

Parties' booth-level work to decide turnout

Months of training and voter interaction at the grassroots-level will be put to test today

PEARSON LENEKAR SR @ Tiruchy

WITH major parties achieving near-total booth coverage and new entrants scrambling to match scale, Tiruchy's electoral battle is set to be decided as much by ground-level machinery as by campaign optics.

Months before the polling schedule was announced, the two Dravidian majors started to put in place a robust booth-level mechanism, training agents (BLAs) workshops and video modules on voter verification, roll checking and polling procedures. Booth-wise voter lists, photocopied records and stationery kits have been distributed, while internal monitoring systems are ready to track turnout through the day.

A senior DMK functionary said the party conducted "mandal-level mega conferences" to train cadres, as per instructions of party chief MK Stalin.

A booth agent, A Raja, said the party's role in the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls had given it a granular understanding of voters. "We know who was added and deleted, and in many booths we

have a fair sense of voting patterns," he said.

From the AIADMK camp, M Aravindan, a functionary from Malaikottai said coordination with the BJP and data from past elections helped booth agents identify weak-performing wards and plug gaps.

In contrast, Tamilaaga Vettri Kazhagam's booth network draws significantly from experienced hands, with nearly 60% of agents having previously worked with other parties, while the rest were trained over the past few months through structured sessions and a refresher workshop held a week before polling. The party has also set up a central war room to coordinate operations, escalate issues to headquarters and provide legal assistance where required.

"We may be new, but our teams have been trained in the entire polling process from verifying electoral rolls to handling machines and completing documentation till submission to the BLA-1. The war room will ensure quick response to any issues on polling day," a functionary said.



A poll official breaks coconut in front of the first vehicle transporting EVMs from the Tiruchy corporation zonal office to the booths on Wednesday | MK ASHOK KUMAR

84 BOOTHS IDENTIFIED AS VULNERABLE IN THANJAI

THANJAVUR: Out of the total 2,501 booths in Thanjavur, 84 have been identified as vulnerable and surveillance has been intensified by the election department. According to EC officials, out of the eight constituencies, Tiruvaiyaru has the highest number of 340 booths and Peravurani the lowest number of 284 booths. On Wednesday, EVMs and other materials were dispatched to the respective booths. As per EC decision, CCTV cameras have been arranged in all polling booths for live webcasting. Besides, eight model booths, one each per constituency, eight pink booths were also set up across the district which will be managed solely by the women officials. 12,000 officials will be on duty on Thursday, including 4,000 police and ex-servicemen, and 500 CAPF staff. ENS

AIRFARE SKYROCKETS AS TAMILS FLY BACK HOME TO VOTE

D VINCENT AROCKIARAJ

@ Tiruchy

AS Tamils residing in Gulf nations, Singapore and Malaysia travel to the central region of Tamil Nadu including Tiruchy, Thanjavur, Tiruvavur, Nagapattinam, Pudukottai, Ariyalur and Perambur to cast their votes in the 2026 Assembly elections on April 23, airfares have skyrocketed with fares almost doubling across all sectors. However, Tamils in Kuwait are having a hard time in travelling to Tamil Nadu due to limited flight availability amid the ongoing conflict.

Lakhs of Tamils are employed in Gulf, Singapore, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Dubai, Sharjah, Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, and Muscat. Airlines such as Air India Express, Scoot Air, Indigo Air, Sri Lankan Air operates around 12 services a day to these destinations.

"The fares of Singapore, Dubai flights have doubled. Airlines are charging up to Rs 30,000 to Singapore now, which was Rs 15,000 few days ago. Similarly, the fares on Dubai- Tiruchy sector have gone to Rs 30,000, from Rs 12,000 to Rs 15,000 earlier," said Nargis Beham from Al Parvez Travels.

J John, RL Travels in Tiruchy, said several Tamil families are arriving from various destinations, even from Australia. "Four of my relatives have arrived in Tiruchy from Australia to cast their votes," he stated.

He also said "Kuala Lumpur flights have been witnessing full occupancy for the last few days. Fares have increased to ₹55,000 to from ₹46,000 (two-way). In domestic, fares from Chennai to Tiruchy and Madurai have also increased considerably," John added.

