

## 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



### CHANGE BEGINS ON THE TERRACE

Residents on the nitty-gritty of welcoming solar power into their homes and how different the EB bill looks now **P4&5**



### PRAJNYA 'LEAVES THE SCENE', BUT PROMISES CONTINUED SUPPORT

Known for its work to sensitise people about gender-based violence, the non-profit had a 17-year run **P7**

## READERS WRITE

### 'These trees in Anna Nagar West need trimming'

S.M.A.TENNYSON

A few trees in Anna Nagar West need trimming as they are leaning precariously. Examples of such trees are to be found at East Main Road (near Leo Matriculation School) and at the junction of 12th Main Road and Fifth Cross Street. There are trees leaning over cables and cheek by jowl with electricity poles. The interest shown by the Government and the public to raise trees deserves praise. However, they do not display the same enthusiasm in maintaining them. Considering the safety of the public, Greater Chennai Corporation should do the needful at the earliest.

*S.M.A.Tennyson is a resident of Korattur*



### 'Address this dog-related issue'

ANTONY DHANARAJ

Issues pertaining to stray dogs are assuming scary proportions in Korattur. There are instances of a pack of dogs chasing passers-by.

The problem is more conspicuous at 38th Street. Because, there is a mutton shop here and the dogs devour the leftovers thrown to them. This is a narrow road and we are forced to go near the shop when vehicles, especially buses, pass through it. These dogs then bark at us. This is the case in most of the roads and streets of Korattur.

*Antony Dhanaraj is a resident of Korattur*

**Attention Class 12th Students**

**Struggling to Learn Concepts in 12th Physics?**

**Easily learn Physics from one of our Chennai's best Physics Faculty**

**Admission open (2025-2026)**  
Weekend Classes Timings  
Sat - 6pm to 9pm  
Sun - 10am to 1pm  
Weekly 6 hours

**73051 97373 | 89393 55635**  
1412, Garden Avenue, Mogappair East  
Near DAV Girls High School

**EnlightenME**  
Lokesh Sir Classes  
NEET & IIT

**V.R. LOKESH**  
IIT AIR-1188  
(2009-2014 IIT Madras)  
Physics Faculty

**Our Toppers NEET-2024**

<b>Valavan</b>	<b>Malavika</b>
Total score: 669/720	Total score: 669/720
Physics score: 170/180	Physics score: 165/180

**IIT-JEE 2025**

**Kevin** Scored **99.35** percentile in Physics

**globalart**  
Think Creative  
For 5 - 15 years

**This Summer Enrich Your Child With Creativity & Colour!**

**Save up to ₹2350\***

**Regular and Fast Track Summer Batches Starting Soon!**

**Why Choose Globalart?**

- Strong foundation in art
- Improves Self Expression
- Enhances creative thinking

**GLOBALART CHENNAI**  
**95662 62366 / 97890 64783**  
India's Largest International Creative Art Programme for Children

[www.globalart.in](http://www.globalart.in) | Follow us on



LIMELIGHT<sup>®</sup>  
LAB GROWN CVD DIAMONDS

AKSHAYA TRITIYA OFFER

PRE BOOK YOUR  
JEWELLERY & GET  
**FREE**  
GOLD COIN



EXCITING OFFER

UPTO <b>25%</b> OFF* ON DIAMONDS	FLAT <b>50%</b> OFF* ON MAKING CHARGES
---	---

\*T&C APPLY

OFFER VALID TILL 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025

- ◆ LIFETIME EXCHANGE ◆ 80% BUYBACK ◆ 3000+ DESIGNS
- ◆ VALUE PROTECTED COMPLEMENTARY JEWELLERY INSURANCE

📍 GROUND FLOOR, RANGA PLAZA, F-25, F-BLOCK, 1<sup>ST</sup> STREET, ANNA NAGAR, CHENNAI

☎ 8828080419

BOOK YOUR  
APPOINTMENT TODAY



BUY ONLINE AT: [WWW.LIMELIGHTDIAMONDS.COM](http://WWW.LIMELIGHTDIAMONDS.COM)

MUMBAI | KOLKATA | VARANASI | JAIPUR | HYDERABAD | LUCKNOW | DELHI | RAJKOT | UDAIPUR | PUNE | RAIPUR  
ROHTAK | INDORE | AHMEDABAD | CHENNAI | BANGALORE | THANE | NOIDA | PRAYAGRAJ | LUDHIANA | KANPUR





