

ANNA NAGAR

Purasawalkam » Villivakkam » Kolathur » Nazarathpettai » Pattabiram » Maduravoyal » Koyambedu » Tiruverkadu » Puzhal » Kilpauk » Perambur » Mogappair

Avadi » Ayyappakkam » Tiruninravur » Nerkundram » Moolakadai » Ayanavaram » Retteri » Padi » Ambattur » Tirumullaivoyal » Aminjikarai » Vysarpadi » Red Hills



A VOICE FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED SINGERS

Musicians with disabilities do not find themselves on a level-playing field. Vinod Venugopal and Reshmi have launched Samagratha, a platform that provides these musicians with opportunities **P5**



TWO LIBRARIES IN KOLATHUR TO SPORT A NEW LOOK

CMDA is redeveloping the libraries at Periyar Nagar and Jawahar Nagar **P7**

READERS WRITE



Shake those escalators out of inertia

MANOHAR T.

I am forced to bring to light something that is obvious, glaringly obvious. The escalators that enable effortless use of the overbridge across 100 Feet Road at the point where this arterial road is met by VI Avenue in Anna Nagar West are not in working order. They have been

non-functional for around a year, and not an official finger seems to have been raised to rectify the errors and get the elevators moving again.

This overbridge paired with those escalators could not be at a better place. This intersection is well-hoofed, being accessed by various constituencies of pedestrians, not the least of which are those heading to a

The escalators attached to the overbridge across 100 Feet Road where it meets VI Avenue in Anna Nagar West are not in working order for around a year

school at the other end of IV Avenue. Besides, volume of vehicular traffic volume on 100 Feet Road (connecting Koyambedu and Padi) is bound to be on the higher side (in comparison with most other roads of this kind) any time of the day. Besides, Chennai Metro Rail's overhead corridor of phase 2 runs along the median of this highway, and with construction under way there is no way for pedestrians to cross this section safely except by accessing this overbridge.

Without functional escalators, this overbridge is not easy to use for senior citizens and those with mobility-related problems.

Poor illumination verging on total darkness in the approach path to the stairs with intermittent ramps from the V-5 Police Station end, where the paved area has uneven concrete blocks jutting out of the ground accentuates the perils that go with using this overbridge, for even normal pedestrians.

I hope the civic authorities with the power to remedy this situation act with haste and ensure the escalators start moving again.

(Manohar T. is a resident of Anna Nagar West)

'East Main Road in a sorry state'



The section of East Main Road, from Leo school to Thirumangalam police station in Thirumangalam is battered. Both pedestrians and motorists need to exercise caution while using this road.

D. Narayanasami
Annanagar West Extension



One of the escalators and a view of the overbridge

'Garbage woes at Senneer Kuppam'

