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TO hasten cleaning works, the Chennai Corporation is deploying 20 advanced suction sweepers, each capable of cleaning up to one km per hour. So far, 10 suction sweepers have been used on city roads and are tested also on several interior roads. A press release said that on average, a suction sweeper machine can clean one km in an hour. If the dust density is high, it can clean upto 800 metres. The machines were tried in a few places including New Avadi Road and the result seems to be encouraging. Just two people can handle the machine and in a way this will reduce the manpower, the release added







Pragga wins second big title of 2025 in Bucharest

By R Srinivasa Raghavan

OMMARAJU Gukesh (becoming World champion) and Arjun Erigaisi (touching the rating of 2800) had a great 2024, achieving a lot. Praggnanandhaa Rameshbabu is following in the footsteps of his teammates, winning his second big title in 2025, triumphing in the Superbet Chess

Classic. His second title of the year came in the second leg of the Grand Chess Tour in the Romanian capital of Bucharest. He had won his first title at the Tata Steel Masters in Wijk aan Zee, The Netherlands.

On a dramatic final day, the Indian shared the top spot with Maxime Vachier-Lagrave and Alireza Firouzja (all 5.5/9), which resulted in a playoff for determining the champion. After drawing with Firouzja, Praggnanandhaa clinched the blitz tie-break with a victory over Vachier-Lagrave. The French No.1 had two draws, while Vachier-Lagrave made one draw and one loss. Praggnanandhaa gained 8.6 rating points, besides having a performance rating of 2827. The world No.7 posted victories over Nodirbek Abdusattorov on his way to becoming the first Indian to win a title on the Tour. He became richer by \$77,667 and earned 10 Tour points. The former Velammal student occupies the second spot (18) behind Vachier-Lagrave (20) in the Tour standings with three tournaments still remaining.

(The writer of this article is a senior sports correspondent)

Drone flying workshop from May 27

Development and Innovation Institute (EDII) is organising a 4-day entrepreneurship development programme titled, 'Cinematic Drone Training', on its campus in the city from May 27-30. Candidates over the age of 18 can apply; qualification for this workshop is completion of Class 10. Topics that will be covered in the workshop are aerial storytelling, essential cinematic drone shots and drone remote commands, drone shots for cinematic stunt sequences, drone shots for cinematic song sequences, cinematic DI colour correction/ edit techniques and DGCA legal and regulatory considerations. Hostel facility is available for both men and women on a first come, first serve basis. For more details, visit www. editn. in.https://editn. in/ or call 9543773337 / 9360221280

Grant handed over to TN athletes

Tamil Nadu Government handed over cheques worth Rs 32.25 lakh to 12 athletes from the state who will represent India at the FISU World University Championship in Germany, scheduled from July 16 to 27. The financial assistance, provided through the TN Champions Foundation, covers athletes across four disciplines.

A Day with CSK stars at Super Kings Academy, Vanagaram

V High School, Vanagaram hosted a vibrant and inspiring event titled "A Day with Chennai super kings stars at Super Kings Academy - SV High School Vanagaram on May 16. The event brought cricketing excitement and inspiration directly to the students through an engaging session with two prominent Chennai Super Kings players - Vijay Shankar and Noor Ahmad – along with Mr. Lakshmi Narayanan, CSK's High Performance Analyst.

The evening commenced with a practice session at the Academy nets, where students had



One for the album: Super Kings Academy boys with the CSK players



(L to R) Louis Mariano (Super kings academy), Vijay Shankar, Noor Ahmed, Mr. Rajiv Krishna, Managing Director and Ms. Moushmi Rajiv, Director, SV High School



Giving a tip or two: Noor Ahmed at the nets with the academy boys

the unique opportunity to observe professional-level training techniques and receive valuable tips from the guests. The atmosphere was charged with enthusiasm as students interacted and trained under expert eyes.

