WINDOWS



TNPSC Group IV exams:14.89 lakh vie for 6,574 posts

CHENNAI: Candidates who have applied for the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission's (TNPSC) Group IV recruitment examination have until Wednesday to correct their application details, bringing the application process for 6,574 vacancies to its final stage.

The recruitment drive has attracted 14,89,025 applicants, translating into approximately 226 candidates competing for each vacancy. The written examination is scheduled for January 10, 2027, from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

The application correction facility provides candidates an opportunity to rectify errors in the information submitted during registration. With the window closing on November 11, applicants seeking changes must complete the process within the prescribed deadline.

TNPSC issued the recruitment notification on October 6 and opened online registration the same day. The announcement followed the commission's annual examination calendar, which had indicated that the notification for Group IV posts would be released in October.The vacancies span several categories of government employment. They include 291 Village Administrative Officer posts, 3,798 Junior Assistant posts, 1,572 Typist posts and 404 Steno-Typist posts. The notification also covers other clerical, laboratory and forest-related positions.

Chennai to host 2029 Asian Athletics championships

NEW DELHI: Chennai has been awarded the hosting rights for the 2029 Asian Athletics Championships, marking the fourth time that India will stage the continental event after previously hosting it in New Delhi, Pune and Bhubaneswar. The Asian Athletics Association announced the decision in a statement on Tuesday, saying the award was subject to the presentation of letters of guarantee from the government.

"Subject to presentation of letters of guarantee from the Govt, Asian Athletics Association is pleased to award the 2029 Asian Athletics Championships to Chennai, Tamil Nadu," the statement read.

C. Latha, chairman of the Tamil Nadu Athletics Association (TNAA), said the championships are likely to be held in August. Speaking from Tokyo after attending the Asian Athletics Federation Council meeting on Tuesday, Latha said Chennai's infrastructure and facilities were highlighted during the presentation made by the state.

India last hosted the Asian Athletics Championships in 2017 in Bhubaneswar, having previously staged the competition in New Delhi in 1989 and Pune in 2013. The award to Chennai adds to India's upcoming international athletics calendar.

IIT Madras to launch free online training programmes

CHENNAI: IIT Madras Pravartak Technologies Foundation, the innovation hub of IIT Madras, is partnering with BodhBridge Education to launch online live programmes in future-ready skills for school students and educators.

The courses are being offered free of charge, an official release from the institution here on Wednesday said. The topics for teachers, educators, and institutions include career counselling certification training, leadership development programme for educators, and classroom management and student engagement.

Mani Ratnam's 'Inji Vellam' to release on Jan 29

CHENNAI

THE makers of ace director Mani Ratnam's eagerly awaited entertainer 'Inji Vellam', featuring actors Vijay Sethupathi and Sai Pallavi in the lead, on Wednesday announced that the film would hit screens worldwide on January 29 next year.

Taking to its social media timelines, Madras Talkies, the production house of ace director Mani Ratnam and one of the production houses producing the film, wrote, "Save the date. Subaskaran Presents. #InjiVellam from Jan 29th, Worldwide."

Jointly produced by Lyca Productions and Madras Talkies, the film has



music by Oscar winner A R Rahman. In March this year, Madras Talkies had confirmed that A R Rahman was composing music for the film.

The makers had announced the title of the film in September this year, with a cute clip that only had voiceovers. The brief clip featured a conversation between Sai Pallavi and Vijay Sethupathi.

Sai Pallavi says that he (Vijay Sethupathi) is the inji (ginger) and that she is the vellam (jaggery) in the title. She then changes it to she being the inji and he being the vellam.

Eventually, Vijay Sethupathi ends the confusion saying that he is the ginger and she is the jaggery.

V-P REVISITS HIS ALMA MATER



Vice President CP Radhakrishnan attends the Platinum Jubilee celebrations and Alumni Meet of VO Chidambaram College Thoothukudi where he had studied on Wednesday

State gets Centre's nod for pulse stock limits as prices rise

CHENNAI

THE Centre has authorised Tamil Nadu to impose stock limits on tur dal and urad dal to curb hoarding and contain rising prices, following the state government's request for restrictions on the storage of essential commodities.

The approval comes amid mounting pressure on household budgets. Tamil Nadu recorded retail inflation of 6.81 per cent in September, the highest among states, while food prices rose 10.62 per cent, according to figures cited in the report.

Pulses have emerged as a particular concern, with prices continuing to climb. The average retail price of tur dal in Tamil Nadu stood at Rs 134.23 per kg in September, compared with the national average of Rs 124.41, a difference of Rs 9.82.

Prices increased further in October, when tur dal sold for Rs 143 per kg and urad dal for Rs 128. Current retail prices have reached Rs 153.43 and Rs 139.67 per kg, respectively.

Under the approved restrictions, wholesalers can hold up to 200 tonnes each of tur and urad. Retailers and large retail businesses will be allowed to maintain stocks of up to five tonnes of each pulse variety.

