माँ शाकुम्भरी विश्वविद्यालय, सहारनपुर

(पुवाँरका, सहारनपुर, उ0प्र0, पिन–247120)

Website- msuniversity.ac.in Email – dyregistrar@msuniversity.ac.in

पत्रांक-623 /शैक्षणिक/एम0एस0यू0/2026-27 दिनांक - 13/11/26

सेवा में,

1. शैक्षणिक समन्वयक,
   विश्वविद्यालय परिसर,
   माँ शाकुम्भरी विश्वविद्यालय,
   सहारनपुर।

(केवल ई-मेल द्वारा)

2. प्राचार्य/प्राचार्या
   समस्त सम्बद्ध महाविद्यालय,
   राजकीय, अनुदानित एंव स्ववित्त पोषित महाविद्यालय,
   जनपद - सहारनपुर, मुजफ्फरनगर व शामली।

विषय - काशी तमिल संगमम् 5.0 के पाँचवे संस्करण के आयोजन के सम्बन्ध में।

महोदय/महोदया,

कृपया उपर्युक्त विषयक, शिक्षा निदेशक (उ0शि0), शिक्षा डिग्री विकास अनुभाग, प्रयागराज के पत्र संख्या-डिग्री विकास/1938/2026-27 दिनांक- 10.11.2026 एवं शासन के पत्र संख्या-1/1509025/2026/1091/सत्तर-3-2026 दिनांक- 30.10.2026, महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली के पत्र दिनांक 26.10.2026 एवं उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग नई दिल्ली के पत्र दिनांक 29.09.2026 के पत्र का अवलोकन करने का कष्ट करें, जिसके माध्यम से 28 नवंबर, 2026 से 12 दिसंबर, 2026 तक आयोजित होने वाले काशी तमिल संगमम (केटीएस 5.0) के पांचवे संस्करण का आयोजन किया जाना है। माननीय प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा परिकल्पित काशी तमिल संगमम की शुरूआत काशी और तमिलनाडु के बीच सदियों पुराने सभ्यागत संबंधों को मनाने, पुनः स्थापित करने और मजबूत करने के लिए की गई थी। काशी तमिल संगमम के पहले और दूसरे संस्करण में माननीय प्रधानमंत्री की गरिमामय उपस्थिति रही, जो कि स्वतः स्पष्ट है। उक्त पत्र की प्रति संलग्न कर दी गई है।

उक्त के क्रम में मुझे यह कहने का निदेश हुआ है कि दिनांक 15.11.2026 तक अपने महाविद्यालय के विद्यार्थियों एवं शिक्षकों को उक्त कार्यक्रम में सहभागिता हेतु प्रोत्साहित करते हुए पंजीकरण लिंक https://kts.cict.in/institutions/register पर पंजीकरण करते हुए सूचना उपकुलसचिव की ई-मेल dyregistrar@msuniversity.ac.in पर सूचना प्रेषित करने का कष्ट करें।

(संलग्नक यथोपरि)

उपकुलसचिव
(शैक्षणिक)

प्रतिलिपि निम्नलिखित को सूचनार्थ एवं आवश्यक कार्यवाही हेतु प्रेषित -

1. कुलपति कार्यालय को मा0 कुलपति जी के संज्ञानार्थ।
2. कुलसचिव।
3. परीक्षा नियंत्रक।
4. वित्त अधिकारी।
5. गार्ड फाइल।

उपकुलसचिव
(शैक्षणिक)

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सूचना एवं
प्रसारण मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING
सत्यमेव जयते

காசி தமிழ் சங்கமம்

काशी तमिल संगमम 5.0

(28 नवम्बर – 12 दिसम्बर 2026)

तमिलनाडु और काशी

के सदियों पुराने सभ्यतागत सम्बन्धों का
उत्सव मनाएं, उन्हें फिर से मजबूत करें और नयी ऊर्जा दें

थीम

"तिरुक्कुरल पयिल्वोम –
तिरुक्कुरल अभ्यास करें"

स्कैन करें

पंजीकरण की अंतिम तिथि

13 नवम्बर 2026

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4183/Reg.
12/11/26

प्रेषक,

शिक्षा निदेशक (उच्चशिक्षा),
शिक्षा विभाग विकास अनुभाग,
प्रयागराज।

DR (Academic) / उपकुलसचिव (शैक्षणिक)
तत्काल कार्यवाही करेंगे
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सेवा में,

1. समस्त क्षेत्रीय उच्च शिक्षा अधिकारी, उत्तर प्रदेश।
2. समस्त कुलसचिव, राज्य विश्वविद्यालय, उत्तर प्रदेश।

पत्रांक:- विभाग/ 1938 /2026 - 27 Registration - 10/11/2026

विषय – काशी तमिल संगमम् 5.0 के पाँचवे संस्करण के आयोजन के सम्बन्ध में।

महोदय,

उपर्युक्त विषयक शासन के पत्र संख्या I/1509025/2026/1091/सत्तर – 3 – 2026 दिनांक 30.10.2026, महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली के पत्र दिनांक 26.10.2026 एवं उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग नई दिल्ली के पत्र दिनांक 29.09.2026 का संदर्भ ग्रहण करने का कष्ट करें जो काशी तमिल संगमम् 5.0 के पाँचवे संस्करण के आयोजन के सम्बन्ध में है।

उक्त के सम्बन्ध में अवगत कराना है कि अवगत कराना है कि 28 नवंबर, 2026 से 12 दिसंबर, 2026 तक आयोजित होने वाले काशी तमिल संगमम (केटीएस 5.0) के पांचवें संस्करण के आयोजन किया जाना है। माननीय प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा परिकल्पित काशी तमिल संगमम की शुरुआत काशी और तमिलनाडु के बीच सदियों पुराने सभ्यतागत संबंधों को मनाने, पुनः स्थापित करने और मजबूत करने के लिए की गई थी। काशी तमिल संगमम के पहले और दूसरे संस्करण में माननीय प्रधानमंत्री की गरिमामय उपस्थिति रही।

केटीएस 5.0 की थीम "**थिरुक्कुरल पयिल्वोम - थिरुक्कुरल अभ्यास करें**" होगी। तिरुक्कुरल स्थायी नैतिक और नैतिक महत्व का एक शास्त्रीय तमिल पाठ है। इसका उद्देश्य तमिल के शास्त्रीय ग्रंथ तिरुक्कुरल में निहित कालजयी नैतिक और जीवन मूल्यों की सीख को देशभर के युवाओं और शिक्षार्थियों तक पहुँचाना है।

यह उम्मीद की जा रही है कि तमिलनाडु से लगभग 1,400 लोग लगभग 200-200 व्यक्तियों के सात समूहों में भाग लेंगे। सात श्रेणियां इस प्रकार होंगी: छात्र; शिक्षक; लेखक और मीडिया पेशेवर; कृषि और संबद्ध क्षेत्र के पेशेवर और कारीगर; छात्र; महिलाएं; और आध्यात्मिका प्रत्येक श्रेणी में एक बड़ा हिस्सा युवाओं का होगा। इन प्रतिभागियों का दौरा आठ दिनों का होगा, जिसमें चार दिन यात्रा और चार दिन भ्रमण एवं कार्यक्रम शामिल होंगे। समूह अलग-अलग दिनों में अपनी यात्रा शुरू करेंगे। यात्रा कार्यक्रम में वाराणसी, प्रयागराज और अयोध्या शामिल होंगे, जिनमें सांस्कृतिक, शैक्षणिक, विषय-विशिष्ट और आध्यात्मिक गतिविधियाँ होंगी, जिनमें काशी में तमिल सर्किट भी शामिल है। स्थानीय भ्रमण IRCTC, BHU और स्थानीय प्रशासन द्वारा आयोजित किए जाएंगे।

पिछले संस्करणों की तरह, यह निर्णय लिया गया है कि IIT-M और BHU उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के सहयोग से KTS 5.0 को लागू करने के लिए नोडल संस्थान होंगे। इस संबंध में, यात्रा कार्यक्रम बीएचयू द्वारा यूपी सरकार के परामर्श से तय किया जाएगा, और इसे सभी व्यवस्थाएं करने के लिए IRCTC के साथ साझा किया जाएगा।

IRCTC, BHU के नोडल अधिकारियों और वाराणसी के विकास आयुक्त/वाराणसी, प्रयागराज और अयोध्या के जिला प्रशासनों के साथ समन्वय स्थापित करके इन शहरों में प्रतिनिधियों के ठहरने और स्थानीय भ्रमण की व्यवस्था करेगी। उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार/जिला प्रशासनों से अनुरोध है कि वे इस संबंध में आवश्यक व्यवस्थाएं करें और IRCTC को उपयुक्त होटलों की पहचान और बुकिंग में आवश्यक सहयोग प्रदान करें। कार्यक्रम के दौरान किसी भी चिकित्सा आवश्यकता को पूरा करने के लिए वाराणसी

