use of inotropes.

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

# 70% women in extremely hot districts experience amplified health risks: Study

BINITA JAISWAL @Chennai

EXTREME heat is emerging as a grave public-health threat for women across India's most heat-vulnerable states, according to a new study by the MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSRF) in Chennai. The research, conducted in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh, reveals that heat is no longer just an environmental concern but a crisis affecting women physically and mentally with rural and informal workers facing the harshest impacts. Across high Heat Vulnerability

Index (HVI) districts, 70% of women surveyed reported severe physical symptoms during peak heat months, including fatigue, dizziness, dehydration and gastrointestinal discomfort. The study found the effects to be sharply gendered, with women from poorer households, lower castes, rural backgrounds and informal livelihoods reporting significantly higher rates of reproductive-health issues, menstrual irregularities, urinary infections, mental distress, workplace harassment, domestic conflict, wage losses and barriers to healthcare. Women in high heat vulner-



A study by MS Swaminathan Research Foundation calls for training of health workers to identify heat-linked reproductive and mental-health risks | [PHOTO](#)

ability districts had an approximate 53% chance of experiencing menstrual disturbances, which is roughly 3.5 times higher than the approximate 15% chance observed among those in low vulnerability districts. The report indicated a significant prevalence of mental distress symptoms during the summer months. The most commonly reported concerns include increased irritability or short temper (41%), heightened anxiety or stress levels (33%), and sleep disruption/insomnia or sleep pattern changes (32%). Additionally, 21% of respondents reported feelings of depression or sadness while a

smaller proportion reported higher feelings of isolation or loneliness (7%), and 2% disclosed thoughts or behaviours related to self-harm, collectively highlighting the psychological burden of prolonged heat exposure. Many reported reducing work hours in summers often without compensation leads to erosion of already fragile household incomes. Women working in open fields or exposed urban spaces described repeated infections, heavy bleeding or delayed menstrual cycles during heatwaves. Lack of toilets, shade, rest breaks or clean drinking water worsened

these conditions. The study also highlighted poor ventilation in cramped homes, combined with long hours of domestic labour; intensified mental-health pressures. The report urged governments to upgrade heat-resilient health infrastructure, including shaded and ventilated waiting areas, cooling facilities, access to drinking water and reliable power supply in clinics and primary health centres. It also pushed for the gender-sensitive implementation of Heat Action Plans, along with workplace protections for women in informal sectors such as flexible timings, mandated rest breaks and safe shelters.

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

# Young hearts at risk: Post-Covid inflammation behind rise in cases

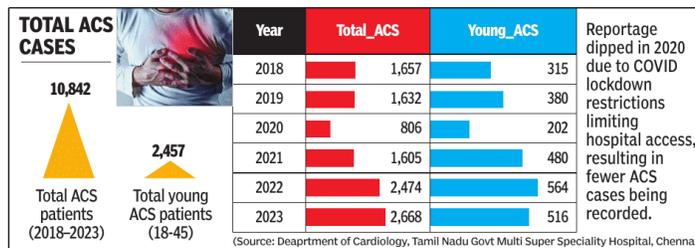
Ramyasre.N@timesofindia.com

Chennai: A six-year study from Chennai shows that acute coronary syndrome (ACS), a sudden blockage in the heart's blood flow that can lead to an attack, is rising sharply among adults as young as 18. Reason: Post-Covid inflammation, poor lifestyle habits and stress.

The study, conducted by a team of cardiologists at Tamil Nadu Govt Multi Super Speciality Hospital, was carried out from Jan 2018 to Dec 2023 and published last month in the *European Heart Journal*.

Of the 10,842 patients studied with ACS, about 70% were from Chennai, and 2,457 were aged 18 to 45. Young men accounted for 74.6% of cases, while women made up 24.4%. "The reason there are fewer

## STUDY FINDINGS



cases among women is because of estrogenic protection until menopause. But that doesn't mean they aren't at risk," said Dr Cecily Mary Majella, the cardiologist who led the study.

Before Covid, cases among young people rose from 315 in 2018 to 380 in 2019.

Post-Covid, the numbers jumped to 480 in 2021 and 564 in 2022. "There was a slight dip in 2020, with just around 200 cases, due to low reporting during the pandemic. Another limitation was excluding pregnant women from our survey," Dr Majella noted. S Satish, a researcher who

was also part of the study, said the reason for the post-Covid surge was because "the virus triggers inflammation in the heart's blood vessels and increases the risk of clots. It enters the heart and lungs through special entry points called ACE2 receptors, which is why these two organs are

most affected".

Cardiologists say the trend continues in 2025, with inflammation of heart muscles not just from the virus, but also from recurring stress caused by work and academics, apart from a poor lifestyle. "WHO guidelines suggest at least two-and-a-half hours of moderate-intensity walking per week, or one-and-a-half hours of high-intensity walking during the same duration for adults. Walking at a normal pace, which is what many who come to the hospital do, alone cannot suffice," said cardiologist Dr Refai Showkathail from Apollo Hospital, Greams Road.

Poor lifestyle can accelerate ACS. "Many young people with 40% blockages see them worsen due to smoking and alcohol use, while older

people with 70% blockages often remain stable with minimal medication, likely due to healthier lifestyles," said Dr S Murugan, head of the department of cardiology at Stanley Govt Medical College Hospital.

Tackling the issue needs to start with prevention and early intervention, say doctors. "Schools should urge teachers not to replace physical education periods with regular classes. This would ensure consistent physical activity, reducing stress and potentially inflammation among students," said Dr Majella.

Doctors say they can develop risk-stratification models. "If we suspect a problem, or the young person consistently reports chest pain, an ECG or an ECHO would be a good place to start," she added.

Source: *The Times of India*, 10 December 2025, p. 3

# Researchers develop targeted nanotech system for breast cancer drug delivery

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: A tiny needle system that sends cancer drugs directly into breast cancer cells, while protecting healthy ones, has been developed by researchers from IIT Madras and two Australian universities — Monash University and Deakin University.

The nanotechnology injection delivery system packs the anticancer drug, doxorubicin, into special protective bubbles, then pushes it inside cells using needle-shaped silicon tubes on a chip.

"It was a study on petri dishes," said IIT-M assistant professor Dr Swathi Sudha-

kar, who works with the department of applied mechanics and biomedical engineering. "We could release the drug directly, but that would be faster delivery. So, for sustained release, it was wrapped in a bubble and pushed into it. Lab tests on breast cancer cells showed the drugs stopped cell growth, killed cancer cells, and blocked new blood vessels for tumours," she said.

Breast cancer is one of the most common types of cancer affecting women in both urban and rural areas. In cities such as Chennai, 28% of cancers in women are breast cancers, followed by cervix

(14%), ovary (6%), and corpus uteri (4%). Conventional treatments such as chemotherapy and radiation often harm non-cancerous tissues due to systemic drug exposure, causing side effects.

Results of the study published in the peer-reviewed journal *Advanced Materials Interfaces* show the new system worked 23 times better than the drug alone. "It had higher potential even when used in smaller amounts. There is thermal stability and long-term drug release, up to 700 hours, and it addresses common drawbacks of existing nanocarrier systems, such as burst release

and poor compatibility," she said.

The technology, they said, is a reliable and scalable candidate for future trials. The next phase will cover animals. It can take nearly 15 years before it is brought to a patient's bedside.

It must undergo large-scale clinical trials if animal trials are successful, they said. "This work lays the foundation for a modular drug delivery system. The next step is in vivo validation and evaluating how the platform performs across different cancer types," said Dr Roey Elnathano of Deakin University, Australia.

Source: *The Times of India*, 23 December 2025, p. 2

# Chennai set to get free cancer screening centre for women

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**Chennai:** Thousand Lights will get a public women's cancer screening centre by Feb 2026. It will screen women free of cost for breast cancer using mammograms, cervical cancer through Pap smear tests, and conduct abdominal and pelvic ultrasounds to detect ovarian cancers.

The three-storeyed facility built at a cost of ₹1.23 crore will be run by Greater Chennai Corporation's health department and will function from 8am to 5pm on all days except Sundays. It has a mammogram screening room, a consultant room, a lab to conduct Pap smear tests, and an ultrasound room.



**TO OPEN BY FEB NEXT YEAR**

While most services are free in govt hospitals, scans usually come at a cost. "I wanted to establish a free cancer screening facility in the city, owing to Tamil Nadu's high cancer burden.

Dr J Amalorpavanathan, state planning commission member, said the facility will be timely, as TN accounts for 6.4% of India's cancer cases, despite having only 5.6% of the country's population. He added that while cervical cancer is one of the most common types of cancer in rural TN, urban areas are seeing a rise in breast cancer owing to delayed marriage and, hence, delayed lactation.

We'll have a team to build a data registry of those who walk in and their results to promote research for prevention," said Dr Ezhilan Naganathan, MLA of Thousand Lights.

Dr J Amalorpavanathan, state planning commission member, said the facility will be timely, as TN accounts for 6.4% of India's cancer cases, despite having only 5.6% of the country's population. He added that while cervical cancer is one of the most common types of cancer in rural TN, urban areas are seeing a rise in breast cancer owing to delayed marriage and, hence, delayed lactation.

Source: *The Times of India*, 29 December 2025, p. 3

# Madras Medical College gets its first IPR cell

BINITA JAISWAL @Chennai

The Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology (TNSCST) has launched an Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Cell at Madras Medical College (MMC), to boost innovation in government medical institutions. This is the council's 41st IPR centre in the state and the first in a medical college.

TNSCST secretary S Vincent said the initiative comes as MMC and its affiliated hospitals see a rise in clinical innovations and procedural improvements. "There is no dearth of



innovations in MMC. What has been missing is awareness of IPR and guidance on filing patents or protecting research outcomes," he said. The cell will assist in drafting applications, documentation, and filings with the Patent Office, covering

patents, copyrights, trademarks, and technology transfer support.

MMC Dean Dr K Shantharam noted that clinicians often improvise solutions at the point of care, but many ideas remain undocumented. "MMC and its institutions manage nearly 10,800 beds, offering a treasure trove of patient data," he said. The cell will serve as a nodal point for affiliated hospitals and organise workshops, and awareness programmes, with plans to replicate the model across other government medical colleges.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 08 December 2025, p. 2

# Nalam Kakkum Stalin medical camps to be held twice a week

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@ Chennai

THE special medical camps under 'Nalam Kakkum Stalin' programme which are conducted only on Saturday in all revenue districts across the state will be held twice in a week from now on to complete the planned camps on time. The decision was taken by Chief Minister M K Stalin in a review meeting held to discuss the status of the scheme recently, said Health Minister Ma Subramanian.



Speaking to the media on Saturday after inspecting the medical camp at Iyyappanthangal, Subramanian said that from now on 'Nalam Kakkum Stalin' camps will be conducted on Thursday and Saturday. The medical camps under the scheme, inaugurated by the CM in August, have received a good response so far. In 18 weeks, of the total 1,256

camps, 678 have been conducted, while the remaining camps will be held in the coming weeks. So far, around 10 lakh people have benefited. Subramanian said that in Kancheepuram district alone six new cancer cases – two breast cancer and four cervical cancer cases – have been detected at the camp.

These cases were picked up early, so the patients have been put on treatment. Apart from these, new tuberculosis cases also have been detected.

In the coming weeks, the total number of new cancer cases detected across the state will be announced.

In the camps, priority has been given to people suffering from diabetes, and hypertension, people with mental health problems, heart patients, pregnant women, lactating mothers, children with special needs, differently-abled people, tribals and socio-economically backward people.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 07 December 2025, p. 4

# Diabetes registry in T.N. enrolls over 5,000 children since launch

The registry serves as a tool to improve survival rates, ensure continued care, and enhance the quality of life of Type 1 diabetes patients

Serena Josephine M.  
CHENNAI

A little over a year after its launch, Tamil Nadu's Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus (T1DM) Registry has enrolled 5,064 children till now. Simultaneously, the State established Type 1 Diabetes Specialised Care Centres at seven government medical colleges, with three more in the pipeline, and plans to expand to 13 more medical colleges.

According to health officials, the State government, under the National Health Mission (NHM) - Tamil Nadu, established the State-level T1DM registry, recognising the urgent need for structured data and care. Launched in August 2024, the registry serves as a critical tool to improve survival rates, ensure continued care, and enhance the quality of life for children and adolescents with T1DM in the State. Children with Type 1 diabetes treated at both government and private hospitals are being registered.

**What the registry does**  
The registry has multiple purposes, officials said. According to G. Jerard Maria Selvam, Additional Director, NHM, Tamil Nadu, the registry raises awareness among healthcare professionals on T1DM to ensure their participation, assesses district-wise disease

burden and trends, and strengthens the healthcare system to ensure uninterrupted access to essential care for all children with T1DM.

It also facilitates maintenance of data to support evidence-based policy making and set public health priorities, and to plan insulin supply and comprehensive outpatient services.

**The care centres**  
The Type 1 Diabetes Specialised Care Centres, established by NHM in partnership with an NGO, function at the Institute of Child Health and Hospital for Children, Chennai, and in government medical college hospitals at Salem, Thanjavur, Tiruchi, Tirunelveli, Dharmapuri and Namakkal as public private partnerships. Three more centres at Cuddalore, Theni and Tiruvarur are in the pipeline.

A. Arun Thamburaj,



An official said specialised care centres have started functioning at seven institutions in Tamil Nadu, and 13 more are to be established. IMAGE USED FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSE ONLY/GETTY IMAGES

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## The care centres

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A. Arun Thamburaj,

Mission Director, NHM, Tamil Nadu said the specialised care centres have started to function at seven institutions, and 13 more will be established. "We will have these centres in 20 medical college hospitals in the next six months. Our target is to have such centres at all medical colleges over a period of time," he said.

## Services offered

The best treatment available is being provided in the government facility in collaboration with a trust.

Through the collaborative partnership, the State government offers services including capacity building to all T1DM patients at the institutions and facilitates formation of patient support groups.

The patients are monitored for disease control by screening them for complications and by counselling them and family members.

# Study looks at migrant-linked transmission of leprosy in city

The study finds a large number of children with the disease in some areas where migrants live, it recommends targeted surveillance of the infection in industrial hubs and border areas

## The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

Over a five-year period, 515 new cases of leprosy have been detected in Chennai. Though the overall Annual New Case Detection Rate (ANCDR) remained largely stable, persistent hotspots were identified in industrial and border zones.

These areas also recorded higher new case rates among children, ranging from 3.5 to 11.5 per 1,00,000, indicating ongoing transmission likely linked to migrant populations, a study has found.

The findings of the study on “Urban Hotspots Of Leprosy: Child And Migrant-linked Transmission In Chennai, 2021-2025” were published in the Tamil Nadu Journal of Public Health and Medical Research.

The study was conducted by Sridevi Govindarajan, Vasanthi Thangasamy, and Dharmalingam Vedanayagam of the Directorate of Medical and Rural Health Services (Leprosy).

The authors conducted a descriptive cross-sectional study using secondary programme data from 15 administrative zones of Chennai district.

The overall ANCDR ranged from 1.0 per 1,00,000 in 2021 to 1.3 in 2025, with a transient spike to more than 2.0 in 2022-2023. Six zones recorded ANCDR above 2.0 [range of 2.0 to 4.9] - three



The study also called for workplace interventions for migrant workers, including health education. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

### **Six zones of the Chennai district recorded an Annual New Case Detection Rate above 2.0**

major industrial hubs and three located at district borders.

Child ANCDR was disproportionately high particularly in industrial zones, adjoining residential zones, and border zones.

### **Hidden cases**

“We have been conducting Leprosy Case Detection Campaigns, and have been covering several zones in Chennai throughout this year. During door-to-door checks, we are observing hidden cases of leprosy, especially in industrial and adjoining residential areas. In particular, cases have been observed in Ambattur, Valsaravakkam, Manali, Madhavaram, Sholinga-

nallur and Perungudi zones,” the study’s author Dr. Sridevi Govindarajan said. Paucibacillary leprosy, an early and less infectious form having one to five skin patches, was more common among children, while multibacillary leprosy, a more severe and infectious form having nerve involvement, accounted for over half of all detections.

“Most of the persons affected were migrant workers from other States. For instance, during screening, we found a few new cases in some small industries in Ambattur. When we checked in Valsaravakkam, an adjacent zone where many of them lived, we found a high number of child cases. We found child cases in Manali as well. While this is based on our observations, we understood that the cases were linked to the migrant population, and the infection was spreading in places

they lived,” she said.

She added that follow-up of the migrant workers and continuity of treatment is a challenge. There is a need to focus on the unorganised sector workers and their workplaces.

The findings suggest that migrant populations, particularly those concentrated in industrial hubs and border settlements, play a central role in sustaining urban transmission, the authors concluded. The study recommended measures to strengthen leprosy control efforts in urban and migrant-dense settings.

### **Targeted surveillance**

It recommended prioritising targeted surveillance in industrial hubs and border areas through regular, community-based screening to enable early detection and prevent ongoing transmission.

They also called for workplace interventions for migrant workers, including health education, dermatological screening, and integrating leprosy awareness into occupational health services.

Detection of leprosy in children should be used as a key sentinel indicator of ongoing transmission, they said, urging a shift from conventional household-based surveillance towards more innovative, migrant-focused and community-driven approaches to sustain leprosy elimination goals in urban settings.

Source: The Hindu, 11 December 2025, p. 4

## TN's climate leadership applauded at UN Environment Assembly meet

Praised for its ground-tested model to turn green recommendations into real-world action

SV KRISHNA CHAITANYA @Nairobi

TAMIL Nadu's pioneering climate and biodiversity initiatives drew strong praise from the global community at the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-7) in Nairobi, where additional chief secretary Supriya Sahu shared the state's ground-tested model for turning environmental recommendations into real-world action.

Sahu spoke at the official Global Environment Outlook (GEO-7) side event 'Solutions for a Resilient Planet: Turning Knowledge into Action' alongside Izabella Teixeira, co-chair of International Resource Panel, Frankie Orona, executive director of Society of Native Nations, and Patrick Child, deputy director general, DG Environment, European Commission.

Taking forward the GEO-7 call for a "whole-of-government and whole-of-society" approach, Sahu described how Tamil Nadu operationalised these principles through the creation of India's first state-owned, not-for-profit Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company (TNGCC). "We realised a whole-of-government approach is very difficult when departments function in silos. So we created a climate company whose board includes



Additional chief secy Supriya Sahu (2<sup>nd</sup> from L) at the Global Environment Outlook meet in Nairobi on Tuesday | EXPRESS

all ministries – finance, energy, agriculture, forests – ensuring accountability and coordinated action."

She explained that this structure allowed Tamil Nadu to run four large-scale climate missions in "urgent, mission mode" – Green Tamil Nadu Mission, Climate Change Mission, Wetlands Mission, and Coastal Restoration Mission. Together, these missions have enabled the plantation of over 110 million native trees, 2,400 hectares of new mangrove creation, 1,200 hectares of mangrove rejuvenation, and systematic mapping and restoration of wetlands across districts.

Highlighting Tamil Nadu's 1,068 km coastline, she noted that the state is restoring bio-shields, strengthening coastal resilience and placing local and indigenous communities at the



**We realised a whole-of-government approach is very difficult when departments function in silos. So we created a climate company whose board includes all ministries – finance, energy, agriculture, forests – ensuring accountability and coordinated action**

– Supriya Sahu, additional chief secretary

centre of climate decision-making.

Sahu also addressed biodiversity loss, calling it one of the most serious concerns flagged in the GEO-7 report. Over the last four and a half years, Tamil

Nadu has declared eight new wildlife sanctuaries and notified 103 new reserve forests to expand legal protection for ecologically sensitive areas.

Responding to a question on invasive species, an emerging global driver of habitat degradation, Sahu described Tamil Nadu's Policy on Invasive Plant Eradication and Restoration, developed through extensive mapping, scientific consultations and community engagement. Working with tribal communities across five tiger reserves, the state has cleared 34,000 hectares of invasive plants and introduced circular models where removed biomass is repurposed through industry partnerships. Sahu further added that Tamil Nadu is now applying the same whole-of-government approach to community-led carbon action.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 10 December 2025, p. 2

## SUPER SIX

State's upcoming centres of excellence will serve as living laboratories for coastal conservation, restoration and climate adaptation

### KADAMBUR

#### Biodiversity conservation park

The historically significant site in Chengalpet is linked to the Chola dynasty. This park will feature a Tamil heritage landscape themed around 'ainthina', comprising kurinji, mullai, marutham, paalai and neithal. The venture covering 300ha is being developed in technical collaboration with Kew Gardens in London, UK



### NAGAPATTINAM & CHENNAI

#### Sea turtle conservation centres

The centre hopes to protect species such as Olive Ridley, green sea turtle, leatherback, hawksbill and loggerhead turtles. Chennai's Guindy centre will also be strengthened. Chennai is home to one of India's largest turtle nesting sites. Coastal resilience is directly linked to turtle conservation. Turtles nest across nine districts in Tamil Nadu

### PALLIKARANAI, CHENNAI

#### Wetland Conservation centre

A Wetland Conservation Centre is planned at Pallikaranai, a Ramsar site and one of Chennai's last remaining natural wetlands. The state is focusing on strengthening all 20 Ramsar sites in Tamil Nadu

### MARAKKANAM, VILLUPURAM

#### International bird centre

Next to the Kaluveli Bird Sanctuary, it is being created in collaboration with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, known globally for the eBird project

### MANORA, THANJAVUR

#### International dugong conservation centre

To safeguard the endangered dugong and its seagrass habitats, the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025 recently recognised Tamil Nadu's Palk Bay dugong reserve — declared in 2022 and spanning 448sqkm with more than 12,000ha of seagrass — as a global model. The centre will also offer snorkelling for research and education

### Pichavaram, Cuddalore

#### Mangrove conservation centre

Here, visitors will be taught mangrove ecology and their role in protecting coastal communities. The 2004 tsunami showed how powerful mangroves can be as natural barriers. Pichavaram and Muthupet with dense mangrove cover were better protected

Centres are mapped by the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Mission under the TN Shore project, implemented by the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company

# SAVE OUR SHORES

## Tamil Nadu's ₹1,675cr plan to protect its coastline hinges on community involvement, say experts

Shantha.Thiagarajan  
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For years now, Professor Ramesh Ramachandran has been concerned about the increasing frequency of disasters along Tamil Nadu's coastlines. The expert in coastal biodiversity and resilience says the signs have been visible for years, but have moved from "concern to urgency", which is why he has his hopes pegged on the Tamil Nadu Sustainably Harnessing Ocean Resources and Blue Economy (TN Shore) project. The initiative involves a budget of ₹1,675cr over five years, with ₹1,172cr funded by the World Bank and the remainder by the state govt.

"Anticipating intensified activity along the ocean, the state has mapped the 1,069km coastline for the Coastal Regulation Zone as well as established six centres of excellence along it to deal with climate change impacts such as shoreline erosion, storm surges, sea level rise and plastic pollution," he says.

"All activity within this zone will be integrated. Much of the ground-work has begun."

Thangam Thennarasu, minister for finance, environment and climate change, says the project also focuses on improving livelihoods.

"We have planned SHG grants, eco-development committees, joint forest management committees, village mangrove councils and other means of micro-enterprise development under the six centres of excellence," he says. "We have a budget of ₹250cr."

Supriya Sahu, additional chief secretary for environment, climate change and forests, says the approach is among the most "unique in the country".

"But its success hinges on community involvement. These centres of excellence will simplify complex ecological concepts, helping communities understand why turtles nest on certain beaches, or how dugongs depend on seagrass."

Plans are on to demonstrate restoration techniques, conduct guided walks and support citizen science, she says.

The project also targets micro-plastic pollution, aiming to prevent discarded fishing nets from entering rivers and the seas. Floating boom barriers will trap waste, which will



**ON THE EDGE:** (From top) A sea turtle conservation centre hopes to protect species such as Olive Ridley; mangrove ecology will be taught at Pichavaram; seagrass restoration is on the cards; Kariyachalli Island in Gulf of Mannar has lost more than 70% of its land area

then be processed at material recovery facilities. "We are also looking at supporting eco-tourism. Ten blue beaches are in progress, and Kovalam has been certified."

Apart from the six centres, the project focuses on Kariyachalli Island, one of the 21 in the Gulf of Mannar, which experts predict will vanish by 2036.

"The island has lost more than 70% of its land over the past 55 years," she adds.

TN Shore Project director Deepak S Bilgi says all centres are expected to be operational within the next 24 months, adding that initiatives such as coral and seagrass restoration are underway.

"The centres of excellence will create a sense of ownership when people witness conservation work firsthand; they will begin to see biodiversity as a local responsibility," says Sahu.

Email your feedback with name and address to [southpole.toi@timesofindia.com](mailto:southpole.toi@timesofindia.com)



Source: *The Times of India*, 09 December 2025, p. 6

# 'Distributed rainfall will help improve groundwater table'

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**Chennai:** Rain has boosted groundwater recharge across several neighbourhoods, according to hydrogeologists. Across geological areas, levels rose between 0.59m to 0.71m. GCC data shows cumulative rainfall over the past few days ranged from very light to moderate, creating ideal conditions for steady percolation. This sustained infiltration is likely to reflect positively in the monthly groundwater table assessments carried out by Metrowater.

Former Metrowater hydrogeologist Subramanian said improvement varies depending on geological formations. In sandy zones such as areas along ECR, Triplicane, Mylapore, Adyar, Besant Nagar, Thiruvanniyur, and Akkarai, groundwater levels rose from 3.30m in Sept to 2.59m in Oct — an uptick of 0.71m. Such formations allow faster and deeper percolation, especially when rainfall is spread out over several days. Clayey

regions, including Ambattur, Valasaravakkam, K K Nagar, Perambur, Kolathur, and Anna Nagar, saw a rise from 1.73m to 1.12m during the period, an improvement of 0.61m. Experts say clayey soil restricts percolation, but the moderate, uninterrupted rainfall enabled better absorption than in previous years.

Hard rock localities such as Saidapet, Little Mount, Guindy, Velachery, Alandur, and Madipakkam saw levels increase by 0.59m, from 2.79m in Sept to 2.20m in Oct. These zones depend on fractures, joints within the rock for recharge, making rainfall duration a crucial factor. Hydrogeologist J Saravanan noted that rain associated with Dithwah was moderate and evenly distributed, unlike high-intensity cloudbursts recorded in recent monsoons. Such short, intense spells result in rapid runoff, limiting infiltration. "This year, the spread-out rainfall has been far more conducive to groundwater recharge," he said.

Source: *The Times of India*, 04 December 2025, p. 2

# TN boosts marine patrol as turtle deaths touch 50

11-man elite force, comprising trained members of fishing community, deployed to monitor waters up to five nautical miles from the coast

S V KRISHNA CHAITANYA  
@Chennai

THE death toll of Olive Ridley sea turtles along the Chennai coast has climbed to 50 this season, prompting the state government to strengthen marine patrolling and surveillance during the crucial mating period.

Volunteers from Students Sea Turtle Conservation Network (SSTCN) said most of the turtles found dead so far are male. "Mating is happening, but we don't know where exactly they are getting entangled and drowning. All the carcasses that are beaching now are around three to four days old," a volunteer said, suggesting the fatalities are occurring at sea rather than close to the nesting beaches.

To address the issue, the state on Thursday deployed a 11-member marine elite force that will patrol waters up to five nautical miles from the coast. The team will identify mating zones, monitor fishing activity, photograph and report violations, and assist enforcement agencies. A few members of the force have also been trained to use underwater surveillance equipment, which can help determine the type of fishing gear being used and whether it poses a threat to turtles.

All members of the elite force have been drawn from the fishing community, mainly from Urur Kuppam and Tiruvanniyur Kuppam along the Chennai coast. Officials said their local knowledge of sea conditions and fishing practices makes them well-suited for the task. The recruits have undergone



Volunteers say most of the Olive Ridley turtles found dead so far are male | EXPRESS



training and have temporarily given up fishing to take up the conservation role.

The elite force members have been recruited on a temporary basis for one year and are being paid between ₹12,000 and ₹13,000 a month.

According to department sources, this is because the department initially sent the proposal classifying them as unskilled workers. Discussions are now under way to resubmit the proposal by recognising them as skilled workers, which

would raise their minimum monthly salary to around ₹30,000.

One member of the marine elite force told TNIE the current pay is inadequate. "A salary of around ₹10,000 will not be sufficient to provide even three meals a day for my family. For the last two months, we have given up fishing to undergo training. We are ready to take risk and protect the turtles, but we need minimum social security like a permanent job, better pay and insurance," he said.

Meanwhile, scientific studies to understand the causes of turtle mortality are set to begin soon. Supriya Sahu, additional chief secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Forests, said telemetry studies will commence in the first week of January. She also noted nesting may be delayed this year due to prevailing weather conditions.

R Suresh Kumar, a marine turtle expert from the Wildlife Institute of India, said boat surveys and telemetry tagging will begin in early January. "We have just recruited the researchers. The surveys and tagging will help us understand movement patterns and identify risk zones," he added.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 19 December 2025, p. 3

# New command centre to monitor wildlife 24x7 in Gudalur

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Nilgiris

AS part of mitigating human-wildlife conflict, a state-of-the-art command-and-control centre has been established at Genepool Garden in the Nadugani forest range in the Gudalur forest division.

The centre, constructed at a cost of ₹6 crore, was inaugurated on Saturday by Nilgiris MP A Raja in the presence of Supriya Sahu, additional chief secretary of environment, climate change and forests, and other senior forest department



MP A Raja launched toll-free number for complaints on wildlife threats | EXPRESS

officials, and Nilgiris Collector Lakshmi Bhavya Tanneeru.

A total of 34 AI-enabled cam-

eras and 12 AI-based monitoring systems have been set up at 46 locations in the human-wild-

life conflict hotspots in the forest division as part of the modernisation of the forest force.

Wildlife movement across these critical points will be monitored round the clock, enabling the system to generate real-time alerts. Raja, later addressing reporters, claimed that it is the first-of-its-kind initiative in the state. A similar facility at Madukkarai is for monitoring only along the railway track.

"Such innovative technologies aim to reduce the increasing human-animal conflict. The entire AI cameras fixed on the

tower can cover up to 50 to 60 km in the forest division," Supriya Sahu told reporters. Gudalur DFO N Venkatesh Prabu said, "This integrated technology platform is expected to significantly reduce response time and enhance the safety of both communities and wildlife."

During the event, MP A Raja launched a toll-free number, 1800-425-4353, to facilitate public reporting and assistance related to human-wildlife conflict and forest protection in the Gudalur Forest Division.

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

# City's secret spots turn safe haven for migratory birds

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**Chennai:** Major wetlands such as Pallikarai or the oldest birds' sanctuary in Vedanthangal often steal the spotlight during migratory bird season, but less known spots are emerging as vital breeding and roosting havens.

Otteri lake within Arignar Anna Zoological Park at Vandalur, tall tree clusters on Sri Ramachandra Medical College (SRMC) campus at Porur, and the expansive tank at Melmaruvathur are quietly buzzing with avian activity. While SRMC remains off-limits to the public, the other two sites welcome visitors eager to witness the spectacle.

At Otteri lake, zoo authorities



**REST ASSURED:** Painted storks and other birds nesting at Maruvathur lake

report at least half a dozen species arriving early to scout nesting sites, including egrets, grey herons, and open-billed storks. Paint-

ed storks, cormorants, and spoonbills are expected by next month, swelling the average seasonal count to 3,500 birds. Successful breeders here include Asian open-billed storks, spoonbills, white ibis, grey herons, pond herons, large egrets, and darters. Spot-billed pelicans come to the lake at Vandalur, but they do not breed here, says a senior official of the park.

Painted storks, the latecomers in Jan, often linger until April, their stay tied to water levels of the lake, which drew more than 5,000 birds post-monsoon revival.

The Melmaruvathur tank has hosted migratory arrivals for more than a decade, with numbers steadily climbing from modest begin-

nings. Local monitor P Mohanraj says that after alerting Melmaruvathur Trust, management invested in small iron platforms in 2013 for roosting and nesting — inspired by out-of-state sanctuaries, thanks to trustee G B Anbazhagan.

These hidden refuges highlight Chennai's urban biodiversity resilience amid challenges such as urbanization and water scarcity. Zoo initiatives such as desilting Otteri lake, have restored habitats. Community efforts at Melmaruvathur underscore how targeted support can turn tanks into thriving nurseries. As winter peaks from Nov to March, these spots offer birdwatchers intimate glimpses of the varied flocks.

Source: *The Times of India*, 01 December 2025, p. 4

# Banned drug takes a toll on vulture population

S SENTHIL KUMAR @Coimbatore

SETTING off the alarm bells, a study found that the rapid decline in population of three species of Gyps vulture — White rumped vulture, Red headed vulture and Long billed vulture — that are endemic to Asia were caused by unintentional poisoning by the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) diclofenac, banned by union government two decades ago. Though the veterinary use of the drug was banned in 2006, it continues to be used to treat sick cattle across the country.

The study 'The continued threat of toxic NSAIDs to Critically Endangered Gyps vultures in South Asia' by a group of 13 researchers across South Asia, carried out between 2012 and 2024, was published in Bird Con-

servation International journal recently.

Though the availability of diclofenac has declined over the years in all Vulture Safe Zones (VSZs), it is still readily available (up to 25% of sales) in Rajasthan where intensive conservation advocacy had not occurred.

SBharathidasan, secretary of Arulagam which carried out the survey across VSZ in Tamil Nadu, more than 100 court cases have been filed against suppliers, distributors, manufacturers, and retailers of diclofenac. "Significantly, the only vials of diclofenac that were found in Tamil Nadu VSZ were manufactured at pharmacies in neighbouring Karnataka, which is outside

the VSZ, where conservation advocacy has been less intensive." The report pointed out that vulture-safe meloxicam continues to be the most commonly available veterinary NSAID.

"The number of pharmacies in which an NSAID was offered varied between regions — 64.3% (TN) to 100% (Rajasthan). Most of the diclofenac supplied was in the form of 3-ml vials, which are legal to stock for human use, but illegal for veterinary use," it said. The centre had banned the veterinary use of diclofenac in May 2006 (with further restrictions on multi-dose human vials in 2015). It also banned the manufacture, sale, and distribution of veterinary drug formulations containing ketoprofen and aceclofenac in July 2023.

Tamil Nadu has taken steps to protect vultures, including restricting the use of the toxic drug 'Flunixin' for veterinary use in key vulture habitats (such as The Nilgiris, Erode, and Coimbatore districts, starting around 2019). The state had also curbed the use of ketoprofen as early as 2015 before the national ban.

Bharatidasan said even though the government removed one toxic drug from the system, another un-tested drug has been introduced or used as a substitute, continuing to threaten the vultures. "The government and other crucial stakeholders should take steps to stop the pilferage of banned human-use vials for veterinary purposes, and to prevent the introduction of new toxic substitutes," he added.



Source: *The New Indian Express*, 17 December 2025, p. 2

# TN launches drive to remove *Senna spectabilis* from forests by Mar '26

State's forests host 1,77,363 ha of invasive species, with 34,710 ha having been cleared so far

SV KRISHNA CHAITANYA @Chennai

THE Tamil Nadu Forest Department has set an ambitious target to eradicate *Senna spectabilis* from all forest divisions by March 2026, marking one of India's largest state-led invasive species removal drives. Official data show the yellow-flowering invasive has spread across 2,446 hectares, of which 1,963 hectares have already been cleared, leaving 483 hectares to be tackled in the next phase.

*Senna spectabilis*, which has overrun forest floors in the Nilgiris, Mudumalai and Sathyamangalam, is among the most disruptive invasives in the Western Ghats. Its dense monoculture suppresses native understorey vegetation, intensifies forest fire risk, and reduces fodder for herbivores including elephants and deer.

However, *Senna* is just one part of Tamil Nadu's larger ecological challenge. Forests in the state host 1,77,363 hectares of invasive plant species. Of this, only 34,710 hectares have been cleared so far, leaving 1,42,653 hectares awaiting restoration. The most widespread intruders are *Lantana camara* (1,44,034 ha), *Prosopis juliflora* (23,454 ha) and wattle (7,429 ha).

STATUS OF INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL IN TAMIL NADU (as on October 2025) (Area in hectares)			
Invasive species	Area infested	Area removed	Remaining area
<i>Lantana camara</i>	1,44,034	26,735	1,17,299
<i>Prosopis juliflora</i>	23,454	4,685	18,769
<i>Senna spectabilis</i>	2,446	1,963	483
Wattle	7,429	1,327	6,102
Total	1,77,363	34,710	1,42,653



2023 IPBES report underscores the urgency, warning that invasive species are among the top five direct drivers of global biodiversity loss  
Supriya Sahu, Additional chief secretary

So far, the state has removed 26,735 ha of *lantana*, 4,685 ha of *Prosopis*, and 1,327 ha of wattle.

Supriya Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Forest and Climate Change Department, told *TNIE* that the 2023 IPBES report underscores the urgency, warning that invasive alien species are among the top five direct drivers of global biodiversity loss, with an annual economic cost exceeding \$423 billion.

"Time is running out, and

the message is clear: governments must act with urgency and scale. Tamil Nadu recognised this challenge early and moved from policy to practice. Through India's first State Policy for Invasive Plant Eradication and Restoration (PIPER), launched by Chief Minister M K Stalin, we are clearing *Senna*, *Prosopis* and *lantana* across thousands of hectares and restoring native habitats. Removed *Senna* is also being converted into eco-friendly paper pulp through TNPL, proving

that restoration and circular economy can go hand in hand," she said.

