

India Kanthapuram A P Aboobacker Musliyar said the Quran teaches that women should remain within their homes and that bringing them into public spaces could cause "great destruction".

He was defending a recent circular issued by his faction of Samastha, which sought to restrict women's presence on public platforms. Kanthapuram also justified purdah as a means of protecting women's dignity.

The remarks triggered widespread criticism. But the Indian Union Muslim League (IUMML), a key constituent of the Congress-led UDF govt, described them as a "scholarly expression" and suggested that they may have been motivated by concerns over women's safety.

The controversy has exposed a widening tension within the state's Muslim community. On one side are young women claiming greater visibility through education, politics, work and social media. On the other are clerical and political forces seeking to regulate the terms of that visibility.

The Onam Flashpoint

The Samastha directive came amid a growing wave of young Muslim women participating



A football World Cup event at Providence College

shared by some of their performers on social media. Their participation drew widespread praise, particularly because it reflected the state's long-standing tradition of celebrating Onam as an inclusive and secular festival.

Several Muslim colleges, especially in Malabar, also allowed such programmes.

For many young women, the celebrations were not simply about taking part in a cultural event. They were an assertion that they could decide how they dressed, where they went and how they participated in public life.

The response from conservative sections of the community was swift. Earlier, protests had also been voiced against co-ed school and college students taking part in Onam celebrations and against mixed-gender physical work-out programmes.

A Political Sign Of Change

The 2026 assembly election had appeared to offer a powerful counterpoint to such conservative pushback.

The 75-year-old IUMML, which has often positioned itself as a political counterweight to orthodox forces

within the community, got its first woman MLA when Fatima Thahililya — a young leader who had openly pushed for greater gender parity within the party despite criticism from clerics — defeated LDF convenor T P Ramakrishnan in Perambra, Kozhikode.

IUMML had fielded women candidates twice before, but neither had won.

Fatima's victory appeared to signal the emergence of a more progressive political space within Keralam's Muslim community — one in which women could claim equal political opportunity.



Students after elections at Providence College in Kozhikode



It is unacceptable to insist that restrictions introduced to ensure the safety of women in the tribal social conditions that existed in Arabia 1,400 years ago must be followed literally in the 21st century. Only religious values and morals should be preserved forever

—DR LIYAQATH ALI | PRINCIPAL, GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, NADAPURAM

Yet, barely 100 days into the Congress-IUMML-led UDF govt, the party's defence of Kanthapuram's remarks undercut that optimism.

Educated, But Constrained

The conflict is unfolding against the backdrop of considerable progress made by Muslim women in education.

According to the 'State of Muslim Education in India', the gross enrolment ratio of Muslim students in higher education in Keralam was 20%. Muslim women performed better than men, with a GER (gross enrolment ratio) of 25% compared with 16% for men.

An analysis of data from the All India Survey on Higher Education for 2023-24 shows a similar pattern at the postgraduate and re-

search levels. In major disciplines across PhD, MPhil and postgraduate programmes, 1,54,878 Muslim women were enrolled, compared with 1,08,526 men.

This educational progress, however, has not translated into equal freedom in public or professional life.

A study of Muslim women in Malappuram found that higher education was strongly associated with employment, economic independence and greater participation in household financial decisions. At the same time, conservative attitudes, religious factors and family responsibilities continued to constrain women's employment.

"Women from the Muslim community have made so much progress in Keralam only by ignoring such decrees of Muslim clergy," said Dr Liyaqath Ali, principal of Government Col-

legiums about dignity and safety have historically been used to limit women's mobility, education, employment and participation in public spaces.

"Women's struggle for public space is a constant power struggle when they rise in power and authority," said V P Zuhra, president of NISA, a progressive Muslim women's forum. "Some men can't accept that every woman is an individual, with immense capacity and capability to decide for herself. It is high time that religious and vote-bank politics stopped treating women as a commodity. Such behaviour leaves a black spot on Islam as a religion and is truly unacceptable."

Safiya PM, an activist who has filed a writ petition in the Supreme Court challenging the mandatory application of Muslim Personal Law to individuals who have officially renounced Islam, said the current pushback had deeper political roots.

"After the Babri Masjid demolition, a narrative took hold even among Keralam Muslims — who were otherwise known for being progressive, educated and secular — that they needed to unite to counter the perceived threat by turning more strictly to religious teachings and norms," she said.