Following the session, both Vijay Shankar and Noor Ahmad delivered motivating speeches, sharing their journeys, experiences in the IPL, and valuable life lessons. Their words resonated deeply with the aspiring young cricketers present.

A lively Q&A session gave students a chance to directly interact with the guests, ask questions, and gain insight into the

world of professional cricket. The event concluded with a photo session, where academy students had their moments captured with the celebrated CSK players and coaching staff.

Adding grace to the occasion were Mr. Rajiv Krishna, Managing Director and Ms. Moushmi Rajiv, Director, whose presence and support underscored the commitment of Super Kings Academy to nurturing young talent and promoting excellence in sports education.

It was a memorable day, leaving students inspired and energized to pursue their cricketing dreams.



Women-only gym at Mangal Eri Park

WOMEN and girls will soon benefit from affordable public fitness infrastructure as the Greater Chennai Corporation is setting up gyms only for women. Work for the gym is ongoing at the Mangal ERI Park in Mogappair.

Under the EmpowHER initiative of Mayor R Priya, the GCC is establishing these gyms at a cost of 10 crore. According to a source the gyms will have cardio equipment such as treadmills, stationary bicycles and elliptical machines, Strength training equip-



ment such as leg press, bench press and shoulder press machines would also

be set up. The gyms will have free weight accessories such as dumbbells, barbells and kettlebells. In future GCC will hire trainers for gym and yoga sessions.

alties for unregulated cat-

tle ownership and open

Stray cattle, garbage dumping plague EB Road

By N Rathi Chithra

HE sight of stray cattle foraging through garbage on the streets has become a regular and worrying scene in Mogappair East, particularly along EB Road. Cows are often seen rummaging through plastic waste, banana stems and leftover food near a damaged street name board—highlighting the dual menace of illegal garbage dumping and stray animals in the area. Despite repeated com-

plaints from locals, both issues remain largely unresolved. Civic activists point out that the two problems are interconnected. Dumped garbage



attracts stray animals like cows, which feed on the waste and often cause traffic disruptions or accidents on narrow residential roads.

"We have complained to the Corporation multiple times, but garbage is still dumped here every day. If this continues, more cattle will be drawn here, creating an unsafe environment for both residents and the animals," claimed a resident of EB Road. Residents often express frustration about the cattle blocking roads or wandering near schools and shops. But activists believe the problem is not just about stray cattle—it's about irresponsible garbage disposal practices too. "It's a vicious cycle. People dump their household waste right outside their gates or on empty plots without waiting for the conservancy workers. This naturally attracts cattle. And then, the same people complain about stray cows," said Pradheepan, a civic volunteer from Mogappair.

While the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) has imposed pendumping, enforcement remains lax, particularly in interior residential pockets. A senior official from the Ambattur zone, under which Mogappair East falls, said, "We are aware

of the situation and have begun issuing warnings to cattle owners. But we also urge residents to cooperate and use designated waste collection systems. Public participation is crucial."

The Corporation says door-to-door garbage collection are already functional in Mogappair, but residents say the schedule is irregular, prompting some to dispose of waste on the roadside.

"The Corporation tricycle doesn't come on time. So people just throw garbage out, and this becomes food for cows and dogs," said Jayakumar, a local shopkeeper. Civic groups are calling for more sustained action: penalties for illegal dumping, better cattle sheltering facilities and awareness drives on waste segregation.