S. PRATHEESHA ILANGOVA

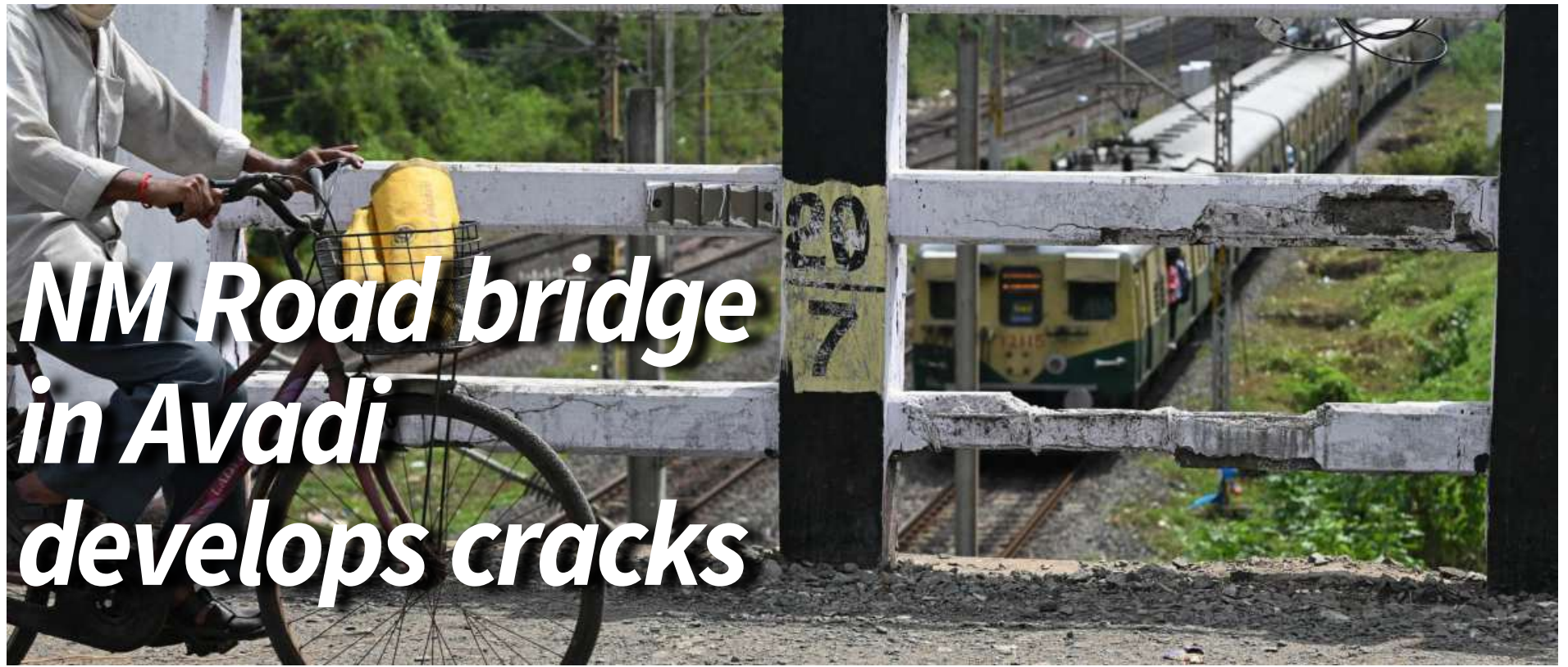
Waste pileups at Senneer Kuppam stretch of Kumananchavadi-Poonamallee High Road have become more conspicuous in recent months. It is extremely difficult to pass through this stretch. The signboard installed by Senneer Kuppam Village Panchayat warns the public of a penalty of ₹5,000 if they dump waste on the stretch: the warning is stubbornly ignored.

S. Pratheesha Ilango is a resident of Iypanthangal

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 postal address and contact number.





NM Road bridge in Avadi develops cracks



The metal rods on the bridge over a railway track on New Military Road in Avadi are exposed, especially over its compound walls.

Bala Ruban, a resident, who regularly uses the bridge says the cracks have become more conspicuous over the years questioning the safety of the structure.

He also pointed out that the bridge was given a fresh coat of paint a couple of weeks ago to cover up its sorry state.

"It is high time the safety of the entire bridge structure is checked. It witnesses heavy traffic as it connects Avadi and Poona-malle. Earlier, heavy vehicles used to frequent this bridge. But thankfully, the heavy vehicle traffic has reduced considerably with the opening of Vandalur - Minjur Outer Ring Road and Perungalathur - Puzhal Chennai Bypass," he says.

Further, the footpath is uneven as tiles are missing. *Text by L. Kanthimathi*



▼ The bridge on New Military Road over the railway track in Avadi. PHOTOS: VEDHAN M

Imizhi's *music for the planet* at Ampa Skyone Mall

Ahead of the Earth Hour, the band performed songs inspired by Nature including A.R. Rahman's Vellai Pookal

As a lead-up to Earth Hour (22nd March, 2025 8.30 - 9.30 PM) and World Water Day, WWF-India organised a live performance on March 21, 2025 at Ampa Skyone Mall in collaboration with the band Imizhi.

The band performed songs inspired by nature, including A.R. Rahman's Vellai Pookal and other popular tracks from the film *Rhythm*, known for its coverage of the five elements of nature, urging people to take action on water con-



servation. The song *Nathiye Nathiye* particularly moved the audience, reinforcing the emotional connection to water and its signifi-

cance in our lives, says a press release from WWF-India.