"This led to a return to religious texts, which in turn was used to curtail the freedom of Muslim women using 'the book' and affected their progress and visibility. In recent years, however, Muslim women have been steadily reclaiming public space through education, entrepre-



Chief minister V D Sathesnan rejected Kanthapuram's interpretation as a 'misreading of Islam'. The Grand Mufti had said Quran teaches that women should remain within their homes

The Political Reaction

The political response to the controversy has been divided.

Chief minister V D Sathesnan, whose govt depends on IUMML support, rejected Kanthapuram's interpretation as a "misreading of Islam". He said it was unacceptable that "ideas from the 19th century were still being expressed in the 21st century".

Women and child development minister Bindhu Krishna also criticised Kanthapuram's position, while stressing that everyone had the right to freedom of expression and religious belief.

Several leaders of prominent secular political parties, however, either remained silent or defended Kanthapuram's right to express his religious views. CPM leader K T Jaleel and some Muslim organisations aligned with the party supported the cleric's position. Senior CPM leader P Jayarajan, while defending the right to express religious views, said "prescriptions restricting women's public life were open to democratic criticism".

The competing responses point to the political sensitivity of the issue. Religious leaders retain influence over sections of the community, while political parties depend on Muslim voters. Challenging conservative positions too directly can, therefore, carry an electoral cost.

Office of Mission Director, National Health Mission, Uttarakhand
(Uttarakhand Health & Family Welfare Society, Deptt. of NMHS)
Govt of Uttarakhand, Dehra Dun, Uttarakhand - 248001
Email: missiondirector@nhs.gov.in Phone/Fax 0135-260644

Notice Inviting Tender
Tender No. NHM/UK/FDS/2026/277628 Dated: 09-09-2026

The Mission Director, National Health Mission Uttarakhand (Uttarakhand Health and Family Welfare Society), invites tender for Selection of Service Provider Laboratory Services under Free Diagnostic Services Initiative (FDSI) under the National Health Mission, Uttarakhand.

The detailed tender document can be viewed and downloaded from website <https://tenders.gov.in>. All subsequent addendum/corrigendum/cancellation in respect of this tender will be published on aforesaid website only.

For any other queries the bidders are asked to contact through Mail-nhmukprocurement@gmail.com, freediagnostictttarakhand@gmail.com

Mission Director, National Health Mission Uttarakhand

SIR M. VISVESVARAYA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.
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Notice of 48th Annual General Meeting

Dear Members, The 48th Annual General meeting of Sir M. Visvesvaraya Co-operative Bank Ltd., Corporate Office, No.109, Shankaramm Road, Shankarapuram, Bangalore 560 004, will be held on **Sunday, the 13th September 2026 at 10.00 a.m.** at Sri Vidya Vilasa, Sri Chandrasekhara Bharathi - Kalyana mangala premises, Pampahalkari Road, Shankarapuram, Bangalore-560004 to consider the agenda mentioned in the Annual General Meeting Notice. The meeting notice has already been dispatched through post. In case if you have not received the Meeting Notice so far, kindly treat this as official Meeting Notice and make it convenient to attend the meeting. As the identity card issued by the bank is compulsory for entry to the Annual General Meeting, the members are requested to bring the same without fail.

Date: 10/09/2026 Sd/- (B.A.SREEDHARA)
Place: Bangalore Chief Executive Officer

ऑयल एंड नेचुरल गैस कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.

Digitization of Suggested Vendor List (SVL)
(EXTENSION OF DATE)

ONGC is digitizing its existing Onshore and Offshore Suggested Vendor List (SVL). With reference to the Advertisement Notice dated 27.02.2026 & 02.06.2026 published in National Newspapers & ONGC websites, the date of registration on the ONGC Vendor Registration Portal is hereby extended by three (03) months. All currently enlisted SVL vendors are required to register on the ONGC Vendor Registration Portal (<https://vendor.ongc.co.in>) under their respective discipline/item/category.

- No additional PQD documents are required for already enlisted items.
- Vendors must update contact details and submit the prescribed undertaking (separate

IndianOil

Marketing Division Karnataka State Office

INDIAN OIL LIMITED APPLICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT OF 30 NOS. NOME LPG RETAILERS ACROSS KARNATAKA FOR EXCLUSIVE MARKETING OF PACKED COMBUSTIBLE GAS UNDER THE NOME DOMESTIC NON-EXEMPTED LPG RETAILERS SET BY PER DETAIL BELOW IN OPEN CATEGORY