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के किसी स्थानीय अस्पताल में बिस्तर आरक्षित करने की भी व्यवस्था की जाए। इस संबंध में संकल्पना पत्र की एक प्रति संलग्न है। उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार पिछले वर्षों की तरह ही बाहरी प्रचार-प्रसार कर सकती है, ताकि वाराणसी के स्थानीय लोगों को इस आयोजन के बारे में पता चले और वे लोगों के बीच आपसी जुड़ाव के लिए विशेष कार्यक्रमों में भाग ले सकें।

वाराणसी, प्रयागराज और अयोध्या के प्रशासनों को केटीएस 5.0 के सुचारू और सफल आयोजन के लिए आवश्यक तैयारी शुरू करने और सभी आवश्यक व्यवस्थाएँ करने, वाराणसी, प्रयागराज और अयोध्या में जिन क्षेत्रों/मार्गों को कवर करते हुए संवेदनयुक्त किये जाने और प्रतिनिधियों की सुगम आवाजाही सुनिश्चित करने के लिए आवश्यक व्यवस्थाएँ करते हुए इस आयोजन के सफल संचालन को सुनिश्चित करने में आपके निरंतर सहयोग और समर्थन किये जाने की अपेक्षा की गयी है।

आप सभी से अपेक्षा की जाती है कि इस पत्र के साथ संलग्न रजिस्ट्रेशन लिंक https://kts.cict.in/institutions/register पर रजिस्ट्रेशन की कार्यवाही अपने स्तर से करना सुनिश्चित करें। सूच्य है कि रजिस्ट्रेशन की तिथि 15 नवम्बर, 2026 है।

उक्त के सम्बन्ध में आप सभी से यह भी अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वांछित कार्यवाही सुनिश्चित कराते हुए उसकी अनुपालन आख्या अधोहस्ताक्षरी को उपलब्ध कराना सुनिश्चित करें।

संलग्नक – यथोक्त।

भवदीय,

10.11.26

डॉ0 (शशि कपूर)
संयुक्त शिक्षा निदेशक (उ0शि0),
कृते शिक्षा निदेशक (उ0शि0),
उत्तर प्रदेश, प्रयागराज।

पृष्ठांकन संख्या – डिग्री विकास/ 1938-41 /उसी तिथि को।

प्रतिलिपि निम्नलिखित को सूचनार्थ एवं आवश्यक कार्यवाही हेतु प्रेषित –

1. संयुक्त सचिव, उच्च शिक्षा अनुभाग – 3, उत्तर प्रदेश शासन, लखनऊ।
2. अपर सचिव, उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य उच्च शिक्षा परिषद, लखनऊ को इस आशय से प्रेषित कि अपने स्तर से निजी विश्वविद्यालयों को सूचना प्रेषित करते हुए शासन के पत्र में वांछित कार्यवाही करते हुए समेकित अनुपालन आख्या शासन को प्रेषित करने के साथ ही उसकी एक प्रति अधोहस्ताक्षरी को भी उपलब्ध कराना सुनिश्चित करें।
3. प्रो0 आँचल श्रीवास्तव, नोडल अधिकारी, काशी तमिल संगममू, बनारस हिन्दू विश्वविद्यालय, वाराणसी।

डॉ0 (शशि कपूर)
संयुक्त शिक्षा निदेशक (उ0शि0),
कृते शिक्षा निदेशक (उ0शि0),
उत्तर प्रदेश, प्रयागराज।

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उत्तर प्रदेश शासन
उच्च शिक्षा अनुभाग-3
संख्या-1/1509025/2026 /1091 /सत्र-3-2026
लखनऊ: दिनांक: 30-10-2026

कार्यालय ज्ञाप

तत्काल प्रभाव से डॉ० मोनिका सिंह, निदेशक, उच्च शिक्षा, उ०प्र०, प्रयागराज को काशी तमिल संगमम 5.0 (KTS 5.0) हेतु एतद्द्वारा नोडल अधिकारी नामित किया जाता है, जिनका विवरण निम्नवत है-

नाम	पदनाम	मोबाइल नम्बर	ई-मेल आई-डी०
डॉ० मोनिका सिंह,	निदेशक, उच्च शिक्षा, उ०प्र०, प्रयागराज	7983131279	infodheup21@gmail.com

राम जनम चौहान
उप सचिव।

संख्या एवं दिनांक तदैव।
प्रतिलिपि निम्नलिखित को सूचनार्थ एवं आवश्यक कार्यवाही हेतु प्रेषित:-
1- निजी सचिव,अपर मुख्य सचिव, उच्च शिक्षा विभाग, उ०प्र० शासन।
2- निजी सचिव, समस्त विशेष सचिव, उच्च शिक्षा विभाग, उ०प्र० शासन।
3- निदेशक, उच्च शिक्षा विभाग, उ०प्र० प्रयागराज।
4- जिलाधिकारी/पुलिस अधीक्षक, वाराणसी/प्रयागराज/अयोध्या।
5- सम्बन्धित नोडल अधिकारी को इस निर्देश के साथ प्रेषित कि कृपया सचिव, शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के पत्र संख्या- 16-2/2026-Skt.I, दिनांक 29.09.2026 में की गयी अपेक्षानुसार बनारस हिन्दू विश्वविद्यालय से समंवय करते हुए उच्च शिक्षा विभाग हेतु निर्धारित बिन्दुओं अग्रतर आवश्यक कार्यवाही करने का कष्ट करें।
6- सचिव, शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार को उनके पत्र संख्या- 16-2/2026-Skt.I, दिनांक 29.09.2026 के क्रम में सूचनार्थ प्रेषित।
7- गार्ड फाईल।

आज्ञा से,
Digitally signed by RAM JANAM CHAUHAN
Date: 30-10-2026 11:20:43
(राम जनम चौहान)
उप सचिव।

विकास
2/11/26
सहायक निदेशक
डा० अमित सिंह
30/10/2026
शिक्षा निदेशक (उ० शि०) उ० प्र०
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No. 40210/MS/SECY GI/2026

दीप्ति गौड़ मुकर्जी, आईएएस
सचिव
Deepti Gaur Mukerjee, IAS
Secretary

भारत सरकार
उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग
शिक्षा मंत्रालय
नई दिल्ली
Government of India
Department of Higher Education
Ministry of Education
New Delhi

D.O. No. 16-2/2026-Skt.I

Dated: 29.09.2026

Dear Sir,

I am writing in connection with the organizing of the fifth edition of Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS 5.0) from 28th November, 2026 to 12th December, 2026.

2. Kashi Tamil Sangamam, envisioned by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, was initiated to celebrate, reaffirm and strengthen the age-old civilisational links between Kashi and Tamil Nadu. The first and second editions of Kashi Tamil Sangamam were graced by the esteemed presence of the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

3. The theme of KTS 5.0 will be "Thirukkural Payilvom - Thirukkural Abhyas Karen". Thirukkural is a classical Tamil text of enduring ethical and moral significance.

4. It is expected that around 1,400 people from Tamil Nadu will participate in seven groups of about 200 persons each. The seven categories will be: Students; Teachers; Writers and Media Professionals; Agriculture and Allied Sector; Professionals and Artisans; Women; and Spiritual. A major proportion of each category will comprise of youth and students.

5. The tour of these participants will be of eight days, comprising four days of travel and four days of visits and programmes. The groups will commence their journey on successive days. The itinerary will include Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya, with cultural, academic, domain-specific and spiritual engagements, including the Tamil Circuit in Kashi. Local visits to be curated by IRCTC, BHU and local administration.

6. As in the previous editions, it has been decided that IIT-M and BHU will be the nodal institutions for implementing KTS 5.0 in collaboration with the Govt. of UP.

7. In this regard, the tour itinerary is to be decided by BHU in consultation with the UP Govt., and the same will be shared with IRCTC for making all arrangements.

8. IRCTC will coordinate with the BHU Nodal Officers and the Development Commissioner, Varanasi/District Administrations of Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya for facilitating the stay and local visits of the delegates in these cities. The Government of Uttar Pradesh/District Administrations may kindly facilitate the necessary arrangements in this regard and extend requisite support to IRCTC for identification and booking of suitable hotels. Necessary arrangements may also kindly be made for reserving beds at a local hospital in Varanasi to meet any medical requirements during the programme. A copy of concept note in this regard is enclosed.

9. Government of Uttar Pradesh may undertake the outdoor publicity as was done during the last years, so that local people of Varanasi get to know about the event and attend the special programmes for people-to-people connection.

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10. I, therefore, request you to direct the administrations of Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya to initiate the necessary preparatory action and make all requisite arrangements for the smooth and successful organisation of KTS 5.0. The areas/routes to be covered in Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya may also kindly be sensitised and necessary arrangements made to ensure the smooth movement and travel of the delegates. I look forward to your continued cooperation and support in ensuring the successful conduct of the event.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Deepti Gaur Mukerjee)

Shri S.P. Goyal,
Chief Secretary,
B-Block, Lok Bhawan,
U.P. Secretariat, Vidhan Sabha Marg,
Lucknow,
Uttar Pradesh-226001

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अनिल मलिक, भा.प्र.से.
सचिव
Anil Malik, I.A.S.
Secretary

भारत सरकार
महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय
जीपीओए–3, नेताजी नगर
नई दिल्ली–110023
Government of India
Ministry of Women & Child Development

D.O. No. ECCE/8/2026-CPMU

26th October, 2026

Dear Chief Secretary,

I would like to draw your kind attention to my earlier D.O. letter of even number dated 13th April, 2026 regarding the implementation of action items emerging from the 6th National Conference of Chief Secretaries (NCCS) under the theme "Early Childhood Education: Laying the Foundation". As you may recall, the Conference underscored Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) as a critical foundation for development of human capital and the realisation of Viksit Bharat @2047.