The restrictions are intended to prevent excessive accumulation by traders, discourage artificial shortages and ensure that supplies remain available in the market. Separate limits have been prescribed for pulse mills. Their permissible stocks will be based on the previous three months' average processing capacity



or 25 per cent of annual processing capacity, whichever is higher.

This arrangement seeks to curb excessive stockholding while allowing mills to maintain supplies required for regular operations. Importers will also face storage restrictions. Companies bringing pulses into India cannot retain consignments for more than 45 days after their arrival in the country.

The measure aims to ensure imported supplies reach the market promptly instead of remaining in storage for prolonged periods. Tamil Nadu had sought the Union Consumer Affairs Ministry's permission to impose stock limits on rice, edible oils and onions, besides pulses, as part of its efforts to contain food inflation.

However, the Centre has approved restrictions only for tur and urad. With onion prices declining in Tamil Nadu and several other parts of the country, restrictions on onion stocks were considered unnecessary. Approval for stock limits on rice and edible oils has not yet been granted by the Centre.

CM warns TVK MLAs against misconduct

Urges unity amid controversies

CHENNAI

TAMIL Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay on Wednesday reportedly warned Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) legislators that those who stray from acceptable conduct would face action, while urging them to remain united and respond promptly to public grievances.

Addressing a meeting of party MLAs at a star hotel in Mamallapuram, Vijay cautioned legislators against falling into what he described as traps laid by opposition parties to undermine his government.

The meeting assumed significance against the backdrop of controversies involving ruling party legislators that have generated considerable political debate in the State. These include an allegation that the Deputy Speaker assaulted a petitioner and another concerning a text message allegedly sent by the Kallakurichi MLA to the district Collector.

The allegations formed the backdrop to the discussions, though the available account did not indicate whether Vijay addressed either case specifically. The consultation began around 4 p.m., with the Chief Minister reportedly calling legislators individually for discussions. According to accounts emerging from the meeting, he combined a warning on discipline with an appeal for unity and greater attention to constituency issues. Vijay reportedly told the legislators that the party faced several political adversaries and accused the DMK of persistently attempting to obstruct the TVK government.

He urged them to exercise caution and continue serving the public without being distracted by political confrontations. "We must all remain united and continue serving



the people," he was quoted as telling the gathering.

The Chief Minister also reportedly said he had given the police complete freedom to handle law-and-order issues. His remarks came as controversies involving legislators placed the conduct of elected representatives under scrutiny.

Emphasising accountability, Vijay warned that action would be taken against MLAs who went astray. He asked legislators to bring matters requiring intervention to his attention and said they could approach him directly on any issue. He also stressed the need for swift responses to the problems raised by residents, urging MLAs to ensure that public grievances received immediate attention. The message conveyed at the meeting centred on maintaining discipline, strengthening coordination and sustaining public engagement while navigating criticism from opposition parties.

The account of Vijay's remarks was based on reports emerging from the consultation. Details of any specific disciplinary decisions or formal directions issued to individual legislators were not available in that account.

BJP slams TN govt over law and order

Slams Minister's remarks on festival-time murders

CHENNAI

LEADING the charge against the ruling TVK government over the allegedly deteriorating law and order situation in Tamil Nadu, BJP leader Narayanan Thirupathy on Wednesday strongly criticised Minister A Rajmohan for downplaying festival-time murders.

Hitting out at the minister's reported remarks comparing current crime statistics with previous years, Thirupathy said it proves the government has no clue how to manage law and order in the state.

"What Rajmohan says is that murders during festivals are very simple. Last year it was six and the year before last it was 12. I don't think this government has got any idea about how to control the law and order," Thirupathy said while speaking to PTI videos.

He also dismissed the re-



cent two-day special drive by the Tamil Nadu police, which saw 443 arrests following a spate of Deepavali-day murders. Calling the drive a clear admission of failure by the police department, he questioned why a special operation was needed when routine policing should have stopped open crimes in the first place. Citing a recent daylight murder in R A Puram in Chennai, he declared that the state is witnessing a "complete breakdown of law and order".

The BJP leader also mounted a scathing attack on TVK over allegations of severe misconduct by elected representatives. Pointing to reports of TVK legislator from Kallakurichi, Arul Vignesh, allegedly sending unwanted, obscene messages to a woman District Collector, Thirupathy demanded the MLA's immediate arrest.

Thirupathy further accused Deputy Speaker M Ravisankar of assaulting a member of the public who had raised demands about water scarcity. He alleged that the victim was coerced into downplaying the incident and the police were forced to cover it up, describing the situation as absolute "anarchy".

Accusing Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay of remaining a mute spectator, Thirupathy said the CM is "keeping silent on everything." When asked about reports that the Union Home Ministry had sought an assessment from the Governor, the BJP leader said he was unaware of the specifics but reiterated that the law and order situation is currently at its "worst".

