

## IT CORRIDOR

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### LET US TALK MENTAL HEALTH

Through free mental health awareness workshops in colleges and a helpline number, Dhruvi Charitable Trust is reaching out to youngsters facing stress, anxiety and depression **P3**



### APARTMENTS HAVE TO GET THEIR 'ACT' TOGETHER

The Tamil Nadu Apartment Ownership Rules 2024 provides an impetus to redevelopment projects **P6**

## UGD still elusive for these Perungudi residents



Sewage left behind by a septic tank-clearing vehicle on a road in Perungudi.

ABDUR RAWOOF

I am a resident of Ramappa Nagar in Perungudi for the last 30 years. In 2011, underground drainage work was completed but connections are yet to be given to individual houses and apartments in the area. It has been almost 15 years since the work was completed and it is a matter of befuddlement that no action has been taken towards providing residents with connections. Due to this, water from some septic tanks overflow on to the road on a regular basis.

In many apartments, the services of sewage lifting lorries are engaged on a daily basis to clear the septic tank. And this places a huge financial burden on residents.

Abdur Rawoof is a resident of Perungudi

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.

## READERS WRITE

### 'Flyover project: bad timing'

HARSHA KODA

The Tamil Nadu State Highways Authority (TNSHA) plans to construct a 14.2 km four-lane flyover from Thiruvannamiyur to Uthandi on East Coast Road.

Normally, a flyover aimed at easing traffic is a welcome idea, but the timing here is problematic.

The government recently widened the same stretch of ECR and finished constructing median for a good part of the stretch from Thiruvannamiyur to Uthandi after working

on it for two to three years.

Now, the plan is to dig up the same area and potentially disrupt it for another two to three years destroying, and rebuilding the medians and finally relaying the roads.

It raises questions about inter-department communication and planning. This perceived lack of coordination – where the "left hand" does not talk to the "right hand" – could lead to a substantial waste of resources and public money.

Harsha Koda is cofounder FOMRRA



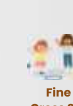
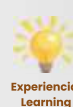
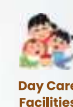
File photo of road widening work at Chinna Neelankarai on ECR.

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## Little Krishnas and Radhas dazzle the audience

The annual event organised by *The Hindu Downtown* enjoyed a good response with 700 children taking part in it

**C**lose to 700 children participated in 'Maya Kannan' - Janmashtami Contest 2025 organised by *The Hindu Downtown* for children in the age group of three to eight years, in keeping with the festive spirit of the season. Sixty-six winners from across the five zones of *Downtown* (Adyar, Anna Nagar, Mylapore, T. Nagar and Tambaram) were felicitated on August 24 at an event held at Shri Krishnaswamy College for Women in Anna Nagar. The contest had a good res-



A dance performance; and the audience at Shri Krishnaswamy College for Women.

ponse with participants asked to dress up as Krishna or Radha and perform a dance or sing or recite



slokas in praise of the Lord. The children showed impressive involvement; and their enthusiasm was

### ADYAR ZONE WINNERS



Hanvitha



Shravya Suresh



Prakriti

natyam group performance by the students of Shri Krishnaswamy Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Anna Nagar. The winners were felicitated by Y.V. Niranjan Krishna from Gopuram products, T. Manimalai, principal of Shri Krishnaswamy Matriculation Higher secondary school and other special guests.

The title partner for the event was Gopuram Turmeric Powder and Kumkum; the food partner was Madras Coffee House, and the venue partner was Shri Krishnaswamy College for Women, Anna Nagar; Water Partner was Hilap-top.com. Gift Sponsors were DIFA, Lalwani, Medimix, My Resale Plot.com, Naga, P S Tamarind, RAS Chekku Oil and Vivekanandha Sarees.

infectious.

The parents and sponsors appreciated *The Hindu Group* for organising events of this nature to uphold time-honoured traditions.

There was an excellent Baratha-

## Entries invited for Made of Chennai photography contest



and everyday moments of joy.

The last date to send in entries is September 13, 2025.