## Key junctions in Ambattur *prone to accidents*



The junction on Ambattur- Red Hills Road. The images were taken on April 3. PHOTOS: VEDHAN M

**G**iven the heavy traffic on the Vinayagapuram stretch of Ambattur - Puzhal Road, lack of traffic signals and speed breakers raises the risk of accidents. According to residents of the

area, close calls are a common here. There are three major median openings in this stretch where pedestrians and motorists can cross the road. One is at the junction of CTH Road and Ambattur-

Puzhal Road (near Rakki theatre), the next at the junction of Kamalapuram Street; and the third at the junction of Masilamani Street.

"This stretch is lined with commercial establishments, including



branded ones, schools and hospitals. Further there are around 10 wedding halls without adequate parking facilities. On auspicious days, these junctions present a picture of utter chaos. Appropriate safety measures are badly needed here. Further, there are no footpaths making it worse for pedestrians," says R. Ramalingam, joint secretary, United Welfare Association, Ambattur.

Regular users also pointed out that there are smaller median openings between these two major junctions which are equally unsafe

— one is at the junction of Vinayagapuram Main Road and Mounasamy Madam Street and the other near Damro shop.

"Vinayagapuram stretch of Ambattur - Puzhal Road is less than two kilometres. But there are too many median openings. Traffic police should consider closing the smaller median openings. The crossing near Damro shop is very risky and the traffic police has put an 'accident-prone area' board here to caution the public," says resident R. Ravi.

*Text by L. Kanthimathi*

## A *footpath* out of bounds for pedestrians

Ever since traffic is diverted through Vasu Street, which is off Poonamalle High Road in Kilpauk to facilitate metro rail construction in the vicinity, the lane is witnessing heavy traffic. This includes buses of Metropolitan Transport Corporation and educational institutions. However, the footpaths in the lane are unfriendly to pedestrians.

The footpaths are uneven due to broken tiles. Lampposts are discarded at the section of the footpath near Ega theatre compound wall. Here, waste is also dumped.

On another section along the compound wall of an apartment, two decks of potted plants occupy the footpath for aesthetic reasons and to deter occupation by vendors. Besides, a few make-shift eateries encroach upon the footpath. Pedestrians pointed out "no parking" signboards along the road are not obeyed. Further, electricity junction boxes are open, and the cables are exposed. An eatery has encroached the footpath with its tables and chairs. In yet another stretch, where Vasu Street intersects with Rajarathinam Street, a cable box of a telecommunication firm is discarded. Passers-by also complain of water seepage at the junction for the past three months.

*Text by L. Kanthimathi*



The images were taken on April 1

## MTC introduces *new small bus service*

It connects Madhavaram Mofussil Bus Terminus and Ambattur OT via Surapet, Britannia Nagar and Pudhur

Metropolitan Transport Corporation has introduced a new small bus route called S67 connecting Madhavaram Mofussil Bus Terminus and Ambattur OT via Surapet, Britannia Nagar and Pudhur.

According to an MTC official, the route was introduced last week and one bus has been dedicated for this route and 10 trips are operated per day. The first and last trip from Madhavaram Mofussil Bus Terminus are at 6 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. respectively.

The service has been introduced following representations from Britannia Nagar Residents Welfare Association and elected representatives, says the official.

(Britannia Nagar is a neighbourhood near Kathirvedu located off Ambattur - Red Hills Road)

Thanking the authorities for introducing the bus service,



the association suggests modification of the route to ensure Vinayagapuram is covered.

"There is a bus terminus in Vinayagapuram and services to Guindy, Koyambedu, Broadway, Perambur and Teachers Colony are operated from here. Hence, we are seeking a modification in the route," says a representative of the Association.



Residents on the nitty-gritty of welcoming solar power into their homes and how different the EB bill looks now

LIFFY THOMAS

From the terrace of John Praveen's villa, one can see sloped panels stretch away, glinting in the sun. These are John's neighbours at a gated community in Sholinganallur; and they have gone solar just as John has.

Since June 2023, when he installed a 9.8 KW solar power plant, John has not paid anything towards electricity consumption except for the minimal network charges for a grid-tied solar power system. He is not practising austerity: he is generous with the use of his ACs and various other gadgets.

