

GCP warns of fake challans on WhatsApp

GREATER Chennai Police have asked the public to be cautious of fraudulent WhatsApp messages sharing links that mimic traffic challan payments.

Chennai resident reported receiving an APK file named "Traffic Challan Fine 500" from an unknown WhatsApp number

This comes after a with the GCTP logo as profile picture.

> The message falsely claimed he was required to pay a fine for a traffic violation. Traffic police,

warning people not to Last month, a scam cost a click on these links or download attached APK files, said the messages were part of a wider scam seen across the country.

Delhi resident over ₹70,000 after she downloaded an APK file linked to a fake challan notice demanding ₹5,000.

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Gayathri sings her way to glory

Velammal's 11-year-old emerges Super Singer Junior 10 winner

ELAMMAL Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Mogappair East, is immensely proud to celebrate the remarkable achievement of Gayathri of Std VII, who has brought laurels to the institution by winning the title of Super Singer Junior Season 10.

An 11-year-old musical prodigy from Theni and a proud Velammalian, Gayathri captivated the hearts of millions with her soulful voice, impeccable pitch and commanding stage presence. Born into a family of temple musicians, her rich musical heritage shone brightly throughout the competition, especially during the acclaimed "Three Generations of Talent" episode.

The grand finale, held on May 25, 2025, saw her rise to victory in the presence of celebrated icons Kamal Haasan and A.R. Rahman, who presented her with the winner's trophy and the keys to a luxurious villa worth ₹60 lakh.

Gayathri's journey on the prestigious stage is a reflection of her dedication, discipline and passion for music-values, The management, staff, and students extend congratulated Gayathri for this feat. She stands as an inspiration to her peers and a shining example of Velammal's commitment to holistic education.

Arumbakkam burial ground closed till June 12

GREATER Chennai Corporation has announced that the Arumbakkam Hindu burial ground in Anna Nagar zone (ward 103) will be closed for maintenance work on the electric cremation platform till June 12. During this period, the public is requested to use the Villivakkam or Vellangadu burial grounds. The civic body has urged citizens to cooperate and use alternative facilities until maintenance is completed.





Women's accessories store in Mogappair

THE need for an exclusive accessories store for women in Mogappair was fulfilled by the opening of Difa, Chennai's favourite shop. It now functions at No 413A, Thiruvalluvar Salai, Mogappair East (next to Naidu Hall).

They have a variety of earrings, bangles, bracelets, rings, necklaces, chains, purses, handbags, pouches, hair accessories, cosmetics and much more. Ph: 044 47991606, 98402 90297



Dolphin's Yadesh swims to New Meet Record

YADESH Babu of SDAT, Dolphin Swimming Academy, Mogappair created a new meet record of 00:28:51 secs in the 50m breast stroke on day one of the 79th senior state aquatic championship at the SDAT Aquatic complex in Velachery on Friday. Earlier the government of Tamil Nadu awarded him Rs 10 lakh for his excellent performances during his first two years of college. It was handed over to him by Udhayanidhi Stalin, Deputy CM, Tamil Nadu. Yadesh is trained by Mr KT Muraleedharan, NIS coach.

Pavements inaccessible to pedestrians in Mogappair East

By N Rathi Chithra

AVEMENTS in Mogappair East have increasingly become inaccessible to pedestrians as both private vehicles and construction materials continue to encroach upon the walkways, forcing residents to navigate dangerously close to moving traffic.

A glaring example of this growing issue was smaller inner roads, you spotted recently on a street in Mogappair East, where a blue hatchback was seen parked right on the pedestrian pathway for many days. Alongside it, metal sheets and wooden poles were dumped in large quantities, completely obstructing the sidewalk. While the car blocked a portion of the walkway,

the construction debris made the entire stretch unwalkable.

Residents say this is not a one-off occurrence but part of a persistent and worsening trend.

"This is happening all over Mogappair East," said Selvam, a retired government employee who takes evening walks in the neighbourhood. "whether it is Ori Salai, EB Road or will find cars on pavements and footpaths stacked with materials. It's like pedestrians don't exist in the eyes of the authorities."