2. The Conference identified 21 time-bound action items to achieve universal and quality ECCE through the Anganwadi system and convergence with partner Ministries/Departments. While significant progress has been made, implementation of some action items requires further acceleration. At the review held by the Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog, on 15th October, 2026, action item 8, which remains delayed in a few States, and action items 18 and 19, due for completion by December 2026, were flagged for priority attention.

3. Action item 18 focusses on strengthening community engagement for ensuring greater role of family and community in child rearing. In this regard, guidelines for constitution of Anganwadi Management Committees (AMCs) for each Anganwadi have been issued on 25th July, 2026 to provide an institutional mechanism for community engagement. **The constitution of AMCs for each Anganwadi needs to be ensured by the end of November 2026.** They are expected to facilitate regular engagement through Tithi Bhojan, donations of toys, clothes and learning materials, and community competitions on nutrition and childcare practices.

4. Action item 18 also envisages adoption of Anganwadis by universities and colleges, student engagement through research, internships and fieldwork, and birthday celebrations by secondary school students at AWCs. In this connection, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued an advisory to all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) vide its communication dated 2nd April, 2026. **I request you to kindly take up the matter with State Universities and Colleges to integrate these recommendations into their curricula and make them a regular part of academic activities. Similarly, visit of secondary school students to nearby Anganwadi Centre may also be institutionalised through the issue of specific advisory / guidelines.**

Cont'd.....

Room No. 6501, 6th Floor, Zone-5, GPOA-3, Netaji Nagar, New Delhi-110 023
Tel.: 011-24103586, 011-24106731, E-mail: secy.wcd@gov.in, Website: https://www.wcd.gov.in

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Action item 19 recommends to allocate 2-3 rooms to Anganwadis at the time of construction of a new Govt. primary school or its upgradation. Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL) has advised State Education Departments to make the necessary provision for Anganwadi Centres in construction plans or through renovation/ expansion of existing school infrastructure in coordination with the State WCD Department. **It will be helpful if the recommendation is incorporated in the guidelines of School Education Department to formalize an administrative framework mandating construction of 2-3 rooms for Anganwadi Centres whenever fresh construction or major renovation work for a school is undertaken.**

6. The progress of all these action items is expected to be presented during the 6th NCCS scheduled to be held in December 2026. I would, therefore, request you to kindly direct the authorities concerned to share progress report in respect of all the 21 action items by the last day of each month to facilitate timely updating the consolidated implementation status on the dedicated CS Conference Portal.

7. A tabular statement indicating the targets, timelines and actions required is enclosed as Annexure.

8. Further, I would also solicit your personal attention for ensuring that all the action items emerging from the sub-theme 1 of 5th NCCS are completed in a timely manner. Given the involvement of multiple Departments, particularly Health, Education, Panchayati Raj, Rural Development and Agriculture, an early meeting of the State Steering Committee of Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 may also be convened to ensure coordinated action.

9. I look forward to your continued cooperation in this important matter.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Encl: As above.

(Anil Malik)

Chief Secretaries of all States.

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Government of India
Ministry of Women and Child Development

Annexure

ACTION TAKEN STATUS ON ACTION ITEMS EMERGING FROM 5th NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHIEF SECRETARIES HELD IN DECEMBER, 2025 ON SUB-THEME: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION: LAYING THE FOUNDATION

Sl. No.	Recommendation	Action Items	Targets & Timeline	Action to be taken by States/UTs
1.	Strengthening Health and Nutrition foundations for children	• State/ UTs to achieve reduction of underweight, stunted and wasted children. • States/ UTs to formulate region specific SNP recipes to enhance cultural acceptability, nutrient density and diet diversity. • Establish new Poshan Vatikas in convergence with MoA and MoPR for enhancing SNP with seasonal fresh local fruits and vegetables.	**States/UTs:** • To achieve 1% annual reduction in Underweight and stunted children. • To achieve 0.5% annual reduction in wasted children. • To establish 1 lakh new Poshan Vatikas. • To ensure Appetite Test of 100% SAM children. **[Timeline: 31st March 2027]**	• States / UTs to ensure compliance with the Protocol for Management of Malnutrition in Children. • States/ UTs to establish additional Poshan Vatikas. **Out of 2 lakh Poshan Vatikas to be established, a State/UT may establish Poshan Vatikas at least in number equal to that of Sakham Anganwadis sanctioned.** • M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoAFW), vide letter dated 17.7.2026, has extended support for providing the seed, planting materials and cultivating seasonal vegetables, spices and fruits to Anganwadi Centres as admissible under the guidelines of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (copy enclosed).

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2.		• Ensure and monitor appetite test and referrals of SAM children as per CMAM Protocol.	**States/UTs:** • Further, 1% annual reduction in underweight and stunted children • Further, 0.5% annual reduction in wasted children • To establish 2 lakh new Poshan Vatikas. **[Timeline: 31st August 2028]**	• Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has issued advisory, vide letter dated 17.4.2026, to all States and UTs to leverage Panchayati Raj Institutions for identification and provision of suitable small parcels of land near AWCs such as Panchayat land, vacant village land, or any other available community/ Government land for the establishment of Poshan Vatikas (copy enclosed). • **The State counterparts of above Departments may be approached for obtaining support/ inputs for Poshan Vatika.** • MoHFW vide D.O. dated 31.8.2026 has been requested to ensure 100% Appetite Test of SAM children identified at the AWC. **With the support of State Health Department, 100% Appetite Test of SAM children identified at the AWCs may be ensured** (copy enclosed).
3.	Focused Intervention on ECCE for early years (birth to three years)	• Conduct regular home visits for children to provide guidance on nutrition, health, and early learning. • Children will be observed during home visits by the AWW for developmental milestones using a checklist integrated with	• Tracking of 50% children in AWCs. • To prepare AV Aids. • Monthly Shishu Diwas to be observed in all AWCs. **[Timeline: 31st March 2027]**	• 23 Home Visits have been institutionalized to cover pregnancy (4th month) till child is 3 years through revised Home Visit Scheduler (HVS). AV aids aligned with Navchetana has been integrated with HVS to be shown to parents/ caregivers by AWWs. • **Regular home visits shall be conducted by AWWs providing guidance to parents/ caregivers on nutrition, health, care, early**

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4.		the Poshan Tracker for systematic monitoring and follow-up. • Equip AWWs with low-cost/ no-cost TLMs to enhance engagement and learning during home visits. • AV aids aligned with Navchetana, to guide AWWs integrated on Poshan Tracker. • A dedicated age-appropriate caregiver event, "Shishu Diwas," for monthly interactions between AWWs and parents/ caregivers.	• Tracking of 100% children in AWCs. [Timeline: 31st March 2028]	stimulation practices and observation of developmental milestones. • States/UTs shall ensure timely referral of children with delays in achieving milestones to appropriate medical intervention. • It is envisaged to celebrate 'Shishu Diwas' in convergence with VHSND. During Shishu Diwas, children who have not achieved the developmental milestones shall be re-assessed by ANM/ MO, and referred (if needed) for further management. • Under PBPB, training is provided to AWWs on low cost TLM. Examples include sealed bottle with grains, soft cotton cloths, stainless steel bowl & spoons etc. Further, Rattles & Teethers, Squeaky Toys, Soft Balls, Pyramid Rings etc. may be provided to AWWs for Home Visit as well.
5.	ECCE for children (three to six years) to improve school readiness	• Develop additional activity based, age-appropriate learning content for AWWs/ AWHs and parents. • Provide ECCE certificates (Vidyarambh Certificates) to children completing preschool education at AWCs to recognise achievements and motivate continued learning.	• Develop full Learning content. • 100% ECCE Certificate (Vidyarambh certificates) distribution to children (5-6 years) completing PSE at AWCs annually. • Monthly ECCE Day and Yoga Day to be	• 249 unique videos, 190 voice notes, +130 unique activity PDFs etc. based on Aadharshila have been uploaded on Poshan Tracker in Hindi and English. The trans-creation of these videos into 10 more Indian languages are currently under process. • States/ UTs have been advised, vide letter dated 25.08.2025, to distribute Vidyarambh Certificates to children completing preschool education at AWCs. • Guidelines for celebrating monthly ECCE Days was issued vide Ministry's letter dated 29.11.2023. Ministry of AYUSH, vide letter

