**CLOSING AT 8 PM** Nineteen Tasmac liquor shops in Gudalur, Pandalur and Kundah taluks in Nilgiris will now close at 8 pm after staff raised safety concerns about frequent human-wildlife conflicts

# Just 24 TN trans students enrol for UG courses

TANSCHE plans study to spot barriers faced by community in accessing higher education, role of scholarships

**BINITA JAISWAL** @ Chennai

OF the 97,244 students admitted to undergraduate courses in 181 government arts and science colleges in the state in 2026-27, only 24 are transgender persons. The number is low at the postgraduate level as well, with just 12 transgender students among 14,252 admissions. The low enrolment highlights the barriers transgender persons face in accessing higher education.

To understand these challenges and identify solutions, the TN State Council for Higher Education (TANSCHE) will soon conduct a detailed study on the participation of transgender persons in higher education. The study will examine reasons for dropouts, social stigma, financial difficulties and institutional experiences. It will also assess the effectiveness of scholarships, reservation policies, counselling services and campus inclusion practices. Based on the findings, TANSCHE will recommend measures to improve access, enrolment, retention and support for transgender students. "We will examine enrolment patterns, access barriers and support systems," said TANSCHE vice-chairman M P Vijayakumar. The study will involve field interactions with transgender persons and consultations with stakeholders.

In its recent budget, the TN government announced a full scholarship scheme for 50 transgender students pursuing higher education in government colleges and state universities. Each beneficiary will receive ₹2 lakh towards tuition fees and living expenses.

During preliminary research for the scheme, TANSCHE found that many transgender students struggle to enter college, while several who enrol are unable to complete their courses."One major problem identified during the preliminary study was the lack of accommodation. Many transgender students are abandoned by their families and face financial difficulties, social stigma and a lack of transgender-friendly hostels. These challenges force them to drop out," a TANSCHE official said.

The scholarship scheme was designed to cover tuition fees, living costs and medical expenses. However, officials acknowledge that financial assistance alone may not be enough and that educational institutions must also become more inclusive. TANSCHE is awaiting a government order to invite applications for the scheme. Identifying 50 eligible beneficiaries could itself be a challenge, officials said. The council also plans to introduce a mentorship programme to guide transgender students after graduation.

The 2011 Census recorded 22,364 transgender persons in TN. The actual number could have at least doubled in the last 15 years, an activist said. After the recent SIR exercise, out of the state's total electorate of 5.67 crore, the number of transgenders stood at 7,617.



# Flat on TN waterbody case: Allot alternative site to owners, says SC

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has upheld the cancellation of a 'ryotwari patta' granted over land recorded as a government water body in Tamil Nadu's Tiruvallur district. A bench of Justices SVN Bhatti and NV Anjaria, in its judgment delivered on October 16, however, took note of the flat owners' plea and directed the state government to allot a suitable alternative site to the owners of 20 flats before demolishing their apartments.

A 'ryotwari patta' is an official revenue document and land record issued to an individual cultivator (ryot), certifying their right to occupy and cultivate a specific piece of land while paying land tax directly to the government. Justice Bhatti, writing the judgment for the bench, said that because of the orders and revenue records, the flat owners were made to believe that the state government has no interest in the subject land. "Therefore, directing the demolition of flats without examining the hardship of the flat owners and the independent remedies available to them in law against the owner of the land and the developer of the apartments would cause irreparable financial injury and throw the families on the streets. "In the circumstances of the case, to ameliorate the possible hardship and, without committing a breach of Section 14-A of the Tamil Nadu Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act, 1948, we direct the Chief Secretary, State of Tamil Nadu, and the District Collector, Tiruvallur, to allot a vacant, commensurate site to the owners of the flats represented by the Society, preferably within 6 months from today, and thereafter to undertake the demolition of the constructed area to an extent of 0.22 acres," the bench said.

The verdict dismissed three civil appeals filed by a flat owner and Tamil Nadu Mercantile Bank Ltd, challenging the cancellation of the 'patta' and subsequent directions for restoring the land as a water body.

The case concerned a particular survey number at Thirumullaivoyal village, originally recorded in the 1911 resettlement register as "Government Poramboke - Kanakkan Kuttai".

The disputed land formed part of a larger extent of 1.68 acres. The controversy arose after the district revenue officer, Tiruvallur, granted a 'ryotwari patta' for 0.72 acres to P Ramadoss in January 2011.

The land was subsequently used for property transactions and development, including the construction of 20 residential flats.

Tamil Nadu Mercantile Bank also extended credit facilities of ₹3.40 crore against a mortgage created over the land.