Unlike last year, Tamils are showing interest in casting their votes, travel agents said. Moreover, since Friday and Saturday - the day after polling - fall on a weekend in many Gulf countries, several Tamils have availed leave one or two days before and after April 23, to travel to their home towns to cast votes and spend a few more days with their family.



Mohamed Sidiq, a resident of KK Nagar in Tiruchy and a software engineer in Bahrain, who has been residing there for over 20 years with his family, arrived in Tiruchy on Tuesday night to cast his vote.

"Around 60 members of our family and relatives are working in Bahrain, Abu Dhabi and Singapore. Due to the West Asia war, schools for children are closed and classes are being conducted online. Since the weekend follows the poll day, we had already planned our visit to Tiruchy to exercise our franchise. In this election, we believe every vote counts, that is why we decided not to miss it," Mohamed said.

AB Khaleel Ahmed Baaqavee, General Secretary of Kuwait-Tamil Islamic Committee (K-Tic) expressed concern that around 1.5 lakh Tamils working in Kuwait are unable to travel to Tamil Nadu to cast their votes, due to limited flight availability amid the ongoing conflict. Those willing to travel to Tamil Nadu have to spend around ₹90,000-₹1.25 lakh for a one-way ticket to Tiruchy, he said.

"While many Tamils are eager to travel to Tamil Nadu to cast their votes, not even 1% of Tamils from Kuwait are able to do so. We have been urging the state and union government to take necessary steps to allow Tamils to cast their votes at the Indian Embassy in Kuwait, so that their votes do not go unused. Citizens of Sri Lanka, Egypt, Philippines and Bangladesh are allowed to vote at their respective embassies in Kuwait," he told TNIE.

9 get 7 life terms for death of 7 in petrol bomb attack case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Karur

THE District Principal Sessions Court on Tuesday awarded seven terms of life imprisonment to each of the nine persons in the petrol bomb attack case that claimed the lives of seven youth on Thevar Jayanthi Day on October 31, 2012, in the Chinthamani area in Madurai.

The convicts were Manikandan (37), Karthick (36), Chandrasekar (31), Sonaiya (31), Nagaraj (31), Muthukaruppan (31), Mohan (38), Vignesh (33) and Santhosh (33) of Chinthamani-patti in Madurai. The court also imposed a fine of ₹3 lakh each under section 302 IPC, and 10-year imprisonment on 13 counts, along with a fine of ₹50,000 fine each under section 307 IPC. The court also directed that the fine amount be provided to the families of the victims.

Of the 11 accused arrested in the case, one of the accused, Muthu Viji, died during the course of the trial, while another accused, Ramar Pandi, was hacked to death in February 2024, when he was returning to Madurai after appearing before Karur court.

The incident occurred on October 31, 2012, when a group of youth were returning in a car from Pasumpon after attending the Thevar Jayanthi celebration in Ramanathapuram district. The vehicle was intercepted at Chinthamani near Madurai Bypass check post by a gang that hurled petrol bombs at the vehicle and fled from the scene. A total of 18 persons, hailing from Puliankulam near Viraganoor, were injured. Seven persons died in the hospital later.

Based on the direction of the Madras High Court, the case was transferred to the Karur Court, considering the safety of the accused, the prosecution said.

EXPRESS READ

Man murders wife in Thanjavur, on the run

THANJAVUR: A 37-year-old woman, S Vanapatchi, was allegedly murdered by her husband, Sasikumar (48), on Wednesday in Thanjavur due to a domestic quarrel. Sasikumar allegedly told his relatives that he had murdered his wife and will surrender before the police. Probe is on to nab Sasikumar who is absconding. ENS

TIRUCHY ALL SET FOR POLLS



PIC: MK ASHOK KUMAR



A model polling booth all set at Karanthai area in Thanjavur assembly constituency on Wednesday | EXPRESS

Over 12.6L to exercise franchise in Mayiladuthurai, Nagai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@ Nagapattinam

MORE than 12.6 lakh voters set to cast their ballots in Mayiladuthurai and Nagapattinam districts on Thursday amid heightened security arrangements at sensitive booths.

