

TAMBARAM

Chromepet » Pallavaram » Tambaram West » Rajakilpakkam » Mannivakkam » Guindy » Keelkattalai » Nanganallur » Guduvanchery » Hasthinapuram » Pammal » Tambaram East
Medavakkam » Srinivasa Nagar » Kathipara Junction » Kovilambakkam » Sadasivam Nagar » Potheri » Selaiyur » Sembakkam » St.Thomas Mount » Madipakkam » Urappakkam » Paranur



RAINS ADDS TO PROBLEMS AT UNDERPASS

This passage in Adambakkam has motorists and pedestrians complaining **P3**



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A direct shuttle will make commuting smoother and safer **P4**

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'Restore the well in Anakaputhur'**S. EDWARD**

An open well on Pottu Karumariamman Street, Kamarajapuram in Anakaputhur poses a risk to children.

Littered with trash, its walls are overgrown with creepers and plants. Years ago, the region's residents cleaned the well, and the former Anakaputhur Municipality installed motors and constructed a small tank to draw water. Residents benefitted from the well and tank until the motor stopped functioning and the tank structure deteriorated and broke down.

The Pammal Zone of the Tambaram City Municipal Corporation should clean and deepen the well,



ensure the mouth is covered with mesh, and take steps so that residents can fetch water from the well.

S. Edward is a resident of Anakaputhur



The well on Pottu Karumariamman Street at Kamarajapuram in Anakaputhur.
PHOTO: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

New parking lot opened at Tambaram railway station

G. Sudhakar, a resident of Madambakkam who wrote a letter in these pages requesting that the "old parking lot" along the Southern Railway residential quarters in Tambaram (East) be re-facilitated, is happy. A parking lot near the third terminal was opened in September. Commuters parking their two-wheelers for up to 12 hours must pay ₹25, and for more than 12 hours up to a day, ₹40.

**'Shift the PDS outlet to Thiruneermalai Road'****B. SARAVANAN**

Recently, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation constructed a new building at Thiruneermalai Road for a Public Distribution System (PDS) outlet. But the existing PDS outlet at Kumaraswamy Salai, has not been relocated.

The present outlet for Thiruneermalai region has been functioning from a rented old building for more than a decade, serving 1,800 card holders in Ranga Nagar,



The PDS outlet on Kumaraswamy Salai, Chromepet.

'Is Radha Nagar subway connected to SWD network?'**K. VENUGOPAL**

The rains have inundated Radha Nagar subway in Chromepet which is yet to be opened to the public.

I wonder if a stormwater drain facility exists. If not, the needful should be done, and the work of installing a motor to drain rainwater to the nearby water body should be carried out.

Otherwise, pedestrians will cross the tracks through LC 27 and adjacent openings, endangering their lives.

Official response: A State Highways Department official said the subway has a stormwater drain network, but work is incomplete. Currently, water is drained through a pipe connecting an un-



derground well (in the motor pump room), which links to the stormwater drain network connected to Nemilichery Lake.

K. Venugopal is a resident of Chromepet (East)

The inundated Radha Nagar subway in Chromepet. PHOTO: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

'Remove the accumulated silt from roads in Pammal'**A. J. AROCKIYASAMY**

The Pammal Zone of the Tambaram City Municipal Corporation should take steps to remove the dredged silt and debris dumped on Annai Theresa Street, LIC Colony Extension in Pammal.

Recently, the Zone took steps to desilt the SWD network, but after dredging, silt, debris, and trash remains on the road.

This should be removed before the next round of rains start lashing the region.

If not, the dredged silt and other sediments will find their way back into the network and block the free flow of rainwater to the Adyar River. The desilting exercise will be a waste of money and will have to be redone.

A. J. Arockiyasamy is a resident of Pammal



Annai Theresa Street at LIC Colony Extension in Pammal.
PHOTO: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

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. Letters must carry the contact number.

Saraswathipuram Extension, Temple Town, Subburayan Nagar, N. S. Krishnan Street, Parvathipuram, Sripuram, Sundraammal Street, and a section of Kumarasamy Street.