*The Hindu Made of Chennai* is presented by Casagrand and powered by SRM; the initiative is held in association with Union Bank of India. The contest is supported by Tata Tea Chakra Gold and Tata Coffee as Associate Partners, while Big FM, Fever FM and Radio One are on board as Radio Partners. Madras Photo Bloggers are the Expert Partner for the contest.

Participants can register by scanning the QR code. The top 50 winners will be rewarded.



**T**he *Hindu* has announced the launch of *The Hindu Made of Chennai Photography Contest 2025*, inviting shutterbugs to capture the city's festive spirit through their lens. With the theme "Celebrations of Chennai", the contest encourages participants to showcase how the city comes alive in its streets, traditions

## A blight on Velachery Main Road



A view of the damaged section of Velachery Main Road that provides both motorists and pedestrians with an unsavoury road-user experience. This section of the arterial road is found in Medavakkam, where Jeyachandran Textiles Pallikaranai is located on the opposite side. During rush hour, when vehicular traffic crawls on Velachery Main Road, this broken patch makes for slow-moving traffic, as motorists try to avoid it. PHOTOS: R. RAVINDRAN.



# Mind matters

Through free mental health awareness workshops in colleges and a helpline number, Dhruti Charitable Trust is reaching out to youngsters facing stress and depression

LIFFY THOMAS

A student of a city-based arts and science college recently approached a counsellor seeking help to deal with distress resulting from body shaming. Bullied on the campus, the hosteller was skipping classes and isolating herself.

While a majority of colleges have an in-house counsellor, it would help to offer them the option of a helpline number.

Thiruvannmiyur-based Dhruti



File photo of city students executing an art project

Charitable Trust, registered in 2024 as a non-profit, is alive to the need for both. It conducts free mental health workshops in colleges and also offers a helpline number which promises access to professional counsellors virtually and the comfort of confidentiality.

The idea to offer mental health

support to youngsters came to Ramji Venkatachari, a non-resident Indian and founder of the Trust, when he spent a semester as researcher with a cohort of 50 students of B.Sc Rural Agriculture of Bharath Institute of Higher Education and Research. The students lived in a village and visited agri es-

tablishments as part of the programme.

"Some of the behaviours of these students puzzled me. A few would just cry for no reason. Boys would deal with their frustration with a touch of aggression," says Ramji. Later, surveys conducted among colleges convinced the tech

entrepreneur that there was a need for mental health services for college students. "I am an alumnus of Bharat University, I left for the United States to pursue my Ph.D in the 1990s. Now that I am winding down and coming to settle down in Chennai, this is also a way of giving back to society," says 58-year-old Ramji.

## Engaging with colleges

The Trust is currently engaged with 30 city colleges (both arts and science and engineering). "We are booked for 50 sessions between August and September," says Ramji, adding that professional counsellors conduct interactive sessions that go on for well over an hour.

Besides giving colleges access to a dedicated helpline number, the team is working on setting up peer support groups in institutes.

"We are going to select five to six students, mentor them to conduct these mental well-being sessions in their own colleges and function like a club. We will be starting this in five colleges as a pilot model this year before we expand. The groundwork for this has already begun at Asan Memorial College and Bharat University," he says.

For more details, visit <https://dhrutitrust.org>

## Traffic diversion for Besant Nagar church festival

On the occasion of the 53rd celebrations of Annai Velankanni Church Festival in Besant Nagar, Greater Chennai Traffic Police has issued a traffic advisory for August 31, September 1, 7, and 8.

Motorists are requested to cooperate with the diversion if implemented, which will be based on the volume of devotees turning up for the festival.

Motorists coming from the Thiru Vi Ka Bridge and Sardar Patel Road and intending to drive on Besant Avenue Road to reach Besant Nagar bus terminus, will be restricted at Aavin Park (Dr Muthu Lakshmi Park) junction

and directed to reach their destinations through Lattice Bridge Road, a release from Greater Chennai Traffic Police said.

Further, motorists will not be allowed to drive towards the Church from the junction of Seventh Avenue and Mahatma Gandhi Road.