"Prior to switching to solar power, electricity bills in summer months would hover around ₹20,000 (bi-monthly). Now our bi-monthly bill ranges between ₹ 800 and ₹ 900, which is the basic network charge we are covered under," says John. The family was inspired to adopt solar power by a school project on affordable and clean energy their son was assigned.

John was also inspired by his father-in-law in Kerala who was an early adopter of solar technology with a solar inverter system.

Switching to solar power has been an immensely satisfying experience for this family of four. Here is the math of it. "Our solar plant has so far generated 27 KWh of electricity, equivalent to 27,000 units annually. The environmental impact, as per the solar inverter app, is significant: 15.4 trees planted (carbon offset equivalent), 27.7 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> reduction and 11.12 tons of coal saved," he explains.

#### The question of maintenance

Many houses that have invested in rooftop solar plants point out that the key to keeping the electricity bill to a minimal lies in how the panels are maintained.

Many service providers offer annual maintenance contract where the panels are cleaned periodically, and even warranty for five to eight years.

At John's home, the panels are washed every

fortnight with a hose pipe and spray gun to remove any dust and bird droppings. "The panels need to be kept clean for best efficiency," says John.

T.H. Jothi Kumar, who has a six panel 3 KV plant installed above the lift room of his apartment in Pallikaranai, says before zeroing in on the vendor he read reviews of them. "It is important to not just rely on recent feedback but those written more than five months ago," says Jothi Kumar. Hard objects such as stones could damage the solar panel and they need to be protected from such things. "Our solar panels come with a lighting arrestor, which safeguards the equipment from voltage spikes, so check if the vendor has provided one or ask for it," says Jothi Kumar.

R.Balaji, director, GESA Power, an authorised vendor, say they discourage consumers from investing in solar if their bi-monthly bill is less than 400 units.

"We require a minimum of 80-100 sq.ft. space on the terrace to install one kilowatt of solar. If the terrace is not able to accommodate that then we identify other spots where sunlight will be maximum," says Balaji, an authorised partner for Tata Power Solar.

Other nagging doubts from consumers have to do with metering and the functioning of the solar plant during monsoon. A 3KW solar plant is the basic one can go in for if 600 units is the bimonthly consumption.

"If one installs 1KW of solar it generates 4 units a day and between 5 and 6 units during peak season, which is good enough. Generation happens from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and increases during afternoons," says Balaji.

Tangedco replaces the main EB with bi-directional metres and also charges an amount for this. Stressing on the need to choose an approved vendor, Balaji says under the terms of agreement they are required to serve the customer for five years. "Tangedco can revoke us if a complaint is made by a consumer," he adds.

DESIGN: M. ARIVARASU

# Basking in the sun

## Help for RWAs to set up solar plants

## Taking stock of a government scheme a year down the line

Until February 2025, a total of 26,755 domestic consumers in Tamil Nadu had installed solar rooftops availing the Prime Minister Surya Ghar subsidy scheme, launched during the same time last year.

Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (Tangedco) officials say more ground needs to be covered.

Prabhakaran Veeraarasu, environmental engineer and member Poovalagin Nanbargal, says solar rooftop is critical for energy transition and the state government should consider incentivising con-

sumers and also encourage more R&D in battery storage. "While there is some awareness on solar rooftop, there are hurdles that prevent people from switching to solar energy," says Prabhakaran. Currently, the Government is working on a tool that will simplify the process of installing a solar plant.

He says Tamil Nadu government plans to ensure 20,000 MW of solar power capacity and 10,000 MW of battery storage by 2030.

Many consumers and vendors *The Hindu Downtown* spoke to say wrinkles in the processes pertaining to submission of the application process and getting the reimburse-

ment have been ironed out in the last one year.

Tangedco's five zones have been initiating various activities to create awareness among people about solar energy.

In March 2025, the Chennai North Circle under Tangedco started a grievance meeting exclusively to address concerns of consumers and vendors regarding solar rooftop.

"After the regular grievance meeting that Tangedco organises, we have set aside time from 3 p.m. to meet domestic consumers and vendors," says Jayachandran, superintendent engineer (north circle),

standing that a separate WhatsApp group has also been formed with vendors.

Under the circle, the department has processed maximum applications from Perumbur area covering Agaram and Periyar Nagar.

Once an application is received in the portal, Tangedco has to submit a feasibility report where the capacity of the existing meter is also verified.

Besides all the documentation, a GPS-enabled photo of the consumer standing next to the solar panel, and an agreement with the vendor and the consumer are required to get the refund.