To fast-track removal, the state partnered with Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited (TNPL) and Seshasayee Paper and Boards Limited (SPB), which extract *Senna* biomass and convert it into pulpwood. TNPL has lifted 31,258 metric tonnes of *Senna* from 854 hectares, completing removal in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (485 ha), Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (239 ha) and Dindigul (80 ha), while SPB cleared 340.12 hectares across Pollachi, Erode, Sathyamangalam, Udhaigai and Masinagudi. Forest managers caution that eradication requires long-term upkeep. Mudumalai Tiger Reserve Field Director R Kiruba Shankar said fresh shoots continue to appear after clearing. "We need to maintain the landscape for at least two to three years to effect permanent change. New *Senna* shoots emerge from deep roots. Maintenance is key."

Officials note that once *Senna* is eliminated by March 2026, focus will shift to ecological restoration using native grasses and shrubs, particularly in elephant and tiger habitats heavily altered by invasives.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 08 December 2025, p. 2

## Govt forms panel to monitor man-animal conflict in Valparai

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Chennai: A high-level committee has been formed by the Tamil Nadu state gov't to tackle increasing man-animal conflicts in Valparai's tea estates, following the fatal leopard attack on a five-year-old boy in Iyarpadi on Saturday evening. The incident occurred around 7.15pm when the child, playing near the labour quarters of the tea estate, was grabbed by a leopard and taken inside the estate. Wildlife officials launched an extensive search operation and recovered the boy's body, which was sent for postmortem at the Valparai Government Hospital.

The committee, led by additional principal chief conservator of forests S Ramasu-

**The group will ensure enforcement of protective measures, including clearing bushes around residential quarters, installing street light**

bramania, aims to monitor the implementation of long-term safety measures in the region.

The committee includes key officials such as the deputy director of Aanamalai Tiger Reserve, the Pollachi sub-collector, a representative from the nature conservation foundation, the Valparai municipality commissioner, and the assistant commissioner of labour for plantations.

The group will assess ground realities, ensure enforcement of protective measures, including clearing bushes around residential quarters, installation of street light, and securing the area after dark.

State forest secretary Supriya Sahu stressed the urgency of addressing human-wildlife conflict in this bio-diverse region and has mandated the committee to submit its recommendations within two weeks.

The government's proactive approach reflects growing concern over the safety of plantation workers and residents, striving to balance conservation with human habitation in wildlife-rich landscapes, said an official.

Source: *The Times of India*, 08 December 2025, p. 4

# State govt. forms expert committee to draft SOP for elephant translocation

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu government has formed a high-level expert committee to develop a comprehensive Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the capture, translocation, release, and post-release monitoring of wild elephants and other wildlife species.

The decision follows concerns over the death of two translocated elephants in recent months that underscored the need for a scientific and detailed review of the current protocols.

In an official release, the government said it remains committed to scientific wildlife conservation, humane management of wild

Source: *The Hindu*, 09 December 2025, p. 6



**Spurred into action:** The government said recent elephant deaths had prompted a reassessment of the current procedures. The photo shows a wild elephant being captured in Coimbatore district.

animals, and ensuring public safety, adding that translocation is carried out only for conflict mitigation or the protection of human life.

The government said the recent elephant deaths, which are still un-

der investigation, prompted a reassessment of the procedures. In response, a State-level expert committee, comprising senior Forest Department officers, wildlife veterinarians, and academic experts had been constituted.

The committee comprises A. Udhayan, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Director of the Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation (AIWC), as Chairperson; Anurag Mishra, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Special Secretary; N. Venkatesh Prabhu, District Forest Officer, Gudalur Division; K. Kalaivanan, Forest Veterinary Officer at the Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve; Rajesh, Forest Veterinary Assistant Surgeon at the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve; and N. Basakaran, Assistant Professor at A.V.C. College, Mayiladuthurai.

The government has set a two-month deadline for the committee to submit its report and draft the SOP.

## TN's 1<sup>st</sup> wildlife transit, treatment centre inaugurated in Coimbatore

Udhayanidhi opens ₹19-cr facility with operation theatre & enclosures for all animals

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
@Coimbatore

TAMIL Nadu's first Wildlife Transit and Treatment Centre at Pethikuttai near Sirumugai and an elephant camp at Chadivayal was inaugurated by Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin at the Tamil Nadu Forest Academy on Tuesday.

The transit and treatment centre, developed at a cost of ₹19.5 crore, has an operation theatre and enclosures for all animals, along with a separate shed for elephant calves and a krall for adult elephants. A total of 17 structures have been established across five acres of forest land at Pethikuttai.

The Chadivayal elephant camp, set up at a cost of ₹8 crore, has 18 sheds to house captive elephants and 18 houses for mahouts, along with a natural pond, showers and food preparation and serving area.

As part of efforts to modernise the forest force, Udhayanidhi also handed over latest rifles and



Deputy CM Udhayanidhi Stalin inspecting weapons to be distributed to officials at Tamil Nadu Forest Academy in Coimbatore on Tuesday | S SENBAGAPANDIYAN

pistols with bullets to the assistant conservator of forests and forest range officers, procured at a cost of ₹5.3 crore.

Additional Chief Secretary of Environment, Climate Change and Forests Supriya Sahu said to strengthen forest and wildlife protection, 123 sporting rifles (0.315), 65 auto pistols (9mm) and

204 12-bore pump-action guns, including ammunition, totalling 17,376 were provided in Phase 1 of the initiative.

"Our goal is to enhance the safety, confidence and operational readiness of the forest force," Sahu said in a post on her X handle.

Udhayanidhi also launched

the digitisation of Tamil Nadu Forest Archives Repository, which has valuable collections of more than 150-year-old important documents, historic documents and maps through Tamil Virtual Academy at a cost of ₹2.6 crore. The initiative using latest technology is to take valuable collections to researchers, forest department staff, educationists and the public.

### Hockey stadium inaugurated

In a bid to boost sports and development infrastructure, Udhayanidhi inaugurated a world-class, state-of-the-art hockey stadium at the Corporation Higher Secondary School grounds in RS Puram on Tuesday. The facility, built at a cost of ₹9.67 crore on a 7.02-acre campus, is expected to put Coimbatore on the national and international hockey map.

Speaking at the event, Udhayanidhi said the new facility will help the city to regularly host national and international hockey tournaments, alongside Chennai and Madurai.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 31 December 2025, p. 2

# Waxen tiger beetle spotted in Theri forest after 25 yrs

S GODSON WISELY DASS  
@Thoothukudi

THE waxen tiger beetle (*Lophyra cerina*), a critically endangered species last recorded in 2000, has been sighted again in the red sand Theri forest of Thoothukudi after a gap of 25 years. The rare beetle was recorded at multiple locations in the Kuthiraimozhi Theri forest by scholars KP Aravindhan and J Samson Kirubakaran this year.

*Lophyra cerina* is a small tiger beetle belonging to the genus *Lophyra*, first discovered in 1986 and formally described in 1987 by researchers Naviaux and Acciavatti. Measuring between 9 and 10.5 mm, historical specimens collected between 1986 and 2000 are preserved at the Bavarian State Collection of Zoology (ZSM) in Munich, Germany.

No confirmed collections or sightings were reported after October 2000, sources said. KP Aravindhan, an MSc Wildlife and Conservation student at the National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru, photographed the species on November 19 at Solai Kudiyiruppu near Elluvilai village, on the edge of the Kuthiraimozhi Theri forest. A second sighting was recorded by J Samson Kirubakaran on December 14

near the Arunchunai Katha Ayyanar temple within the forest.

Describing the beetle's behaviour, Aravindhan said it was fast-moving and appeared to be predatory, feeding on other beetles and insects. He said the insect blends with the red sand, with a copper-red body, yellowish-orange elytra with a waxy lustre, and five distinctive cobalt blue spots.

TigerBeetleWatch founder V Sharan termed the rediscovery a significant milestone. "The rediscovery provides crucial evidence to strengthen conservation plans for India's rapidly disappearing coastal dune ecosystems," Sharan said.



# TN to get 5 doppler weather radars

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** Tamil Nadu will get five new Doppler weather radars for cyclone tracking and to improve weather forecast accuracy and early warning systems. Recently, Jitendra Singh, Union minister of state (Independent Charge) for Ministry of Science and Technology and Earth Sciences, informed Parliament that the radars will be installed at Kanyakumari, Trichy, Coimbatore, Yercaud, and Ramanathapuram.

"Of the five radars, three will be installed under Mission Mausam and two under a govt initiative through the TN disaster risk reduction agency," Union minister Jitendra Singh said.

At present, TN is covered by eight Doppler radars located within the state and in neighbouring regions. These include two radars in Chennai - the ageing S-band radar at Chennai Port and an X-band radar at the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT). Along the coast, coverage is provided by

an S-band radar at Sriharkota, a C-band radar at IGCAR, Kalpakkam, and an S-band radar at Karaikal. Interior parts of the state are monitored by a C-band radar in Thiruvananthapuram, an S-band radar in Kochi, and a C-band radar in Sulur.

However, officials noted that central districts such as Trichy, and southern districts such as Kanyakumari that are vulnerable to cyclones and receive rainfall during both southwest and northeast monsoons, are not fully covered by the existing radar network. Currently, a nationwide network of 47 Doppler radars provides coverage over 87% of the country. Explaining the criteria for deciding the number and location of weather radars, the minister said factors include round-the-clock monitoring of severe weather across the country, higher radar density in hilly regions, coastal areas, and metro cities due to vulnerability, replacement of ageing radars, redundancy in highly vulnerable zones, and site suitability.

Source: *The Times of India*, 28 December 2025, p. 4

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 22 December 2025, p. 2

# Return of the migrant

*A geotagged pallid harrier recently returned to Tirunelveli from Kazakhstan. And it's got a story to tell*

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Six countries and 6,000km, reads the geotag data on the pallid harrier which recently returned from Kazakhstan to the arid grasslands of Tirunelveli. "But the data will show us much more than its route," says Arjun Kannan, researcher at Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, which tagged the bird in 2023 as part of its project Harrierwatch, headed by T Ganesh. "This bird has been returning to Tirunelveli during the winters in Kazakhstan. This time it landed back in mid-Oct," says Arjun, adding that his team studies raptors based on the data retrieved from geotags. "We are still in the process of analysing the location data from the birds." But the fact that the bird landed in the exact same spot it left shows how crucial the grassland landscape is for them, he says. "Fragmenting of habitat makes them disoriented. They're selective and choose only grassland habitats, not croplands."

In a similar study conducted on Montagu's harriers earlier, the team had published their migration routes, how they respond to wind, where and how they use the stopover sites such as the Thar Desert and how they avoid high altitudes of the Himalayas. The birds are tagged using a GPS-GSM tag. Since 2016, eight harriers have been tagged by Harrierwatch and the data studied.

"The harrier is a solo traveller and not a flock migrant, but the interesting fact is that no one teaches them these routes. The juveniles make their first trip by themselves, not by following the adults. The

route is mapped in their genetics. The birds have been following this route for centuries, probably," says Arjun. For Montagu's harriers, the females migrate first from central Asia, followed by the males, and then the juveniles.

The typical route of the birds is India-Pakistan-Afghanistan-Tajikistan-Uzbekistan and then to Kazakhstan, a trip that takes them about 20 days. While the pallid harriers in Central Asia choose India, those in Europe migrate to Africa during winters as it's closer for them.

The bird flies through the day and rest for the night, hunting for prey in between. "We call them 'fly and forage' migrants. They'll fly for a few 100km and by the time it's dusk they roost in one place. Then next morning, they start again," says Arjun.

On the way, they hunt and feed on birds and rodents, their primary prey. The Montagu's harrier, on the other hand, preys majorly on grasshoppers, because of which the fragmentation of agricultural land affects them most.

Harriers are an understudied species as they are rather inconspicuous, says Arjun. "They fly close to the ground and are not as big as many other raptors. Spotting them is not easy as they roost on the ground unlike other raptors, amid grass cover. Though they fly solo, they roost communally, in one place."

Besides the loss of grasslands, many of their foraging areas get converted to agriculture which is also a major threat to the species. "Spraying of pesticides means loss of prey."



## HOMEBOUND

➤ Sixteen species of harriers are distributed worldwide throughout tropical and temperate regions. Six of these migrate to India during winter. Of the 6 species, 1 is threatened, 4 show declining trends, of which 3 are dryland species. Pallid harrier is the only harrier visiting India with threatened status under IUCN

➤ As part of the Harrierwatch project, migration patterns, wintering sites, diet and availability of grasslands are monitored

Source: *The Times of India*, 16 December 2025, p. 6

# T.N. set to complete spring census to aid groundwater conservation

Teams including officials from the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Dept., Revenue Dept., and district administrations are involved in mapping spring sites and assessing various characteristics, such as discharge levels, water quality, and usage

## WATER WATCH

**K. Lakshmi**  
CHENNAI

The first spring census, aimed at identifying and collating a database of natural springs across Tamil Nadu, is set to be completed this month. The census is being carried out as part of a nationwide initiative of the Ministry of Jal Shakti to document spring sources for springshed and groundwater management in ecologically sensitive regions of the State.

With the Water Resources Department (WRD) as the nodal agency, teams including officials from the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Revenue Department, and district administrations are involved in mapping spring sites and assessing various characteristics, such as discharge



**Nearing completion:** Officials of the Water Resources Department say nearly 97% of the census has been completed in 38 districts covering 12,729 wards and 18,696 villages. REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE

levels, water quality, and usage.

The data collection exercise is being conducted digitally through a mobile application and a portal. The census is vital as communities, particularly those in hilly areas, often rely on such sources for domestic needs when piped supply is inadequate.

Officials of the WRD said about 97% of the census had been completed in 38 districts covering 12,729 wards and 18,696 villages.

Springs are natural discharge of groundwater that emerges on the surface when the water table reaches saturation. "Natural springs are fewer in the State, unlike in the Himalayan region and in the

northeast. But the exercise will help document existing spring sources, particularly in the Western Ghats region, and devise plans to conserve resources for better groundwater management," an official said.

Pointing out that the first spring census was initiated earlier this year, officials said revenue inspectors and village administrative officers were trained to carry out field enumeration, and were taught how to identify natural springs. Those in hilly regions, and near rivers, were among the spring sources identified in the State.

"Nearly 180 springs have been enumerated so far, mainly in five or six districts. A majority of them were found in Kanniyakumari, the Nilgiris, and Vilupuram districts. Some of the districts have declared nil springs. The census used Local Government Directory codes for each lo-

cation," an official said.

The census would also cover the springs that dried up within five to 10 years. It requires enumerators to ensure that the springs they survey flow for two or three months after the monsoon.

The information collected would be verified and integrated with the national census database. It would help the State improve its understanding of such natural water sources, and the trends contributing to their decline, be it changing land use patterns, urbanisation, or increasing groundwater extraction.

A consolidated database of springs, along with a census on waterbodies, would help implement projects to restore vulnerable spring zones, and prioritise groundwater conservation measures and climate-resilient water management strategies, officials added.

Source: *The Hindu*, 15 December 2025, p. 5

# City records lower PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels, but dust pollution poses a challenge: report

Several locations in city recorded annual average PM<sub>2.5</sub> level well below the national standard of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>; the new assessment links such lower levels to meteorological factors such as sea breeze

## ECO WATCH

**Geetha Srimathi**  
CHENNAI

Chennai has emerged as one of India's better-performing cities on fine particulate matter pollution, even as dust-related pollution continues to pose a challenge, according to a new assessment by the Health Effects Institute (HEI) on changes in urban air quality since the launch of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP).

Analysing real-time air quality data from 2017 to 2024, the report found at least one monitoring station in Chennai, Kodungaiyur, recorded the lowest annual average PM<sub>2.5</sub> level in the country in 2024, at 12.6 micrograms per cubic metre, well below the national standard of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Several other locations in the city also reported PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels below 20µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

However, the picture is less encouraging when it comes to PM<sub>10</sub>, which denote the coarser particles largely linked to road dust, construction activity and soil re-suspension.

Across the country, more than 90% of monitoring stations breached the PM<sub>10</sub> standard in 2024. Chennai was no exception, though some neighbour-



**Green challenge:** Some areas of the city recorded notably lower PM<sub>10</sub> than the nationwide standard of 60µg/m<sup>3</sup> despite coarser particles pollution being a major challenge. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

hoods performed notably better than most.

The Velachery residential area, for instance, recorded an annual PM<sub>10</sub> average of 47µg/m<sup>3</sup>, placing it among a small number of locations nationwide that met the standard of 60µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

The Delhi-NCR region continues to dominate the list of the most polluted locations for both PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>, with annual PM<sub>10</sub> levels crossing 250µg/m<sup>3</sup> at multiple stations. Cities such as Patna, Ghaziabad and parts of Punjab and Haryana also reported persistently high pollution levels.

Coastal cities like Chennai and Mumbai, by comparison, showed lower PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations – a pattern the report links

partly to meteorological factors such as sea breeze.

The report also cautions against relying solely on city-wide averages. Even in cities like Chennai, which have multiple monitoring stations, pollution trends can vary sharply from one neighbourhood to another.

Environmental health researcher Vishvaja Sambath said that aggregated data risks obscuring local hotspots and uneven exposure.

“It masks the real problem of pollution. We need to look at more granular data,” she added.

### Chronic issues

Significantly, the report noted that PM<sub>2.5</sub> is not included in the revised NCAP target. This is a problem as there are enough evidence

that prolonged exposure to fine particulate matter causes serious chronic issues, said Ms. Sambath.

S.M. Shiv Nagendra of the Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Madras, said data from monitoring stations cannot be treated as representative of an entire city, as each station measures air quality only within a radius of a few hundred metres.

Mr. Nagendra pointed out the Environmental Protection Agency recommends one monitoring station for every five lakh people. He also noted that monitoring stations should be strategically located to capture source-specific emissions, such as vehicular pollution in high-traffic areas and emissions specific to industrial zones.

Source: *The Hindu*, 23 December 2025, p. 3

# TN to survey hornbill population across three Kovai tiger reserves

Study of the four bird species will commence at the end of December; scientists train forest staff

S SENTHIL KUMAR @ Coimbatore

AS part of the state government's Hornbill Conservation Initiative, launched in March 2025, a population survey of four hornbill species will be conducted across all ranges of three tiger reserves and parts of the Coimbatore forest division in the coming weeks. The survey is expected to be completed by the end of March or the first week of April next year, after which the exact population of these species will be known.

A senior forest department official said the first phase of the survey would be carried out in the Anamalai, Srivilliputhur-Megamalai and Kakkad-Mundathurai tiger reserves, along with the Karamadai and Mettupalayam forest ranges in the Coimbatore forest division. "These areas have been identified as hornbill presence zones. The assessment aims to estimate the population and density of hornbills. The survey will commence at the end of December and continue until the end of March or the first week of April 2026, coinciding with the hornbill breeding season. In the second



MALABAR GREY HORNBILL



GREAT HORNBILL

phase, similar exercises will be undertaken in other parts of the state," the official said.

Four hornbill species are found in these areas — the Great Hornbill, the Malabar Grey Hornbill, the Indian Grey Hornbill and the Malabar Pied Hornbill. While the breeding season of the Great Hornbill may extend until May, that of the Malabar Grey Hornbill ends in April.

The survey will be carried out by field staff along with bi-

ologists and researchers using the line transect method, covering a few kilometres in identified hornbill habitats daily. As part of the initiative, scientists from the Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF) recently imparted training to forest staff at Attakatty near Valparai on identifying hornbill species, nesting sites and understanding their food habits.

"Similar to methodologies adopted for assessing other wildlife species in Tamil Nadu,

we will follow line transects and direct observation, including identification through calls. This approach has yielded good results during previous assessments in hornbill-bearing areas of the Anamalai Tiger Reserve," said an NCF scientist, which is collaborating with the forest department on the initiative.

The lifespan of smaller grey hornbills ranges between 15 and 16 years, while the Great Hornbill can live up to 20 years. All hornbill species are frugivores and consume fruits from over 100 species of trees in the Western Ghats. Often referred to as 'feathered foresters', they play a crucial role in seed dispersal through droppings, aiding forest regeneration. Male hornbills also bring animal prey such as lizards, small birds, bats and insects to feed chicks during the nesting period.

"An interesting aspect of hornbill ecology is that they nest in hollows of large trees and reuse the same nests year after year. Therefore, protecting mature trees with hollows is a key focus of the Tamil Nadu Hornbill Conservation Initiative," the official added.

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

# Sahu wins UN's environmental honour



TN's Additional Chief Secy Supriya Sahu receiving 'Champion of the Earth' award from UNEP executive director Inger Andersen in Nairobi | EXPRESS

SV KRISHNA CHAITANYA @ Nairobi

SUPRIYA SAHU, Additional Chief Secretary of Tamil Nadu, has been named one of the 2025 Champions of the Earth, the United Nations' highest environmental honour, for her pioneering contributions to sustainable cooling and ecosystem restoration. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) announced names of five global laureates chosen for the award on the sidelines of the seventh UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-7) held in Nairobi on Wednesday.

Sahu received the award in the Inspiration and Action category, which recognises individuals whose initiatives deliver measurable benefits for people and the planet. According to UNEP, her climate interventions have generated 2.5 million green jobs, expanded forest cover and integrated heat-adaptation measures, improving climate resilience for nearly 12 million people in TN. Her work places the state at the forefront of adaptation efforts at a time when global temperatures are expected to exceed 1.5°C within the next decade. **P7**

## Climate relief for 12M people

According to UNEP, Supriya Sahu's climate initiatives have generated 2.5 million green jobs & expanded forest cover, improving climate resilience for nearly 12 million people in Tamil Nadu

## 'Champions of the Earth award is Nobel Prize of environment'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

UNEP Executive Director Inger Andersen lauded Sahu's leadership, calling her approach a template for cities and states grappling with worsening heatwaves. "Even as the planet heats up, the world's cities are warming ever faster. Into these concrete jungles, Supriya Sahu has brought the cooling spray of nature, helping millions of people, including thousands of schoolchildren, cope with the debilitating summer heat of Tamil Nadu," Andersen said, calling the award as the Nobel Prize of environment.

She added that Sahu's work highlights the critical importance of sub-national leadership in driving climate solutions that curb dependence on energy-intensive air-conditioning.

Now in its 20th year, the Champions of the Earth award recognises individuals and organisations delivering transformative environmental change. This year's laureates include a Pacific Islands youth group that secured a landmark International Court of Justice advisory opinion on climate justice; architect Mariam Issoufou, recognised for climate-resilient design across the Sahel; Brazil's research insti-



tute Imazon for AI-enabled deforestation monitoring; and a posthumous lifetime achievement award for methane expert Manfredi Caltagirone.

Accepting the honour, Sahu said, "I accept this award with deep humility on behalf of my team, whose work has brought me here, and on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu, whose love and support have shaped my journey. Twenty-three years ago, as a young collector in the Nilgiris, I saw elephants and tigers foraging through plastic born of human carelessness. During the 2004 tsunami in Nagapattinam, I witnessed the miracle of mangroves shielding surrounding villages. From these moments I learnt a simple truth: nature protects those who protect her."

"I thank the Tamil Nadu CM for his leadership on climate action and for giving me the opportunity to serve a state that has always been ahead of its time," she added.

UNEP noted that this year's winners are addressing some of the world's most urgent climate challenges. As adaptation costs for developing countries are expected to rise to USD 365 billion annually by 2035, UNEP said the 2025 champions demonstrate that bold, innovative action remains both possible and essential.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 11 December 2025, p. 1 and 7

Smooth-Coated Otters, The Largest Of The Species In Asia, Are Shrinking In Numbers In The Cauvery Delta, Pushed To The Brink By Pesticides And Plastics

# Tamil Nadu wants to help 'fishing puppies' out of troubled waters

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Pic: Tamil Nadu forest department

The fisherfolk of Anaikarai village call them meenakutty (derived from 'meen-naai-kutty' meaning fishing puppies) for the way they playfully sneak up on them and steal their morning catch, almost like a cat-and-mouse game. Scientists, however, do not see it that way. What they see is a growing conflict between people and the smooth-coated otter (*Lutrogale perspicillata*), a vulnerable species, the largest of the species in Asia, struggling to survive in Tamil Nadu's dwindling rivers.

On March 28, during a state assembly session on endangered species protection, the Tamil Nadu Department of Forests unveiled several conservation programmes. Among them was one for smooth-coated otters: the 'Conservation initiative to study the population dynamics, behavioural pattern, and habitat improvement of smooth-coated otters in Thanjavur, Thiruvavur, and Cuddalore districts, within the Cauvery River delta'.

This effort seeks to estimate otter numbers, map vital habitats, investigate threats such as pollution and human conflict, and implement recovery actions, such as planting reeds and building fish ladders.

The otters hunt in groups called 'bevvies' of 4 to 12 animals, communicating with whistles and chirps. One bevvie can consume up to a tonne of fish each year, helping to control aquatic ecosystems and serving as indicators of wetland vitality.

In the Cauvery delta, the otters move through sluggish tributaries, irrigation channels and on the edges of mangroves. They burrow in earthen holts beneath riverbanks, surfacing to feed on carp, tilapia, catfish and prawns. However, their habitat is diminishing: upstream dams reduce fish populations, farm pesticides contaminate prey and plastic-filled waters cause deaths.

Listed as vulnerable by the



**STAYING AFLOAT:** The forest dept plans to map otter habitats

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and safeguarded under Schedule I of India's Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, otter numbers in the delta have dropped sharply, with sightings now uncommon beyond protected areas.

As per a July govt order from the department of environment, climate change and forests, the project has received administrative approval for ₹20 lakh, with ₹10 lakh disbursed for the 2025-26 financial year.

Led by the forest department's research division, the Advanced Institute for Wildlife Conservation (AIWC) in Vandalur, Chennai, will conduct the study through the department of wildlife biology at AVC Autonomous College in Mayiladuthurai in the Cauvery delta region.

The institute's scientists plan to survey and research otter groups in Thanjavur, Tiruvavur,

and Cuddalore districts for a year. The forest department will supervise the research and apply the results to advance conservation. Otters are usually monitored through direct observations, faecal sample analysis, photographic records, and environmental DNA sampling, say

## OTTERS SAFEGUARD FRESHWATER SYSTEMS. THEIR PRESENCE SIGNALS HEALTHY WETLANDS

forest department officials. The Endangered Wildlife and Environmental Trust (EWET) has performed field surveys and habitat mapping throughout the delta to safeguard and track otter populations. They also run awareness programmes to in-

form students and locals about the ecological role of otters and the need to preserve their environment. "Safeguarding otters safeguards our freshwater systems and their diversity. Their presence signals healthy wetlands," says Sathiskumar Rajendran, founder of EWET.

"These meenakutty suddenly emerge on the surface and snatch our fish," says C Karthik, a 36-year-old fisherman from Anaikarai. "They then float on their backs and eat fish with their paws like shawarma."

Karthik finds them elusive yet playful and says they fascinate him, except when water levels drop and the fish become scarce in the Kollidam River. Then, it's a case of otter vs man. "Sometimes otters get tangled in fishing nets and are injured. At times, they claw through our nets and destroy them and devour our catch," says Karthik.

"These conflicts are what the

### OTTER FACTS

➤ Smooth-coated otters are 1m from nose to tail and weigh about 10kg when fully grown



➤ Their short, thick fur is dark brown on top and creamy underneath



➤ Partly webbed feet and sharp claws make them skilled hunters

➤ They are listed as vulnerable by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972



➤ Populations in the delta have dropped sharply, with sightings now rare outside protected zones

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

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

## CM launches women's assistance scheme 2.0

16.9 Lakh More Women To Get ₹1,000 Dole

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** Chief minister MK Stalin launched the second phase of Kalaigarnar Magalir Urimai Thittam (KMUT) on Friday, expanding state govt's monthly dole scheme to 16.9 lakh more women. The scheme now covers 1.3 crore women, making it one of the largest financial assistance programmes for women in TN.

Stalin said the about 1.13 crore beneficiaries have received ₹28,000 each, and that the scheme has helped Tamil women save this money and improve their household economy. They have invested in healthy food and better education for their children, Stalin



**EMOTIONS & EMPOWERMENT:** ASri Lankan Tamil woman, Sara, gave Stalin an embroidered piece calling him "Appa" (father)

said. "This ₹1,000 is only a beginning," he said.

Stalin said the peak of KMUT's success was when states, even those who mock welfare schemes as 'freebies', started adopting it, and added that 10 states and Union territories have implemented the scheme. "The monthly cash given to women under KMUT is not assistance; it is an entitlement," he said.

Listing out other women-oriented schemes, CM said the free bus travel for women, education-linked cash support for students, healthcare outreach, and women's land ownership initiatives have helped women increase their savings. "Having cash in hand has increased women's social standing," he said.

The launch event, held as part of the 'Vellum Tamil

### DMK's north zone youth wing to meet on Dec 14

**Chennai:** DMK has organized its north zone youth wing meeting at Tiruvannamalai on Dec 14, where about 1.3 lakh cadres are expected to take part. The meet is a part of a series of zonal meetings aiming to bring together youth wing functionaries across the state, which has close to 5 lakh cadres. The event will include an address by party president and chief minister MK Stalin, said a statement.

Deputy CM and DMK youth wing secretary Udhayanidhi Stalin said the meeting would set the tone for the victory message in the 2026 assembly elections — that the party president will again become CM and the Dravidian model govt will continue. The wing will step up its poll work after the meeting. According to the party, the youth wing has played a central role in its organizational and ideological work, with training camps on the Dravidian Model, protests and campaigns on issues such as the Citizenship Amendment Act, NEET examination, constituency delimitation, Hindi imposition, and Union govt's alleged discrimination against TN in fund allocation. **TNN**

Penngal' (victorious Tamil women) event at Nehru Indoor Stadium in Chennai, became a stage for women from across TN to recount their journeys and how state initiatives shaped their progress in work, income, and self-reliance. The programme brought senior women bureaucrats, doctors, lawyers, actors, scientists, and local representatives to the dais — from a poultry

worker who used the ₹1,000 to keep her children in school, to another who funded her own studies and found a job after training under the Vetri Nichayam scheme.

He said the stories he heard over the three-hour event left him "not merely happy but deeply touched". Parabadminton player Thulasi Murugesan and social activist Krishnammal Jagannathan

shared the stage with Stalin, while Sara, a Sri Lankan Tamil woman from a rehabilitation camp, gave him an embroidered piece calling him "Appa" (father).

Concluding the event, deputy CM Udhayanidhi Stalin said, "While other states are talking about granting rights to women, TN has gone beyond rights and has given women power."

Source: *The Times of India*, 13 December 2025, p. 8

## TN govt reorganises panchayat unions

Move Is To Streamline Welfare Work

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** The state govt has created new panchayat unions and reorganised existing ones across seven districts—Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Krishnagiri, Ramanathapuram, and Villupuram. The govt issued an order to this effect on Monday.

The changes follow extensive discussions by a high-level committee led



**CHANGES IN SEVEN DISTRICTS**

by rural development and panchayat raj additional secretary Gagandeep Singh Bedi with district collectors and subsequent proposals from district administrators.

The reorganisation is

intended to make it easier for officials to manage welfare programmes.

"The boundaries of several existing unions are huge, comprising tens of panchayats and habitations, making it difficult for officials to oversee the welfare schemes, including MGNREGS and housing programmes. Reorganisation aims to better the functioning of rural local bodies," said a senior official.

In Tiruvallur district, Madharpakkam panchayat union has been formed. It comprises 22 panchayats, created by splitting the Gummidipoondi union.

Similarly, in Kancheepuram district, Salavak-

kam union has been established. This new union includes 35 panchayats, formed by dividing Uthiramerur union.

Villupuram district has seen the formation of Kiliyanur panchayat union. This union consists of 31 panchayats, created by dividing Vanur union.

Panchayat unions have also been reorganised in Tiruvannamalai, Krishnagiri, and Ramanathapuram districts. In Tiruvannamalai, Malaiyur panchayat union was created by incorporating panchayats from Thellar and Peranamallur unions.

In Krishnagiri district, Anchetty union has been formed. This union inclu-

des 14 panchayats drawn from Thali union and Kelamangalam union.

Ramanathapuram district now has Sayalkudi union. This new union comprises 20 panchayats from Kadaladi and 13 panchayats from Kamuthi.

Additionally, the Kanjanur panchayat union has been created in Villupuram district. It is formed by including 18 panchayats from Vikravandi union and Kanai union.

The govt order will take effect in Kancheepuram and Villupuram districts upon conclusion of the term of their rural local bodies. For the remaining districts, the changes are effective immediately.

Source: *The Times of India*, 11 December 2025, p. 4

# TN to get high-res satellite imagery to modernize, digitize land records

## Exhaustive Database To Cover Area Of 1,30,000 sq km

Vivek.Narayanan  
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**Chennai:** Boundary disputes will be sorted out faster, patta and sub-division processes will become easier, and encroachments will be detected easily in the coming months. The directorate of survey and settlement (DOSS) will procure high-resolution satellite imagery to modernize and digitize land records across the state.

The DOSS has issued a re-



FILE PHOTO

**EFFICIENCY-FOCUSED:** Once procured, the satellite data will feed into the TN Geographical Information System

quest for proposal (RFP) to create a comprehensive high resolution satellite imagery (HRSI) database covering an area of 1,30,000 sq km. According to the tender, the project falls under a broader effort to develop a modern, transparent land records management system, supporting governance, infrastructure

planning, and welfare programme delivery.

Once procured, the satellite data will feed into the TN geographical information system (TNGIS), supporting large-scale mapping, land surveying, and governance applications. "As of now, we have 2D data, and it just has measurement and area. Now

**According to the tender, the project falls under a broader effort to develop a modern, transparent land records management system**

we will have latitude and longitude too. The imagery will be overlaid on existing land records to check for precision. Unlike property in villages, even a minute difference in urban areas will create property disputes," said M Venkadesan, additional director, DOSS.

The directorate has started the process of ground routing to check for the accuracy of reference points. "Out of the 25,000 points, we have completed 18,000 as of date. This will help in planning purposes and

the next level of data visualisation," he added.

"The resolution of 30cm ensures that the mapping is not only comprehensive but also fine-grained, allowing for a deeper understanding of the geographical features, land use patterns, and infrastructural developments across the expansive area of 1.3 lakh sq km," added the official.

Anna Kuberan, general secretary, TN Survey Officers Union, said that such initiatives should be tested at a small level and then implemented. "They should first run a pilot in a small hamlet, check its accuracy, and then implement it across the state. Nowadays, people go to court even for a half-inch variation. Besides, we need more manpower in the department," he added.

Source: *The Times of India*, 04 December 2025, p. 4

# Govt. frames rules for sale and exchange of temple land

**Mohamed Imranullah S.**  
CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu government has framed the Alienation of Immovable Property of the Religious Institutions Rules, 2025, laying down elaborate guidelines to be followed by the Department of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&CE) for sale, exchange, lease, or mortgage of temple land.

Appearing before a Special Division Bench of Justices R. Suresh Kumar and S. Sonthar of the Madras High Court, constituted to hear temple-related cases, Special Government Pleader (HR&CE) N.R.R. Arun Natarajan said a Government Order had been issued on December 1, 2025, for notifying the statutory rules in the gazette. The submission was made at the hearing of a writ petition filed by Sri Sivasubramaniya Nadar College of Engineering, which was in occupation of 9.74 acres of



The value of temple lands shall be fixed based on the market value or guideline value, whichever is more. FILE PHOTO

Thiruporur Kandaswamy Temple land and had offered a much larger extent of land elsewhere in exchange for the temple property.

The SGP said the 2025 Rules had been framed in exercise of the powers conferred on the government by Section 166(1), read with Sections 34(1) and (3), of the Tamil Nadu HR&CE Act, 1959, and in supersession of the Revenue Department rules that were in existence since May 18, 1960. The alienation rules state that the term 'urban

area' used in it shall have the same meaning as it had been defined under the Tamil Nadu Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Rules of 2017.

The 2017 Rules, in turn, state that 'urban area' would include the area (including village panchayats) within the territorial limits of the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority; and the Madurai, Tiruchi, Salem, Coimbatore, and Tirunelveli Corporation limits and the eight-kilometre area (including village panchayats) around those limits.

The definition of the term also includes the territorial limits of all other municipal corporations, municipalities, town panchayats, cantonments, and townships, and states that it would further include any other area that may be notified by the government from time to time.

After adopting the defi-

inition, the 2025 Rules state that the value of temple land shall be fixed on the basis of the market value or the guideline value, whichever is more, and that when it comes to sale, the sale value of the temple land located in an urban area shall be determined at 225% of the land value.

The sale value of the temple land located within 30 km of the urban area shall be determined at 275% of the land value, the sale value of properties within 30 km-50 km from an urban area shall be determined at 325%, and for temple land beyond 50 km from an urban area, the sale value shall be determined at 425%.

### Exchange of land

As for giving away temple land in exchange for another immovable property, the Rules state that the private land proposed for exchange under Section 34 of the HR&CE Act must have a clear title and must

be in possession of the applicant without any encumbrance, encroachment, litigation or conflicts. The extent of land to be provided in exchange should not be part of the open space reserve area or any other land that has to be given away to the local authorities for laying of roads and so on.

Further, land located in sensitive zones such as buffer zones, falling under the Hill Area Conservation Authority, elephant/tiger corridors, and eco-sensitive zones shall not be considered for exchange.

The Rules also state that the land offered in exchange must have clear access to the major district roads or highways and should not be land-locked. If the value of the temple land and the private land to be given in exchange is the same, the extent of the land to be exchanged must also be the same. If the value of the land belonging to religious institutions is

higher than the value of the land offered in exchange, the difference in value must be compensated in cash or a larger extent of private land can be offered in order to equalise the value of the temple land.

Rule 5 of the latest statutory rules also states that every proposal for exchange, sale, mortgage, or lease of temple land for a term exceeding five years must be published in the Tamil Nadu government gazette as well as the district gazette, specifying all details of the proposed transaction.

A public notice should also be issued inviting suggestions/objections, if any, with respect to the proposed transaction within 30 days, and they must be duly considered by the HR&CE authorities. A speed post, with acknowledgement due, must also be sent to the individual trustees of the temple concerned, the Rules state.

