

## T. NAGAR

Saidapet » West Mambalam » Vadapalani » Porur » Kattupakkam » Irungattukottai » Nungambakkam » Manapakkam » Ashok Nagar » Valasaravakkam  
Gerugambakkam » Mangadu » Choolaimedu » Egmore » K K Nagar » Kodambakkam » Virugambakkam » Somangalam » Poonamallee » Chetpet



### WELL AND TRULY BROBDINGNAGIAN

Around 20 pairs of hands are needed to form a human chain encircling this Baobab at Andhra Mahila Sabha; the tree is 250 years old **P4**



### MAKING PARKS INCLUSIVE

Greater Chennai Corporation's Gender and Policy Lab, Kilikili, Disability Rights Alliance and other groups are fanning out to different localities to gather inputs that would drive design decisions pertaining to an exercise to make 10 public parks in Chennai friendly to children with disabilities **P6**

## 'Cover this SWD in Dhanalakshmi Nagar'



P. SENTHIL KUMAR

The stormwater drain at a street in Dhanalakshmi Nagar, Iyyappanthangal is open, making it unsafe for pedestrians and motorists. This street, which has been denied the honour of a name board, is narrow, being just 10 feet wide. If the drain had been covered, it could double as a footpath. Further, the street is not well-lit and therefore, the open stormwater drain could be easily missed. Hence, for safety reasons, the drain should be covered without much delay.

*P. Senthil Kumar is a resident of Iyyappanthangal*

Watch your steps on these footpaths



▼ Guindy, Alandur and St. Thomas Mount regions along GST Road are busy areas with footpaths that are well-scuffed. On these footpaths, pedestrians' safety is compromised on account of broken SWD manhole covers, particularly during low-light conditions. The images show broken manhole covers in footpaths at Saint Thomas Mount.

PHOTOS & TEXT:  
T.S. ATUL SWAMINATHAN



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## 'Transformers in West Jhafferkhanpet need fencing'



V.M. Balakrishnan Street

The electricity transformers at the following streets in West Jhafferkhanpet: Bharathidasan Street and Valluvar Street at Thirunagar and V.M. Balakrishnan Street at S.M. Block.

Greater Chennai Corporation's

waste bins are located under these transformers. They hinder the staff of TANGEDCO from carrying out repair and maintenance work. Besides, people just throw the bags of garbage and there have been instances of those bags hitting these

transformers causing sparks and resulting in power cuts. Such instances have become frequent in recent times.

*P. Sudhakar, secretary,  
Federation of Residential Welfare  
Associations, West Jhafferkhanpet*

## 'Kovur bus terminus not put to optimum use'



A bus terminus was set up at Kovur on Porur-Kundrathur Road a year ago. However, an adequate number of services are being not operated from the facility. "It was a bus stop that was converted into a spacious terminus, but is not being put to optimum use. Only a couple of buses to Broadway are operated from here," says a commuter. PHOTO: VELANKANNI RAJ B

## 'Open urination near transformer'

The electricity transformer at Bajanaikoi First Street in Choolaimedu has no fencing. The place around it is misused as a public urinal and to dump all kinds of waste. This spot stinks.

*V. Johan Dhanakumar  
Choolaimedu*



## A fight for freedom from chaotic traffic

On the 79th Independence Day, a residents welfare association in Shenoy Nagar launches an initiative that would have volunteers heading to busy junctions in the locality every week to run safety awareness campaigns

Residents of East Shenoy Nagar Residents Association made a decision to celebrate Independence Day in a manner that would benefit residents through the year.

The RWA has embarked on a year-long campaign to improve road safety in Shenoy Nagar, using

the 79th Independence Day as launch pad for the initiative.

The Association had inked in a plan to conduct weekly road safety awareness campaigns at busy junctions in Shenoy Nagar, and inculcate a safe driving culture.

A press note shared by V.M. Chinni Krishnan, member of the

## Junior tennis tourney at Nungambakkam stadium; entry free



From a previous edition of Tamil Nadu Tennis Association's junior tennis tournament at Nungambakkam SDAT stadium.

PHOTO: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Tamil Nadu Tennis Association is hosting the UNIFI ITF Junior Tennis Cup tournament from August 18 to 24, 2025 at the SDAT Nungambakkam Tennis Stadium. Entry is free; open to all.

The ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors gives players aged 18 and under the opportunity to travel the world and develop their talent. TNTA has been hosting this ITF junior event for the past 20 years, and many players have benefited from this event and gone on to represent India at the world stage. One such recent beneficiary of this tournament and the TNTA developmental system is Rethin Pranav, who won this tournament two years ago and recently reached as high as 31 in the world juniors—securing his place in the Australian Open, French

Open, and Wimbledon Junior event, says a press releases. TNTA has partnered with Unifi Capital in Tamil Nadu, the press release adds. This is the 20th edition of an ITF Junior event and the third edition of the upgraded J60 event to be held in Chennai.

Apart from top Indian players, this tournament features players from countries such as the United States, Australia, Korea and Great Britain, says the release.

The events to be held are: boys singles U18; girls singles U18; boys doubles U18; and girls doubles U18. The qualifying rounds will be held on August 16 and 17; and the main draw is from August 18 to 23.

The finals for doubles will be held on August 22; and for the singles on August 23.

## You can be our volunteer writer

Dear readers, you can be our volunteer-writer by writing to us about issues and events in your neighbourhood. You should send the write-ups to [downtownfeedback@thehindu.co.in](mailto:downtownfeedback@thehindu.co.in).

Letters must carry the contact number.



Shenoy Nagar residents during the launch of the initiative on August 15. PHOTO: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

East Shenoy Nagar Residents Association, with *The Hindu Downtown*, says: Shenoy Nagar is no longer the quiet leafy neighbourhood tucked away from the bustling Poonamalle High Road. With Shenoy Nagar metro station, the transformed Thiru

Vi Ka park, and the wide roads, the locality has seen a multi-fold increase in the volume of traffic.

Motorists use Shenoy Nagar roads to avoid the traffic signals on Poonamalle High Road. The result is speeding and reckless turning at

junctions. The reluctance to wear helmets and indiscriminate honking add to the chaos.

The press release says residents want to be part of the solution and serve as an inspiration to other RWAs to launch similar campaigns.

# STATUS REPORT

## Water supply to be suspended in five zones

More than 10 regions across the city will not have water supply on August 18.

The Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board has announced that the piped

water supply will be suspended on August 18 at 8 a.m. to August 19.

The disruption is attributed to the drinking water main pipe interconnection work undertaken

by the Chennai Metro Rail Limited, Anna Nagar zone on Purasavakkam High Road.

At Zone 5 - Royapuram, Purasavakkam, Periyamedu, Sowcarpet, Chindadripet and Egmore;

dapet will be affected, stated a release issued by the Board.

Residents are requested to store adequate drinking water for their needs. In case of an emergency, residents can avail water through tankers 'Dial for water' on the CMWSSB website, <https://cmwssb.tn.gov.in>.

## Iswarya Hospital launches breast health centre

Iswarya Hospital has launched a state-of-the-art breast centre, focusing on breast health screening and diagnosis.

The centre is equipped with advanced 3D Digital Mammography, along with Tomosynthesis, a next-generation imaging technology to deliver detailed breast scans and accurate detection of abnormalities.

The centre offers routine breast check-ups, diagnostic consultations, and evaluations based on family history, stated a release from the Hospital. Playback singer Chinmayi Sripada inaugurated the centre. She said, "Early screening is vital. The stigma around breast health must end. More women should feel empowered, walk into the centre and take charge of their health without hesita-



tion." Dr. S. Rajasundaram, director of Oncology and chief executive officer of Iswarya Hospital, said, "Breast cancer continues to be the most common cancer among Indian women, accounting for nearly 1 in 4 cancer cases. Unfortunately, more than 50 percent of these cases are detected in late stages due to a lack of awareness and delayed screening. Our goal is to shift the focus to early detection. Early detection of breast cancer dramatically increases survival rates. Women, those above 40, should undergo timely screening."

## Applications invited for M-UTS Sahayaks at Central station



The Southern Railway, Chennai Division, has invited applications from candidates to serve as Mobile Unreserved Ticketing System (M-UTS) Sahayaks at Chennai Central railway station.

To improve passenger convenience and streamline the ticketing process, the Railway Board had announced the M-UTS Sahayak scheme.

