

TN to Host 31st Southern Zonal Council Meeting at Mamallapuram

Tamil Nadu is preparing to host the 31st Southern Zonal Council meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah at Mamallapuram in August 2026.

Zonal Councils are statutory bodies established under the States Reorganisation Act, 1956 to promote inter-state cooperation and regional coordination.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- Tamil Nadu is hosting the **31st Southern Zonal Council** meeting at **Mamallapuram** near Chennai in **August 2026**.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah** will chair the Southern Zonal Council meeting.
- The Tamil Nadu government has nominated Ministers **R. Nirmalkumar** and **Rajmohan** as state members.
- The venue chosen for this high-level meeting is the historical coastal heritage town of **Mamallapuram**.
- The council discusses inter-state issues including **water sharing**, infrastructure development, and **coastal security**.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

Zonal Councils are **statutory bodies** established under Section 15 of the **States Reorganisation Act, 1956**.

The **Union Home Minister** serves as the **ex-officio Chairman** of all five Zonal Councils in India.

Chief Ministers of member states serve as Vice-Chairman of the council by rotation for **one year** at a time.

The **Southern Zonal Council** comprises Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and **Puducherry**.

North Eastern Council was set up separately under a separate parliamentary legislation, **North Eastern Council Act, 1971**.

Shore Temple at Mamallapuram was built during the reign of Pallava King **Narasimhavarman II** (Rajasimha).

Group of Monuments at Mamallapuram was designated as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** in **1984**.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Southern Zonal Council was created under the States Reorganisation Act, 1956 and is chaired by the Union Home Minister.

Syllabus Relevance: Crucial for Group 1/2/4 Polity questions on Zonal Councils and Unit 8 questions on Mamallapuram Pallava heritage.

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