

## TAMBARAM

Chromepet » Pallavaram » Tambaram West » Rajakilpakkam » Mannivakkam » Guindy » Keelkattalai » Nanganallur » Guduvanchery » Hasthinapuram » Pammal » Tambaram East

Medavakkam » Srinivasa Nagar » Kathipara Junction » Kovilambakkam » Sadasivam Nagar » Potheri » Selaiyur » Sembakkam » St.Thomas Mount » Madipakkam » Urappakkam » Paranur

### Gasifier crematorium in Perumbakkam all set for inauguration



The new crematorium in Perumbakkam cannot be missed even when blindfolded. It is situated prominently on Semmozhi Salai (also known as Perumbakkam Main Road). The crematorium has a gasifier. Gasifier crematoriums filters carbon and sends out only smoke. According to the rule book, a crematorium should cater to people within a 15 km radius. Accordingly, it should serve people from certain sections of Tambaram and OMR regions. The crematorium would be functioning from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. In 12 hours, nine to ten bodies can be cremated. The facility is expected to be opened for the public's use soon. PHOTOS & TEXT: R. RAVINDRAN



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**'Create an additional parking lot at East Tambaram'**

Tambaram Sanatorium railway station is used by commuters in large numbers, especially those residing in East Tambaram, Chitlapakkam, Selaiyur, Sembakkam, Madambakkam and a section of Hasthinapuram. The existing private parking facility along the eastern side of the terminal is packed, and vehicles can be seen parked on the pavements near a refreshment stall and below the flyover-cum-grade separator.

Near the intersection of Chitlapakkam Second Main Road, Tambaram Sanatorium and Bharatha Matha Street in East Tambaram, land belonging to the Southern Railway can be converted into a parking lot. Commuting from the



P. Viswanathan  
Chitlapakkam

Chitlapakkam region to the railway station is a herculean task for people without personal vehicles as they are handicapped by the absence of public transport.

**P. Viswanathan**  
Chitlapakkam

**'Carry out repairs on the non-functional lamps'**



We want non-functional lights on Thiruneermalai Service Road (Maduravoyal - Irumbuliyur Bypass Road) to be repaired. Motorists find it difficult to drive as the stretch is engulfed in darkness. Many heavy vehicles take this stretch and this makes the road more dangerous at night.

Apart from this, there are only a few speed breakers and motorists drive rashly, increasing the risk of accidents. The Highways department should repair non-functional lamps and lay speed breakers at the earliest to curb accidents.

**B. Saravanan**  
Thiruneermalai

**Dirty picture at Guindy railway station**



This is a section of Guindy railway station, on platform number two as seen on January 21. Below the old half-demolished footbridge, the shutter of a technical staff room is missing, and commuters find it easy to spit and throw trash. "The Railway Protection Force personnel and the ticket collectors patrol the platform and stand near the bridge to check on ticketless commuters at regular intervals. They can at least inform the maintenance team," says S. Kanaka Shree, a commuter. Similarly, on platform 1A, an area has been used as a trash yard and has not been cleaned for days. The stretch is so bad that commuters cannot sit on the benches.

*Text: T.S. Atul Swaminathan*

**'Tambaram Sanatorium FOB needs a scrub'**

For months, the steps and walkway on the Tambaram Sanatorium foot overbridge connecting Chitlapakkam Second Main Road and Station Border Road in Tambaram Sanatorium and the electrical train platforms are littered with dog poop.

This makes the walkway unhygienic, and also affects free pedestrian movement during rush hour. The FOB should be cleaned every day. Currently, the station has not engaged the services of a cleaning contractor.

The Chennai Division of the Southern Railway maintains this FOB and the station in-charge should visit the overpass every day to ensure the facility is kept clean.

**K. Dayanand**  
Chitlapakkam



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**New parking facility at Pallavaram**



**C**hennai Metro Rail Limited has created an additional parking facility at Pallavaram to address the increasing passenger rush at Chennai International Airport Metro Station in Tirusulam.

Opened on January 22, the parking lot has come on a vast space on GST Road in Pallavaram.