Under this scheme, unreserved tickets will be facilitated by sahayaks round the clock at railway stations. The deployment of sahayaks at Central is aimed at reducing queue times and easing congestion at ticket counters.

The applications can be downloaded at <https://sr.indianrailways.gov.in/sr/notice/1752908028980>

Applicaation%20for%20M-UTS%20Sahayaks.pdf

said a release from the railway.

## Yoga festival on August 24

The 12th National Level Yoga Competition organised by Global School of Yoga and Universal Yoga Club will be held on August 24 at Decathlon in Nolambur. Yoga enthusiasts from various cities will be taking part in the competition. A yoga world record of performing 50,000 asanas in a day is also planned, said a release.

For details, call 96771 62580/ 82485 79145

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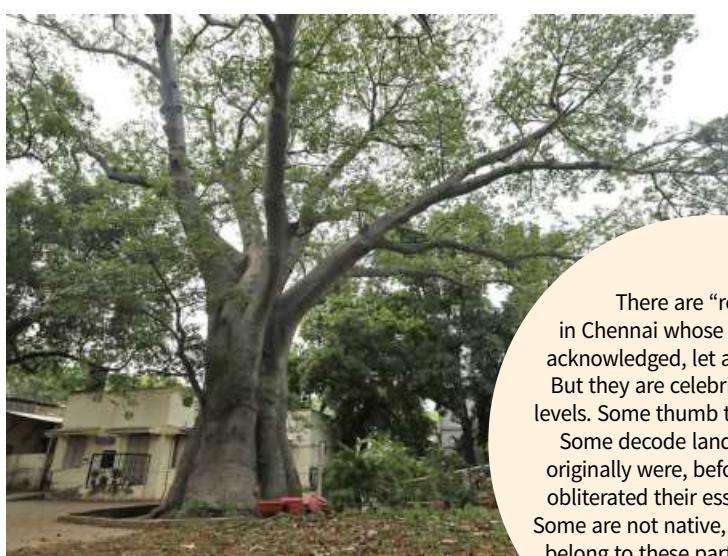
## *Well and truly **Brobdingnagian***

Around 20 pairs of hands are needed to form a human chain encircling this Baobab at Andhra Mahila Sabha; the tree is 250 years old

### PRINCE FREDERICK

If one set their mind to understanding this Age in earnest, they would arrive at the following conclusion without wandering in a philosophical wilderness. It is an Age where epithets are taken in vain, being used mindlessly. What should be reserved for the sublime is misdirected into eulogising the quotidian. And when the sublime shows up, no apt epithet is to be found, all the suitable ones having been frittered away on everyday things. Recently, while in the presence of a tree at Andhra Mahila Sabha in Adyar, this writer was acutely made aware he had squandered away a valise of epithets denoting size in all the writing he had done before. Guilty of overworking "Brobdingnagian" to a frazzle, he was tongue-tied when the truly Brobdingnagian stared at him, a massive branch wedged in its cheek in amused derision.

It is a Baobab whose trunk takes multiple pairs of hands to be held in a comfortable embrace. T.D. Babu, associated with tree conservation organisation Nizhal, has had a ringside view of this tree being encircled in a human chain; and the



exercise took nearly two dozen pairs of hands. This Baobab is *Adansonia digitata* or African Baobab.

He explains: "In 2023, as a Madras Day exercise, Nizhal together with the Forest Department organised a tree walk with multiple stops.

At Andhra Mahila Sabha, the participants did a succession of human chains fully encircling the tree, and every time, it took around

20 pairs of hands to do so."

Baobabs are engineered by nature to be big hulking beings; but nurture determines the extent to which they follow that script. Babu notes the Baobab at Andhra Mahila Sabha has found a helpful environment and that has enabled it to reach its potential.

He points out the tree's age would be anywhere between 250

There are "residents" in Chennai whose presence is hardly acknowledged, let alone celebrated. But they are celebrities on multiple levels. Some thumb their nose at time. Some decode landscapes as they originally were, before development obliterated their essential character. Some are not native, but have come to belong to these parts. In this Madras Day series, meet the city's heritage trees

The Baobab at Andhra Mahila Sabha.  
PHOTOS: PRINCE FREDERICK & SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

to 300 years. It is still in the flush of youth: a Baobab's life expectancy is 1000 years. One need not be surprised to find Baobabs departing from planet earth prematurely. The lack of a conducive physical space can send them packing early. A Baobab at Egmore Museum left, whole centuries un-lived.

