

All India Federation of University & College Teachers' Organisations (AIFUCTO) XXXIV STATUTORY CONFERENCE 2026

on

**TOWARDS DEMOCRATIC, SCIENTIFIC, INCLUSIVE,
PUBLIC FUNDED HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA**

21, 22 & 23 February, 2026

The American College (Autonomous), Madurai, Tamil Nadu



Joint Action Council of College Teachers of Tamil Nadu (JAC)

Madurai Kamaraj, Manonmaniyam Sundaranar, Mother Teresa, Alagappa & Anna University Teachers Association (MUTA)

Tamil Nadu Government Collegiate Teachers' Association (TNGCTA)

Association of University Teachers (Regd.), Tamil Nadu (AUT)

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Secretary - JAC

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Conference Website : <https://aifucto34conference.in>

E-mail : aifuctoconference@gmail.com

Greetings from AIFUCTO!

We are pleased to announce that the XXXIV Statutory Conference of AIFUCTO is being organised in Madurai on 21, 22 & 23 February 2026. We extend our cordial invitation to all delegates and teachers from all Affiliated Teachers' Organisations to this conference.

THEME OF THE CONFERENCE

TOWARDS DEMOCRATIC, SCIENTIFIC, INCLUSIVE, PUBLIC FUNDED HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

The conference theme focuses on advancing a higher education system in India that is Democratic, Scientific, Inclusive and predominantly Publicly Funded. This vision aims to promote social justice and national development through a transformative approach. Central to this model is Public Funding, with government investment ensuring affordability and maintaining education as a public good rather than a market commodity.

Inclusivity requires addressing equity gaps and regional disparities while increasing the national Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER), especially among historically marginalized groups such as Women, Other Backward Class (OBC), Minorities, Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST). A democratic education system fosters critical thinking, rational inquiry, and encourages participatory governance within institutions. Scientific rigor is emphasized by prioritizing quality research, innovation, and nurturing a scientific temper, which will strengthen India's human capital and international reputation. However, achieving this vision faces ongoing challenges such as insufficient funding, persistent faculty shortages, and a pronounced urban-rural divide. Papers are invited on the theme and sub themes latest by 12th January 2026.

SUB – THEMES

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| * Democratic Education | * Education Policy and Federalism | * Inclusive Education |
| * The academic Governance | * Regulatory Reforms | * Cooperative federalism |
| * Quality Assurance | * Higher education financing | * Education and Social Justice |

GUIDELINES FOR PAPER PUBLICATION

1. Only original and unpublished work will be published based on themes and sub-themes of the conference.
2. Text of the paper should not exceed 3,000 words.
3. Text should be sent in word file with Times New Roman font, Font size 12, Line space 1.5
4. The last date for submission of the abstract and paper is 12th January, 2026.
5. Send papers and abstracts to:

For information contact:

Dr. V. Umamageswari, Vice President, MUTA	73739 97399
Dr. N. Anbuarasu, Zonal Chairman, AUT	99945 92265
Dr. N. Neela, TNGCTA	95242 54663

THE PROCESS OF REGISTRATION

Delegates must register individually by filling out the online google form after making payment using the [Conference website link](https://www.aifucto34conference.in): <https://www.aifucto34conference.in>
For group registration, registration fee may be deposited in a single transaction, but individual google forms must be filled out to streamline accommodation arrangements.

REGISTRATION FEE

An amount of Rs.3500/- (Rupees Three Thousand and Five Hundred only) is to be paid as registration fee by delegate / participant towards statutory conference. The registered participants will be provided Conference kit, accommodation food & Local Hospitality. The Details of the Bank Account and the mode of payment to deposit delegate fee are as follows:

Account Name	:	AIFUCTO 34TH CONFERENCE U/O MUTA
Name of the Bank	:	DBS Bank India Ltd.
Branch	:	Madurai Bypass Road
Account No	:	8196210000040664
IFSC	:	DBSS0IN0196 (0 - Zero)

Note: Please ensure that the spelling of account name as provided above.

Registration fee must be paid in advance through online mode / NEFT only. No TA / DA shall be paid to the delegates. For any further queries, please E-mail us at: aifuctoconference@gmail.com.

The Registration will be ensured only if delegate fee is paid before 30th January, 2026. Mention the transaction id in registration form available in the [conference website](https://aifucto34conference.in): <https://aifucto34conference.in>

LOCAL HOSPITALITY:

Shared accommodation will be provided to registered delegates only. Local Hospitality Team would be available for guidance & assistance.

For information please contact:

Dr. Devaki Duraisingh, Zonal Treasurer, MUTA	73974 08062 (Hindi)
Dr. R. Christal Jeeva, Zonal Secretary, TNGCTA	98436 14733
Dr. S. Ulaganathan, Zonal Secretary, AUT	94453 77088

Note: If any delegate is interested to stay at any other hotel of own choice, he/she may please inform the organisers by 10 February, 2026 for necessary arrangement.