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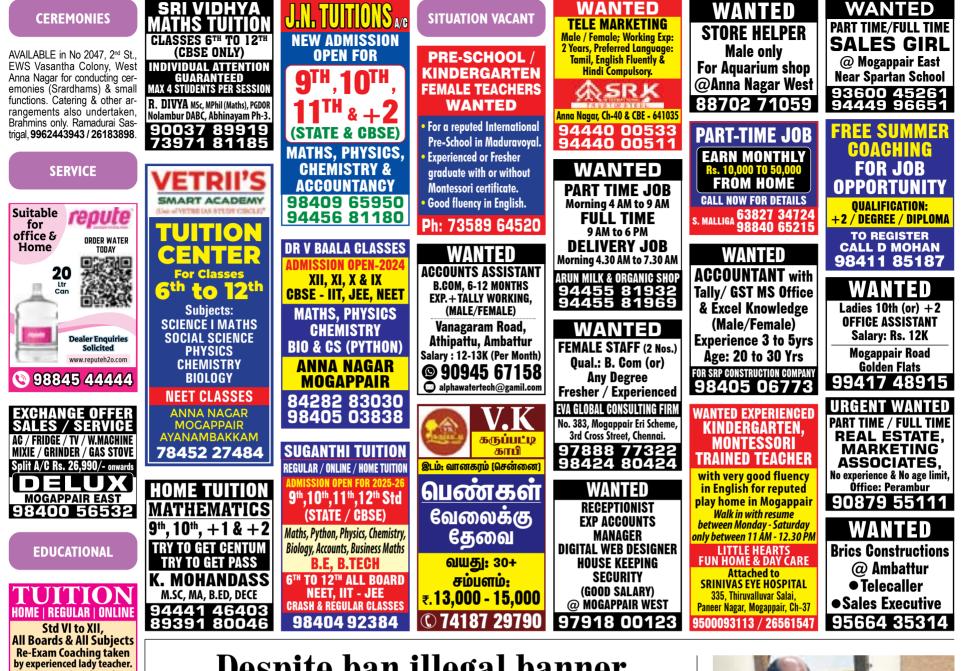


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May 18 - 24, 2025



Despite ban illegal banner menace at Thirumangalam

celebrities and individuals celebrating birthdays or personal events—stand in open defiance of the ban. The juxtaposition has sparked outrage among residents and commuters.

Morning session also taken.

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board put up by

the Greater

Chennai Corpo-

ration at Thiru-

m a n g a l a m

Junction, where Anna

Nagar Second Avenue

meets 100 Feet Road,

clearly states that no

publicity banners of any

kind are allowed at the

location. The notice,

under Ward 104 of Di-

vision 21 in Zone 8, is

meant to deter individuals and groups from in-

stalling flex boards and

banners in the area. Yet,

the ground reality tells a

from the official board,

a series of colourful

banners and flex

boards-featuring im-

ages of political leaders,

Barely inches away

different story.

By Our Correspondent

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"This has become a joke. The Corporation's board is there just for show. Every other day there are new banners—some for weddings, others for ear-piercing functions or birthday wishes. It blocks visibility and clutters the space," said Meenakshi, a resident of Anna Nagar.

Auto rickshaw drivers and pedestrians say the banners often obstruct footpaths and visibility at the busy signal, posing a safety hazard.

"These banners appear overnight. Sometimes they even block the signal lights. If it's not for a local function, it's some political party celebrating a leader's birthday," said Senthil Kumar, an auto rickshaw driver who sometimes operates from the Thirumangalam stand.

Corporation officials, when contacted, said that strict ac-



tion is being taken where possible. "We remove unauthorised banners as per protocol. However, the challenge is that many of these are put up during the night or early morning hours, and by the time enforcement reaches, the event is over," said an official from Zone 8, who requested anonymity.

Local activists say the problem lies in inconsistent enforcement and lack of penal action.

"There's no accountability.

Even when political parties violate the rules, there's hardly any action. The Corporation must begin penalising printing shops and repeat offenders to make an example," said Raghavan, a civic activist from the area. In 2019, the Tamil Nadu government issued clear guidelines banning unauthorised banners following public outrage over accidents linked to obstructive hoardings. But in areas like Thirumangalam Junction, enforcement remains weak.



Under the housing for all scheme and for residents of Mogappair to have a concrete structure, Mr K V Thilagar, Municipal councillor handed over the petitions to Mr T M Anbarasan, Minister for rural, cottage, small industries and slum clearance board.



