

## T. NAGAR

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Gerugambakkam » Mangadu » Choolaimedu » Egmore » K K Nagar » Kodambakkam » Virugambakkam » Somangalam » Poonamallee » Chetpet



### MORE POWER TO KASTHURI

On September 6, she is making her debut in paralympic games, where she will be holding aloft India's hope of striking gold in powerlifting. **P6**



### A SHOP FLOOR LIT UP BY THE PAST

At Simpson & Co on Anna Salai, a massive work space is doused in evenly dispersed daylight streaming in through a time-tested roofing system **P4**

## No Vehicle Day on college campus

MOP Vaishnav College is driving this sustainability initiative on the last Thursday of every month

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

In a city, one cannot keep exhaust fumes out of one's life. But one can make sure they are not adding to them. Every last Thursday of the month, MOP Vaishnav College will be making sure it does not. Last Wednesday (August 28), it got the initiative rolling, observing its first Zero Vehicle Day on its campus.

Students, faculty and non-teaching staff accustomed to bringing their vehicles to the campus switched to public transport, e-vehicles, share autorickshaws and bicycles. Some even walked to the college: among those who did was

the MOP principal Archana Prasad, who walked from home to college, a distance of three kilometres.

The brainchild of the Student Ministry of Environment, an arm of M.O.P. Sansad, the student council, the initiative aims to contribute towards emission reduction, make sustainability part of the campus community, and of course, help students and staff members get a little more exercise, said a press release.

As a run-up to this day, student groups made announcements through the public address system, conducted a flash mob and even posted messages on social media.

E-vehicles were permitted and those with physical challenges were exempt from the initiative. Even pre-scheduled guests to cam-



The walk to the campus on No Vehicle Day; and some students took share autos.

pus were requested to use public or shared transport.

Principal Archana Prasad says the plan is to observe the last Thursday of every month as No Vehicle Day. "If there is an unscheduled event or an examination then we might observe it on some other day of that week, say Wednesday or Friday," says the principal,

The college has close to 4000 students on its rolls.

"Every day we have 800 two-wheelers and 20 cars parked on the campus. We will plan a study to see the impact we are creating with this monthly drive," says the principal, adding that this generation is keen on making a green statement with such initiatives. And that

means half the battle is won.

To address concerns regarding public transport, the student council had circulated flyers with information about bus routes.

"Every month reminders would be sent before the No Vehicle Day and this will continue till observing No Vehicle Day becomes a practice," says Archana.

Talking about the challenges, the principal says, they had guests on campus who had to be brought on board to make the initiative a thumping success on its debut.

"Routine supplies arrive on the campus every day, and so we asked the vendors to deliver the last-Wednesday quota in advance," she says.

This initiative joins a host of other sustainability measures that the college has undertaken. About 45 KW energy comes from rooftop solar panels. The college is a plastic-free campus.

In lieu of floral bouquets to welcome speakers and other guests on the campus, the college has started planting trees in honour of the guests, tying up with a tree-plantation agency. The growth of the tree can be tracked on a video stream available through a QR code issued by the agency, the release added.

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## ‘Area under FOB is an eyesore’



**T**he area under the foot overbridge at Nungambakkam railway station (near the entrance to Nelson Manickam Road) is unkempt. Pile ups of waste including plastic trash are found here. The bins here are overflowing. This place is fly-blown and ridden with stench. Further, it is overrun with vegetation. The authorities concerned should ensure the place is kept clean.