Cardholders stand in the open, and on the slabs across the stormwater drain network, which can collapse. During rains, the water from the network overflows, causing stagnation and a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

The necessary steps should be taken at the earliest and a proper passageway should be laid out at the outlet facade.

B. Saravanan is a resident of Thiruneermalai



Rain adds to problems at underpass

Both motorists and pedestrians have complaints about this passage in Adambakkam



T.S. ATUL SWAMINATHAN

Taking this underpass in Adambakkam during monsoon gets more challenging for motorists and pedestrians.

Maintained by the State Highways Department and the Southern Railway, those coming from Saint Thomas Mount are complaining about a raft of issues out there. S. Venkateshwaran, a motorist,

says: "Water drips from the wall and ceiling, making the carriage-way slippery. Rash driving is common and motorcyclists may slip and fall."

The pedestrian passageway to-



Snapshots of the subway.
PHOTOS: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

tion Road is also stagnant with water.

R. Ramya, a pedestrian, says, "Along the steps leading to the platforms at the Saint Thomas Mount railway station, water is discharged from a pipe, making the passageway wet."

S. Thamizhselvi, a commuter, says the passageway leading to the platforms is littered with trash, steps are broken, and the iron sheets (on the steps) are missing. The Southern Railway should have taken steps to refurbish the subway along with the Station under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme.

Why was Gandhi Road left out?



Both Thiruneermalai Road and Gandhi Road at Shankar Nagar in Pammal were dug up around the same time by the Tambaram City Municipal Corporation to lay the main underground drainage pipelines. But while Thiruneermalai Road got relaid, Gandhi Road is still waiting.

"Gandhi Road remains neglected. The small section of the road could have been easily mended. Now, motorists have to face the impact of the monsoon as well," says A. Baskaran, a motorists.

The road is ridden with potholes and some craters. "It is also slushy and slippery, posing a danger to motorcyclists and pedestrians. The road condition is hindering vehicular movement. The carriageway is uneven, and the vehicles get damaged," says R. Eashwari, a resident of Pammal.



Gandhi Road at Shankar Nagar in Pammal, on October 28. PHOTO: T.S. ATUL SWAMINATHAN

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Ply mini buses from Hasthinapuram to Tirusulam Metro

T. ARVIND

Hundreds of office-goers from Hasthinapuram and surrounding areas travel daily to Tirusulam to take the Metro. While some use the bus, many motorcyclists brave peak-hour traffic, covering about 8 km to reach the Metro station. Women riders, in particular, face risks from rash driving, overtaking, and uneven roads that often result in accidents.

With the growing suburban population, better access to Metro stations has become essential. Many residents commuting toward north Chennai prefer the Metro, and there is a growing demand for dedicated MTC shuttle services between Hasthinapuram and the Airport Metro station.

"I drive 8 km from Tirumalai Nagar to park my vehicle at the designated Metro parking at Pallavaram. Though share autos operate from there to Tirusulam Metro, they are slow and time-consuming," says Chandini, a professional working at Thousand Lights. Several regular commuters from Hasthinapuram voiced similar concerns.

Activists have urged MTC to operate mini-bus shuttle services between Hasthinapuram and Tirusu-



A view of the Hasthinapuram bus stand. Commuters say MTC services are disproportionate to the demand on certain routes. PHOTO: T. ARVIND

lam Metro. They believe this would not only ease the commute for hundreds of passengers but also reduce congestion on GST Road. However, at the Hasthinapuram bus stand, this reporter found several 52H buses running only up to Pozhichalur – services considered disproportionate to the demand.

'MTC buses cannot function like share autos'

Commuters also point out that the 52B (Hasthinapuram-Broadway) service has been curtailed, with most trips now ending at Pozhichalur.

According to MTC crew, traffic bottlenecks make it difficult to

complete the usual 10 single trips (five round trips), so authorities opted for "cut services" up to Pozhichalur or Anakapathur instead. "Commuters can take another bus to the Metro or elsewhere once dropped at Chromepet," said one crew member on condition of anonymity.