Metropolitan Transport Corporation buses from Aavin Park towards Besant Nagar bus terminus through Besant Avenue will be restricted and diverted through Lattice Bridge Road to take a left turn to enter Shastri Nagar First Avenue, right turn to Shastri Nagar First Main Road,

and left turns to Mahatma Gandhi Road, and First Main Road to reach the Besant Nagar bus terminus.

MTC buses from the Besant Nagar bus terminus towards Adyar and Thiruvannmiyur will be diverted through Besant Nagar First Avenue, Shastri Nagar First Avenue, left turn to enter Shastri Nagar First Main Road, right turn to Mahatma Gandhi Road, and Lattice Bridge Road to reach their destinations, the release added.

The annual festival of Our Lady of Good Health will conclude on September 8.

## Solo dance and music performances at Kalakshetra

Rukminidevi Natyakshetra Foundation celebrates 'Aananda 2025', an exploration of young artistes in Carnatic vocal and Bharatanatyam, on September 5 at Rukmini Arangam, Kalakshetra, Thiruvannmiyur.

At Aananda 2025, students who have been dedicated to their art for more than a decade are given the opportuni-

ty to present solo performances. Through these presentations, they not only celebrate their own journey but also inspire the fellow students to pursue arts with equal passion and commitment.

Performers are Shreya Ravikumar (Carnatic Vocal) and R. K. Raghaviraj (Bharatanatyam).

## Events at temple in Akkarai

ISKCON Chennai will be celebrating Radhashtami, the auspicious appearance day of Srimati Radharani, on August 31 at Sri Radha Krishna temple, Akkarai, East Coast Road from 10.30 a.m. onwards.

The celebrations at ISKCON Chennai will bring together devotees and well-wishers from across the city to participate in kirtan, abhishek (ceremonial bathing), spiritual discourse and arati, said a release.

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PRINCE FREDERICK

**W**alks decoding neighbourhoods have a thick cladding of facts, usually ferreted out of yellowing documents. Emotions come into play only as the accompanist, never the guitar-strumming, crooning frontman. Facts and feelings meet without getting entwined. A walk titled “Chetpet” takes a detour from this standard format, having almost every fact infused with emotion. Designed as a community-led walk, that infusion is not just acceptable, but desirable.

Authored by Yein Udaan, a non-profit in the education sector, this walk is still softly trodden, being just two outings old. In October 2024 and for Women’s Day in 2025, the walk was conducted in collaboration with Madras Inherited, which seeks to preserve and celebrate the heritage of the city.

Ashmitha Athreya, lead storyteller and head of operations at Madras Inherited, observes that her organisation imparted to the Yein Udaan team, largely composed of members from an “invisible” part of Chetpet, an understanding of what makes a walk stick in the head long after the shuffle of curious feet had died down; how to delineate the route and integrate storytelling into it. “This is structured as a cultural walk. Community history is central to it. It is a sharing of stories about the community,” Ashmitha explains.

Last week, a diluted version of “Chetpet” was organised off the cuff for *The Hindu Downtown*. It was led by those who derive their identity from this Chetpet, which lies on the northern side of McNichols Road. Symbolically, on the leeward side, if one is aware that on the opposite side lies the upscale Harrington Road with its grid of car-lined avenues and a scatter of educational institutions whose uniform, parents would give their right arm for their children to wear.

On this side, invite yourself to Jaganathapuram, Brindavanam, Mangalapuram and MS Nagar, low-income neighbourhoods with a majority of homes battling poverty on an everyday basis, measuring success by how well they scraped through the long day. The average monthly income of the households here falls in the range of ₹4,000 to ₹8,000, remarks Vedika Agarwal, founder of Yein Udaan, which runs three after-school learning spaces for children in the community with a kindergarten unit thrown into the mix. Vedika adds that in a significant number of homes, the men fritter away the family’s earnings on alcohol, and some of these men also shirk work, placing finances under further stress. Domestic violence is rife. And back home from school, children are faced with an unsafe and unconducive environment for studies, Vedika elaborates. This side of Chetpet is



served by three Corporation schools and one government school, a majority of them not heard beyond these neighbourhoods.