As this is located a good distance away from the terminal, CMRL currently operates shuttle services between the terminal and the parking lot. The staff at the parking lot pointed out that these services will be operated between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m.

The discounted parking charges for two-wheelers are ₹20 (six hours), ₹15 (six to twelve hours), ₹

20 (more than 12 hours till 1 a.m.), and ₹50 (night halt charges from 1 a.m. to 4.29 a.m.). For cars, it is ₹20, ₹30, ₹40 and ₹100. No charges will be levied during revenue hours (4.30 a.m. to 00.59 a.m.).

The discounted charges will apply to National Common Mobility Card, Contactless Smart Card, and Singara Chennai Card users.

Parking is free for cyclists, and parking fare is accepted through CMRL travel cards and digital payments.

Commuters from Chitlapakkam, Tambaram, Manimangalam, Mannivakkam use the Metro to go to Koyambedu, Anna Nagar, Toll Gate, Thiruvottiyur, Kilpauk, and Shenoy Nagar.

*Text: T.S. Atul Swaminathan*

**'Relay Anna Street in Chitlapakkam'**

Anna Street in Chitlapakkam continuously sees vehicles from MIT flyover and Tambaram Sanatorium using the road to reach Velachery Main Road.

The road is damaged after the rains, and both pedestrians and vehicle users find it difficult to negotiate this section. The stretch between Perumal Temple and Gangai Amman Temple is the worst. I request the Tambaram City Municipal Corporation to relay this stretch immediately.

**L. Sundararaman**  
Chitlapakkam



## ENVIRONMENT

# A view from the window and a civic engagement

Two Class VIII students of The School - KFI study the Perumbakkam lake to assess its ecological health

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

**D**uring their trips to and from school, two friends – Aadhiran N. A. and Caroline Zita Dias – would observe Asian Openbill storks around a section of Perumbakkam lake. They felt this species was dwindling in these parts. The two Class VIII students of The School KFI have witnessed the rain waters flood the localities around Perumbakkam lake. All these were good enough reasons for the two to take up a project that they presented at the recently concluded Children's Science Congress organised



Caroline Zita Dias and Aadhiran N. A. at the Perumbakkam lake.

by Tamil Nadu Science Forum and the Institute of Mathematical Sciences.

Under the theme "Water for sustainable management", they show

how ecological degradation is under way at the Perumbakkam lake and the socio-economic implications of this situation.

"During our field visits we col-

lected samples of the water and gave it to a lab and found out it was extremely polluted," say the two classmates who go on wetland tours.

To understand the socio-economic challenges, the two had the task of convincing families residing in the Perumbakkam settlement to talk about the struggles they face including the health-related concerns due to poor sanitation.

Started by the observations in their study, the two wrote a letter to the Chengalpattu Collector S.Arunraj suggesting that steps be taken to conserve the waterbody. This also includes taking action on illegal encroachments around the lake and penalising those not following Solid Waste Management Rules.

"We were also asked to send the project to the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board that oversees the settlement," says Aadhiran.

"We plan to present their findings to the member of parliament. We are a 14-member group in Class VIII called Blue Brigade and we will be creating awareness through art at the Perumbakkam housing board," says Caroline, adding that social media is another tool they will harness for the lake to get justice.

### A nesting Black kite

Grace has various facets to it, unhurried ease being among them. On the 22 yards, David Gower epitomised it, bringing a silken smoothness to strokeplay, even to slog-over pummeling. In the skies, the Black kite represents grace with its fluid glides, effortless change of direction. At the Marina, the Black kite flaunts its flying abilities. Even the crows that heckle them are impelled to do an impression of the Black kite's flowing flight. Watch closely, you would catch a few members of Corvus splendens attempting glides, revealing an unconscious admiration for the Black kite's flying skills.

When anyone has a hearth to defend, little ones to take care of, they can act out of character if the situation demands it. They would embrace effrontery, abandoning grace, if that would keep their homestead chirping peacefully.