Throughout the event, announcements highlighted the Switch Off

initiative and the importance of conserving electricity. The band's lead singer, Arul Arasu, captivated the audience with his powerful per-

formance, engaging nearly 1,000 attendees, the release says.

The event effectively connected with the general public, inspiring them to take simple yet impactful steps toward sustainability. An interactive session further reinforced the message of Earth Hour, reminding participants that their collective actions contributed to a greener planet.

Ampa Skyone a key collaborator in this event, participated in the switch-off, making it one step for the planet. Given the audience size (1000+) and three-hour duration of this event (6.30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.) this initiative effectively contributed an estimated 2000 hours (1000people x 2 hours) for the planet, showcasing the power of collective action, adds the press release.

Median with precast blocks at busy road in Egmore



Installation of a median with precast blocks is a five-finger exercise. Annai E.V.R. Maniammai Salai Road (formerly Whannels Road) in Egmore was subjected to little laceration as it received a median of this kind. The rectangular precast blocks serve as troughs as they come with a cavity. The cavity can be filled with soil and saplings grown therein. The image was taken on March 20, 2025. PHOTO: PRINCE FREDERICK

Songs from Shashi Kapoor films

Satrangi's next presentation 'Charming Shashi Kapoor' will be held on March 23 from 5:45 p.m. onwards at Chinmaya Heritage Centre in Chetpet.

The programme will feature timeless songs picturised on the legendary actor Shashi Kapoor from movies such as *Jab Jab Phool Khile*, *Sharmilee*, *Satyam Shivam Sundaram*, *Chor Machaaye Shor*, *Aa Gale Lag Jaa* and *Pyar Ka Mausam*.

The event will be presented by Promod, Smriti, Ramya and Abhishek supported by a live orchestra.

Tickets are priced at ₹800/₹500/₹300 and will be home-delivered on calling 9884778073.

Pay tax by March 31

The Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board has requested consumers to pay the 'Water and Sewerage Tax' and the dues by March 31. A release from the board stated that consumers can pay taxes at the collection centres at area offices and head office through cheque and demand draft.

Consumers can pay online through the website <https://bnc.chennaietrowater.in/#/public/cus-login>.

PLAN YOUR WEEK

Annual Ikebana exhibition is back

The annual Ikebana exhibition and workshops organised by Chennai Sogetsu Branch will be held from March 27 at Lalit Kala Akademi on Greaves Road.

Titled "Ikebana and Us", the exhibition will showcase the exquisite and innovative floral arrangements created by 23 talented artists from the Chennai Sogetsu Branch, and feature free workshops.

The beauty and philosophy of Sogetsu Ikebana, a contemporary and expressive form of Japanese floral art, will also be on display.

A maximum of 10 people can register for the workshops. On

March 27, the workshop will deal with 'Origami and leaves'; March 28 on 'Sketching with Dots, Lines, Curved and Straight' and introduction to Sogetsu Ikebana; and March 29 and March 30 on a free introduction to Sogetsu Ikebana.

The exhibition will be open to the public on March 27; 1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and March 28 to 31; 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

To register for the workshop, contact Luna Bose at 9176161331.



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Deepesh Bhaskar and his team of volunteers at different events.
PHOTOS: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



Party hard, but mindfully

Meet Deepesh Bhaskar, founder of Chennai-based startup Nilayaan, who is focussed on making celebratory events easy on the planet and our collective conscience

SHARON JESSICA MICHAEL

If you are a Jay Gatsby with a propensity for throwing extravagant parties (recall the central character in Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*), then you would not want to let Deepesh Bhaskar anywhere near your event planning team. Deepesh would gauge the success of any celebratory event by what it leaves behind or rather, what it does not. The *numero uno* at an environmental services startup named Nilayaan (@nilayaan.earth), Deepesh dons many sustainability hats, one of which is that of a minimal-

waste celebration consultant.