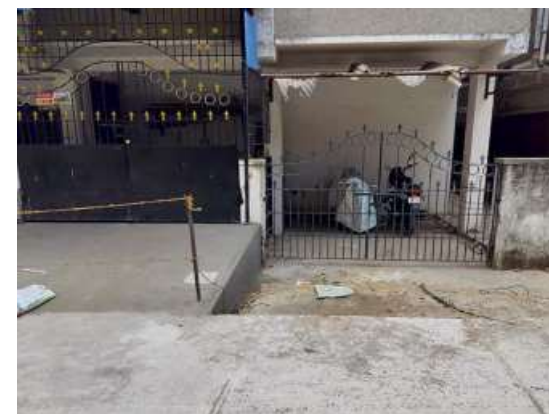
**S. Jenifa Rani**  
Nandambakkam

## ‘Recently relaid road in Iyyapanthangal is too high’



**V**GN Nagar Second Main Road was relaid during the last week of July. But the height of the road has increased. A few houses that are decades old are now below the road level. Residents fear water would enter their house during heavy rains. Therefore, they have started constructions to ensure the road and their houses are at an equal level. This is an unnecessary expenditure for residents. Besides, the adjacent Oil Mill Road is now below the level of VGN Nagar Second Main Road and this unevenness will pave way for water stagnation. As per the Indian Road Congress (IRC) rules, the roads should be milled to a height of 40 mm. This has been violated here. It should be noted that this road will be dug up again to lay sewage pipes in the near future.

**P Senthil Kumar**  
Iyyapanthangal



VGN Nagar Second Main Road in Iyyapanthangal.  
PHOTOS: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

## ‘Service lane in a sorry state’



**A** 500-metre stretch of the service road of Chennai Bypass from Baraniputhur to Kovur needs to be relaid. Construction of a cut-and-cover drain got completed on this stretch last year, following which a bitumen road was laid. However, it did not last long. The road is marked with potholes.

**V Pattabiram,**  
Iyyapanthangal

## In a state of neglect



Metropolitan Transport Corporation set up a small park within the bus terminus in Vadapalani on Arcot Road last November. By now it should have become a lush green space pleasing to the eyes. Instead, it is in a sorry state for want of periodical maintenance. Only a few saplings have survived and others have gone dry. Further, the park is overrun with unruly and unwanted vegetation. PHOTO: B. VELANKANNI RAJ

## ‘Footpath in Jhafferkhanpet is unfriendly’



A section of the footpath at Jhafferkhanpet on Jawaharlal Nehru Main Road is uneven and broken. Pedestrians need to watch their steps. This is the state off this footpath for the past four months.

**Freddy R Jayapalan,** president, Lambert Nagar Residents Welfare Association, Virugambakkam



## Niggling issues need to be fixed at Koyambedu bus terminus



PHOTOS: VEDHAN M

**T**he CMBT bus terminus in Koyambedu calls for some mending work.

The lawns are dry and the iron railings along them are broken. Grey water can be seen leaking from the public toilet most of the time.

The terminus also houses the Koyambedu CMBT metro railway station and the route maps of the metro train at the bus terminus serves no purpose as they are faded.

Yet another issue is broken tiles in footpaths.

This terminus comes under the purview of Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) which is currently carrying out massive redevelopment work in various MTC terminuses including Avadi, KKD Nagar, Perambur, and MKB Nagar. Regular commuters suggest that CMDA should also attend to these repair and maintenance works at Koyambedu terminus.

Text by L. Kanthimathi



## More than a haircut

Meet Jacob D., the in-house barber at Udavum Karangal for close to three decades

LIFFY THOMAS

**W**ith matted hair measuring four feet 10 inches, Kumar would receive a look of disapproval in any saloon. But not in Pappa's saloon. Here he would be received with open arms, and he was. Jacob D., the barber at Pappa's saloon, shared a video with this reporter recently, and in that Jacob is seen adjusting a gown around Kumar's neck before he runs the scissors over the entangled, unkempt hair, a smile planted on his face.

Pappa's saloon is a one-barber saloon attached to Udavum Karangal in Thiru-

verkadu. The 40-year-old NGO provides care for orphaned children, destitute senior citizens and undertakes rehabilitation of the mentally ill.

Jacob's early association with the NGO was as a weekend volunteer three decades ago. He would cut the hair of residents and those brought to the home for rehabilitation. This association grew strong and now he works as a social worker, assisting the organisation in rescuing the homeless and the mentally ill from the streets of Chennai.

"I was working in a factory for some years and was drinking a lot, so I started volunteering during weekends to



come out of the habit as well as to give my free time for a good purpose," says Jacob, a resident of Ambattur.

Once the factory shut down and Jacob lost his job, Vidyaakar S., founder Udavum Karangal, fondly called Pappa, invited him to join the NGO full-time.