The materials — likely intended for temporary fencing or construction purposes - were bundled and left unattended. The adjacent sidewalk is al-



ready broken in parts, making it dangerous even without the obstructions. With vehicles parked on one side and debris occupying the other, pedestrians, including the elderly and children. are forced to walk on the road.

"This is how accidents happen," said Priya Ravi, a homemaker and mother

of two. "I have to hold my children tightly when walking to the grocery store because there is no space on the footpath. One trip or a sudden car turning the corner — that's all it takes for tragedy."

While the Greater Chennai Corporation has undertaken pedestrianfriendly initiatives in many parts of the city, residents feel Mogappair continues to be neglected.

"Some other areas have better pavement maintenance and enforcement. Here, complaints are made but rarely acted upon," alleged Karthik, a local volunteer. "The encroachments come right back even if removed once. We need sustained monitoring." When contacted. a Greater Chennai Corporation official said that teams had been instructed to monitor commercial encroachments but admitted that action on residential encroachments is often delayed due to lack of manpower.

However, residents insist that all types of encroachments-whether by individuals, businesses, or contractors-must be dealt with uniformly and swiftly. "If the Greater Chennai Corporation can't ensure clean and safe footpaths, who will?" asked Selvam. "We don't need fancy skywalks. Just clear, usable pavements would be enough."

Until then, Mogappair East's pedestrians will continue to tread carefully-on the edge, quite literally.

Stagnant water, garbage mars Estate bus depot stretch

By Our Correspondent

OMMUTERS and pedestrians near the Ambattur Industrial Estate bus depot are being forced to navigate through a foul, stagnant pool of

water and garbage — a reflection of poor civic maintenance in one of Chennai's busiest transit zones.

A large stretch of the road, adjacent to a construction barricade, is waterlogged and filled with

floating garbage, plastic waste, and debris. With no proper drainage or maintenance in place, the stagnant water has become a breeding ground for mosquitoes and an unbearable nuisance for thousands who use this stretch daily to reach the depot or the surrounding commercial area.

"This has been like this for several days," said Meenakshi, a factory worker who

boards her bus

from the near-

by depot every

morning.

"You can't

walk without

stepping into

the water.

Sometimes we



You can't walk without stepping into the water. Sometimes we end up with dirty splashes on our clothes before even starting our day -Meenakshi, a factory worker

ourday end up with dirty splashes worker on our clothes before even starting our day." The pool of water

stretches beyond the width of the road margin at some points, effectively blocking pedestrian access to one side. Those on foot



are seen walking dangerously close to moving vehicles to avoid the slush.

"I almost slipped twice trying to walk on the edge. There's no space left because of the construction barriers," said K. Prakash, a college student and daily commuter. "Why can't the Corporation do something as basic as draining this water? It's not even the monsoon season."

Commuters point out that the condition worsens during the evenings when crowds swell and the area turns chaotic with autos, buses, and private vehicles squeezing through the narrow passage left by the water and debris.

"I don't mind the traffic

as much as this stench," said Uma Maheshwari, a garment store employee. "There's garbage floating in that water. We're inhaling this rot every day. Do they want us to fall sick?"

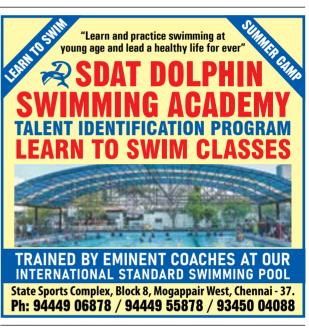
The scene is made worse by the presence of construction work that has further reduced usable space and contributed to the area's neglect. Locals claim that though complaints have been made, no action has been taken.

When asked, a conservancy staffer nearby admitted, "We clean the area occasionally, but the water doesn't go because the drain is choked. That needs higher authority intervention."

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Health experts warn that stagnant water like this, if left unattended, can cause an outbreak of diseases such as dengue and leptospirosis.

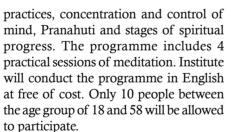
As one frustrated commuter summed it up: "Ambattur is an industrial hub, contributing so much to the economy. Why should its workers and residents walk through sewage to get to work?"