The path to Nilayaan was paved with a dramatic event (as distressing as it was transformative), days of brow-knitting reflection, course alteration, fresh learning and finally as with any entrepreneurial effort, a leap of faith.

Having pursued a bachelor's as well as a master's degree in social work, Deepesh initially transitioned into marketing for financial stability. But everything changed the day he encountered a cow choking on a plastic bag in the middle of a road. Along with his friends, he tried desperately to save the animal, but the effort proved futile. The cow died



cradled in Deepesh's arms. The experience left him shaken.

"I knew I had to do something," he recalls. The COVID-19 lockdown gave him the opportunity to turn reflection into action. As he continued working in marketing, he delved deep into plastic research and waste management. A course on Climate

From Deepesh's green notes

Replace plastic-based decor with flower-based arrangements that can be composted post-event

Use banana fibre strings instead of cotton or plastic strings for tying garlands, ensuring full compostability

Use paper lanterns instead of balloons for decorative purposes

Use cardboard instead of thermocol

Traditional paper cups often contain a thin plastic coating, making them non-biodegradable. Instead, use bagasse (sugarcane pulp) cups and plates, which are fully compostable

Hire steel plates and cups instead of purchasing them

Many apartments have RO filtration systems that waste 70% of water. Instead of letting this water go to waste, we collect and reuse it for event-related purposes

Change and Sustainable Development from the Centre for Science and Environment opened his eyes to the direct link between soil health and climate change. He soon realised that true impact required systemic change, not just individual action. And so, he started Nilayaan – an environmental services startup dedicated to making sustainability a fundamental part of events and everyday living – in the middle of the pandemic.

Nilayaan's philosophy is anything but abstruse: introduce Nature-based solutions in people's everyday living and they will carry that ingrained practice into their moments of celebrations. After it sows the seeds of awareness among individuals and communities, Nilayaan nurtures what grows out of the effort by lining up the right tools for segregation and composting. It offers choice in terms of home and community composting kits, and the buyer can match one with their composting situation at home or organisation.

As one can see from the testimonials on its Instagram page, many of those who have brought Nilayaan on board as their minimal waste celebration partner have been impacted by its work prior to it. Baby showers, birthdays and weddings form the chief part of the minimal-waste celebrations organised by Nilayaan.

Deepesh is embedded in the sustainability ecosystem, a situation that enables him to bring various entities – examples include Namma Ooru Foundation and Upcycle – on board to drive different aspects of what makes an event zero-waste.

The regular is interspersed with the out-of-the-way, now and then – such as the Harris Jayaraj's concert "Rock On Harris" in October 2023 that Nilayaan associated with as a minimal-waste celebration partner.

Recalling the Harris Jayaraj concert, Deepesh says, "There was so much food waste. But with the right planning, we turned it into a resource instead of garbage." An Insta post provides specific details: "We converted 87 kilograms of food waste into nutrient-rich compost and recycled 250+ kilograms of plastic waste." Deepesh notes food that was left untouched reached needy palates as we had partnered with a food redistribution NGO.

In Nilayaan, volunteers form the flywheel that drives the engine. Volunteer management is therefore of critical importance to Deepesh.

Large-scale events require at least 18 volunteers to effectively manage waste, he begins and continues: "Sourcing and training volunteers within a short time frame is difficult. Some attendees are resistant to sustainable practices and may discard waste irresponsibly. Events with over 1,000 attendees pose logistical challenges. Due to limited volunteers, only 60% of waste was managed at certain events, which was disheartening."

The work Deepesh and his associates (largely volunteers) undertake has to be underpinned by a deep personal commitment for it to be effective. That commitment is made and reinforced from time to time. Nilayaan conducts waste audits across industries and corporate spaces. One audit was carried out at an address extremely familiar to Deepesh. "At my own home, we conducted a waste audit and found that we had diverted 200 kg of organic waste in just 7-8 months. That realisation encouraged me to scale up the initiative," says Deepesh.

And Deepesh made his niece's first birthday as minimal-waste as possible, enunciating the right script for all her subsequent birthdays.