The scheme subsidises 60 per

### Get help

[www.pmsuryaghar.gov.in](http://www.pmsuryaghar.gov.in) offers step-by-step guidance on how to submit an application. The site also lists registered vendors and financing options

Visit the local Tangedco office to seek clarity about solar power systems

Tangedco conducts grievance meetings in various zones with separate slots for consumers seeking information about solar rooftop installations

## The challenge posed by a shared terrace

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Restrictive roof space, shared ownership of the terrace and lack of buy-in from residents make solar adoption in apartments a massive challenge.

For the last two months, N. Balakrishnan, a vendor listed in the PM Surya Ghar scheme, has been waiting to get the "no objection certificate" from a customer in T. Nagar who is keen on investing in a rooftop photovoltaic (RTPV) plant.

"The customer lives in a 14-unit apartment in T. Nagar; he had been inspired to switch to solar power by the example set by his father who has installed a 10 KV solar plant in his independent house. This apartment's terrace is not being used by residents to dry clothes but it has a water tank and cable lines run over it. Other residents are not ready to allow him to install the solar plant," says Balakrishnan of Shiva Shakti Solar.

**A study says Chennai accounts for 25% of the electricity consumption in Tamil Nadu but its rooftop solar power contribution is on the lower side**

For a basic 3 KV solar plant to be installed, the vendor has to study if the remaining space on the terrace will permit other residents to install a similar facility in the future if they desire. "At least five residents have to agree to it by signing on a form provided by TANGEDCO along with signatures on their Aadhar copy and electricity bill," says Balakrishnan, adding that he has been called for one more round of talks.

Bigger the number of units in an apartment, the more the challenge in getting personal solar connections installed on the rooftop.

Some years ago, Jeth Nagar Resident Welfare Association in Mandaveli tried installing an RTPV system for common ser-

vices and consumption but it did not work out for various reasons, one of them being persuading the eight households sharing the roof space to agree to have solar plants installed.

A few years ago, Balakrishnan says, a dealer had to remove the solar plant in a new project as others in the complex objected to having such a facility. In another case in Nanganallur, an owner had a private terrace so it was easy to install the solar plant.

However, he says, in a few cases installing solar plant for one owner has also turned advantageous as other flats in the street wanted to go in for a similar facility.

"Getting consensus from all residents in apartment complexes over adopting rooftop solar power is a tedious process," agrees Hari Subbush Kumar, senior programme manager, Asar Social Impact Advisors Pvt. Ltd., a partner company in a report prepared by C40 on implementation of solar rooftop in Chennai.

The study says that Chennai accounts for 25% of the electricity consumption in Tamil Nadu but its rooftop solar power contribution is on the lower side. Due to high prevalence of multi-storey buildings and multiple electricity connections in the same building, the progress in rooftop photo voltaic adoption has been slow, says the report.

Absence of a "group net metering regime" in the state was also cited as a hurdle. For tenants, persuading landlords to let them to install rooftop solar plant is often a massive challenge.

Hari says they are working with large apartment communities and developers to resolve various teething issues in green energy adoption. Asar along with its partners has also been encouraging RWAs to adopt rooftop solar power for common amenities so that it brings down the maintenance charges for all residents.

Hari adds that many resident welfare associations are not registered under the TN Apartment Ownership Act, preventing them from availing subsidies for rooftop solar plants in common areas.







(Clockwise from left) When the tree was standing tall and majestic; pieces of the dead tree now; and the tree following its restoration after Cyclone Michaung. PHOTOS: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT AND PRINCE FREDERICK



# The mighty baobab at Egmore is gone

The death of the tree was discovered when the Forest Department was taking a count of the heritage trees in Chennai

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Sometimes, one would come to the awareness of an event long after it had occurred. And sometimes, even that discovery would be made incidentally. The death of a baobab at the Egmore Museum came to light long after the giant tree gave up its ghost. The discovery happened when someone had visited the museum, ironically, to greet this baobab tree, take its measurements, note down its GPS coordinates. That someone – who was from the forest department – out to take stock of something that was believed to be full of the sap of life, was thrust into the role of a “coroner”.

T.D. Babu, a trustee of tree conservation NGO Nizhal, reveals that this discovery was made when the Forest Department was doing a round of the trees that had been identified as qualifying for heritage tree status. The exercise was being carried out to finalise the list and



have these trees declared to be having heritage value and have a hedge of protection placed firmly around them.