The Baobab at Andhra Mahila Sabha predates the organisation, and Babu remarks that the tree has been revered by the local populace through the centuries as sacred, a factor that would have aided it before it had the protection of a vast compound wall around it.

It is the fruiting season, and the

tree was sporting a few fruits during the recent visit. The fruits, as well as the leaves, have uses for the dining table. Babu notes that even when the Baobab is reduced to its "bare bones", it would wear quite a look. During summer, being a deciduous tree, it sheds all its leaves. At that time, it would look like it has been turned on its head, standing upside down – the branches would look like roots that have been suspended in air. Babu adds that during such times, the Baobab evokes the shape of a bandicoot. The shape of the trunk gives the impression of a horde of elephant legs being spliced together – one of the Tamil names for the Baobab tree is Annapuli.

This tree is among those in Chennai that Nizhal and the forest department want to be honoured with plaques that commentate upon their significance and announce their heritage status.



(Clockwise from top left) Thambi Parthasarathy during a scene in Karaiyai Thodatha Alaigal; with Rajinikanth during a Star Cricket tournament; as Alwarkadiyar in a drama version of Ponniyin Selvan; and Thambi at present.  
PHOTOS: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SHARON JESSICA MICHAEL

**O**n the topic of Tamil theatre in Chennai, K. Thambi Parthasarathy is a voice to be reckoned with. He has been on its front line from the late 1960s, as performer and observer of trends. Seventy five years old, he has taken the foot off the pedal in recent years, but only slightly. The outings to the centre stage have dwindled. But he regularly faces the centre stage, being a presence in the audience at plays staged at the Sabhas of South Chennai, particularly those in Mylapore and Mandaveli, the latter his home turf.

Over the decades, Thambi has seen acting heavyweights up close, their histrionic skills being shaped and crystallised by the stage and exported to the silver screen and the tellie. A typical example is that of Raja Venkatraman becoming actor Srikant. Thambi himself has had dalliances with these electronic mediums, but never let them supplant his love for the stage.

During much of his active theatre career, Thambi held a government job, being on the pay rolls of the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board (TWAD). The stage is easier on the practitioner in terms of time. Convenient late-evening hours can be scooped out of the week for rehearsals. The weekend can be arm-twisted without any resistance into accommodating performances. In case that gives the impression that Thambi viewed theatre as something to be pursued on the sidelines, take this. He took home the Best Actor award by the Mylapore Academy in 1991. Long-time Tamil theatre aficionados would remember his standout performance in Komal Swaminathan's Thanneer Thanneer; as also the one as Azhvarkadiyar in Ponniyin Selvan, directed for the stage by Prakash Kutty.

Not a surprise when you consider

## A touch of drama to Madras

Thambi Parthasarathy has a sharp sense of the evolution of Tamil theatre in the city, having been part of nearly half a dozen troupes since the 1960s and also being a keen observer of trends in the field of drama in these parts

that his passion for theatre was born early and home-brewed. Thambi's father S. Kannan (a chartered accountant who had been engaged in the freedom struggle) co-founded Entertainers Group with his friends, director Chellappa and Bala Subramaniam. A young Thambi started wearing greasepaint for the stage, encouraged by director Chellappa, who helmed seven of Entertainers Group's stage productions. Thambi would emulate his father in as much he would keep his day job and passion for theatre in tightly-sealed compartments, ensuring justice is done to both.

Rehearsals were almost always held at Thambi's Mandaveli home. For every play, the cast committed themselves to

a minimum of 30 days' practice before facing the audience. The 1,500 sq.ft house had a thatched-roof first floor, a space that became their cocoon of creativity and growth.

Among memories not blurred by time is that of K. R. Vijaya's diligent commitment to rehearsals – yes, she was part of Entertainers Group before attaining celluloid fame. "She would come for rehearsals every single day," recalls Thambi. "Though practice would start at six in the evening, she would arrive much earlier for some social banter with my mother and grandmother."