A voice for differently abled singers

Musicians with disabilities do not find themselves on a level-playing field. Singers Vinod Venugopal and Reshmi have launched Samagratha, a platform that provides these musicians with opportunities that might not otherwise come their way



LIFFY THOMAS

Over the last seven years, Sapna Soundarajan (now 25 years old) has shared the stage with acclaimed playback singers such as Late S.P. Balasubramaniam, K.S. Chithra, S.P. B. Charan and Unni Menon. That would make any singer's portfolio look hugely impressive. It is even more admirable when one considers the fact that Sapna is on the spectrum.

Sapna is a multi-lingual singer and knows 3500 songs. However, she struggles to find opportunities that would fetch her monetary benefit. Samagratha offers a ray of hope to Sapna and others like her.

Chennai-based accomplished singers Vinod Venugopal and Reshmi have been running Samagratha, an inclusive music platform, since 2023 to showcase the talent of differently abled singers along with the best of musicians from the industry.

The seeds of Samagratha were sown during the pandemic when the two "VIRES" (the name of their band) were involved in raising funds for light mus-



ic performers whose income was affected on account of the pandemic.

"We used to judge various events and one particular event had the differently-abled also participating in it. We saw amazing talent there and wondered what can be done to ensure these budding musicians have sustained income," says Vinod, who along with Reshmi are jury members for Zee Tamil

SaReGaMaPa show.

Vinod says inclusion efforts aimed at helping differently abled musicians should cover more ground than just offering a visually challenged singer an opportunity to perform on stage or including an autistic musician in an orchestra. The efforts should be deeper, he adds.

Samagratha has been working to create livelihood opportunities for the differently-abled through music, give them a launch pad to sing along with playback and celebrity singers and also perform with top instrumentalists.

Under the Samagratha banner, Vinod and Reshmi have organised three shows in Chennai, and identified 14 aspiring musicians which include those who are visually-challenged, autistic and with multiple disabilities. While a majority of the talent are from Chennai, the duo has also

spotted aspiring musicians from Coimbatore, Calcutta and Pune. Bringing aspiring musicians down to Chennai before a show poses logistic challenges and that includes cost management. "Parents have to invest in music training, upgrading their wardrobe and other tools each one requires depending on the type of disability. We insist that these singers be paid," says Vinod.

The two spend time in identifying, training the talent and offering them a level-playing field at musical shows.

"Rehearsals are a must before a show so that they are on par with any other stage singer. We decide the upon the song based on their strength, fix the pitch of the song then make them practise over a couple of sessions before the show. The rehearsals are done with karaoke track," says Vinod, a resident of Anna Nagar.

Besides ticketed shows, Samagratha has been trying to create awareness at local events such as weddings and private functions on why the differently-abled should be offered stage for performance.

Sapna's father V. Soundarajan says more corporates should come forward to give differently abled musicians a chance. That would be a big push for such talent.

Music came naturally to Ashwath R, a 27-year-old on the spectrum with a post-graduate degree in Visual Communication. Thanks to Samagratha, he received a launch pad. "Music brings a lot of happiness to special needs children and they are really fast and good at grasping the nuances in every song. All that we want from the society is that these musicians be given equal opportunities," says Sheeba Sojanar, Ashwath's mother.



Vinod Venugopal and Reshmi and (above) two of the inclusive music programmes organised by Samagratha.
PHOTOS: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Making professional courses more inclusive

LIFFY THOMAS

Braillie is among the most common knowledge accessing tools for the visually challenged. Increasingly, accessible EPub (short for electronic publication) has made learning easier and instant. A visually impaired person only needs to slide his fingers on the mobile device to read the content or listen to it.

In Chennai, Karna Vidya Foundation, a non-profit that has been empowering the visually-challenged through technology, launched into this space in 2017 by providing school textbooks in an accessible format. The pandemic slowed down the Foundation's work in this space, but since 2023 they have been focussing on making textbooks more accessible where professional courses such as law, commerce and computer science are concerned. This initiative is also aimed at encouraging the visually impaired to opt for courses beyond English, Tamil and history (which are usually taken by the visually impaired) for higher education.