On Perumbakkam Main Road, around two pylons by the side of a canal that begins a journey to



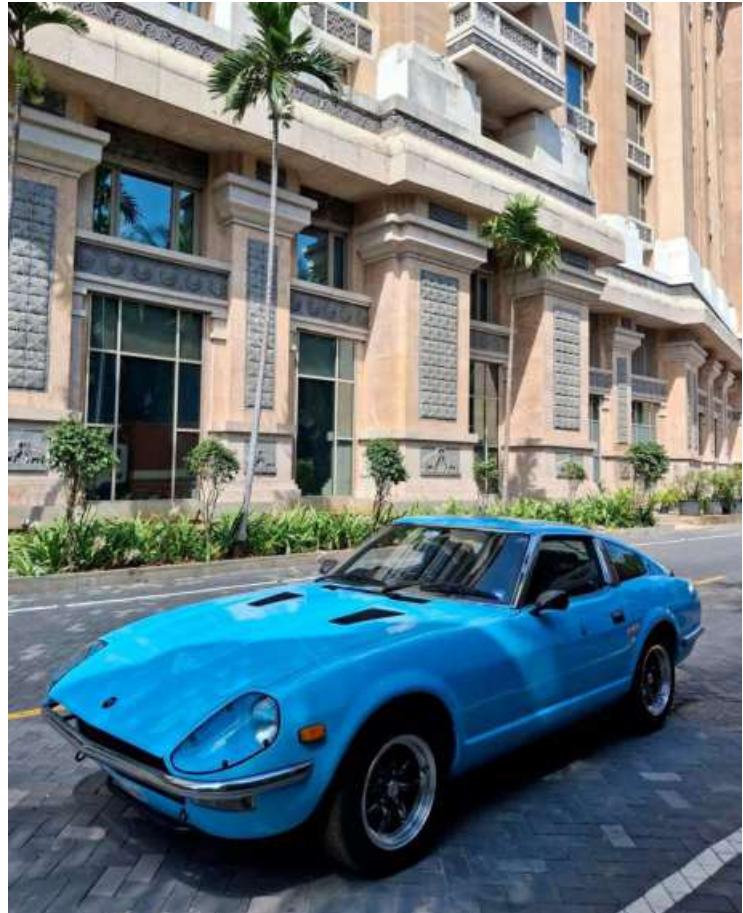
Okkiyam maduvu, Black kites occasionally speed up their flight. They have nests to defend. These are Black kites whose calling cards indicate locations in Chennai unlike a vast section of Black kites that head to Chennai from western India escaping the South West monsoon, and return home when that monsoon is past. These resident black kites build nests and raise their young in Chennai. The images show a Black kite carrying what looks like a small stone to its nest on a pylon on Perumbakkam Main Road. Raptors are known to build nests that are rugged — to put it mildly — building them with material that hardly mesh with the notion of cushioning. In characteristic style, this Black kite nest has rusty metal wires and a range of other hard objects. This Black kite was doing hurried sorties around the pylon holding its nest before settling in adding the new piece — likely a stone — to the nest bed and then sitting squat on the nest, probably incubating eggs.

PHOTOS: PRINCE FREDERICK





Some of the cars that would be on display at Turyaa in Perungudi.  
PHOTOS: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



## Heritage vehicle clubs show their mettle

Historical Cars Association of India has put up a grand stage in Chennai for illustrious collectors of vintage metal across India to display their precious possessions

**H**istorical Cars Association of India (HCAI) has laid out a grand platform in Chennai for heritage car clubs across India to show their mettle -- their precious metal on wheels -- in its glittering best.

This is the second event of the same magnitude being held in Chennai by HCAI.

The clubs that make common cause with HCAI by lending their lustre to the event are as follows: Madras Heritage Motoring Club; Vintage and Classic Cars of India, Mumbai; Eastern India Motor group; and Karnataka Vintage and CLASSIC Car Club. Eighty cars and 20 bikes and scooters are being lined up at various events in Chennai and finally beyond, in Puducherry, in this three-day event (February 1-3).

Among vehicles that are likely to have eyeballs rolling over them longer on account of their unique place in the heritage car firmament, wider popularity, immaculate restoration or all of these factors rolled into one, are: MG TD (nicknamed Lal Pari) owned by Damman Thakore. This car has been driven to notice, becoming known around the world for its singular trip around Europe on road.