MTC can run a dedicated shuttle to Tirusulam. If that is not feasible, the existing minibus S2, which currently runs from Medavakkam to Chromepet, can be extended till Tirusulam Metro

Activists disagree. "The MTC cannot function like a share auto. How can commuters alight midway and board another bus for such a short distance?", asked Ravi, a retired septuagenarian.

MTC officials admit that the demand for a service to Tirusulam Metro is valid. Activist Meenakshi Sundaram also supported the commuters' plea. "First, they should restore or at least retain the full 52B service till Broadway. Next, MTC can run a dedicated shuttle to Tirusulam. If that's not feasible, the existing minibus S2, which currently runs from Medavakkam to Chromepet, can be extended till Tirusulam Metro," he said.

According to Sundaram, such a move would benefit hundreds of office-goers daily and could even increase MTC's revenue.

Residents and activists alike stress that efficient last-mile connectivity is crucial for Chennai's growing suburbs. A direct shuttle from Hasthinapuram to Tirusulam Metro could make commuting smoother, safer, and more sustainable for the city's expanding workforce.

With the MTC planning to operate air-conditioned e-buses in more than 200 routes to metro stations for last mile connectivity, commuters hope authorities would give priority to Hasthinapuram.



Barricades with warning signs are needed

Motorists taking a section of Ellangovadigal Street, First Main Road and Fourth Main Road in Pazhavanthalang and Nanganallur want barricades with warning signs of road repair work placed around the stretch where stormwater drain work is underway.

The barricades must be placed to prevent accidents, say motorists.

Recently, Alandur (Zone XII) of the Greater Chennai Corporation dug the stretches to construct a stormwater drainage network. The rainwater from the areas in the regions drain into Pallikaranai Marshland through Veerangal Odai, a rainwater canal for a section of Chennai (South).

M. Aruna Mahendran, a resident of Nanganallur, says that after constructing the network, Zone 12 patched the work area with cement concrete. But in the recent rains,

the patchwork got washed away.

"The cement concrete surface is also getting damaged," says Aruna.

To avoid taking this point, motorists drive in the wrong direction, posing a risk to their counterparts and the pedestrians.

S. Ramanujam, a resident of Nanganallur, says: "Along the worksite, barricades must be put up to ensure the safety of motorists. Only, at a point, the barricade has been put up."

Text: T.S. Atul Swaminathan



Damaged stretch of First Main Road, Nanganallur.

PHOTO : SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Club organises milestone meeting at Madipakkam



Chennai Communicators Club recently celebrated its 13th anniversary

The Chennai Communicators Club (CCC) recently celebrated its 13th anniversary and its 675th milestone meeting, marking a significant moment in its journey.

Chartered on September 8, 2012, CCC operates under District 120 (Tamil Nadu and Puducherry) and has become a top-performing club in the region, says a release.

The club is famous for its robust educational programmes, increasing membership, networking opportunities, and ongoing member participation.

Over the years, CCC has offered a supportive platform for professionals, students, and entrepreneurs to improve their public speaking, communication, and leadership skills, the release added.

The club is not just a platform for communication – it's a community that nurtures personal transformation, confidence, and lifelong friendships.

CCC meets every Sunday (3 p.m. to 5 p.m.) at Sunshine School, 100 Feet Road, AGS Colony, Puzhuthivakkam, Madipakkam.

STATUS REPORT

OMR residents complain of debris mounds

TNRDC source notes that work on service lanes is under way; and debris is being cleared



Debris piled up on service lane in Perungudi, OMR on October 30, 2025. PHOTOS: PRINCE FREDERICK

PRINCE FREDERICK

Next-day night" has been added to the in-group language at 111, Old Mahabalipuram Road. That address belongs to Homestead, a 32-unit gated community in Perungudi; so does that phrase. In the understanding of Homestead resi-

dents, "next-day night" has an additional layer of meaning. It could mean "indefinitely". When a mound of debris was piled up next to their gate, they were reassured that the pile would vanish the "next-day night".

Aswin Srinivasan, a member of the executive committee at Homestead, says: "The promise was made

nearly a month and a half ago. The mound has grown bigger. There are two mounds of debris, one near the In gate and the other, near the Out gate."