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		• Dedicated age-appropriate ECCE day to be celebrated at each AWC to discuss each child's development. • Conduct Monthly Yoga Day to promote physical wellbeing, mindfulness, and holistic development among children.	observed in all AWCs. **[Timeline: 30th April 2027]**	dated 23.7.2026, has pr... comprehensive Yoga Module for children (3-6 years) for observing Monthly Yoga Day at AWCs (copy enclosed). • **States/ UTs shall ensure that fixed monthly ECCE Days along with Yoga sessions are conducted at all AWCs. Further, States/UTs shall ensure that play and activity-based preschool non-formal education is conducted at all AWCs regularly for all enrolled children of 3-6 years and *Vidyarambh* Certificates are given to every eligible child transitioning to primary school.**
6.	Screening of children for developmental delays and referrals.	• Embed a module within Poshan Tracker to screen children for developmental delays and referral wherever required.	• States/UTs to screen 50% children enrolled at AWC. **[Timeline: 31st December 2027]**	• For children aged 0–3 years, developmental milestones are being recorded on Poshan Tracker through the revised HVS. To ensure timely referral of children to appropriate medical facility, MoHFW has been requested to facilitate re-assessment of these children by ANMs/Medical Officers during VHSNDs, followed by appropriate referral. • Under the Samagra Shishu Bal Swasthya Karyakram (SSBSK), the Health Department will undertake early identification, referral and follow-up of children identified as 'At-risk' children (LBW, congenital disease, children requiring hospitalization, SAM/ MAM/ SUW/ MUW, developmental delays). Five joint home visits by AWWs and ASHAs have been institutionalised at Day 28, 42–60 days, 6 months, 9 months and 11–12 months.
7.			• States / UTs to screen100% children enrolled at AWC. **[Timeline: 31st December 2028]**	

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				• RBSK Mobile Health Teams shall undertake screening of children for the 4 'D's: Defects at birth, Diseases, Deficiencies and Developmental delays/ disabilities during their biannual visits to AWCs and provide appropriate referral, treatment, intervention and follow-up. • **States and UTs are requested to ensure that above mentioned engagements are conducted uninterrupted and all children enrolled at AWCs are availing the above facilities without fail.**
8.	Capacity Building of field functionaries	• States/ UTs to conduct cascade training at State, District and Project levels. • Champion AWWs will be identified from each project/ block/ district to share field experiences to foster collective learning and motivation. • States/ UTs to establish ECCE Resource Pool of Master Trainers at District/ Block level for further refresher trainings.	• To train all AWWs in Round 1 **[Timeline: 31st March 2026]**	• **States/UTs are requested to get the Round 1 training under PBPB completed in respect of all AWWs. It shall be ensured that all AWWs have received Round 1 training under PBPB.** • **States/ UTs are requested to expedite the Round 2 trainings of SLMTs, Champion AWWs and AWWs so that it could completed before 31.12.2027.**
9.			• To train all AWWs in Round 2 **[Timeline: 31st December 2027] be**	
10.	Infrastructure Development and Improving Reach	• States/UTs to upgrade AWCs with improved ECCE facilities (LED and other audio-visual aids with WiFi/ Internet facility	• 2 lakh AWCs to be upgraded as Saksham AWC. • To establish 2,500 new AWCs in	• States/ UTs have been advised to prioritize Infrastructure upgradation of existing AWCs and ensure construction of new AWCs in uncovered areas.

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		wherever feasible, BaLA paintings, other ECCE materials). • States/ UTs to prioritise infrastructure upgradation of existing AWCs and ensure construction of new AWCs in uncovered areas. • States/ UTs to establish new AWCs in PVTG and tribal areas in convergence with PM-JANMAN and DAJGUA.	PVTG and tribal areas. **[Timeline: 31st March 2027]**	• States /UTs are requested to expedite the upgradation of all sanctioned AWCs to Saksham Anganwadi so that action items could be completed as per the timeline given. • Similarly, construction of sanctioned new AWCs in the PVTG may also completed as per the timeline.
11.			• 4 lakh AWCs to be upgraded as Saksham AWC. • To establish 3375 new AWCs in PVTG and tribal areas. **[Timeline: 31st December 2028]**	
12.	Strengthening Convergence with DoSE&L, MoE	• States/ UTs to co-locate AWCs running in rented the building with primary schools wherever feasible. • Mapping of rest of the AWCs with the nearest school to promote smooth transition of all children from AWCs to formal schooling.	• States/ UTs to co-locate 10,000 additional AWCs with primary schools. **[Timeline: 31st March 2027]**	• **States/ UTs are requested to co-locate more and more AWCs, particularly those in rented buildings, within the premises or near Govt. primary school, wherever feasible.**
13.			• States/ UTs to map all AWCs (100%) with the nearest primary schools. **[Timeline: 30th June 2028]**	

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14.	Leveraging Digital Integration and Data Systems for continuum of care	• Facilitate integration with RCH 2.0 through ABHA ID for zero to six years children enrolled at AWCs to enable better monitoring of health, nutrition and developmental milestones. • Facilitate integration with UDISE+ through the generation of APAAR ID for three to six years children enrolled at AWCs. States/UTs to ensure coverage of APAAR ID for enrolled children.	• States / UTs to ensure 50% children (zero to six years) have ABHA ID. • States / UTs to ensure 50% children (three to six years) are issued an APAAR ID. **[Timeline: 31st March 2027]**	• The functionality for creation of ABHA IDs and APAAR IDs has now been enabled on the Poshan Tracker application. • Integration with RCH 2.0 and UDISE+ are under discussion with MoHFW. • **States/ UTs are requested to ensure that at least 50% of children (zero to six years have ABHA ID) and 50% of children (three to six years have APAAR ID by 31.3.2027.**
15.			• States/ UTs to ensure 100% children (zero to six years) have ABHA ID. • States/ UTs to ensure 100% children (three to six years) are issued an APAAR ID. **[Timeline: 31st March 2028]**	
16.	Promoting Caregiver and Community Engagement in ECCE	• Engage Mother's Group/ Mahila mandals/ Community-based support groups/ SHGs in	• States/ UTs to form community-based groups at every Anganwadi Centre.	• Guidelines for constitution of Anganwadi Management Committees (AMCs) have been issued to States/UTs vide letter dated 25.7.2026 to promote and strengthen the caregiver and community engagement in ECCE. So far 3,38,660 AMCs have b...

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		convergence with MoRD and MoPR. • Undertake mass media campaign on 'Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi' for awareness generation.	• Undertake Mass media campaigns at State Level. **[Timeline: 31st October 2027]**	formed. **States and UTs shall ... for each AWC by the end of Nove... 2026 so that AMCs could take up the functions envisaged for them.** • Ministry of Rural Development issued an advisory on 08.4.2026 to State Mission Directors, directing SHGs to actively promote caregiver and community engagement in ECCE. State Rural Livelihood Missions (SRLMs) have to identify nodal officers for coordination with DoWCD, conducting sensitization sessions, disseminating IEC materials, mobilizing SHG members, and supporting community-based outreach activities to enhance awareness and participation in ECCE (copy enclosed). • Ministry of Panchayati Raj has also issued advisory, vide letter dated 17.4.2026, to all States and UTs to leverage PRIs for promotion of community ownership and participation in the functioning of AWCs through active engagement of Mother's Groups and other community-based institutions; facilitation of community-based activities and awareness campaigns to sensitize families and communities about the importance of nutrition and ECCE (copy enclosed). • **Respective State Departments may be approached so that community engagement activities through SLRMs and PRIs could be taken up.**

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				• **Further plan for multimodal mass media campaign on "Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi" may also be formulated and implemented.**

ACTION TAKEN STATUS ON ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

Sl. No.	Recommendation	Action Items	Targets & Timeline	Action Taken
17.	CSR-led Infrastructure Upgradation	• States to leverage CSR support, in coordination with corporates, banks and PSUs, for infrastructure upgradation of Anganwadi Centres, with the objective of converting them into child-friendly, play-school–like spaces.	MoWCD with DFS and MoCA **[Timeline: 31st December 2026]**	• Pankhudi Portal on CSR had been launched in January 2026 as a comprehensive digital platform for those who wish to support initiatives in nutrition, early childhood care & education, child welfare, and women's empowerment. • A CSR PMU headed by Joint Secretary, WCD has been constituted. • Nutrition- Strengthening Anganwadi Infrastructure has been declared by Department of Public Enterprise as one of the themes to align CSR expenditure of CPSEs for FY26-27 and FY27-28. • Pathways for CSR investment have been streamlined and communicated to States/UTs. • **States and UT shall actively pursue with CPSEs and Companies to maximise CSR funding for upgradation of Anganwadi Centres, with the objective of converting them**

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				into child-friendly, play-school spaces.
18.	Greater role of family & community in child rearing (Strengthening Community Engagement)	• States to strengthen community ownership of Anganwadi Centres through initiatives such as Tithi Bhojan, community meals and celebrations; • Adoption of Anganwadis by universities / colleges; • Student engagement through internships and fieldwork; • Birthday celebrations by secondary school students; • Community donations of toys, clothes and learning materials; • Parent (including fathers') participation; • Organisation of community-based competitions on nutrition and childcare practices.	MoWCD **[Timeline: 31st December 2026]**	• Guidelines for constitution of **Anganwadi Management Committees (AMCs)** have been issued to States/UTs vide letter dated 25th July 2026 to strengthen community ownership and participation in the functioning of AWCs and in conducting community-based activities for sensitizing families and communities on ECCE. • The AMC will function as an all-women committee to support AWWs and enhance community ownership. Its key objectives include strengthening efforts for eradication of malnutrition, reducing developmental delays, improving delivery of Anganwadi services, creating awareness on responsive caregiving, maternal nutrition and health-seeking behaviour, promoting ECCE, and facilitating convergence with health, education, and local governance systems. • The AMC shall also promote community participation through the organisation of local events such as Tithi Bhojan and community meals, donation drive on toys, clothes, and learning materials, encouragement of parental participation including fathers, and conduct of community-based competitions and awareness programmes on nutrition,

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early stimulation, and child care practices.

