

**ANNA NAGAR**

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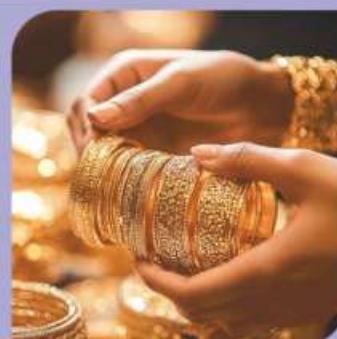
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## A fight for freedom from chaotic traffic

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

**R**esidents 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



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.

## Registrations open for Made of Chennai Run



From the 2024 edition of MOC 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 po-

wered 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>



## 'Watch your helmet, while at the Anna Nagar Tower park'

Helmets left on motorcycles parked near Dr. Visvesvaraya Tower Park in Anna Nagar seem to be the latest target of thieves prowling around the area.

Theft of helmets is increasingly

coming to light. Police authorities should take necessary measures to curb this menace.

Besides, authorities need to ensure that the artificial lake at Anna

nagar Tower Park is kept sacrosanct and trash-free. One notices plastic bottles floating around the waters.

T.S. Karthik  
Kilpauk

## READERS WRITE

### On the walkway at Thangal Park, humans match strides with cattle



'Hoof it' is a metaphor for walking, but at Thangal Park in Ambattur, hoofing happens in a literal sense.

As the image I had clicked shows, cattle hoof it down the walkway at the park.

I am a regular walker at the park, and sharing walking space with cattle is unsettling, to put it mildly. A herd of cattle are regu-

lars at the park, browsing on the grass and plants for added taste.

One hopes Greater Chennai Corporation is quick out of the blocks in addressing this issue.

The park is located on Pudhur Main Road in Ambattur and comes under the jurisdiction of Ward 80 in Zone 7.

K.V. Saikrishna  
Ambattur



## **Pulianthope High Road 'breaks down' under added stress**

**A** month ago, on account of CMWSSB's sewage drain construction work on Demelows Road, the traffic there was diverted through Pulianthope High Road, already burdened by two other diversions – from Dr. Ambedkar College Road (since November 2024 due to State highways' flyover work) and from Strahans Road (since June 2024 due to Phase Two metro rail work).

MTC bus drivers point out challenges in navigating the narrow Pulianthope High Road, especially at the S-shaped bend near Princess school. Due to their greater size, low-floor buses struggle through this section. Residents point out minor accidents have become common at the S-shaped bend.

Unauthorised parking and carelessly placed garbage bins make the road narrower still. As traffic movement on Pulianthope High

Road will be impacted due to flyover work and Metro Rail work on Dr. Ambedkar College Road and Strahans Road for a long time, regular suggest that the State Government explore the possibility of widening the road. Pulianthope High Road stretches from Dr. Ambedkar College Road near P1 Pulianthope Police Station to the junction of Basin Elephant Gate Road and Powder Mills Road.

*Text: L. Kanthimathi*



The bend on Pulianthope High Road and at the junction of Basin Elephant Gate Road, Powder Mills Road and Pulianthope High Road.  
PHOTOS: AKHILA EASWARAN

## **'Plan to expand Avadi Corporation should be expedited'**



I am glad to learn that Avadi Corporation has been selected as the "Best Corporation" in the State for the financial year April 2024 - March 2025. At this juncture, Municipal Administration & Water Supply Department's should implement its plan to expand Avadi Corporation by adding the surrounding areas – Thiruverkaa-

du, Poonamallee, Thirunindra-vur, Nemilicherry, Ayappakkam, Kattupakkam and Nazarathpet – to it without much delay. This will help in better development of the entire region.

*T. Sadagopan, president, Tamil Nadu Progressive Consumer Centre, an Avadi-based citizens group*

## **'Wrong PIN on street name boards in Ward 71'**

The PIN code for Perambur North Side is 600 011. But the name boards of streets installed by the Greater Chennai Corporation (under Singara Chennai Scheme) recently in Ward 71 in Zone 6 show 600 012 which is wrong. So far, we have noticed this error in Venkatraman Street, Venkatraman Canal Street, Patel Road, Ramachandran Street and Subramaniam Street. Next, the name board meant for Subramaniam Street is installed in Subramaniam Road which is misleading. In Nelvayal Cross Street, the name board is installed five feet away from the road margin encouraging parking of vehicles behind the board. Likewise, in Kumaraswamy Street, the board is installed behind an electricity junction box. In the case of School Road, the



board is not installed properly. And in Venkatraman Street, the board is installed somewhere inside the street instead of the entrance. GCC should mention the name of the contract firm which has laid the road and installed the boards to fix accountability.

*Raghukumar Choodamani, convenor, Perambur Neighbourhood Development Forum*

# 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>.

## 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 depart-

ments 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.

## Khadim opens in Anna Nagar

Khadim, a footwear and accessories store, has opened an outlet in Anna Nagar. The store has products of British Walker, Soft Touch, Cleo, Pedro, V-Turk and Waves, says a press release. Its new winter collection is for the whole family, the release adds.

The store is located at 27A/82, Vellalar Street, Nolambur, Mogappair West, adjacent to Canara Bank, Mogappair. Phone: 044-4614 8696.

## 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.

## 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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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.

## Broken platforms at Ayanvaram bus terminus



Platforms along bus bays at the bus terminus on Anderson Road in Ayanavaram are broken and not pedestrian-friendly. The same goes for the concrete floor at the terminus, which provides services to Vallalar Nagar, Broadway, Besant Nagar, and Koyambedu. It is battered and marked with potholes and prone to waterlogging during rains. The terminus lacks adequate seating.

## Iswarya Hospital launches breast 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 hesitation."

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.

## Lake cleaning drive held



Korattur Aeri Padhukappu 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.

## 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.

## Power lifting champion hoists the flag at Thiruvengada Nagar



Thiruvengada Nagar Residents Welfare Association in Ambattur celebrated Independence Day at the premises of the association's building. According to a press release, Lathifa Sirajudheen, gold medalist in the recently held WRPF All Asia Power Lifting Championship at Vietnam was the chief guest and hoisted the National Flag.

## Competitions for children held

Britannia Nagar Residents Welfare Association conducted various competitions for children a week ago and the winners were awarded on the occasion of Independence Day celebration on August 15. According to a press release, the events included: chess, drawing, badminton.



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## **Junior tennis tournament at Nungambakkam stadium; entry free**

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 release.

TNTA has partnered with Unifi Capital in Tamil Nadu, the press release adds. This is the 20th edition of an IITF 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.

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 Chekku Oil and Vivekananda 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**

**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 homecoming. 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

## Perambur resident appointed as international advisor for Royal College



Dr. S. Jimson, renowned Oral and Maxillofacial surgeon, has been appointed as International Advisor for India by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (RCPSG). Dr. Jimson, a resident of Perambur, is Executive

Committee Member of Asian AOMS, and President of AOMSI Tamilnadu and Puducherry Branch. His appointment, effective for a three-year term with the possibility of extension, was announced after a highly competitive selection process, said a press release.