The wider world has little interest in this lacklustre piece of Chetpet. And it stays largely in oblivion. This section draws outside eyes for its Dhobikhana, the second oldest in the country having been established in 1902 as the “Madras Municipal Dhobykhana”, its foundation stone laid on December 8 that year by Colonel Sir George Moore. Even this attention is short-spanned and seasonal, usually unfurled around Madras Day, and with the shifting of the news cycle, this Chetpet gets buried again deep in a mass grave of headlines.

In addition to this walk, a documentary-film *Chetpet* by Yein Udaan is an attempt at presenting this Chetpet with its suppurating wounds, as also the efforts to apply balm to them through education.

Four of the guides on this rustled-up walk (E. Karthikeyan, R. Madhesh, M. Rahul and D. Vennila) are residents of Chetpet from the cradle. Madhesh and Rahul – who have entered collegiate education – have benefitted from Yein Udaan’s after-school learning programme. Another beneficiary, Karthikeyan is older and wiser to the ways of the world, and his banter along the way includes working as a Home Guard in Chennai and regular employment with a residential construction major. In their spare time, the three youngsters serve

# Spotlight on an invisible landscape

A community-led walk fashioned by Yein Udaan with the help of Madras Inherited seeks to capture the spirit and aspirations of the people in a portion of Chetpet that is unknown to the wider world, except for its historic Dhobikhana



(Clockwise from top left) a 2012-dated file photo of the Dhobikhana in Chetpet; the Yein Udaan team on the recent walk; the walk in October 2024; and the one for women’s day in 2025; the old typewriting institute. PHOTOS: R. RAVINDRAN, PRINCE FREDERICK AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT.

Yein Udaan as volunteers. Vennila is employed at the non-profit as social worker for the last three years.

And the fifth one is Vedika Agarwal. The Yein Udaan founder is an outsider holding a “green card” in this Chetpet by virtue of her work, one that brings a rare empathy to its children. Given her privileged background, Vedika’s decision to carve out a career in this urban slum with social fractures has left people in her circle and outside surprised as well as impressed. Her work rooted in what comes across as a deep care for the children of this area (watch her TED talk at KC High in 2023 on YouTube), insid-

ers instinctively treat her as their own. She is ‘Vedika miss’ not only to the nearly 350 children currently at the three after-school learning centres, but also to their parents and grandparents. Due to Vedika’s popularity in these neighbourhoods, the walk moves in fits and starts, much like a drive in rush-hour traffic on nearby Sterling Road and McNichols Road, being interrupted by exchange of pleasantries.

Vedika points to what are line houses where optimisation of space is at play. Part of a row-house format or not, most houses across the four neighbourhoods are matchbox-sized: from the outside,

**The wider world has little interest for this part of Chetpet. And it stays largely in oblivion. This section draws outside eyes for its Dhobikhana, the second oldest in the country having been established in 1902 as the “Madras Municipal Dhobykhana”, its foundation stone laid on December 8 that year by Colonel Sir George Moore. Even this attention is short-spanned and seasonal, usually unfurled around Madras Day, and with the shifting of the news cycle, this Chetpet gets buried again deep in a mass grave of headlines**

those in the traditional laundering business to conduct it.

Vennila reveals that during the two walks, a nonagenarian-lady familiar with the Dhobikhana dwelt on the daily grind of the families that depend on it for sustenance. Entire families are engaged in this work, the children pitching in before they leave for school and after they return home. Vennila notes that those working in the Dhobikhana constitute just one segment of residents. Among the rest of the populace, a majority work as daily wagers.

Another stop is an Yein Udaan learning centre, located on the first floor of a building and it has been taken on rent. Vedika volunteers information about the space: previously, a school (Lourde Nursery) functioned for over two decades up till the pandemic struck, which proved its death blow. The pandemic led to changes in topography, Vedika goes on, pointing to slightly bigger houses, some of them compact apartments. Rendered jobless due to the fallout of the pandemic, some residents sold their properties. Vennila notes the presence of an old typewriting institute – Chetpet Typewriting Institute, said to be five decades old – provides a sense of continuity.