Source: *The Hindu*, 08 December 2025, p. 4

# TNRERA to strictly enforce 3-a/c regime to curb fund diversion

C SHIVAKUMAR @ Chennai

THE Tamil Nadu Real Estate Regulatory Authority (TNRE-RA) will strictly enforce the long-mandated three-bank-account structure for real estate projects from January 1, 2026, tightening oversight of buyer funds and plugging gaps that have allowed weak audit trails and potential diversion of money.

In an order issued earlier in December under Section 37 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016, the authority said the directions will apply to all project applications and resubmissions received on or after January 1, 2026. While the framework has existed since RERA's implementation, the regulator said enforcement and monitoring needed to be strengthened.

The TNRERA's review found that although promoters broadly complied with the requirement to park 70% of the fund collected from buyers in a designated account for land and construction costs, the initial collection accounts often lay outside regulatory oversight. In some cases, these accounts were shared across multiple projects, increasing the risk of fund diversion and diluting traceability.

Under the reinforced regime, promoters must maintain three project-specific accounts in the same scheduled bank and branch — a RERA-designated collection account to receive 100% of buyer payments; a RERA-designated separate account holding 70% of collections earmarked for land and construction; and a RERA-designated transaction account retaining the remaining 30% for other project-related expenses. Transfers must be executed only through an automated end-of-day sweep.

A Mohamed Ali, president of

## HOW THE THREE-ACCOUNT FRAMEWORK WORKS

- 1 Applicable for all applications received on or after January 1, 2026 (including resubmissions)
- 2 All buyer money must first flow into a non-operational collection account
- 3 Same-day auto sweep: 70% to separate account, 30% to transaction account
- 4 70% account: no lien/charge; drawdowns only with QR-coded certificates
- 5 Refunds capped at 70% from separate account, 30% from transaction account
- 6 All project loans to be disclosed with auditor end-use certification
- 7 Joint developments require two parallel sets of three accounts
- 8 Banks to freeze accounts on registration lapses; final withdrawals only after completion report from TNRERA

CREDAI Chennai, said the developers' body has been aware of the norms since the TNRE-RA came into being and has been implementing them.

However, he noted that certain issues need discussion, particularly in joint venture (JV) developments where landowners retain a portion of the building. In such cases, he said, there may be no need for landowners to maintain three separate bank accounts. CREDAI has raised these concerns with the authority.

Haresh Kishor, managing director of KG Builders, said that these rules would enhance buyer confidence by ring-fencing funds for project completion, while also accelerating consolidation by weeding out weaker, informal players and favouring organised developers with stronger compliance capabilities.

# TN launches new CSR and AI-led land-use data platforms

C SHIVAKUMAR @ Chennai

DEPUTY Chief Minister Udayanidhi Stalin on Monday launched two digital platforms aimed at aligning private capital with government priorities and strengthening data-driven governance in Tamil Nadu. Udayanidhi, who is also the ex-officio vice-chairman of the state planning commission, unveiled the Tamil Nadu Corporate Social Responsibility (TNCSR) web portal-branded Mission Inaippagam and the TiNAI-Tamil Nadu Land Use Information System (TNLUIS) at the secretariat.

The CSR portal has been developed with support from the United Nations Development Programme. Conceived as a matchmaking interface, it seeks to align CSR spending with the state's development priorities by bringing government departments, companies and civil society organisations onto a single digital platform. The platform is expected to reduce duplication and enable the sharing innovations across sectors. A senior planning department official said the state was keen to ensure a more equitable geographic spread of funds and prevent CSR allocations from being confined to a limited set of sectors.

The second platform, TNLUIS, funded at ₹1.5 crore under the Tamil Nadu Innovation Initiative, has been developed by the Tamil Nadu Land Use Research Board using over five decades of land-use research and datasets from multiple government departments and institutions.

The system integrates geospatial technology with AI-driven analytics and offers more than 50 analytical tools across nine thematic areas, including heat stress, urban expansion, groundwater and future land-use projections.

A planning department official said TiNAI is expected to support evidence-based policymaking in urban planning, climate resilience, water management and infra development, besides aiding research.

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

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

# Chennai's housing market sales rise by 15%; buck national slowdown trend

Vivek.Narayanan @timesofindia.com

**Chennai:** While India's residential property sales lost momentum in 2025, Chennai emerged as the country's most resilient housing market. It is the only major city to record a rise in home sales; overall volumes across the top seven cities fell by 14%, according to a study by ANAROCK Group.

Housing sales in Chennai rose 15% to about 22,180 units in 2025, up from 19,220 units last year, bucking the trend seen in larger markets such as Mumbai, Pune, Bengaluru and Hyderabad. This comes at a time when nationwide sales have dropped to 3.96 lakh units from 4.6 lakh units in 2024 — hit by rising home prices, IT-sector layoffs and global economic uncertainty.

Industry experts say Chennai's performance reflects its end-user-

driven market, relative price stability and a steady pipeline of mid-income housing. Unlike western markets where price hardening has pushed buyers to the sidelines, Chennai continues to offer new supply largely within the ₹2.5 crore range, keeping homes within reach for salaried households. There is a new market opening for luxury and uber luxury segment ranging from ₹5 crores to ₹15 crore especially villas and apartments," said Sanjay Chugh, city head and director of ANAROCK Property Consultants Pvt Ltd.

The city also saw a sharp rise in new launches. About 27,190 housing units were launched in Chennai in 2025 — a 30% increase over the previous year, one of the strongest growth rates among the top seven cities. "More than 70% of this supply was priced below ₹2.5

core, strengthening the city's reputation as a relatively affordable metro," added Chugh.

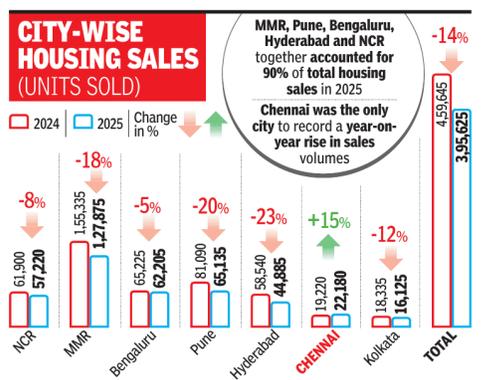
In contrast, other major markets struggled. The Mumbai metropolitan region (MMR) recorded the highest sales volumes at around 1.28 lakh units but saw an 18% annual decline. Pune's sales fell by 20%, and Hyderabad by 23%, while Bengaluru and NCR posted smaller single-digit declines. Collectively, these cities pulled down national absorption numbers despite Chennai's growth.

As sales volumes softened elsewhere, the value of homes sold across top cities rose 6%, to more than ₹6 lakh crore, signalling a tilt towards premium housing. This trend was especially pronounced in Delhi-NCR, where prices jumped by 23% over the year due to a surge in luxury launches. Chen-

nai, however, saw more measured price appreciation, helping sustain demand without overstretching buyers.

CreDAI Chennai treasurer Viswajith Kumar said Chennai has been able to buck the trend as the economic performance of Tamil Nadu has been good. "The movement of Greater Chennai Corporation and office absorption has been good and the cost of apartments in comparison with the salaries is also favourable," he said.

Developers said that while Old Mahabalipuram Road remains the top market, micro markets such as Valsaravakkam, Porur, Mount Road, Poonamalee, Pallavaram, Thirumudivakkam, Manapakam have also seen good demand and sales. "Overall, the city has seen good growth this year," he added.



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

# Tamil Nadu govt. revises average space norms for women in hostels, homes

**Dennis S. Jesudasan**  
CHENNAI

The State government has amended the Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Rules, 2015, as per which hostels or homes are to ensure accommodation with an average space of 50 sq. ft per woman. Earlier, the requirement was 120 sq. ft per woman.

## Amended rules

Under the Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Act, 2014, the State govern-

ment had, in 2015, notified the Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation)



Prior to the amendment, the required space was 120 sq. ft per woman. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

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ment had, in 2015, notified the Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation)

ment had, in 2015, notified the Tamil Nadu Hostels and Homes for Women and Children (Regulation) Rules, 2015. In May this year, the government amended the procedure for issue of licence.

The rules apply to women and children residing in licensed or registered institutions such as homes, hostels, or lodging houses run by the government, non-governmental organisations, private or religious institutions, factories, and enterprises.

Applications are to be made to designated authorities for establishing, maintaining, or operating hostels, lodging houses or

homes for women and children.

As per the amendment, those looking to establish, maintain, or operate a hostel or lodging house or home for women and children are to make an online application for licence to the Collector with a fee of ₹10,000.

Subject to the genuineness of the certificates furnished along with the online application, the licence would be “auto-generated” in electronic form. ]The licence will be valid for 10 years from the date on which it is granted.

# Chennai Metro records 92.86 lakh riders in Nov

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** Chennai Metro Rail Ltd (CMRL) recorded 92.86 lakh passengers in Nov 2025, with Nov 10 marking the month’s highest single-day ridership at 3.6 lakh commuters.

Digital ticketing continued to dominate: the NCMC Singara Chennai Card alone accounted for 48.48 lakh trips, fol-

lowed by 18.47 lakh single-journey paper QR tickets. ONDC, WhatsApp, Paytm, and PhonePe together contributed more than 21 lakh online QR trips.

CMRL said that a 20% discount remains available on NCMC cards and all digital QR ticketing options, except paper QR tickets bought at counters.

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## CM opens new housing complex in Chennai

Chennai: Chief Minister MK Stalin on Tuesday virtually inaugurated a newly-constructed housing complex for employees of Stationery and Printing department on Tuesday. The facility, located at Tondiarpet, Chennai, has been built at a cost of ₹39.30 crore. The six-storey structure, announced in the 2022-23 budget, comprises 96 modern dwelling units. After inaugurating the facility, the CM handed over allotment orders to eligible employees. ENS

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 03 December 2025, p. 4

# City gets third EV bus depot, 125 more e-buses

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**Chennai:** The city on Friday got its third EV (electric vehicle) MTC bus depot, which will station 125 new low-floor e-buses, including 45 air-conditioned ones, at Poonamallee.

Deputy chief minister Udhayanidhi Stalin inaugurated the depot, built at a cost of ₹43.53 crore, and flagged off the buses procured at a cost of ₹214.5 crore. Vyasarpadi and Sholinganallur have similar depots.

These buses will connect Poonamallee with key hubs such as Broadway, Kalaignar Centenary Bus Terminus, Thiruvanniyur, Thirumazhisai, Tiruvallur, Anna Square, and Chengalpet. The buses are manufactured by Switch Mobility, the electric mobility unit of Ashok Leyland.

MTC joint managing director R Sundarapandian said the 300 kW-battery buses can be fully charged in one



**RED CARPET:** Udhayanidhi inaugurated Poonamallee depot on Friday

and a half hours. “The depot has 33 charging points. Although it can charge buses from any routes, it will start with housing buses operating in routes out of Poonamallee,” he said.

The buses have a low floor height of 40cm, which can be lowered to 25cm by the driver when required, enabling easy access for persons with disabilities, women, children, and senior citizens. Seats are placed on a single-level floor, with aisle width increased to

70cm from 65cm to improve comfort for standing passengers. CCTV cameras have been installed to enhance passenger safety. A monthly AC electric bus travel pass priced at ₹2,000 has also been introduced.

The launch marks the third phase of Tamil Nadu’s electric bus rollout under the Chennai City Partnership–Sustainable Urban Services Programme (CCP-SUSP), supported by the World Bank and the Asian Infrastructure

Investment Bank (AIIB), aimed at reducing urban air pollution and strengthening public transport in Chennai.

As part of the programme, MTC plans to operate 625 low-floor electric buses through five depots — Vyasarpadi, Perumbakkam, Poonamallee, Central Workshop, and Tondiarpet — with a total project cost of ₹697 crore.

In the first phase, chief minister M K Stalin inaugurated the Vyasarpadi electric bus depot in June and flagged off 120 electric buses. In the second phase, Udhayanidhi inaugurated the Perumbakkam electric bus depot in Aug and launched 135 electric buses for public use.

Work is underway at the remaining two depots, including civil infrastructure development, installation of charging facilities, maintenance bays, administrative buildings, staff restrooms, new transformers, and fire safety systems, to support electric bus operation, said Sundarapandian.

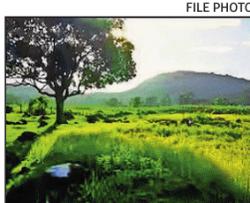
Source: *The Times of India*, 20 December 2025, p. 2

# TN rolls out three new hotspots for camping, glamping

**Vivek.Narayanan**  
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**Chennai:** With overcrowding and unregulated growth straining Tamil Nadu’s popular hill stations, the state has begun redrawing its tourism map. The Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation (TTDC) has rolled out projects to introduce organized camping and glamping facilities across three hill destinations—Jawadhu Hills, Vathalmalai, Kolli hills and Yelagiri. However private operators point out that without proper co-ordination with other depts, especially forest, these projects won’t take off.

The initiatives signal a



**GREENER PASTURES:** One of the most-visited sites in Yelagiri

shift from large hotels towards low-impact, experience-driven tourism. Jawadhu Hills, known more to trekkers and local communities than mainstream tourists, is set to get its first organized glamping facility spread over about 7.65 acres.

TTDC has laid basic infra and wants a private operator to step in with luxury and safari tents, domes and prefabricated cottages.

“Now the forest dept has camping sites. They have developed accommodation near the lake. The private operator will have to set 10 accommodation units with a restaurant, reception is being planned. Approximately 1,000 people come to Jawadhu malai every month,” said an official from Tiruvannamalai district.

A similar approach is being considered at Vathalmalai in Dharmapuri district. The scenic plateau that has

remained largely off the tourism radar, will get a camping site spanning about 6.1 acres and will have tents and eco-cottages supported by basic amenities. “We have already constructed the restaurant. It is a hill station and has waterfalls, tribal settlements and we have proposed trekking. We have requested the forest department for a route,” said an official from Dharmapuri district.

Tourism officials say the idea is not to replicate Ooty or Kodaikanal, but to offer quieter, nature-based alternatives. “Till date we were stuck with age-old destinations. If

executed as planned, the projects will be a step towards developing new hill destinations. But these projects should not be dropped midway,” said N Ravi, former tourism department official.

Meanwhile, Richard Harris, who has been trying to start a campsite in Tiruvallur for the past five years, said that starting a tourism venture is not possible unless there is coordination between various departments. “My project is stuck as different departments are not cooperating. The district tourism promotion committee should become functional,” he said.

Source: *The Times of India*, 22 December 2025, p. 5

# CM: Porunai museum is next step in documenting Tamil civilisation

Stalin opens ₹56-crore museum showcasing Adichanallur, Sivagalai and Korkai artefacts

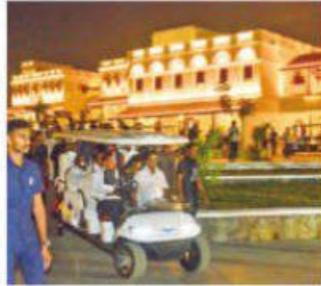
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@Tirunelveli

CHIEF Minister MK Stalin, who is on a two-day visit to the district, inaugurated the Porunai Museum – showcasing artefacts unearthed from excavation sites at Adichanallur, Sivagalai and Korkai – on Saturday.

Addressing the event through a video message, Stalin said he has been consistently asserting that the history of the Indian subcontinent must be written from the Tamil landscape. Recalling the Keezhadi excavations near Madurai and the museum established there, he said the Porunai Museum, built at a cost of ₹56.36 crore, was the next step in documenting the Tamil civilisation.

The CM said archaeological evidence from the Porunai (Thamirabarani) river basin



showed a continuous cultural sequence from the ancient period through the Iron Age. Excavations at sites such as Adichanallur and Sivagalai (both in Thoothukudi) have revealed burial sites and habitational remains belonging to the Iron Age, he added.

“Excavations carried out by the Tamil Nadu archaeology department along the Porunai river have brought out numerous arte-

facts, including objects made of bronze, gold, copper, and iron. Scientific dating had confirmed that the iron objects discovered in Sivagalai indicated that iron-smelting technology existed in this region at a very early period,” the CM said.

Stalin said the artefacts unearthed from the Porunai excavations have been preserved and displayed as promised. “The museum features details of iron-smelting techniques, a 5D journey through Tamil landscapes, visual presentations on traditional games, documentaries on archaeological history and a digital feedback centre,” he said, adding that the initiative aimed to take the civilisational excellence of Tamils not only to the present generation but also to future generations.

Earlier in the day, the CM participated in the Christmas Peru-

vizha – 2025 organised by Christian Nallenna Iyakkam.

Extending Christmas greetings to Christians across TN, the CM said he came here after signing the government order affirming the right of minority educational institutions to appoint teachers. He also announced the renovation of a church at Kadaladi in Ramanathapuram district at a cost of ₹1.45 crore and approval for the appointment of 470 teachers in minority schools. Speaker M Appavu, ministers Geetha Jeevan and Mano Thangaraj, Tirunelveli MP C Robert Bruce, and leaders from Christian, Muslim and Ayya Vazhi communities, including Iyakkam president Inigo Irudayaraj, were present.

On his arrival to Tirunelveli, Stalin held a roadshow in KTC Nagar where thousands gathered to welcome him.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 21 December 2025, p. 4

## Chola museum: 2 yrs after proposal, TN floats tender

N RAMESH @Thanjavur

TWO and a half years since the announcement of the project in the Assembly, the state government last week floated tenders for the construction of the Grand Chola Museum in Thanjavur at a cost of ₹51.08 crore.

The tender was e-published on December 26, expecting the project to be completed in about two years. In the annual budget speech of 2023-24, the then finance minister, Dr Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, announced in the Assembly that “Tamil art, music, architecture, sculpture, crafts and dance reached their

pinnacle during the Chola period and their glory spread far and wide. To highlight the contribution of the Cholas who ruled the world, and to preserve artefacts and relics of that age, a ‘Grand Chola Museum’ will be set up in Thanjavur.” Following this, the government scouted for a suitable place in Thanjavur and zeroed in on a land parcel spread over 6.39 acres on the Medical College Road in Thanjavur which is located around 1.5 km from the Big Temple. An architect consultant was engaged and a DPR was prepared subsequently. Based on the report, the tenders were called for recently.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 29 December 2025, p. 5

# Stalin to unveil Velu Nachiyar flyover in Madurai, launch projects worth ₹2.6K cr

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@ Madurai

CHIEF Minister M K Stalin will be in Madurai on Sunday to roll out a slew of development initiatives across the district including the inauguration of the 'Veeramangai Velu Nachiyar Flyover'.

Stalin, who landed in the city late on Saturday, received a grand welcome from DMK cadre who had lined up along the airport road to greet him.

According to a statement from the district collectorate, the CM will inaugurate 63 completed projects executed at a total cost of ₹2,630.88 crore. He will also lay foundation stones for seven new works worth ₹17.17 crore. A total of 1,41,049 beneficiaries will be handed over welfare assistance, including land pattas for 63,698 people under the Revenue and Disaster Management Department and government benefits for 77,351 beneficiaries across multiple departments.

A key highlight of the visit will be the opening of the newly constructed Melamadai flyover. Built at a cost of ₹150.28 crore, the 950-metre-long structure has been named



Aerial view of the flyover which will be inaugurated on Sunday | KK SUNDAR

'Veeramangai Velu Nachiyar Flyover' in honour of the warrior queen who defied the British rule and reclaimed Sivaganga. The stretch connecting the Anna Bus Stand and Melamadai Junction to the Ring Road enroute to

## ₹150 crore

Built at a cost of ₹150.28 crore, the 950-metre-long structure has been named 'Veeramangai Velu Nachiyar Flyover' in honour of the warrior queen who defied the British rule and reclaimed Sivaganga

Poovandhi is expected to see a major reduction in congestion once traffic is diverted via the flyover.

The corridor has long faced gridlocks due to heavy vehicle movement and the presence of several educational institutions. Later in the day, Stalin is slated to participate in the 'IDA Scudder Investment Summit', during which 91 MoUs are expected to be signed. The CM will lay foundation stones for new projects at the Kalaignar Grounds in Uthangudi, and inaugurate completed schemes, including the Periyar Drinking Water Project on the SIPCOT campus.

## CM distributes aid worth ₹265 crore

Chennai: Chief Minister MK Stalin on Saturday distributed welfare aid worth ₹265.5 crore to 9,371 beneficiaries under various schemes, including the Chief Minister's Thayumanavar Scheme, at an event held at the Anna Centenary Library. He also inaugurated a series of infrastructure projects by the Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare department as part of the event on BR Ambedkar's death anniversary. Speaking at the event, Stalin stressed that everyone should pledge to strive to build an equal society. He also listed out various schemes being implemented to improve the education and financial status of SC and ST communities. According to a release, the CM inaugurated two social justice hostels for college girls built at Tiruchy Raja Colony and Coimbatore at a cost of ₹25 crore. He distributed financial aid to 505 beneficiaries under the CM's Thayumanavar scheme. He also presented social harmony awards to 10 village panchayats, along with ₹1 crore each for developmental works. ENS

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 07 December 2025, p. 4

# We chose Thoothukudi to set up shipyard for its 'Ulsan-like' weather, policy push: HD Hyundai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

HD Hyundai has chosen Tamil Nadu, and specifically the Thoothukudi region anchored by VOC Port, for its proposed Indian shipyard, even though an earlier assessment by the union government had identified five states, including Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh, for hosting a global shipbuilding facility.

The South Korean shipbuilding major in a statement said the operating conditions around Thoothukudi closely mirror those of Ulsan — South Korea's shipbuilding capital — with similar temperature and rainfall patterns, making it well suited for large-scale yard operations.

HD Hyundai also cited the state's established Korean industrial presence — with companies such as Hyundai Motor and Samsung Electronics already operating in Tamil Nadu

— and ongoing investments in port and logistics infrastructure around Thoothukudi as strengthening the long-term business case, besides the strong policy backing from the

state and the centre.

The decision was formalised through a preliminary agreement signed on Sunday between HD Korea Shipbuilding and Offshore Engineering, the group's shipbuilding holding company, and the Tamil Nadu government, in the presence of Chief Minister MK Stalin and Industries Minister TRB Rajaa.

For the state government, the project fits squarely into its strategy to revitalise the southern coastal economy through heavy industry and maritime manufacturing. The state has made shipbuilding a priority sector and plans to extend a package of incentives and subsidies to support the investment.



Source: *The New Indian Express*, 09 December 2025, p. 6

# PwDs need recognition of rights: CM

Stalin launches govt scheme by nominating persons with disabilities to urban local bodies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

CHIEF Minister MK Stalin on Wednesday launched the state's initiative to empower persons with disabilities (PwDs) by nominating them to urban local bodies, coinciding with International Day of Persons with Disabilities. In his address, Stalin said differently-abled people are no longer mere beneficiaries as they are now people's representatives.

Addressing the gathering, Stalin said the UN's 2025 theme 'Building inclusive societies for social progress' reflects the very ethos of the Dravidian Model government. "It is a proud day for Tamil society, which breathes equality and social justice," he said. Speaking about the objective of the incumbent state government, Stalin said, "What persons with disabilities need is not charity, but recognition of their rights, and that is the principle on which this government is functioning today."

Stalin recalled how PwDs were neglected in earlier dec-



CM MK Stalin presents the award for the best social worker for serving differently-abled at the launch ceremony of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities in local government bodies held at Valluvar Kottam in Chennai on Wednesday | EXPRESS

ades and praised former Chief Minister MKarunanidhi for introducing the term 'maatru thiranalai' (persons with disabilities) with compassion, and for creating an exclusive department for their welfare, a first in the country.

The launch follows the amendment Bill introduced by the chief minister in the Assembly on April 16, which en-

ables PwDs to be appointed to local bodies through nomination instead of contesting elections.

Highlighting the importance of appointing PwDs as members in local bodies, "You are no longer mere beneficiaries. You are people's representatives," Stalin told the newly nominated members, adding that they now have the respon-

sibility to voice the needs of persons with disabilities in their respective panchayats and municipalities.

At the event, the chief minister distributed mobility aid to 400 beneficiaries, including scooters fitted with side wheels, battery-operated wheelchairs, and multi-functional electric mobility devices that can function both as wheelchairs and three-wheeler units.

He also honoured teachers, social workers and NGOs for their dedicated service to PwDs, and presented trophies and prizes to the winners of state-level sports and painting competitions. The South Chennai district received the overall trophy for topping the sports events.

Stressing that social attitude change is as important as welfare schemes, he said the new law aims to build confidence among all persons with disabilities. "The work you do will inspire other states to follow this model. This is the true journey towards equality and social justice," he added.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 04 December 2025, p. 2

## City to get its second AC local train by Jan 2026

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**Chennai:** Chennai is set to receive its second air-conditioned local train by Jan 2026 amid complaints of low patronage and high fares on the first service.

Southern Railway is likely to operate the new rake on the Chennai Central-Arakkonam corridor or the Gummidipoondi section.

It cannot run on the MRTS line between Beach and Velachery because several stations there can handle only nine-car formations, while the new AC Electric Multiple Unit has 12 coaches.

Integral Coach Factory



will undergo trials by Southern Railway before deployment. The train has a seating capacity of 1,120 and can carry 3,800 standing passengers. The first AC EMU, launched on the Beach-Tambaram-Chengalpattu route, records an average daily ridership of 2,800. Railway data show it should carry at least 40,000 passengers a day, but only about 10% of total capacity is used.

High fares are cited as a deterrent. Transport enthusiast Naveen Chandar said, "The railways should revise fares to match metro prices." For a trip between Airport (Tirusulam) and Egmore, metro rail charges ₹32, while Southern Railway collects ₹60 on the AC EMU. A second-class suburban ticket on the same route costs ₹5.

Resident-activist Dayanand Krishnan said CMRL charges less despite offering more passenger facilities.

He added that even fares on Vande Metro, introduced last year for inter-city rapid travel, are lower. A 30-km trip on Vande Metro costs ₹40 and is 120% cheaper than the AC EMU fare.

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

# Woraiyur sari among 5 to get GI tag

**BINITA JAISWAL** @Chennai

TAMIL Nadu on Tuesday added five more products to its growing list of Geographical Indication (GI) registrations. The newly GI recognised items are the Woraiyur cotton sari, Kavindapadi *nattu sakkarai* (jaggery powder), Namakkal *makkal pathirangal* (soapstone cookware), the traditional Thooyamalli rice variety and Ambasamudram *choppu saman* (wooden toys).

With these additions, Tamil Nadu's GI portfolio has risen to 74 products, said Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) attorney P Sanjai Gandhi, who filed the applications on behalf of various agencies. The GI applications for two agricultural products Thooyamalli rice and Kavindapadi *nattu sakkarai*



Woraiyur cotton sari is known for its geometric motifs | FILE PIC

were filed by Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board as part of efforts to protect and promote native crops and value-added farm produce.

A GI tag for Thooyamalli, famed locally for its aroma and grain quality, is expected to help farmers secure premi-

um markets and preserve traditional cultivation knowledge. The GI application for Woraiyur cotton sari, handloom product distinguished by block colours, geometric motifs and a narrow traditional border was filed by Woraiyur Devanga Handloom Weaver's Co-operative Society.

The Woraiyur application was filed through local weaver cooperatives to protect the design and livelihood of handloom communities around Tiruchy.

"The registration, aim to ensure that only producers from the specified geographies can market the products under these names, guarding against imitation while enabling targeted branding and market access for artisans," said Gandhi.

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 03 December 2025, p. 4

## Smart water meters to be installed in 1 lakh buildings early next year

Chennai Metrowater plans to install the meters in structures identified as intensive users, including commercial, partly commercial, industries and multi-storied buildings; individual houses measuring above 2,500 sq. ft. would also be covered

### WATER WATCH

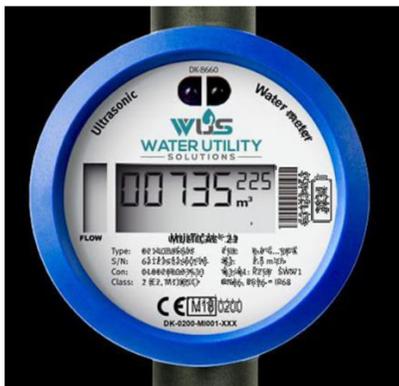
**K. Lakshmi**  
CHENNAI

In a move to promote judicious use of water and an increased focus on demand side management, smart water meters will soon be introduced in nearly one lakh buildings across the city to track real-time consumption. Chennai Metrowater is set to finalise the tenders by this month-end.

During the initial phase, the water agency plans to install smart water meters in structures identified as water intensive users, including commercial, partly commercial, industries and multi-storied buildings in both core and merged areas.

Individual houses measuring above 2,500 sq. ft. would also be covered in the ₹392.59-crore project.

While the project was announced during the



**Regulating consumption:** Sources say there are plans to cover 80% of the domestic connections by 2027 to improve operational efficiency. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

2024-25 budget demand, it faced delays due to various reasons, including field study for detailed project report, the wait for meters with advanced technology and tender process, sources said.

The water agency caters

to nearly 17 lakh consumers across the city.

**Meters already installed** Smart water meters have already been fixed in nearly 22,000 buildings and water intensive users would be the initial focus

**The project would be executed under the Hybrid Annuity Model, wherein the State government would contribute a share of the project cost**

to conserve water and ensure equitable distribution. Monthly bills would be generated for the exact quantity of water consumed using IoT metering technology, officials said.

### 'Long-term viability?'

Residents, however, raised concerns about long-term viability of water metering system in areas without round-the-clock supply and issues like sewage mixing with drinking water. They noted that smart meters must be installed after improving both water and sewer infrastructure in core areas.

S. Gopi, secretary, Subramania Nagar Civic and

Welfare Association, Kodambakkam, said areas like Azeez Nagar and Parankusapuram experienced frequent sewage issues because of old pipelines.

The project would be executed under the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM), wherein the State government would contribute a share of project cost during implementation. The concessionaire would have to fix meters, undertake meter reading and maintain them for 15 years.

Aimed to be implemented from January next year, the initiative would adhere to water meter policy 2022, and is one of the disbursement linked indicators under the Chennai City Partnership programme.

The objective is to improve operational efficiency and reduce non-revenue water. There are plans to cover 80% of the domestic connections by 2027, sources added.

Source: *The Hindu*, 18 December 2025, p. 3

to adjust signal timing

Driverless metro trains, smart traffic signals, integrated commuter apps, Chennai is testing just how far automation can go, but experts say humans will remain the driving force

# AI takes the wheel in city's commute



Omjasin M D & Venkadesan S | TN

As Chennai steps into 2026, artificial intelligence, automation and digitisation are no longer just futuristic ideas on policy documents. They are in play in how the city moves.

Marking the city's biggest leap yet towards automated urban mobility is Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) plans to roll out driverless trains under its Phase-II expansion. CMRL has awarded a ₹1,538-crore contract to Alstom to supply 32 driverless train sets comprising 96 coaches, equipped with unattended train operation (GOA-4) technology to criss-cross 118.9km across three corridors.

"Driverless trains in upcoming projects are just engineering-based au-

tomation. Human supervision will remain central to operations," says CMRL managing director M A Siddique. Train movement, speed regulation, stopping accuracy and door operations will be handled through automatic train operation, while safety is ensured through automatic train protection. "All movements will be monitored in real time from the operations control centre, where staff can intervene during emergencies and service disruptions," he says.

AI does a lot behind the scenes, especially in the design of rolling stock, signalling solutions and train maintenance, says Puneet Sriv-

astava, managing director (signalling and infrastructure) at Alstom India. "In signalling, AI is used in all phases of design such as requirement capturing, documentation, development, software coding, verifications, validations, testing and analysis." He adds that in predictive maintenance, AI will decide when a train needs to go to the yard for maintenance. "That will ensure each rolling stock is optimally used."

Also, the accuracy of AI in Alstom's operations is ensured through continuous feeding of fresh data to the system to make it learn and adapt to newer and unforeseen situations. "The AI models are subjected to thorough testing before actual deployment and feedback loops are implemented to make sure the errors

**Driverless metro trains (Phase II) with AI-enabled operations across 118.9 km on 3 corridors**

**165 intelligent traffic signals to dynamically adjust timings using real-time data**

**AI-based metro operations for automatic train control, safety systems and predictive maintenance**

**AI-powered bus fleet tracking to reduce bunching, improve punctuality**

**Chennai One mobility platform to integrate bus, metro and rail routes, fares and timings**

**Emergency vehicle signal priority that detect ambulances and fire engines, ensuring faster emergency movement**

**Digital fare collection for contactless tickets and QR payments instead of manual passes**

**Predictive urban traffic management to anticipate congestion**

## TRAFFIC SIGNALS TURN INTELLIGENT

Cumta is experimenting with 165 intelligent traffic signals across the city, says member-secretary I Jayakumar. These signals can detect ambulances, fire engines and other emergency vehicles and automatically turn green. They also assess traffic volume and change timings based on need.

"At present, many highway junctions operate on 120-second cycles during peak hours, with traffic police manually intervening based on field judgment. Intelligent traffic signals can predict traffic and change timings without human intervention."

MTC is set to experiment with intelligent traffic systems on the Alandur-Airport route next year. "We are collaborating with IIT Madras to study whether automated signals can allow buses to move faster along the corridor," says MTC joint managing director R Sundarapandian.

For commuters, the impact of these changes has been subtle but tangible with fewer sudden snarls at some junctions, better estimates of bus arrival times and smoother metro operations during peak hours. A traffic official said earlier signal systems functioned on fixed cycles regardless of traffic. "Now, data tells us where congestion is building, and we respond dynamically," he says.

traffic signals at key junctions, using real-time data to adjust signal timings based on vehicle flow. These systems allow traffic movement to be managed dynamically, especially during peak hours.

Metropolitan Transport Corporation has started using GPS-based fleet management systems to track buses, reduce bunching and provide real-time arrival information to commuters. Bus arrival updates are now available through Chennai One mobile app and display boards at select locations, offering better notice for daily commuters.

At Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (Cumta), member-secretary I Jayakumar says information integration of different modes of commute in sections such as fares, operation timings and route mapping is ongoing. "We have integrated different modes of commute in the Chennai One mobile app," he says. "We have got eight lakh downloads since its launch a few months ago."

Real-time information integration has reduced human intervention in routine processes. "Earlier, MTC used to issue about 60,000 card passes manually every year at 34 locations. It's now digital." Railway return tickets and metro season tickets are also being integrated into the platform.

Algorithm-based studies have also influenced infrastructure planning. "We have tracked vehicle movement through cameras and used the data for predictive analysis. Based on this, we proposed projects such as the Kilambakkam skywalk, and revamps of Tambaram and Guindy railway stations with specific intermodal connectivity, including skywalks and walkways, by analysing people's movement patterns," says Jayakumar.

Yet, 2025 also highlighted the limits of automation. During heavy northeast monsoon flooding, algorithms could not reroute traffic. Traffic police manually diverted vehicles, MTC staff adjusted services on the ground, and metro officials extended service hours based on crowd feedback rather than automated prompts. "Though AI is used in automated signals, this information will be routed through people at the control room. It won't eliminate manpower, but make their job easier," says P Vijayakumar, traffic joint commissioner (south).

**AUTOMATION HAS CHANGED FARE COLLECTION AND PASSENGER INTERFACES. QR-BASED PAYMENTS, CONTACTLESS TICKETING AND APP-DRIVEN JOURNEY PLANNING HAVE REDUCED QUEUES AND CASH HANDLING**

Source: *The Times of India*, 30 December 2025, p. 6

# Night shelters for homeless families to come up near Marina by Christmas

Ramyasre.N@timesofindia.com

**Chennai:** Semi-nomadic families, including Narikuravas, who often take refuge beneath statues along Marina Beach, are set to get a night shelter built by Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) next to the Anna Swimming Pool at Navalur Nagar in Triplicane. The shelter is expected to be ready by Dec 25.

Built at a cost of ₹86 lakh, the 2,100 sqft shelter can accommodate 80 people. It will have fans, RO drinking water facilities, toilets, mattresses, and a children's playground. It is among the few shelters in Chennai designed to accommodate all genders and age groups, instead of catering to a single target group.

"With the upcoming months being colder, we decided to build a night shelter. In the mornings, they do not need such a shelter as they usually move around the city selling the beads or accessories they make," said GCC Commissioner J Kumaragurubaran.

Overall maintenance and hygiene will be handled by a Tiruvallur-based NGO. "We



**HOME IN THE MAKING:** The shelter is designed to accommodate all genders and age groups, instead of catering to a single target group

also plan to provide food through a tie-up with one of the cloud kitchens that cater to GCC schools, by early next year," the commissioner said.

While this shelter will initially house the nomadic community, the civic body plans to build another shelter for the rest of the homeless population living along the beach. GCC surveyed 215 homeless people along the Marina over the past few months, of whom 95 were individuals living alone and

120 were part of families. "Our survey identified three categories of homeless people here: gypsies, beach stall workers, and those who work elsewhere but sleep on the beach. We are planning a bigger shelter that can accommodate all the homeless living along the beach," said P Banukumar, zonal officer of Teynampet.

The decision to locate the shelter close to the beach was also guided by a joint survey conducted by the Madras School of Social

**Built at a cost of ₹86 lakh, the 2,100 sqft shelter can accommodate 80 people. It will have fans, RO drinking water facilities, toilets, mattresses, and a children's playground**

Work (MSSW) and GCC between Jan and April this year, which identified around 13,529 homeless individuals across 2,837 locations in Chennai.

One of the key recommendations was to build shelters within 2-3 km of where homeless people stay. "Many of them earn a living by selling things they make. Building shelters close to their work locations helps them sustain their livelihoods," said MSSW Professor M Antony Stephen.

TOI meta beneficiary at a GCC shelter for destitute elderly women in Royapettah, who travels nearly 20km to a temple in Thiruverkadu to sell flower garlands she makes, as she could not find a shelter closer to her workplace.

