

TN should stop fudging Covid figures: MLA

Madurai: Tamil Nadu government should concentrate more on preventing the spread of Covid-19 rather than giving fudged statistics in its daily bulletin, which any data analyst could detect it as wrong, Madurai Central constituency DMK MLA, P T R Palanivel Thiagarajan has said.

Speaking to reporters through a zoom meeting on Wednesday, the MLA also said that the trend analysis of the disease in districts including Madurai do not come close to any disease trend at the global level. He said that he had decided to approach the court, after failed attempts to make the officials give the proper statistics.

“What is worrying is the claims made by officials and ministers that the disease is coming under control. This could make the people lower their guard and cause dangerous repercussions,” Thiagarajan said.

Ministers were bent on publicising the recovery rate in the state when it was known that there was a 95% recovery rate at the global level. The government should be more transparent with the number of tests done and positive cases in all districts, on a daily basis.

It was only in Chennai that the results have been close to that of pandemic trend, while in other districts including Madurai, it seems to have been planned and many a times there were contradictory statements made by the district administrations and the state bulletin.

“Madurai’s figures that went down to just 40 were nowhere normal as I receive calls for help with tests and getting beds in hospital for treatment,” he said.

“The government seems to be making an amateurish attempt at data management. A daily death audit, duly signed by the district collectors should be released on a daily basis,” the MLA said. With figures being displayed so low in a city which has a population of 36 lakh people, the chief minister’s proposed visit could have dangerous consequences, if large crowds are allowed, he added.