At the afore-mentioned first-floor learning centre, children have their noses buried in books. But a break is round that corner, when those same noses would be buried in plates of snacks. Vedika remarks these are healthy eats made at homes of Yein Udaan staff, taking turns. Twenty-four out of 28 staffers are ploughed back into the community. It is a practice of circular economy, she adds.

What follows is a brief stop at Ambedkar Playground which sports a football turf; and some of the children from the after-school learning programme, including girls, are being coached by members of a non-profit, Life Is A Ball, that uses sports, particularly football for empowerment. Vennila remarks that decades ago, this Chetpet would have a regular taste of gangster violence, recalling an incident she witnessed as a seven-year-old from behind the half-open doors of her house. Thirty-seven now, she observes the area is a far cry from that reality, being peaceful. “Decades ago, residents seeking to keep youngsters from falling into bad influences would organise kabbadi tournaments,” she shares.

The walk ends where it began at the Yein Udaan learning centre on McNichols Road, a facility whose exterior with its brick design leaves one in no doubt about its former life. It was the Chetpet police station before the personnel moved to a well-appointed facility on Mayor Ramanathan Salai. The old building functions as an Yein Udaan learning centre.



ILLUSTRATION:  
SATHEESH VELLINEZHI

## Apartments have to get their 'Act' together

LIFFY THOMAS

A year since Tamil Nadu Apartment Ownership Rules 2024 prepared by the Housing and Urban Development Department came into effect, many apartment complexes in Chennai are yet to complete the process involving registration or renewal of association status.

Tamil Nadu Gazette dated September 24, 2024 requires owners of units in an apartment (starting from four-flat apartments to massive multiple-tower societies) to submit "Form-A" towards initial registration. It wants apartments with multiple blocks/towers in a compound to form a federation, and make bye-laws. Irrespective of the size the apartment, flat owners are required to appoint an auditor, submit audited accounts and balance sheets.

The Act provides an impetus to redevelopment projects, allowing owners to demolish a building if there is consensus

from two-third of apartment owners. Likewise, it empowers the association to take action against residents erring to pay their maintenance bills. There are many features in favour of owners, but communities *The Hindu Downtown* spoke to note the process is being delayed due to challenges in the system. Some communities cite lack of awareness and many are said to be buying time.

Most resident associations were previously registered under Societies Act. Now they have to migrate to Tamil Nadu Apartment Act and begin by completing requirements in "Form A".

Ragamalika Apartments in Mandaveli, a registered association, is finding it difficult to renew its registration as per the new Act. While the Act is clear, they are unsure where and how to process it and whether any acknowledgement will be provided. Apartments with less than 15 units say too much documentation discourages them from getting the association registered.

Real estate consultants say they are getting more inquiries from owners of buildings seeking to take up redevelopment in helping register the association, as also those looking for help in drafting bye-laws.

### Ongoing projects

Six years ago, House of Hiranandani in Egattur formed a registered body involving nine towers. Now the gated community has 14 towers and more are under different stages of construction. The Act requires them to form a federation but as the developer is still working on projects, the current association has time in hand.

On the need for a federation, Raghavan Murti, an active member of the gated community, says, when the builder leaves the scene, there are roads, club house and other common amenities that have to be maintained. "We need a common body when dispute arises or to negotiate issues between associations, so a federation has to take shape sometime," he says.

## Validation for this gated community's governance model

From the get-go, a gated community in Kolathur – Orchid Springs – has been following "a federal model of community governance". That has made the gated community ready for the Tamil Nadu Apartment Ownership Rules 2024 nine years in advance. One of its requirements is that communities with multiple towers and blocks have an association for each of the blocks/towers and an overarching federation over them.

According to Ganapathy Suresh, founding president, Orchid Springs All Owners Association, the community has been following this model since residents started moving in to the community from 2015 onwards. This is indeed impressive when set against a backdrop where similar gated communities are still only chewing the cud over this stipulation, now almost a year old.

Under this model, each block has their own president, secretary and treasurer and maintenance fee is handled by the respective association.