Jacob says he is not an accidental barber but was always interested in cutting things and the sound of scissors. "I used to cut the hair of my relatives but after joining the NGO, Pappa encouraged me to try my hand at cutting different kinds of hair and at a few hairstyles," he says humbly.

Military cut is what he predominantly does. For children, extra care is taken to give make this regular cut look fashionable.

In the early years, Jacob used to do hair cutting for 50-55 residents during weekends; now that he is with them full-time, the work is spread out through the week.

After a person is rescued from the street, one of the first places they are taken to is the in-house saloon where the person receives an all-new look aimed at making them feel better. This is followed by a bath and a sumptuous meal.

Jacob touches upon the

regular challenges. While those with intellectually disability refuse to sit on the barber's chair or see the scissor pass through their hair, some with mental illness have to be cajoled to have a haircut.

"The scissors are mainly used to trim the hair at the top, so the person in the chair does not get to see it. For the rest, I use a machine but some do not like the sound of it, so we try to distract them with friendly talk," says Jacob, adding that he also helps in the kitchen.

Barbershops have largely been places to meet, vent and share personal experiences and Pappa's saloon is no different.

"Getting a haircut can boost your mental health. Barbers are better counselors, and the neck massage that they give can be a great stress reliever," says Vidyaakar, adding that residents like going to the in-house barber for a cut. Depending on the person, hair cutting can be a challenge and the first task is to convince the patient about caring for his hair. "Only if the person agrees is the haircut carried out," he says, adding that at their centre in Madurovoyal a female resident has started showing interest in this art.

## Children put up a colourful show at annual day of Bala Mandir Kamaraj Trust



**O**n the theme "Every Child Matters", the annual day of Bala Mandir Kamaraj Trust got off to a colourful start on August 31 at Vani Mahal. The event holds special significance since it is part of the 75-year celebration of the Trust.

A variety of cultural programmes were presented by the children of the schools run by the Bala Mandir Kamaraj Trust. Achievement awards were presented to the various students of the schools, said a press release.

B. Santhanam, CEO, Asia Pacific and India and Chairman, Saint-Go-bain India, who was the chief guest, said the institution should do much more to avail of the apprentice programmes offered by

industries by getting their students passing out of schools to enrol with them and gain knowledge and expertise.

The Bala Mandir Schools in Chennai have been in existence since the 1950s and were started initially to support the children of the Bala Mandir Home and later admitted children from the socio-economically disadvantaged sections living nearby. According to a release, the Bala Mandir Schools have been undergoing a re-engineering programme to build a stronger school without diluting the focus. Currently, the schools have 400 children and plans are in place to grow to over 800 children, added the release.



## DISCOVERING MADRAS IN THE BUSTLE OF CHENNAI

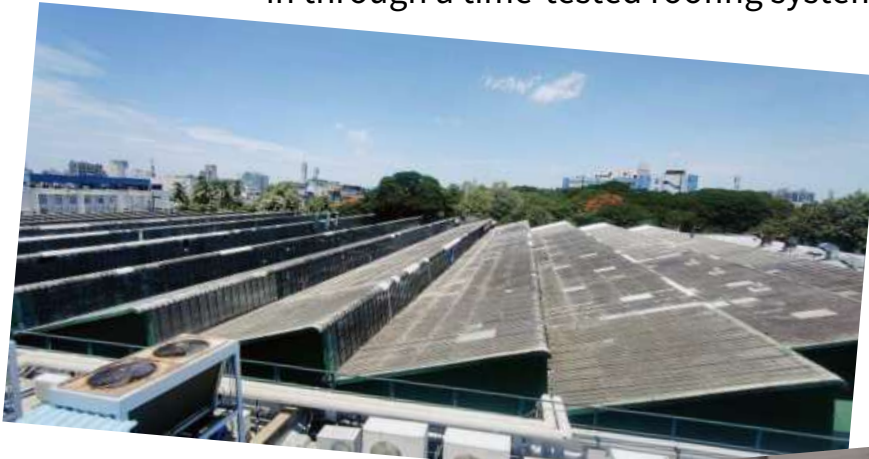
# A shop floor lit up by the past

At Simpson & Co on Anna Salai, a massive work space is doused in evenly dispersed daylight streaming in through a time-tested roofing system

SHARON JESSICA MICHAEL

In a metropolis that is constantly reinventing itself, Madras Day is a reminder to bask in the rare preserves of the past that have stayed relevant to this day. At the famous corner plot on Anna Salai – numbers 861 & 862 – the past has survived in both form and function. A majority of the structures at Simpson & Co (which owns those numbers) hark back to the past, but none as dramatically as the one sporting a roofing system that mirrors elements of north light truss architecture.