- **States and UTs shall form AMCs for each AWC by the end of November 2026 so that AMCs could take up the functions envisaged for them.**
- The matter regarding the adoption of Anganwadis by universities / colleges and student engagement through internships and fieldwork, UGC vide DO dated 02.4.2026 has issued advisory to all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to actively engage with nearby AWCs to strengthen ECCE for children aged 3-6 years, adopt five to six nearby AWCs for long-term mentorship and community engagement and integrate Anganwadi engagement into academic fieldwork, internship programmes, dissertations or structured community outreach activities.
- **States and UTs shall take up the matter also with of State University and colleges persuading them to integrate the recommendations in curriculum so that it continues to take place as a natural part of the process.**
- **Similarly, visit of secondary school students to nearby Anganwadi Centre may also be institutionalised.**

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19.	Co-location of Anganwadi with schools	• At the time of construction, 2-3 rooms may be dedicated to Anganwadi.	MoWCD **[Timeline: 31st December 2026]**	• Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSEL) advised State Education Departments to facilitate availability of space for construction of AWCs within or near primary school premises, by incorporating provisions in construction plans or through renovation/expansion of existing school infrastructure in coordination with the WCD Department. • **States and UTs shall incorporate the recommendation in official school education guidelines to formalize a regulatory framework so that whenever construction /renovation work is taken up, construction of 2-3 rooms for AWC automatically becomes part of the plan.**
20.	School exposure visits	• School exposure visits to be organised to improve school readiness among Anganwadi children.	MoWCD **[Timeline: 31st December 2026]**	• DoSEL has advised State Education Departments to facilitate exposure visits along with parents twice a year for the AWC children in the age group of 5-6 years to the nearby primary school for exposure and ensuring smooth transition to formal schooling. • **States and UTs shall ensure that school exposure visits have been formalised and visits are organised twice each year.**
21.	Parental Awareness on Early Childhood Brain Development	• Develop and disseminate simple, easy-to-understand animations and videos on newborn care, breastfeeding, and parent–infant	MoWCD	• Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has shared the IEC videos focusing on early childhood care, newborn care, breastfeeding and parent–infant

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		interaction to promote early brain development, to be shown to parents during hospital stays for institutional deliveries, with a focus on parents from economically weaker sections. • Develop and document a repository of traditional child care practices and share with new parents.	**[Timeline: 31st December 2026]**	*interaction. IEC videos also promotes traditional child care practices rooted in evidence-based indigenous knowledge.* • **These videos have been shared with the States and UTs. States and UTs shall disseminated the videos with parents and caregivers and shown to parents during hospital stays for institutional deliveries. Videos shall also be shown on screens at hospitals and health centres to create awareness.**

दीप्ति गौड़ ज
सचिव
Deepti Gaur Mu
Secretary

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E Comp No. 3570540

दीप्ति गौड़ मुकर्जी, आईएएस
सचिव
Deepti Gaur Mukerjee, IAS
Secretary

भारत सरकार
उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग
शिक्षा मंत्रालय
नई दिल्ली
Government of India
Department of Higher Education
Ministry of Education
New Delhi

D.O. No. 16-2/2026-Skt.I

Dated: 29.09.2026

Dear Sir,

I am writing in connection with the organizing of the fifth edition of Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS 5.0) from 28th November, 2026 to 12th December, 2026.

2. Kashi Tamil Sangamam, envisioned by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, was initiated to celebrate, reaffirm and strengthen the age-old civilisational links between Kashi and Tamil Nadu. The first and second editions of Kashi Tamil Sangamam were graced by the esteemed presence of the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

3. The theme of KTS 5.0 will be "Thirukkural Payilvom - Thirukkural Abhyas Karen". Thirukkural is a classical Tamil text of enduring ethical and moral significance.

4. It is expected that around 1,400 people from Tamil Nadu will participate in seven groups of about 200 persons each. The seven categories will be: Students; Teachers; Writers and Media Professionals; Agriculture and Allied Sector; Professionals and Artisans; Women; and Spiritual. A major proportion of each category will comprise of youth and students.

5. The tour of these participants will be of eight days, comprising four days of travel and four days of visits and programmes. The groups will commence their journey on successive days. The itinerary will include Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya, with cultural, academic, domain-specific and spiritual engagements, including the Tamil Circuit in Kashi. Local visits to be curated by IRCTC, BHU and local administration.

6. As in the previous editions, it has been decided that IIT-M and BHU will be the nodal institutions for implementing KTS 5.0 in collaboration with the Govt. of UP.

7. In this regard, the tour itinerary is to be decided by BHU in consultation with the UP Govt., and the same will be shared with IRCTC for making all arrangements.

8. IRCTC will coordinate with the BHU Nodal Officers and the Development Commissioner, Varanasi/District Administrations of Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya for facilitating the stay and local visits of the delegates in these cities. The Government of Uttar Pradesh/District Administrations may kindly facilitate the necessary arrangements in this regard and extend requisite support to IRCTC for identification and booking of suitable hotels. Necessary arrangements may also kindly be made for reserving beds at a local hospital in Varanasi to meet any medical requirements during the programme. A copy of concept note in this regard is enclosed.

9. Government of Uttar Pradesh may undertake the outdoor publicity as was done during the last years, so that local people of Varanasi get to know about the event and attend the special programmes for people-to-people connection.

कमरा सं. 21072, 'सी' विंग, कर्तव्य भवन–2, नई दिल्ली–110001
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10. I, therefore, request you to direct the administrations of Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya to initiate the necessary preparatory action and make all requisite arrangements for the smooth and successful organisation of KTS 5.0. The areas/routes to be covered in Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya may also kindly be sensitised and necessary arrangements made to ensure the smooth movement and travel of the delegates. I look forward to your continued cooperation and support in ensuring the successful conduct of the event.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Deepti Gaur Mukerjee)

Shri S.P. Goyal,
Chief Secretary,
B-Block, Lok Bhawan,
U.P. Secretariat, Vidhan Sabha Marg,
Lucknow,
Uttar Pradesh-226001

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Concept Note

Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2026-KTS (5.0)

"Celebrating the Bharatiya Ekta"

1. Background

Kashi Tamil Sangamam, a brainchild of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, is an inspirational initiative to celebrate the timeless bonds between Tamil Nadu and Kashi, strengthen the civilisational links and further the spirit of Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat. It aimed to bridge tradition and contemporary discourse. Hon'ble Prime Minister said that "Kashi Tamil Sangamam furthers the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat.' "This flow of spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat' is infusing the soul of our nation today.

It is a celebration of a relationship that has been living in Bharatiya Society for centuries. In so far as Tamilnadu and Kashi it was not a physical passage of countless pilgrims, scholars and spiritual seekers but was a movement of ideas, philosophies, languages and living traditions. The Sangamam rejuvenates this spirit, bringing alive a bond that has shared Bharatiya cultural oneness for generations.

It was launched in 2022, during the nationwide observance of **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**, the 75th year of independence, with the vision of rediscovering the depth of India's civilizational heritage. The Kashi Tamil Sangamam was one such initiative that reaffirms the cultural continuity that binds the country and provided a platform to spotlight the ancient connect that has guided spiritual thought, artistic expression, scholarly exchange and trading partnerships for centuries.

The initiative embodies the essence of **Ek Bharat Shreshta Bharat**, encouraging people to understand and appreciate the richness and confluence of Bharatiya Culture beyond their own imagination. Two premier Higher Education Institutions under the Ministry of Education, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras and Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi are the Principal partners hosts of last four editions of the Kashi Tamil Sangamam in continuum since 2002, with the support of UP Government and the participation of Ten Central ministries including Education, Railways, Culture, Tourism, Textiles, Information & Broadcasting, MSME, Electronics and Information Technology, Youth Affairs and Sports, etc. The last four editions of Kashi Tamil Sangamam brought together students, artisans, scholars, spiritual leaders, teachers, cultural practitioners, small traders and self-employed,

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farmers, of the two regions together and facilitated exchange of ideas, cultural practices and traditional knowledge between the people from Tamil Nadu and those living in Kashi. The groups comprised different categories of people from Tamil Nadu visited temples, Saranath, the ancestral house of Mahakavi Subramania Bharati and other learning centres of Kashi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya. They participated in seminars, talks, cultural programmes, sporting events and exhibitions organised in Varanasi and interacted with their Kashi counterparts.