Free training on Pranahuti aided meditation

A free two-day training programme on Pranahuti Aided Meditation will be conducted by Institute of Sri Ramchandra Consciousness at Valasaravakkam. Course will be held on June 14 (Saturday) and 15 (Sunday) between 9 a.m to 5 p.m at No:42, Rajagopalan Street, Valasaravakkam.

The key topics scheduled to be covered in the training programme include goal of human life, way of living, meditation



For registration contact Ph: 9940090838, 9282215682 www.sriramchandra.in





June 8 - 14, 2025



Proposal to shift ECR-bound buses draws mixed reactions

By N Rathi Chithra

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IN a move aimed at decongesting the Chennai Mofussil Bus Terminus (CMBT) in Koyambedu, the Chennai Metropolitan **Development Authority** (CMDA) and the transport department are considering a proposal to shift longdistance buses operating via East Coast Road (ECR) to the Anna Nagar West depot. The plan is part of a broader effort to phase out the CMBT, which has served the city for over two decades but is still in the stage of consideration and not finalised.

Currently, CMBT handles 592 buses daily. Of these, 400 are already marked for relocation to the upcoming Kuthambakkam facility in Tiruvallur district. According to officials, the remaining 142 mofussil buses and 50 State Express Transport Corporation (SETC) services also require alternate locations to complete the transition.

"The Anna Nagar West depot is being evaluated as a potential site for relocating buses bound for Puducherry, Cuddalore, and Nagapattinam via ECR," a report quoted a senior CMDA official as saying recently. "This will reduce the strain on CMBT and allow for better traffic management across the city."

While the move has gained traction among city planners, it has received a mixed response from commuters. "Shifting to Anna Nagar West will be a big relief," said Arvind Kumar. "CMBT is often overcrowded, and reaching it during peak hours is a nightmare. Anna Nagar is more accessible for residents of the western and northern suburbs."

However, not everyone is convinced. "CMBT has become a landmark for intercity travel, and it is well connected by the metro and bus routes," said Nandhini, a software engineer. Transport officials acknowledged these concerns and said decision is pending. Other locations such as Vadapalani, K K Nagar, and Thiruvanmivur are also being evaluated for partial relocation of TNSTC and SETC services.

"The goal is not just to h

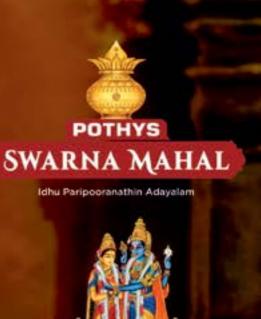
move buses around, but to create a more efficient, decentralized system that supports Chennai's growing urban sprawl," said a transport department source.Once the full relocation is completed, the Kuthambakkam terminal will cater to destinations including Vellore, Hosur, Krishnagiri, Tirupattur, Walajah, and Bengaluru, while the proposed shifts to Anna Nagar West and other depots will serve ECR-bound routes. Until a final blueprint is

approved, commuters remain divided—some looking forward to shorter travel to bus terminals, while others worry about losing the convenience and connectivity that CMBT has long offered.





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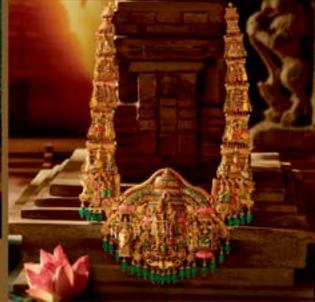
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OFFEE may offer several health benefits, including minimizing the risk of liver problems and diabetes. Experts are interested in exploring coffee's potential benefits and how it might influence specific groups.

Coffee has many potential health benefits,
and research into its potential benefits is ongoing.
Experts are interest-

ed in how coffee may impact women, specifically. *Results from a recent study shared at the Nutrition 2025 conference indi-

tion 2025 conference indicated that drinking coffee may increase women's

chances of not having major chronic diseases and physical or mental limitations as they get older.

For women, drinking coffee might be a good



thing when it comes to aging well. According to recent study results, total caffeine and regular coffee intake increased the chances of experiencing no physical function limitations, memory com-

plaints, mental health impairments, cognitive impairments, or major chronic diseases among women in the Nurses' Health Study.