This structure has an undulating roof with carefully planned angles. In this truss roof design, each individual unit consists of a row of neatly set panels of glass standing at roughly 90 degrees that is paired with a sloping roof set at a 15-degree incline. This design serves the purpose of daylighting, maximising the flow of natural light in a manner that fills up the massive work space below with a softer and more consistent illumination. A mark of factory architecture, this design is aimed at taking the edge off the bright sun-



**A mark of factory architecture, this design is aimed at taking the edge off the bright sunlight, while ensuring all of it is available to the shop floor**

light, while ensuring all of it is available to the shop floor.

Looking up from the shop floor, one notices the aluminium roofing is shot through with metal purlins, which are horizontal members. The purlins are assisted by metal lattice frameworks. And together, they hold up the expansive structure like Hercules did the earth.

With its crisscross pattern, every lattice framework comes across as both a “workhorse” and a “flower vase”, weight-bearing and decorative. These frameworks disperse loads evenly across the structure while adding an element of visual elegance.



▼ A peek into shop floor daylighting at Simpson & Co and (below) a view of the Andrew Yule & Co building's roofing system from OMR.  
PHOTOS: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The result is a space that resonates with the brilliance of time-tested architectural wisdom.

At Simpson & Co, another past technology that finds relevance in the present, is to be found both on *terra firma* and above it. A carryover from Victorian times, the building's rainwater drain system – through a network of pillar-and-roof-clambering metal conduits teamed up with underground drains – has continued unchanged, except for replacement of worn-out materials from time to time.

## Another example

Quite a distance away, in Perungudi on Old Mahabalipuram Road, the skyline displays north light truss architecture. It is the Andrew Yule & Co facility. From the arterial road, one can see the undulating roof with the afore-discussed systems to ensure daylighting. The foreground is busy with Metro Rail barricades. And the contrast is arresting. It is a contrast between India's first modern city called Madras, and a metropolis called Chennai that soaks up latest technologies like a sponge.





## Explore **Japanese dolls** in this travelling exhibition

In commemoration of Japan Month, a travelling exhibition titled “NIN-GYŌ: Art and Beauty of Japanese Dolls” was inaugurated on August 31 at Contemporary Art Gallery, Government Museum, Pantheon Road in Egmore.

The exhibition is presented by the Consulate-General of Japan at Chennai, the Japan Foundation and ABK-AOTS Dosokai, Tamilnadu centre with the support by Government Museum and Loyola College. Sixty-seven dolls are displayed in this exhibition, which ex-

plores the Japanese doll and its culture nurtured in the history and folklore of Japan with a focus on the “Ningyō”. The exhibition is open from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. from September 1 to September 22 (except Fridays). There is no entrance fee. All are welcome.



## Chennai organic market today in Kilpauk

The monthly organic farmers market organised by Tamil Nadu Iyarkai Velan Koottamaipu (TNIVK) will be conducted on September 1 at C.S.I. Bain School, Ormes Road, Kilpauk, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Apart from shopping for a range of items, story telling and games by Sri Ponkothai and Paneerselvam of Inidu Foundation is scheduled to happen from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The organisers have requested participants to bring their own bags.

For details, call 9962043710 / 8939138207

## New president for TNOA

The 71st annual conference of Tamilnadu Ophthalmology Association (TNOA) was held recently at Chennai Trade Centre. Dr. Arulmozhi Varman was installed as new president of TNOA for 2024-25. Ma.Subramanian, minister for Health and Family Welfare, was the chief guest. Cricketer Ravichandran Ashwin was honoured on the occasion. Dr. Atheek Shaik was the organising secretary.

