

INBRIEF

Foundation stone laid for
bypass in Mayiladuthurai

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin unveiled the foundation stone for a new bypass for Mayiladuthurai through video conference from Chennai on Thursday.

The long awaited project has been sanctioned with an estimate of ₹185.35 crore to be executed by the Highways and Minor Ports Department. The project was initially proposed in 2010. The bypass is expected to significantly ease traffic congestion and improve regional connectivity as it will link major highways and other district roads around the town.

Minister for Backward Classes Welfare Siva V. Meyyanathan and other elected representatives were present at the site. The Chief Minister formally commissioned a stretch of Mayiladuthurai-Tiruvavur highway, which had been widened and strengthened at a cost of ₹157.96 crore with financial assistance from the Asian Development Bank. The project was executed by the Chennai-Kanniyakumari Industrial Corridor Project wing of the State Highways Department.

Holiday in Kumbakonam for
Masi Magam on March 2

The district administration has declared a local holiday on March 2 in view of ‘masi magam’ festival to be celebrated in Hindu temples at the ‘Mahamagam’ tank, Kumbakonam in particular, on that day. According to official sources, all government establishments, other than essential services providing institutions, and educational institutions, including private schools and colleges, will remain closed on Monday and will function on Saturday, March 14, in lieu of the local holiday.

‘Greater awareness needed to
reduce teenage pregnancy rate’

The Hindu Bureau
TIRUCHI

Teenage pregnancy is a complicated social problem that can be addressed only through an integrated and non-judgemental approach from the authorities, families, and the educational system, Pudukkottai Vijaya, chairperson of the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, said in Tiruchi on Thursday.

Addressing a stakeholders’ consultative meeting organised by the All India Democratic Women’s Association (AIDWA) to address the rise in teenage pregnancies in Tiruchi district, Ms. Vijaya said: “There are over 500 revenue villages in the district, and in a recent survey, we noticed that the student dropout rates are high in blocks with a high teenage pregnancy rate. It is essential to bring back the children into the educational system in order to prevent the incidence of teenage pregnancy, child marriage, and child labour.”

According to recent reports, over 800 cases of teenage pregnancy were recorded in Tiruchi district between April and November 2025.



A. Radhika, AIDWA State general secretary, addressing a consultative meeting on the rise in teenage pregnancies in Tiruchi district. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Ms. Vijaya said that medical practitioners should be provided with a proper legal framework to attend to cases of teenage pregnancy.

“Sex education should be provided mandatorily in classrooms, so that children can understand the real-life implications of having unprotected sex,” she said.

In her address, A. Radhika, AIDWA state general secretary, said: “The rise of teenage pregnancies in the age groups of 13 to 15 years in Tiruchi, is alarming given that it is happening in a progressive state like Tamil Nadu. The government

should work towards implementing more measures to protect the safety of the children, and target the areas where child marriage is prevalent.”

The meeting included consultations with psychologists, psychiatrists, schoolteachers, student activist associations, and medical professionals.

Psychiatrist Subhashini said lack of awareness made adolescents, especially women, vulnerable to teenage pregnancy. “Children are influenced by their peers, social media exposure and films to act impulsively in matters of sexual intimacy. We feel

that boys and girls should be taught about safe sex and contraception at an earlier age to prevent teenage pregnancy,” she said.

Jasmine, a psychologist, said that schools should appoint qualified counselors and provide a safe space for children to discuss their problems.

“Students fear judgemental attitudes when they approach teachers who double up as counselors. They are unable to convey their problems effectively to their parents too. Teenage pregnancy is a sensitive issue that needs careful handling and attitudinal change,” she said.



KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
**No.2, 2/1 and 2/3, Kalidasa Marg, 1st Main Road, Gandhinagar
Bengaluru - 560 009. Phone No. 080-22265383, website: www.kiadb.in**

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-88/3665/2025-26

Date: 26.02.2026

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item Rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below:
Name of the work: Providing street lights & shifting of re-routing of HT/LT line at left out roads and newly formed roads at 4th & 5th Phase of Avverahalli Industrial Area, Bengaluru Rural District.
The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **16.03.2026 upto 4.00 pm.**
Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**
Sd/-
DIPRI/CP/5895/Zen/2025-26
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
KARUR

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Thursday inaugurated, through video conferencing, a new bridge built across the Cauvery between Nerur in Karur district and Unniyur in Tiruchi district.