Source: *The Times of India*, 15 December 2025, p. 5

# Tambaram corpn to soon get its first pet crematorium

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** Tambaram city municipal corporation has allocated ₹1 crore to set up its first pet crematorium, coming up at Thiruneermalai in zone 1.

The crematorium aims to ensure the safe and dignified disposal of animal remains and to prevent public health and environmental issues caused by improper dumping, said officials. The facility comes at a time when Tambaram has been witnessing rising public complaints over stray dogs and when pet owners are unable to properly dispose of their pets after death.

Tambaram Corporation commissioner S Balachander said the lack of a dedicated facility forced people to resort to unsafe practices. "We have identified several dead pets dumped along roads during garbage collection. While some residents abandon the remains, many do not know the correct way to dispose of a dead dog. This is why we have decided to bu-

Source: *The Times of India*, 18 December 2025, p. 5

**The crematorium aims to ensure the safe and dignified disposal of animal remains and to prevent public health and environmental issues caused by improper dumping**



ild a pet crematorium within the corporation limits," he said.

Construction of the crematorium will begin soon and will be completed by the middle of next year.

V Santhanam, a senior activist and resident of Chromepet, said the facility was long overdue. "Greater Chennai Corporation has three pet crematoriums. This will benefit many pet-owning households in Tambaram," he said.

# Ahead of '26 election, state govt fast-tracks Kanavu Illam scheme

**Shanmughasundaram.J**  
@timesofindia.com

**Chennai:** With assembly election just months away, DMK govt is racing to complete houses under its flagship Kalaingar Kanavu Illam (KKI) scheme. The second phase of the scheme involves construction of one lakh houses at a cost of ₹3,500 crore.

As of now, 25,657 families have moved into houses constructed in the second phase, while the remaining 74,343 units are nearing completion. "By first week of Feb next year, all beneficiaries under the second phase will move into their new houses," a senior official in the panchayat raj and rural development department said.

Chief secretary N Muruganandam and principal secretary Gagandeep Singh Bedi are holding weekly reviews to monitor progress, an unusually close level of monitoring for a rural housing

programme. It was launched with the objective of achieving a 'hut-free Tamil Nadu' by 2030, following a survey that identified nearly 8 lakh huts across the state.

Unlike contractor-driven housing schemes, beneficiaries under the KKI Thittam oversee construction themselves, engaging workers directly and receiving funds in their bank accounts. "The assistance of ₹3.5 lakh for each unit is credited in four instalments," the official said.

Demand for the scheme has been higher in northern districts such as Tiruvannamalai, Cuddalore, and Villupuram, and in delta districts.

If the Feb deadline is met, the govt would have delivered permanent housing to one lakh families months ahead of schedule, taking the total beneficiaries to two lakh since the scheme launch in March 2024 - a milestone likely to be foregrounded as the state heads into poll mode.



**'HUT-FREE TAMIL NADU' BY 2030**

Source: *The Times of India*, 21 December 2025, p. 6

# Chennai int'l book fair to be open to public for first time

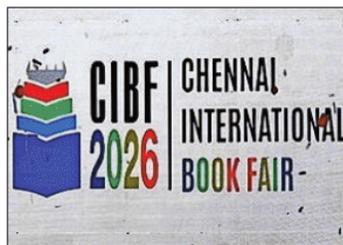
TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** The fourth edition of the Chennai International Book Fair (CIBF), scheduled to be held from Jan 16 to 18, will be open to the public for the first time. Those interested will be allowed to witness the panel discussions on all three days of the fair. It is planned to have at least 12 panel discussions, of which eight will be about literature.

“The CIBF 2026 will be held at Kalaivanar Arangam on Walajah Road in Triplicane. This year, the guest of honour will be a representative from the Frankfurt Book Fair,” school education minister Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi said after releasing the logo for the event. “In the last three years, the book fair was held at the Chennai Trade Centre in Nandambakkam. The event is being organized at Kalaivanar Arangam to give easy access to the public. The TN Textbook and Educational Services Corporation is planning to release 120 books at the fair,” Poyyamozhi said.

Entry will be allowed based on online registration. About 100 participants will be allowed for each event.

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



**KALAIVANAR ARANGAM:**  
Minister Poyyamozhi released logo for the event

“We received 298 applications from 103 countries to take part in the CIBF. We expect participation of a minimum of 100 countries this year. This is a good improvement compared to 64 countries last year. The main idea is to take Tamil literature to the world and bring world literature to Tamil,” he added.

In the past three years, 185 Tamil books were translated into 26 languages. The French govt's exclusive sessions for Tamil publishers, a session on translation grants offered by Turkey, and Iran's books for children will be some of the highlights of the event this year.

School education secretary B Chandra Mohan, director of public libraries S Jayandhi and others took part in the event.

# Panel on pension schemes submits report to Stalin

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@Chennai

AMID the announcement of an indefinite strike by the JACTTO-GEO from January 6, pressing key demands including the restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS), the committee headed by Additional Chief Secretary Gagandeep Singh Bedi constituted to study the existing pension schemes and present its recommendations, submitted its report to Chief Minister M K Stalin on Tuesday.

The state government had announced on February 5, 2025, the constitution of a three-member committee to examine and recommend a feasible pension model for Tamil Nadu, balancing the demands of government employees with the state's fiscal position.

According to an official release issued at the time, the panel was tasked with undertaking a detailed study of the Old Pension Scheme, which was in force till 2003, the existing Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) and the Unified Pension Scheme

(UPS) recently notified by the union government.

The committee was mandated to submit its report within nine months. Besides Bedi, the panel included K R Shanmugam, former director of the Madras School of Economics, and Pratik Tayal, deputy secretary (budget) in the finance department, who served as member-secretary.

Tamil Nadu Revenue Officers Association's president and one of JACTTO-GEO's coordinators MP Murugaiyan said that while the associations are preparing for the indefinite strike from January 6, they welcomed the submission of the report and expressed hope that the committee's recommendations aligned with their demands.

Meanwhile, PMK leader Anbumani, in a press statement, said that the government's move to receive the report now was aimed at pacifying employees, who have announced an indefinite strike from January 6, rather than addressing their demands sincerely.



The committee, formed to study the Old Pension Scheme and existing schemes, was formed in February 2025 and mandated to submit its report in nine months | EXPRESS

Source: *The New Indian Express*, 31 December 2025, p. 4



Keerthana receiving the cheque from Chief Minister M.K. Stalin in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin.

## T.N. govt. gives ₹1 cr. to carrom champion after World Cup win

**Geetha Srimathi**  
CHENNAI

When carrom champion Keerthana of Washermanpet woke up this morning, she never imagined that she would be holding a ₹1-crore cheque. Still riding the high of her victory at the 7<sup>th</sup> Carrom World Cup in the Maldives, which concluded on December 6, where she won gold in singles, doubles, and team events, she received the cheque from Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Monday.

“I knew I’d win something, but never in my wildest dreams did I think I’d win gold in all three categories,” Ms. Keerthana said. The 21-year-old has overcome significant financial struggles, particularly after the death of her father. But with the support of her mentor, M. Nithyarajan, she continued to pursue her passion for carrom.

She also coaches children of daily-wage workers at the academy run by Mr. Nithyarajan. Her dream is to help others rise through

the sport. With the prize money, she hopes to build a home for her family.

Ms. Keerthana’s victory in the 52<sup>nd</sup> Senior National Carrom Championship in New Delhi in March 2025, where she won both the women’s singles and team events, was a historic achievement – marking Tamil Nadu’s first singles win in 15 years.

Her World Cup victory has only fuelled her determination further. “The same person can’t keep winning all the time. I want my students to win too. They all come from modest backgrounds like me, and winning would change their lives,” she said.

Mr. Nithyarajan said the recognition from the State government was a huge encouragement not only for Ms. Keerthana, but also for other young players.

He appreciated carrom veterans Maria Irudayam and R. Amuthavanan, along with the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu, for their support in her journey to victory.

Source: *The Hindu*, 16 December 2025, p. 3

# TN'S LATEST GI SPECIALS: Pearls of rice, sweet crystals of gold

State's Tally Up To 74 As Five More, Including Thooyamalli Rice And Country Sugar Of Kavindapadi, Get Tag

A.Subramani@timesofindia.com

Five more products have joined Tamil Nadu's long Geographical Indication (GI) list: The Chola-era fame Woraiyur cotton sarees, Thooyamalli rice known for its pearl and jasmine like shine, the bright-coloured wooden toys of Ambasamudram, Namakkal's soapstone utensils and the country sugar of Kavindapadi. This takes the number of GI-tagged products in Tamil Nadu to 74. "Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation (Poompuhar) and the Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board have made the initiatives along with NGOs and weavers societies to ensure that the geographical uniqueness of these products are duly recognised and gainfully exploited by the artisans and farmers," says P Sanjai Gandhi, IPR attorney and the state's nodal officer for GI products.

## Woraiyur cotton sarees

The department of handlooms and five weavers' cooperative societies have come together to secure the GI tag for this product with Chola heritage.

Woraiyur or Uraiyur in Trichy district was once the capital city of the Cholas. Located along River Cauvery, it was a bustling hub for textiles, spices, and gemstones, and patronised by Roman, Greek and European traders. Woraiyur cotton has been immortalised in Greek and Tamil literature for its fine quality.

The sarees are distinguished by their thin borders with plain or minimal designs. They are known for their distinctive Korvai border — a continuous running pattern — block colour palettes, and geometric motifs. Their vibrant and unusual colour choices, such as deep hues of green, violet, vaadaamalli (makhmal) and baby brown copper, make them stand out in the saree market. These sarees vary in width from 47 inches to 50 inches.

The border has different motifs, including geometrical shapes such as diamond mokku (strand of diamond shapes), muthu seer (pearl beads), vanki (armband or chevron) mokku and alternating red and zari than-davaalam (railway track) stripes on the thalaippu or pallu.

The Devanga community, a traditionally skilled weaver group, has been the driving force behind the Woraiyur cotton sarees for generations. The unique mineral composition of water from the Cauvery enhances the absorption of dyes into the cotton yarn, giving the sarees their characteristic brilliance and durability.



## Thooyamalli rice

Thooyamalli is a native rice variety of Tamil Nadu. In Tamil, Thooyamalli means pure jasmine. The samba crop's duration is 135-140 days, including the nursery period 30-35 days.

The fermented Thooyamalli rice (neeragaram) tastes like tender coconut water. It is often referred to as 'pearl rice' due to its shiny nature and is regarded highly for its nutritional benefits.

Thooyamalli rice is rich in fibre, vitamins, and minerals, contributing to a balanced diet. Its texture and taste make it suitable for a variety of dishes, including biriyani and pulao. Though it is grown in all districts of Tamil Nadu, now it is cultivated mostly in Kancheepuram.



## Ambasamudram choppu samaan (wooden toys)

Ambasamudram Bharani Mara Varna Kadasal Artisans Welfare Association, facilitated by Poompuhar and others has got the GI tag for these brightly coloured wooden toys. Choppu samaan are small wooden toys mostly in the shape of kitchen utensils.

Ambasamudram is the most mountainous of all the taluks in Tamil Nadu, with half its area composed of ghats and forests, including the famous Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve.

Making the lacquered wooden toys is an age-old tradition. Ambasamudram toys are known for their vibrant colour, smooth texture and simplicity of design. While children like the colours and the rounded contours of these toys, adults appreciate their safe, eco-friendly, non-toxic nature. Miniature wooden kitchen utensils (choppu saman) and spinning top (pambaram) are top sellers.

Originally these toys were made from trees such as manjal kadamba (Neolamarckia cadamba), teak and rosewood. Now, toy makers have shifted to rubber wood (Hevea brasiliensis) and Eucalyptus (Eucalyptus globulus). The quality is, however, retained through the carpenters' dexterity and skill.



## Namakkal maakkal paathirangal (Namakkal stone utensils)

Poompuhar, facilitated by MSME Technology Development Centre, has secured GI for Namakkal soapstone utensils called kalchatty. They also make lamps, kuzhipaniyaram mould, idols, incense and candle stands, paper weights, star-shaped lamps, dosa pans, toys and miniature household articles.

These utensils are the preferred to cook food that involves use of tamarind and lime, as they are not affected by citrus or chemicals. They are, hence, ideal to store pickles, milk and curd without the threat of corrosion or poisoning.

As the stoneware is strong and durable, the vessels can last for years without breaking even with minimal maintenance. Every Namakkal stoneware is hand-made and reflects the exquisite craftsmanship of the artisan.



## Kavindapadi nattu sarkarai

TN State Agricultural Marketing Board and Kavindapadi Country Sugar and Nattu Sarkarai Producers Association, facilitated by Nabard Madurai AgriBusiness Incubation Forum, have got the GI tag for this country sugar known for its sweetness and appealing golden-brown colour. Kavindapadi's sugarcane fields are fed well by the Lower Bhavani canal. Kavindapadi appears like an island, surrounded by

River Bhavani, Lower Bhavani canal, Thadapalli, Arakkan Fort canal, Odathurai pond and Ananthasagaram lake. This results in high levels of humidity, which is favourable for sugarcane. The hand-made nattu sarkarai is a healthy alternative to white sugar. About 500l of juice yields 100kg of sugar.

Email your feedback with name and address to [southpole.toi@timesofindia.com](mailto:southpole.toi@timesofindia.com)

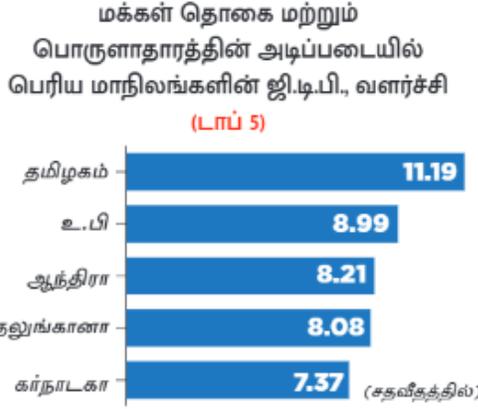


Source: *The Times of India*, 03 December 2025, p. 6

**தமிழ் நாளிதழ்கள்**

## ஜி.டி.பி., வளர்ச்சி: தமிழகம் முதலிடம்

மும்பை, டிச. 13-  
கடந்த 2024 - 25ம் நிதி  
யாண்டில் அதிக பொரு  
ளாதார வளர்ச்சியை பதிவு  
செய்துள்ள பெரிய மாநி  
லங்களின் பட்டியலில்  
தமிழகம் முதலிடத்தில்  
உள்ளதாக ரிசர்வ் வங்கி  
தெரிவித்துள்ளது.  
'இந்திய மாநிலங்களின்  
புள்ளியியல் தரவுகள்'  
கையேட்டின் 10வது  
அத்தியாயத்தை ரிசர்வ்  
வங்கி வெளியிட்டுள்ளது.  
இதில், மாநிலங்களின்  
பொருளாதார வளர்ச்சி  
மற்றும் பல்வேறு துறை  
சார்ந்த வளர்ச்சி குறியீ  
டுகள் குறித்த தரவுகள்  
வெளியிடப்பட்டுள்ளன.  
இதில், வங்கிகளிடம்  
இருந்து அதிகம் கடன்  
பெற்ற மாநிலங்களின்  
பட்டியலில், தமிழகம்  
மூன்றாவது இடத்தில்  
இருப்பதாக தெரிவிக்கப்  
பட்டுள்ளது.



மாநிலங்கள் பெற்ற மொத்த வங்கிக்கடன்  
ரூ. 42.86 லட்சம் கோடி

டாப் 3 மாநிலங்கள் (ரூ.கோடியில்)	
மஹாராஷ்டிரா	10,86,000
டில்லி	7,07,000
தமிழகம்	3,10,000

(2024 - 2025 தில்வரம்)

Source: Dinamalar, 13 December 2025, p.14

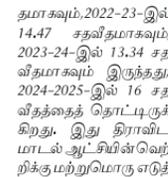
## 16% ஜிஎஸ்டிபி வளர்ச்சி: தமிழக அரசுக்கு கிடைத்த நற்சான்றிதழ்

### நிதியமைச்சர் தங்கம் தெள்ளரசு பெருமிதம்

சென்னை, டிச. 17: தமிழகத்தில்  
கடந்த 2024-25-ஆம் நிதியாண்  
டில் உள்நாட்டு ஒட்டுமொத்த  
உற்பத்தி மதிப்பு (ஜிஎஸ்டிபி)  
16 சதவீத வளர்ச்சியை எட்டியுள்  
ளதாக மத்திய ரிசர்வ் வங்கி அறி  
வித்துள்ளது. தமிழக அரசுக்கு  
கிடைத்த நற்சான்றிதழ் என்று  
நிதி கற்றுச்சுழல் மற்றும் கால  
நிலை மாற்றத் துறை அமைச்சர்  
தங்கம் தெள்ளரசு பெருமிதம்  
தொரிவித்தார்.

சென்னை தலைமைச் செய  
லகத்தில் செய்தியாளர்களுக்கு  
அவர் அளித்த பேட்டி:  
வருகிற 2030-ஆம் ஆண்டுக்  
குள் ஒரு டிரில்லியன் டாலர்  
பொருளாதாரத்தை எட்டும்  
இலக்குடன் தமிழக அரசு செயல்  
பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது. தற்  
போது தமிழ்நாட்டின் ஒட்டு  
மொத்த உற்பத்தி மதிப்பு (ஜிஎஸ்  
டிபி) உச்சத்தை தொட்டிருக்கி  
றது. 2023-2024-ஆம் நிதியாண்  
டில் ரூ.26.88 லட்சம் கோடியாக  
இருந்த ஜிஎஸ்டிபி, 2024-25-  
இல் ரூ.31.19 லட்சம் கோடியாக  
உயர்ந்து 16 சதவீத வளர்ச்சியை  
எட்டியுள்ளது.

இது தமிழ்நாடு அரசின்  
சிறப்பான கொள்கைகளுக்கு  
கிடைத்த வெற்றி.  
இத்தகைய உயர் வளர்ச்சி விநி  
தம் கடந்த 3 ஆண்டுகளாகவே  
தொடர்கிறது.  
கடந்த 2021-22-ஆம் நிதி  
யாண்டில் ஜிஎஸ்டிபி 15.91 சதவீ



தமாகவும், 2022-23-இல்  
14.47 சதவீதமாகவும்,  
2023-24-இல் 13.34 சத  
வீதமாகவும் இருந்தது.  
2024-2025-இல் 16 சத  
வீதத்தைத் தொட்டிருக்  
கிறது. இது நிராவிட்  
மாடல் ஆட்சியின் வெற்  
றிக் குற்றுமொரு எடுத்  
துக்காட்டு.  
இந்த வளர்ச்சியில் உற்பத்தித்  
துறை மிகப்பெரிய பங்களிப்பை  
அளித்திருக்கிறது. இந்த 4 ஆண்  
டுகளில் ஜிஎஸ்டிபி வளர்ச்சி உற்  
பத்தித் துறையில் ரூ.1.46 லட்சம்  
கோடியாக இருந்தது; தற்போது  
இரு மடங்காக அதிகரித்துள்  
ளது.  
அதற்கு தமிழகத்தில் உள்ள  
40,000-க்கும் மேற்பட்ட தொழிற்  
சாலைகள் தான் காரணம். அதில்,  
சுமார் 27.7 லட்சம் பேருக்கு  
வேலைவாய்ப்பு அளிக்கப்படுகி  
றது. இதில் சுட்டுமானத் துறை 11  
சதவீதமும், சேவைத் துறை 11.3  
சதவீதமும் தமிழக பொருளாதார  
வளர்ச்சிக்கு உதவிபுள்ளன.  
ஒரு டிரில்லியன் பொருளாதா  
ரத்தை நாம் எட்டவேண்டும் என்  
றால் ஏற்றுமதியில் மிகப் பெரிய  
முன்னேற்றத்தைக் காண வேண்  
டும். பல்வேறு உலக நாடுகளுக்கு  
முதல்வர் பயணம் செய்து, புரிந்  
துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தங்களை மேற்  
கொண்டு, அதன் வாயிலாக  
ரூ.11,40,731 கோடி முதலீடுகள்  
வெறப்பட்டது, 1,016 புரிந்துணர்வு

ஒப்பந்தங்கள் மேற்  
கொள் எப்பட்டி  
ருக்கின்றன. சுமார்  
34,08,522 இளைஞர்  
களுக்கு நேரடியாக  
வும், மறைமுகமாக  
வும் வேலைவாய்ப்பு  
கள் உருவாக்கப்பட்டு  
ள்ளன.  
மின்னணு  
பொருள்களின் ஏற்றுமதியில்  
மிகப் பெரிய முன்னேற்றத்தை  
பெற்றிருக்கிறோம். மகனீர் உரி  
மைத் தொகை திட்டம், விடி  
யல் பயணத் திட்டம், சாக்கும்  
காக்கள் திட்டம், நான் முதல்  
வன் திட்டம், காவலணைத்  
திட்டம் எனப் பல்வேறு திட்டங்  
களின் மூலமாக தமிழ்நாட்டின்  
நலத் திட்டங்களிலும் தமிழ்நாடு  
அரசு கவனத்தைச் செலுத்தி வரு  
கிறது. ஒட்டுமொத்தமாக பார்த்  
தால், தமிழ்நாட்டின், தீபுத்த  
நிலையான வளர்ச்சி குறைவான  
பணவீக்கமாக இருந்தாலும், அந்  
நிய நேரடி முதலீடுகளாக இருந்  
தாலும், தொழில் முதலீடுகளை  
ஊக்குவிப்பதாக இருந்தாலும்  
ஒட்டுமொத்தமாக 1 புரில்லி  
யன் பொருளாதாரத்தை அடை  
வதற்கு முதல்வரின் முன்னெடுப்  
பால் இது சாதியமாக இருக்கி  
றது.  
நிராவிட் மாடல் ஆட்சிக்கு  
கிடைத்திருக்கக்கூடிய மாபெ  
ரும் நற்சான்று இந்த 16 சதவீத  
வளர்ச்சி என்றார்.

Source: Dinamani, 18 December 2025, p.9

# ஒரு டிரில்லியன் டாலர் பொருளாதார உயர்வே இலக்கு

மதுரை, டி.ச. 7: தமிழகத்தின் பொருளாதாரத்தை ஒரு டிரில்லியன் டாலருக்கு உயர்த்த வேண்டும் என்ற இலக்கோடு பயணித்து வருவதாக தமிழக முதல்வர் மு.க. ஸ்டாலின் தெரிவித்தார்.

மதுரை வேலம்மாள் மருத்துவக் கல்லூரி ஐடா ஸ்கூட்டர் அரங்கில் 'தமிழ்நாடு வளர்கிறது' முதலீட்டாளர்கள் மாநாடு -2025 ஞாயிற்றுக்கிழமை நடைபெற்றது.

இதில் முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் தலைமை வகித்துப் பேசியதாவது: மதுரையில் உள்ள உயர் கல்வி நிறுவனங்களும், ஏற்கெனவே செயல்பட்டு வருகிற தொழில் நிறுவனங்களும் மனிதவளத்தை உருவாக்கி வருவான அடித்தளமாகச் செயல்படுகிறது.

மதுரை மாவட்டத்தில் ரூ. 314 கோடியில் டைட்ஸ் பூங்கா அமைக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. தைவான் நாட்டைச் சேர்ந்த 'Pei Hai' குழுமம் தோல் அல்லாத காலணிகள் உற்பத்தித் திட்டத்தை மதுரையில் நிறுவ முன்வந்துள்ளது. இதன்மூலம், ஏராளமானோருக்கு வேலைவாய்ப்புகள் கிடைக்கும். இதேபோன்று, இனிவரும் காலங்களில் 42 லட்சம் மக்கள்தொகையை எதிர்நோக்கி நகர் ஊரமைப்பு இயக்கம் தயாரித்துள்ள 'மதுரை மாஸ்டர் பிளான் 2044' புதிய நகர்ப்புற வடிவமைப்பைக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது.

மதுரை விளாச்சேரி, அம்பா சமுத்திரம் போன்ற பகுதிகளைச் சேர்ந்த கலைஞர்களின் பாரம்பரிய பொம்மை தயாரிப்புத் திறனை உயர்த்த அவர்களுக்கு புதிய சந்தை வடிவமைப்பு, முதலீட்டு வாய்ப்புகளை உருவாக்குகிற வகையில் பொம்மை உற்பத்திக் கொள்கை வெளியிடப்பட்டது.

தென் மாவட்ட வளர்ச்சி மதுரையை மையமாக வைத்து தென் மாவட்டங்கள் வளர்ச்சி பெறும் வகையில், விருதுநகர் மாவட்டத்தில் மத்திய அரசுடன் இணைந்து, ரூ. 1,894 கோடி முதலீட்டில் 1,052 ஏக்கரில் பி.எம். மித்ரா ஒருங்கிணைந்த ஜிவுளிப் பூங்கா அமைக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது.

இதேபோல, தேனி மாவட்டத்தில் 424 ஏக்கரில் பொதுப் பொறி

## முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின்



மதுரை வேலம்மாள் மருத்துவக் கல்லூரி ஐடா ஸ்கூட்டர் அரங்கில் ஞாயிற்றுக்கிழமை நடைபெற்ற நிகழ்வில், முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் முன்னிலையில் ஹரிண்டாய் நிறுவனத்துடன் கப்பல் கட்டுமானப் புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தத்தை பரிமாறிக் கொண்ட அலுவலர்கள்.

யியல் பூங்காவும், உணவுப் பூங்காவும், சிவகங்கை மாவட்டம் இலுப்பைக்குடி பகுதியில் 108 ஏக்கரிலும், காரைக்குடி சுழனிவாசல் பகுதியில் 102 ஏக்கரிலும் தொழில்பூங்கா ஆகியவை உருவாக்கப்பட உள்ளன. சிவகங்கை மாவட்டத்திலும் 'டைட்ஸ் நியோ' பூங்கா நிறுவப்பட்டு வருகிறது. விருதுநகர், திருநெல்வேலி, கன்னியாகுமரி ஆகிய மாவட்டங்களிலும் டைட்ஸ் நியோ பூங்காக்கள் நிறுவத் திட்டமிடப்பட்டுள்ளது. ராமநாதபுரம் மாவட்டத்தில், புதிய விமான நிலையம் அமைக்க முயற்சிகளை மேற்கொண்டு வருகிறோம்.

தென் மாவட்டங்களில் ரிலையன்ஸ் இண்டஸ்ட்ரீஸ் நிறுவனம் 'பியோ எனர்ஜி' துறையில் ரூ. 11,000 கோடியை முதலீடு செய்துள்ளது. மதுரை காமராஜர் பல்கலைக்கழகம் அந்தப் பகுதியிலுள்ள முக்கிய நிறுவனங்களுடன் இணைந்து ரூ. 13 கோடி தொடக்க முதலீட்டில் பல்கலைக்கழக அராய்ச்சிப் பூங்காவை அமைக்க உள்ளது. மதுரை முதலீட்டாளர் மாநாட்டில் 91 புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தங்கள் மூலமாக ரூ. 36,660 கோடி முதலீடு ஈர்க்கப்பட்டு 56,766 பேருக்கு வேலைவாய்ப்பு உருவாக்கப்பட உள்ளது.

திருமக ஆட்சிப் பொறுப்பேற்றவுடன், நலிவடைந்திருந்த தமிழகத்தின் பொருளாதாரத்தை மேம்படுத்த பல்வேறு நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்கப்பட்டன. இதுவரை

## கப்பல் கட்டுமானத் திட்டம்: ஹூண்டாய் நிறுவனம் ஒப்பந்தம்

ஹூண்டாய் நிறுவனம் தனது கப்பல் கட்டுமானத் திட்டத்துக்கான புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தத்தை தமிழக அரசுடன் ஞாயிற்றுக்கிழமை மேற்கொண்டது. இதற்காக தூத்துக்குடியை அந்த நிறுவனம் தேர்ந்தெடுத்திருக்கிறது.

'கப்பல் கட்டுமானத் துறையில் தமிழகத்தை முன்னிலைப்படுத்திக் கொடுத்த முதலீடு, மற்ற நிறுவனங்களை ஊக்குவிப்பதோடு, உதிரி பாகங்கள் உற்பத்தி நிறுவனங்களையும் ஈர்க்கக்கூடியதாக இருக்கும். ஹூண்டாய் மோட்டார்ஸ் நிறுவனம் தமிழகத்தின் வாகனத் துறையில் எத்தகைய வளர்ச்சியை ஏற்படுத்தியதோ, அதேபோல், ஹூண்டாய் நிறுவனத்தின் கப்பல் கட்டுமான நிறுவனமும் பெரும் வளர்ச்சியை ஏற்படுத்தும்' என முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் தெரிவித்தார்.

ரூ.11.83 லட்சம் கோடி உறுதியளிக்கப்பட்ட முதலீடுகள் பெறப்பட்டு, 34 லட்சம் பேருக்கு வேலைவாய்ப்புகள் உறுதி செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளன. திராவிடமாடல் அரசின் கொள்கைகள், தமிழகத்தின் மனித வளத் திறன், உள்கட்டமைப்புகள், சட்டம்-ஒழுங்கு, நிர்வாகத் திறன், நீண்டகால நிலைத்தன்மை போன்றவற்றால் அதிகளவிலான முதலீட்டாளர்கள் தமிழகத்தில் தொழில் தொடங்குவதற்கு முன் வருகின்றனர்.

ஏற்கெனவே நடைபெற்ற மாநாடுகளில் புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தம் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்ட திட்டங்களில், 80 சதவீதத்துக்கும் மேற்பட்ட

திட்டங்கள் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டுள்ளன. தமிழகத்தை ஒரு டிரில்லியன் டாலர் (சுமார் ரூ.89 லட்சம் கோடி) பொருளாதாரமாக உயர்த்தும் குறிக்கோளோடு நாங்கள் பயணத்தை நடத்திக் கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். இதற்கு முதலீட்டாளர்கள் முழுஒத்துழைப்பு வழங்க வேண்டும் என்றார் அவர்.

முன்னதாக, மதுரை மாவட்டம், மேலூரில் 278.26 ஏக்கரில் சிப்காட் தொழில் பூங்கா அமைப்பதற்கு முதல்வர் மு.க. ஸ்டாலின் அடிக்கல் நாட்டினார். தொடர்ந்து, மு.க. ஸ்டாலின் முன்னிலையில் 91 நிறுவனங்களுடன் புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தங்கள் பரிமாறப்பட்டன.

Source: Dinamani, 08 December 2025, p.7

## பருத்தி உற்பத்தி திறனை அதிகரிக்க அரசு திட்டம்

நிதி ஒதுக்கி பணி துவக்கம்

**உடுமலை, டிச. 24-** நீண்ட இழை பருத்தியின் உற்பத்தி திறனை, சர்வதேச நாடுகளுக்கு இணையாக உயர்த்தும் வகையில், சிறப்பு திட்டத்தை செயல்படுத்த மத்திய அரசு நிதி ஒதுக்கீடு செய்துள்ளது.

சர்வதேச அளவில், கடந்த 2024ல், பருத்தி அதிகம் உற்பத்தி செய்யும் நாடுகளில், 59 லட்சம் மெட்ரிக்., டன்னுடன் இந்தியா முதலிடம் பிடித்தது. ஆனால், நீண்ட இழை உள்ளிட்ட பருத்தி ரகங்களில், உற்பத்தி திறன் பிற நாடுகளை விட நம் நாட்டில் குறைவாகவே உள்ளது.

உதாரணமாக, சீனா, பிரேசில் உள்ளிட்ட நாடுகளில், ஹெக்டேருக்கு, 1,800 கிலோவரை பருத்தி மகசூல் பெறப்படுகிறது. சர்வதேச சராசரி, 800 கிலோவாக உள்ள நிலையில், இந்தியாவில், சராசரி மகசூல் 460 கிலோவாக உள்ளது.

சாகுபடி பரப்பு அதிகம் இருந்தும், உற்பத்தி திறன் குறைவாக இருப்பது, உள் நாட்டு தேவையை ஈடு



செய்ய தடையாக உள்ளது. இப்பிரச்சனைக்கு தீர்வாக, நீண்ட இழை பருத்தி ரகங்களில் உற்பத்தி திறனை அதிகரிக்க, மத்திய அரசு சிறப்பு திட்டத்தை செயல்படுத்த துவங்கியுள்ளது. தேசிய உணவு பாதுகாப்பு மற்றும் ஊட்டச் சத்து இயக்கத்தின் கீழ், 2025 - 26ம் ஆண்டில், பருத்தி சாகுபடி செய்யப்படும் பகுதிகளில், தொழில்நுட்ப வழிகாட்டுதல்களை வழங்கி, உற்பத்தி திறனை மேம்படுத்த திட்டமிடப்பட்டுள்ளது. இதற்காக, 6 கோடி ரூபாய் நிதி ஒதுக்கீடு செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது.

முற்க்கட்டமாக, 8 மாநிலங்களுக்கு உட்பட்ட 60 மாவட்டங்களில், 14,800 ஹெக்டேர் பருத்தி சாகுபடி பரப்பு தேர்வு செய்யப்பட்டு, வேளாண் விஞ்ஞானிகள் வாயிலாக, விவசாயிகளுக்கு நேரடியாக தொழில்நுட்ப உதவி வழங்கப்படும்.

இதன் வாயிலாக, பிற நாடுகளை போல உற்பத்தித்திறன் அதிகரிக்கும் என எதிர்பார்க்கப்படுகிறது. அதே மாவட்டங்களில், 11,800 ஹெக்டேரில் விரிவாக்க சேவை திட்டத்தின் கீழ், பருத்தி சாகுபடி பரப்பு அதிகரிக்கப்படும். இத்திட்டம், அப்பகுதியிலுள்ள வேளாண் அறிவியல் மையங்களின் கீழ் செயல்படுத்தப்படும்.

இத்தகைய வழிகாட்டுதல்கள், நாட்பூர் மத்திய பருத்தி ஆராய்ச்சி நிறுவனத்தின் வாயிலாக, சம்பந்தப்பட்ட வேளாண் துறை உயர் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு அனுப்பி வைக்கப்பட்டு பணிகள் துவங்கியுள்ளது.

## மதிப்பு கூட்டப்பட்ட பொருட்களுக்கு பொது வணிக குறியீடு பெற உதவி 3.62 கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கீடு

சென்னை, டிச. 23-

தமிழகத்தில் உள்ள உழவர் உற்பத்தியாளர் குழுக்கள் வாயிலாக, தேங்காய், முருங்கை, மஞ்சள், சிறு தானியங்கள், பாரம்பரிய அரிசி போன்றவற்றில் இருந்து தயாரிக்கப்படும் மதிப்பு கூட்டப்பட்ட பொருட்களுக்கு, 3.62 கோடி ரூபாயில், பொது வணிகக் குறியீடு உருவாக்கும் பணியில் அரசு ஈடுபட்டுள்ளது.

நாட்டில் உணவு பொருட்கள் தயாரிப்பில் ஈடுபட்டுள்ள குறுநிறுவனங்கள், தரமான பொருட்கள் உற்பத்தி செய்யவும், அந்நிறுவனங்களுக்கு அங்கீகாரம் கிடைக்கவும், பிரதமர் உணவு பதப்படுத்தும் குறுநிறுவனங்களை முறைப்படுத்தும் திட்டத்தை செயல்படுத்துகிறது.

தமிழகத்தில், இத்திட்டத்தை தமிழக அரசின் சிறு, குறு, நடுத்தர தொழில் துறையின் தொழில் வணிக ஆணையரகம் செயல்படுத்துகிறது.

இத்திட்டத்தில் இயந்திரங்கள் வாங்க உணவு பதப்படுத்தும் நிறுவனங்களுக்கு, 35 சதவீதம் அதிகப்பட்சம், 10 லட்சம் ரூபாய் வரை மானியம் வழங்கப்படுகிறது.

இதேபோல், சுய உதவிக்குழு உள்ளிட்டோருக்கு தனித்தனி மானியம் வழங்கப்படுகிறது.

இந்நிலையில், பல்வேறு பொருட்களுக்கு பொதுவான வணிக குறியீடு உருவாக்க



உதவும் பணியில் தமிழக அரசு ஈடுபட்டுள்ளது.

இதற்காக, 3.62 கோடி ரூபாய் செலவிடப்பட உள்ளது. இந்த நிதியை, மத்திய அரசும், மாநில அரசும் பகிர்ந்துகொள்ள உள்ளன.

பொது வணிகக் குறியீடு பெற்ற பின், அந்த நிறுவனங்கள் தரமான முறையில் பொருட்களை உற்பத்தி செய்வதை, உழவர் உற்பத்தியாளர் குழுக்களும், அரசும் கண்காணிக்கும்.

### என்ன பயன்?

ஒரு தயாரிப்புக்கு பொதுவான வணிகக் குறியீடு இருந்தால் தான், அதை சந்தைப்படுத்தி உள்நாடு மற்றும் வெளிநாடுகளில் விற்க உதவியாக இருக்கும். பிரதமரின் குறுநிறுவனங்களை முறைப்படுத்தும் திட்டத்தில் கடன் பெற்று, தொழில் துவங்கிய நிறுவனங்களின் தயாரிப்புகளை சந்தைப்படுத்த, உழவர் உற்பத்தியாளர் குழு வாயிலாக பொதுவான வணிக குறியீடு உருவாக்கி தரப்படுகிறது.

இதனால் குறுநிறுவனங்களும், உழவர் உற்பத்தியாளர் குழுக்களும் பயன் பெறும்.