"We would have converted provided nearly 300 books in the EPub format since we launched into this space," says K. Raghuraman, who is honorary advisor of Karna Vidya Foundation and assistant professor in English at Government Arts College in Nandanam.

Adaptability makes EPub user-friendly.

If a visually impaired person wants to switch from EPub to Braille it can be done easily. If they want to hear it as an audio that is also possible. Likewise, they can opt for a magnified version of the book.

The Foundation has been able to convert books with the help of a team of volunteers, who are mainly parents of children with different disabilities trained for this purpose.

Raghuraman, who is visually challenged, says EPub is yet to catch up in a big way, and conversion of books requires time and effort. There are multiple processes to go through.

"The images, tables and rows, font, elements of the text and other dimensions of the page have to be considered while undertaking conversion into book format. In vernacular languages, it becomes even more challenging as they come with stylised fonts," says the professor. He says digitally accessible information system (DAISY) has brought accessibility to EPub.

To take this effort by Karna Vidya Foundation to a larger audience, the books are taken to Bookshare, an international online library for print disabled including those with dyslexia and learning disability.

"There is a quality check before the uploading of any book on this platform to check if it meets all accessibility norms. Anyone can get themselves registered by showing a medical certificate to get access to the books, and this is free for people in Asian countries," says the professor, adding that the book remains a permanent treasure.

The Foundation has been reaching out to institutions to popularise such learning content. It also takes requests from students on certain books that they want to read in an accessible format.

"When you make learning resources public and accessible then the community will grow. This is a gradual process where we need to train people for conversion but we are sure to see results in the long run," he says.

The Foundation wants more volunteers to help with converting which can be done from the comfort of one's home. Visit them at karnavidyafoundation.org.

Through a new initiative, Karna Vidya Foundation is adding to the already existing e-book content for the visually impaired

Survey seeks to make legal education more accessible

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

To make legal education accessible to all, a group of law school students have initiated a survey to identify gaps in the current system.

The Samavesh Project, as it is called, is an initiative under the Awaaz Leadership Labs, a non-profit based in New Delhi, with seven law school students representing different institutions collecting information from persons with disabilities (PwD) who have either appeared for the Common Law Admission Test (CLAT), All India Law Entrance Test (AILET) or aspire to appear for any of these examinations.

The exercise is aimed at collecting information, identifying gaps in the current system of law entrance examinations, make suggestions and propose model guidelines to relevant authorities, says a note.

"Those involved in making legislations that govern the nation must be representing diverse abilities. Once we are able to send stakeholders to the positions of law making, then the scenario will change," says Sushanth Gajula, a visually chal-

lenged law graduate who is part of the team.

The exercise is largely aimed at entry barriers for national level examinations. "CLAT, for instance, is not yet inclusive," says Sushanth. The team will be reaching out to various schools for sensitisation workshops.

They are also trying to build capacity among law schools. "Once we find some success in CLAT then we will push the agenda for other examinations," he says.

One challenge the project is faced with is getting across to students with disabilities.

Once they collect data, the team will be presenting it to the CLAT consortium.

"Many have special learning disabilities and are not comfortable in talking," says Sushanth. The team has also reached out to Lawctopus, a go-to platform for law students, to promote this initiative.

Awaaz Leadership Labs was founded by Rohit Sharma, a law graduate from National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata.

AI GENERATED IMAGE:
M. ARIVARASU



Two libraries in Kolathur to sport a new look

CMDA is redeveloping the libraries at Periyar Nagar and Jawahar Nagar

L. KANTHIMATHI

State-government libraries at Karthikeyan Salai in Periyar Nagar and First Circular Street in Jawahar Nagar in Kolathur will sport a new look soon.

Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) is redeveloping both the libraries which are decades-old.

According to library and CMDA officials, the State-run facility called 'Mudhalvar Padaippagam,' a co-working-cum-a learning centre will be established in both the libraries as part of the redevelopment work.

"Jawahar Nagar library will



(Clockwise from top) Library at Jawahar Nagar; the ongoing construction there; and the library at Periyar Nagar.