Sharvesh from Velammal Annexure winner of the under-11 boys title and Srinika of Velammal Vidyalaya (Mogappair west) winner of the girls section at the Tiruvallur District Selection Chess Championship, conducted by Velammal Nexus.

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485 - 489	50 %	75 %
480 - 484	-	50 %
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MARKS	MATRIC	CBSE
495 & ABOVE	75 %	75 %
490 - 494	60 %	60 %
485 - 489	40 %	40 %
480 - 484	25 %	25 %
475 - 479	15 %	15 %
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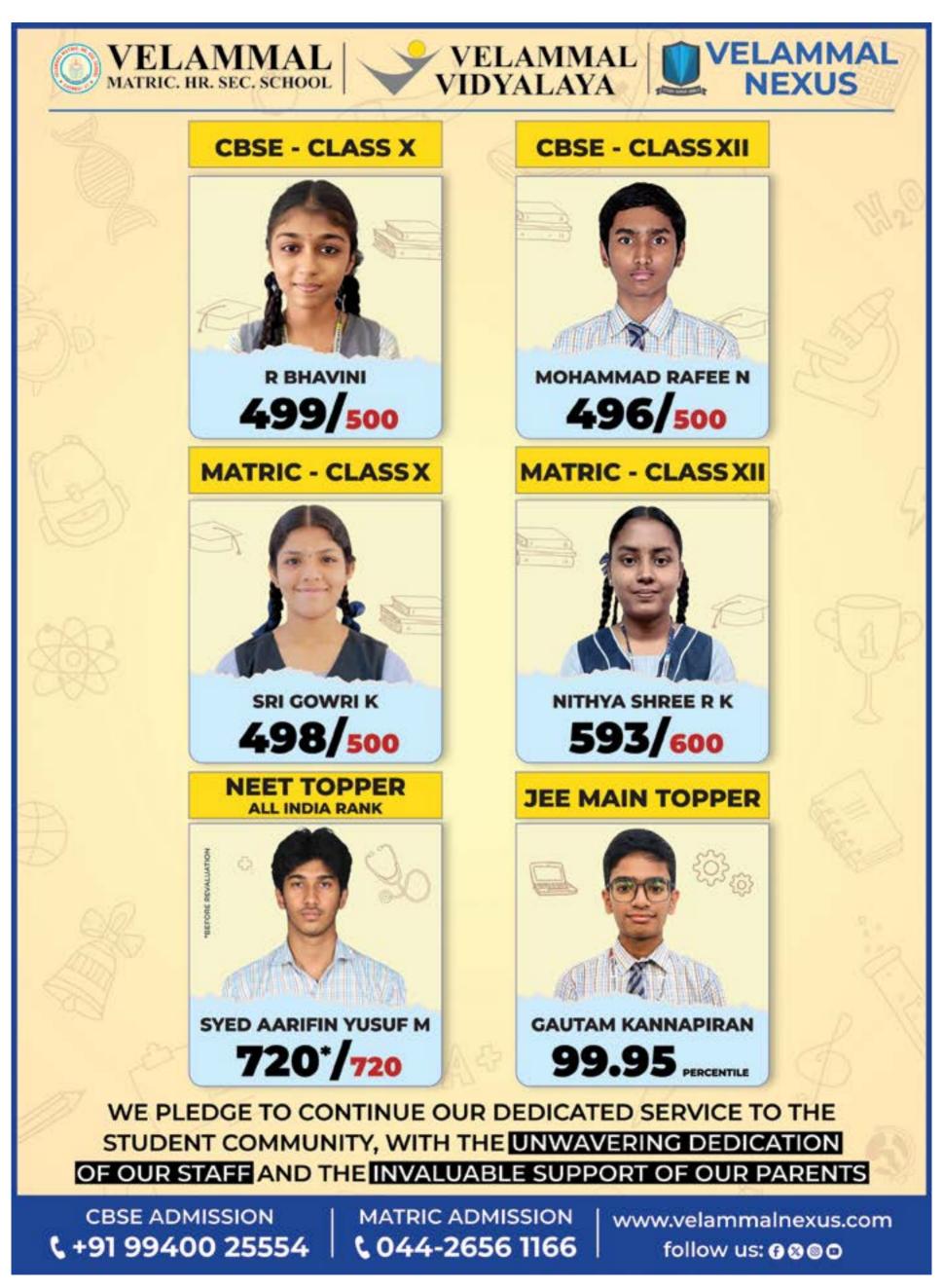