### பயன்பெறும் பொருட்கள்

மாவட்டங்களில் உள்ள உழவர் உற்பத்தியாளர் நிறுவனங்கள் வாயிலாக, பொருட்களுக்கு பொது வணிகக் குறியீடு உருவாக்கப்படுகிறது

மாவட்டம்	முக்கிய தயாரிப்புகள்
தேனி	முருங்கை பவுடர், எண்ணெய், பிஸ்கட்
திருப்பூர்	நீர்ா பாணிம்
ஈரோடு	தேங்காய் சிப்ஸ், கோவா, ஈடனி மிங்ஸ், மஞ்சள் ஊறுகாய், கூல்வா
திருச்சி	சிறுதானிய மூலிகை பிஸ்கட், ஊட்டச்சத்து மாவு, நொறுக்குத் தீனிகள்
காஞ்சிபுரம்	பாரம்பரிய அரிசி ஊட்டச்சத்து மாவு, எண்ணெய்

Source: Dinamalar, 24 December 2025, p.12

Source: Dinamalar, 23 December 2025, p.12

## 'இந்திய ஏலக்காய் ஏற்றுமதி 14,000 லட்சமாக உயரும்'

**கம்பம், டிச. 27-** இந்தியாவின் ஏலக்காய் ஏற்றுமதி 12,000 லட்சம் முதல் 14,000 லட்சம் வரை உயரும் என்றும், ரம்ஜான் ஆட்டர்கள் குவிந்து வருவதாகவும் ஏலக்காய் ஏலமைய வட்டாரங்கள் தெரிவித்தன.

மருத்துவ குணம் கொண்ட ஏலக்காய் கேரளாவில் அதிக பரப்பில் சாகுபடியாகிறது. சர்வதேச அளவில் இந்திய ஏலக்காய்க்கு கவுதமாலா நாட்டு ஏலக்காய் போட்டியாக இருந்தது. அங்கு மானாவாரியாக விளைவதால், குறைந்த விலைக்கு ஏலக்காய் விற்பனை செய்தனர்.

ஆனால், கேரளாவில் ஒரு கிலோ உற்பத்திக்கு குறைந்தது 1,200 ரூபாய் வரை செலவுதிக்க வேண்டும். எனவே, சர்வதேச அளவில் உற்பத்தி,



விற்பனையில் கவுதமாலா ஏலக்காய் முதலிடம் பெற்றது. இந்நிலையில், கடும் வறட்சியால் கவுதமாலாவில் ஏலக்காய் சாகுபடியில் பலத்த அடி விழுந்துள்ளது. இயல்பாக 40,000 முதல் 50,000 லட்சம் வரை உற்பத்தி செய்யும் கவுதமாலா, இந்நாண்டு 14,000 முதல் 17,000 லட்சம் என்ற சரிவை சந்தித்தது.

தற்போது ரம்ஜான் மாதத்துக்கான கொள்முதல் நடக்கும் காலம். இந்நாண்டு ரம்ஜான் பண்டிகைக்கு வளைகுடா நாடுகள் இந்திய ஏலக்காயை மட்டுமே நம்பியுள்ளன. இப்போதே

ஆட்டர்கள் கிடைக்க துவங்கியுள்ளன. இயல்பாக இந்தியா 6,000 முதல் 8,000 லட்சம் வரை ஏற்றுமதி செய்யும். ஆனால், இந்நாண்டு 12,000 முதல் 14,000 லட்சம் வரை ஏற்றுமதிக்கு வாய்ப்புள்ளது.

இதுகுறித்து ஏலக்காய் ஆக்ஷன் மைய வட்டாரங்கள், '2025ல் ஏல மையங்களுக்கு விற்பனைக்கென 30,000 லட்சம் ஏலக்காய் வந்துள்ளது.

'தற்போது ரம்ஜான் ஆட்டர்கள் கிடைக்க துவங்கியுள்ளது. கவுதமாலாவில் மகசூல் பாதிப்பால் இந்திய ஏலக்காய்க்கு வாய்ப்புள்ளது. 8 எம்.எம்., போல்ட் காய்கள் மட்டுமே ஏற்றுமதி செய்யப்படுகிறது. இந்நாண்டு மட்டுமல்லாமல் வரும் ஆண்டிலும் ஏலக்காய் ஏற்றுமதி அதிகரிக்கும்' என தெரிவித்தன.

Source: Dinamalar, 27 December 2025, p.12

# நெல் சேமிப்புக் கிடங்குகளை முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் திறந்து வைத்தார்

சென்னை, டி.செ. 10: நாமக்கல், நீலகிரி, திருவண்ணாமலை ஆகிய மாவட்டங்களில் ரூ.13.97 கோடியில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள 3 வட்ட செயல்முறை கிடங்கு வளாகங்களை முதல்வர் மு.க. ஸ்டாலின் புதன் கிழமை திறந்து வைத்தார்.

மேலும், தஞ்சாவூர், நாகப்பட்டினம், மயிலாடுதுறை, கடலூர், திருவண்ணாமலை, திண்டுக்கல், கிருஷ்ணகிரி ஆகிய மாவட்டங்களில் ரூ. 332.46 கோடியில் மேற்கூரை அமைப்புடன் கூடிய 10 நவீன நெல் சேமிப்பு வளாகங்களுக்கும் அவர் அடிக்கல் நாட்டினார்.

இதுதொடர்பாக தமிழக அரசு வெளியிட்ட செய்திக் குறிப்பு: தமிழ்நாடு நுகர்பொருள் வாணிபக் கழகத்தின் மூலமாக சேமிப்புக் கிடங்குகளை அதிகரித்து உணவு தானியங்களை நவீன முறையில் சேமித்து வைக்கவும், அரசு பல்வேறு நடவடிக்கைகளை மேற்கொண்டு வருகிறது.

நாமக்கல் மாவட்டம், சேந்தமங்கலம் வட்டத்தில் ரூ.4.97 கோடியில் 2,000 மெட்ரிக் டன்

கொள்ளளவு கொண்ட கிடங்குகள், நீலகிரி மாவட்டம், பந்தலூர் வட்டத்தில் ரூ.4.50 கோடியில் 2,500 மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவில் வட்டசெயல்முறை கிடங்குகள், திருவண்ணாமலை மாவட்டம், கீழ்பெண்ணாத்தூர் வட்டத்தில் ரூ.4.50 கோடியில் 2,500 மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவுள்ள வட்ட செயல்முறை கிடங்குகள் என மொத்தம் ரூ. 13.97 கோடி

## 10 நவீன கிடங்குகளுக்கு அடிக்கல்



தமிழ்நாடு நுகர்பொருள் வாணிபக் கழகம் சார்பில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள 3 வட்ட செயல்முறை கிடங்கு வளாகங்களை தலைமைச் செயலகத்தில் காணொலி வாயிலாக புதன் கிழமை திறந்து வைத்த முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின். உடன், உணவுப் பொருள் வழங்கல் துறை அமைச்சர் அர. சக்கராணி, தலைமைச் செயலர் நா.முருகானந்தம், நுகர்பொருள் பாதுகாப்புத் துறை முதன்மைச் செயலர் சத்யபிரதா சாசு, தமிழ்நாடு நுகர்பொருள் வாணிபக் கழகத்தின் மேலாண்மை இயக்குநர் அ.அண்ணாதுரை, துணைச் செயலர் பானேந்த் மருகேந்தன் லால்.

யில் 7,000 மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவுள்ள விவான கிடங்கு வளாகங்களை தலைமைச் செயலகத்தில் இருந்து காணொலி வாயிலாக முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் திறந்து வைத்தார். விவசாயிகளின் கடின உழைப்பில் உற்பத்தியாகி கொள்முதல் செய்யப்படும் ஒரு நெல்மணிக் கூட வீணாகக்கூடாது என்பதற்காக மேற்கூரை அமைப்புடன் கூடிய நவீன நெல் சேமிப்பு வளாகங்கள் நிறுவப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. தஞ்சாவூர் மாவட்டம், ஓரத்தநாடு வட்டம், நடுவூர் கிராமத்தில் ரூ.170.22 கோடியில் 1,00,000

மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவிலும், நாகப்பட்டினம் மாவட்டம், திருக்கண்ணபுரம் கிராமத்தில் ரூ.29.02 கோடியில் 20,500 மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவிலும், திருக்குவளை வட்டம், மணக்குடி கிராமத்தில் ரூ.22.95 கோடியில் 17,000 மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவிலும், மயிலாடுதுறை மாவட்டம் பரசலூர் கிராமத்தில் ரூ.12 கோடியில் 9,000 மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவிலும், தரங்கம்பாடி வட்டம், வில்லியநல்லூர் கிராமத்தில் ரூ.27 கோடியில் 21,000 மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவிலும், கடலூர் மாவட்டம்,

வேப்பூர் வட்டம், டி.புதுையூர் கிராமத்தில் ரூ.12.66 கோடியில் 9,500 மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவிலும், திட்டக்குடி வட்டம், தாமநல்லூர் கிராமத்தில் ரூ.15 கோடியில் 11,000 மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவிலும்; திருவண்ணாமலை மாவட்டம் செங்கம் கிராமத்தில் ரூ.17.91 கோடியில் 12,000 மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவிலும், திண்டுக்கல் மாவட்டம், பழனி வட்டம், சோவிலம் மாவட்டம் கிராமத்தில் ரூ.12.85 கோடியில் 9,000 மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவிலும், கிருஷ்ணகிரி மாவட்டம், ஜூஜூப்பள்ளி கிராமத்தில் ரூ.12.85 கோடியில் 9,000

மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவிலும் என மொத்தம் 2,18,000 மெட்ரிக் டன் கொள்ளளவில் ரூ.332.46 கோடியில் மேற்கூரை அமைப்புடன் கூடிய 10 நவீன நெல் சேமிப்பு வளாகங்கள் கட்டுமான பணிகளுக்கு முதல்வர் அடிக்கல் நாட்டினார். இந்த நிகழ்ச்சியில், உணவுப் பொருள் வழங்கல் துறை அமைச்சர் அர.சக்கராணி, தலைமைச் செயலர் நா.முருகானந்தம் மற்றும் துறைசார்ந்த அதிகாரிகள் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

Source: Dinamani, 11 December 2025, p.16

# வேப்பனப்பள்ளி பகுதியில் சீத்தாப்பழம் மகசூல் அதிகரிப்பு

## விவசாயிகள், வியாபாரிகள் மகிழ்ச்சி

எஸ்.கே.ரமேஷ்

### கிருஷ்ணகிரி

இந்த ஆண்டு பருவமழை உரிய நேரத்தில் பெய்ததால், வேப்பனப்பள்ளி பகுதியில் சீத்தாப்பழம் மகசூல் அதிகரித்துள்ளது. இதனால் விவசாயிகள், வியாபாரிகள் மகிழ்ச்சி அடைந்துள்ளனர்.

கிருஷ்ணகிரி மாவட்டத்தின் மொத்த பரப்பளவான 5,143 சதுர கி.மீட்டரில், 2,024 சதுர கி.மீட்டர் வளப்பகுதி. இங்குள்ள சிறிய காடுகள், வனத்தை ஒட்டியுள்ள மலைக்குன்றுகளில் சீத்தாப்பழ மரங்கள் அதிகளவில் உள்ளன. இதுதவிர விவசாயிகளும் சீத்தாப்பழம் சாகுபடி செய்து வருகின்றனர். குறிப்பாக, வேப்பனப்பள்ளி, மேலுமலை, சின்னாறு, கிருஷ்ணகிரி, பர்சூர், ஜெகதேவி,

தொகரப்பள்ளி, அஞ்சூர், குருவிநாயனப்பள்ளி உட்பட பல்வேறு பகுதிகளில் சீத்தாப்பழம் சாகுபடி செய்யப்படுகிறது.

இதுகுறித்து வேப்பனப்பள்ளி பகுதி விவசாயிகள் மற்றும் வியாபாரிகள் கூறிய தாவது:

இந்த ஆண்டில், பருவமழை உரிய நேரத்தில் பெய்ததால் சீத்தாப்பழ மகசூல் அதிகரித்துள்ளது. அத்துடன் சந்தையில் நல்ல விலையும் கிடைக்கிறது. கடந்த ஆண்டு 20 கிலோ கொண்ட ஒரு கிரேடு சீத்தாப்பழம் ரூ.50 முதல் ரூ.100 வரை கொள்முதல் செய்யப்பட்ட நிலையில், தற்போது ஒரு கிரேடு ரூ.100 முதல் ரூ.150 வரை கொள்முதல் செய்யப்படுகிறது.

இந்த ஆண்டு விளைச்சல்

அதிகரித்துள்ளதால், சீத்தாக்காய்களை வியாபாரிகள் தரம் பிரித்து ஆந்திரா, கர்நாடகா, பிறார், கேரளா, மகாராஷ்டிரா, ராஜஸ்தான் ஆகிய மாநிலங்களுக்கு ஏற்றுமதி செய்கின்றனர். இதேபோல், சென்னை, மதுரை, கோவை உள்ளிட்ட பெருநகரங்களுக்கும் விற்பனைக்காக அனுப்பி வைக்கப்படுகிறது. போக்குவரத்து செலவுடன், 20 கிலோ கொண்ட ஒரு கிரேடு சீத்தாப்பழம் ரூ.220 முதல் ரூ.300 வரை ஏற்றுமதி செய்யப்படுகிறது. வரத்து அதிகரித்து உள்ளதால், தினமும் 10 டன் முதல் 20 டன் வரை ஏற்றுமதி செய்யப்படுகிறது.

மகசூல் அதிகரித்த நிலையில், விலையும் கை கொடுத்திருப்பது மகிழ்ச்சி அளிப்பதாக

உள்ளது. மேலும், கிருஷ்ணகிரி - ஓசூர் தேசிய நெடுஞ்சாலை யில் மேலுமலை முதல் சின்னாறு வரையில் சாலையின் இருபுறமும் 100-க்கும் மேற்பட்ட பெண்கள், இளைஞர்கள், முதியவர்கள் சீத்தாப்பழம் விற்பனையில் ஈடுபட்டு வருகின்றனர். இவர்கள் வளப்பகுதி, அதனை ஒட்டியுள்ள பகுதிகளில் விளைந்த சீத்தாப்பழங்களை பறித்தும், மண்டிகளில் இருந்து வாங்கி வந்தும் கூறு போட்டு விற்பனை செய்கின்றனர்.

இவர்களிடம் அவ்வழியே கார், இருசக்கர வாகனங்களில் செல்பவர்கள் சீத்தாப்பழங்களை வாங்கிச் செல்கின்றனர். இதன் மூலம் அவர்களுக்கும் வருவாய் கிடைக்கிறது. இவ்வாறு அவர்கள் தெரிவித்தனர்.

Source: Tamil Hindu, 05 December 2025, p.15

சூரிய மின்சக்தி நிறுவல் குறித்து

தொழில்முனைவோருக்கு 3 நாள் பயிற்சி வகுப்பு

■ சென்னை

சூரிய மின்சக்தி நிறுவவுது குறித்து தொழில்முனைவோருக்கு 3 நாள் பயிற்சி வகுப்பு நடைபெற உள்ளது.

சென்னை கிண்டியில் செயல்பட்டு வரும் தமிழக அரசின் தொழில்முனைவோர் மேம்பாடு மற்றும் புத்தாக்க நிறுவனத்தில் சூரிய மின்சக்தி (சோலார்) நிறுவல் குறித்து தொழில்முனைவோருக்கு 3 நாள் பயிற்சி

வகுப்பு டிச.9 முதல் 11-ம் தேதி வரை நடைபெற உள்ளது. தொழில் தொடங்கி வருமானம் ஈட்டி விரும்பும் இளைஞர்களை ஊக்குவிக்கும் விதமாக இந்த பயிற்சி வகுப்புக்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது. காலை 10 முதல் மாலை 5 மணி வரை பயிற்சி அளிக்கப்படும்.

பயிற்சி வகுப்பில் சூரிய சக்தி தொழில்நுட்பம் மட்டுமின்றி, அதை ஒரு தொழிலாக மாற்று

வதற்கான அனைத்து அம்சங்களும் கற்றுத்தரப்படும். அதன்படி, சூரிய மின்சக்தி தொழில்முனைவோருக்கான அடிப்படைகள், மென்பொருள் அறிமுகம், திட்ட வடிவமைப்பு, நிதி திட்டமிடல், வணிக மாதிரிகளை தெரிந்து கொள்ளுதல், அரசு மானியம் மற்றும் வழிகாட்டுதல்கள் உள்ளிட்டவை குறித்து தொழில்நுட்ப வல்லுநர்கள் உரையாற்ற உள்ளனர்.

10-ம் வகுப்பு தேர்ச்சி பெற்று, 18 வயது நிரம்பிய ஆர்வமுள்ள தொழில்முனைவோர்கள் பயிற்சியில் பங்கேற்கலாம். குறைந்த விலையில் தங்குமிட வசதியும் பயனாளர்களுக்கு ஏற்படுத்தி தரப்படும். கூடுதல் விவரங்களை [www.ediln.in](http://www.ediln.in) என்ற இணையதளத்திலும் 8668102600 என்ற செல்போன் எண்ணில் தொடர்பு கொண்டும் அறியலாம். முன்பதிவு அவசியம்.

Source: Hindu Tamil Thisai, 01 December 2025, p.3

திருவாரூரில் ரூ.50 கோடியில் ஆடை தயாரிப்பு மையம்



■ திருவாரூர் மாவட்டத்தில், 50 கோடி ரூபாய் முதலீட்டில் ஆடைதயாரிப்பு யூனிட் அமைக்க, முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் முன்னிலையில் நேற்று புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தம் கையெழுத்தானது. எஸ்.சி.எம்., கார்மென்ட்ஸ் நிறுவனத்தின் பரமசிவம், வழிகாட்டி நிறுவன செயல் இயக்குநர் அலமேலுமங்கை ஒப்பந்தத்தை பரிமாறிக் கொண்டனர்.

சென்னை, நவ. 14- திருவாரூர் மாவட்டத்தில், எஸ்.சி.எம்., கார்மென்ட்ஸ் பிரைவேட் லிமிடெட் சார்பில், 50 கோடி ரூபாய் முதலீட்டில் ஆடை தயாரிப்பு யூனிட் அமைக்க, முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் முன்னிலையில் நேற்று புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தம் கையெழுத்தானது. துறையில் முன்னணி நிறுவனமாக விளங்கும் எஸ்.சி.எம்., கார்மென்ட்ஸ் குழுமத்தின், துணை நிறுவனமான எஸ்.சி.எம்., கார்மென்ட்ஸ் பிரைவேட் லிமிடெட், அதாவது தி சென்னை சில்க்ஸ், ஆடை

தயாரிக்கும் நிறுவனமாகும். இந்நிறுவனம், 50 கோடி ரூபாய் முதலீட்டில், 2,500 பேருக்கு வேலைவாய்ப்பு அளிக்கும் வகையில், திருவாரூர் மாவட்டத்தில் ஆடை தயாரிப்பு யூனிட் அமைக்க திட்டமிட்டுள்ளது. இதற்கான புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தம், தலைமை செயலகத்தில் முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் முன்னிலையில் நேற்று கையெழுத்தானது. இந்நிகழ்ச்சியில் தொழில்துறை அமைச்சர் ராஜா, தலைமை செயலர் முருகானந்தம், தொழில் துறை செயலர் அருண் ராய் மற்றும் அலுவலர்கள் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

ஷ்னைடர் எலக்ட்ரிக் விரிவாக்கம் ரூ.718 முதலீடு செய்ய ஒப்பந்தம்

சென்னை, டிச. 19- ஷ்னைடர் எலக்ட்ரிக் நிறுவனம், சென்னை மற்றும் கோவையில் உள்ள தனது ஆலைகளை விரிவாக்கம் செய்யவும், ஒசூரில் புதிய மின்கலன்கள் தயாரிப்பு ஆலை அமைக்கவும் தமிழக அரசுடன் புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தம் செய்துள்ளது.

ஷ்னைடர் எலக்ட்ரிக் குழுமம், மின்சாரம் மற்றும் மின்னணு சாதனங்கள் பொருட்கள் உற்பத்தியில் ஈடுபட்டு வருகிறது. இந்நிறுவனத்தின் ஆலைகள் சென்னை மற்றும் கோவையில் இயங்கி வருகின்றன. கடந்த 30 ஆண்டுகளாக தமிழகத்தில் இயங்கி வரும் ஷ்னைடர் எலக்ட்ரிக் நிறுவனம், தனது ஆலைகளை விரிவாக்கம் செய்ய முடிவெடுத்துள்ளது. மேலும்,

ஒசூரில், புதிதாக மின்கலன்கள் ஆலை அமைக்கவும் திட்டமிட்டுள்ளது. இதற்காக, தமிழக தொழில்துறையுடன் ஷ்னைடர் எலக்ட்ரிக் நிறுவனம் புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தம் செய்துள்ளது.

இதற்காக, அந்நிறுவனம் 718 கோடி ரூபாய் முதலீடு செய்யவுள்ளது. இதன் வாயிலாக, 663 பேருக்கு வேலைவாய்ப்பு கிடைக்கும்.

இந்த முதலீடுகள் வாயிலாக ஏற்றுமதியை ஊக்குவித்து உள்ளூர் உற்பத்தி மற்றும் வணிக வளர்ச்சியை வலுப்படுத்த, ஷ்னைடர் எலக்ட்ரிக் குழுமம் திட்டமிட்டு உள்ளது. இதற்கான புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தம், முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் முன்னிலையில் தலைமை செயலகத்தில் நேற்று கையெழுத்தானது.

Source: Dinamalar, 19 December 2025, p.12

Source: Dinamalar, 14 December 2025, p.12



## ஆடை ஏற்றுமதி ரூ.11,000 கோடி புதிய சந்தை வாய்ப்புகளால் சாதகம்

**திருப்பூர், டிச. 17-** இந்தியாவின் ஓட்டுமொத்த ஆயத்த ஆடை ஏற்றுமதி, கடந்த நவ., மாதம், 11,080 கோடி ரூபாய்க்கு நடந்துள்ளது. இது, கடந்த தாண்டு நவ., மாதம் 9,458 கோடி ரூபாயாக இருந்தது. நடப்பு நிதியாண்டில், ஏப்., முதல் நவ., வரையிலான, எட்டு மாதங்களில், 87,536 கோடி ரூபாய்க்கு ஆடை ஏற்றுமதி நடந்துள்ளது.



கடந்த நிதியாண்டின், இதே காலகட்டத்தில், 82,516 கோடி ரூபாய்க்கு ஏற்றுமதியானது. எட்டு மாத நிலவரப்படி, கடந்த நிதியாண்டை காட்டிலும், 5,020 கோடி ரூபாய் வர்த்தகம் அதிகரித்து உள்ளது. உலக அளவில், பல்வேறு பொருளாதார பாதிப்பு நிலவினாலும், அமெரிக்காவின் வரி உயர்வுக்கு பின்னரும் கூட, இந்திய ஆடை ஏற்றுமதி அதிகரித்துள்ளது, புதிய நம்பிக்கையை ஏற்படுத்தியுள்ளதாக, தொழில்துறை

யினர் வரவேற்று உள்ளனர். ஆயத்த ஆடை ஏற்றுமதி மேம்பாட்டு கவுன்சிலான ஏ.இ.பி.சி., துணைத் தலைவர் சக்திவேல் கூறுகையில், "சர்வதேச சந்தைகளில், இந்திய ஆடைகள் முக்கியத்துவம் வாய்ந்ததாக, செல்வாக்கு பெற்றுள்ளன. "கடந்த நவ., மாதம், ஐரோப்பிய நாடுகள், ஐக்கிய அரபு அமீரக ஆடை ஏற்றுமதி அதிகரித்துள்ளது. ஆப்ரிக்கா மற்றும் மத்திய கிழக்கு சந்தைகளுக்கும் ஏற்றுமதி துவங்கியுள்ளது. இதனால் தான், கடந்த மாத ஏற்றுமதி கணிச

மாக உயர்ந்துள்ளது" என்றார். திருப்பூர் ஏற்றுமதியாளர்கள் சங்க தலைவர் சுப்பிரமணியன் கூறுகையில், "புதிய சந்தை வாய்ப்புகள், இந்தியாவுக்கு சாதகமாக மாறி வருகின்றன. பிரிட்டன் மற்றும் ஐரோப்பிய ஏற்றுமதியும் அதிகரித்துள்ளது. வரி உயர்வு காரணமாக, சில மாதங்களாக தேக்கமடைந்திருந்த அமெரிக்க ஆர்டர்கள் களுக்கான ஆடைகளும், கடந்த மாதத்தில் இருந்து ஏற்றுமதியாக துவங்கி உள்ளன. இதனால், நவ., மாத ஏற்றுமதி அதிகரித்துள்ளது" என்றார்.

## கிராமந்தோறும் புத்தொழில்கள் உருவாக்க தமிழக அரசு அழைப்பு

**சென்னை, டிச. 22-** தமிழகத்தில், 'கிராமந்தோறும் புத்தொழில்' திட்டத்தின் கீழ், 100 கிராமங்களில், புத்தொழில் நிறுவனங்களை உருவாக்க, தொழில் ஐடியா வைத்துள்ள இளைஞர்களுக்கு நிதியுதவி வழங்க, தமிழக அரசின் ஸ்டார்ட் அப் டி.என்., நிறுவனம் அழைப்பு விடுத்துள்ளது. கிராமங்களில் வசிக்கும் இளைஞர்களிடம், வேளாண் பொருட்களை மதிப்பு கூட்டுதல் உட்பட பல்வேறு தொழில்கள் துவங்குவது தொடர்பான கருத்துருக்கள் உள்ளன. இருப்பினும், நிதி இல்லாதது உள்ளிட்ட காரணங்களால் தொழில் துவங்க சிரமப்படுகின்றனர். எனவே, கிராமத் தொழில்

முதல் கட்டமாக, 100 கிராமங்களில் செயல்படுத்தப்பட உள்ள திட்டத்தில் தேர்வாகும் நபருக்கு, ஆரம்பத்தில் தலா, 1 லட்சம் ரூபாய் வரை நிதியுதவி செய்யப்படும்

ஐடியா வைத்திருப்பவர்களை கண்டறிந்து, புத்தொழில் நிறுவனம் துவக்குவதை ஊக்குவிக்க, 'கிராமந்தோறும் புத்தொழில்' திட்டத்தை, ஸ்டார்ட் அப் டி.என்., நிறுவனம் அழைப்பு விடுத்துள்ளது. இதற்கான பதிவு, கூடுதல் விபரங்களை <https://gtp.startuptn.in/> இணையதளத்தில் தெரிந்து கொள்ளலாம்.

பட உள்ளது. இத்திட்டத்தில் தேர்வாகும் நபருக்கு, ஆரம்பத்தில் தலா, 1 லட்சம் ரூபாய் வரை நிதியுதவி செய்யப்படும். தொழில் துவங்குவதற்கான உதவிகள் செய்யப்படும். பின், தமிழக புத்தொழில் ஆதார நிதி திட்டத்தில், 10 லட்சம் ரூபாய் வழங்கப்படும். தற்போது, கிராமந்தோறும் புத்தொழில் நிறுவனங்களை உருவாக்க, தொழில் ஐடியா வைத்துள்ள இளைஞர்களுக்கு, நிதியுதவி வழங்க, ஸ்டார்ட் அப் டி.என்., நிறுவனம் அழைப்பு விடுத்துள்ளது. இதற்கான பதிவு, கூடுதல் விபரங்களை <https://gtp.startuptn.in/> இணையதளத்தில் தெரிந்து கொள்ளலாம்.

Source: Dinamalar, 22 December 2025, p.12

Source: Dinamalar, 17 December 2025, p.12

## வேளாண் 'ஸ்டார்ட்அப்' துவங்க ரூ.1,000 கோடி நிதி நபார்டு வங்கி பொது மேலாளர் தகவல்

**பொள்ளாச்சி, டிச. 21-** 'விவசாய துறையில் புதிய சிந்தனைகளை கொண்ட தொழில்துறை வல்லுநர்கள், புதிய ஸ்டார்ட்அப்துவங்க, 1,000 கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது' என, நபார்டு வங்கி தலைமை பொது மேலாளர் தெரிவித்தார்.

கோவை மாவட்டம், பொள்ளாச்சி மணக்கடவு வாணவராயர் வேளாண் கல்லூரியில், ஐந்தாவது பட்டமளிப்பு விழா நடந்தது. அதில், பங்கேற்ற சென்னை நபார்டு வங்கி தலைமை பொது மேலாளர் ஆனந்த், நிருபர்களிடம் கூறியதாவது: காலநிலை மாற்றத்தால் விவசாயிகள் பெரும்



சவால்களை சந்தித்து வருகின்றனர். இதற்கு விவசாய துறையில் தொழில்துறை வளர்ச்சியை வேகப்படுத்த வேண்டும். விவசாய துறையில் புதிய சிந்தனைகள் கொண்ட தொழில்

நுட்ப வல்லுநர்களை வரவேற்கும் விதமாக, 'ஸ்டார்ட்அப்' நிதியாக, 1,000 கோடி ரூபாய் நிதி ஒதுக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. வேளாண் சார்ந்த புதிய தொழில் முனைவோர் உருவாக வேண்டும்

என்பதை அடிப்படையாக கொண்டு, இதுபோன்று திட்டங்கள் செயல்படுத்தப்படுகின்றன. வரும், 2047ல் உணவு தேவை அதிகமாக இருக்கும்; விவசாயத்தை பெருக்க வேண்டும்.

வேளாண் மாணவர்கள், புதிய சிந்தனைகள் வாயிலாக புதிய நிறுவனங்கள் துவங்கி அதை பெரிய அளவில் கொண்டு செல்ல வேண்டும் என்பதால், இதுபோல புதிய நிறுவனங்கள் துவங்க வேளாண் நிதி ஒதுக்கப்படுகிறது. இவ்வாறு அவர் கூறினார்.

Source: Dinamalar, 21 December 2025, p.12

# அதிக ஆடை ஏற்றுமதிக்கு விருது 11 திருப்பூர் நிறுவனங்கள் பெற்றன

துணை ஜனாதிபதி வழங்கினார்

திருப்பூர், டி.செ. 21-

ஆயத்த ஆடை ஏற்றுமதி மேம்பாட்டு கவுன்சில் (ஏ.இ.பி.சி.) சார்பில் டில்லியில் நடந்த, ஏற்றுமதி சாதனையாளர் விருது வழங்கும் விழாவில், திருப்பூரை சேர்ந்த, 11 ஏற்றுமதி நிறுவனங்கள் விருது பெற்று சாதனை படைத்தவர்கள். விருதுகளை துணை ஜனாதிபதி ராதாகிருஷ்ணன் வழங்கினார்.

ஏற்றுமதி வர்த்தகத்தில் சாதனை படைக்கும் தொழில்துறையினருக்கு, ஆயத்த ஆடை ஏற்றுமதி மேம்பாட்டு கவுன்சில் ஆண்டுதோறும் விருது வழங்கி கவுரவித்து வருகிறது. 2023-24 மற்றும், 2024-25ம் ஆண்டுகளுக்கான, ஏ.இ.பி.சி., விருது வழங்கும் விழா, டில்லியில் நேற்று நடந்தது.

துணை ஜனாதிபதி ராதாகிருஷ்ணன் விருதுகளை வழங்கி பேசுகையில், "மத்திய அரசு, தொழில்கள் மற்றும் ஆடை ஏற்றுமதி துறைக்கு, பல்வேறு மேம்பாட்டு திட்டங்களை செயல்படுத்தி வருகிறது. இந்தியாவின் ஆடைகள் ஏற்றுமதி துறையில், திருப்பூர் முக்கிய பங்கு வகிக்கிறது," என்றார்.

'திரெட்ஸ் ஆப் டைம்; ஸ்டோரி ஆப் இந்தியாஸ் டெக்ஸ்டைல்' என்ற புத்தகத்தை துணை ஜனாதிபதி வெளியிட்டார். ஆடை ஏற்றுமதியாளர்களுக்கு, ஒன்பது பிரிவுகளில், 27 விருதுகள் வழங்கப்பட்டன. திருப்பூர் ஆயத்த ஆடை ஏற்றுமதியாளர்கள் மட்டும், 11 விருதுகளை வென்றுள்ளனர்.

**ஒப்பந்தங்கள் அவசியம்**

நிகழ்ச்சியில், துணை



■ டில்லியில் நடந்த ஏ.இ.பி.சி., விருது வழங்கும் விழாவில், சாதனை படைத்த ஆடை ஏற்றுமதியாளருக்கு துணை ஜனாதிபதி சி.பி.ராதாகிருஷ்ணன் விருது வழங்கி பாராட்டினார்.

நிறுவனம்	விருது பிரிவு
எஸ்.சி.எம்., கார்மென்ட்ஸ்	அதிக ஏற்றுமதி
பெஸ்ட் கார்ப்பரேஷன்	
பாப்லீஸ் நிர்வகி	
கிளாசிக் காட்டன்ஸ்	தென், மத்திய அமெரிக்காவுக்கு அதிக ஏற்றுமதி
பெஸ்ட் டெக் கிளாத்திங்	
எஸ்.டி. எக்ஸ்போர்ட் இந்தியா	
ஜெயசிமா என்டர்பிரைசஸ்	புதிய தொழில் முனைவோரில் அதிக ஏற்றுமதி
ஸ்ரீபிளோரா கார்மென்ட்ஸ்	
எஸ்.எஸ்.ஜி. அப்பேரல்ஸ்	அதிக ஏற்றுமதி செய்த, பெண் தொழில் முனைவோரின் நிறுவனங்கள்
ஜெய்விஷ்ணு கிளாத்திங்	
எஸ்.ஏ.ஜி.எஸ். அப்பேரல்ஸ்	சற்றுக்குழல் சமூக விருது.

ஜனாதிபதி பேசியதாவது: சில ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்பு வரை, சர்வதேச

ஆடை ஏற்றுமதி சந்தையில் நம் நாட்டுக்கு பெரிய போட்டி நிலவவில்லை.

ஆனால், தற்போது வங்கதேசம், லாவோஸ், கம்போடியா, வியட்நாம் மற்றும் ஆப்ரிக்க நாடுகள் கரும் போட்டியை ஏற்படுத்தியுள்ளன.

எனவே, மேலும் பல நாடுகளுடன் தடையற்ற வர்த்தக ஒப்பந்தங்கள் மேற்கொள்வது மிகவும் அவசியம். நம்மோடு போட்டி போடும் பல நாடுகளுக்கு, இந்த ஒப்பந்தங்களே மிகப்பெரிய பலமாக உள்ளது.

சர்வதேச அளவில் ஜவுளி மற்றும் ஆடை ஏற்றுமதியில் இந்தியா ஆறாவது இடம் வகிக்கிறது. கடந்த நியூயாண்டில், 3-10 லட்சம் கோடி ரூபாய்க்கு ஏற்றுமதி செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது. இது அடுத்த மூன்று ஆண்டுகளில் இரட்டிப்பாகும் என்ற நம்பிக்கை உள்ளது.

இவ்வாறு அவர் பேசினார்.

# நாமக்கல்லில் 'சிப்காட்' தொழில் பூங்கா சுற்றுச்சூழல் அனுமதிக்கு விண்ணப்பம்

சென்னை, டிச. 28- நாமக்கல் மாவட்டம் மோகனூரில், 803 ஏக்கரில் உருவாக்கப்பட உள்ள தொழில் பூங்காவுக்கான மத்திய சுற்றுச்சூழல் துறையின் அனுமதிக்கு, 'சிப்காட்' எனப்படும் தமிழக தொழில் முன்னேற்ற நிறுவனம் விண்ணப்பம் செய்துள்ளது.

தமிழகத்தில் தொழில் துவங்கும் பெரிய நிறுவனங்கள், ஆலை அமைக்க வசதியாக சாலை, மழைநீர் வடிகால் உள்ளிட்ட பல்வேறு உட்கட்டமைப்பு வசதிகளுடன் கூடிய தொழில் பூங்காக்களை, சிப்காட் நிறுவனம் அமைக்கிறது.

இந்நிறுவனம், தற்போது, 24 மாவட்டங்களில், எட்டு சிறப்பு பொருளாதார மண்டலங்களை உள்ளடக்கி, 50 தொழில் பூங்காக்களை அமைத்துள்ளது. அவற்றில், 3,400 நிறுவனங்கள்



ஆலைகளை அமைத்துள்ளன. நாமக்கல் மாவட்டத்தில், 10,000 பேருக்கு வேலைவாய்ப்பை உருவாக்கும் வகையில், மோகனூர் தாலுகாவில்

வளையப்பட்டி, அருர் ஆகிய கிராமங்களை சுற்றி, 803 ஏக்கரில் தொழில் பூங்கா உருவாக்கப்பட உள்ளது.

இந்த பூங்காவில் உள்ள மனைகள், இன்னினியரிங் துறையில் ஈடுபட்டுள்ள நிறுவனங்கள் ஆலைகள் அமைக்க ஒதுக்கீடு செய்யப்பட உள்ளன.

தற்போது, அந்த பூங்காவில் உட்கட்டமைப்பு பணிகளை மேற்கொள்ள, மத்திய சுற்றுச்சூழல் துறையிடம், சிப்காட் நிறுவனம் விண்ணப்பம் செய்துள்ளது. அனுமதி கிடைத்ததும், தொழில் பூங்கா உருவாக்கும் பணி துவங்கப்பட உள்ளது.

24 மாவட்டங்களில், எட்டு சிறப்பு பொருளாதார மண்டலங்களை உள்ளடக்கி, 50 தொழில் பூங்காக்களை அமைத்துள்ளது 'சிப்காட்'

Source: Dinamalar, 28 December 2025, p.12

## மதுரையில் இன்று முதலீட்டாளர் மாநாடு

### முதல்வர் முன்னிலையில் ரூ.36,660 கோடிக்கு ஒப்பந்தங்கள்

சென்னை, டிச.6: மதுரையில் முதல்வர் மு.க. ஸ்டாலின் தலைமையில் 'தமிழ்நாடு வளர்கிறது' என்ற தலைப்பில் குடியேற்றக்கிழமை (டிச. 7) நடைபெறும் முதலீட்டாளர்கள் மாநாட்டில் ரூ.36,660.35 கோடிக்கான 91 புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தங்கள் கையொப்பமாக உள்ளன.