2. Kashi Tamil Sangamam: The Continuing Journey in search of knowledge and experiencing the oneness

From 1.0 to 4.0: *The inspiring and continuing journey of Kashi Tamil Sangamam in search of knowledge and experiencing the oneness – reweaving the ancient bond between Kashi and other places of the country.*

Since its continuing journey in 2022, Kashi Tamil Sangamam has developed into a structured cultural and educational engagement between Tamil Nadu and Kashi. Each edition has expanded its scope through curated delegations, thematic focus areas, academic interactions, heritage experiences and trade partnerships, which steadily strengthened the relationship between the two regions and enhanced the partnerships among various groups beyond their spiritual obligations to visit Kashi for salvation.

The Inaugural edition of Kashi Tamil Sangamam, **held from 16th November to 15th December 2022,** was addressed by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and set foundation for subsequent editions of Sangamam and brought the cultural bond between Tamil Nadu and Kashi into public focus in a large manner.

Over 2500 people from Tamil Nadu, representing 12 different walks of life – students, teachers, artisans, farmers, writers, spiritual leaders, professionals, cultural practitioners had travelled to Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya on 8-day tours, during which they had an immersive experience of different aspects of life in and around Varanasi. The visited temples, the ancestral house of Mahakavi Subramania Bharati, Saranath and interacted with Tamil-speaking communities in Varanasi. While exhibitions showcased handlooms, handicrafts, ODOP products, books, and traditional cuisine, the academic sessions, lecture-demonstrations and community interactions explored historical and literary ties between Tamil Nadu and Kashi. The highlight was the celebration of the Karthigai Deepam festival of Tamil Nadu in Kashi to showcase that it coincides with the Dev Deepavali festival of Kashi. This event was organised on the BHU campus in Varanasi.

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KTS 2.0 was held from 17th to 30th December 2023 at Namo Ghat, Varanasi, again with a theme of strengthening Intellectual and Cultural Ties among the two regions, with the celebration of Agastya Jayanthi on 29th December 2023. It was inaugurated by Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi at Varanasi on 17th December, 2023, **with the first time ever real-time, app-based translation of a part of Hon'ble PM's speech in Tamil for the benefit of visiting Tamil delegates.** There were interactive academic sessions with the same set of professionals / working people from Tamil Nadu and Kashi. **The Key highlights include 1435 delegates from Tamil Nadu across seven diverse categories participated in curated eight-day tours** covering Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya, including the places of visit covered in the first edition. There was seven themed interactive academic session at Namo Ghat with same set of people from Tamil Nadu and Varanasi. The major exhibition featuring handlooms, handicrafts, books, regional cuisine along with cultural events from South and North Zone artists attracted more than 2 lakh visitors from Varanasi and record sales. There was strong digital footprint with a campaign reach of more than 8.5 crore citizens and 80 lakh total reach with 2.5 lakh interactions across official KTS social media handles.

KTS 3.0

The Third edition of Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS 3.0) was held from 15th to 24th February 2025 at Namo Ghat, Varanasi with more than 1400+ participants from Tamil Nadu. It has taken ahead the modern times through Bridging the Indian knowledge and tradition with contemporary discourse. It was an ongoing mission to foster deeper cultural and intellectual ties between Tamil Nadu and Kashi. By highlighting the legacy of Sage Agasthyar and bringing together diverse delegates, this initiative strengthened the bonds of India's rich heritage, Indian Knowledge tradition and contributed to the spirit of Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat. As a unique feature of the third edition, an additional group of around 200 students of Tamil origin studying in various Central Universities were part of this event to enliven the bond between Kashi and Tamil Nadu. Participation of youth in all categories was encouraged in the third edition.

Key Highlights of KTS 3.0:

- **A dedicated thematic focus on Sage Agasthyar, with exhibition and discussions highlighting his contributions to Tamil and Sanskrit literature, linguistics, grammer, philosophy, science, medicine, especially Bharatiya Knowledge traditions.**

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- Like last two editions the visiting groups from Tamil Nadu visited important places in Varanasi, Prayagraj (**Maha Kumbh Mela**) and Ayodhya, and especially newly inaugurated Sri Ram Mandir offering delegates an immersive spiritual and cultural experience
- Workshops, seminars and interdisciplinary sessions connecting ancient knowledge systems in the Tamil language with modern research, innovation and contemporary education aligned with NEP 2020's emphasis on Indian Knowledge Systems.
- The diverse group included students, teachers, writers, artisans, entrepreneurs, women SHG, DBHPS Pracharaks and youth innovators – enabling meaningful cross-regional exchange and community connect.
- There was a sideline immersive education programme during KTS 3.0, separately for students from Central Universities in India, where they exchanged their ideas and experienced the ancient traditions rooted in Indian Society that connect them with Varanasi.

KTS 4.0

The Fourth Edition of Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS. 4.0) was held from December 2, 2025, to 15th December 2025, to carry forward the cultural and civilizational link between Tamil Nadu and Kashi. The edition was anchored in **"Let Us Learn Tamil – Tamil Karkalam,"** placing Tamil language learning and linguistic unity at the centre of the Sangamam. The Key programmes included **Tamil Karkalam-1** (Tamil teaching in Varanasi schools by 50 Hindi Teachers who are Pracharaks of Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha, Tamil Nadu), **Tamil Karkalam-2** (Tamil learning study tours for 300 students from BHU and other colleges of Kashi region to 10 colleges in various places of Tamil Nadu) and the **Sage Agastya Vehicle Expedition** (tracing the civilisational route from Tenkasi to Kashi). While the event at Kashi symbolically concluded on 15th December 2025 for Tamil Nadu participants, it has been extended to the visit to Rameshwaram by Tamil Nadu participants of KTS 4.0 and others on their own. Thus KTS 4.0 Sangamam uniquely concluded with a grand Valedictory Function at Rameswaram, on 30th December 2025, coinciding with cultural and religious belief of Indians to conclude yatra starting from Kashi to Rameshwaram or vice versa.

Participation from Tamil Nadu:

In keeping with the expanded vision and in continuum to past editions, **more than 2000 delegates from Tamil Nadu** belonging to seven **broad categories, students, teachers,**

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writers and media professionals, those from agriculture and allied sectors, professionals and artisans, women, and spiritual scholars, participated in the events at Namo Ghat and at BHU, Kashi. Their participation ensured that the spirit of the theme reaches diverse sections of society, making Kashi Tamil Sangamam 4.0 both inclusive and far-reaching in its impact.

KTS 4.0 Highlights of Tamil Karkalam

- Kashi Tamil Sangamam 4.0 marks the next chapter in this growing cultural confluence, expanding both its scale and ambition.
- It began on 2nd December 2025 and symbolically concluded at Kashi and continued with the participation of 300 students from colleges of the Kashi region, especially Banaras Hindu University. This edition retains the essence of the earlier Sangamams.
- This fourth edition laid a sharper emphasis on linguistic learning and academic exchange, and the celebrations culminate with a Valedictory Function at Rameswaram today on 30th December 2025, symbolically completing the journey from Kashi, one of North India's holiest centres, to Rameshwaram, one of the most revered sites of Tamil spiritual heritage, remembering the age-old cultural and religious practice in one's life in India.
- The heart of Kashi Tamil Sangamam 4.0 lies in its theme "Let Us Learn Tamil – Tamil Karkalam." This edition places Tamil language learning at the centre of its vision, carrying forward the belief that all Indian languages belong to a shared Bharatiya Bhasha family. The theme conveys a simple but powerful message: linguistic diversity strengthens cultural unity. This year's edition also introduces a stronger educational focus, with an emphasis on language-based cultural exchange and youth engagement. It takes the idea of cultural oneness beyond symbolism, by creating opportunities for students from the Kashi region to immerse themselves in the Tamil language and experience Tamil Nadu's rich heritage firsthand.

A central initiative of KTS 4.0 is the structured introduction of Tamil learning, specifically in the Kashi region.

- **50 Hindi-knowing Tamil teachers**, including DBHPS Pracharaks, deployed in 50 schools across Varanasi from 2nd December to 15th December 2025, and they taught more than 3000 students offline in 10 different schools in the Kashi region with specially published learning kits by the **Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT)**
- Each teacher conducted **short-term spoken Tamil modules** for two batches of 30 students, covering basic conversation, pronunciation and alphabet.
- In total, 3000 students learned introductory Tamil through this initiative.

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- The Tamil Department of BHU, CIIL Mysuru, IRCTC and the Varanasi administration are supported in coordination and logistics.
- There was an overwhelming response from the schools and administration for continuing Tamil Language Teaching on a long-term basis.

This initiative represents a significant step towards expanding Tamil learning outside Tamil Nadu and promoting linguistic inclusivity.

Learn Tamil while visiting Tamil Nadu – Study Tour Programme of Students from Varanasi.

