

New policy to end child marriages sought

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The Campaign for Ending Child Marriages in Tamil Nadu (CECM-TN) – a network of non-governmental organisations across Tamil Nadu – has sought a new policy to end unlawful child marriage practices in the State.

A special resolution to this effect was adopted at the State-level district convenors meeting of CECM-TN held here on Wednesday. The day-long meeting was attended by convenors of 32 districts and a few NGOs from Tiruchi.

The State convenor of CECM-TN, M.S.A Satish Babu, spoke on district-level strategic planning with res-

pect to ending child marriages.

Urging the State government to focus on ending child marriages in its work plans, the meeting also appealed to the government to ensure the participation of NGOs in the formation and implementation of child protection activities at the village level.

Another resolution said steps should be taken to ensure that the rights of girls were respected and their needs addressed. It wanted the State government to establish legal and policy frameworks to ensure that girls had access to crucial services such as education, health and justice.