An amount required for the upkeep of common amenities is paid to the Federation, which is like an apex body that is represented by three members from each block.

Orchid Springs has more than 2000 flats spread across eight blocks.

"In such a decentralised approach, there is better accountability, transparency and a low probability of pilferage," says Ganapathy, adding that every association keeps account of their money.

This system works well for tenants as well. "The flats in ev-

ery block are of different sizes, ranging from 600 sq.ft. to 5,000 sq.ft, and the financial status of every resident would be different. So maintenance is charged based on the size of the flat and the amenity one is availing," says Ganapathy. He had advocated a similar system at Gokulam Flats in Nollambur, which has 4,500 flats and 17 associations, before he moved into this community in Kolathur.

The decentralised approach also ensures there are more of office bearers in the Federation who should have more say in matters concerning residents.

**In such a decentralised approach, there is better accountability, transparency and a low probability of pilferage**

He says the Act empowers owners to take legal action against residents erring in paying their maintenance bills.

The gated community is still working on completing the process towards registration that the Tamil Nadu Apartment Owners Act mandates. Three blocks have submitted Form A (an important step in the registration process).

Once all the eight blocks get their Form A done, the next step would be to apply for Form B.

"All apartments must follow this seriously otherwise the State Government has the power to disqualify the old association or freeze accounts," says Ganapathy, adding that the new Act gives more power to residents associations.





## Bus services shifted out of Mandaveli terminus

The Metropolitan Transport Corporation has moved services out of the Mandaveli bus terminus, redistributing them to three locations in Mandaveli.

The arrangement, which came into effect on August 27, was made to enable the work to modernise the bus terminus and construct a shopping complex at the terminal area.

Route numbers 21, 41D, S17, 49K and S5 will originate from Manda-

veli MRTS railway station on Sringeri Mutt Road; 49F from Foreshore Estate bus terminus; and 12M and 5B from near Luz Corner.

The monthly pass renewal centre and free bus tokens for senior citizens will be distributed at the Foreshore Estate bus terminus, says a press release issued by MTC.

▼ The vacated Mandaveli bus terminus.  
PHOTO:SRINATH M



▼ The temporary halting point at Sringeri Mutt Road near Mandaveli MRTS station; and Parimala and Yashwanth.  
PHOTOS:SRINATH M

## Over to Sringeri Mutt Road

M. SRINATH

Setting foot in the Mandaveli bus terminus around rush hour should now evoke a sense of unreality to anyone accustomed to its bustle. The usual frisson of excitement that runs the facility at this hour is missing. There is an overpowering starkness with not a wheel in sight, except for those machines stationed to uproot structures and pave the way for a renovation exercise. A few metal barricades bearing the icon of a man with a shovel stand in readiness.

The bustle has been transferred – temporarily – to Sringeri Mutt Road, the section of the road near the Mandaveli MRTS Station. This will be the halting point for a few services (21, 41D, S17, 49K and S5) identified with the Mandaveli bus terminus. These services will return to the bus terminus once it is renovated and smar-

tened up. Regulars hope this exercise unfolds at a fast clip.

The shifting of the services entails having to cover added ground for some foot soldiers. For some of them, keeping time is absolutely important.

Parimala, a resident of Teynampet works as a helper in a house near the Mandaveli post office. She travels by 41D to her stomping ground. Walking all the way from Sringeri Mutt Road to her workplace adds to the time and burden.

On August 30, when the new arrangement was just two days old, Yashwanth, a college student, was caught on the wrong foot.

He was aware of the changes, but unaware that his regular wheels (route number 49F) would originate from the Foreshore Estate Bus Terminus. He had headed to Sringeri Mutt Road, and was a picture of disappointment. Due to the lack of space for buses to be stationed at Sringeri Mutt Road, the



frequency of services has reportedly been reduced.

A temporary time keeper's booth has been established.

As this arrangement was ushered in during an extended weekend, there was no traffic congestion on account of these buses being stationed near Mandaveli MRTS station. Monday (September 1) might have different picture to offer.