PHOTOS: AKHILA EASWARAN

be demolished and a new one constructed; and in the case of Periyar Nagar library, the structure will be retained but renovated," says a CMDA official.

The work at Periyar Nagar library was taken up last December last and at the Jawahar Nagar facility, a month ago.

However, arrangements have been made in both libraries for visitors to use them in spite of the ongoing work. In the case of Jawahar Nagar, the library might have to be closed temporarily as it will be demolished soon, say officials.

A regular visitor to Jawahar Nagar library says a new structure is needed as the ground floor is prone to inundation during heavy rains.

Both are full-time libraries witnessing good patronage, especially by youngsters aspiring to clear various competitive examinations.

Periyar Nagar library and Jawahar Nagar library have 17,694 and 5,000 members respectively and the collection of books is 1,11,013 and 65,000 respectively.

Graduation day at R.M.K. Engineering College



The batch

R.M.K. Engineering College, hosted its 25th and 26th Graduation Day ceremony on its campus on March 16, 2025. The event celebrated the accomplishments of 1,454 graduates with 93 distinguished rank holders from R.M.K. Engineering College.

According to a press release, R.S. Murnirathinam, founder-chairman, R.M.K. Group of Institutions presided over the function. In his presidential address, Murnirathinam highlighted the history and achievements of R.M.K. Group of Institutions. The founder-chairman glorified the highly qualified faculty members of which 53.66% are Ph.D holders. They contribute to ensuring quality education by producing more than 2,419 research publications, 43 granted patents, 62 incubated startups that successfully include 18 GST-registered startups.

Chief guest Rajeev Menon, executive vice president and global head - Talent Solutions, LTIMindtree, delivered the graduation day address and distributed de-

grees and medals to the rank holders. He also gave away cash awards worth ₹12.25 lakhs to the students, says the press release.

Rajiv Menon emphasised the need and importance of becoming a quality engineer. He praised the institution for its excellent infrastructure.

R. Jothi Naidu, director, R.M. Kishore vice-chairman; Yalamanchi Pradeep, secretary; Durgadevi Pradeep, vice-chairperson; Sowmya Kishore, management trustee; the advisors of R.M.K. Group of Institutions, M.S. Palanichamy, former vice chancellor - Tamil Nadu Open University; T. Pichandi I.A.S (Retd) and V. Manoharan, former director, Tamil Nadu Minerals; Elwin Chandra Monie, dean-research, K.K. Sivagnana Prabhu, dean, Career Development Centre and K. Manivannan, dean, external affairs felicitated the gathering.

K.A. Mohamed Junaid, principal, R.M.K Engineering College welcomed the graduands and parents and administered the pledge to the students.

Applications invited for ITI courses

Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC) has invited applications from Industrial Training Institute (ITI) students (Mechanic Motor Vehicle, Mechanic Diesel, Electrician, Auto Electrician, Fitter, Turner, Painter, and Welder) for a one-year professional acquaintance in ITI.



They would be given a stipend of ₹ 14,000 per month, said a release.

On April 2, MTC will conduct a special camp from 10 a.m. at the Industrial Training Institute, Chromepet, where students can apply for the one-year training.

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With a mezzanine floor, parking area expanded at Thirumangalam metro railway station



Area has been expanded at B2 two-wheeler parking lot at Thirumangalam metro railway station. According to a press release from Chennai Metro Rail Limited dated March 15, 2025, a mezzanine floor has been set up at B2 parking lot which has a capacity to accommodate 400 two-wheelers. With the expansion, 1,000 two-wheelers can be parked at the B2 lot, adds the press release. The expanded facility was inaugurated recently. The images were taken on March 21. PHOTOS: VEDHAN M

'Travel as you please' in AC buses

The Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC) has launched a new 'Travel As You Please' monthly pass.

Priced at ₹ 2,000, the pass allows commuters to travel in air-conditioned, deluxe, express and whiteboard buses for a month. There is no travel limit for the pass.

The pass is available at renewal centres at terminuses, according to a release issued by the MTC.