Coffee is a beloved beverage known for its ability to fine-tune your focus and boost your energy levels. In fact, many people depend on their daily cup of joe right when they wake up to get their day started on the right foot. In addition to its energizing effects, coffee has been linked to a long list of potential health benefits, giving you all the more reason to get brewing.

Source: Internet



THE 'Bhoomi Pooja' of Firm Foundations & Housing Pvt Ltd's new corporate office was held on June 3 (Tuesday). Dr Mala Raj, Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, Firm Hospitals and Mr Kasturiraj, MD, Firm Foundations & Housing Pvt Ltd took part in the various rituals. Many top dignitaries were also present for the pooja.

Aravindh triumphs in tie-break among former Velammalians

By R Srinivasa Raghavan

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ARAVINDH Chithambaram is on a roll. The Indian has made a big leap in the last six months. After winning the Prague Masters, Aravindh bagged his second title in 2025, triumphing in the Stepan Avagyan Memorial in Jermuk, Armenia on Friday. There was a two-way tie for the first spot between Aravindh and Praggnanandhaa R (6.5/9 each and both Velammalians) but Aravindh sealed the crown in the 10-player round-robin tournament, thanks to a better tiebreak. Praggnanandhaa, who has won two tournaments this year, settled for the second spot. Dmitrij Kollars (5) of Germany took the third place.

Remaining unbeaten, the former Velammal student gained 8.8 rating points for his victory, besides having a performance rating of 2824. Aravindh jumped to world No.9 in the live ratings (2757.8) ahead of twice Candidates winner Ian Nepomniachtchi (2757, 10th).

The 25-year-old has been a different player since the time he won the Chennai GM last year. Having a lot of confidence, Aravindh is competing on level terms with the top players in the



world. Added to that, his opening preparation has improved, and he is willing to get into complicated positions with the idea of winning more games. This strategy has worked for

CHESS ROUND UP

him in recent times. It will not be a surprise if he breaks into the top five before the end of this year.

With a little bit of luck, Praggnanandhaa could have won his third title this year. However, he came up with another strong performance in the closed event. Staying undefeated, the Indian racked up a performance rating of 2823, besides having a rating gain of 7.2 points. The Chennaiite moved to world No.6 with a live rating of 2774.2 following his successful outing in Armenia. Praggnanandhaa also leads the FIDE Circuit with 83.59 points, which has one qualifying spot for the Candidates.

HUMPY SHINES

Women's World Rapid champion Koneru Humpy (15), who was in the reckoning for the top prize, finished third in the Nor-

way Chess Women, which took place simultaneously at the same venue. The Indian posted victories over Vaishali and Sara Khadem (twice) to continue her rich vein of form for the third straight tournament. Anna Muzychuk, who has been in good form recently, captured the crown with 16.5 points. Gaining 9.1 rating points, Muzychuk inflicted women's World champion Ju Wenjun her only loss in the event. Lei Tingjie (16) of China posted victory over Sara to end the event on a positive note (second place finish).

Vaishali (11), who was the other Indian in the tournament, had a moderate event, ending in fifth place. Victories over Ju Wenjun and Muzychuk (twice) in Armageddon were Vaishali's best moments.

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

Podium Finish For Gukesh



WORLD champion Dommaraju Gukesh (14.5 points) recovered from his two losses in the first two rounds to conjure up a podium finish at the Norway Chess in Stavanger, Norway. World No.1 Magnus Carlsen (16) clinched the title in his home country for the seventh time.

Former Candidates winner Fabiano Caruana (15.5) finished second with a victory over Gukesh in the 10th round.

Gukesh's fighting spirit and determination kept him in the hunt for title but the 19-year-old suffered a reverse to the reigning American champion in the final round to finish third. The Chennaiite had the satisfaction of defeating five-time World champion Carlsen for the first time in a classical game. In a dramatic time scramble, Gukesh capitalised on Carlsen's blunder to turn a losing position to a winning one. Gukesh, who played the most number of decisive games (8) in the classical, posted his first victory over world No.2 Hikaru Nakamura in the longest format. On the whole, it was a good event for Gukesh.

Arjun Erigaisi (13), who was the second Indian in the fray, captured the fifth spot. Victories over Gukesh and Caruana (both in classical) were his brightest moments



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