In December 2019, the commissioner of land administration set aside the patta, holding that it had been granted in violation of the applicable legal provisions.

The Madras High Court subsequently upheld the cancellation and directed the removal of unauthorised structures and restoration of the water body.

Rejecting the appellants' challenge, the top court observed that the earliest revenue records classified the land as a tank and government 'poramboke', rather than 'ryoti' land eligible for a patta. *PTI*

# Madurantakam to get new paddy warehouse

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Several other initiatives were also announced for Dharapuram.

For Madurantakam, the announcements include a 20,000-tonne semi-covered paddy warehouse at Athur at a cost of ₹20 crore and a 25-acre state seed farm for ₹10 crore. The government has also proposed setting up six paddy procurement centres at a cost of ₹1.80 crore, constructing a check dam at Athimanam for ₹5 crore, renovating lake sluices at Sembundi for ₹4.50 crore, carrying out desilting and bank-strengthening works at Nelvai for ₹1.30 crore, and constructing a community hall at Thinnalur for ₹70 lakh.

Citing Articles 164(3) and 14 of the Constitution, AIADMK lawyers' wing secretary IS Inbadurai said the CM is bound to ensure equality before the law and equal protection for all. He questioned whether Vijay was governing all 234 constituencies impartially or extending preferential treatment to constituencies where his party had won.

A former DMK minister and sitting MLA described the announcements as a double-edged sword for the opposition. "Although it is kind of luring people to vote for TVK, criticising it would make us look bad, as if we are against the welfare schemes," he said.

CPM state secretary P Shanmugam said the government should treat all Assembly constituencies equally. Selectively announcing schemes for two constituencies after winning them was aimed at influencing voters in the five other constituencies where by-elections are due, he alleged. CPI state secretary M Veerapandiyan said there was nothing wrong with announcing welfare schemes, but doing so with an eye on garnering votes was wrong.

*(With inputs from Prabhakar Tamilarasu)*

**Dharapuram: Key projects**

- Cauvery-based drinking water scheme covering 1,232 rural habitations at ₹1,439 crore
- 2,700 free house-site pattas for the homeless
- 13,000 drinking water connections in Dharapuram, Mulanur and Kundadam

**Madurantakam: Key projects**

- 20,000-tonne paddy warehouse at Athur at ₹20 crore
- Government Arts and Science College for women at Acharapakkam at ₹20 crore
- Emergency care unit at Madurantakam Government Hospital at ₹10 crore





**GUN-HO**

People watching the guns displayed at an arms exhibition organised by the Madurai District Police at the Armed Reserve Police Ground in Madurai on the occasion of Police Martyrs Memorial Day | K K SUNDAR

# Hundiyal theft in Tiruchendur: Archakar arrested

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** @ Thoothukudi

AN archakar was among the two people arrested by the Tiruchendur temple police on charges of stealing offerings from the hundiyals (collection boxes) at the Murugan temple at Tiruchendur.

The accused are R Murugan (58) of Puducherry and archakar S Muthaiyan (70) of Tiruchendur. Tiruchendur temple police registered an FIR against them under BNS Section 305(e) for theft.

Murugan had allegedly stolen over Rs 10,000 from the hundiyal installed near the 'seepu kodimaram' on October 10. Police arrested Murugan based on a complaint from a temple official. He was later remanded. Meanwhile, Muthaiyan had taken away the money from hundiyal number 38 installed opposite the Moolavar Sannithi (Karuvarai). The theft came to light after temple officials checked the CCTV footage upon noticing fewer offerings from devotees on October 8. CCTV footage showed Muthaiyan putting his hand into the hundiyal on two occasions in the wee hours of October 2 and 5. The stolen amount is estimated to be about ₹10,000.

Muthaiyan too was arrested but released on station bail considering his age.

# 9 held in NTK case: Cops

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Others arrested include Karthika's husband, Murugu Chandrakumar, NTK state propaganda secretary Isai Mathivanan, Dharapuram constituency incharge Sanjay Gandhi, and party functionaries Kandasamy, Govindaraj, Surya, Sholavandan and Sheik Basheer.

A senior police officer said the NTK had not been granted permission to campaign in a particular area during the CM's visit. Despite this, the party functionaries allegedly entered the area through which Vijay's convoy was passing and staged a protest. The officer added that the accused had been booked under four sections, including one relating to harassment of a woman, and nine people had been arrested. The police, according to sources, went to Karthika's house at Peelamedu in Coimbatore at around 5 am on Tuesday and took her and her husband into custody. Speaking to reporters in Dharapuram, Karthika denied any wrongdoing and condemned the arrest, alleging that the police had prevented NTK candidates and functionaries from campaigning by citing the CM's visits. She also alleged that TVK functionaries accused of crimes against women had been allowed to remain free.