Complementing Tamil teaching in Uttar Pradesh is a large-scale educational immersion for youth from the Kashi region. **300 college students** from Uttar Pradesh went to Tamil Nadu and stayed in **10 higher education institutes in Tamil Nadu** and learnt the history and traditional practices of Tamil Nadu and Tamil language.

The programme ensured that young learners from northern part of our Bharat gained direct exposure to Tamil language, heritage and contemporary cultural practices.

One of the most symbolic initiatives of KTS 4.0 is the **Sage Agastya Vehicle Expedition (SAVE)**, which retraces a civilisational route deeply embedded in Tamil and Indian tradition. The expedition began at **Tenkasi in Tamil Nadu on 2nd December 2025** and reached **Kashi on 10th December 2025**, coinciding with the celebration of Bharatiya Bhasha Day on December 12, the Birthday of Mahakavi Subramanya Bharatiyar (This is the one of important celebration initiated by the present Government. It followed the legendary path associated with **Sage Agastya**, reflecting Tamil Nadu's contribution to Indian knowledge systems. The journey also honoured the legacy of **Pandiyan ruler Adi Veera Parakrama Pandiyan**, who travelled north to spread the message of cultural oneness and built a Shiva temple, leading to the naming of *Tenkasi* ("Dakshin Kashi") Along its route, the expedition highlights civilisational linkages from the **Chera, Chola, Pandya, Pallava, Chalukya and Vijayanagara** periods. It promoted awareness of **classical Tamil literature, Siddha medicine, and shared heritage traditions. This expedition symbolized the deep historical movement of ideas, culture and spiritual learning between Tamil Nadu and Kashi. A total of more than 2000 kilometres travelled by road during the journey and covered States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.**

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t of Kashi Tamil Sangamam strengthened the age-old Kashi-Tamil Bond as a f of lasting cultural continuum and promoted national unity.:

The impact of Kashi Tamil Sangamam was visible across the country through print, electronic and social media. Crores of Citizens eagerly watched the happenings in the event, and in the last edition, Business Entrepreneurs reached out on their own to join the Sangamam with their quest for business opportunities and also enjoyed the cultural and spiritual oneness.

Across its four editions, **Kashi Tamil Sangamam** has shown how cultural exchange becomes truly transformative when rooted in lived experience. Each edition has added a distinct dimension to this journey: the large-scale cultural immersion of **KTS 1.0**, the expanded public participation and thematic engagements of **KTS 2.0**, and the knowledge-centred, Sage Agasthyar-focused discourse of **KTS 3.0**. With **KTS 4.0**, the Sangamam enters a new phase by placing Tamil language learning at the forefront, enabling two-way linguistic engagement through Tamil Karkalam and structured study tours.

Together, these editions illustrate how the Sangamam has moved beyond a commemorative programme into a **continuing cultural pathway**. Delegates rediscover Tamil heritage in Kashi's ghats and temples; students from Uttar Pradesh experience Tamil Nadu firsthand; teachers introduce Tamil to new learners; and communities in both regions connect over literature, crafts, cuisine and shared spiritual traditions.

This cumulative journey mirrors the core vision of **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat**, where national unity is strengthened through familiarity with each other's languages, traditions and perspectives. The rediscovery of ancient linkages, highlighted through initiatives like the Sage Agastya Vehicle Expedition, and the creation of contemporary learning spaces in schools, universities and cultural venues reflect the EBSB emphasis on year-round cultural exchange, linguistic appreciation and youth-driven participation.

The **Kashi Tamil Sangamam 4.0** unfolded with a renewed linguistic and educational focus, reinforcing the idea that cultural understanding is built through consistent interaction. By nurturing heritage, encouraging language learning, and enabling meaningful people-to-people contact, the Sangamam stands today as a **lasting cultural continuum**, deepening the timeless relationship between Tamil Nadu and Kashi and enriching India's unity through shared civilisational experience. **It is the endeavour of the Government to encourage and create opportunities for similar events in a continuous manner by the people on their own in different parts of the country.**

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Proposed details of KTS 5.0

3. **Proposed Dates (TBD): 28th November to 12th December**
4. **Proposed Number of Participants from Tamil Nadu: 1400 (7 Groups of 200 persons each) (TBD)**
5. **Duration of Tour: 8 Days (4 for travel, 4 at site)**
6. **Categories: 7 (Seven) (TBD). During the KTS 5.0, the focus will be given on youth and students, and accordingly each of the proposed categories will have a major portion of Youth and Students from the relevant. There will be an upper age limit of 60 for the remaining persons to be covered under each category. All participants to be selected from Tamil Nadu will have to take a test on the Classical Text Thirukkural and qualify for selection in the proposed Tour.**

I. STUDENTS -

a) Students (Colleges, Technical Institutions, Skill Institutions; and

b) ULLAS (adult education) students, students pursuing their continuing studies while working, etc)

II. TEACHERS -

a) Students pursuing their studies in Education (Diploma in Education, B.Ed / M.Ed programme); and

b) Teachers in Colleges/Tech Institutions and Schools, Hindi Pracharaks of DBHPS, Teachers of informal recognised schools, etc.

III. WRITERS & MEDIA PROFESSIONALS -

a) Students and Youth pursuing their degree in Media and Journalism; and

b) Writers and Media Professionals, including Book Publishers (Academic as well as others - Multilingual), Media content writers, editors and social media activists

IV. AGRI AND ALLIED SECTOR -

a) Students pursuing studies in Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fishery sciences, Agriculture Machinery & Implements

b) Farmers, Dairy and Animal Husbandry people, Fishermen,

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V. **PROFESSIONALS & ARTISANS -**

a) Students & Youths pursuing studies in Professional Accounts, Company Secretary, Management, Law, Medicine (both Modern and Traditional) and Students pursuing vocational and skill education in

b) Small Entrepreneurs, Start-up Beneficiaries, Professionals in Medicine, Law and Accounts, Artisans (in the field of Handicrafts, decorative art, sculptors, carpenters, textiles, artificial items, pottery, etc)

VI. **WOMEN -**

a) Students and Youth from the female Category

b) Women SHG, Mudra Loan, and Central Govt Scheme beneficiaries and Self-Employed

VII. **SPIRITUAL -**

a) Students pursuing Higher Education in Vedic studies, Classical Music and Classical Instruments from recognised universities/schools or students of authorised Guru-Shishya Parampara Schools, Agama Studies in Vedic and Indian Classical Scriptures

b) Classical Singers and Spiritual Text Teachers (Thevaram, Thiruvasagam, Nalayira Divya Prabandam, Thiruppugazh, etc.), Spiritual Orators – Temple Pujaris and Temple Workers.

7. **Theme of KTS 5.0: "Thirukkural Payilvom – (तिरुक्कुरल पयिल्वोम) Thirukkural Abhyas karen"**

The Thirukkural is the finest ethical and moral treatise in Tamil literature. It is based on the Vedantic principles "Dharma-Artha-Kama-Moksha". The author of the classical text Thiruvalluvar has divided his treatise into Aram (Dharma), Artha (Porul), and Inbam (Kama), and advocated that these three principles lead the way to Mukti (Moksha). With the noble goal of taking its timeless, universal values across the nation, the Union Government of India has been driving several key initiatives. As part of the initial phase, authentic translations are being published continuously by the Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT), which functions under the Ministry of Education.

- Published so far: 25 Indian languages and 9 foreign languages.
- Ready for release: 23 Indian languages and 7 foreign languages.
- Work in progress: 24 Indian languages and 5 foreign languages.

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These translations serve as a gateway for students and the general public across diverse linguistic states to easily read, understand, and apply Thirukkural in their daily lives.

8. **Programme Structure:** The Fifth edition of KTS will be structured as follows:

The date and time of the Inaugural and Valedictory Functions will be decided by the Ministry, according to the convenience of the VVIPs.

As a part of the awareness programme on the theme of "Ek Bharat Shresht Bharat", the following (no.) major allied events are planned along with KTS 5.0:

(i) Students' Engagement Program (Based on the theme of KTS 5.0)

As part of the Kashi Tamil Sangamam 5.0 event, the top 1,000 students selected from each of 1000 colleges through a Test from various Indian states will be brought together to propagate Thirukkural. They will be offered a Rs. 10,000 internships for a month to study the translated version of Thirukkural in their known language and submit a research paper through their college on the classical Text about the unique moral values said in the classical text. These students will be imparted online one-hour orientation training by CICT on the Thirukkural Text, followed by a 20-minute question-answer session. The 1000 students will be divided into 20 batches of 50 each (approx.), depending on the language the students have opted for to study Thirukkural.

Subsequently, they will have to do the following activities in their own college to popularise Thirukkural:-

(i) They will make a one-hour presentation/lecture in their own college under a guided faculty;

(ii) They will try to learn and teach at least 10 important Thirukkural both in Tamil and in a translated version of their own language; and

Supporting Documents for this purpose will be uploaded in the CICT website for learning and disseminating the knowledge and values revealed in Thirukkural.