In Mayiladuthurai district, a total of 7,35,135 voters, including 3,62,939 men, 3,72,149 women and 47 third-gender voters, are

eligible to vote in the Sirkazhi (SC), Mayiladuthurai and Poompuhar Assembly constituencies. The district has 951 polling stations, of which 54 have been identified as sensitive. A total of 10 candidates are contesting in Sirkazhi, 20 in Mayiladuthurai and 13 in Poompuhar constituencies. In Nagapattinam district, which comprises the Nagapattinam, Kilvelur (SC) and Vedaranyam Assembly constitu-

encies, 5,27,947 voters are eligible to vote, including 2,59,620 men, 2,68,298 women and 29 third-gender voters. A total of 13 candidates are contesting in Nagapattinam, seven in Kilvelur and 11 in Vedaranyam constituencies.

Of the 700 polling stations in the district, 53 have been categorised as sensitive and will be placed under enhanced surveillance with CCTV monitoring

and additional officials deployed.

Since the Model Code of Conduct came into force, flying squads and static surveillance teams in Mayiladuthurai district, as of Tuesday, seized ₹ 1.57 crore in unaccounted cash during vehicle checks, of which ₹ 1.55 crore was later released after verification of documents. The Income Tax Department separately seized ₹ 40 lakh.

FOUR FISHERS ALLEGED ASSAULT BY GANG MID-SEA

NAGAPATTINAM: Four fishermen from Vanavanmahadevi village were allegedly assaulted while they were fishing southeast of Kodyakkarai on Tuesday evening. The fishermen informed their colleagues about the incident after reaching the shore on Wednesday. The fishermen had ventured into sea at around 1 am on Tuesday in a fibre boat from Vanavanmahadevi. Around 5 pm, a gang cut their 250-kg fishing net and attacked them. The fishermen, K Selvakumar, S Muruga Pandian, R. Kathirvel and S Raj returned to shore at Vanavanmahadevi beach at around 9.30 am on Wednesday. Though no external injuries were reported, the fishermen were taken to the Nagapattinam GH for treatment. ENS

INDIAN RAILWAY CATERING AND TOURISM CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of India Enterprise - Navratna)
CIN : L74990DL1990GO1101707
Notice Inviting Tender

Open E-Tender No. 2026/IRCTC/Carpentry and Mason works/ Services/ME/01 for interior repair and maintenance works in Maharajas' Express for season 2026-27. Last date for submission of bids: 15.05.2026 upto 15:00 Hrs.

For details visit www.irctc.com and www.tenderwizard.com. Document downloading and participation can only be done on www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC.

Corrigendum/addendum if any, will be published only on www.irctc.com and www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC.

GGM (Services), IRCTC Ltd., 3rd Floor, Tower-D, World Trade Centre, Nauraj Nagar, New Delhi-110029

ANDHRA PRADESH POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Govt. of A.P. Undertaking)
VIBHUT SOUDHA, VIJAYAWADA-520004

e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender ID : 924555
Subject in brief : Upper Sileru - Stoplog gates.
Amount : Rs.1.62 Crores.
Closing date : 14.05.2026 at 3.30 PM
Please visit <https://tender.apereprocurement.gov.in>
DIPR No.5040PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22, Dt: 22/04/2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanahalli Hosur Main Road Bangalore- 560068