இதுதொடர்பாக தமிழக அரசு வெளியிட்டுள்ள செய்திக்குறிப்பில் தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளதாவது: முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் மதுரையில் குடியேற்றக்கிழமை (டிச. 7) பல்வேறு நிகழ்ச்சிகளில் பங்கேற்கிறார். இதில் மேலமடை சந்திப்பு பகுதியில் ரூ.150.28 கோடியில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள மேம்பாலத்தை அவர் திறந்து வைக்கிறார். அதைத் தொடர்ந்து விரசனூர் சுற்றுச்சாலை அருகே இலவம்மாள் மருத்துவமனை வளாசத்தில் உள்ள ஐபா ஸ்கூட்டர் அரங்கில், தமிழ்நாடு வளர்கிறது என்ற தலைப்பில் நடைபெறும் முதலீட்டாளர் மாநாட்டைத் தொடக்கி வைத்துப் பேசுகிறார்.

இந்த மாநாட்டில் முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் முன்னிலையில், ரூ.36,660.35 கோடிக்கான 91 புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தங்கள் கையொப்பமாக உள்ளன. அதன்பிறகு, உத்தங்குடியில் நடைபெறும் அரசு விழாவில், மேலூரில் அமையவுள்ள சிப்காட் தொழிற்பூங்காவுக்கு குடியேற்றக்கிழமை அவர் அடிக்கல் நாட்டுகிறார். மேலும், 63,698 பயனாளிகளுக்கு வீட்டு மனைப் பட்டாக்களை வழங்கி, ரூ.3,065 கோடியில் முடிவுற்ற பணிகளைத் திறந்து வைத்துப் புதிய பணிகளுக்கு அடிக்கல் நாட்டுகிறார்.

கடந்த 4 ஆண்டுகளில் ரூ.18,795 கோடியில் 18,881 வளர்ச்சித் திட்டப் பணிகள் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டுள்ளன. ரூ.8,668 கோடியில் 96 லட்சத்து 55 ஆயிரத்து 916 பயனாளிகளுக்கு நலத் திட்ட உதவிகள் என மொத்தம் ரூ.27 ஆயிரத்து 463 கோடியில் பணிகள் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டுள்ளன.

இவை தவிர, மதுரையில் 2.4 லட்சம் சதுர அடியில் 8 தளங்களுடன் கூடிய கலைஞர் நூற்றாண்டு நூலகம் ரூ.216 கோடியில் கட்டி முடிக்கப்பட்டு 15.7.2023-இல் திறந்து வைக்கப்பட்டது. ஐஸ்லிக்கட்டு வீர விளையாட்டுக்கு உலகப் புகழ்ப்பெற்ற மதுரை மாவட்டம் அலங்காரநல்லூர் அருகே கிழக்கரை கிராமத்தில் 16 ஏக்கரில் கலைஞர் நூற்றாண்டு ஏறு தழுவுதல் அரங்கம் திறந்து வைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது என அதில் தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

Source: Dinamani, 07 December 2025, p.16

# தொழில்துறை எரிசக்தி திறனில் தமிழகம் முதலிடம்

சென்னை, டிச.1: தொழில்துறை எரிசக்தி செயல்திறனில், தமிழகம் 55.3 சதவீதம் மதிப்பெண்கள் பெற்று இந்திய அளவில் முதலிடத்தை பிடித்துள்ளதாக தமிழக அரசு தெரிவித்துள்ளது.

இது குறித்து தமிழக அரசு சார்பில் வெளியிடப்பட்ட செய்திக்குறிப்பு: அனைத்துத் துறையிலும், தமிழகத்தை முன்னோடி மாநிலமாக மாற்றவேண்டும் என்ற இலக்கோடு தமிழக முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் பல்வேறு திட்டங்களை செயல்படுத்தி வருகிறார். அதன் விளைவாக, தொழில்துறை எரிசக்தி திறனில், மாநில ஆற்றல் திறன் குறியீடு 2024 இன் குழு 1 - இல் தமிழகம் 55.3 சதவீத மதிப்பெண்களை பெற்றுள்ளது.

இதன்மூலம், இந்திய அளவில் தமிழகம் முதலிடத்தை பிடித்து சாதனை படைத்துள்ளது.

அதைத்தொடர்ந்து, ஆந்திர மாநிலம் 27.5 சதவீதம் பெற்று 2-ஆம் குழுவில் முன்னிலை வகிக்கிறது. மேலும், ஒடிஸா 23.1 சதவீதமும், சத்தீஸ்கர் 28.8 சதவீதமும், மத்தியப் பிரதேசம் 16.5 சதவீதமும், திரிபுரா 10.9 சதவீதமும் வளர்ச்சி பெற்று, வலுவான முன்னேற்றத்தைப் படைத்துள்ளன.

முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலினின்



தனித் தன் மையுடன் கூடிய முயற்சிகளின் காரணமாக, கட்டுமானத் துறையில் ஆற்றல் திறன் முயற்சிகளை ஊக்குவிப்பதிலும், செயல்படுத்துவதிலும் முன்னணி மாநிலமாக தமிழகம் உருவெடுத்துள்ளது.

மேலும், அதிக எண்ணிக்கையிலான சான்றளிக்கப்பட்ட பசுமை கட்டடங்களைக் கொண்ட முதல் 3 மாநிலங்களில் ஒன்றாகவும் தமிழகம் திகழ்கிறது.

அதேபோல், எரிசக்தி பாது

காப்பு முயற்சிகளை அங்கீகரிக்கும் விதமாக, 25 மாநிலங்கள் எரிசக்தி பாதுகாப்பு விருதுகளைப் பெற்றுள்ளன. இதில், தமிழகம், மகாராஷ்டிரா மற்றும் ஒடிஸா ஆகிய மாநிலங்கள் அதிக எண்ணிக்கையில் விருதுகளைப் பெற்று முன்னணியில் உள்ளன. அடுத்த நிலையில் குஜராத் இடம் பெற்றுள்ளது.

தமிழகத்தில் ஆற்றல்தணிக்கை மற்றும் ஆற்றல் பாதுகாப்பு திட்டத்தின் வாயிலாக கடந்த 2023-24 ஆம் ஆண்டில் குறுசிறு மற்றும் நடுத்தரத் தொழில்களுக்கான ஆற்றல் திறன்களுக்காக மொத்தம் ரூ.2.6 கோடி முதலீடு செய்து ஊக்கப்படுத்தியுள்ளது எனத் தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

Source: Dinamani, 02 December 2025, p.7

# ரூ.1,003 கோடியில் மின்னணு சாதனங்களுக்கான கண்ணாடிப் பொருள்கள் தொழிற்சாலை

ஸ்ரீபெரும்புதூர், டி.ச. 5: ஸ்ரீபெரும்புதூர் அருகேயுள்ள பிள்ளைப்பாக்கம் சிப்காட் பகுதியில் ரூ.1,003 கோடியில் மின்னணு சாதனங்களுக்கான கண்ணாடிப் பொருள்கள் உற்பத்தி தொழிற்சாலையை முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் வெள்ளிக் கிழமை திறந்துவைத்து, உற்பத்தியைத் தொடங்கி வைத்தார்.

காஞ்சிபுரம் மாவட்டம், ஸ்ரீபெரும்புதூரை அடுத்த பிள்ளைப்பாக்கம் சிப்காட் பகுதியில் அமெரிக்காவின் கார்னிங் இன்டர்நேஷனல் கார்ப்பரேஷன் நிறுவனமும், இந்தியாவின் ஆப்டிமஸ் இன்ப்ரோகிராம் லிமிடெட் நிறுவனமும் இணைந்து ரூ.1,003 கோடியில் மின்னணு சாதனங்களுக்கான கண்ணாடிப் பொருள்கள் உற்பத்தி செய்யும் பாரத் இன்னோவேடிவ் கிளாஸ் டெக்னாலஜிஸ் பிரைவேட் லிமிடெட் தொழிற்சாலையை அமைத்துள்ளன.

இந்த தொழிற்சாலை திறப்பு விழா வெள்ளிக்கிழமை நடைபெற்றது. இதில், முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் கலந்துகொண்டு தொழிற்சாலையைத் திறந்து வைத்து, உற்பத்தியைத் தொடங்கி வைத்தார். அப்போது, அவர்பேசியதாவது:

தமிழ்நாட்டு இளைஞர்களுக்கு அதிக எண்ணிக்கையிலான வேலைவாய்ப்புகளை உருவாக்கவும், 2030-க்குள் தமிழ்நாட்டின் பொருளாதாரம் 1 டிரில்லியன் அமெரிக்க டாலர் அளவுக்கு வளர்ச்சி பெறுவதற்குத் தேவையான முதலீடுகளை ஈர்க்கவும் தமிழ்நாடு அரசு பல்வேறு முன்னெடுப்புகளை மேற்கொண்டு வருகிறது.

திமுக அரசு பொறுப்பேற்றதிலிருந்து அனைவரையும் உள்ளடக்கிய சீரான மற்றும் பரவலான வளர்ச்சி என்பதில் சிறப்பு கவனம் செலுத்தி வருகிறது. மாநிலம் முழுவதும் உலகத்தரம் வாய்ந்த உள் கூட்டமைப்பு வசதிகளை உருவாக்கி, அனைத்து மாவட்டங்களிலும் தொழில் வளர்ச்சி மேம்பட அரசு பல்வேறு நடவடிக்கைகளை மேற்கொண்டு வருகிறது.

அமெரிக்காவை தலைமை இடமாகக் கொண்ட கார்னிங் இன்டர்நேஷனல்

## முதல்வர் மு.க. ஸ்டாலின் திறந்து வைத்தார்



காஞ்சிபுரம் மாவட்டம், ஸ்ரீபெரும்புதூர் அருகே பிள்ளைப்பாக்கத்தில் மின்னணு சாதனங்களுக்கான கண்ணாடிப் பொருள்கள் உற்பத்தி தொழிற்சாலையை திறந்து வைத்த முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின், உடன், அமைச்சர் தா.மோ.அன்பரசன், தொழில் முதலீட்டு ஊக்குவிப்பு மற்றும் வர்த்தகத் துறை செயலர் வி.அருண் ராய், தமிழ்நாடு தொழில் வழிகாட்டி நிறுவனத்தின் செயல் இயக்குநர் மருத்துவர் பு.அலர்மேல்மங்கை, காஞ்சிபுரம் மாவட்ட ஆட்சியர் கலைச்செல்வி மோகன், கார்னிங் நிறுவனத்தின் துணைத் தலைவர் ஆன்ட்ரூ பெக், இயக்குநர் ரவிக்ருமார் கட்டாரே, வணிக இயக்குநர் ஜோய் லீ, ஐசிஇஏ தலைவர் பங்கஜ் மகேந்திரா, ஆப்டிமஸ் நிறுவனத்தின் தலைவர் அசோக் குப்தா உள்ளிட்டோர்.

நிறுவனம் பார்க்கும் 500 நிறுவனங்களில் ஒன்றாகும். கைப்பேசிகள், மடிக்கணினிகள் மற்றும் கை கணினிகளில் பயன்படுத்தப்படும் வலுவூட்டப்பட்ட கார்னிங் கொரில்லா கிளாஸ் உற்பத்தி செய்யும் நிறுவனம் ஆகும். ஆப்டிமஸ் இன்ப்ரோகிராம் நிறுவனம் இந்தியாவில் கைப்பேசி உப பொருள்கள் மற்றும் மடிக்கணினி உற்பத்தியில் அனுபவம் வாய்ந்த நிறுவனம் ஆகும். பாரத் இன்நோவேடிவ் கிளாஸ் டெக்னாலஜிஸ் நிறுவனம் கார்னிங் இன்டர்நேஷனல் கார்ப்பரேஷன் மற்றும் ஆப்டிமஸ் இன்ப்ரோகிராம் லிமிடெட் ஆகிய நிறுவனங்களில் கூட்டு நிறுவனமாகும்.

இந்த நிறுவனம் காஞ்சிபுரம் மாவட்டம், பிள்ளைப்பாக்கம் சிப்காட் தொழில் பூங்காவில் ரூ.1,003 கோடி முதலீட்டில் 840 பேருக்கு வேலைவாய்ப்பு அளிக்கும் வகையில், நவீன தொழில்நுட்பத்துடன் முன் கவர் கண்ணாடி உற்பத்தி ஆலையை அமைத்துள்ளது. இந்த நிறுவனத்தில் உருவாக்கப்படும் பொருள்கள் நாட்டிலேயே

முதல்முறையாக தொழில்நுட்பத்தில் உற்பத்தி செய்யப்பட்டதாக இருக்கும் என்றார் முதல்வர்.

முன்னதாக முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் இந்தத் தொழிற்சாலையில் பணியாற்றுவதற்காக தேர்வு செய்யப்பட்ட ஊழியர்களுக்கு பணி நியமன ஆணைகளை வழங்கினார்.

நிகழ்வில் குறு, சிறு மற்றும் நடுத்தரத் தொழில் நிறுவனங்கள் துறை அமைச்சர் தா.மோ.அன்பரசன், தொழில் முதலீட்டு ஊக்குவிப்பு மற்றும் வர்த்தகத் துறைச் செயலர் வி.அருண் ராய், தமிழ்நாடு தொழில் வழிகாட்டி நிறுவனத்தின் செயல் இயக்குநர் மருத்துவர் பு.அலர்மேல்மங்கை, காஞ்சிபுரம் மாவட்ட ஆட்சியர் கலைச்செல்வி மோகன், கார்னிங் நிறுவனத்தின் துணைத் தலைவர் ஆன்ட்ரூ பெக், இயக்குநர் ரவிக்ருமார் கட்டாரே, வணிக இயக்குநர் ஜோய் லீ, ஐசிஇஏ தலைவர் பங்கஜ் மகேந்திரா, ஆப்டிமஸ் நிறுவனத்தின் தலைவர் அசோக் குப்தா உள்ளிட்ட பலர் கலந்துகொண்டனர்.

# ரூ.98 கோடியில் மீன்பிடி துறைமுகங்கள்

முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் திறந்து வைத்தார்



மீன்பிடி துறைமுகங்கள், மீன் இறங்குதளம், புதிய மீன் விதைப் பண்ணை ஆகியவற்றை தலைமைச் செயலகத்தில் இருந்து காணொலி வாயிலாக திங்கள்கிழமை திறந்து வைத்த முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின். உடன் துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின், மீன்வளத் துறை அமைச்சர் அனீதா ஆர்.ராதாகிருஷ்ணன், தமிழ்நாடு மீன் வளர்ச்சிக் கழகத் தலைவர் ந.கௌதமன், தமிழ்நாடு மீனவர் நல வாரியத் தலைவர் அ.ஜோசப் ஸ்டாலின், தலைமைச் செயலர் நா.முருகானந்தம், மீனவர் நலத் துறை செயலர் என்.சுப்பையன், துறை இயக்குநர் கே.வி.முரளிதரன்.

சென்னை, டிச. 8: தமிழகத்தில் ரூ.98.92 கோடியில் மேம்படுத்தப்பட்ட மீன்பிடி துறைமுகங்கள், மீன் இறங்குதளம் மற்றும் புதிய மீன் விதைப் பண்ணை ஆகியவற்றை முதல்வர் மு.க. ஸ்டாலின் திங்கள்கிழமை திறந்து வைத்தார்.

சென்னை தலைமைச் செயலகத்தில் காணொலி மூலம் நடைபெற்ற நிகழ்வில், கன்னியாகுமரி மாவட்டம், தேங்காய்ப்பட்டினம் மீன்பிடி துறைமுகத்தில் ரூ. 60 கோடியில் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்ட கூடுதல் உள்கட்டமைப்பு வசதிகள், பெரியநாயகி தெரு மீனவ கிராமத்தில் ரூ. 26 கோடியில் தூண்டில் வளைவுடன் மேம்படுத்தப்பட்ட மீன் இறங்குதளம், மயிலாடுதுறை மாவட்டம் தரங்கம்பாடியில் ரூ. 10 கோடியில் மேம்படுத்தப்பட்ட மீன்பிடி துறைமுகம், தென்காசி மாவட்டம் கடனா கிராமத்தில் ரூ.2.92 கோடியில் அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ள அரக மீன் விதைப் பண்ணை என மொத்தம் ரூ. 98.92 கோடியில் 4 முடிவுற்ற பணிகளை முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் திறந்து வைத்தார்.

கன்னியாகுமரி மாவட்டம், தேங்காய்ப்பட்டினம் மீன்பிடி துறைமுகத்தில் 375

மீட்டர் நீளத்துக்கு அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ள படகு அணையும் தளம், 110 மீட்டர் நீளத்துக்கு அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ள படகு அணையும் சுவர், மீன் ஏலக்கூடம், மீன் பதப்படுத்தும் கூடம், குளிர் பதன கூடம், வாய்க்கால் பாலம் மற்றும் சாலை ஆகிய கூடுதல் உள்கட்டமைப்பு வசதிகள் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டதால் 68,300 மீனவர்கள் பயன்பெறுவர். 850 விசைப்படகுகள், 4,800 நாட்டுப்படகுகள் பாதுகாப்பாக நிறுத்த இயலும்.

கன்னியாகுமரி மாவட்டம், பெரியநாயகி தெருமீன் இறங்குதளத்தில் 235 மீட்டர் நீளத்துக்கு நீட்டப்பட்டுள்ள தூண்டில் வளைவு மற்றும் வலை பின்னும் கூடம் ஆகிய வசதிகள் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டதால் 13,021 மீனவர்கள் பயன்பெறுவர். 235 இயந்திரம் பொருத்தப்பட்ட படகுகள், 6 நாட்டு படகுகள் பாதுகாப்பாக நிறுத்த இயலும்.

மயிலாடுதுறை மாவட்டம், தரங்கம்பாடி மீன்பிடி துறைமுகத்தில் 350 மீட்டர் நீளத்துக்கு அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ள படகு அணையும் சுவர், கூடுதல் மீன் ஏலக் கூடம், கூடுதல் வலைப் பின்னும் கூடம், மீன் உலர்தளம், சாலை ஆகிய வசதிகள் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டதால் 6,073 மீனவர்கள் பயன்பெறுவர்.

45 விசைப் படகுகள், 310 கண்ணாடி நாரிழை படகுகள் பாதுகாப்பாக நிறுத்த இயலும்.

தென்காசி மாவட்டம், கடனா அரக மீன் விதைப் பண்ணையில் மீன் வளர்ப்பு தொட்டிகள் மற்றும் இதர உள்கட்டமைப்பு வசதிகள் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டதால் ஆண்டுக்கு 5 லட்சம் மீன் குஞ்சுகள் உற்பத்தி செய்து உள்நாட்டு மீன்வளத்தை உயர்த்த இயலும் என அதில் தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

இந்த நிகழ்ச்சியில், துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின், மீன்வளம், மீனவர் நலம் மற்றும் கால்நடை பராமரிப்புத் துறை அமைச்சர் அனீதா ஆர்.ராதாகிருஷ்ணன், தமிழ்நாடு மீன் வளர்ச்சிக் கழகத் தலைவர் ந.கௌதமன், தமிழ்நாடு மீனவர் நல வாரியத் தலைவர் அ.ஜோசப் ஸ்டாலின், தலைமைச் செயலர் நா. முருகானந்தம், கால்நடை பராமரிப்பு, பால்வளம், மீன்வளம் மற்றும் மீனவர் நலத்துறை செயலர் என்.சுப்பையன், மீன்வளத் துறை துறை இயக்குநர் கே.வி.முரளிதரன் உள்ளிட்டோர் கலந்துகொண்டனர்.

Source: Dinamani, 09 December 2025, p.6

# 50.19 லட்சம் பேருக்கு தொழில்முனைவு பயிற்சி

➔ குறு, சிறு தொழில்துறை அமைச்சர் அன்பரசன் தகவல்

## ■ சென்னை

'தமிழகத்தில் கடந்த நான்கரை ஆண்டுகளில் 50.19 லட்சம் பேருக்கு தொழில்முனைவு பயிற்சி அளிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது' என அமைச்சர் தா.மோ. அன்பரசன் தெரிவித்தார்.

சென்னை தொழில்முனைவோர் மேம்பாடு மற்றும் புத்தாக்க நிறுவனத்தில் நேற்று நடைபெற்ற நிகழ்ச்சியில், தொழில்முனைவோர் சான்றிதழ் படிப்பில் சேருவோர் தங்கியபில், ரூ.2.34 கோடியில் கட்டப்பட்ட தங்கும் விடுதியை குறு, சிறு, நடுத்தர நிறுவனங்கள் துறை தா.மோ. அன்பரசன் நேற்று திறந்து வைத்தார். அப்போது அவர் பேசியதாவது:

## 120 பேர் தங்கும் விடுதி

தொழில்முனைவோர் மேம்பாடு மற்றும் புத்தாக்க நிறுவனம் நடத்தும் சான்றிதழ் படிப்பில் 120 பேர் தங்கி பயிலும் வகையில் தங்கும் விடுதி திறக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. புதிய கண்டுபிடிப்புகளை ஊக்கப்படுத்தும் புத்தாக்க பற்றுச்சீட்டு திட்டத்தின்கீழ் 20 புதிய கண்டு



▲ சென்னை கிண்டி, தொழில் முனைவோர் மேம்பாடு மற்றும் புத்தாக்க நிறுவன வளாகத்தில், தொழில் முனைவோர் சான்றிதழ் படிப்பவர்களுக்கான தங்கும் விடுதியை அமைச்சர் தா.மோ. அன்பரசன் நேற்று திறந்து வைத்தார்.

பிடிப்பாளர்களுக்கு ரூ.35.63 லட்சம் நிதி உதவி அளிக்கப்படுகிறது. பயிற்சி பெற்று தொழில்முனைவோர்களாக சாதனை படைத்துள்ள 5 பெண் தொழில்முனைவோர்களுக்குவிருதிகளும்

வழங்கப்படுகிறது. திமுக அரசு பொறுப்பேற்ற நான்கரை ஆண்டுகளில் 50.19 லட்சம் பேருக்கு தொழில்முனைவு பயிற்சி அளிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. புதிய கண்டுபிடிப்பாளர்களுக்கு

உதவித்தொகை திட்டத்தில், 572 பேருக்கு ரூ.14.50 கோடி வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. பள்ளி புத்தாக்க மேம்பாட்டு திட்டத்தின்கீழ், 140 சிறந்த மானவ குழுக்களுக்கு, ரூ.1 கோடி பரிசுத் தொகை வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

மேலும், 39 தொழில் வளர் காப்பகங்களுக்கு, ரூ.21 கோடி நிதி வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. இந்த காப்பகங்கள் மூலம் 961 இளைஞர்கள் மற்றும் மாணவர்கள் புதிய கண்டுபிடிப்பு களையாரித்து தொழில்முனைவோர்களாக உருவாகி உள்ளனர். தொழில்முனைவோர் மேம்பாடு மற்றும் புத்தாக்க சான்றிதழ் படிப்பில் இதுவரை 23 பேர் சான்றிதழ் படிப்பு முடித்து புதிய தொழில்களைத் தொடங்கியுள்ளனர்.

இவ்வாறு அவர் தெரிவித்தார். இவ்விழாவில், குறு, சிறு, நடுத்தர நிறுவனங்கள் துறை செயலர் அஞ்சல் ஆணை, சி.கோமேலாண்டி இயக்குநர் கார்த்திக், தொழில் வணிக ஆணையர் நர்மல் ராஜ் உள்ளிட்டோர் பங்கேற்றனர்.

Source: Tamil Hindu, 04 December 2025, p.7

# பொன்னேரியில் 'கதிசக்தி' பன்முக சரக்கு முனையம்

➔ 1,389 கிமீ பயணிக்கும் முதல் சரக்கு ரயில் சேவை தொடக்கம்

## ■ சென்னை

பொன்னேரியில் 2-வது 'கதிசக்தி' பன்முக சரக்கு முனையத்தை சென்னை ரயில்வே கோட்டம் அமைத்து, பயன்பாட்டுக்கு கொண்டு வந்தது. 45 பெட்டிகள் கொண்ட முதல் சரக்கு ரயில் சேவை தொடங்கி வைக்கப்பட்டது.

நாட்டின் உள்கட்டமைப்பை திட்டங்களை ஒருங்கிணைத்து, தளவாட செலவுகளை குறைத்து, இணைப்பை மேம்படுத்தும் ஒரு முன்முயற்சியே கதிசக்தி திட்டம். இத்திட்டத்தின்படி சாலைகள், ரயில்வே, விமான நிலையங்கள், துறைமுகங்கள், நீர்வழிகள் உள்பட பல வகையான உள்கட்டமைப்புகள் மேம்படுத்தப்படுகின்றன. இதன் ஒரு பகுதியாக, ரயில்வேயில் சரக்கு போக்கு வரத்து மேம்படுத்தப்படுகிறது. அந்தவகையில், அரசுகோணத்தில் பன்முக சரக்கு முனையம்



▲ பொன்னேரியில் ரூ.50 கோடியில் பன்முக சரக்கு முனையம் அமைக்கப்பட்டு, பயன்பாட்டுக்கு வந்துள்ளது.

அமைக்கப்பட்டிருந்தது.

இதன் தொடர்ச்சியாக, பொன்னேரி அருகே அனுப்பப்பட்டிருக்கிற மத்தில் ரூ.50 கோடியில் கதிசக்தி மல்டிமோடல் (பன்முக) சரக்கு முனையத்தை தெற்கு ரயில்வேயின் சென்னை கோட்டம் அமைத்தது. இந்த முனையம் சிகல் மல்டிமோடல் மற்றும் ரயில் டிரான்ஸ் போர்ட் லிமிடெட் (Sical Multimodal

and Rail Transport Ltd) நிறுவனத்தால் உருவாக்கப்பட்டது.

இந்நிலையில், இந்த முனையம் நேற்று முன்தினம் பயன்பாட்டுக்கு வந்தது. இம்முனையத்திலிருந்து தென்கிழக்கு ரயில்வேயின் கிரீன் ஃபீல்ட் தனியார் சரக்கு முனையத்துக்கு 45 பெட்டிகள் கொண்ட முதல் சரக்கு ரயில் சேவையை தெற்கு ரயில்

வேயின் கூடுதல் பொது மேலாளர் விபின் குமார் தொடங்கி வைத்தார். 1,389 கிமீ பயணிக்கும் இந்த ரயிலின் மூலம் ரூ.14.80 லட்சம் வருவாய் ஈட்டப்பட்டுள்ளது.

இந்நிகழ்வில் தெற்கு ரயில்வேயின் முதன்மை தலைமை வணிக மேலாளர் ஜே.வினயன், சென்னை கோட்ட ரயில்வே மேலாளர் சைலேந்திர சிங், தலைமை சரக்கு போக்குவரத்து மேலாளர் ஆர். முருகராஜ், கூடுதல் கோட்ட ரயில்வே மேலாளர் தேஜு பர்தாப் சிங் பங்கேற்றனர்.

இது குறித்து, சென்னை ரயில்வே கோட்ட அதிகாரிகள் கூறும்போது, "இங்குள்ள வசதிகள் மூலம் ஆரம்பக்கட்டமாக மாத்தூக்கு 21 சரக்கு ரயில்களைக் கையாள முடியும் என எதிர்பார்க்கப்படுகிறது. இது இப்பகுதியின் முக்கிய தளவாட மையமாக திகழும்" என்றனர்.

Source: Tamil Hindu, 05 December 2025, p.4

வருவாய் துறைக்கு டிஎன்பிஎஸ்சி மூலமாக தேர்வான

# 476 பேருக்கு பணி நியமன ஆணைகள்

## முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் வழங்கினார்

### சென்னை

டிஎன்பிஎஸ்சி மூலமாக வருவாய்த்துறைக்கு தேர்வான 376 நிலஅளவர்கள், 100 வரைவாளர்களுக்கு பணி நியமன ஆணைகளை முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் நேற்று வழங்கினார்.

இதுகுறித்து தமிழக அரசு வெளியிட்ட செய்திக்குறிப்பில் கூறியிருப்பதாவது:

வருவாய்த் துறையின் கீழ் செயல்படும் நிலஅளவைப் பதிவேடுகள் துறையில் கடந்த 4 ஆண்டுகளில் 800 நிலஅளவர்களும், 302 வரைவாளர்களும் நியமனம் செய்யப்பட்டு உள்ளனர். 2025-ம் ஆண்டில் 376 நிலஅளவர்கள் மற்றும் 100 வரைவாளர்கள் காலிப்

பணியிடங்களுக்கு தமிழ்நாடு அரசுப் பணியாளர் தேர்வாணையம் மூலம் தகுதியானவர்கள் தேர்வு செய்யப்பட்டனர். அவர்களுக்கு பணி நியமன ஆணைகளை முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் நேற்று வழங்கினார்.

### இணையவழி பட்டா மாறுதல்

இத்துறையின் கீழ் பொது மக்களுக்கு வழங்கப்பட்டு வரும் இணையவழி பட்டா மாறுதல் சேவையின் மூலம் 2021-ம் ஆண்டு மே மாதம் முதல் உட்பிரிவு உள்ள பட்டா மாறுதல் வகையில் 61.77 லட்சம் பட்டாக்களும், உட்பிரிவு அல்லாத பட்டா மாறுதல் வகையில் 79.25 லட்சம் பட்டாக்களும் வழங்கப்பட்ட

உள்ள.

கடந்த காலங்களில் உட்பிரிவு உள்ள பட்டா மாறுதல் வகைகளைத் தீர்வு செய்ய 60 நாட்களும், உட்பிரிவு அல்லாத பட்டா மாறுதல் தீர்வு செய்ய 31 நாட்கள் என இருந்து வந்த நிலையில், இந்த அரசு பொறுப்பேற்ற பிறகு உட்பிரிவு உள்ள பட்டா மாறுதல் இனங்கள் 30 நாட்களிலும், உட்பிரிவு அல்லாத பட்டா மாறுதல் இனங்கள் 14 நாட்களிலும் தீர்வு செய்யப்படுகிறது.

### இலவச வீட்டு மனை

தமிழகத்தில் அரசுநிலங்களில் நீண்டகாலமாக அனுபவம் செய்து வந்த ஏழை எளிய

மக்களுக்கு வீட்டுமனைப் பட்டா வழங்கும் பல்வேறு திட்டத்தின் கீழ் இந்த அரசு பொறுப்பேற்ற பின்னர் இதுவரை 20.41 லட்சம் பயனாளிகளுக்கு வீட்டுமனைப் பட்டாக்கள் வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளன.

இந்நிகழ்வில், அமைச்சர் சாத்தூர் ராமச்சந்திரன், தலைமைச்செயலர் நா. முருகானந்தம், வருவாய்த்துறை செயலர் பெ.அமுதா, நில நிர்வாக ஆணையர் கே.சு.பழனிசாமி, நில அளவை மற்றும் நில வரித்திட்ட இயக்குநர் தீபக் ஜேக்கப் உள்ளிட்டோர் பங்கேற்றனர்.

இவ்வாறு அதில் கூறப்பட்டுள்ளது.

Source: Tamil Hindu, 11 December 2025, p.3

# பள்ளிக் கல்வி சார்ந்த நிகழ்வுகளுக்கு வழிகாட்டி நெறிமுறைகள் வெளியீடு

சென்னை, டி.ச. 5: தமிழகத்தில் உள்ள பள்ளிகளில் கல்வி சார்ந்த இணை நிகழ்ச்சிகளுக்கான வழிகாட்டு நெறிமுறைகளை தமிழக பள்ளிக்கல்வி இயக்குநரகம் வெளிக்கிழமை வெளியிட்டது.

அதன் விவரம்: பள்ளி மாணவர்கள் அறிவியல் கருத்துகள் வாழ்க்கை நெறிகளை பெற்றிட பள்ளிகளில் நடைபெறும் பல்வேறு நிகழ்ச்சிகளை வரைமுறைப்படுத்தும் நோக்கில், நிலையான ஒருங்கிணைந்த வழிகாட்டு நெறிமுறைகள் உருவாக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. மாநிலபாடத்திட்டத்தின் கீழ் செயல்படும் அனைத்து பள்ளிகள், மாநில பள்ளிகள், தமிழக அரசு அங்கீகாரம் பெற்ற மத்திய இடைநிலைக் கல்வி வாரியம் இணைவு பள்ளிகள் உள்ளிட்ட அனைத்து பள்ளிகளுக்கும் இந்த வழிகாட்டு நெறிமுறைகள் பொருத்தும்.

கல்விப்பணிகளில் செயலாற்றி வரும் அரசு சாரா தொண்டு நிறுவனங்களின் பட்டியல் மாநில அளவில் பள்ளிக்கல்வி இயக்குநராலும் மாவட்ட அளவில் மாவட்ட ஆட்சியர்கள் வழிகாட்டுதல்கள் அடிப்படையில் பராமரிக்கப்படும். இந்த பட்டியலில் இடம்பெற்றுள்ள அரசு சாரா நிறுவனங்கள் பள்ளிகளில் நிகழ்ச்சிகளில் நடத்துதல், நுழைவுத் தேர்வு சிறப்புப் பயிற்சிகள் உள்ளிட்ட செயல்பாடுகளை மேற்கொள்ளும் முன்பு பள்ளிநிர்வாகம், மாவட்ட கல்வித் துறைநிர்வாகத்திற்கு உரிய தகவல் தெரிவித்தால் போதும் உரிய அனுமதி பெறாத தேவையில்லை. பட்டியலில் இடம் பெறாத தொண்டு நிறுவனங்கள் பள்ளி செயல்பாடுகளில் பங்கேற்கும் போது, தங்கு

கனது நிகழ்ச்சிகளின் செயல்பாட்டை பள்ளிகள் அமைந்துள்ள மாவட்ட முதன்மைக் கல்வி அலுவலர் மூலம் முழு விவரங்களையும் சமர்ப்பிக்கவேண்டும்.

மாவட்டங்களில் மாவட்ட ஆட்சியர் தலைமையில் மாவட்ட காவல் கண்காணிப்பாளர், சமூக நல அலுவலர், மாவட்ட கல்வி அலுவலர்கள் உள்ளிட்ட 8 உறுப்பினர்கள் குழுவில் இடம் பெற்றிருப்பர். மாநில அளவிலான குழுவில் பள்ளிக் கல்வித் துறை செயலர், பல்வேறு பள்ளிக்கல்வி இயக்குநர்கள் உள்ளிட்ட 7 உறுப்பினர்கள் குழுவில் இடம் பெற்றிருப்பர்.

பள்ளிகள் அன்றாட கற்பித்தல் நிகழ்வுகளுக்கு இடையூறின்றி பாடத்திட்டத்தோடு தொடர்புடைய செயல்பாடுகளுக்கு அனுமதி வழங்கப்படும். அதுவும் பள்ளிகளில் தலைமையாசிரியர் அல்லது அவரால் அங்கீகாரம் பெற்ற ஆசிரியர் முன்னிலையில் இந்த செயல்பாடுகள் நடைபெறும் போது அவர்கள் அதிகப்படியான டைந்தால் தற்காலிகமாக நிகழ்ச்சியை நிறுத்தவும் அதிகாரம் உண்டு.

பல்வேறு பள்ளி விழாக்கள், கலை, பண்பாடு, பாரம்பரியம், மரபு சார் விழாக்கள், பண்டிகைகள் ஆகியவை பள்ளிகளில் கொண்டாடும் போது மாணவர்கள் பாதுகாப்பை கருத்தில் கொண்டு நேரம், அவசரகால வழி போன்றவைகளை நிர்ணயிக்க வேண்டும். ஊறுவினைவிக்கும் ஒளிவிளக்குகள், மாக ஏற்படும் ஒலிபெருக்கிகள் போன்றவைகளில் கவனம் தேவை. விழா ஒருங்கிணைப்பு குழுவில் அனைத்து

மதங்களைச் சார்ந்த ஆசிரியர்கள், மாணவர்கள், பெற்றோர்கள் இடம் பெறவேண்டும்.

பள்ளி நிகழ்வில் ஒளி, ஒலிப்பாடல்கள், சொற்பொழிவுகள் ஆகியவை கண்ணியமிக்கவையாகவும் இருத்தல் வேண்டும். விழா ஒருங்கிணைப்புக் குழு ஒத்திகை பார்த்து அனைவருக்கும் ஏற்ற வகையிலும் அமைந்தது எதை உறுதி செய்திடல் வேண்டும். சிறப்பு விருந்தினர்களாக பங்கேற்கக் கூடியவர்களின் மாநில மற்றும் மாவட்ட அளவிலான முதன்மைப் பட்டியலில் பராமரிக்கப்படுகிறது. இந்த பட்டியல்களில் இடம் பெறாதவர்கள் பங்கேற்கும் போது அவர்கள் குறித்த தனிப்பட்ட முழு விவரங்களையும் அளித்து உரிய முன் அனுமதி பெற வேண்டும். அனைத்து முன் அனுமதிகளும் 15 வேலை நாள் களுக்கு முன்பு பெறவேண்டும். விண்ணப்பங்களை பரிசீலிக்கும் குழுவிற்கும் நெறிமுறைகள் வகுக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன.

கல்விச் சுற்றுலா, களப் பயணம், வெளிநாடு சுற்றுலா போன்றவைகள் மேற்கொள்வதற்கு பாதுகாப்பு நடவடிக்கைகள் உள்ளிட்ட வழிகாட்டு நெறிமுறைகள் வகுக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன.