A sum of ₹101.37 crore was spent for the project, which was carried out by the State Highways Department (Projects Wing). The high-level bridge has 26 spans. The overall width of the bridge is 12.90 metres, including pavements on both sides. The length of the bridge runs for 2,245 metres that includes the length of approach roads. While the length of the approach roads towards Unniyur is 538 metres and towards Nerur, the length is 627 metres. Each span has a distance of 42 metres.

Construction of the bridge began in February 2023 and it has been completed in 36 months. Former Minister and Karur MLA V. Senthilbalaji, along with



Vital link: The new bridge built across the Cauvery between Nerur in Karur district and Unniyur in Tiruchi district. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

senior officials, visited the bridge shortly after the Chief Minister inaugurated it through video conferencing.

Mr. Senthilbalaji said that the bridge would bring big relief to residents on either side of the river as it would ease their commute. The direct connection between Unniyur, situated about 4 km from Kattuputhur in Tiruchi district, and Nerur, about 11 km

from Karur, would cut short the distance. All these years, residents of the villages had to travel about 30 km to reach the other side of the river. The construction of the bridge had reduced the travel time drastically.

Officials said the bridge would improve the road connectivity in the region. The travellers heading towards Chennai from Karur and vice versa could take

the bridge, thereby saving time, energy, and fuel. The new bridge would improve the road connectivity to Sri Sadasiva Brahmendra Adhishtanam at Nerur that received devotees from different parts of Tamil Nadu and other States.

Later, Mr. Senthilbalaji inaugurated various completed projects in different parts of Karur constituency and laid the foundation for the new projects.

College teachers seek
dissolution of BDU
Scrutiny Committee

The Hindu Bureau
TIRUCHI

Tamil Nadu Government College Teachers’ Association (TNGCTA) has sought the government’s intervention to dissolve the Scrutiny Committee that was recently constituted to consider applications for the posts of Registrar, the Controller of Examinations, and that of the Director of Distance Education, at the Bharathidasan University (BDU), on the grounds that it lacked transparency.

A Scrutiny Committee consisting of A. Senthilrajan, registrar, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, C. Thiruchelvam, principal, Naina Mohamed College, Aranthangi, S. Amutha, associate professor, Department of Tamil, Rajah Serfoji Government College, Thanjavur, G. Gopinath, senior professor, Department of Computer Science, BDU, and K. Suriyan, professor and director (in-charge), Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy and head (in-charge), Department of Sociology, BDU, was appointed in February, to

shortlist candidates for the above posts.

However, according to official BDU correspondence of February 20, the committee meeting was abruptly dissolved on February 9 due to “administrative reasons.”

A new committee with Mr. Senthilrajan, V. Rajesh Kannan, Vice-Chancellor Committee member, S. Mohan, Syndicate member, E. Ram Ganesh, senior professor, Department of Educational Technology, and N. Sumathi, principal, Adaikalamatha College, Vallam, was formed, and is scheduled to meet on March 3. In a statement on Thursday, association state president P. David Livingstone said: “Even in the absence of one nominee, the remaining members constituted a valid majority.”

In a related development, Professor Suriyan appealed for social justice. “As per the norms, a senior SC/ST member (at the grade of Professor at least), particularly the Liaison Officer of the SC/ST Cell has to be in every committee. But in the Bharathidasan University, the SCs and STs are excluded,” he said.



GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
ECONOMIC OFFENCES WING
NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

In the Hon'ble Madras High Court monitored auction (in CRL.OP(MD) No. 15498/2024 and others), the DTCP-approved plots of the defaulted financial establishment, namely Neomax Properties Pvt. Ltd. and its sister concerns, are proposed to be brought for sale by way of e-auction through the MSTC website (www.mstcecommerce.com).The interested bidders may participate in the e-auction by registering and depositing Pre-Bid EMD on the website
Further, for the details of the properties and updates, the bidders may visit the EOW website (www.theow.tn.gov.in).