This MG is known to be unfussy. No temper tantrums and willing to go the extra mile with just a gentle coaxing from a 14 inch spanner. Credit for Lal Pari being always road-



ready to go to its master for keeping an impeccable maintenance record.

This car would be among the other unique cars that will be held court at Turyaa hotel in Perungudi on OMR on February 2, 2025,

being there between 9.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. for the public to view them in a show that will be opened by chief guest Arvind Swami, actor and entrepreneur.

Other unique cars on display include Chevrolet Fleetmaster, Rolls Royce Phantom III Landaulette, Datsun 240, Hudson, Alfa Romeo, 1979 Corvette C3, Morris Traveller (also called Morris Woody), Buick 8, Sunbeam Talbot, Peugeot 203, Ford Model A, Volkswagen Bus Beetle Ford Thunderbird and a variety of Jaguars. Bikes include Norton, Triumph, a range of Enfield models, BSA and Lambretta.

# A creative excursion for students



PHOTOS: RAGU R

Chennai Photo Biennale 4 at Egmore Museum provides a creative excursion for school students of all ages. Students will have the chance to see children's photography from around the world, says a press release from Chennai Photo Biennale.

Here is how they can experience it, choosing between two options.

(A) Get in touch with CPB to schedule a guided tour with activities and trails. (B) Drop in and see the exhibition from Monday to Sunday (except for Fridays) between 10.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

CPB art mediators are always present to make the experience engaging for all ages, says the release. Call Uday 9566066111 or Gayatri 9940046599 for details.



## Celebration time for old Bedeans



The Old Bedeans Association, the alumni of St. Bedes Anglo-Indian Higher Secondary School, Santhome celebrated 100 years since the formation of its Old Boys Association in 1924-1925.

The occasion was marked with grandeur the school prestigious Centenary Auditorium. The chief guest for the occasion was one of its own Old Bedean (1970 Batch) Antony Lobo, Honorary Consul General of the Kingdom of Spain and the Head of Consulate in Chennai.

Justice Mohammed Shaffiq (Madras High Court), Dr. Edwin Fernando (Stanley Hospital), Dr. K.P. Kosygan (Apollo Hospital), Dr. K. Ganapathy (Retd Apollo Hospital) and actor George Antony (all old Bedeans) were present.

The national president of the Past Pupils of Don Bosco School J. Satish, the Province Delegate Rev. Fr. K.J. Arulraj, Province President, Secretary and committee Members, the Presidents of the Don Bosco Schools in Chennai also graced the occasion.

The occasion was blessed

with the presence of the former Rectors, Headmasters, Asst. Headmasters, Teaching and non-Teaching staff, the present staff of the institution and over 700 old boys from all parts of India, USA, Australia, Malaysia, Germany, Canada, UK, Philippines, Singapore.

Rev. Fr. D.J. Sagayaraj (Rector and Correspondent), Rev. Fr. Y.L. Irudayaraj (Headmaster), V. Kumaresan (President, OBA) and his team deserve a special word of appreciation for organising the same, the press release adds.

## The genesis of a close-knit group

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A report in *The Hindu* dated November 5, 1925, gives an account of a recently held meeting that would witness the birth of a group that would prove in the years to come, to be a close-knit, ever-growing community. It is a community that has thrived on nostalgia fuelled by a shared educational heritage.

Rev. Father A.S. Ville Verde, principal of St. Bede's High School presiding over it, the meeting formalised the idea of Old Bedeans' Association (OBA) with old boys of the school packing the "spacious school hall" to the rafters. What transpired in the meeting seems, on hindsight, to be indicative of the character OBA would develop and nurture – a fraternal attitude towards current students of the school, one that would result in their and their institution's growth. If one parsed through the contents of the meeting, OBA's formation was geared to meeting an immediate need and a direction the principal wanted the institution to take.

In alignment with the goal of being more residential, the school was in

the process of building a new hostel, one that would accommodate 120 boarders. The principal appealed to the old boys to use their influence to get more boys, especially boarders, as it was the residential part of St. Bede's he was endeavouring to develop.

The report goes on to state: "The object of the meeting having been explained, it was resolved to form an Old Bedeans' Association. The Rev. Father Frank Williamson, an old boy of the school was elected unanimously the first president of the Association amidst loud applause. Mr. M. D'Cruz was elected secretary."

