

Fearing price slump, farmers demand MSP for rabi maize

S GODSON WISELY DASS @Thoothukudi

FARMERS from rain-fed regions of Thoothukudi district have urged the union government to extend the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for maize for the rabi season too, citing a steep decline in procurement prices.

Currently, traders are procuring maize at around ₹1,800 per quintal, a sharp decline from ₹2,500 per quintal during the previous rabi season. Farmers fear the price may drop further as maize cultivation has expanded significantly in the district this year.

The area under maize cultivation has increased to 1.85 lakh acres this rabi season from 1.5 lakh acres last year, resulting in a large inflow of produce into the market and pushing prices down. Harvesting is underway in Ottapidaram, Ettayapuram, Vilathikulam, Pudur, Kovilpatti, and Kayathar taluks. Dhanavathi, a farmer from Melanambipuram, told TNIE that traders are offering only ₹1,800 per quintal, which does not even cover production costs. Another farmer, Adhi-



Maize procurement price has gone down by ₹700 per quintal, compared to the last rabi season. An increase in cultivation has pushed down prices, say farmers | EXPRESS

moolam from Ilayarasanendhal, said prices could slump further when harvesting peaks in March. He added that farmers lack adequate storage facilities to hold the produce and sell it later when demand improves.

The Union government had fixed an MSP of ₹2,400 per quintal for maize during the kharif season of 2025-26. However, farmers in Tamil Nadu largely do not cultivate maize during the kharif season, as it is primarily grown as a rabi crop dependent on the north-east monsoon.

Karisalboomi Vivasayigal Sangam president A Varadarajan appealed to the Union government to consider announcing MSP for maize cultivated during the rabi season as

well. At present, regulated markets under the Department of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business procure black gram and green gram on behalf of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED). Farmers argue that inclusion of maize under MSP would allow regulated markets to procure the crop and protect them from financial losses.

A senior official of the Tirunelveli Regulated Market committee told TNIE that a proposal has been sent to the Union government seeking MSP for rabi maize. "Only after the Union government notifies MSP for maize with Cabinet approval can it be procured through regulated markets," the official said.

Nellai police launch video news bulletin

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Tirunelveli

IN a first in Tamil Nadu, the district police launched a daily video-based news bulletin, titled "TDP NEWS - Tirunelveli District Police News" on Wednesday. Superintendent of Police Dr V Prassannakumar unveiled the official logo of the programme at the district police office.

The police, in a statement, said that day-to-day information regarding crimes, action taken, and awareness programmes would be disseminated through the bulletin. The content would feature awareness on road safety, cybercrime prevention, anti-narcotics activities, crimes against women, and other key public events. The Social Media Wing of the Tirunelveli District Police will produce and publish the bulletins, they said, adding that the programmes would also highlight welfare activities, good deeds of the public, and information and announcements for students and youth. Prassannakumar said that members of the public could directly share information on the dedicated mobile number 8939952100.



DEMO-CRAZY

In a voter awareness drive held ahead of the assembly elections, an election official demonstrating the functioning of Electronic Voting Machine (EVMs) and VVPAT machine to a voter near Alagiyandiyapuram in Tirunelveli | V KARTHIK ALAGU

Construction labourer beaten to death near Kovilpatti; 3 held

THOOTHUKUDI: Three men from Avalnatham were arrested on Thursday for allegedly beating a construction worker to death near Kovilpatti. Sources said that a quarrel broke out between the victim, M Karthick (28) from Avalnatham, and the suspects after he questioned them over consuming alcohol near a temple on Wednesday night.

Earlier that evening, Karthick's mother had asked the suspects — V Velmurugan

(33), M Muniyasamy (34), and V Ayyadurai (28) — to move away from that spot, which led to an argument. Upon returning home, Karthick asked the trio about the same, resulting in an exchange of blows. The suspects allegedly hit Karthick on his head with a brick, and he collapsed on the spot.