## Film festival at Virugambakkam college

A vichi College of Arts & Science, Virugambakkam, in collaboration with the Consulate General of Malaysia - Chennai, and Tourism Malaysia - Chennai is organising an event called Malaysia Film Festival from August 30 to September 1 at the college.

According to a press release, the following films will be screened: *Sumpahan Jerunei*, *Moondram Athisayam*, *Guang* and *BoBoi Boy Movie 2*. For details, call 9884201081

## Additional buses for church festival

As part of the annual feast at Annai Velankanni Shrine, Besant Nagar, the Metropolitan Transport Corporation will operate additional buses from across the city until September 08, from 4 p.m. to 12 a.m.

## Strolling their way to fitness

Vayah Vikas and Growing Young is conducting a “strol-lathon” on September 1 at 6.30 a.m. at Rajarathinam Stadium, Egmore. Participants will be taking part in one and two kms event.

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### WHEN & WHERE

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\*Exhibit at metros are during the working hours

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## More power to Kasthuri

On September 6, she is making her debut in paralympic games, where she will be holding aloft India's hope of striking gold in powerlifting

LIFFY THOMAS

**K**asthuri Rajamani can be certain a roar of encouragement would go up for her at 5 p.m. on September 6. A para powerlifter, she would enter the arena at that hour for her opening game at the Paralympic Games in Paris.

She is 39 and making her debut in paralympics, proving it is never too late to follow one's dreams.

Kasthuri joined competitive para powerlifting at 35. She is affected by polio in both her legs. As a toddler, she lost her mother, and would go on to be raised by her grandmother with the support of her uncle and aunt.



Kasthuri Rajamani and Vijaya Sarathy. PHOTO: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



"A friend brought Kasthuri to the boxing academy in a Corporation Ground in Nungambakkam for training in powerlifting," recalls G. Vijaya Sarathy, a senior para coach with Sports Development Authori-

ty of Tamil Nadu.

Seeing a spark in her, the coach asked her to take part in a competition even before training her. "We told her the rules of the sports that morning and by evening she won a

gold medal. It was a state para powerlifting event in December 2018," says Vijaya.

Until then Kasthuri was earning a meagre income working in the back office of a company. She was focussed entirely on supplementing the family income.

She juggled work and training to win more medals that required her to quit her job. "She was hesitant as it gave her dignity, so we found a sponsor who assured her an amount of ₹20,000 every month," he says.

Life has not been easy for this wheelchair user in the last five years. "In 2022, at her first international championship, she failed in all the three lifts," says Vijaya.

**Identifying someone at the grassroot level, making sure she does not make any of those mistakes that I did and now seeing her compete in paralympics is a special joy that cannot be expressed**

Her dismal performance forced the sponsor to withdraw support to her. "Kasthuri's grandmother, who was her biggest support, died that same year," he says.

In 2023, she bounced back. She was selected for extensive training by the Sports Authority of India (SAI).

As per the Facebook page of SAI, Kasthuri has won multiple gold medals at national and international championships.

She is the first woman from Tamil Nadu to represent India in para powerlifting at international events.

Vijaya Sarathy, who continues to track her training log, says: "Kasthuri is taking part in the 67 kilos category and I am pinning a lot of hopes on her. Identifying someone at the grassroot level, making sure she does not make any of those mistakes that I did and now seeing her compete in the paralympics is a special joy that cannot be expressed. Her journey will serve as an encouragement to my students as well."

## Palm leaf artist from Odisha now rooted in Chennai

SAHANA MIRA S

**P**rakash Kumar Maharana, 43, hailing from Puri, Odisha, has found his artistic home at DakshinaChitra, Chennai's thriving heritage museum. As he walks a tourist through his intricate Pattachitra paintings, Prakash slips a whole range of memories into the commentary.

It begins with his early days growing up among artisans and ends in the "now", right here in Chennai where he is captivating streams of visitors.

"When I start engraving on a palm leaf," he says while carefully carving a tree design with an iron pen on the leaf stripes, "I have to finish it in one continuous stroke – no mistakes allowed."

The precision he requires comes from watching his brothers carve in the palm leaves since he was a child. After etching, he explains, the leaves are coated with ink and then washed, leaving only the engraved lines intact. Later, the leaves are stitched into a canvas; one would never spot a gap between them. And voila, there is the artwork.