A report (dated April 10, 1934) of the annual prize distribution function at the school notes that the Old Bedeans' Association "subscribed ₹500 to form the nucleus of the School Jubilee Endowment Fund."

In its edition dated December 25, 1935, *The Hindu* published a pithy announcement of an initiative by OBA to cement the bonds among the old boys – the launch of a quarterly magazine, *The Bedean*. The first issue of The Bedean seeing the light, the report noted: "The journal is well got-up and is bound to serve as a visible link between the old and new Bedeans."



**When**

# parks

## turn into open air art galleries

LIFFY THOMAS

**M**ore than 500 artists across age groups will turn Senmozhi Poonga into a dazzling kaleidoscope of colours on February 2. The second edition of Chennaiyil Oar Oviya Sangamam, an art exhibition presented by Indian Art Factory, will see participants, some from other cities, take every inch of their stall under tree canopies and behind plants to present a vibrant art gallery. The event is a big stage for aspiring and upcoming artists. Many of these artists do not have the means or the qualification to present their works at art galleries.

While the larger goal of taking art to public spaces is to bridge the gap between artists and audiences through creative expressions, the road to this is not so easy.

For six editions, the Art Fest at Nageswara Rao Park in Mylapore, curated by journalist and publisher Vincent D. Souza and artist Ganapathy Subramaniam, has served as a date for public engagement. This year, however, the fest scheduled to take place during the last week of February, will see a change of venue.

Since civic works are under way at Nageswara Rao Park, the venue

is not fully suitable for an art show, says a post on Facebook. It meanwhile wants people to keep their artworks ready.

In August 2024, for the first time, Government College of Fine Arts in Egmore organised an art exhibition on the Egmore Museum premises.

In 2023, Anna Nagar Tower Park got to host the Tamil Nadu Art and Craft Trust Expo 2023 but with conditions. Greater Chennai Corporation did not give permission

for artworks to be sold, they could only be exhibited. "That was the condition laid down to me to use this venue and we agreed as we wanted to give many struggling artists a platform and to some extent the open air exhibition served its purpose," says the organiser Jaffer Beig who is a member of Tamil Nadu Artists Association.

Ganapathy Subramaniam of Art Fest says they too were asked not to promote the event as a "sales event". "Art requires a lot of pro-



From the previous editions held at Senmozhi Poonga and Nageswara Rao Park

As more organisers of art events seek to host them outside galleries and museums, they expect support from the local civic body

motion, so the least support we ask for is that Greater Chennai Corporation give us space," says Ganapathy.

Like the Chitra Sante held annually on the streets of a neighbourhood in Bengaluru, such events need continuity and some support from the government or the civic body in terms of providing a venue that can draw people. Jaff-

er is looking for a space to host the art exhibition this year but he can only afford a minimal amount as fee.

Ganapathy says not all public spaces are suited for hosting an art event. "Nageswara Rao Park was right in every sense from location to size and the space plays host to various events including the Mylapore Fest so we did not have to promote it," he says.

Selvakannan Rathinam, founder, Indian Art Factory, says organising an event of such scale is not easy. "I have paid the Horticulture Department ₹75,000 towards rent for a day, which is fine but I have been requesting a waiver in entry fee for visitors on the D-Day or it would not draw the public," says Selvakannan.

From 125 artists in the first edition, this time the event has 525 people, 70 from other states, taking part in it. "We do not have an application process to shortlist artists; we look at the Instagram profile and their artworks and charge ₹1500 per stall and they have a conformed space at the venue," says Selvakannan. As a self-taught artist he has faced many rejections from art galleries so he does not like to shortlist participants.

Last year, the artist community made ₹ 4 lakh selling works. This time, our target is ₹ 25 lakh, so we want a good footfall, he says.

## Lessons from Chitra Santhe

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

**A** majority of organisers of art events and artists will swear by Bengaluru's Chitra Santhe. Happening for the last 22 years, the Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath organises this art festival around its campus and extend it to a few VIP roads on the first Sunday of January.