Justice Muralidharan, chairperson of TN SC/ST Commission

CHENNAI: THE Tamil Nadu government has appointed former Madras High Court judge Justice M V Muralidharan as the chairperson of the Tamil Nadu State Commission for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. According to a Government Order issued by Social Justice Department Secretary N Subbaiyan on November 10, 2026, Justice Muralidharan will serve as chairperson for a period of three years or until he attains the age of 75, whichever is earlier, with effect from the date he assumes charge. The post of chairperson had fallen vacant following the demise of Justice S Tamilvanan on March 22, 2026, before the completion of his tenure. The selection was made following recommendations by a high-level committee headed by the Chief Secretary to the Government, pursuant to the provisions of the Tamil Nadu State Commission for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Act, 2021.

Wild gaur dies of electrocution in Nilgiris plantation

UDHAGAMANDALAM

A male wild gaur died of electrocution after a live electric line snapped and fell inside a private tea plantation at O'Valley near Gudalur in the Nilgiris district. The incident occurred at Manjushree Estate, falling under the Barwood beat of the O'Valley range within the Gudalur forest division, forest officials said. Upon inspection on Wednesday, forest personnel discovered a dangling power cable that had snapped off a utility pole. The surrounding tea bushes directly beneath the wire were found charred due to the intense electric current, pointing to electrocution as the cause of the animal's death.

Following the discovery, a post-mortem examination was conducted at the spot by veterinary doctors from the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve and the Gudalur forest division in the presence of the assistant conservator of forests, Gudalur. Visceral samples were collected and sent for laboratory analysis to confirm the official cause of death. Following the autopsy and per the advice of the forest veterinary surgeon, the carcass of the wild gaur was buried in a deep pit dug at the scene.

Officials from the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) along with forest department staff visited the site and have launched a detailed investigation into the incident.

Govt will resolve delay in V-C appointments soon: Min

CHENNAI

THE Tamil Nadu government will soon resolve the prolonged delay in appointing Vice-Chancellors to state universities, Higher Education Minister P Viswanathan said on Wednesday, noting that a recent meeting with Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar has resulted in a preliminary understanding.

Acknowledging the vacancies, the minister explained that the matter is currently tied up in court cases involving the previous Tamil Nadu Governor R N Ravi and the state government. "We accept that there are no Vice-Chancellors. It is under litigation," Viswanathan told reporters. He noted that following a recent meeting with the Governor, attended by himself, the School Education Minister, and the Speaker, a resolution is in sight. "An understanding has been reached.

Govt fast-tracks process to restore water bodies

Launches dedicated portal

CHENNAI

THE Tamil Nadu government has launched the 'Eri' portal to provide fast-track online No Objection Certificates to non-governmental organisations and volunteers working on water body restoration across the state.

The automated system, which dispenses with the manual application process, aims to clear eligible restoration applications within a strict 15-day window. The portal addresses a long-standing grievance of eco-volunteers and NGOs using Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds, who previously faced severe bureaucratic delays while seeking clearances from multiple government departments.

Developed by the Water Resources Department, the platform replaces the manual application process with a transparent, time-bound digital mechanism. Some of the key features of the 'Eri' portal -- www.eri.tn.gov.in -- include a centralised database bringing details of over 1 lakh water bodies managed across 5 different government departments onto a single website, allowing users to apply online for critical activities



like desilting, strengthening of bunds, and minor permitted improvement works, and unified coordination with the Chief Engineer and Director of the State Water Resources Management Agency (SWaRMA) appointed as the nodal officer to handle application screening, approval tracking, and inter-departmental coordination.

During the launch event at the Secretariat on Tuesday, Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay handed over the first set of online NOCs to representatives from prominent environmental organisations, including Siruthuli, Environmental Foundation of India (EFI), Exnora International Foundation, Mega Foundation, and Dhan Foundation.

The event was attended by HR&CE Minister S Ramesh, Forest Minister R V Ranjith Kumar, Chief Secretary M Saikumar, Additional Chief Secretary (MA&WS) Gagandeep Singh Bedi, along with other senior secretaries and department heads.

In the face of climate change and increasing water demand, to enhance water storage capacity, improve groundwater recharge, strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change, and ensure water security of Tamil Nadu, the effective participation of NGOs, the public, and volunteers, along with the government, will go a long way in making the efforts sustainable, it is said.

Through the ERI portal, an integrated online platform created to encourage the participation of citizens, NGOs, CSR organisations, institutions and other stakeholders in the restoration and rejuvenation of water bodies across the State.

The portal enables interested organisations to identify water bodies, submit restoration proposals, obtain necessary permissions/NOCs from concerned government departments, track applications, and document the progress and completion of restoration works through a single platform. Water Resources Department, Rural Development & Panchayat Raj, Directorate of Town Panchayats, Greater Chennai Corporation, Municipal Administration (DMA), Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowments, and Environment, Climate Change & Forest, are among the stakeholder departments.