Address	For Districts
Bangalore Indane DO-LPG, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. Indane Oil Bhavan, 29, P. Kalinga Rao Road (Mission Road), Bangalore - 560027. Phone: 980-2223473	BANGALORE RURAL, BANGALORE URBAN, CHAMARAJANAGAR, CHIKMAGALUR, CHIKBALLUR, CHITRADURGA, DAKSHIN KANNADA, DAVANAGERE, HASSAN, KOLAR, MADHYA, MYSORE, RAMNAGARAP, SHIMOGA, TUMKUR, UDUPPI
Bellur Indane DO-LPG Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (Marketing Division), Bellur, 1st Floor, Kharghar Road, Talavadi, Karnataka - 560006. Phone: 0831 - 2466099	BELGAUM, BELLARY, DHARWAD, UTTAR KANNADA, SHIGAJIKE, VILVARGUDA

This is purely a business proposition and does not guarantee any job or assured returns or profits. IOCL reserves the right to cancel, withdraw, amend this advertisement or extend the due date at its sole discretion without assigning any reason.

Eligibility & Application Form
Details of eligibility, evaluation criteria for selection and application form are available on IOCL's website: <https://indianoil.com/pages/indianoil-bidder-eligibility-criteria>. The application should be submitted on or before 12.10.2026 at 17:00 Hrs. Application needs to be submitted along with a non-refundable application fee of Rs. 5,000/- (Rs. Five thousand only) by way of Demand Draft in favour of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IND) payable at the respective Indian Divisional office mentioned above.

Karnataka State Office
Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Karnataka

MAHARASHTRA ANIMAL AND FISHERY SCIENCES UNIVERSITY
FUTALA LAKE ROAD, NAGPUR - 440 001 (M.S.)
Website : www.mafsu.ac.in, Email: registrar@mafsu.ac.in

No. MAFSU/EST-6/ADVT/AP/1798/26 Date: 09/09/2026
ADVERTISEMENT FOR RECRUITMENT OF ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AND EQUIVALENT POSTS

Advertisement No. MAFSU/AP-01/2026

The applications are invited through online mode from the interested and eligible candidates for recruitment to the posts of Assistant Professor and equivalent in the Faculty of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Dairy Technology and Fisheries including College Librarian and Assistant Professor, Physical Education / Sports Officer (Level 10, Pay Scale Rs. 57700-182400) under Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University, Nagpur. The details about qualifications, eligibility, number of posts, reservation, age limit, application fee, conditions & general instructions, guidelines for parallel reservation, instructions for submission of online application etc. are available on the University website www.mafsu.ac.in

2) The link for the online application form shall be made available on University website www.mafsu.ac.in on 15/09/2026.

3) Desirous candidates satisfying the qualifications, eligibility and fulfilling other conditions shall submit the online application form along with the essential documents and application fee up to 14/10/2026.

4) For all other details, visit the University website www.mafsu.ac.in.

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Marketing Division

Karnataka State office

INDIAN OIL INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT OF 39 NOS NDNE LPG RETAILERS ACROSS KARNATAKA FOR EXCLUSIVE MARKETING OF PACKED COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL LPG (NON-DOMESTIC NON-EXEMPTED) LPG RETAILERS

Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Marketing Division, Karnataka State Office, proposes to appoint Exclusive NDNE LPG Retailers for marketing Packed Non-Domestic LPG to Commercial and Industrial customers in the following locations in the state of Karnataka.

Applications are also invited from eligible Individuals, Partnership Firms, Companies, Government Agencies, Cooperative Bodies, Federations and Non-Profit Organizations as per the prevailing NDNE LPG Retailer Policy.