### Free yoga classes

Satyananda Yoga Centre will conduct a four-week free yoga class at K.K. Nagar, Nanganallur and Velachery.

The classes at Nanganallur will commence on September 5 at Shri Sudarshan Terrace Hall, B-2, Lakshmi Nagar Main Road, Nanganallur.

At Thiruveethi Amman Kovil, Thiru Veethi Amman Kovil Street, Velachery, from September 6; and Sri Ayyappan

and Sri Goshala Krishnan Temple, Sri Sastha Sangam, Ponnambalam Salai, K.K.Nagar from September 7.

The classes will be held from 5.30 to 7 a.m. (Monday to Saturday), and is aimed at mental and spiritual health, said a release.

For registrations, call 9841227709, 94450-51015 (Nanganallur), 8754499334, 9445051015 (Velachery) and 6383008358, 94450-51015 (K. K. Nagar).

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## Engineering college distributes scholarships



Meenakshi College of Engineering, K.K. Nagar (West), recently conducted induction day for the first-year students of B.E., B.Tech., B.Arch., MBA, and MCA programmes.

G. Ra. Gokul, college chairman, motivated the students to make the best use of opportunities, emphasising the importance of discipline, innovation and holistic development.

The event also included introductions to academic regulations, student support sys-

tems and co-curricular activities, said a release.

Scholarships worth ₹75 lakh were distributed to more than 100 first-year students of the above-mentioned academic programmes in the name of founder-trustees A. N. Radhakrishnan Scholarship (for boys) and Meenakshi Ammal Scholarship (for girls).

Other dignitaries who took part in the event are N. Rengarajan, executive director; and Charles Godwin; and Ganesh Venkatraman, principal.

## Home appliance brand opens a new showroom

Darling, a leading home appliances stores in Tamil Nadu, has opened its 163rd showroom on Rajaji Street in the Tambaram (West) region.

S. R. Raja, MLA, Tambaram Assembly Constituency, and K. Vasantha Kumari, Mayor, Tambaram City Municipal Corporation, inaugurated the showroom.

Spanning 25,000 square feet, the store offers a diverse range of appliances, including television sets, refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners, and mobile phones, said a release.

To celebrate the store's opening, discounts are offered on television set, refrigerator, washing machine and air conditioner.

At the opening ceremony, several



new products were launched, including Haier's 100-inch TV, Samsung's 25 kg washing machine, and V-Guard's new water heater and fan.

A unique cooling room where customers can test an air conditioner's performance before making a purchase can be experienced, the release added.

## Workshop on hospital compliance

Sha (Med) Compliance and Services Private Limited is organising a one-day workshop on 'Hospital Compliance' on September 6 at Teach auditorium, Spastic Society of Tamil Nadu in Taramani.

Hospitals from across the State, retired government officials from the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority, Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services, Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Tamil Nadu Police, and the Greater

Chennai Corporation, are participating in it, said a press release. Dr. H. V. Hande, former Health Minister of Tamil Nadu, will inaugurate the 'Hospital License and Compliance Software'.

Dr. Hande will be bestowed with the 'Beeshma of Healthcare Services' award by Tamilisai Soundararajan, former Governor of Telangana and Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry.

Registration is free but mandatory. Contact: 7305368552. Email id: shashospitallicense@gmail.com

## Bookworms meeting today

Bookworms, the FOMRRA book Club, is having its meetup on August 31 (from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.) at TVH Taus, a gated community near Old Navalur Toll Gate in Navalur on OMR

The segments of the event are as follows:

### Book breakdown

*The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri - a moving debut novel that spans three decades and continents, following an Indian boy raised in America -- will be discussed, says a press release.

### Book breakout

The spotlight will be on OMR's very own debut author Shwetha Shivakumar and her novel *Curves, Cravings & Comebacks*.

### Book swap

The 18th book swap will take place, enabling visitors to exchange their books. Books have to be in good condition. All genres are welcome - fiction, non-fiction, comics/graphic novels. Textbooks and study materials are not allowed.

To Join, fill out the form at: <https://join.fomrra.org>

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