Streets are strictly pedestrian only for the entire day, vehicular traffic is diverted for art to spread out in all forms, shapes and sizes. So big has this street art festival grown that this year the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation offered feeder services to the venue and Namma Yatri offered free autorickshaw rides.

Shashidhar Rao S.N., general secretary, Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, says the festival has had its own set of challenges that were ironed out gradually.

Last year, 1,800 artistes from 22 states presented their works and over six lakh people attended the day-long festival. A number of the participants are from rural areas of Karnataka who get a platform. "A number of stalls

have sold more than ₹3 lakh worth of art and we don't charge any commission from them except the registration fee of ₹ 1000 that covers breakfast, lunch and accommodation for outstation artists," says Rao.

From a manual process, three years ago an exclusive website was designed for participants to process their application form, know whether they are shortlisted and make the payment.

Does the Karnataka government fund the event? Rao says the government has been supportive but they don't have a fixed amount being given every year. "Sometimes promises are made and sometimes we get only 20% of the amount but we have no complaints. We are happy with the support various departments give us including by cordoning off vehicles for 12 hours which is a big challenge in a city like Bengaluru," he says.

Rao says registration fee is one component through which the expenses of organising this festival is met. Given the increasing crowd that has been turning up for the event, the Parishath has been mulling about moving it to a park.

## School conducts expo on Thirukkural

The Vyasa Vidyalaya Matriculation Higher Secondary School in Puzhuthivakkam - Madipakkam recently conducted an expo on classic Tamil language text.

Kalyanaraman, principal of Presidency College, and M. Padikaramu, poet, were the chief guests. On the occasion, the poet unveiled a statue of Thiruvalluvar.

This year's exhibition revolved around the theme 'Integrating the timeless values of Thirukkural with modern life.'

The expo featured thought provoking models of Thirukkural from



kindergarten to the higher secondary classes. The students provided a detailed and eloquent expla-

nation of their work, impressing visitors with creativity and deep understanding, said a release.



### Graduation ceremony held

The Vidya Sagar Global School, Vedanarayananapuram, recently hosted its ninth graduation day ceremony for Grades 1 to 12.

More than 90 students were awarded graduation certificates and mementos. Around 37 students who studied from KG I to XII were specially felicitated on the occasion.

Premanand. S., general manager of operations, Wittur Elevators Components India Private Limited, was the chief guest. He instilled values of life in students and blessed them to pass the board examinations with flying colors.

## Sports facility inaugurated

The Maharishi Vidya Mandir, Thiruneermalai, has facilitated a sports facility 'Navaratan Sports Arena.'

The facility comprises a FIFA standard futsal field with 50mm artificial turf, a basket Ball court, a cricket net practice center, an archery center with 10 mm artificial turf, two pickleball courts, one Mallakhambh court, and a multi-court on traditional soil for playing volleyball, throwball, kho-kho, and kabbadi.

The entire facility sprawls around 60 thousand square feet. The inauguration was followed by a cultural bonanza, which included mass drills and Taekwondo.

Apart, the school's fourth annual sports meet was also held.

Ajay Prakash Shrivastava, chairman of Maharishi Vidya Mandir Group of Schools, honored the winners of various sports events and individual championships with medals and certificates.



## Inter-collegiate festival

The School of Commerce of Guru Nanak College, Velachery, organised an inter-collegiate fest called Zynora -25. According to a press release, 1,300 students from 55 colleges took part in the two-day event.

The overall trophy was bagged by Loyala College. Ethiraj College for Women was the runner-up, adds the press release.



felicitated for their achievements.

The chief guest was Puneet Batra, PRO vice-chancellor Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies.

Puneet Batra said, "The students have the knowledge, skill and determination to make an impact in their field. I encourage them to continue learning, innovating, and serving with compassion and integrity".

Dr. J. Srinisha, chairperson of Sree Balaji Group of Medical College and Hospital, urged the students to positively impact the lives of others and use their knowledge and skills to create a brighter future for themselves and for generations to come.

The ceremony was presided over by J. Srinisha and ER. N. Elamaran, managing director of the college.