The following borrower(s) has/have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest towards the Loan facility(ies) availed from ICICI Bank. The Loan(s) has/have been classified as Non-Performing Asset(s) (NPA). A Notice was issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, at their last known addresses. However, it has not been served and are therefore being notified by way of this Public Notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Description of Secured Asset to be enforced	Date of Notice sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Syed Foghburdeen And Kadheesha Nachiar Mallikka Shajarithur/ D No 73/5 Flat No 5 13 Cross Street Catenary S No 39 Block No 9 Kalikundrum Village Mylapore Indira Nagar 13th Cross Street, Canal Bank Road Adyar, S No 39 Part Chennai- 600020/ LBCE000005541077	Schedule of Property All That Piece and Parcel of The Property Bearing No.5, Indira Nagar, 13th Cross Street, Catenary Shed Situated in T.S. No. 39 Part, Block No.9 Kalikundrum Village, Mylapore Triplicane Taluk, Chennai District, and Measuring 94.0 Sq.meter Land With Building And Bounded on The North By : Tenement No.6 South By : Tenement No.4 East By : Tenement No. 53 West By : 13th Cross Street, and Measuring : on The Northern Side : 13.8 Meter, on The Eastern Side : 6.8 Meter, on The Southern Side : 13.8 Meter on The Western Side : 6.8 Meter in All Measuring 94.0 Sq.meter Land With Building Within The Registration District of South Chennai on The Sub Registration District of Adayar Property Tax No. 10-151 4570-000000, E.B. No. 09-203-028-387. At Present New Door No.71, Old No.5, Indira Nagar, 13th Cross Street, C.S. Colony, Adyar, Chennai 600020	March 11, 2026 Rs. 92,78,377.08/-	03/02/2026

These steps are being taken for substituted service of Notice. The above borrower/s and/or guarantor/s (as applicable) is/are advised to make the outstanding payment within 60 days from the date of publishing this Notice. Else, further steps will be taken as per the provisions of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date: April 23, 2026
Place: Nagapattinam

Sincerely Authorised Officer,
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

Bank of Baroda TIRUVARUR BRANCH
No.85, South Main Street, Tiruvavur-610001, Phone: 04366-240093 E-mail: tirutn@bankofbaroda.bank.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

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

NAME & ADDRESS OF BORROWER/S / GUARANTOR/ MORTGAGOR S : (1). Mr. S.Balakrishnan, S/o. Sivasankaran, Plot No.3, Starcity Nagar, Thiyannapuram, Tiruvavur-610001. (2). Mr. Seethaladevi, W/o. Balakrishnan S, Plot No.3, Starcity Nagar, Thiyannapuram, Tiruvavur-610001.

Ac No. 33410600002762, Rs. 55,94,997.98/- plus interest and charges from 19-04-2026
Total Dues as on 19-04-2026, Rs. 55,94,997.98/-

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES WITH KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES, IF ANY:
The Mortgaged property is in the Name of Mr. Balakrishnan S

Equitable Mortgage of Property at Nagapattinam Registration District, Tiruvavur Subregistry, Tiruvavur Taluk, Tiruvavur Panchayath Union, Thandalai Panchayath, Thandalai Revenue village, Thiyannapuram Hamlet in STAR CITY NAGAR layout.

1) R.S.No.291-2A Nanjai Part measuring an extent of 33.44 sq.m (360 sq.ft) out of total extent Hec.0.40.5 (As per subdivision New R.S.No.291-9)
2) R.S.No.291-2B Nanjai Part measuring an extent of 115.01 sq.m (1238 sq.ft) out of total extent Hec.0.06.0 (As per subdivision New R.S.No.291-2B2)
Totally 148.45 sq.m (1598 sq.ft) manai (Plot No.3) and in which a newly constructed RCC house in 1350 sq.ft. Measurement: East to West : on both sides 30 feet; South to North : Eastern side 54 feet, Western side 52 1/2 feet. Common boundaries for both above items: South of 30 feet East West Road; North of Site in R.S.No.291-3; East of Plot No.4 West of Plot No.2

RESERVE PRICE : Rs.27,00,000/- | EMD : Rs.2,70,000/- | BID INCREASE : Rs.25,000/-
Last date for EMD payment : 31-05-2026

Date & time of E-AUCTION **01.06.2026, 2.00 P.M. to 6.00 P.M.**
with unlimited auto extension of 10 minutes each, till sale is concluded

Possession Type : Constructive | Property Inspection date & Time : 05.05.2026, 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link <https://www.bankofbaroda.bank.in/e-auction> and online auction portal Baanknet.com. Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorised officer on Mobile: 9515024578 & 9032872524.
Date : 22.04.2026. Place : Tiruvavur

Authorised Officer,
Bank of Baroda