“We were shocked that one more giant tree has been lost in our city due to insensitivity and ignorance. The baobab tree can easily

live for 1000 years. It is so sad it was not allowed to live its full life span. Many such green sentinels vanish regularly without getting noticed,” says Babu.

During cyclone Michaung, this baobab tree slumped; and it was helped back to its “feet” and res-



tored by PWD.

Babu says Nizhal is one of the entities associated with the Forest Department in this exercise to

identify heritage trees. “We had prepared a list of heritage trees in Chennai as early as 2013,” says Babu.

On the factors that would have caused the death of this baobab, Babu says: “They were dumping garbage around it. The continued presence of moisture could have been the baobab’s undoing. The pieces they had been thrown away are trying to sprout, but will die soon as it is getting infected with fungus.

“Forest department can make an attempt to plant these pieces to see if they will grow vegetatively, as there is a sign of life in the thrown branches, before it becomes food for fungus and termites. The main tree is dead; but having these branches sprout into new trees can be some consolation that offshoots of the mother tree are with us.”

Babu notes that the Forest Department has initiated a move “to freeze the identified trees to quickly declare the heritage trees of Chennai. This would really help in protecting our heritage trees.”

## The losses

T.D. Babu, trustee of tree conservation NGO Nizhal lists out the heritage trees Chennai has lost in recent years.

“A few trees we have lost: Mavaligam near Rettaimalai Srinivasan Memorial; Vennangu near Rajaji memorial, baobab trees at Greaves Road and M.A.Chidambaram cricket stadium, besides the one inside the Egmore Museum; Etti maram at the parking area of Semmozhipoonga, Kaatu vadhuma in front of Semmozhi Poonga, Vaadha narayana on MG Road in Besant nagar, Siruthai pattai maram on TTK road, Illupai inside Lady Willingdon Institute of Advance Study in Education campus, Kamarajar Salai.”



# Prajnya 'leaves the scene', but promises continued support

Known for its work to sensitise people about gender-based violence, the non-profit had a 17-year run

LIFFY THOMAS

**P**rajnya Trust, a Chennai-based non-profit organisation working on issues related to peace, justice and security, has closed its operations and account. March 31, 2025 was its last day.

"Starting very small, everyday has been a surprise, every tomorrow has been a challenge and still, we have walked far enough that looking back fills us with pride," reads a note on its website prajnya.in.

For 17 years, Prajnya has been a go-to institution when it came to clarity on issues related to gender equality and peace education.

In Chennai, many will associate



File photo of a "16-day campaign against gender violence" organised by Prajnya Trust at Vidya Sagar in Kotturpuram

Prajnya with its annual 16-day campaign against gender violence held at various locations to raise awareness of the different ways in which women are vulnerable to violence, at home, at their place of work, on campuses and in public spaces.

Since 2008, Prajnya has also been documenting its "16 Days Campaign" where it encourages one to browse through its calendars, materials and campaign reports.

The Prajnya Resource Centre on

Women in Politics and Policy charted its own path.

Its research and public educational activities took shape with its strong network of partners and community support, evident from the long list of names of alumni, interns and campaign coordinators it has mentioned on its platform.

Recalling her long association with Prajnya as a volunteer, Anupama Srinivasan says while everybody talks about gender violence here is one organisation that did

more than that.

"One of the first things that Prajnya did in Chennai and then showed the way for other cities is make people take action in small ways. Everyone need not work in terms of changing policy or law but there are tangible actions that can be taken in our own families, communities and neighbourhoods to address gender based violence. This was a great takeaway for me and a lesson in civic engagement that local actions can actually make a difference. My favourite Prajnya programme that I did was when we went to apartments and had conversations about gender-based violence with men and women," says Anupama, deputy director at Resource Group for Education and Advocacy for Community Health (REACH). These are conversations that became crucial to raise awareness, challenge societal norms, and empower survivors.

In a LinkedIn post, founder Swarna Rajagopalan, shares that Prajnya's 17 years has been fun, challenging and painful. "But 17,

with only the support of the community, and no corporate money, no government backing, no donor pressure and the freedom to try and fail, is still something to be proud of."

The Trust had earlier run a fundraiser campaign to raise funds for its work, where it mentioned that the "shoestring budget" with which they take up work is not sustainable.