"I have not done anything wrong. Even criminals are free in society because the people have given power to clowns. Should only the CM campaign on the final day of campaigning?" she asked. NTK legal wing secretary Selva Nanmaran alleged that the TVK government was deliberately targeting the party.

# 'Each prosecutor in TN handling nearly three to four courts'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

PROSECUTORS told *TNIE* that when a public prosecutor is unavailable, there may be adjournments. "In-charge public prosecutors are dProsecutors told *TNIE* that when a public prosecutor is unavailable, there may be adjournments. "In-charge public prosecutors are deputed in a case if a public prosecutor is not available, but they often lack continuity and tend to work mechanically," they said.

The shortage has also raised concerns over appointments to Pocso courts. Due to the crippling vacancies, Grade II Assistant Public Prosecutors, who had freshly joined service after clearing the TNPSC exam, are being posted to these courts in violation of Pocso Act that mandates the appointment of only Special Public Prosecutors with at least seven years of experience as an advocate, sources said.

Under Section 20 of the BNSS, the Director of Prosecution is responsible for monitoring cases involving offences punishable with imprisonment for 10 years or more, life imprisonment or death, expediting proceedings, and giving opinions on filing appeals. The Deputy Director of Prosecution examines and scrutinises police reports and monitors cases involving offences punishable with imprisonment for seven years or more but less than 10 years to ensure their expeditious disposal. The Assistant Director of Prosecution monitors cases involving offences punishable with imprisonment for less than seven years. Vacancies in these posts affect the discharge of these functions. With women constituting around 75% of the workforce, prosecutors said many of them faced additional pressure. "There is no break. The only break we get is when we are travelling," said a woman public prosecutor. An additional public prosecutor said each prosecutor in the state handled between three and four courts.

"Ideally, one public prosecutor should be assigned to only one court. Many times, courts are in different districts, and we have to visit all of them during the week. Travel drains us physically. Coordination with the police also becomes difficult. If we see them daily, it would be easier," prosecutors said.

"In judicial magistrate courts, there are at least 25 to 30 witnesses a day. As we are already stressed, we are unable to focus and ask quality questions. We are unable to properly connect with victims and witnesses due to the paucity of time. We end up working mechanically," the prosecutor said. Additional Public Prosecutor Iden Isan, president of the TN Regular Cadre Public Prosecutors Association, said the new government has begun addressing these long-pending issues. "We are thankful to them. In our recent interactions with the Law Minister (CTR Nirmal Kumar), he promised to fill all the administrative posts in the directorate and various other public prosecutors' positions at the earliest. The minister also personally promised to carry out a review of all issues concerning the Directorate of Prosecution," he said.

Highlighting the vacancies in deputy director posts, prosecutors said the police submitted more than 10 charge sheets a day for scrutiny, each running to around 100 pages. Deputy Directors also provide legal opinions on charge sheets. Due to the vacancies, public prosecutors are being given additional charges as deputy directors.

"How is it possible for them to read so much and provide legal opinions?" prosecutors asked. Child rights activists said prosecutors were sometimes unable to appear even in high-profile cases because they had been given additional charges as deputy directors.

A woman public prosecutor, requesting anonymity, said it was difficult to take leave, as either a public prosecutor or an in-charge officer had to be present whenever the court was functioning. "There are days when many of us work despite being sick. We take a tablet, nap briefly and continue working. Even on leave, we are continuously working on petitions and counter-affidavits. Local police also keep calling us for clarity on legal procedures in law-and-order cases," she said.

**SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF TELANGANA LIMITED**

e-Procurement Tender Notice (Paper Notification)

TGSPDCL intends to float tender for procurement of (a) 2Cx2.5 Sq.mm Copper Control Cable (FRLS) (b) 4Cx2.5 Sq.mm Copper Control Cable (FRLS) (c) 10Cx2.5 Sq.mm Copper Control Cable (FRLS) (d) 100 Sq.mm AAA Conductor (e) 55 Sq.mm AAA Conductor (f) 3Cx16+25 Sq.mm LT AB XLPE Cable (g) 3Cx70+16+50 Sq.mm LT AB XLPE Cable (h) 11KV 3CX185+70 sqmm AB XLPE Cable of TGSPDCL on e-procurement platform.

For further details of each item above, please visit www.tgsouthernpower.org, www.tender.telangana.gov.in, www.auction.telangana.gov.in.

