

**Meeting between Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology & Digital Services, Government of Tamil Nadu, Dr Palanivel Thiaga Rajan and UK Minister of State for Indo-Pacific, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, Rt Hon'ble Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP.**

As part of the UK Government's Frontier Technology Hub programme, a project idea for 'Smart District Administration using IoT Technologies', originated by the Department of Information Technology & Digital Services, has been accepted. A collaboration for a pilot project between the governments was proposed under this programme, with the UK Government intending to offer technical assistance. An in-principle collaboration letter is exchanged, in the august presence of the Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology & Digital Services, Government of Tamil Nadu Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan and Minister of State for Indo-Pacific, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, Government of United Kingdom, Rt Hon'ble Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP, on 14.10.2023 at the camp office of the Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology & Digital Services, Government of Tamil Nadu. Thiru. Dheeraj Kumar, I.A.S., Principal Secretary to Government, Information Technology & Digital Services Department, Thiru.Praveen P Nair, IAS., Chief Executive Officer, Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency, Oliver Ballhatchet MBE, British Deputy High Commissioner, Thiru.A.Robert J Ravi, ITS,Chief Technology Officer,Information Technology & Digital Services Department, were present.

One of the challenges faced by district administrations is the efficient management of resources, including energy, water and waste. Conventional methods of monitoring these systems can be time-consuming and inefficient, leading to resource wastage and higher costs. Advancements in technology, particularly effective monitoring and the availability of raw data directly from the source, will help provide a comprehensive perspective for informed decision-making in the implementation of various development projects in towns, blocks and villages. The digitization of all economic activities in a district brings benefits and efficiencies driving innovation, fuelling job opportunities, and stimulating economic growth.

In this context, Internet of Things (IoT) emerges as a pivotal technology that can significantly address such challenges faced by district local administrations. With IoT technology, sensors can be strategically placed throughout the district to collect

real-time data on energy usage, water consumption, waste management, and other crucial indicators. This data can be analyzed using machine learning algorithms to identify patterns and trends, enabling district administrators to make more informed decisions about resource allocation and management. In addition to resource management, IoT can also enhance public safety and security.

The pilot project aims to select critical use case applications, including monitoring the quality and quantity of water flows at source and distribution, solutions for fishermen, underground drainage management, environmental monitoring systems, smart waste bins etc. Additionally, through effective big data analytics of the collected data, various other applications for state actors can be derived. The system could interface with other government systems to facilitate various authentications for citizens and other stakeholders. Subsequently, the central unit will coordinate with all districts of the state, providing real-time data and conducting 'Big Data Analytics' and forensic analysis of the received data, paving the way for attaining the Chief Minister's Vision of social-equity led \$1 trillion economy through inclusive and innovative technologies.

**Chief Executive Officer,  
Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency.**

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