மாணவர்களை சமூகத்திற்கு பொருத்தமுள்ள மனித வளமாக உருவாக்கும் பள்ளிச் செயல்பாடுகளில் பாதுகாப்பினை உறுதிப்படுத்தும் நோக்கமாகக் கொண்டு இந்த வழிகாட்டு நெறிமுறைகள் உருவாக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. இதை பள்ளி நிர்வாகங்கள் தவறாது பின்பற்ற வேண்டும் என அதில் தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

Source: Dinamani, 06 December 2025, p.7

## 10 லட்சம் மாணவர்களுக்கு பிப்ரவரி மாதத்துக்குள் மடிக்கணினி

சென்னை, டி.ச. 18: வரும் பிப்ரவரி மாதத்துக்குள் 10 லட்சம் மாணவர்களுக்கு மடிக்கணினிகள் வழங்கப்படும் என்று துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின் தெரிவித்துள்ளார்.

இது தொடர்பாக அவர் வியாழக்கிழமை வெளியிட்ட அறிக்கை:

20 லட்சம் கல்லூரி மாணவர்களுக்கு மடிக்கணினி வழங்கப்படும் என்று 2025-2026 பட்ஜெட் கூட்டத்தொடரின் போது அறிவிக்கப்பட்டது.

அரசின் மடிக்கணினி மாணவர்களின் கரங்களுக்கு இனிதான் சென்று சேர இருக்கிறது.

அதற்குள்ளாக, எதிர்க்கட்சித் தலைவர் எடப்பாடி பழனிசாமி, மடிக்கணினியில் தொழில்நுட்பம் போதவில்லை எனக் கூறுகிறார். கல்லூரி மாணவர்களுக்கு பயன்படும் வகையில், செயற்கை நுண்ணறிவு (ஏஐ) உட்பட நவீன தொழில்நுட்பங்கள் இந்த புதிய மடிக்கணினியில் உள்ளன. 6 மாத காலத்துக்கு இந்த ஏஐ வசதி இலவசமாக வழங்கப்படவுள்ளது.

உலக அளவில் தரத்துக்கும் நம்பகத்தன்மைக்கும் பெயர் பெற்ற நிறுவனங்களிடமிருந்தே, எந்தவித இடையீட்டு நிறுவனங்களும் இன்றி மடிக்கணினிகள் நேரடியாக கொள்முதல் செய்யப்படுகின்றன. தரம், தொழில்நுட்பம், வசதி என அனைத்திலும் சிறப்பாக இருக்கக்கூடிய மடிக்கணினிகளை கல்லூரி மாணவர்களுக்கு தமிழ்நாடு அரசு வழங்கவுள்ளது.

இவை படிப்படியாக மாவட்டங்களுக்கு அனுப்பப்பட்டு மாணவர்கள் கிறிஸ் தமஸ், புத்தாண்டு விடுமுறை முடிந்து கல்லூரிக்கு வந்தவுடன் அவர்களுக்கு வழங்கப்படும். வரும் பிப்ரவரி மாதத்துக்குள் 10 லட்சம் மாணவர்களுக்கு மடிக்கணினிகள் வழங்கப்படும் என்று தெரிவித்துள்ளார் துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின்.

Source: Dinamani, 19 December 2025, p.7

# ரூ.210 கோடியில் பள்ளிக் கட்டடங்கள்

சென்னை, டி.சு. 22: பள்ளிக் கல்வித் துறை சார்பில் ரூ. 210.17 கோடியில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள பள்ளிக் கட்டடங்கள் மற்றும் மாவட்ட அரசு மாநிலப் பள்ளிக் கட்டடங்கள் மற்றும் விடுதிக் கட்டடங்களை முதல்வர் மு.க. ஸ்டாலின் திறந்து வைத்தார்.

மேலும், ரூ.19.72 கோடியில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள நூலகக் கட்டடங்களை திறந்து வைத்த முதல்வர், ரூ.4.40 கோடியிலான மயிலாடுதுறை மாவட்ட மைய நூலக புதிய கட்டடம் கட்டும் பணிக்கு அடிக்கல் நாட்டினார்.

தலைமைச் செயலகத்தில் நடைபெற்ற நிகழ்வில் 20 மாவட்டங்களில் உள்ள 60 அரசுப் பள்ளிகளில் ரூ. 96.49 கோடியில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள 392 புதிய வகுப்பறைக் கட்டடங்கள், 4 ஆய்வகக் கட்டடங்கள், 16 மாணவர்/மாணவியர் சூழிப்பறைக் கட்டடங்கள், 8 குடிநீர் வசதிப் பணிகள் மற்றும் கடலூர், விழுப்புரம் மாவட்டங்களில் ரூ.113.68 கோடியில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள 2 மாவட்ட அரசு மாநிலப் பள்ளிக் கட்டடங்கள் மற்றும் விடுதிக் கட்டடங்கள், பொது நூலக இயக்கத்தின் சார்பில் ரூ.17.82 கோடியில் 20 மாவட்டங்களில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள 68 நூலகக் கட்டடங்கள், கடலூர், தஞ்சை

## முதல்வர் திறந்து வைத்தார்



பள்ளிக் கல்வித் துறை சார்பில் தமிழகத்தில் பல்வேறு இடங்களில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள புதிய கட்டடங்களை தலைமைச் செயலகத்திலிருந்து காணொலிக் காட்சி மூலம் திறந்து வைத்து, புதிய கட்டடங்களின் கட்டுமானப் பணிக்கு அடிக்கல் நாட்டிய முதல்வர் மு.க. ஸ்டாலின், உடன் அமைச்சர்கள் எ.வ.வேலு, அன்பில் மகேஸ், தலைமைச் செயலர் நா.முருகானந்தம், பள்ளிக் கல்வித்துறை முதன்மைச் செயலர் பி.சந்திரமோகன், அரசு சிறப்பு செயலரும் பொது நூலக இயக்குநருமான ச.ஜெயந்தி, உறுப்பினர் செயலர் (தமிழ்நாடு மாநிலப் பள்ளிகள்), இரா.கதன் (ஓய்வு), பள்ளிக் கல்வித் துறை இயக்குநர் ச.கண்ணப்பன்.

வூர், நாகப்பட்டினம் மாவட்டங்களில் ரூ.1.90 கோடியில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள 3 கிளை நூலகக் கட்டடங்கள் ஆகியவற்றை திறந்து வைத்தார். இந்த நிகழ்ச்சியில், பொதுப் பணித் துறை அமைச்சர் எ.வ.வேலு, பள்ளிக் கல்வித் துறை அமைச்சர் அன்பில் மகேஸ் பொய்யாமொழி, தலைமைச்

செயலர் நா. முருகானந்தம், பள்ளிக் கல்வித் துறை முதன்மைச் செயலர் மருத்துவர் பி. சந்திரமோகன் உள்ளிட்டோர் கலந்து கொண்டனர். 9 புதிய காவல் நிலையங்கள் திறப்பு: காவல் துறை, தீயணைப்பு மற்றும் மீட்புப் பணிகள் துறை, சிறைகள் மற்றும் சீர்திருத்தப் பணிகள் துறை, உள் போக்கு

வரத்து) துறை ஆகியவற்றின் சார்பில் மொத்தம் ரூ.43.91 கோடி செலவில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள கட்டடங்கள், 9 புதிய சாவல் நிலையங்கள் மற்றும் புதிதாக உருவாக்கப்பட்ட 3 காவல் உட்கோட்டங்கள் ஆகியவற்றை முதல்வர் மு.க. ஸ்டாலின் தலைமைச் செயலகத்தில் காணொலி மூலம் திறந்து வைத்தார்.

Source: Dinamani, 23 December 2025, p.16

## தமிழக அரசு உயர்கல்வி, ஆராய்ச்சியை மேம்படுத்தி வருகிறது

### போக்குவரத்து துறை அமைச்சர் எஸ்.எஸ்.சிவசங்கர் பெருமதி

வேலூர் தமிழக அரசு உயர்கல்வி, ஆராய்ச்சியை மேம்படுத்தி வருவதாக போக்குவரத்து துறை அமைச்சர் எஸ்.எஸ்.சிவசங்கர் தெரிவித்தார். வேலூர் விஜய பல்கலைக் கழகத்தில் 3-வது சர்வதேச நானோ அறிவியல் மற்றும் நானோ தொழில்நுட்ப 4 நான் மாநாடு நேற்று தொடங்கியது. இதில் பங்கேற்ற அமைச்சர் எஸ்.எஸ்.சிவசங்கர் பேசுகிறார்: நானோ தொழில்நுட்பத்தில் முன்னிலை வகிக்கும் நாடுகள் தான், வருங்கால தொழில்நுட்பத்தில் முன்னிலை வகிக்கும் நாடுகள் தான். வருங்கால தொழில்நுட்பத்தில் முன்னிலை வகிக்கும் நாடுகள் தான், வருங்கால தொழில்நுட்பத்தில் முன்னிலை வகிக்கும் நாடுகள் தான். வருங்கால தொழில்நுட்பத்தில் முன்னிலை வகிக்கும் நாடுகள் தான், வருங்கால தொழில்நுட்பத்தில் முன்னிலை வகிக்கும் நாடுகள் தான்.



வேலூர் விஜய பல்கலைக்கழகத்தில் நேற்று தொடங்கிய 3-வது சர்வதேச நானோ அறிவியல் மற்றும் நானோ தொழில்நுட்ப மாநாட்டில் பங்கேற்ற அமைச்சர் எஸ்.எஸ்.சிவசங்கர், விஜயவேந்தர் கோ.விசுவநாதன், அமெரிக்காவின் எம்ஜிடி கல்வி நிறுவனப் பேராசிரியர் மவுங்கி பவெண்டி, விஜய துணைத் தலைவர் சேகர் விசுவநாதன் உள்ளிட்டோர்.

கோடி பயணங்களை மேற்கொண்டுள்ளனர். இந்த திட்டத்தை ஆந்திரா, தெலங்காணா, கர்நாடகா போன்ற மாநிலங்களும் பின்பற்றுகின்றன. நான் முதல்வன், புதுமைப் பெண், தமிழ்ப் புதல்வன் உள்ளிட்ட திட்டங்களால் 4.18 லட்சம் மாணவிகளும், 3.28 லட்சம் மாணவர்களும் பயணடைகின்றனர். இதன்மூலம் உயர்கல்வி கிடைப்பதுடன், இடைநிறுத்த குறைபாடுகள் திராவிட மாதல் அரசு உயர்கல்வி மற்றும் ஆராய்ச்சியை மேம்படுத்தும் நடவடிக்கைகளில் தொடர்ந்து ஈடுபடும்.

இவ்வாறு அமைச்சர் பேசினார். விஜய வேந்தர் கோ.விசுவநாதன் பேசும்போது, “இந்த மாநாட்டில் 20 நாடுகளைச் சேர்ந்த 300 பேர் மற்றும் 42 சர்வதேச கல்வி நிறுவனங்களைச் சேர்ந்த பேராசிரியர்கள் பங்கேற்றுள்ளனர். மேம்பட்ட நானோ பொருட்கள், நானோ எலக்ட்ரானிக்ஸ் மற்றும் குவாண்டம் பொருட்கள், நானோ மருத்துவம், சென்சார்சு மற்றும் பையோசென்சார்சு, ஆற்றல் பொருட்கள் மற்றும் நிலையான தொழில்நுட்பப் பயன்பாடுகள் உள்ளிட்ட பல்வேறு தலைப்

புகளில் கருத்தரங்குகள், சொற்பொழிவுகள், விவாத அரங்குகள் நடைபெறும். மேலும், ஆராய்ச்சியில் சிறந்து விளங்குபவர்களுக்கு விருதுகள் வழங்கப்படுகின்றன. அண்மையில் வெளியான க்யூ.எஸ். நிலைத்தன்மை பிரிவில் தரவரிசைப் பட்டியலில் இந்திய அளவில் விஜய 7-ம் இடத்தைப் பிடித்துள்ளது. உலக அளவில் 352-ம் இடத்துக்கு முன்னேறி உள்ளது” என்றார். நோபல் விஞ்ஞானியும், அமெரிக்காவின் எம்ஜிடி கல்வி நிறுவனத்தின் பேராசிரியருமான மவுங்கி பவெண்டி பேசும்போது,

Source: Tamil Hindu, 17 December 2025, p.10

## காஞ்சிபுரத்தில் ரூ.324 கோடியில் மிகப்பெரிய புற்றுநோய் மருத்துவமனை

சென்னை, டிச. 6: காஞ்சிபுரத்தில் ரூ.324 கோடியில் 770 படுக்கைகளுடன் அமைக்கப்பட்டு வரும் இந்தியாவின் மிகப்பெரிய புற்றுநோய் மருத்துவமனை விரைவில் திறக்கப்பட உள்ளது என்று தமிழக மருத்துவம் மற்றும் மக்கள் நல்வாழ்வுத் துறை அமைச்சர் மா.சுப்பிரமணியன் தெரிவித்தார்.



சென்னை, குன்றத்தூரில் 'நலம் காக்கும் ஸ்டாலின்' திட்ட முகாம் சனிக்கிழமை நடைபெற்றது. முகாமை அமைச்சர் மா.சுப்பிரமணியன் நேரில் பார்வையிட்டு, சிகிச்சைகள் குறித்து ஆய்வு மேற்கொண்டார்.

பின்னர், அவர் செய்தியாளர்களிடம் கூறியதாவது: நலம் காக்கும் ஸ்டாலின் திட்டத்தின் கீழ் தமிழகம் முழுவதும் 1,256 முகாம்கள் நடத்த திட்டமிடப்பட்டு, இதுவரை 634 முகாம்கள் நடத்தப்பட்டுள்ளன. இதன்மூலம் 10 லட்சத்து 23 ஆயிரத்து 518 பேர் பயன்பெற்று உள்ளனர்.

இதுவரை சனிக்கிழமைகளில் மட்டுமே இந்த முகாம் நடத்தப்பட்டு வந்தது. மீதமுள்ள 579 முகாம்கள் வியாழன் மற்றும் சனிக்கிழமை நடத்தப்படும்.

புற்றுநோய் மருத்துவமனை: காஞ்சிபுரம், காரப்பேட்டை அருகே பெரிய புற்றுநோய் மருத்துவமனை கட்டும் பணி நிறைவடையும் தருவாயில் உள்ளது. புற்றுநோய் பாதிப்புகளுக்கு பெரிய அளவிலான தீர்வு என்ற வகையில் 770 படுக்கை வசதிகளுடன் ரூ.218 கோடி மதிப்பில் கட்டடங்கள், ரூ.106 கோடியில் மருத்துவ உபகரணங்கள் என மொத்தம் ரூ.324 கோடி மதிப்பில் இந்த மருத்துவமனை கட்டப்படுகிறது.

இந்தியாவின் மிகப் பெரிய புற்றுநோய் ஆராய்ச்சி மையம் என்று சொல்லப்படும் மும்பை டாடா மெமோரியல் கேன்சர் ரிசர்ச் இன்ஸ்டிடியூட்டில் 670 படுக்கை வசதிகள் உள்ளன. 770 படுக்கை வசதிகளுடன் இந்தியாவிலேயே தமிழ்நாட்டின் காஞ்சிபுரத்தில்தான் அண்ணாவின் பெயரால் மிகப்பெரிய புற்றுநோய் சிகிச்சை மையம் அமைக்கப்படுகிறது. இதை முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் விரைவில் திறந்து வைக்கிறார் என்றார்.

நிகழ்வில், பொது சுகாதாரம் மற்றும் நோய்த்தடுப்பு மருத்துவ துறை இயக்குநர் சோமசுந்தரம் மற்றும் அதிகாரிகள், பொதுமக்கள் உள்பட பலர் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

Source: Dinamani, 07 December 2025, p.9

## ரூ.480 கோடியில் குழந்தைகள் உயர் சிறப்பு மருத்துவமனை

சென்னை, டிச. 11: சென்னை, கின்டியில் ரூ.480 கோடி மதிப்பில் குழந்தைகளுக்கான உயர் சிறப்பு மருத்துவமனையை அமைப்பதற்காக விரைவில் முதல்வர் அடிக் கல் நாட்டவுள்ளதாக மக்கள் நல்வாழ்வுத் துறை அமைச்சர் மா.சுப்பிரமணியன் தெரிவித்தார்.

நகர்ப்புறவாழ்விடமேம்பாட்டு வாரியம் சார்பில் சென்னை, வெங்கடபுரம் திட்டப்பகுதியில் ரூ.2.59 கோடி மதிப்பில் குடியிருப்பு புனரமைப்பு பணிகளை அவர் வியாழக்கிழமை தொடக்கி வைத்தார்.

அதன் பின்னர், செய்தியாளர்களிடம் அமைச்சர் மா.சுப்பிரமணியன் கூறியதாவது:

மாநிலம் முழுவதும் நகர்ப்புற வாழ்விட மேம்பாட்டு வாரியம் சார்பில் 30 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்பு

### விரைவில் கட்டுமானப் பணி

கட்டப்பட்ட கட்டடங்களுக்கு பதிலாக புதிய குடியிருப்புகள் கட்டப்பட்டு வருகின்றன.

அதன்படி, சைதாப்பேட்டையில் 1,800 வீடுகள், கோட்டுப்புரத்தில் 522 வீடுகளுக்கான கட்டுமானப் பணி நடைபெற்று வருகிறது. இவை விரைவில் மக்கள் பயன்பாட்டுக்கு கொண்டு வரப்படும்.

அதேபோன்று, வேளச்சேரி சர்தார் வல்லப்பாய் பட்டேல் சாலை முதல் குருநானக் கல்லூரி வரை 3.2 கி.மீ. தொலைவுக்கு ரூ.320 கோடி மதிப்பில் பாலம் அமைக்கப்பட உள்ளது. மேலும், சைதாப்பேட்டையில் இருந்து தேனாம்பேட்டை வரையிலான ரூ.621

கோடி செலவில் பாலம் அமைக்கும் பணி விரைவில் முடிவடைந்து திறக்கப்பட உள்ளது.

சைதாப்பேட்டை தொகுதியில் கிண்டி உயர் சிறப்பு மருத்துவமனை, முதியோர் நல மருத்துவமனை ஆகியவை திறக்கப்பட்டதன் மூலம் பொது மக்கள் பயனடைந்து வருகின்றனர். அதே வளாகத்தில், ரூ. 480 கோடி மதிப்பில் குழந்தைகளுக்கான பிரத்யேக சிறப்பு மருத்துவமனை அமைக்க ஒப்பந்தப் பணி முடிவடைந்துள்ளது.

விரைவில் கட்டுமானப் பணிகளுக்கு முதல்வர் அடிக் கல் நாட்டவுள்ளார் என்றார் அவர்.

Source: Dinamani, 12 December 2025, p.4

# மருத்துவப் பல்கலை.யில் ரூ.12 கோடியில் புனரமைக்கப்பட்ட கட்டடங்கள்

அமைச்சர் மா.சுப்பிரமணியன் திறந்து வைத்தார்

சென்னை, டிச. 22: கிண்டியில் உள்ள தமிழ்நாடு டாக்டர் எம்ஜி ஆர் மருத்துவப் பல்கலைக்கழக வளாகத்தில் ரூ.12 கோடியில் புனரமைக்கப்பட்ட கட்டடங்கள் மற்றும் நுழைவு வாயிலை மக்கள் நல்வாழ்வுத் துறை அமைச்சர் மா.சுப்பிரமணியன் திறந்து வைத்தார்.



புனரமைக்கப்பட்ட தமிழ்நாடு டாக்டர் எம்ஜிஆர் மருத்துவப் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தை திறந்து வைத்த அமைச்சர் மா.சுப்பிரமணியன். உடன் பல்கலைக்கழக துணைவேந்தர் டாக்டர் கே.நாராயணசாமி, மக்கள் நல்வாழ்வுத் துறைச் செயலர் ப.செந்தில்குமார் உள்ளிட்டோர்.

இந்நிகழ்வில் மக்கள் நல்வாழ்வுத் துறைச் செயலர் ப.செந்தில்குமார், தேசிய நலவாழ்வு குழும இயக்குநர் டாக்டர் அருண் தம்பராஜ், தமிழ்நாடு சுகாதார அமைப்பு திட்ட இயக்குநர் டாக்டர் வினீத், மருத்துவப் பல்கலைக்கழகத் துணைவேந்தர் டாக்டர் கே.நாராயணசாமி, பதிவாளர் டாக்டர் சிவசங்கீதா, பொது சுகாதாரம் மற்றும் நோய்த்தடுப்பு மருத்துத் துறை இயக்குநர் டாக்டர் சோமசுந்தரம், மருத்துவக் கல்வி மற்றும் ஆராய்ச்சி இயக்குநர் டாக்டர் சுகந்தி இராஜகு

மாரி, மருத்துவம் மற்றும் ஊரக நலப்பணிகள் இயக்குநர் டாக்டர் சித்ரா உள்ளிட்டோர் பங்கேற்றனர். அப்போது, அமைச்சர் மா.சுப்பிரமணியன் செய்தியாளர்களிடம் கூறியதாவது:

கடந்த 35 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்னர் சென்னை கிண்டியில் தோற்றுவிக்கப்பட்ட தமிழ்நாடு டாக்டர் எம்ஜிஆர் மருத்துவப் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தில் ரூ.12 கோடியில் நுழைவு வாயில், துணைவேந்தர் அறை என்று பல்வேறு வகைகளில் புனரமைப்புப் பணிகள் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டன. அந்தப் பணிகள் முடிவுற்று தற்போது பயன்பாட்டுக்கு கொண்டுவரப்பட்டுள்ளது என்றார்.

மாரி, மருத்துவம் மற்றும் ஊரக நலப்பணிகள் இயக்குநர் டாக்டர் சித்ரா உள்ளிட்டோர் பங்கேற்றனர். அப்போது, அமைச்சர் மா.சுப்பிரமணியன் செய்தியாளர்களிடம் கூறியதாவது:

கடந்த 35 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்னர் சென்னை கிண்டியில் தோற்றுவிக்கப்பட்ட தமிழ்நாடு டாக்டர் எம்ஜிஆர் மருத்துவப் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தில் ரூ.12 கோடியில் நுழைவு வாயில், துணைவேந்தர் அறை என்று பல்வேறு வகைகளில் புனரமைப்புப் பணிகள் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டன. அந்தப் பணிகள் முடிவுற்று தற்போது பயன்பாட்டுக்கு கொண்டுவரப்பட்டுள்ளது என்றார்.

Source: Dinamani, 23 December 2025, p.4

## '37,445 பேருக்கு முதல்வர் காப்பீட்டுத் திட்ட அட்டை'

சென்னை, டிச. 27: நலம் காக்கும் ஸ்டாலின் முகாம்கள் மூலம் இதுவரை 37,445 பேருக்கு முதல்வரின் விரிவான மருத்துவ காப்பீட்டு திட்ட அட்டைகள் வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளதாக மக்கள் நல்வாழ்வுத் துறை அமைச்சர் மா.சுப்பிரமணியன் தெரிவித்தார்.

சென்னை கண்ணகி நகர் அரசு மேல்நிலைப் பள்ளி வளாகத்தில் சனிக்கிழமை நடைபெற்ற நலம் காக்கும் ஸ்டாலின் மருத்துவ முகாமை ஆய்வு செய்த பின்னர், அமைச்சர் மா.சுப்பிரமணியன் செய்தியாளர்களிடம் கூறியதாவது:

நலம் காக்கும் ஸ்டாலின் என்ற திட்டத்தை கடந்த ஆக.2-ஆம் தேதி முதல்வர் தொடங்கி வைத்தார்.

இந்தத் திட்டத்தின்கீழ் தமிழகம் முழுவதும் 1,256 மருத்துவ முகாம்கள் நடத்தப்படும் என்று அறிவிக்கப்பட்டது.

இந்த முகாம்களில் முழு உடல் பரிசோதனை செய்யப்படுகிறது. வாரம்தோறும் சனிக்கிழமைகளில் மட்டும் நடத்தப்பட்ட இந்த முகாம்தற்போது வியாழக்கிழமை



சென்னை கண்ணகி நகர் அரசு மேல்நிலைப் பள்ளி வளாகத்தில் சனிக்கிழமை நடைபெற்ற நலம் காக்கும் ஸ்டாலின் மருத்துவ முகாமை ஆய்வு செய்த மக்கள் நல்வாழ்வுத் துறை அமைச்சர் மா.சுப்பிரமணியன்.

சனிலும் நடைபெறுகிறது. இந்த முகாமில், முதல்வரின் விரிவான மருத்துவ காப்பீட்டுத் திட்ட அட்டைகள், மாற்றுத்திறனாளிகளுக்கான அடையாள சான்றிதழ்களும் வழங்கப்படுகின்றன. இதுவரை நடைபெற்ற 800 முகாம்களில், 12,34,908 பேர் பயனடைந்துள்ளனர்.

முதல்வரின் விரிவான மருத்துவக் காப்பீட்டுத் திட்டத்தின் கீழ் 37,445 அங்கீகரிக்கப்பட்டுள்ள

அட்டைகளும், 46,657 பேருக்கு மாற்றுத்திறனாளிகளுக்கு சான்றிதழ்களும் வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளன என்றார் அமைச்சர்.

ஆய்வின்போது, மாநகராட்சி மேயர் ஆர்.பிரியா, சோழிங்கநல்லூர் தொகுதி எம்எல்ஏ அரவிந்த் ரமேஷ், பொது சுகாதாரம் மற்றும் நோய்த்தடுப்பு மருத்து துறை இயக்குநர் சோமசுந்தரம், கூடுதல் இயக்குநர் சம்பத் உள்ளிட்டோர் உடனிருந்தனர்.

Source: Dinamani, 28 December 2025, p.3

## திண்டுக்கல் மாவட்டத்தில் தேவாங்கு பாதுகாப்பு மையம்

சென்னை, டி.ச. 18-

திண்டுக்கல் மாவட்டம், அய்யலூரில், தேவாங்கு பாதுகாப்புக்காக, சிறப்பு மையம் அமைக்கும் பணி நடந்து வருகிறது.

இது குறித்து, வனத்துறை அதிகாரிகள் கூறிய தாவது:

தமிழகம் உட்பட தென் மாநிலங்களில், தேவாங்குகள் அரிதாக காணப்படுகின்றன. இது தொடர்பாக, தெளிவான புள்ளி விபரங்கள் இல்லாத நிலையில், தமிழக அரசு சார்பில், 2022ல் தேவாங்கு கணக்கெடுப்பு நடத்தப்பட்டது. அப்போது, தமிழகத்தில், 1,500 வரை தேவாங்குகள் இருப்பது தெரிய வந்தது. இவற்றில் பெரும்பாலானவை, திண்டுக்கல், கரூர் மாவட்டங்களில் காணப்படுகின்றன.



■ தேவாங்கு.

இதையடுத்து, திண்டுக்கல், கரூர் மாவட்டங்களில், கடலூர் வனப்பகுதி தேவாங்குகள் காப்பகம், 2022ல் அறிவிக்கப்பட்டது. இங்கு, 29,160 ஏக்கர் பரப்பளவு, தேவாங்குகள் காப்பக பகுதியாக உள்ளது. பொது மக்கள் தேவாங்குகள் குறித்தும், அவற்றை பாதுகாக்கும் வழிமுறைகள் குறித்தும் அறிந்து கொள்வதற்காக, திண்டுக்கல் மாவட்டம், அய்யலூர் பகுதியில், தேவாங்கு பாதுகாப்பு மையம் அமைக்க, பணிகள் நடந்து வருகின்றன.

இவ்வாறு அவர்கள் தெரிவித்தனர்.

Source: Dinamalar, 18 December 2025, p.4

## சுப்ரியா சாஹூவுக்கு ஐ.நா., அமைப்பின் விருது

சென்னை, டி.ச. 12-

தமிழக அரசின் வனம் மற்றும் சுற்றுச்சூழல் துறை செயலர் சுப்ரியா சாஹூவுக்கு, ஐ.நா., அமைப்பு விருது வழங்கியுள்ளதற்கு, முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் வாழ்த்து தெரிவித்து உள்ளார்.

ஐ.நா.,வின் சுற்றுச்சூழல் திட்டமான, யு.என்.இ.பி.,யின் ஏழாவது மாநாடு, ஆபிரிக்க நாடான கென்யாவின் நைரோபி நகரில் நடந்து வருகிறது. இதில், சுப்ரியா சாஹூ பங்கேற்று உள்ளார்.

உலகம் முழுதும்



சுப்ரியா சாஹூ

இயற்கை மற்றும் சுற்றுச்சூழல் பாதுகாப்பு பணிகளில் சிறப்பாக செயல்பட்டவர்களுக்கு, இந்த மாநாட்டில், 'சாம்பியன்ஸ் ஆப் தி எர்த்' என்ற பெயரில்

விருது வழங்கப்படுகிறது.

இதில், தமிழக ஐ.ஏ.எஸ்., அதிகாரியான சுப்ரியா சாஹூ, சதுப்பு நில பாதுகாப்பு, அலையாத்தி காடுகள் வளர்ப்பு, அரிய வகை விலங்குகள் பாதுகாப்பு பணிகளில் சிறப்பாக செயல்பட்டதற்காக, இந்த விருதுக்கு தேர்வு செய்யப்பட்டார். நைரோபியில் நடந்த நிகழ்ச்சியில், அவருக்கு விருது வழங்கப்பட்டது.

இதையடுத்து, சுப்ரியா சாஹூவுக்கு, முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் பாராட்டும், வாழ்த்தும் தெரிவித்து உள்ளார்.

Source: Dinamalar, 12 December 2025, p.4

சென்னையில் தென்னிந்திய அளவிலான சுற்றுச்சூழல் கருத்தரங்கம்

## இயற்கையை காப்பது நம்மையே காப்பதாகும்

➔ உச்ச நீதிமன்ற நீதிபதி ஆர்.மகாதேவன் கருத்து

■ சென்னை

இயற்கையை பாதுகாப்பது நம்மையே பாதுகாப்பதாகும் என்று உச்ச நீதிமன்ற நீதிபதி ஆர்.மகாதேவன் தெரிவித்துள்ளார்.

தேசிய பசுமை தீர்ப்பாயத்தின் தென்மண்டல அமர்வு சார்பில் நடந்த தென்னிந்திய அளவிலான சுற்றுச்சூழல் கருத்தரங்கின் நிறைவு விழா நேற்று நடைபெற்றது. இக்கருத்தரங்கை தொடர்ந்து, சட்டக்கல்லூரி மாணவர்களிடையே நடத்தப்பட்ட பல்வேறு போட்டிகளில் வெற்றி பெற்றவர்களுக்கு உச்ச நீதிமன்ற நீதிபதி ஆர்.மகாதேவன் விருதுகளை வழங்கி பேசியதாவது:

இந்தக் கருத்தரங்கில் சுற்றுச்சூழல் சட்டங்கள், திடக்கழிவு, மருத்துவக்கழிவு மேலாண்மை, கடற்கரை பாதுகாப்பு ஆகிய 3 தொழில்நுட்ப விவாதங்கள் நடைபெற்றுள்ளன. மக்களுக்கு அரசு

மைப்புச் சட்டம் வழங்கிய சுற்றுச்சூழல் உரிமையை பசுமை தீர்ப்பாயங்கள் பாதுகாக்கின்றன. இந்தத் தமிழ் மண் ஈராயிரம், முன்றாயிரம் ஆண்டு களாகவே காத்து நின்று, இயற்கையோடு இயைந்த வாழ்வை தமிழர்கள் களுக்கு சொல்லித் தந்தது. இயற்கையை மறந்துவிட்ட வாழ்க்கை ஒரு நாளும் வாழ்க்கையாக இருக்க முடியாது.

இதுதான் இந்த மண்ணில் எழுந்து நின்ற அத்தனை இலக்கியங்களும் கற்றுத் தந்த பாடம். மண்ணை மறந்துவிட்ட மனிதன் தன் வாழ்க்கையில் சிறந்ததாக சரித்திரமே இல்லை. அதைத் தான் சங்க இலக்கியங்கள் கற்றுத் தந்தன. இந்த மண்ணுக்கான இயற்கை, இந்த மண்ணின் வளம். இந்த மண்ணைச் சார்ந்த இயற்கையினுடைய காற்று, மழை அனைத்துமே நமக்கு

வாழ்க்கையினுடைய முக்கியத்துவத்தை கற்றுத் தந்தன.

ஆதலினால் இயற்கையை பாதுகாப்பது நம்மையே பாதுகாப்பது. நம்மை பாதுகாப்பது. இந்த சமுதாயத்தை பாதுகாப்பது, சமுதாயத்தை பாதுகாப்பது உலகம் முழுக்க அணி திரண்டு ஒன்று சேர்ந்து இயற்கையை பாதுகாப்பது என்பதை உணரவேண்டும். இவ்வாறு பேசினார்.

பசுமை தீர்ப்பாய, தென் மண்டல அமர்வின் நீதித்துறை உறுப்பினர் புஷ்பா சத்யநாராயணா பேசும்போது, "சுற்றுச்சூழல் துறை செயலர் சுப்ரியா சாஹூ, பல ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்பே பிளாஸ்டிக் ஒழிப்பு இயக்கத்தை நல்கி மாவட்டத்தில் தொடங்கியவர். மீண்டும் மஞ்சப்பை இயக்கத்தையும் செயல்படுத்தி, நாட்டிலேயே முதன் முறையாக துணிப்பை வழங்கும் ஏடிஎம்

களை திறந்துள்ளார்" என்றார்.

சுப்ரியா சாஹூ பேசும்போது, "தமிழக அரசு பசுமை தமிழ்நாடு இயக்கம் உள்ளிட்ட 4 முக்கிய இயக்கங்களை தொடங்கியுள்ளது. கடந்த 4 ஆண்டுகளில் 10.9 கோடி மரக்கன்றுகள் நடப்பட்டுள்ளன. சங்க இலக்கியங்களை படித்து, அவற்றில் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டுள்ள மரங்களின் 29 ஆயிரத்துக்கும் மேற்பட்ட கன்றுகளை தமிழக அரசு நடட்டுள்ளது. வன விலங்குகள் வாழ்வதற்கு சில குறிப்பிட்ட மரங்கள் தேவை என்பதை அறிந்த பல மரங்களை நடட்டு வருகிறது" என்றார்.

இந்நிகழ்ச்சியில் பசுமை தீர்ப்பாய தலைவர் பிரகாஷ் ஸ்ரீவஸ்தவா, தொழில்நுட்ப உறுப்பினர் பிரசாந்த் காரகவா, மத்திய அரசின் சுருதல் சொலிசிட்டர் ஜெனரல் ஏ.ஆர்.எல்.சுந்தரேசன் உள்ளிட்டோர் கலந்துகொண்டனர்.

Source: Dinamani, 08 December 2025, p.10

# செயற்கைக்கோள் உதவியுடன் துல்லியமாக அளவீடு

➔ பணிகள் முடிவடைந்துவிட்டதாக உயர் நீதிமன்றத்தில் அரசு தகவல்

## ■ சென்னை

பள்ளிக்கரணை உட்பட தமிழகம் முழுவதும் உள்ள சதுப்பு நிலங்களை செயற்கைக்கோள் உதவியுடன் துல்லியமாக அளவிடும் பணிகள் முடிவடைந்து, உறுதிப்படுத்தும் பணிகள் நடந்து வருவதாக அரசு தரப்பில் தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டது. இதையடுத்து இது தொடர்பான வழக்கு விசாரணையை உயர் நீதிமன்றம் ஜனவரி மாதத்துக்கு தள்ளிவைத்துள்ளது.

சென்னை பள்ளிக்கரணை சதுப்பு நிலத்தில் பன்னடுக்கு குடியிருப்பு வளாகம் கட்ட அனுமதியளித்த உத்தரவை ரத்து செய்யக் கோரியும், பள்ளிக்

கரணை சதுப்பு நிலத்தைச் சுற்றி சுமார் ஒரு கி.மீ. தொலைவுக்கு எந்த கட்டுமான பணிகளுக்கும் அனுமதி வழங்கக்கூடாது எனக் கோரியும் உயர் நீதிமன்றத்தில் அதிமுக வழக்கறிஞரான ஜெ.பிரிஸ்னெவ் பொதுநல வழக்கு தொடர்ந்திருந்தார்.

இந்த வழக்கை ஏற்கெனவே விசாரித்த உயர் நீதிமன்றம், பள்ளிக்கரணை சதுப்பு நிலப் பகுதிகளில் அடுக்குமாடி குடியிருப்பு வளாகம் உள்ளிட்ட எந்த கட்டுமானப் பணிகளையும் மேற்கொள்ளக்கூடாது என இடைக்கால தடை விதித்துள்ளது.

இந்நிலையில், இந்த வழக்கு தலைமைநீதிபதி எம்.எம்.ஸ்ரீவஸ்

தவா மற்றும் நீதிபதி ஜி.அருள் முருகன் ஆகியோர் அடங்கிய அமர்வில் நேற்று விசாரணைக்கு வந்தது.

அரசு தலைமை வழக்கறிஞர் பி.எஸ்.ராமன் ஆஜராகி, “உச்ச நீதிமன்ற உத்தரவுப்படி பள்ளிக்கரணை உட்பட தமிழகம் முழுவதும் அனைத்து மாவட்டங்களிலும் உள்ள சதுப்பு நிலங்களை செயற்கைக்கோள் உதவியுடன் துல்லியமாக அளவிடும் பணிகள் முடிவடைந்து, அவற்றை உறுதி செய்வதற்காக அனைத்து மாவட்ட ஆட்சியர்களுக்கும் கோப்புகள் அனுப்பிவைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. அந்த அறிக்கை கிடைத்ததும் இது

தொடர்பாக உச்ச நீதிமன்றத்தில் விரிவான அறிக்கை தாக்கல் செய்யப்படும்” என்றார்.