On patches where Chennai Metro Rail has erected its structures, TNRDC is relaying the service lane, as evidenced by stacks of paver blocks. Old paver blocks and some

concrete need to be yanked out. And the debris resulting from this exercise has been piled up in some places. Aswin observes that not only are these piles of debris staying put, but they are also growing bigger. Debris from elsewhere is being added to it, he says.

Removed by just one address, another gated community, City

Square also finds a mound of garbage close to its gates.

A TNRDC source notes that where bituminous work could be done it has been carried out, giving motorists a smooth drive. And service lane work is under way, but is being set back by rains from time to time. Debris on service lanes is also being cleared.

Community Alert: delivery worker nabbed for distributing obscene pamphlets

HARSHA KODA

Residents of a gated community in the OMR region reported an incident a couple of days ago, when several pamphlets containing inappropriate and obscene content were found scattered at various locations inside the premises. The is-

sue was promptly brought to the attention of the association team. Based on eyewitness inputs and CCTV footage, members were able to identify a delivery worker seen carrying similar pamphlets. Although the footage did not conclusively capture him placing the leaflets, the visual evidence was

sufficient to raise suspicion.

A detailed complaint, along with the evidence, was submitted to the Semmenchery Police Station. Acting swiftly, the police summoned the individual for inquiry. During questioning, the person – a third-year college student working part-time as a delivery

agent – admitted to the act and expressed remorse.

Police officials have indicated that the matter will be communicated to both his educational institution and his employer for appropriate action.

Residents of all FOMRRA communities have been urged to re-

main vigilant and immediately report any similar instances to ensure the safety and decorum of the community.

All office bearers and volunteers are invited to join and discuss such issues in FOMRRA's dedicated Safety & Security group - <https://security.fomrra.org>

A vagrant at Adyar Estuary?

Immediately after the cyclone had eased up, a female red-headed bunting was sighted. It was found on October 29, and missing the next day



PRINCE FREDERICK

If a red-headed bunting had not shown up at the Adyar estuary on October 29, 2025, the following paragraph would have been unnecessary. And if nobody had seen the bird, that would have made the following paragraph unnecessary as well. It showed up and was seen; not just seen, but documented on citizen science platforms. Hence this paragraph, seemingly on a tangential course.

Here goes. At college, this writer

sat in the class of a German master who had a standard introductory remark for new learners of the language. "Bad English is good German." That statement was meant to ease the nerves of students still uncertain if signing up for German was a great idea. The master was obviously not entirely right, and not entirely wrong either. English and German are cousins, similar in structure and sharing linguistic roots. English words with forbears from old English and old German are aplenty. Bunting, the word germane to this report, is in that league.

Bunting is used in at least three contexts; and the one involving birds is based on two old root words, one from Old German and the other from Old English. Without getting bogged down in etymological details (as that is not the

Initially thought to be a female black-headed bunting, it was later re-identified as a female red-headed bunting, said to a first for Chennai.



A red headed bunting photographed by birder Kumaresan Chandrabose at Adyar Estuary on October 29, 2025.

purpose of this report), between them those two root words contribute the ideas of stout and colourful, which is what buntings are. They are stout; and the male birds among buntings (*Emberiza*) are colourful.

On October 29, at the Adyar estuary, a bunting was sighted by birder Kumaresan Chandrabose; as it was a female bunting, some confusion about its identify prevailed.

Initially thought to be a female black-headed bunting, it was later re-identified as red-headed bunting, said to a first for Chennai. The

corrected identification came from members of three groups focussed on bird identification. These three groups operating in Facebook are: Birds of India; Ask IDs of Indian birds; and Identification of Birds from Indian Subcontinent. This bird is likely a vagrant, having flown off course from its regular wintering patch due to cyclonic winds. Kumaresan explains: "I saw this female red-headed bunting at the Adyar Estuary in the morning and evening of October 29; and it was not to be found on October 30; nor on any of the other subsequent days."