Rehearsals were never hurried run-throughs. The director and writer would take meaningful pauses and fine-tune scenes, recreating the play right till the time the stage is just a ner-

vous step away. Sessions ran from 6-6:30 p.m. to 9-9:30 p.m., getting extended as the premiere loomed large. Since all members had day jobs, evenings were their only window for practice.

Entertainers Group seemed to have consciously applied filters that narrowed down the focus to comedy. A signature production was Love in Madurai, written by K.K. Raman, a comedy-spinner par excellence with an expansive sphere of influence, one that touched stalwarts such as Crazy Mohan. Thambi takes a well-considered and balanced view of comedy. While acknowledging its place, he was clear about enforcing its limits. He points out: "Comedy should come along with the story," he says. "Nowadays the aim is only at comedy. People say they come here only for relaxation." He champions serious theatre, as borne out by his admiration for Fathima Babu's Un Kannil Neer Vazhindhal, which delivered a punch without punchlines.

When Parthasarathy later worked with other drama troupes, rehearsals shifted to new spaces. V. S. Raghavan's plays were practised at his Raja Annamalai home; the Prasanna troupe met at director Prasanna's Royapettah residence or at Venkateshwara School in Abhiramapuram; and Komal Swaminathan's plays were often kneaded together at a Kalyana mandapam in T. Nagar.

Having a theatre career spanning decades and nearly half-a-dozen troupes and a wide variety of plays (including R.S. Manohar's historical plays), one is bound to be at the coalface of changes overtaking the medium. He has seen the stage change in how it looked and sounded. He has heard plays move from live music to gramophone and then to pre-recorded tape and now to higher technology, where much is

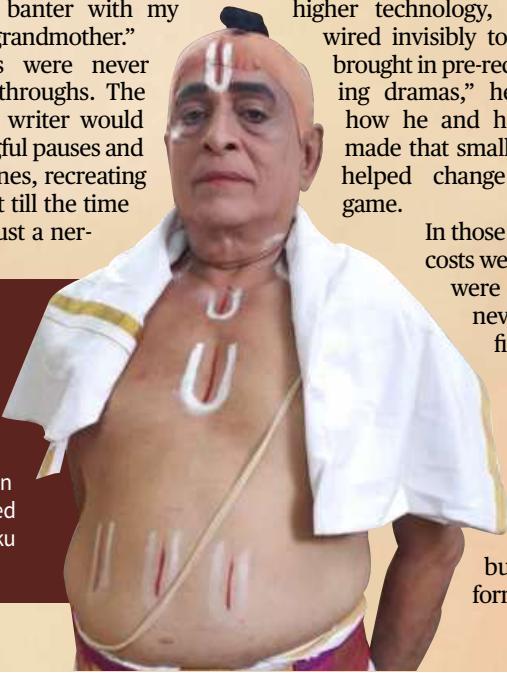
wired invisibly to the cloud. "We brought in pre-recorded songs during dramas," he says, recalling how he and his friend Suresh made that small tweak, one that helped change the backstage game.

In those days, production costs were modest, but so were the returns. "We never earned a profit," Parthasarathy admitted. "We even funded the plays ourselves. It was never about the money; it was about contributing to the art form."

### The highlights

Plays by Entertainers Group include Aravanudhan Aasai; Kavilum Thaalamum; Love in Madurai; Top Secret; Dhi-deer Manaivi; Suya Dharisanam; and Karaiyai Thodatha Alaigal

Thambi Parthasarathy has acted in over 60 television serials. Notable serials include Kasalavu Nesam (directed by K. Balachander); Raghu Vamsam; Premi and Veetukku Veedu Looti.





Children draw to express what they seek in parks; and (below) students of Gurukulam at Bougainvillea Park.  
PHOTOS: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

# Making parks inclusive

Greater Chennai Corporation's Gender and Policy Lab, Kilikili, Disability Rights Alliance and other groups are fanning out to different localities to gather inputs that would drive design decisions pertaining to an exercise to make 10 public parks in Chennai friendly to children with disabilities

LIFFY THOMAS

**I** used to be overweight, and so I could not use the slide as a child. Though older and past the age of using slides, I am interested in slides, the design of slides. I do not want children on the heavier side missing out on the slide," says Arvind Kumar, a student of Gurukulam, a centre for children with special needs in Anna Nagar.