It is a blessing for him to live on East Coast Road with his wife, who is also a Pattachitra artist, and his children, and work at DakshinaChitra. With shop rent gone, he can devote all his attention to palm leaf engraving and Pattachitra pieces.

"The traditional artisans in our village usually draw themes of

**Sometimes, I need to look away, rest my eyes, and find comfort in the trees and the neighbourhood scenes, before returning to my art**

mythology, Tree of Life, incidents from Ramayana, Mahabharat, Dasavatharam and other epics," he shares, adding that they would make about three to four Pattachitra artwork pieces in a month.

"My longest project has taken me two months to finish."

Being in DakshinaChitra for many years now, Prakash conducted workshops in schools across Chennai, and even once in Germany sponsored by Dakshi-



Prakash Kumar Maharana at his studio. PHOTO: SAHANA MIRA S

naChitra, conducting workshops and teaching the history of Pattachitra and Palmleaf engravings.

"Centuries ago, people used to write on the palm leaf engravings, and gradually, they began to draw on them," he explains. "The tradition is still alive, because pe-

ople continue to admire it – both the young and old."

However, the artist explains, admiration does not always translate into sales. "Not many people buy it," he admits. While tourists and residents of Chennai often marvel at the artwork whe-

never they visit DakshinaChitra, and express interest to learn more about its history, only a small number actually make a purchase.

"Out of a hundred who visit, only four buy it. But that is still a good deal for me. It is enough to make a living," he shares. Despite the challenges, Prakash remains committed to his craft in Chennai. "We artisans often deal with years-long backaches and neck pain from doing such intricate artwork. Sometimes, I need to look away, rest my eyes, and find comfort in the trees and the neighbourhood scenes, before returning to my art. Even with all these challenges, this is our life."

Pattachitra is the family tradition, with everyone in his family practising the craft. He shares, "But compared with my hometown where many artists do the same, it is relatively easy to make a living from the art in Chennai. In Chennai, people seem to be more intrigued by my work because it comes off as new, giving me chances to make a living from it."





## Cycling down the Sufi trail



▼ Snapshots of the trail.  
PHOTOS: SPECIAL  
ARRANGEMENT

Last Sunday, at Dastagir Sahib Dargah on Dr. Natesan Road in Triplicane, a clutch of cycle-borne heritage enthusiasts – and others who had made it by other wheels – were all ears as Ramanujar Moulana of Cycling Yogis was holding forth on Sufism.

The dargah was one of the many stops on the Sufi Trail organised as part of The Hindu's 'Made of Chennai' campaign that celebrates everything that defines the city on its 385th birthday.

The trail celebrating Madras Day was seeking to provide an experience similar to the one that is expected from turning the leaves of a recently released Cycling Yogis' book, *Sufi Trail of Madras*.

A note on this dargah and Dastagir Sahib in this book says: "Nawab

Muhammad Ali Walajah wanted the Sufi to settle in his domain. He died in Rahmathabad. Six months after his death, his remains were brought to Mylapore by the Arcot Nawab, who built the Dargah over his tomb in 1789."

At the next stop, which was the Triplicane Big Mosque, Ramanujar Moulana shared about Islamic heritage and culture. The trail then led

to Chepauk Palace and the Mount Road Dargah where "the annual Urs festival is held yearly with pomp and glory during January and February."

The book notes that the Mount Road Dargah built in honour of the Sufi saint Syed Moosa Shah Qadri Baghdadi features "a blend of Islamic and Dravidian architectural styles."



▼ Ankush Jain engaging the audience at World Trade Centre as part of *The Hindu* Made of Chennai Music Mania. *The Hindu* Festival of Chennai is done in partnership with Greater Chennai Corporation, Namma Marina, CMRL, Mark Metro, Greater Chennai Traffic Police, Tamilnadu Tourism Development Corporation, Associate partners: Akshayakalpa, Ather, UP Tourism, Ortho One, Venue Partner: World Trade Centre; Happiness partner: On The Streets of Chennai, Radio partner: Big FM

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OLD COMPUTER, LAPTOP, UPS,  
BATTERIES, MUSIC SYSTEM,  
WATER HEATER, GYM ITEMS,  
WOODEN FURNITURE, SOFA SET,  
COT, BEURO, DINNING SET  
**ALL A TO Z SCRAPS**  
**VANITHA TRADERS**  
**9600101534**



## Alumni meet at Ramakrishna school

**R**amakrishna Mission Ashrama Schools' Alumni Association is organising an alumni meet on September 8 at the Infosys Hall, Sri Ramakrishna Mission Boys School, Bazullah Road, T Nagar. Time: At 3 p.m.