Metro services for IPL matches



Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) will be running additional services for cricket fans attending

the IPL matches at M.A. Chidambaram Stadium in Chepauk.

CMRL will extend metro train services on all Chennai Super Kings match days, ensuring safe and convenient transportation for fans, says a press release.

Additionally, valid IPL match ticket holders will be eligible for a sponsored round trip metro journey between any CMRL metro station and Government Estate Metro Station, the metro station closest to the stadium. This initiative aims to reduce traffic congestion and promote the use of public transport. On match days, metro operations will be extended by up to 90 minutes post the match or until 1 a.m., whichever is earlier, based on commuters' demand. CMRL will announce the last train times before each match day, added the release issued by CMRL.

A Space Marketing Initiative

The Launch pad

In the constantly changing arena of architecture and interior design, SVVD Arkiton Studio is a shining example of perfection, inspired by the innovative skills of **S.V. Kamesh Reddy** - Architect and **Deepica Reddy** - Interior Designer. Hailing from Chennai, this talented couple has revolutionised contemporary spaces through their dedication to minimalist architecture, interiors, and landscapes.



Meet the Visionaries of Minimalistic India

THE MINDS BEHIND ARKITON STUDIO

Architect **S.V. Kamesh Reddy** has a B.Arch. and an MSc from Sweden, with an international design orientation that harmoniously merges aesthetics and functionality. He is skilled in designing architectural wonders that reflect sustainability, simplicity, and innovation.

Interior designer **Deepica Reddy**, Singapore-trained, designs sophisticated, ageless interiors capturing the essence of the ultimate style vs practicality balance. Her sharp eye for detail and vast experience in space transformation make her a much-sought name to reckon with.

OUR EXPERTISE AND SERVICES

At Arkiton Studio, they provide an extensive portfolio of services, which include architecture and interior design consultancy — their personalised solutions meet client visions and functional requirements. They also specialise in turn-key contracting services —

concept to completion — meeting the highest standards of quality and timely delivery.

OUR JOURNEY AND IMPACT

With 8+ years of experience, Arkiton Studio has successfully executed over 250+ unique projects, spanning over 1 million square feet of built-up area. Their portfolio has created a strong presence throughout Tamil Nadu and Bangalore, framing the skyline with modern designs that combine beauty and functionality.

From residential and commercial spaces to landscape and institutional projects, our portfolio reflects a commitment to minimalism, efficiency, and craftsmanship. Every project is a testament to their belief that great design goes beyond aesthetics, and enhances life itself.

THE SUPER THREE

Constructing a new space or overhauling an existing one requires skill, innovation, and delicate attention to detail. With this in mind, they reviewed their ho-

listic approach to their works, but Arkiton spearheads the triumph with just three mantras.

ARCHITECTURAL EXCELLENCE:

A well-architected building plan is the cornerstone of any magnificent building. Their trained professionals scrutinise every detail, from building codes to safety requirements, site context, and space planning. They start with a master plan that combines structural ideas, site-related information, and creative design elements. Their strategy makes each architectural building they produce not just pleasing to the eyes but also superior in functionality. During construction, they keep us updated with progress and undertake quality checks regularly to ensure precision and quality.

INNOVATIVE INTERIOR DESIGN:

Their staff are experts in ergonomic designs that provide an effortless mix of beauty and functionality. In addition to aesthetics,

they concentrate on electrical, plumbing, and mechanical installations to provide interiors that are efficient as well as comfortable. Each detail, from walls and ceiling to floor coverings and fixtures, is chosen depending on the client's comfort and preference.

Reliable Construction Services: Understanding that construction projects require a balance between budget, safety, and quality. Their experienced team ensures a streamlined process, managing every aspect—from foundational work to the final structure. They prioritise quality materials, expert craftsmanship, and efficient project scheduling. In short, turning vision into reality matters.

FROM THE FOUNDERS' DESK

'At Arkiton Studio, we don't merely design buildings, but we craft experiences. With each project, we challenge the limits of design, bringing visions to life with accuracy and dedication.

Eager to take your space to the next level? Let's create something amazing together and build a minimalist space.'