Besides, three university toppers were



## Convocation at dental college

Seventy-five Bachelor of Dental Surgery and 28 Master of Dental Surgery students of Sree Balaji Dental College and Hospital received their degrees recently at the 31st graduation ceremony.

Besides, three university toppers were

## Sports meet held

The AGS School on Lakshmi Narayana Perumal Street, Pallikaranai, recently held its tenth annual sports meet. The meet started with the lighting of the Olympic torch, followed by games, drills, and dance. Siva Prakasam, councilor, Ward 190, Greater Chennai Corporation, encouraged students to embrace a healthy and active lifestyle.

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Dr. Gift Siromoney Memorial Inter-school Chess Tournament and Inter-school Quiz Contest at MCC, Tambaram.



## College conducts chess tourney, sports quiz for school students

**D**r. Gift Siromoney Memorial Inter-School Chess Tournament and Inter-School Sports Quiz were conducted recently at Madras Christian College (MCC) in Tambaram.

Conducted by the college's statistics department, both events witnessed enthusiastic participation from schools across Chennai and the suburbs, says a press release.

The chess tournament was led by Ebenezer Joseph, MCC alumnus from

1984-89 and India's first FIDE trainer and Candidate Master.

N. Soorya Prakash, MCC alumnus from 1986-91 and AGM, sales and distribution department, *The Hindu* conducted the inter-school quiz contest, which kept its focus entirely on Indian sports, the press release says.

Seventeen schools participated in the chess tournament, and Sethu Bhaskara Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Ambattur, won Dr. Gift Siromoney (founder of Department of

Statistics, MCC) Rolling Trophy.

Fifty students from eleven schools participated in the quiz, and Vani Matriculation School, Madambakkam, won the first prize.

Furthermore, the department organised a statistics exhibition, featuring over 35 models that make statistics come alive through games and interactive displays for school students. This was followed by an engaging presentation by department students, who took the school students through the history of the department and impact of statistics across various fields, the release adds.

Moreover, students explored various fields including 3D design art and Laser wood art at MCC MRF Innovation Park.

A total of 575 students from 36 schools participated, making the event a great success, the press release notes.

## Thai expo concludes in city

A three-day 'Thai Brands Exhibition 2025', organised by the Thai Trade Center concluded at Express Avenue Mall recently.

Racha Aribarg, Consul General of Thailand, Chennai, and Chek Jeenaphan, director of Thai Trade Center, Chennai, inaugurated the exhibition.

Over 30 brands representing fashion, food, beauty and design participated. The visitors experienced Thailand's craftsmanship, from traditional handicrafts to modern tech solutions, said a release.



## Salute to Mothers programme held

Sri Krishna Sweets recently organised the 14th edition of Salute to Mothers programme at Narada Gana Sabha, Chennai. In this programme 14 celebrities Mothers were honoured. A snapshot of the programme in which Vasanthi Rajendran, mother of G.R. Ananthapadmanabhan and G.R. Radhakrishnan, managing directors of GRT Groups was honoured by writer Sivasankari. Also in the picture are M. Murali, MD of Sri Krishna Sweets and industrialist Nalli Kuppuswamy Chetti.

## Free medical camps to create awareness about cancer

**A**s part of World Cancer Day, Sringeri Sharada Equitas Hospital at Gowrivakkam will conduct a series of free medical camps at different venues. Screening for cancer will also be conducted for those who require. Camps will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Medavakkam Ruby Elite gated community on February 8; at Vyasarapadi on February 21 and at Ambattur on February 22.

Cancer awareness talks, camps and other activities will be conducted at DAV School in Pallikaranai on February 4; Madras Christian College on February 13 and at Venkateshwara Homeo College in Porur on February 18.

These awareness activities and camps are intended at creating awareness among the public, emphasising the importance of identifying cancer at an early stage, said a press release.

Sringeri Sharada Equitas Hospital in Gowrivakkam is a 100-bed not-for-profit hospital inaugurated in 2023 that aims to provide affordable cancer care to patients from weaker sections of society. The hospital has been built and is operated as a joint initiative of Equitas Healthcare Foundation, an arm of Equitas Small Finance Bank's CSR programme and Sringeri Sri Sharada Math. For details, call 9841361018.

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