THIS ACCOMMODATION IS ON A SELF-PAYMENT BASIS ONLY.

ADVERTISEMENT:

Advertisements are invited for publication in the souvenir of the conference.

Tariff for advertisements is as follows:

Front Inner Page	: Rs. 50,000	Back Cover Page	: Rs. 50,000
Back Cover Inside	: Rs. 30,000	Full Page Colour	: Rs. 20,000
Half Page colour	: Rs. 10,000	Full Page (Black & White)	: Rs. 10,000

REACHING MADURAI

Madurai, known affectionately as Thoonga Nagaram ("**The City That Never Sleeps**") and historically as the "Athens of the East," is a perpetually vibrant cultural nexus with a legacy spanning over 2,500 years. As the ancient capital of the Pandya kings, the seat of the Tamil Sangams, it echoes Jain-Buddhist-Ajivika traditions can still be heard at Madurai and the city is a living museum of Tamil heritage. Its spiritual and geographic heart is the magnificent Meenakshi Amman Temple, a masterpiece of Dravidian architecture around which the city was meticulously planned in a unique lotus-like formation. Beyond its historical depth, Madurai is famous for its fragrant Malligai (jasmine), distinct cuisine and the spectacular Chithirai Festival, making it a prime South Indian destination that seamlessly blends the divine, the daily and a timeless cultural tradition, all while being excellently connected by air, rail and road.

BY AIR

Madurai Airport (IXM) is known as Kamarajar Airport. Daily direct flights from New Delhi (DEL), Bengaluru (BLR) and Chennai (MAA) operate from Madurai.

BY TRAIN

Madurai Junction Railway Station (MDU) is situated on heart of the city and is one of the main railway junction of South Tamil Nadu.

BY ROAD

Madurai is a major junction connected by several National Highways NH 44 North South Corridor, connecting Srinagar to Kanyakumari Passing through Nagpur, Hyderabad and Bangalore NH 85 connecting Kochi, NH 785 Trichirappalli Airport. NH 49 Rameswaram. The venue is located near the Goripalayam Bus Stop.

NOTE:

1. A helpdesk / reception would be available at Madurai Central Railway Station for assistance.
2. For any further assistance please contact Transport Committee: Road
Madurai is well connected to Kodaikkanal, Courtralam, Tiruchendur, Kanyakumari Kerala, Tiruchirappalli, Rameshwaram and Chennai by Highways.

WEATHER AT MADURAI

Average temperature at Madurai during February ranges between 20°C to 30°C.

THE HOST

The Joint Action Council of College Teachers (JAC), an alliance of long standing vibrant college teachers unions, includes the dedicated Association of University Teachers (AUT), the determined Madurai Kamaraj, Manonmaniam Sundaranar, Mother Teresa, Alagappa and Anna University Teachers' Association (MUTA), and the active Tamil Nadu Government Collegiate Teachers' Association (TNGCTA). This JAC works tirelessly for the cause of higher education in the state and has successfully achieved many of its demands.

THE CONFERENCE VENUE

The American College in Madurai, founded in 1881 by missionary G.T. Washburn, is a highly distinguished and historic Indian institution known for its academic excellence, inclusivity, and Christian values. It was a pioneer in autonomy, being one of the first seven colleges in India to receive this status from the UGC in 1977-1978, and has since achieved a top-tier NAAC "A+" grade (CGPA of 3.47) and a high national ranking, specifically #59 in the overall category by NIRF in 2025. The college offers a comprehensive array of programs, including 32 undergraduate and 20 postgraduate courses, alongside research opportunities for M.Phil. and Ph.D. degrees, supported by specialized centres like the Department of Applied Sciences (DAS) and SCILET (Study Centre for Indian Literature in English and Translation). Furthermore, it maintains global connections, notably through its American Transfer Programme (ATP) with Concordia College, New York. The venue is near the Goripalayam Bus Stop.

ABOUT MADURAI CITY

Madurai, one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities, is a major cultural, spiritual, and industrial center located on the Vaigai River in Tamil Nadu, India. With a history stretching back to the 3rd century BCE, scientific evidence records that Tamizhi (Tamil-Brahmi) inscriptions are found in household mudpots, gold bars, and heroic stones, which are common people's material culture from the 6th century BCE. It was the historic capital of the Pandya kingdom and is revered as the cultural capital of Tamil Nadu, earning it the nickname, "Athens of the East". Madurai's rich heritage is vividly showcased through its globally renowned spiritual and architectural landmarks, including the magnificent Meenakshi Amman Temple, famous for its intricate carvings; the majestic Thirumalai Nayak Palace; the ancient temples of Thiruparankundram and the Alagar Temple; and the fascinating Keeladi archaeological site. The city also hosts the historically significant Gandhi Memorial Museum.