அப்போது தமிழக அரசின் சார்பில் ஆஜரான முத்த வழக்கறிஞர் பி.வில்சன், “மனுதாரர் கூறியுள்ளது போல பள்ளிக்கரணையை சுற்றியுள்ள ஒரு கி.மீ. சுற்றளவும் சதுப்புநிலமாக இருந்திருந்தால் ஓஎம்ஆர் மற்றும் சோழிங்கநல்லூர் பகுதிகளில் எந்தவொரு வளர்ச்சிப் பணிகளும் நடைபெற்று இருக்காது” என்றார்.

அதையடுத்து நீதிபதிகள், வழக்கு விசாரணையை ஜனவரி இறுதிக்கு தள்ளிவைத்து உத்தரவிட்டுள்ளனர்.

## மாற்றுத் திறனாளிகள் நலனுக்காக நிதி ஒதுக்கீடு ஆண்டுதோறும் உயர்த்தப்படுகிறது

முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் தகவல்

சென்னை

உலக மாற்றுத் திறனாளிகள் தினத்தைபொட்டி, சென்னையில் நடைபெற்ற உள்ளாட்சி அமைப்புகளில் மாற்றுத் திறனாளிகளுக்கு அதிகாரமளித்தல் அறிமுக விழாவில், மாற்றுத் திறனாளிகளுக்கு நலத்திட்ட உதவிகள், மாற்றுத் திறனாளிகளின் நல் வாழ்விற்காக சிறந்த முறையில் சேவை புரிந்தவர்களுக்கு விருதுகளையும் முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் நேற்று வழங்கினார்.

நிகழ்ச்சியில், முதல்வர்

பேசியதாவது:

மாற்றுத் திறனாளிகளுக்கு அரசுப் பணிகளில் உகந்த பணியிடங்களில் 4 சதவீத இட ஒதுக்கீடு வழங்குவதுடன், தனியார் துறைகளிலும் பணியமர்த்த வேலைவாய்ப்பு முகாம்கள் நடத்தப்படுகிறது. மாற்றுத் திறனாளிகள் நலனுக்காக நிதி ஒதுக்கீடு ஆண்டுதோறும் உயர்த்தப்பட்டு வருகிறது. பராமரிப்பு உதவித் தொகை வழங்கும் திட்டத்தின் கீழ், 2.11 லட்சம் பயனாளிகளுக்கு மாதம் ரூ.2 ஆயிரம் வழங்கப்

படுகிறது. மாற்றுத் திறனாளிகளுக்கு முன்னுரிமை அடிப்படையில், வீட்டுமனைப் பட்டாக்கள் வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. இவ்வாறு அவர் பேசினார்.

நிகழ்ச்சியில், துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின், அமைச்சர்கள் கே.என். நேரு, கீதாஜீவன், ஆர்.எஸ்.ராஜகண்ணப்பன், மா.சுப்பிரமணியன், டி.ஆர்.பி.ராஜா, மேயர் பிரியா, தலைமைச்செயலர் நா.முருகானந்தம் உள்ளிட்டோர் பங்கேற்றனர்.

Source: Hindu Tamil Thisai, 04 December 2025, p.5

## 3,631 மாற்றுத் திறனாளிகளுக்கு உள்ளாட்சிகளில் அதிகாரம்

முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் பெருமிதம்

சென்னை, டிச.3: உள்ளாட்சி அமைப்புகளில் 3,631 மாற்றுத் திறனாளிகளுக்கு நியமன உறுப்பினர் பதவி மூலம் அதிகாரத்தை தழிபுக அரசு அளித்துள்ளதாக என்று முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் பெருமிதம் தெரிவித்தார்.

உலக மாற்றுத்திறனாளிகள் தினத்தைபொட்டி, சென்னை வன் றுவர் கோட்டத்தில், உள்ளாட்சி அமைப்புகளில் நியமிக்கப்பட்டுள்ள மாற்றுத்திறனாளிகளுக்கு அதிகாரமளித்தல் அறிமுக விழா புதன் கிழமை நடைபெற்றது.

விழாவில், 400 மாற்றுத்திறனாளிகளுக்கு ரூ.4.12 கோடி மதிப் பிலான 400 இணைப்புச் சக்கரங்கள் பொருத்தப்பட்ட மோட்டார் வாகனங்கள் உள்ளிட்ட நலத் திட்டங்களை வழங்கி முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் பேசியதாவது: தமிழ்நாடு உள்ளாட்சி அமைப்புகளில் புதிய மக்கள் பிரதிநிதிகளாக 3,631 மாற்றுத் திறனாளிகள் நியமிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளனர். மீதமுள்ள உள்ளாட்சி அமைப்புகள் அமையப்போது இன்னும் 9 ஆயிரத்துக்கும் மேற்பட்டோர் அதிகாரம் பெறவிருக்கிறார்கள்.

உடந்த ஏப். 16-ஆம் தேதி இதற்கான முன்னெடுப்புக்கான அறிவிப்பை சட்ட முன்வடிவாக பேரவையில் தாக்கல் செய்தேன். மறுநாள் மாற்றுத்திறனாளிகள் வந்து என்னைச் சந்தித்து அரத்தழுவிக் கொண்டனர். அதுதான் எனக்கு கிடைத்த மின்பெயி விருதாக நினைத்தேன்.

மாற்றுத் திறனாளிகளுக்கு தேவை கருணை அல்ல; அவர்களின் உரிமை என்பதை உணர்ந்து தழிபுக அரசு செயல்பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது.

மாற்றுத்திறனாளிகள் பொருளாதார மேம்பாடு காண அரசுத்



துறைகளில் உகந்த பணியிடங்கள் கண்டறியப்பட்டு, 4 சதவீத இட ஒதுக்கீடு முறையில் வாய்ப்புகள் வழங்க உத்தரவிடப்பட்டுள்ளது. இந்த சட்டமுன்வடிவுகளின் மூலம் மாற்றுத்திறனாளிகளுக்கு குலம் உள்ளாட்சி அமைப்புகளில் ஒலிப்பது மட்டுமல்லாமல், அவர்கள் உள்ளாட்சி நிர்வாகத்தை வழிநடத்துகிற வல்லமை பெற்றவர்களாகவும் திகழ்வார்கள் என்றார் முதல்வர்.

முதல் மாநிலம் தமிழ்நாடு-துணை முதல்வர் பின்னர் விழாவில் பேசிய துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின், 'எந்த நாட்டிலும் இல்லாதவகையில், இந்தியாவில்

முதல் மாநிலமாக உள்ளாட்சி அமைப்புகளில் மாற்றுத்திறனாளிகள் மக்கள் பிரதிநிதிகளாக நியமிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளனர். அவர்களுடைய கோரிக்கைகளை, அவர்களே உள்ளாட்சி அமைப்புக் கூட்டங்களில் குரலை எழுப்பி அவர்களை பெற்றுக் கொள்ளலாம் என்றார் அவர்.

விழாவில், அமைச்சர்கள் கே.என்.நேரு, பெ.கீதாஜீவன், ஆர்.எஸ்.கண்ணப்பன், மா.சுப்பிரமணியன், டி.ஆர்.பி.ராஜா, தலைமைச் செயலர் நா.முருகானந்தம் உள்ளிட்ட பலர் பங்கேற்றனர்.

Source: Dinamani, 04 December 2025, p.1

## மின்சார ஆட்டோ வாங்க ரூ.3 லட்சம் கடன் 550 மகளிர் விண்ணப்பம்

சென்னை, டிச. 12-

மின்சார ஆட்டோ வாங்க, மகளிர்க்கு 3 லட்சம் ரூபாய் கூட்டுறவு கடன் வழங்கும் திட்டம் துவங்கிய ஐந்து மாதங்களிலேயே, 550 பேர் விண்ணப்பித்துள்ளனர்.

தமிழகத்தில், கூட்டுறவு துறையின் கீழ் செயல்படும் 23 மாவட்ட, மத்திய கூட்டுறவு வங்கிகளில், பொருளாதார ரீதியாக பின்தங்கியுள்ள மகளிர்க்கு மின்சார ஆட்டோ வாங்க, 3 லட்சம் ரூபாய் கடன் வழங்கும் திட்டம் கடந்த ஜூனில் துவக்கப்பட்டது.

இதற்கு வட்டி 9 சதவீதம். நடப்பாண்டில் 1,000 பேருக்கு கடன் வழங்க

திட்டமிடப்பட்டு உள்ளது. திட்டம் துவங்கிய ஐந்து மாதங்களிலேயே 550 மகளிர் விண்ணப்பம் செய்துள்ளனர்.

அதில் 75 பேருக்கு கடன் வழங்கப்பட்ட நிலையில், மீதமுள்ள விண்ணப்பங்கள் பரிசீலனையில் உள்ளன.

இதுகுறித்து, கூட்டுறவு துறை அதிகாரி ஒருவர் கூறியதாவது:

எதிர்பார்த்ததை விட அதிகம் பேர் கடன் கேட்டு விண்ணப்பம் செய்து வருகின்றனர். எனவே, இந்த தாண்டில், 1,000 பேர் என்ற இலக்கு அதிகரிக்க வாய்ப்புள்ளது.

இவ்வாறு அவர் கூறினார்.

Source: Dinamalar, 12 December 2025, p.6

## பெண்களால் இயக்கப்படும் பேருந்து சேவை

சென்னையில் அறிமுகம்

சென்னை, டிச. 12: சென்னையில் முதல்முதலாக பெண் ஓட்டுநர் மற்றும் நடத்துநரால் இயக்கப்படும் பேருந்து சேவை தொடங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. தமிழகத்தில் பெண்களுக்கு முக்கியத்துவம் அளிக்கும் வகையில் அரசுப் பேருந்துகளில் இலவசமாக பயணிக்கும் வகையிலான விடயம் மகளிர் பேருந்து திட்டம் கொண்டு வரப்பட்டது.

இது பெண்கள் மத்தியில் பெரும் வரவேற்பை பெற்றுள்ளது. இதற்கு மேலும் ஒருபடிபாக, சென்னை மாநகர் போக்குவரத்துக் கழகத்தின் 'பிங்க் போர்ஸ்' என்ற புதிய முன்னெடுப்பின் கீழ் முற்றிலும் பெண்களால் இயக்கப்படும் முதல் மாநகரப் பேருந்து அறிமுகப்படுத்தப்பட்டுள்ளது. வியாசர்பாடி பணிமனை முதல் வள்ளலார் நகர் வரை (தடம் எண்: 57கிடி/57) இந்தப் பேருந்து இயக்கப்படுகிறது.

பெண் ஓட்டுநர் மாணிக்கவள்ளி மற்றும் பெண் நடத்துநர் ஈஸ்வரி ஆகியோர் இந்தப் பேருந்தை இயக்குகின்றனர். இது பெண்கள் மத்தியில் மிகுந்த வரவேற்பைப் பெற்றுள்ளது.

இந்தப் பேருந்தில் பெண்கள், பள்ளி, கல்லூரி மாணவிகள் ஏராளமானோர் தன்னம்பிக்கையுடன் பயணிப்பதாகவும், இந்தப் பேருந்தின் வரவேற்பை பொருத்து கூடுதல் பெண் ஓட்டுநர், நடத்துநர்கள் தேர்வு செய்யப்பட்டு, 'பிங்க் போர்ஸ்' திட்டத்தின் கீழ் கூடுதல் பேருந்துகள் இயக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்படும் எனவும் மாநகர் போக்குவரத்துக் கழக அதிகாரிகள் தெரிவித்தனர்.

Source: Dinamani, 13 December 2025, p.3

# 125 பேருந்துகள் சேவையை தொடங்கிவைத்தார் உதயநிதி

■ திருவள்ளூர்

பூந்தமல்லியில் மின்சாரப் பேருந்து பணிமனையை நேற்று திறந்து வைத்த துணை முதல்வர் உதய நிதி ஸ்டாலின், 125 மின்சாரப் பேருந்துகளின் இயக்கத்தை கொடியசைத்து தொடங்கி வைத்தார்.

சுற்றுச்சூழல் மாசுபாட்டைக் குறைக்கும் நோக்கில், சென்னையில் ஏற்கெனவே 2 கட்டங்களாக மின்சாரப் பேருந்து பணிமனைகள் திறந்துவைக்கப்பட்டு, மின்சாரப் பேருந்துகள் இயக்கப்பட்டு வருகின்றன.

இந்நிலையில், 3-ம் கட்டமாக, திருவள்ளூர் மாவட்டம் பூந்தமல்லியில் உள்ள மாநகரப் போக்குவரத்துக் கழக பணிமனையில் ரூ.43.53 கோடியில் 25 சார்ஜிங் பாயிண்ட் உள்ளிட்ட வசதிகள் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டுள்ளன. புதிய



▲ பூந்தமல்லியில் 125 மின்சாரப் பேருந்துகளின் சேவையை நேற்று தொடங்கிவைத்து, ஒரு பேருந்தில் பயணம் செய்தார் துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின். உடன், அமைச்சர்கள் சா.சி.சிவசங்கர், சா.மு.நாசர் உள்ளிட்டோர்.

பணிமனையை துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின் நேற்று திறந்து வைத்து, ரூ.214.50 கோடியில் 45 புதிய தாழ்தள மின்சார குளிர் சாதனப் பேருந்துகள் மற்றும் 80 புதிய தாழ்தள

மின்சாரப் பேருந்துகளின் சேவையைத் தொடங்கிவைத்தார். மேலும், புதிய பேருந்தில் பயணித்தார். புதிய மின்சாரப் பேருந்துகள் அண்ணாசதுக்கம், பிராட்வே, திடநகர், செங்குன்றம், கிளாம்பாக்கம், திருவான்மியூர், திருமழிசை, திருவள்ளூர், சுங்குவார்சத்திரம் பகுதிகளில் இயங்கும்.

இந்நிகழ்வுகளில், அமைச்சர்கள் சா.சி.சிவசங்கர், சா.மு.நாசர், சட்டப்பேரவை உறுப்பினர்கள் ஆ.கிருஷ்ணசாமி, துரை சந்திரசேகர், போக்குவரத்துத் துறைச் செயலர் கன்சோங்கம் ஜடக் சிரு, மாநகர போக்குவரத்துக் கழக மேலான் இயக்குநர் பிரபுசங்கர், மாவட்ட ஆட்சியர் பிரதாப், ஆவடி மேயர் உதயகுமார், பூந்தமல்லி நகராட்சித் தலைவர் காஞ்சனா சதாசுரர் உள்ளிட்டோர் பங்கேற்றனர்.

Source: Tamil Hindu, 20 December 2025, p.4

# அரசு விரைவு போக்குவரத்து கழகத்தில் புதிய 'வால்வோ ஏசி' பஸ் சேவை துவக்கம்

## இன்று முதல் முன்பதிவு செய்யலாம்

சென்னை, டி.செ. 25-

அரசு விரைவு போக்குவரத்து கழகத்திற்கு, 34.30 கோடி ரூபாய் மதிப்பில் வாங்கப்பட்ட, 20 'வால்வோ ஏசி' பஸ்களை, சென்னையில் நேற்று, முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் கொடி அசைத்து, துவக்கி வைத்தார்.

சென்னை தீவுத்திடலில் நடந்த விழாவில், அரசு போக்குவரத்துக் கழகத்தின் பொன் விழாவை ஓட்டி, 1.05 லட்சம் ஊழியர்களுக்கு சுவர் கடிக்காரங்களை, முதல்வர் பரிசாக வழங்கினார்.

பின், போக்குவரத்து துறை அமைச்சர் சிவசங்கர் அளித்த பேட்டி:

அரசு விரைவு போக்குவரத்து கழகம் சார்பில், 20 அதிநவீன 'மல்டி ஆக்ஸி வால்வோ' பஸ் சேவை அறிமுகம் செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது. தனியார் நிறுவனங்களால் மட்டும் இத்தகைய பஸ்கள் இயக்கப்பட்டு வந்த நிலையில், அரசு போக்குவரத்து கழகத்திலும் இவ்வகை பஸ்கள் வாங்கப்பட்டு உள்ளன.

சென்னையில் இருந்து மதுரை, திருநெல்வேலி, திருச்செந்தூர், திருப்பூர், பெங்களூர், கோவை, நாகர்கோவில், திருச்சி ஆகிய வழித்தடங்களில், தலா இரண்டு பஸ்;



■ அரசு விரைவு போக்குவரத்து கழகத்திற்கு வாங்கப்பட்ட 'வால்வோ ஏசி' பஸ்களை, முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் கொடி அசைத்து நேற்று துவக்கி வைத்தார். உடன், அமைச்சர்கள் சிவசங்கர், சேகர்பாபு, சாமிநாதன். ■ 'வால்வோ ஏசி' பஸ்கள். இடம்: தீவுத்திடல், சென்னை.

சேலம், தஞ்சாவூர் வழித்தடத்தில் தலா ஒரு பஸ் இயக்கப்பட உள்ளன.

அதேபோல், கோவையில் இருந்து பெங்களூருக்கு தினசரி இரண்டு பஸ்கள் இயக்கப்படும். ஒரு சிறந்த பயண அனுபவத்தை, இந்த பஸ்கள் தரும்.

இதில் பணிபுரியும் ஓட்டுநர் மற்றும் நடத்துநருக்கு, பெங்களூரில் உள்ள வால்வோ நிறுவன ஆலையில் பயிற்சி வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

இப்பஸ்சில் பயணிக்க, இன்று முதல் முன்பதிவு செய்யலாம். கிலோ மீட்டருக்கு, 1.70 ரூபாய் என்ற

விகிதத்தில் கட்டணம் நிர்ணயம் செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது. சென்னை கிளாம்பாக்கம் நிலையத்தில் இருந்து, இன்று முதல் இயக்கப்படும்.

பெரும்பான்மை ஆம்னி பஸ்கள், கோயம்பேடு நிலையத்தில் இருந்து இயக்கப்படுகின்றன. நீதிமன்ற காலக்கெடு முடிந்த பின், அந்த பஸ்களும் கிளாம்பாக்கத்தில் இருந்து இயக்கப்படும்.

சென்னையில் இயக்கப்படும் மின்சார பஸ்களில், ஒப்பந்த ஊழியர்கள் பணியாற்றுகின்றனர்.

இவ்வாறு அவர் கூறினார்.



### கட்டணம் எவ்வளவு?

வழித்தடம்	கட்டணம் (ரூபாயில்)
சென்னை - மதுரை	790
சென்னை - திருநெல்வேலி	1,080
சென்னை - திருச்செந்தூர்	1,115
சென்னை - சேலம்	575
சென்னை - திருப்பூர்	800
சென்னை - பெங்களூரு	735
கோவை - சென்னை	880
கோவை - பெங்களூரு	770
நாகர்கோவில் - சென்னை	1,215
திருச்சி - சென்னை	565

Source: Dinamalar, 25 December 2025, p.6

# மதுரையில் வீரமங்கை வேலுநாச்சியார் உயர்நிலைப் பாலம்

மதுரை, டி.ச. 7: மதுரை மேலமடை அப்போலோ சந்திரபில் பூதிராகக் கட்டப்பட்ட வீரமங்கை வேலுநாச்சியார் உயர்நிலைப் பாலத்தை முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் குரூபிற் குழுவை மக்கள் பயன்பாட்டுக்கு திறந்துவைத்தார்.

மதுரை அண்ணாநகர், மாட்டுத் தாலையி, ஆணின் பாலம், பான் டிசோவில் ஆகிய நான்கு சந்திப்பு களை இணைக்கும் விதமாக மேலமடை அப்போலோ சந்திப்பு திறப்பு கிறது. மருத்துவமனைகள், திரையரங்குகள், தனியார் நிறுவனங்கள் அதிகம் உள்ள பகுதி என்பதால் போக்குவரத்து நெரிசல் ஏற்பட்டது. இதன் காரணமாக, அந்த வழியாகச் செல்லும் அரசு அலுவலர்கள், பள்ளி, கல்லூரி, மாணவ மாணவிகள், பொதுமக்கள் குறித்த தேர்தல்கள் செல்ல முடியாமல் சிரமத்துக்குள்ளாகி வந்தனர்.



மதுரை மேலமடை அப்போலோ மதுரையினை சந்திரபில் பூதிராகக் கட்டப்பட்ட வீரமங்கை வேலுநாச்சியார் உயர்நிலைப் பாலத்தை குரூபிற் குழுவை திறந்துவைத்த முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின். உடன் (இடமிருந்து) அமைச்சர்கள், சட்டப்பேரவை உறுப்பினர்கள் உள்ளிட்டோர்.

மேலும், சாலை குறுகியதாக இருந்ததால் அடிக்கடி நேரிட்ட போதுமக்கள், வாகன ஓட்டிகள் கோரிக்கை விடுத்தார். இதை ஏற்பட, மேலமடை அப்போலோ சந்திரபில் உயர்நிலைப் பாலம் அமைக்க வேண்டும் என சாலை சந்திப்பு வரை உயர்நிலை பாலம் அமைப்பதற்கு தமிழக அரசு ரூ.150 கோடி ஒதுக்கியது.

ரைச் சூட்ட அரசாணை பிறப்பிக்கப்பட்டது.

இந்த உயர்நிலைப் பாலம் திறப்பு பணி குரூபிற் குழுவை நடைபெற்றது. இதில் தமிழக முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் சிறப்பு விருந்தினராகக் கலந்துகொண்டு, வீரமங்கை வேலுநாச்சியார் உயர்நிலைப் பாலத்தை மக்கள் பயன்பாட்டுக்கு திறந்துவைத்தார்.

இந்த நிகழ்வில், அமைச்சர்கள் எ.வ.வேலு, கே.என்.நேரு, தங்கம் தென்னார்க்கே.கே.எஸ்.எஸ். ஆர்.ராமச்சந்திரன், ராஜகண்ணப்பன், பி.முர்த்தி, பழனிவேல் தியாகராஜன், மதுரை மாவட்ட ஆட்சியர் கே.ஜே. பிரவீன்குமார், சட்டப்பேரவை உறுப்பினர்கள் சோ.தேவாநிமதனா வடக்கு, முடியுமிநாதன்மதுரை தெற்கு, அரசு அலுவலர்கள், பொதுமக்கள் பலர் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

Source: Dinamani, 08 December 2025, p.5

# கடலுக்குள் காற்றாலை மின் உற்பத்தி

சென்னை, டி.ச. 8: தமிழக பகுதிகளில் உள்ள கடலுக்குள் காற்றாலை அமைத்து மின் உற்பத்தி செய்யும் திட்டத்துக்கு டென்மார்க் எரிசக்தி துறை, தமிழக மின்வாரியம் இடையே ஒப்பந்தம் கையொப்பமானது. உலகில் புகழ்பெற்ற கைப்பிளா மின் உற்பத்தியிலும், காற்றாலை மின்சார நிறுவனங்களிலும் இந்தியா 4-ஆவது இடத்தில் உள்ளது. நாட்டின் காற்றாலை மூலம் 54,000 மெகாவாட் மின் நிறுவனங்களில் தென் மாநிலங்களின் பங்கு 50 சதவீதமாக இருந்து வருகிறது. இதன்மூலம், தமிழ்நாட்டில் வங்க கடலோர பகுதிகளில் உள்ள கடல் பரப்புக்குள் காற்றாலை அமைத்து அதன் மூலம் மின் உற்பத்தி செய்வதற்கான சாத்தியக்கூறுகள் இருப்பது நிபுணர்களால் கண்டறியப்பட்டது.

## டென்மார்க்-தமிழக மின்வாரியம் ஒப்பந்தம்



தமிழக பசுமை எரிசக்தி கழகமும், டென்மார்க் எனர்ஜி ஏஜென்சியும் இணைந்து செயல்படுவதற்கான புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தத்துடன் தமிழ்நாடு மின்வாரியம் நிறுவன தலைவர் ஜெ.ராதாகிருஷ்ணன், இந்தியாவுக்கான டென்மார்க் தூதர் ராஸ்மாஸ் அபில்ட்காட் சிறிஸ்டென்ஷன், உடன், டென்மார்க் ஆற்றல் ஆலோசகர் ராஸ்மாஸ் வென்டட், செயலகத் தலைவர் ஜென் பெர் பட்மாயா ஜென்சன், பசுமை எரிசக்தி கழக இயக்குநர் மங்களநாதன் உள்ளிட்டோர்.

அந்த நாட்டுடன் கடலுக்குள் காற்றாலை அமைக்கும் திட்டத்தைச் செயல்படுத்த தமிழக மின்வாரியம் முடிவு செய்து, அதனுடன் கைகொடுத்துள்ளது.

இதில், டென்மார்க் எனர்ஜி ஏஜென்சி நிறுவனம் சார்பில் டென்மார்க் நாட்டின் தூதர் ராஸ்மாஸ் அபில்ட்காட் சிறிஸ்டென்ஷன், தமிழ்நாடு மின்வாரியம் சார்பில் அதன் தலைவர் ஜெ.ராதாகிருஷ்ணன் ஆகியோர் கையொப்பமிட்டு ஒப்பந்தத்தைப் பரிமாறிக்கொண்டனர்.

இதன்மூலம், தமிழகத்தின் ராமேசுவரம், திருநெல்வேலி, கன்னியாகுமரி, தூத்துக்குடி உள்ளிட்ட கடற்பரப்புக்களில் காற்றாலை அமைக்கும் திட்டத்துக்கான தொழில்நுட்பங்கள் பரிமாறப்படும். மேலும், அதில் உள்ள சிக்கல்களை எவ்வாறு தீர்ப்பது, அதை பரிமாறப்பது, உற்பத்தி செய்யப்படும் மின்சாரத்தை சேமிப்பது, விநியோகிப்பது உள்ளிட்ட பல்வேறு பணிகளில் உள்ள தொழில்நுட்பங்களை யும் இந்த நிறுவன மூலம் மின்வாரியம் பெறும். இதன்மூலம் தமிழக பசுமை எரிசக்தி கழகம் மின் உற்பத்தியில் ஒரு பெரிய சாதனையை படைக்கும் என மின்வாரிய அதிகாரிகள் தெரிவித்தனர்.

Source: Dinamani, 09 December 2025, p.12

## மகளிர் சுயஉதவிக்குழுக்களின் பொருட்கள்

# ரூ.690 கோடிக்கு விற்பனை

### விற்பனை கண்காட்சியை தொடங்கி வைத்து துணை முதல்வர் பெருமிதம்

சென்னை: கிறிஸ்துமஸ், புத்தாண்டு மற்றும் பொங்கல் பண்டிகைகளை முன்னிட்டு மகளிர் சுயஉதவிக்குழுவினரின் விற்பனை கண்காட்சியை வள்ளுவர் கோட்டத்தில் தொடங்கி வைத்த துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின், நடப்பண்டில் சுயஉதவிக்குழுவினரின் பொருட்கள் ரூ.690 கோடிக்கு விற்பனையானதாக தெரிவித்தார்.



நங்கம்பாக்கம், அன்னை தெரசா மகளிர் வளாகத்தில், நடைபெற்று மகளிர் சுய உதவிக்குழுக்களின் தயாரிப்பு பொருட்கள் விற்பனைக் கண்காட்சியை துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின் நேற்று திறந்து வைத்து, விற்பனைக்கு வைக்கப்பட்டிருந்த தயாரிப்பு பொருட்களை பார்வையிட்டார்.

மகளிர் சுயஉதவிக்குழுவினர் தயாரிக்கும் பொருட்கள் அனைத்து தரப்பினரையும் சென்றடையும் வகையில் தமிழ்நாடு மகளிர் மேம்பாட்டு நிறுவனம், பண்டிகைக் காலங்களில் சிறப்பு விற்பனை கண்காட்சிகளை ஆவ்வப்போது நடத்தி வருகிறது. அதன்படி சென்னை வள்ளுவர் கோட்டத்தில் உள்ள அன்னை தெரசா மகளிர் வளாகத்தில் மதி சிறப்பு விற்பனை கண்காட்சியை நேற்று தொடங்கியுள்ளது. இந்த கண்காட்சியை துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின் நேற்று

தொடங்கி வைத்து, வாடிக்கையாளர்களை ஊக்குவிக்கும் வகையில் வாடிக்கையாளர் அடையாள அட்டைகளை அறிமுகப்படுத்தினார்.

தொடர்ந்து மதுரை மாவட்டத்தில் மகளிர் சுயஉதவிக்குழுவினரின் உணவுத் திருவிழாவை சிறப்பாக நடத்திய,

களுக்கு நடைபெற உள்ளது. இதில் 72 சுயஉதவிக்குழுக்களை சேர்ந்த உறுப்பினர்களின் 50 அரங்குகள் அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன.

நடப்பு நிதியாண்டில் மகளிர் சுயஉதவிக்குழுக்களின் தயாரிப்புகளை ரூ.600 கோடிக்கு விற்பனை செய்ய இலக்கு நிறையிக்கப்பட்ட நிலையில், நிதியாண்டு முடிவதற்கு 3 மாதங்களுக்கு முன்னதாகவே ரூ.690 கோடிக்கு பொருட்கள் விற்பனையாக இலக்கை விஞ்சியுள்ளது.

மதி ய அரசிடம் இருந்து தமிழகத்துக்கு வரவேண்டிய ரூ.4 ஆயிரம் கோடி நிதி இன்னமும் வரவில்லை. அதை வலியுறுத்தி கேட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். இவ்வாறு ஆர் சுபினிர்.

நிகழ்வில் தயாரிப்பு மாறன் எம்.பி. ஊர்க வளர்ச்சித் துறை செயலர் ககன்தீப் சிங் பேடி, தமிழ்நாடு மகளிர் மேம்பாட்டு நிறுவனத்தின் மேலாண்மை இயக்குநர் ஆர்.வி.ஷஜீவனா உள்ளிட்டோர் பங்கேற்றனர்.

Source: Tamil Hindu, 19 December 2025, p.5

# வடசென்னை வளர்ச்சிக்கான புதிய திட்டப் பணிகள்

சென்னை, டிச. 28: வடசென்னை வளர்ச்சித் திட்டத்தின் கீழ் மேற்கொள்ளப்பட்டு வரும் பல்வேறு புதிய மின் கட்டமைப்புகள் மற்றும் திட்டப் பணிகளை துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின் ரூயிற்றுக்கிழமை தொடங்கி வைத்தார்.

சென்னை பிராட்வே, டேவிட்சன் சாலையில் தமிழ்நாடு மின் பகிர்மான கழகத்தின் சார்பில் ரூ.18.24 கோடியில் 33/11 கிலோவோல்ட் துணை மின்நிலையம் அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. அதை துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின் பொதுமக்கள் பயன்பாட்டுக்குத் தொடங்கி வைத்தார். இதன்மூலம் வடசென்னை பகுதியில் குறைந்த மின் அழுத்த குறைபாட்டை நிவர்த்தி செய்து, தடையற்ற, சீரான மின் விநியோகம் வழங்கப்பட உள்ளது.

இந்தப் புதிய துணை மின்நிலையம் மூலம் பிராட்வே, மன்னாடி, சென்கார்பேட்டை, கொத்தவால் சாவடி, என்.எஸ்.சி போஸ் சாலை, முத்தையால்பேட்டை, ஏழு கிணறு உள்ளிட்ட பகுதிகளில் உள்ள வணிக மற்றும் வீடுகளுக்கான மின்ருகர்வோர் சுமார் 15,000-க்கும் மேற்பட்டோர் பய

## துணை முதல்வர் தொடங்கி வைத்தார்



சென்னை பாரிமுனை டேவிட்சனா சாலையில் கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள பிராட்வே மின் நிலையத்தை ரூயிற்றுக்கிழமை திறந்து வைத்த துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின். உடன், அமைச்சர்கள் பி.கே.சேகர்பாபு, சா.சி.சிவசங்கர், மேயர் ஆர்.பிரியா, தமிழ்நாடு மின்பகிர்மான கழகத் தலைவர் ஜெ.ராஜாகிருஷ்ணன், எரிசக்தித் துறை கூடுதல் தலைமைச் செயலர் (பொ) மங்கதீரம் சமயம்.

னடைவர் எனத் தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

இந்த நிகழ்வில், இந்து சமய

அறிவையத் துறை அமைச்சர் பி.கே.சேகர்பாபு, போக்குவரத்து மற்றும் மின்சாரத் துறை அமைச்சர்

சர் சா.சி.சிவசங்கர், மாநகராட்சி மேயர் ஆர். பிரியா, சட்டப்பேரவை உறுப்பினர் ஜோசப் சாமு

வேல், தமிழ்நாடு மின் பகிர்மானக் கழகத் தலைவர் ஜெ.ராஜாகிருஷ்ணன் உள்ளிட்டோர் கலந்து கொண்டனர்.

இதைத் தொடர்ந்து, பிராட்வே பகுதியில் சென்னை குடிநீர் வழங்கல் மற்றும் கழிவுநீர் சுற்று வாரியம் சார்பில் ரூ.27 கோடியில் கட்டப்பட்டு வரும் தலா 15 லட்சம் லிட்டர் கொள்ளளவு கொண்ட கீழ்நிலை மற்றும் மேல்நிலை குடிநீர் தேக்கத் தொட்டிகள் அமைக்கும் பணிகளை துணை முதல்வர் உதயநிதி ஸ்டாலின் நேரில் பார்வையிட்டு ஆய்வு செய்தார்.

அதன் பின்னர், பிரகாசம் சாலையில் பெருநகர சென்னை மாநகராட்சி சார்பில் ரூ.1.26 கோடியில் அமைக்கப்பட்ட 128 புதிய மின் விளக்குகளை பொதுமக்கள் பயன்பாட்டுக்குத் தொடங்கி வைத்தார்.

மேலும், வடசென்னை வளர்ச்சித் திட்டத்தின் கீழ் சென்னைப் பெருநகர வளர்ச்சித் குழுமம் சார்பில் ரூ.23.06 கோடியில் முதல்வர் படைப்பகம் மற்றும் நவீன நூலகம் கட்டுவதற்கான பணிகளையும் அடிக்கடி நாட்டி தொடங்கி வைத்தார்.

Source: Dinamani, 29 December 2025, p.3

# திருநெல்வேலியில் அரிய தொல்பொருட்களை காட்சிப்படுத்தும் வகையில் ரூ.56 கோடியில் 'பொருறை' அருங்காட்சியகத்தை திறந்தார் முதல்வர்

அ.அருள்தாசன்

## திருநெல்வேலி

தாமிரபரணி ஆற்றங்கரையில் அமைந்துள்ள ஆதிச்சநல்லூர், சிவகளை, கொற்கை, துலுக்கர் பட்டி ஆகிய தொல்லியல் தளங்களில் கண்டெடுக்கப்பட்ட அரிய தொல்பொருட்களை காட்சிப்படுத்தும் வகையில் திருநெல்வேலியில் அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ள 'பொருறை' அருங்காட்சியகத்தை முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் நேற்று திறந்து வைத்தார்.

பொருறை அருங்காட்சியகம் அமைக்க 110 விதிபின்னீழ் பேரவையில் முதல்வர் அறிவிப்பு வெளியிட்ட நிலையில் 13 ஏக்கர் பரப்பளவில் ரூ.56.36 கோடி செலவில் அருங்காட்சியகம் உருவாக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. இதை முதல்வர் மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் நேற்று திறந்து வைத்துப் பார்வையிட



▲ நெல்லையில் 'பொருறை' அருங்காட்சியகத்தை முதல்வர் ஸ்டாலின் நேற்று திறந்து வைத்தார்.

டார். பின்னர், முதல்வர் வெளியிட்ட காணொலி உரையில் அவர் பேசியதாவது: மதுரை கீழடியைத் தொடர்ந்து பொருறை அருங்காட்சியகம் திறக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. நுண் - கற்கருவிக் காலம் தொடங்கி, இரும்புக் காலம், தொடக்க வரலாற்றுக் காலம் என்று தொடர்ச்சியாக வரலாற்று

ததயங்கள் பொருறை ஆற்றங்கரைப் பகுதிகளில் ஏராளமாக கிடைக்கின்றன. கொற்கை, ஆதிச்சநல்லூர், சிவகளை போன்ற இடங்களில், இரும்புக் காலத்தைச் சார்ந்த புதைபிடிப் பகுதிகளும், மக்கள் வாழ்விடப் பகுதிகளும் கண்டுபிடிக்கப்பட்டு உள்ளன. குறிப்பாக, இரும்பை உருக்கி கருவிகளை

செய்யும் தொழில்நுட்பம் தமிழ்நாட்டில்தான் சிறப்பாக இருந்திருக்கிறது. இதுவரை கிடைத்த இரும்பு பொருட்களிலேயே, காலத்தால் முந்தைய இரும்பு சிவகளையில்தான் கிடைத்தது. டிஜிட்டல் முறையில் உருவகப்படுத்தப்பட்ட இரும்பு உருக்கு செயல்முறை, 5-டி முறையில் தமிழ்நிலங்களின் வழி

யாக உணர்வுப் பயணம், ஒளிப்படக் காட்சி, மெய்நிகர் படகு அனுபவ உருவகம், ஆற்றுப் பள்ளத்தாக்கு நாகரிகங்களின் தொடுதிரைக் காட்சி, கருவிகளை உருவாக்கும் இன்டிராக்டிவ் வால், டிஜிட்டல் ஃபீட்ட்பேக் மையம், பொருறையின் குரல் பயணம் போன்ற ஏராளமான நவீன தொழில்நுட்ப அனுபவங்களை இங்கு பெறலாம்.

இவ்வாறு அவர் பேசினார். இந்திகழ்வில், பேரவைத் தலைவர் மு.அப்பாவு, அமைச்சர்கள் கே.என்.நேரு, எ.வ.வேலு, தங்கம் தென்னரசு முன்னிலை வகித்தனர். தொல்லியல் துறை ஆணையர் மற்றும் நிதித்துறை முதன்மை செயலர் த.உதயசந்திரன், சுற்றுலாத் துறைச் செயலர் க.மணிவாசன், அட்சியர் ஆர்.சுருமார் உள்ளிட்டோர் பங்கேற்றனர்.

Source: Tamil Hindu, 21 December 2025, p.2





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