Tamil Nadu Political Cultural Movement launched



Tamil Nadu Political Cultural Movement has been established with the objective of politically engaging and enlightening the youth of Tamil Nadu through art, culture, music, literature, books, theatre, cinema, and documentaries.

The movement seeks to promote awareness among today's generation about politics, political parties, elections, political leaders, and the enduring legacy of Tamil Nadu's political heritage, while also emphasising the significance of democracy and the noble ideals of people's governance, said a release.

As its inaugural initiative, the movement organised an event in the form of a Halloween Party. The rationale behind this choice lies in the fact that this Western-origin cultural celebration has, in recent years, gained popularity among young people across India.

And by introducing political themes and personalities within the context of such a celebration, the movement aims to make political awareness more engaging and relatable for Gen Z.

The movement will continue to spread through multiple public platforms such as book fairs and cultural events, added the release.

32nd annual book of Probus Club sees the light

Probus Recognition Awards and Probus Award of Excellence were presented to celebrate International Day of the Elderly

The Probus Club of Chennai along with The Russian House celebrated the International Day of the Elderly on October 25, at the Russian Cultural Centre in Alwarpet.

The event commenced with a warm welcome address by Probus Club President M. Annadurai, who emphasised the importance of active ageing and the value of continued contribution by senior citizens to society.

T. S. Sridhar, IAS (retd.), former Additional Chief Secretary to the



Members and dignitaries at the event

Government of Tamil Nadu, graced the occasion as chief guest and delivered an inspiring address highlighting the role of elders as pillars of wisdom, experience, and moral strength in every community.

The Probus Recognition Awards were presented to distinguished personalities for their outstanding

contributions in their respective fields.

They are: Ervadi S. Rathakrishnan, D. K. S. Kalaivanan, and K. Ranga Ramanujam.

The Probus Award of Excellence was conferred upon V. Santhanam, noted social activist, for his five decades of exemplary service to the

also addressed the gathering.

The celebration also featured the presentation of mementos to senior members who had reached milestone ages of 75, 80 and 90 years, and to Probians who had completed 50 years of marital life.

A special highlight of the event was the release of the Club's 32nd Annual Book, titled "The Probus Way of Vibrant Ageing." The publication, reflecting the creativity and life experiences of senior members, is available for purchase at ₹120 plus postage. Interested readers may contact M. Annadurai at 80560 0101 or V. Ramaraj at 88259 81503 for copies.

Winners of the recent senior citizens sports and games competitions were also honoured with prizes during the function. Joint secretary S. Sappani Pillai gave the vote of thanks.

EMU services restored

The Chennai Division of the Southern Railway has restored six electric train services due to a change in the schedule of train number 16102 and the change in the termination of train number 16160.

The EMU train services, now restored to their original schedule, are as follows.

Train Number: 40040, Tambaram - Chennai Beach at 11 a.m., 40047, Chennai Beach - Tambaram at 12.15 p.m., 42501, Chengalpattu - Gummidiipundi at 09.50 a.m. (the train will depart from Tambaram at 10.45 a.m.), 40043, Chennai Beach - Tambaram at 11.52 a.m., 40045,

Chennai Beach - Tambaram, at 12.02 p.m., and 40533, Chennai Beach - Chengalpattu, at 12.28 p.m., stated a release from the Southern Railway.

On Sundays, the passenger special service operated between Tambaram - Chennai Beach - Tambaram stands cancelled with effect from October 26, the release added.

Special buses to Sabarimala



The State Express Transport Corporation (SETC), Government of Tamil Nadu, will ply special buses to Sabarimala in view of Mandala Pooja and Makaravilakku from November 16 to January 16, 2026.

The buses will be operated till Pamba. The SETC will operate Ultra Deluxe, air-conditioned and non-air-conditioned seating, and sleeper buses from Koyambedu and Kilambakkam bus terminuses in the city, Tiruchi, Madurai, Puducherry and Cuddalore.

The buses will not be operated from December 26 to 29. The Travancore Devaswom Board has announced that the Sabarimala Sree Ayyappan Temple will be closed from December 27 to 30 till 5 p.m.