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**Union Bank of India**
Thirupparkadal Branch
6/2A, Thirupparkadal Road, Thirupparkadal, Ranipet, Tamil Nadu - 632508

[Rule - 8 (1)] POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of Union Bank of India, Thirupparkadal Branch, 6/2A, Thirupparkadal Road, Thirupparkadal, Ranipet, Tamil Nadu - 632508 under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Security Interest (Second) Act, 2002 (Act No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **03-08-2026** calling upon the borrower/guarantors/mortgagors **1. MR. SADHASIVAM N S/O NAVANEELU SUBAIYANAIDU 2. MR. ARULMANIGANDAN N S/O NAVANEELU SUBAIYANAIDU** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.2,27,348.90 (Rupees Two Lakh Twenty Seven Thousand Three Hundred Forty Eight and paise Ninety Only)** as on 31/10/2023 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules on this **15th day of Oct 2026.**

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Union Bank Of India for an amount **Rs. 2,27,348.90** and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to the borrower to redeem the secured assets.

**DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY :**

In Vellore District, Arakkonam Registration District, Kaveripakkam Sub - Registration District, Nemili Taluk, Ayarpadi Village Natharm Survey No. 253 part, New Survey No. 253/31, Vacant Site and house to be constructed over the above said Vacant Site, boundaries and measurements as follows: Bounded on the: East by: Property of Govindammal, West by: Property of Venkatesan, North by: Property of Chandiran, South by: Arakkonam Road.

In this middle measured East to West Northern side 5.0 meter, Southern side 5.0 meter, North to South Eastern side 25.4 meter, Western side 26.6 meter, total measurement 118 sq.meter, Vacant Site and house to be constructed over the above said Vacant Site etc., The above said property situated within the limit of Ayarpadi Village Panchayat.

Date : 15.10.2026
Place : THIRUPPARKADAL

Authorised Officer,
Union Bank of India

**EQUITAS SMALL FINANCE BANK LTD**
(Formerly Known as Equitas Finance Ltd)
REGISTERED OFFICE - NO. 769, SPANCER PLAZA 4TH FLOOR, PHASE II, ANNA SALAI, CHENNAI, TN- 600 002. PH-044- 42995000, 044-42995050

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

APPENDIX IV-A [See proviso to Rule 8(6)] – Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 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 mortaged / charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Equitas small finance Bank, Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is basis** for recovery of dues in below mentioned accounts. The details of Borrower (s) Mortgagor(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Secured Assets Dues Reserve Price/E-Auction date & time and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below:

| Name & Address of Borrowers/ Mortgagers/ Guarantors | Description of the Immovable Properties with known encumbrances, if any | Reserve Price: EMD Price Bid Increase Price | Date & Time of E-Auction | Loan / Total Dues |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Mr Rajaram A C/O Mr Arumugam Mrs Sundari A C/O Mr Arumugam Both are residing at:** No 39/13 M G Street Dhanakondapalli Kottamitta, Gudiyatham Tk Vellore, Gudiyatham, Vellore, Tamilnadu, 632601 | Item-I All That Piece And Parcel Of Land With Building Bearing Comprised In Punjai S.No 36, New Present Subdivision S.No 36/7, Together With An Extent Of 1308Sqft(3Cent), Situated At Dhanakkondapalli Village, Gudiyatham Taluka, Vellore District . Bounded On The (North By)- Pattai (Road ) (South By)- Vellakan Part Property (East By)- Pattai (Road ) (West By)- Remaining Land Of Balaraman | Rs.8,60,000/- Rs.86,000/- Rs.10,000/- | 26.11.2026 From 11.00 AM to 12.30 PM | Loan Account No:- SEGDYTM0341400 / 600000103446 Claim Amount Due Rs.5,54,593/- as on 22.01.2026 with further interest from 23.01.2026 with monthly rest, charges and costs, etc., (Total Outstanding being Rs.5,44,310/- as on 08.10.2026). |

For details and queries on purchase and sale contact no- Sathish 9940286237, Madhankumar 9688069365, Boopalan.G 9944841879

The intending purchaser/ bidder is required to submit amount of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) by way of NEFT/RTGS/DD in the account of "Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd" Account No- 200000807725 and IFSC code- ESFB0001001 Bhaggyam Galleria New No. 18 , Bazzulla Road, T-Nagar, Chennai-600 017, drawn on any nationalized or scheduled bank on or before date: 25.11.2026

For details for terms & conditions of E-Auction sale please refer to the link provided in www.equitas.bank.in & https://www.bankeauctions.com