

PRESS RELEASE

Government of Tamil Nadu signs Memorandum of Understanding with United Nations Environment Programme for implementing Urban Cooling Programme in the State

On 1st March 2023, the Government of Tamil Nadu signed a Memorandum of Understanding with United Nations Environment Programme to develop a comprehensive Urban Cooling programme of support in the State to meet the objectives under Tamil Nadu State Action Plan on Climate Change.

United Nations Environment Programme is the leading organization within the United Nations system in the field of environment and has a major area of focus of its global mandate, the conservation, protection, enhancement and support of nature and natural resources, including biological diversity, worldwide. United Nations Environment Programme in collaboration with the National Institute of Urban Affairs and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, are implementing a national Urban Cooling Programme to support Indian cities to implement sustainable cooling and heat resiliency strategies. This programme is being delivered under the framework of the Cool Coalition and the India-Denmark Green Strategic Partnership.

The Memorandum of Understanding shall facilitate collaboration between Government of Tamil Nadu and United Nations Environment Programme to address the rapidly increasing demand for cooling in cities while supporting implementation of initiatives to adapt and counteract rising extreme heat. United Nations Environment Programme will work with Environment Climate Change and Forest Department, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department and Housing and Urban Development Department to prepare comprehensive action plans including improved urban design, enhancing green cover in cities, building efficiency measures, extreme heat planning and District cooling. Memorandum of Understanding shall also facilitate the following:-

- a) Undertake capacity building and awareness raising for a wide range of stakeholders in Tamil Nadu on sustainable cooling and extreme heat including technological, financial, policy and institutional solutions.
- b) Enhance South-South co-operation through training and awareness raising to other states in India and other countries on the activities and lessons from the programme of work in Tamil Nadu.
- c) Facilitate comprehensive city and state-level planning for plastics waste management through scientific assessments and decision support systems, extended producers responsibility (EPR) implementation frameworks, enforcement of single-use plastics bans, capacity building and awareness generation.
- d) Assist in developing and implementing comprehensive city and state-level air quality management decision support systems and plans through scientific assessments, cost-effectiveness analysis, implementation framework, capacity building and awareness generation.

Government of Tamil Nadu has taken several pioneering efforts to make Tamil Nadu a climate resilient state. Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company is the first of its kind special purpose vehicle in India to steer climate action in the state. The company guides three key missions of the Government viz Green Tamil Nadu Mission, Tamil Nadu Wetland Mission and Tamil Nadu Climate Change Mission.

Government of Tamil Nadu is also setting up Tamil Nadu Green Climate Fund with the fund size of INR 1000 Crores. The Fund shall also have the green shoe option of another INR 1000 Crores. This will be the first of its kind initiative to support mega green projects under the public private partnership mode. Government of Tamil Nadu is also in the process of implementing several other initiatives viz. Climate Smart Villages, Chief Minister Green Fellowship programme, Bio fencing of coastal areas etc., Earlier, Government Tamil Nadu had

announced setting up of district level climate change missions in all 38 districts in Tamil Nadu and has already designated District Forest Officers as Climate Officers.

Memorandum of Understanding was exchanged in a ceremony in the presence of their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Frederik, and Crown Princess Mary of Denmark and Hon'ble Minister of Finance and Human Resource Management Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan and Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology and Digital Services Thiru T. Mano Thangaraj participated in this event.

Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Thiru Atul Bagai, Country Head, United Nations Environment Programme and the Government of Tamil Nadu represented by Tmt.Supriya Sahu, IAS., Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment, Climate Change and Forest Department, Thiru Shiv Das Meena, IAS., Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department and Selvi Apoorva, IAS., Principal Secretary to Government, Housing and Urban Development Department.

Additional Chief Secretary to Government Environment, Climate Change and Forest Department

Issued By: - DIPR, Secretariat, Chennai – 9

For Latest Government News, Follow Us On :



tn dipr news



tn dipr



tn dipr



TN DIPR



www.dipr.tn.gov.in