Proposed Locations

Sl. No	Location	District	State	Category	Area Of Operation	Indane Divisional Office
1	Devanahalli	Bangalore Rural	Karnataka	Open	Devanahalli	Bangalore
2	Doddaballapur	Bangalore Rural	Karnataka	Open	Doddaballapur	Bangalore
3	Neelamangala	Bangalore Rural	Karnataka	Open	Neelamangala	Bangalore
4	Anekal	Bangalore Urban	Karnataka	Open	Anekal	Bangalore
5	Bellandur	Bangalore Urban	Karnataka	Open	Bellandur	Bangalore
6	Channasandara	Bangalore Urban	Karnataka	Open	Channasandara	Bangalore
7	Doddanakundi	Bangalore Urban	Karnataka	Open	Doddanakundi	Bangalore
8	Electronic City	Bangalore Urban	Karnataka	Open	Electronic City	Bangalore
9	Kanakpura Road	Bangalore Urban	Karnataka	Open	Kanakpura Road	Bangalore
10	Kasturbanagar On Mysore Road	Bangalore Urban	Karnataka	Open	Kasturbanagar On Mysore Road	Bangalore
11	Kengiri	Bangalore Urban	Karnataka	Open	Kengiri	Bangalore
12	Chamarajnagar City	Chamarajnagar	Karnataka	Open	Chamarajnagar City	Bangalore
13	Chikkamangalore City	Chikkamagalur	Karnataka	Open	Chikkamangalore City	Bangalore
14	Siddlaghata	Chickballapur	Karnataka	Open	Siddlaghata	Bangalore
15	Chitradurga City	Chitradurga	Karnataka	Open	Chitradurga City	Bangalore
16	Javagondnahalli	Chitradurga	Karnataka	Open	Javagondnahalli	Bangalore
17	Malakalpur	Chitradurga	Karnataka	Open	Malakalpur	Bangalore
18	Mangalore City	Dakshin Kannada- Mangalore	Karnataka	Open	Mangalore City	Bangalore
19	Davengere City	Davangere	Karnataka	Open	Davengere City	Bangalore
20	Channarayapatra	Hassan	Karnataka	Open	Channarayapatra	Bangalore
21	Hassan City	Hassan	Karnataka	Open	Hassan City	Bangalore
22	Kolar City	Kolar	Karnataka	Open	Kolar City	Bangalore
23	Malur	Kolar	Karnataka	Open	Malur	Bangalore
24	Maddur	Mandya	Karnataka	Open	Maddur	Bangalore
25	Mysore City	Mysore	Karnataka	Open	Mysore City	Bangalore
26	Nanjangud	Mysore	Karnataka	Open	Nanjangud	Bangalore
27	Harohalli	Ramnagaram	Karnataka	Open	Harohalli	Bangalore
28	Shimoga City	Shimoga	Karnataka	Open	Shimoga City	Bangalore
29	Sira	Tumkur	Karnataka	Open	Sira	Bangalore
30	Tiptur	Tumkur	Karnataka	Open	Tiptur	Bangalore
31	Tumkur City	Tumkur	Karnataka	Open	Tumkur City	Bangalore
32	Yediyur	Tumkur	Karnataka	Open	Yediyur	Bangalore
33	Gollihole	Udupi	Karnataka	Open	Gollihole	Bangalore
34	Belgaum	Belgaum	Karnataka	Open	Belgaum	Belgaum
35	Bellary	Bellary	Karnataka	Open	Bellary	Belgaum
36	Dharwad	Dharwad	Karnataka	Open	Dharwad	Belgaum
37	Karwar	Uttar Kannada	Karnataka	Open	Karwar	Belgaum
38	Badami	Bagalkot	Karnataka	Open	Badami	Belgaum
39	Hospet	Vijayanagara	Karnataka	Open	Hospet	Belgaum

Eligibility & Application Form

Details of eligibility, evaluation criteria for selection and application format are available on IOCL's website:

IOCL Official Website

Application forms can also be obtained from the respective Indane Divisional Office mentioned against the location.

Application Fee

Application needs to be submitted along with a **non-refundable application fee of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only)** by way of Demand Draft in favour of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (MD) payable at the respective Indane Divisional Office mentioned against the location. Application form complete in all respects along with application fee should be submitted at the above-mentioned address, in a sealed envelope, based on the Indane Divisional Office mentioned against the location, on or before **25.09.2026 at 1700 Hrs.**

Contact Address for locations under Bangalore Indane Divisional Office:

Bangalore Indane DO-LPG, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (Marketing Division), Indian Oil Bhavan, No. 29, P. Kalinga Rao Road (Mission Road), Bangalore – 560027. Contact No. 080-22220152

Contact Address for locations under Belgaum Indane Divisional Office :

Belgaum Indane DO-LPG, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (Marketing Division), Belgaum 1st Floor, Khanapur Road, Tilakwadi, , Karnataka. Contact No. 0831-2427138

Important Conditions

1. The Non-Domestic LPG Retailer so selected will be exclusively for marketing of Packed Non-Domestic LPG Cylinders only and will not be allowed to enroll Domestic LPG customers.
2. The selected candidate before being issued the Letter of Appointment (LOA) shall have to deposit an interest-free refundable Security Deposit of Rs. 3,00,000/- (Rupees Three Lakhs only) with Indian Oil Corporation Limited.
3. Appointment shall be governed by the prevailing IOCL NDNE LPG Retailer Policy and amendments issued from time to time.
4. This is purely a business proposition and does not guarantee any job or assured returns or profits.
5. IOCL reserves the right to cancel, withdraw, amend this advertisement or extend the due date at its sole discretion without assigning any reason. Deputy General Manager (LPG) Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Karnataka State Office, Bangalore