Sl. No.	PROJECT NAME	District	Count of Plots*
1	BODI	THENI	155
2	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK 1	VIRUDHUNAGAR	24
3	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK 2A	VIRUDHUNAGAR	22
4	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK G	VIRUDHUNAGAR	25
5	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK H	VIRUDHUNAGAR	34
6	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK I	VIRUDHUNAGAR	34
7	COURTALAM - TENKASI	TENKASI	3
8	TRICHY-MORAIS CITY	TRICHY	8
9	WESTERN VALLEY - PERIYAKULAM	THENI	265
10	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK 3	VIRUDHUNAGAR	43
11	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK E	VIRUDHUNAGAR	41
12	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK F	VIRUDHUNAGAR	53
13	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK L	VIRUDHUNAGAR	157
14	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK J	VIRUDHUNAGAR	12
15	SANGEETHGARDEN - MADURAI	MADURAI	14
16	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK 2B	VIRUDHUNAGAR	36
17	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK D	VIRUDHUNAGAR	64
18	AMIRTHA CITY-RAMNAD	RAMANATHAPURAM	242
19	ARASANOOR-	SIVAGANGAI	98
20	OKKUR	SIVAGANGAI	1228
21	TANJORE	TANJORE	342
22	KODAI ROAD	DINDIGUL	291
23	SWARNABHOOMI HILLTOP-MADURAI	MADURAI	46
24	SWARNABHOOMI DOWN TOWN - MADURAI	MADURAI	220
25	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK B	VIRUDHUNAGAR	3214
26	ALIYUR-TIRUVARUR	TIRUVARUR	691
27	VIRUDHUNAGAR BLOCK C	VIRUDHUNAGAR	173
28	KOVLIPATTI-VILLISERY	THOOTHUKUDI	698
29	NELLAI THUNAI NAGARAM - TIRUNELVELI	TIRUNELVELI	1925

* The number of plots are indicative and not final

Important Schedule & Information

Date of site inspection and document verification	02.03.2026 to 13.03.2026
Date of Registration in MSTC portal starts on	05.03.2026
Date of Assistance to the bidders by the MSTC officials for Registration in the MSTC Portal (at the EOW office Madurai)	09.03.2026 to 11.03.2026
Date of auction (Only on working days. No auction on Sundays, Government Holidays and 2 nd & 4 th Saturdays)	17.03.2026 to 14.05.2026
Time of auction (with Auto Extension)	10.30 AM to 5.00 PM

- **Pre-Bid EMD (Except Eligible Neomax Depositors*)**: Must be deposited well in advance as per the MSTC auction catalogue requirements.
- **Auction Volume**: Approximately **300 plots** will be auctioned on each scheduled day.
- **Minimum Incremental Value**: Rs. 10,000/-
- The plots/properties are to be auctioned on an 'as is where is' condition on the basis of the title deeds on record. It is for the bidders to satisfy themselves of the title and also the physical details and participate in the auction on their own best judgment.
- The successful bids, once zeroed in by the MSTC, will be confirmed only after placing it before the Court. The Court, for the reasons of adequacy of price or otherwise, has the right to confirm or reject the bid. In case of rejection, the EMD amount will be returned to the participant(s).
- Once the bid is confirmed, the entire sale price has to be deposited by the successful bidders (Except the Neomax depositors who bid without pre-bid EMD) within ten (10) days from the date of confirmation of the auction, failing which the EMD will be forfeited.

*Neomax depositors who claim exemption from Pre-Bid EMD can view their status (Depositor number) in the excel sheet posted on the EOW website.

Contact Details:

- **For Inspection/Queries**: Contact **EOW** at **8778245559 & 9080381065** and eowmadurai2@gmail.com.
- **For Registration & Auction Helpdesk**: Contact **MSTC** at **9499054101-104 (10:30 AM to 5:00 PM on working days)**. Visit www.mstcecommerce.com or www.mstcindia.co.in to participate.

Sd/-
Place : Chennai
Date : 26.02.2026

Competent Authority/Superintendent of Police,
EOW, South Zone.

60 College students
injured in accident
near Mannargudi

The Hindu Bureau
THANJAVUR

Sixty college students suffered minor injuries after the bus in which they were travelling met with an accident near Madukkur on Thursday.

According to sources, the accident occurred when students from Adhiramapattinam and surrounding areas were going to their college at Mannargudi in Tiruvavur district. The bus driven by Napoleon of Kaalamedu, Man-

nargudi, was involved in an accident with a mini-load vehicle coming in the opposite direction.

It toppled on the agriculture field after hitting a palmyrah tree on the road kerb.

Passersby in Paravathur rushed in and saved the college students. The injured students were rushed to the Government hospital at Pattukottai for treatment. The Madukkur police have registered a case and are investigating, sources said.

MTY-DE