(ii) Strategies to spread Thirukkural across India by CICT to popularise the Theme of KTS 5.0

(i) **Digital and Social Media Campaigns**

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- **Mobile Apps**: Developing free mobile applications in every state language featuring the couplets, meanings, and audio pronunciations.
- **Short Films & Animation**: Creating and releasing 2D/3D animated stories based on Thirukkural concepts on YouTube and OTT platforms.
- **National Conferences**: Organizing an annual "National Thirukkural Conference" in major Indian cities to foster discussion among scholars of various languages.
- **Public Displays**: Displaying couplets along with their translations on digital boards in railway stations, airports, and highway toll plazas under a trilingual model (Tamil, Hindi, and local state language).

(iii)Effective Methods to Reach Non-Tamil Speaking Students

Presenting classical poetry in its complex verse form can diminish student interest. The following creative approaches can engage students effectively:

(i) Daily Kural Initiative

- Encourage students during morning school assemblies to recite one couplet daily alongside its translation in Hindi or their local state language.
- Display a daily couplet on classroom blackboards/notice boards.

(ii) Storytelling Method

- Teaching the core ethics of Thirukkural through short stories captivates young minds better.
- Example: Themes like "Gratitude" (Seinnandri Arithal) or "Hospitality" (Virundhombal) can be taught through skits, plays, or comic books.

(iii) Gamification and Competitions (Kural Ottam – Kural Run)

- Educational Games: Developing mobile games centred around unscrambling couplets or matching meanings.
- National Competitions: Hosting national-level elocution, essay, and art competitions, awarding certificates and "Thiruvalluvar Scholarships" to winning non-Tamil students.

(iv) Cultural Exchange Programs

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Under the government's "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" program, Tamil Nadu schools/colleges/universities can partner with schools/colleges/universities in other states to exchange Thirukkural-based learning materials as a primary focus item.

(v) Multilingual Audio Guides (Audiobooks & Podcasts)

Releasing musical recitations and simplified explanatory commentary on streaming platforms like Spotify and YouTube Music for easy listening.

This allied programme aims to spread the theme of KTS 5.0 that the Thirukkural does not belong exclusively to Tamils; it is a universal guiding light for all humanity. With structured planning, modern technology, and educational collaboration, the moral wisdom of Thirukkural can be effectively brought to students in every corner of India.

6. Selection of delegates, travel and other logistic arrangements

- IIT Madras will be the coordinating Institution from Chennai, Tamil Nadu and BHU, Varanasi will be the coordinating Institution at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, as before.
- IIT Madras will call for applications for participation through the portal under 7 categories, select candidates as done in the last 3 Phases
- IIT Madras will engage IRCTC to manage the movement of delegates from end to end. This will include a train journey between Tamil Nadu and Varanasi, bus travel to places around Varanasi, local transport, hotel stays in Varanasi and other identified places, all meals throughout the tour, local visits, and all facilitation.
- The tour itinerary will be decided by BHU in consultation with the State Govt., so as to cover the 5 Ps as in Yuva Sangam – Parampara, Pragati, Praudyogiki, Paryatan, People to People connect. BHU, Varanasi, in consultation with UP Government/District Administrations, will convey the local tour itinerary to IRCTC for making all arrangements.
- IRCTC will collaborate with BHU Nodal officers and Dev Commissioner at Varanasi/ District Admin of other identified cities to facilitate stay and local visit of delegates
- Delegates will travel by AC III Tier coaches
- Food, shawls/blankets / warm clothing, first aid, etc., will be provided to delegates during the tour
- Flag of function will be held at Chennai; welcome function at Varanasi station

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Varanasi and Ayodhya, they will stay in hotels being booked by IRCTC in consultation with the local administration

Warm water, warm clothing, bedding, etc., will be ensured for delegates

The hotels will have doctors on call, and beds will be reserved in the local hospital at Varanasi

- Quality of hotels, buses etc have to be of good quality with special attention to cleanliness
- Adequate arrangements of volunteers and translators (Tamil – Hindi) should be made

7. Delegate Itinerary (TBD)

- 2 days onward journey – 2 days return; 4 days of visit
- **Day 1 at Varanasi** - visit to Kashi Vishwanath and other temples, Sarnath, Ganga Arati, Ghat visit, etc.
- **Day 2 at Varanasi** – Domain-specific programmes
- **Day 3 – Prayagraj** (or any other city) – the local visits to be curated by IRCTC, BHU and local administration. Night stay on Day 3 will be at Ayodhya
- **Day 4 – Ayodhya** (or any other city) - the local visits to be curated by IRCTC, BHU and local administration.

Tentative Schedule (As obtained from IRCTC)

TENTATIVE TRAINS ON DEMAND

(TOD) PLAN FOR KASHI TAMIL SANGAMAM 5.0 -

To be provided by IRCTC / Ministry of Railways

Onward Journey from Tamil Nadu								Days Available at Banaras
BATCH NO.	Date & Day of Dep	Departure Station						
1		Chennai						
2		Kanniyakumari						
3		Coimbatore						
4		Chennai						
5		Kanniyakumari						

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6		Coimbatore						
7		Chennai						

Return Journey to Tamil Nadu							
BATCH NO.	Departure Station	Train No.					
1	Banaras	1					
2	Banaras	2					
3	Banaras	3					
4	Banaras	4					
5	Banaras	5					
6	Banaras	6					
7	Banaras	7					

Note:

1. Tentative train plan based on previous notifications

2. Train plan subject to allotment of rakes and approval of timings from Railway Board

8. Domain Specific Programmes

(To be developed in consultation with BHU)

1. Cultural Immersion

Cultural troupes of M/o Culture or State Govt can perform at a specially furnished auditorium at Namo Ghat, which is the ideal place, as it could attract at least 5000 locals as well as school students from UP per day. An amphitheatre, space for stalls, etc are available there. It has easy approach roads for vehicles and is also nearer to local people.

2. Cuisine and Local Arts and Crafts

Visits to identified centres, such as the handloom handicraft centre in Varanasi, local food outlets, and markets, will be part of the programme. There will be handicraft and handloom outlets from Tamil Nadu and UP for attendees at the programme's main venue.

3. Tamil Circuit

As a part of experiencing the rich cultural bonding between Tamil Nadu, the participants from Tamil Nadu will be taken to the ancestral House of Mahakavi Subramanya Bharatiyar, Kedar Ghat, Kasi Madam in the Little Tamil Nadu Area. They will also have a visit to the BHU Tamil Department for an academic and Literary interaction. At these places, the locals

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would welcome them with greetings in Tamil: "Vanakkam Bharat" & "Kasi Ungalai Varverkirathu" (Welcome to Kashi). There will be interaction with Tamil-speaking academics and residents at Prayagraj and Ayodhya. Sage Thiruvalluvar Pictures with Thirukkural will also be displayed in Kashi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya to popularise the classical text based on the principles of Vedanta.

4. Spiritual Circuit

The spiritual circuit would include the spiritual places at Kasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya.

9. Awareness Generation

- 6-7 identified institutions in Tamil Nadu would organise seminars during October 2026, create awareness about the programme, so that people can register, and to disseminate the messages of KTS, like oneness in diversity (anekta me ekta), cultural and other bonds between Tamil Nadu and Kashi, etc.
- BHU / State Government of UP can do the outdoor publicity as was done during the last two years, so that local people of Varanasi get to know about the event and attend the special programmes for people-to-people connection.
- Spiritual Heads, VIPs and celebrities having Tamil or Varanasi links need to be identified and used for campaign and publicity.
- Regular Press Briefings, Articles and other social media interaction should be arranged from Delhi, Varanasi and Chennai.

10. *Offices for coordination*

- ***One at IITM***
- ***One at BHU***

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5. Budget Estimates (Tentative)

Expenditure to be incurred by Coordinator in Chennai

Sl. No.	Header	Amount (in Rs.)
1	Mobility of delegates, their stay and food arrangements. (to be done through IRCTC)	7,00,00,000
2	Advertisement & Branding (IRCTC and others)	3,50,00,000
3	Administrative Cost	1,00,00,000
4.	Internship Assistance to 1000 students from 1000 colleges@ Rs. 10,000 each	1,00,00,000
5.	Miscellaneous Expenditure for events in Tamil Nadu	1,50,00,000
Total		14,00,00,000

Expenditure to be incurred by Coordinator in Varanasi

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Sl. No.	Components for which expenditure incurred	Amount (in Rs.)
1.	Pandal, Tent, Stalls, Cottages, Invitations, mementoes, shawls, furniture, etc.	Rs. 3.50.00.000/-
2.	Photography, videography, multimedia, TV, Radio, etc.	Rs. 1.50.00.000/-
3.	Hoardings, banners, ads. In newspapers, etc.	Rs. 75.00.000/-
4.	Local Transport, Accommodation and booking of travel tickets for dignitaries, special invitees and teaching contingent	Rs. 75.00.000/-
		Rs.6.50.00.000

On the whole, the total estimated expenditure under KTS 5.0 to be incurred by coordinators at both the end will be around Rs. 20.50 Crores.
During the last edition of KTS 4.0, the expenditure was around Rs. 19.86 crores for a ten-day event.

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