SETC has made arrangements for people to book tickets 60 days before the journey date through www.tnpsc.in and the TNSTC official app.

For details, call 9445014452, 9445014424, 9445014463.

Workshop on November 6

Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Information & Training Centre is conducting a workshop of making incense sticks and camphor on November 6. Another workshop on mushroom cultivation will be held on November 7. Both the sessions will be held at the centre's premises at Agro Tech Green Park, First Floor, Thiru. Vi. Ka. Industrial Estate, Guindy. For details, call 044-29530048.

Madras Veterinary College alumni to meet on November 8

Hurricane Vets Charitable Trust, established by the 1988-94 batch alumni of Madras Veterinary College, is organising its 10th anniversary fete on November 8, 2025 (from 5 p.m. onwards) at the Tamil Virtual Academy Auditorium on Gandhi Mandapam Road in Kottur.

According to a press release, the trust has completed 144 projects in the areas of educational assistance, students empowerment, training

and awareness programme, livelihood empowerment, disaster mitigation, hunger reduction, professional development, Covid-19 response, veterinary, medical camps and tribal welfare.

The press release notes that the Trust welcomes philanthropists, educationalists, voluntary workers and students to the celebrations.

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A man pointing towards three cars (Maruti Suzuki) is shown on the right.

Brothers donate mom's body for research

In 2017, they did the same for their father's body

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Rangasayee family in Saidapet has been setting an example for eye and body donation. On October 9, when 85-year-old Prema R died her three sons – Vasudevan, Ethirajan and Ranganathan – decided to hand over her body for anatomical studies and her eye for donation, a voluntary act they did even when their father died in 2017.

The joint family live in a 100-year-old house at Perumal Koil Street in Saidapet and have had conversations about pledging organs and seeking consent from family members well in advance.

The three brothers have read many news reports that highlighted the shortage of cadaver bodies for educational use.

Sankara Nethralaya thanked the brothers for informing them promptly even in their hour of grief and donating the eyes of their mother. The body was given to Sri Ramachandra Medical College and Research Institute.



State honour for organ donors

Tamil Nadu is among the few states in India leading in organ donations. A total of 479 people, including 268 in the last year, have donated their organs and helped save hundreds of lives, says a post on X shared by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin. This was reported in *The Hindu*.

In September 2023, the government made an announcement that it will accord State honours during the last rites of organ donors. The "state honour" at their funeral along with increased awareness are among reasons why more families of deceased are coming forward to donate the organs of their dear departed, say reports.



Minister for Health M. Subramanian visits the family; and R. Prema and R. Kamalanabhan

Ranganathan says his paternal grandmother had also donated her eyes after her death.

"My mother had pledged to donate her eye in 2014 itself; it was important that family members agree to fulfil that wish in the midst of their grief," says Ethirajan, a certified coach with International Table Tennis Federation. The TT player is an active blood donor for three decades. He says to encourage more people to donate bodies

of their deceased family members the procedure should be made easier; and as is done in the case of organ donation, their contribution must be acknowledged in some way.

"We want to send out the message that more people should come forward to do this form of donation," says Ranganathan.

Minister for Health M. Subramanian paid last respects to the departed, visiting the family's house.

Free eye camp through November

In observance of World Diabetes Day, Radhatri Nethralaya is conducting a diabetic retinopathy screening camp. According to a press release, it is a free camp that will be conducted through out November. It will be held at Radhatri Nethralaya, 12, Hindi Prachara Sabha street, T. Nagar.

Time: From 9 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. For details, call 9445438681. The camp was inaugurated last week and pamphlets on diabetic retinopathy were distributed. According to a press release, the camp is held with the support of the Rotary Club of Chennai Towers.

Monsoon helpline

1913

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1916

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S.RAMALINGAM

NISM, LUTC Fellow, RVCC / IRDA Cert. Insurance Advisor,
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"Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks. Read all scheme related documents carefully."

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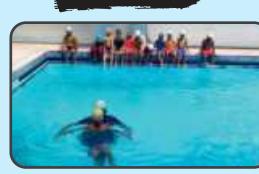
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