The youngster with autism typed out an explanation approximating to this when asked why he sought "wide slides" in parks. Arvind was responding to a team that has fanned out to various neighbourhoods in Chennai to under-

## The list

The 10 parks identified for the project: MMDA 1st Main Road Park (Zone I; Division 19); KKR Park in Madhavaram (Zone III; Division 28); Vasuki Nagar (Zone IV, Division 36); Anna Park (Zone V, Division 52); Murasolimaran Park in Perambur (Zone VI, Division 71); Bouganvillea Park (Zone VIII, Division 102); Natesan Park (Zone X, Division 133); Thiruvalluvar Nagar Park (Zone XII, Division 156); Jayachandran 1st Street Park (Zone XIV, Division 191); and Sri Sai Nagar park in Thoraipakkam (Zone XV, Division 193)

**Existing inclusive parks in Chennai are:** Infinity Park in Santhome, Sensory Park in Kotturpuram and another in Mogappair

**How can one be part of this initiative?** The form <https://forms.gle/CfFyU3yYWtkGZybNA> seeks to understand what children with disabilities, their families and caregivers and persons with disabilities would like to have in public play spaces and parks. Scan the QR code that will be placed at these identified parks and give your feedback.

stand the need for inclusive parks.

To make Chennai's parks more accessible for persons with disabilities, Mayor Priya R. as part of 2025 budget announced making 10 important parks inclusive. Greater Chennai Corporation's Gender and Policy Lab, Kilikili, Disability Rights Alliance and other volunteering groups are facilitating consultations with different stakeholders to understand their needs.

On August 12, the team engaged with three institutions working in the inclusion space in Anna Nagar – MITHRA, Sankalp and Gurukulam – that brought their students to Bougainvillea Park which is among the green spaces that make up the ten.

"A day earlier, we took six of our students to Bougainvillea Park so that they have an idea of the space. Five of them are on the spectrum and can only type their answers but they have valuable inputs to offer in terms of making public spaces welcoming of all," says Radha Nandakumar, founder-trustee, Gurukulam. She says suggestions given by students included need for ramp, path for cycling, tactile floor, a soundproof room and train games.

### Three-pronged approach

The team is having a series of consultations, both in-person as well as online, across the city for the next few weeks to take in as many inputs as can be from all stakeholders including children with disabilities, their families and caregivers.

"We are looking at institutions in and around the parks, and making sure to include people across disabilities," says Kavitha Krishnamoorthy, founder and managing trustee of Kilikili.

Those who may not be able to articulate their thoughts are shown photographs of different types of play equipment that are provided in parks including the ones associated with inclusive parks. And then they are asked to choose.

"Even if they cannot answer, we are trying to see what they are reaching out for," says Kavitha who has worked towards setting up inclusive parks in Bengaluru and Chennai.

For those who cannot make it to the consultations, a Google form is also being made available to gather feedback.

The 10 identified parks will soon have posters with QR code where any user including those from the community around can give inputs on inclusive features they would like to see incorporated.

### Building a community

"Besides integrating the inputs collected from various parks, we see this as a community building exercise where people visit and monitor it regularly," says Kavitha.

Infinity Park at Santhome, which was opened in 2018, was one of the best examples of an inclusive park that is community-driven, but since the pandemic the place has slipped into neglect.

Pre-COVID, an active community, mostly of residents from the neighbourhood, oversaw the park.

"They were given some orientation before being enrolled as volunteers and it served as a good example of community ownership. They followed a roster between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. to help facilitate the park for special children. Their roles involved telling children not to use an equipment wrongly, alerting authorities of faulty equipment, and mediating for parents who hesitate in putting across a point to able-bodied children. Besides infrastructure, that is also needed to make a public space inclusive," says Kavitha.

While the team is working on collecting inputs for the 10 parks, they are also pushing to see Infinity Park restored.

Maintenance of public parks is another key concern. At Infinity Park, for instance, a developer took care of the maintenance for the first two years.

"Maintenance is a big issue anywhere and we have to think of a new kind of arrangement and not just blame GCC. Can there be a maintenance fund for parks? What is the civic responsibility? Can the monitoring be done by a special school or RWA? These are among the questions we are grappling with," adds Kavitha.