Swarna clarifies that money is not the only reason Prajnya closed. "Money is a facilitator for other things that were important. We did a lot of work without money in our early years, because people gave their time and talent *pro bono* but as the organisation was growing money did not grow. You cannot get people to work endlessly without pay," says Swarna.

"One of the best gifts that Prajnya leaves is its website and online resources, which will remain accessible for a year or two. We will not deactivate our social media accounts as yet but we will not post here," says the note.

## When was the last time the mender of plastic buckets knocked on your door?



Plastic buckets with the itsy-bitsiest of cracks are being jettisoned without a second thought. If that comes across as a sweeping statement, it was meant as one. That statement is obviously not entirely truth-aligned, but when was the last time one expected 100 per cent veracity in a hyperbolic utterance? In the classic mould of hyperbolic shockers, this one exaggerates to amplify an observed fact: menders of plastic buckets who advertise their craft as they cycle or walk down streets are a disappearing tribe, that is if they have not already disappeared from the scene. Even in peri-urban areas, one that still holds on to a semblance of a repair-and-reuse culture, these workmen are hardly on the horizon. Here is an exposition of a trade and tradesperson that might signify esoteric wisdom to younger generations but is common, everyday knowledge to those preceding them. These workmen would carry around plastic pieces of different colours to match buckets with gaping holes or slivers of cracks. They would execute the patchwork with a modest soldering gizmo. The work would be done for a measly compensation, and the trajectory of a bucket headed possibly towards the landfill (if not the street-corner kayalaan-kadai) would be stopped mid-air. Mending of plastic buckets, wherever it may happen, happens in DIY stations at homes. Mend them and reuse them, and if you are looking for plastic pieces to carry out the patchwork, you may find them in Broadway at Kasi Chetty Street.

TEXT AND PHOTO: PRINCE FREDERICK

## Best Bargains

**PRINTZ CARE**  
Exclusive Shop For Refilling & Printer Service

**PRINTER SERVICE**  
**INKJET & TONER REFILLING**

We REPAIR all inkjet & laser printers  
**ON SPOT DOOR STEP SERVICE**

**NOW AVAILABLE PICK-UP & DROP**  
**98946 55595**

**Aditya Birla Activ One Health Insurance**

- » 500% Increase In Sum Assured After 5 years
- » Unlimited Reload From Second claim onwards
- » Day One Cover for BP, Diabetes
- » No Room Restrictions
- » Non Medical Items Covered

**S V Manikumaar**  
**9840621633 / 9884421633**

**SOFA SERVICE**  
**ANY SOFA'S RECLINER SOFAS CUSHIONS REUPHOLSTERY**

**Reconditioning @ Very Moderate Charges**  
**K.N.S.RAJAN SERVICES**  
**76671 33233**  
**93818 03956**

**BUYING**  
WORKING AND NOT WORKING, A/C, BRASS, STAINLESS STEEL, FRIDGE, OLD COMPUTER, LAPTOP, UPS, BATTERIES, MUSIC SYSTEM, WATER HEATER, GYM ITEMS, WOODEN FURNITURE, SOFAS, COT, BEURO, DINNING SET

**ALL A TO Z SCRAPS**  
**VANITHA TRADERS**  
**96001 01534**  
No Visiting Charges

**SRI BALAJI SERVICES**

- Building Painting (Interior, Exterior)
- Paver Block Work
- Terrace Water Proofing
- Cooling Tiles
- Tiles Work
- Civil Work
- Fabrication Work

**Call Me**  
**9551709746 / 9884696614**

**HEALTH INSURANCE**  
for Individual, Family & Senior Citizens  
**Age Entry 0 to 100**

**Stay Protected from Unexpected Hospital Bills**  
For New / Portability Policy  
**Call : 7200646544**

**To advertise in DOWNTOWN**

**Contact:**  
**SATHIYAMORTHY**  
**70927 03458**

**HEALTH & LIFE INSURANCE**

**YOUR PREMIUM SAVES HOSPITAL EMERGENCIES**  
**NO LIMIT ON ROOM RENT**  
**DAY 1 COVER FOR ABCD**

**GET UPTO 40% RETURNS ON LIFE INSURANCE PREMIUM**

**FAMILY PROTECTION ANALYST**  
**98407 18686**

**BUILD-TECH**

- » Building Construction / Renovation / Demolition
- » Modular Kitchen
- » Painting (Interior & Exterior)
- » Interior Works
- » Building Plan / CMDA / DTCP Approval
- » Estimate & Valuation