Kovilpatti West police team, headed by Kovilpatti DSP Jegannathan, shifted the body to TvMCH and arrested the three suspects on Thursday. ENS

CM inaugurates ₹7-crore drinking water scheme

KANNIYAKUMARI: Chief Minister M K Stalin on Thursday virtually inaugurated a ₹7.06 crore drinking water scheme implemented by the TWAD Board in Thovalai taluk. With the commissioning of the scheme, the residents of Kadukkarai, Kattuputhur and Thidal village panchayats will receive a regular drinking water supply. As part of the project, three lakh litres will be pumped daily from Pazhayar river. ENS

10 two-wheelers seized for traffic violations

KANNIYAKUMARI: Nagercoil traffic police on Thursday seized 10 two-wheelers for drunk driving and other violations. Meanwhile, during a vehicle check at Chettikulam junction in Nagercoil, a police team, led by Inspector Pechimuthu, seized a motorbike, stolen in Chennai, from the possession of an individual. ENS

SP launches updated version of REST App

KANNIYAKUMARI: SP R Stalin on Thursday launched an updated version of the REST App used by the police in the district to apply for weekly offs. The latest version has the provision for personnel to apply leave for their wedding anniversaries and birthdays. ENS

MIGRANT WORKER SEXUALLY HARASSED; 2 HELD

TIRUNELVELI: Two youngsters were arrested for allegedly sexually harassing a woman migrant worker from West Bengal at a brick kiln near Ambasamudram on Wednesday. The suspects were identified as Sathesh (18) and Uthamaraja (22), residents of Adaiyakarunkulam. According to sources, several workers from northern states, are employed at the brick kiln operating in the Adaiyakarungulam area near Ambasamudram. "The suspects, in an inebriated state, allegedly sexually harassed a worker, who was on duty at the kiln. Alerted by the incident, the public intervened and handed over the suspects to the police. Based on a complaint, Vikramasingapuram police registered a case and arrested both the suspects," said sources.

History-sheeter hacked to death in Sankarankovil; kin block road



Over 200 people staged a protest seeking arrest of perpetrators | EXPRESS

MORE than 200 residents staged a road blockade in Sankarankovil on Thursday, demanding the arrest of those responsible for the murder of a man on Wednesday night. The deceased was identified

as C. Jothi Murugan (30), a resident of the Railway Feeder Road area. According to police sources, the incident occurred on Wednesday night when Jothi Murugan was walking alone towards the railway station. A group of unidentified persons allegedly waylaid him near

Railway Feeder Road and hacked him to death with sickles. Sankarankovil Town police sent the body to Sankarankovil GH for autopsy. Police sources said that cases, including those related to illegal liquor sale, were pending against the deceased. Preliminary investiga-

tions suggest that previous enmity could be the motive. On Thursday, relatives of the victim and local residents blocked a key road in Sankarankovil, leading to closure of shops in a few areas. They dispersed after police held talks and assured them of action.

Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited) NOTICE: All tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on websites of Coal India Ltd. www.coalindia.in

TAMIL NADU SMALL INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED Regd. Office: TANSIDCO Corporate Office, Thiru.Vi.Ka. Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032 Phone: 2950 1461 / 2950 1422 Fax: 2950 0792 E-Mail: ho@tansidco.org Website: www.tansidco.tn.gov.in TENDER NOTICE NO: 7011(TN-12)/SE/DB/2025 Date: 05.02.2026

NOTICE I, M KOLLAMMAL V PRASAD, W/o. IC/Army No. JC309212L Rank Ex.NB Sub. Name: M NAGENDRA PRASAD, resident of No-8-74D, Vuvkha ilam, Polanconce PO, Kalkulam- TK, Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu - 629 809, My name as per my Record Office is M KOLLAMMAL V PRASAD and date of Birth is 10.05.1967 hereby declared that shall hereafter be known as my name as M KOLLAMMAL. Date of Birth is 10.05.1967. (M KOLLAMMAL) New Name