# EVENTS



## What is in store for Madras Day

The Madras Postcrossing community is organising a series of events at Ranade Library, Luz (Sastri Hall campus - near Nageswara Rao Park) on August 17 that will showcase philately and post cards.

At 3 p.m., an exhibition showcasing postcards of Madras will explore some of unique collections. This will be followed by showcasing letters that speak of fascinating stories and insights of the city.

At 4 p.m., one can meet the members of Postcrossing commun-

ity who will be talking about the hobby and how they exchange postcards related to Madras.

A letter writing workshop will also be conducted. The events are open to all.

To register, contact: Moulipriya 8148566110

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Bring a friend or family member, form a team and test your knowledge about the city. The 2025 edition of Murugappa Madras Quiz will be held on August 24 from 2

p.m. onwards at the MMA Auditorium, Anna Salai.

Quizmaster Sumanth C. Raman will be conducting this open quiz based on entirely Madras/Chennai. There is no age restriction for the participants, and top three teams will win prizes and a rolling trophy.

There are special gift hampers and gift vouchers for the Best Women's Team, Best Students' Team, and Best Senior Citizens' team. No pre-registration is required.

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Institutions take the lead

The Department of History, Stela Maris College is celebrating Madras Day on 19 and 20 August 2025. As a part of the celebration, it is organizing competitions and exhibitions.

Discover Heritage of the University of Madras in this walk led by T. Jaisakthivel from the Department of Journalism and Communication on August 22 at 3 p.m. To register, please contact: Moulipriya 8148566110

For more info about events, visit <https://themadrasday.in>

## Make your own eco-friendly Ganesha

Fabulous Fundigais team is conducting a natural clay ganesha making workshop for children and parents on August 23 and 24 at two venues in the city – Utopia World, Abhiramapuram and Soul Garden Bistro, Kilpauk.

This is the 7th year of the workshop. The event also includes storytelling, reciting slokas and games. Register on [tiny.cc/ganeshas25uw](http://tiny.cc/ganeshas25uw). Contact 95000 50776 / 88841 00232

## Celebration of indigenous games at WCC



In observance of International Day of the World's Indigenous People, the Centre for Environmental Studies, Women's Christian College, Nungambakkam, conducted traditional games of indigenous communities. The theme for this year is 'Defending Rights, Shaping Futures. Spread the Word! Let's Leave No One Behind'. According to a press release, around 100 students from across India took part in the event. Some of the games included: Kola Kolaiya



Mundhirikka (the Tamil version of Duck, Duck, Goose), Boomerang Toss, and Fire on the Mountain.



## Students encouraged to work for nation's progress

Various cultural events marked the Independence Day celebration at Annai Veilankanni Group of Educational Institutions. According to a press release, entrepreneur G. Sakthi

vel, founder and chairman, SSLF City & Housing and Namm Uravugal Trust, was the chief guest. In his address, he emphasised the role of youngsters in a nation's progress.



### Lake cleaning drive held

Korattur Aeru Padukkappu Makkal Iyakkam, a citizens group organised a cleaning drive at Korattur lake. According to a press release, students of Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education & Research, Porur took part.

## Culinary workshop on August 21

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University & Information Training Centre is conducting a workshop on making jams on August 21 at its premises at Agro Tech Green Park, First Floor, Thiru. Vi. Ka. Industrial Estate, Guindy. According to press release, the session will focus on making jams from beetroots, carrots, mangoes and grapes. Prior registration is required. For details, call 044-29530048.

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From a previous edition of MOC run.

## Registrations open for Made of Chennai Run

**R**egistrations have opened for *The Hindu* Made of Chennai Run (5K and 10K).

Co-hosted by Chennai Runners, this year's run will be held on September 7.

The start and end point of the run will be published soon and updated on *The Hindu* Made of Chennai Instagram page. Participants can register for the run at ₹499 inclusive of bib, t-shirt and medal (on finishing).

*The Hindu* Made of Chennai is presented by Casagrand and powered by SRM. In association with Union Bank of India. Associate Partners: Tata Tea Chakra Gold, Tata Coffee, Hell Energy. Tourism sponsor: UP Tourism. Hydration partner: Parry Foods.