**PH : 8072727089 | 9884096133**



## Ambattur Arimass chapter laces up for a running initiative

The C25K 3.0 programme, organised by Chennai Runners and conducted in 20 locations across Chennai, aims to help beginners transition into running. The Ambattur Arimass chapter launched its programme with an orientation on March 31, followed by the official start on April 1. Participants receive daily training guidance to build stamina and confidence, ultimately enabling them to complete a 5K run with ease. A graduation run marks their achievement, after which they join the main CR Ambattur Arimass group for continued training. Past participants emphasise self-improvement, proper footwear, and consistent training as key to success.



## New blood bank opens in Mogappair

Rotary Club of Madras T. Nagar, in association with The Madras Medical Mission and Shivpyaribai Brijlal Dhoot Charitable Trust, inaugurated the “MMM - Brijlal Ramnath Dhoot Rotary Blood Bank” on April 2 in Mogappair.

This is the first blood bank of the newly carved Rotary District 3233. A host of dignitaries attended the inaugural event including Isak Nazar, District Counsellor, RI District 3233; Veena Jhaver, Managing Trustee, Shivpyaribai Brijlal Dhoot Charitable Trust; and S. Mahaveer Bothra, Governor, RI District 3233.

## Visitors to Tower Park take home an inclusive message



During the awareness campaign on autism

An awareness campaign was conducted by Genovate Paediatric Therapy Services at Anna Nagar Tower Park recently to mark World Autism Awareness Day.

The initiative was aimed at educating the public on autism and promoting inclusivity through surveys, interactive exhibits and free screening sessions.

The Genovate staff displayed colourful posters and banners. A survey was conducted to assess the public's knowledge about autism, administered online and on paper to cater to everyone at the park, said a release. A free screening facility was led by Ida Mary, paediatric occupational therapist and the director of Genovate along with her team. A blank board came alive with the thumbprints of those who participated, pledging to support and take a stand for autism, added the release.



## Discount on blood tests

Creative Pharmacy, a unit of Creative Dynamic Health Care, is offering its members a 20 percent discount, free consultations, and a 20 percent discount on diagnostic services like blood tests and scans.

The pharmacy is run by Dr. Prithviraj, an emergency consultant, and Dr. Priyanka, a gynaecologist and a surgeon.

For details, call 73973 91156.

## Applications invited for apprenticeship training

The Metropolitan Transport Corporation has invited applications for its one-year apprentice training. Those who have completed B.E., Diploma and Non-Technical Stream (Undergraduate, Mechanical Engineering, Automobile Engineering, Civil Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, B.A., B.Sc, B.Com, BBA, BBM and B CM) Tamil students in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 can apply.

The students should apply online (<https://nats.education.gov.in>) before April 22.

LEARN TO SWIM
SUMMER CAMP

“Learn and Practice Swimming at young age and lead a healthy Life for Ever”

### DOLPHIN SWIMMING ACADEMY

TALENT IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM

LEARN TO SWIM CLASSES

STARTS FROM 1ST APRIL 2025

TRAINED BY EMINENT COACHES AT OUR INTERNATIONAL STANDARD SWIMMING POOL

State Sports Complex, Block 8, Mogappair West, Chennai-37  
**Ph: 94449 06878 / 94449 55878 / 93450 04088**

பாஸ்போர்ட் சர்வீஸ்

PASSPORT SERVICES

Vaigai Wings

The Dependable Travel Service

Crescent Court, 963 Periyar EVR High Road, Chennai - 600 084, India

Tel: +91 7338791804 | +91 6384552233 | +91-44-26413126

Email: [welcome@vaigai.com](mailto:welcome@vaigai.com) | Website: <https://www.vaigai.com>

38 YEARS 1986-2022

Member of IATA

Admissions Open

SUMMER CAMP

Women's Swimming Training Centre

Exclusive for Women & Children

MADURAVOYAL

73581 70991

95001 47968

T.NAGAR / VALASARAVAKKAM / MANAPAKKAM

91762 24225

99413 13710

TILL 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

30% DISCOUNT ON SELECTED SAREES

MYSORE SILK PALACE

132, Royapettah High Road, Chennai 4.

(Near Mylapore Luz Corner)

PH: 044 2498 1727

86951 08528

THIS SUNDAY SHOP OPENED