Economically, Madurai is a vital industrial hub, primarily focused on the automobile, rubber, and textile sectors, and is rapidly emerging as a second-tier center for Information Technology. As a major educational and transport hub, housing institutions like Madurai Kamaraj University, it offers excellent regional connectivity. Visitors in February should anticipate the city's typically hot and dry climate.

BRIEF NOTES ON TOURISTS ATTRACTIONS

1. **Rameshwaram:** Rameswaram takes visitors across the scenic Pamban Bridge onto one of India's holiest pilgrimage islands. Key attractions include the Ramanathaswamy Temple, famous for its long corridors and sacred theerthams (water bodies), and Dhanushkodi, a serene ghost town located at the confluence of the Bay of

Bengal and the Indian Ocean. The Agni Theertham (sacred sea bathing spot) and the Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Memorial and museum add depth to this enriching visit of spirituality, history, and seashore beauty.

2. Kodaikanal: A tour from Madurai to Kodaikanal offers a refreshing escape into the Western Ghats, beginning with a scenic uphill drive through winding roads, lush forests, and mist-covered valleys. Travelers can explore the star-climate, eucalyptus-scented air, and tranquil ambiance promote relaxation and gentle adventure. Shaped Kodaikanal Lake, the panoramic Coaker's Walk, Green Valley View, Pillar Rocks, Guna Caves, and Bryant Park. The cool climate, eucalyptus-scented air, and tranquil ambiance promote relaxation and gentle adventure.

3. Kanniyakumari: Kanniyakumari brings travelers to the southernmost tip of India, where the three seas (Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea, and Indian Ocean) meet. Highlights include the boat ride to the Vivekananda Rock Memorial and the towering Thiruvalluvar Statue, along with the serene Kanyakumari Amman Temple. The coastline is famed for its breathtaking sunrise and sunset views, while cultural attractions like the Gandhi Mandapam and the nearby Suchindram Temple add historical and religious significance.

4. Courtallam : Courtallam is perfect for nature lovers seeking rejuvenation, as the region is famed for its therapeutic waterfalls. Visitors can enjoy the refreshing cascades at prominent spots like the Main Falls, Five Falls, Old Courtallam, and Shenbagadevi Falls. The sulfur-rich waters and forest surroundings make it a popular destination for its natural healing properties and cool atmosphere.

5. Thekkady : Thekkady centers around the Periyar Tiger Reserve, where wildlife, spice plantations, and lush hill scenery converge. The program typically includes a boating experience on Periyar Lake, offering chances to spot animals like elephants, bison and rich birdlife along the shores. Visitors can also explore local spice gardens and attend demonstrations of local art forms such as Kalaripayattu (martial arts) or Kathakali (classical dance).

NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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 3. Dr. D. Kaja Mohaideen, Zonal Chairman AUT 90423 10136
 4. Dr. A. Jaisingh, Jt. Gen. Secretary, MUTA 94436 07076
 5. Dr. C. Manickaraj, Zonal Vice President MUTA 87780 50531
 6. Dr. S. Mythili, Zonal Jt. Secretary, MUTA 94860 83816

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 2. Dr. V. Vijaya Rangam, JAC Member, TNGCTA 99430 63015
 3. Dr. Pon Murugaraj, Academic Wing Member MUTA 97869 17044
 4. Dr. Ashok Kumar, JAC Member TNGCTA 97862 71855
 5. Dr. E.B. Gnaneswaran, Zonal Treasurer MUTA 94432 67539
 6. Dr. N. Ramesh, Zonal Secretary AUT 97876 56715

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 4. Dr. P. Sathish Mohan, Zonal Secretary AUT 99946 62019

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 2. Dr.V. Gomathinayagam, Zonal Secretary MUTA 94423 28434
 3. Dr. J. Kannan, JAC Member, TNGCTA 94433 63074
 4. Dr. V. Rajalakshmi, Zonal Vice President, TNGCTA 98654 48014
 5. Dr.J. Gokulakrishna, Zonal Chairman AUT 94439 85831
 6. Dr. A. Latha, Zonal Jt. Secretary, TNGCTA 93605 64722
 7. Dr. M. Mahesh, Zonal Secretary MUTA 90475 45667
 8. Prof. M. Sundaram, Zonal Chairman AUT 94421 13867
 9. Dr. V. Gopal, Zonal Secretary AUT 93455 51362

3. REGISTRATION:

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 2. Dr.P. Rajashimman, Zonal Secretary AUT 98403 30014
 3. Dr. M. Sellan, JAC Member, TNGCTA 94434 05368