The event is also being done in partnership with Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation, Greater Chennai Corporation, Greater Chennai Police,

Greater Chennai Traffic Police and Namma Marina, Namma Pride. Radio Partners: Big FM, Fever FM and Radio On. Active-wear partner: Technosport. Chennai Runners is an active running club that organises several running events throughout the year and has been instrumental in popularising running as a route to wellness.

To register, visit the link or scan the QR code <https://newsth.live/MOC2025RPA>



## Workshop on hospital administration on September 6 in Taramani

A workshop on hospital administration will be held on September 6 at TEACH Auditorium, The Spastics Society of Tamil Nadu, Taramani. Time: From 8 a.m. to 12 noon

Called "Hospital Compliance Conclave 2025," the programme will be handled by Hariharan Ramanathan, founder and CEO, SHA's Hospital Management Consultancy Services, says a press release.

The following concepts will be covered during the session: statutory compliance, rules and their purpose, and challenges of a hospital administrator.

Government officials retired from various departments will be present to answer queries. The departments include: Directorate of Medical & Rural Health Services, Employees' State Insurance Corporation, National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers, National Accreditation Board for Testing & Calibration Laboratories, Greater Chennai Corporation, Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority, Tamil Nadu Fire & Rescue Service, and Tamil Nadu Police.

On the occasion, a software exclusive for hospital licensing and compliance reporting will be launched, adds the release.

No fee will be charged for two representatives per hospital, adds the press release.

For details, call 99529 68552 / 73053 68552.

## Registrations open for Maya Kannan contest



*The Hindu* Downtown is conducting 'Maya Kannan - Janmashtami Contest 2025', an event that enhances the festive spirit in the neighbourhoods of Chennai by enabling residents to take Janmashtami celebrations to the higher place: by having their children dressed up as Lord Krishna.

This contest is for children in the 3 to 8 age group, who must dress up as little Krishna or Radha and present a dance, song or sloka-recital performance in the praise of Lord Krishna.

The title partner for the event is Gopuram Turmeric Powder & Kumkum, the food partner is Madras Coffee House, the venue partner is Shri Krishnaswamy College for Women, Anna Nagar, Chennai, the Water Partner is Repute Water and the

Tech Partner is Hilaptop.com. Gift Sponsors are DIFA, Lalwani, Medimix, My Resale Plot.com, Naga, P S Tamarind, RAS Cheku Oil and Vivekanandha Sarees.

To register and participate, scan the QR code given herewith or visit <https://newsth.live/MK2025CH>. Upload a 1-2-minute video and picture of your kid's performance as Krishna/ Radha to our microsite. Registrations close on August 18, 2025. For further queries, you may call 8148748183 / 9003077030



## The Fatimites' homecoming

Alumni from across decades gathered for the first-ever grand reunion of Fatima Matriculation Higher Secondary School in Kodambakkam



**S**ome came with flowers, some with walking sticks, and some simply with hearts overflowing. After decades apart – for some, as long as 40 years – the corridors of Fatima Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Kodambakkam, once again echoed with the laughter, tears and warm embraces of its past pupils. The first-ever large-scale alumni reunion, Voyage of Hope, held recently, was more than an event – it was a home-

coming. Founded in 1958 beside Fatima Parish Church with just eight students, the school now educates over 2,500 annually and has produced achievers in every walk of life – from judges, doctors, bankers, engineers, and lawyers, to scientists, professors, lecturers and inspiring teachers. Its legacy also sparkles with gifted dancers, actors, dubbing artists and playback singers, says a press release.

Over 500 alumni, teachers and sisters

from across the globe returned for the celebration. The day began with a Holy Mass, followed by a spirited March Past, where alumni from as early as the Class of 1971 walked alongside younger batches in coordinated colours. Mother Provincial officially declared the reunion open, marking a historic moment for the institution. Highlights included the launch of a special e-magazine, multiple whole-group photographs taken across different venues, and a nostalgic campus walk that unlocked a flood of memories. Even alumni with health challenges – some in wheelchairs or on oxygen support – made the journey back to their *alma mater*, says the press release.

Months of planning by the Past Pupil Association culminated in an evening of music, dance and a buffet lunch, leaving everyone with memories, laughter and more than a few happy tears to last a lifetime, the release adds.