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU TAMIL NADU FOREST DEPARTMENT Wildlife Warden, Ramanathapuram Tender Notice 2025 - 2026 Date : 06.02.2026 C. No. D/7581/2025 1. For full details, visit www.tntenders.gov.in 2. e-Bids are invited under two Cover system by the Wildlife Warden, Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu state for implementation of Construction of Corallarium at Ariyanam village, Ramanathapuram District under TBGPCCR in Wildlife Division, Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu Forest Department.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION 1. Tender No. & Date: EP No. 156/CGM/ETC/T3/TD-III/2025-26. Dt: 05.02.2026. 2. Name of Work: Supply, delivery and fixing of 800/700 mm dia Butterfly valves and 600mm dia Non Slam type Nozzle check Valves (NRV) for 1300/1475/1425 KW pumpsets at 6.6KV Phase-I, II & III Pumping stations at Kodandapur, Nasaripally and Godakonda and 2000 mm dia Butterfly valve on 2200 mm dia MS Pumping main of KDWSP Phase-I at Nasaripally under Electrical Sub Division, SD-IV of Transmission Division No.III, Sehebnagar.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ DEPARTMENT SALEM DISTRICT Roc.No.704/2024/A6 Dt. 05.02.2026. SWACHH BHARAT MISSION (GRAMIN) PROJECT FUND 2025-2026 Construction of a 10KLD capacity Fume Management Treatment Plant (FSTP) in Vellalapati Panchayat, Which Connecting 27 Panchayat in Pethanayakkanpalayam Block.

NOTICE Under the instructions from my client H.Gurunathan S/o.R.Hariharasubramanian residing at Door No.357, 5th Middle Street, Thiagarajar Nagar, Palayamkottai, Tirunelveli-627 011, the following notice is published. My above said client lost the original sale deed 1419/1987 dt. 18.06.1987 in the name of his father R.Hariharasubramanian, registered before Sub Registrar, Melappalayam, Tirunelveli District. The said document was lost by my client while taking it outside from his house on 09.07.2025.

IFCI LIMITED 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 public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s), Mortgages and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of IFCI Ltd Secured Creditor, which will be sold on 'AS IS WHERE IS AND WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS.' on 17.03.2026, [11.30 AM to 1.00 PM] for recovery of Rs. 861,21,90,089/- (Rupees Eight hundred sixty one crore twenty one lakh ninety thousand eighty nine Only), calculated upto 14/01/2026, due to the IFCI Ltd, Secured Creditor from Coastal Energy Private Limited (Borrower), Shri Ahmed RS Buhari (Personal Guarantor) and Coastal Gujarat PowerGenco Pvt Ltd (Mortgagor and Corporate Guarantor). The description of property along with reserve price and earnest money deposit are mentioned hereunder: (Rs. Crore)

NOTIFICATION OF THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR, NAMAKKAL FOR LEASING OUT ROUGH STONE & GRAVEL QUARRIES THROUGH ONLINE TENDERS CUM ANNEXURE Rc.No. 459 / Mines / 2025, Dated : 03.02.2026. Notification of the District Collector, Namakkal for leasing Rough Stone & Gravel Quarries in Government Paramboke Lands is published in Namakkal District Gazette (Extraordinary) No. 03, Dated : 03.02.2026. Interested persons can download the Tender Document available from the following web portal http://tntenders.gov.in during the application window and applications are invited from 06.02.2026 on 10.00 A.M. on wards and up to 20.02.2026 05.00 P.M.

5 DAYS Shirdi, Pandaripuram, Mantralayam 11 DAYS Kasi, Gaya, Ayothi, Agra, Delhi 6 DAYS Tamilnadu Tour Arupadai Veedu 15 DAYS Nepal Muktinath Kasi Ayothi 5 DAYS Ahobilam, Srisailem, Mahanandhi 16 DAYS Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri, Yamunotri 14 DAYS NORTH EAST 5 DAYS Hyderabad 14 DAYS Kashmir, Amritsar, Delhi 14 DAYS Shimla, Kulamanali, Kurukshetra 1 ANDAMAN Gangtok, Darjeeling 7 ANDAMAN 13 RAJASTHAN 8 KERALA 15 PANCHADWARKA 9 SRILANKA 6 SINGAPORE, MALAYSIA 4 THAILAND SRINIVASA TOUR 9384854569