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MOGAPPAIR Mail

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Man linked to sabotage attempt at Ambattur held

By N Rathi Chithra

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man hailing from Uttarakhand, who has been arrested by the Government Railway Police in Hyderabad in connection with a case, is suspected to have a hand in the recent sabotage attempt made at the Ambattur Railway Station late last month. Highly placed Government Railway Police officers in Chennai have confirmed this development.

On April 26, the Railway Protection Force officers had received information that ballast was found in at least five places at the Ambattur Railway Police. Fortunately, the railway staff were able to remove the ballasts thereby ensuring the smooth passage of trains on the stretch of the railway track. The detection of the ballast had ended up holding up several long distance express trains till such time they were re-

Introducing

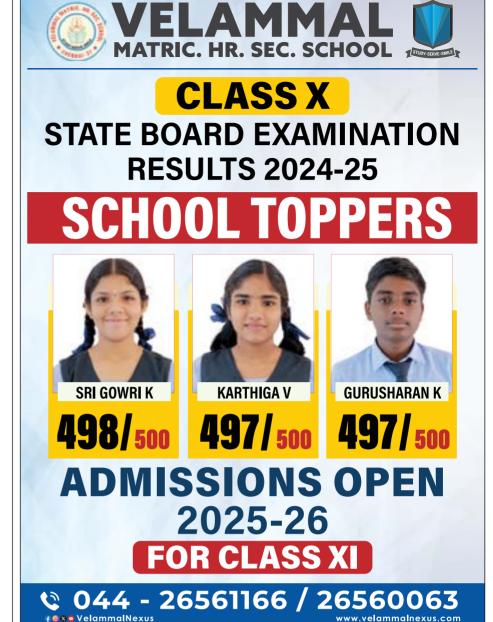


moved from the track. Cases were registered in this connection by both the Railway Protection Force as well as the Government Railway Police.

Against this backdrop, the Railway Protection Force personnel in Kacheguda in Hyderabad had arrested a man, who hails from Uttarakhand, in regard to similar sabotage attempt in their jurisdiction. Their the authorities had found ballast placed on the railway trakcs in Kacheguda and Budvel Yards. Based on video footage recovered from Closed Circuit Television cameras in the nearby areas, the Railway Protection Force personnel were able to identity the accused Om, who hails from Haridwar in Uttarakhand and arrested him.

"Upon receipt of information about the arrest of this man, Om, and the similarity in the cases between what happened in Ambattur and other places near Chennai and near Hyderabad, we began investigating. We now have evidence to suggest that it could be this same man who was involved in attempted sabotage on railway tracks in Ambattur, Avadi, Villivakkam and a couple of other places in nearby areas last month," a senior officer of the Government Railway Police said.

According to the officer, the images recovered from CCTV footage in Chennai bear resemblance to that of Om, who was arrested in Hyderabad. A team from the Government Railway Police in Chennai is coordinating with the Railway Protection Force in Hyderabad to further investigate the case and bring it to a logical end.



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Owned & Published by Julian Rodrigo from 283, Mohanram Nagar, Mogappair West, Chennai - 600 037 and Printed by Cyril Sagayraj at V S Printograph Pvt. Ltd., #1, Narasingpuram, First Lane, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032. Editor: Julian Rodrigo