The following alumni will be honoured on the occasion: S. Seetharaman, chairman of Super Auto Forge Ltd; auditor Santhanakrishnan; and stage actor A.R. Srinivasan. Also, five retired teachers who have made significant contributions to the institution will be honoured. A musical event is also part of the celebration.

"Every year, the association honours retired teachers based on seniority and distinguished alumni. This association has been in existence for the past 20 years but this year it is more special because it is a registered body. In the upcoming meet, the association will be discussing ways to raise funds to financially support underprivileged students of its alma mater," says D. Chandrasekhar, the association's secretary.

## Job fair at George Town today

**U**nder the North Chennai Development Scheme, the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation is conducting a skill development training camp and a job fair on September 1.

The camp will be held from 10 a.m. at the Bharathi Women's College premises, Prakasam Salai, Broadway Road, George Town.

The participating companies at the fair include MRF, T. V. S., Lu-

cas, Murugappa, Tech Mahindra, Ashok Leyland, Sutherland Global Services, LG and Poorvika Mobiles, said a release.

Youngsters aged 18 to 35 who have completed classes VIII, X, and XII; students from Industrial Training Institutes and graduates can participate in the fair.

Youngsters participating in the training camp will receive a certificate and an incentive of ₹375 rupees daily, added the release.

## Competition on cloth bag designing

The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board is organising a competition called 'Bagathon' in which participants have to come up with a cost-effective cloth bag. The last date for registration is September 5. For details, log on to [form.star-tuptn.in/bagathon](http://form.star-tuptn.in/bagathon)



## Essay contest for students

**N**andini Voice for the Deprived, a not-for-profit organisation is conducting an essay competition on the topic: "Women's liberty & safety - issues and remedies" for students.

The essay can be in English or Tamil and it should not exceed 2,000 words.

Last date for submission is September 30.

The essay can be sent by

post to the following address:

Nandini Voice for The Deprived, M 60/1, Fourth Cross Street, Besant Nagar, Chennai - 600090 or email to [nsvenkatchennai@gmail.com](mailto:nsvenkatchennai@gmail.com) Phone: 044 - 47662241.

According to a press release, the contest is conducted to commemorate Gandhi Jayanthi Day and to ponder over the subject following the recent incidents of crime against women.

# Convocation held



Sathyabama Institute of Science & Technology celebrated its 37th anniversary recently. In addition, the 33rd convocation was held. According to a press release, Ashwin Raja, co-founder and chief technology officer of Motorq, was the chief guest. Chancellor Mariazeena Johnson presided over the event in the presence of other authorities of the institution. A total of 3508 undergraduate students, 644 postgraduate students, and 122 Ph.D. Scholars received their degrees. Among them, 45 meritorious students were honoured with gold medals.

## Scholarships provided to girl students

**R**otary Club of Madras T.Nagar inaugurated its "The Kamala Devi Srisimal Girl Child Education Project" at The Guntur Subbiah Pillai Girl's Higher Secondary School, T. Nagar. As part of the project, scholarships were provided to meritorious students, says a press release. Also, martial arts were performed on the occasion.



## Awareness programme on road safety rules



**R**otary Club of Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research in association with Rotary Club of Madras Porur organised an awareness programme on road safety rules which was held at Anna Nagar.

According to a press release, the event was organised in support of "Zero is Good," a campaign of the Greater Chennai Traffic Police which aims to bring the number of road accidents to zero.

Students performed mime which depicted the importance of obeying safety rules such as wearing seatbelts / helmets, to maintain the speed limit, and following the traffic signals.

The event was inaugurated by P. Kumar, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic North in the presence of C.K. Ravi, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Anna Nagar, and members of the club.

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