

# Velammal Group Seeks AIIMS at Madurai

**Express News Service**

**Madurai:** The Velammal group of institutions, representing around 28 educational institutions across Tamil Nadu, with its management, staff and students have made an appeal to the Prime Minister to accord permission for setting up AIIMS at Madurai.

Thanking Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Arun Jaitley for announcing in the budget that an AIIMS would be set up in Tamil Nadu, the Velammal group urged the PM to finalise Madurai as the place owing to its strategic location

and the opportunities it can provide for growth in Southern districts.

The Velammal group said that though the growth of Tamil Nadu on human development and economic fronts looks impressive in a bird's eye view, a microscopic view provides a picture of lopsided development within the State.

While most of the heavy engineering and manufacturing industries are located in Chennai, the remaining are predominantly located in places like Coimbatore and Tiruchy which is not helping industrial development in Southern districts, it

has been alleged.

The group claimed that the Southern districts had been historically neglected, as pointed out in Justice Ratnavel Pandian committee report, leading to increase in crime.

Claiming that the possibility of AIIMS at Madurai has provided a ray of hope, the group requested the Prime Minister to choose Madurai over the other four places.

The other sites proposed for AIIMS in Tamil Nadu are Sengipatti in Thanjavur district, Chengalpet in Kancheepuram district, Perundurai in Erode district and Pudukottai town.