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Velammal Vidyalaya West emerged winners in handball at the West Sahodaya Cluster Tournament. Sandeep Roshan received the Best Player Award.

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Mr. Elavasan, NCC Second Grade Officer, was honoured at AMIT University with the Best Social Activity Award along with a cash prize of ₹2,000 for his achievements in NCC. The award was presented by Dr. MS. Palanichamy, Former Vice-Chancellor of TNOA and Dr. Rajesh Ramachandran, President of AMIT University.

BNI Chennai North hosts grand 'Unity Cup 2026'



LAST Sunday witnessed an electrifying display of sportsmanship and camaraderie as BNI Chennai North successfully hosted its much-anticipated Regional Cricket Tournament — Unity Cup 2026 — at FC Marina, Vanagaram.

The tennis ball cricket tournament brought together 20 teams representing various chapters across BNI Chennai North. Members competed with passion and team spirit, turning the venue into a vibrant sporting carnival filled with enthusiastic supporters, families, and fellow entrepreneurs cheering from the sidelines.

Emerging victorious for the second consecutive year was BNI Ascend Chapter, fondly known within the region as “Ascend Tribe.” Demonstrating consistency, strategy, and teamwork, Ascend clinched the championship title after a series of competitive matches.

Making an impressive debut this season was BNI Influence, whose team “Influence of Gold” fought their way to the finals. This year’s Connectfest 2026 is scheduled to take place at the prestigious Chennai Trade Centre on March 6 and 7, with more than 10,000 walk-ins anticipated.

Singing competition for the visually impaired

NETHRODAYA hosted the South Indian Level Singing Competition for the Visually Impaired – 2026, a cultural platform celebrating the extraordinary musical talent of visually impaired singers across South India on Feb 19. Popular playback singers graced the event as juries, lending their expertise to

this landmark event.

The competition featured participants from Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Puducherry, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu, all competed for the coveted title of South Indian Singing Icon 2026.

Hundreds of talented visually impaired singers took part in this grand musical celebration.

The founder of Nethro-

daya Mr. C. Govindakrishnan firmly believes that entertainment and culture are inclusive spaces for all.

Renowned Indian Music Composer Sean Roldan graced the occasion as Chief Guest and presented the Winner Trophy to Ms. P. Saleena from Kerala. Cash awards to the tune of 1,00,000/- were given to the winner and runner up.

In addition, Nethro-

ya submitted a recommendation to, Commissioner for Welfare of Differently Abled, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, to introduce a dedicated welfare scheme supporting talented visually impaired beneficiaries in music by providing musical instruments and structured assistance to help create sustainable employment opportunities.



Aram Virudhugal 2026 was held at Naradha Ghana Sabha on Feb 17. The Awards was presented by chief guests Actor Bhagyaraj and Needhiyin kural Editor and Actor C R Baskaran. Krishh Academy was one of the recipients for the Category of Saadhanaiyaalar Virudhu for the Brain Revolution World First Concept Chess with Rubik's Cube Mosaic Art at the same time Around 200 members received Awards in different categories. This Award Function was conducted by Aram Seiya Virumbu Arakkattalai.



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LINCY V

won the CM's Trophy in Gymnastics and received ₹ 1 Lakh Cash Award



NIKIL PRABHU

won the Silver Medal in 200m at U-14 National level Athletics



YOHITH VARSHAN KS

won the Bronze Medal at U-10 National level Swimming



KAVIN VELAVAN

won the Bronze Medal at U-10 National level Chess



PONNAVE D

entered India Book of Records for doing 30 push-ups in 40 seconds



RESHMITHA

won the State Level Skating in 200m and 400m



LAKSHITHA S

won the Gold Medal in U-14 Artistic Gymnastics



SAISHANTH J K

Won at the State Level in Badminton



JASON RUFUS

won the State Level Chess Championship at U-17 Category



LOUKYAA SRI

Won at the State Level in Badminton



AGNIKA VS

entered World Book of Records for identifying fake currency blindfolded



AARAV NARESH

entered World Book of Records for reciting 50 Asian countries in 21 seconds

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College girl files privacy complaint against YouTuber

By N Rathi Chithra

A police complaint has been filed at the Anna Nagar Police Station against a YouTuber for allegedly recording and publishing a video of him helping a college girl a college student, who felt dizzy while walking on a road in Anna Nagar without her consent.

According to the complaint, the incident occurred last week in Anna Nagar when the student, who was walking along a busy stretch, suddenly

felt dizzy. The YouTuber, who was riding a two-wheeler equipped with a helmet camera, reportedly stopped and helped her. The entire episode was captured on his action camera, which he later uploaded on his social media platform.

The student has alleged that while the assistance offered to her was appreciated, the act of filming and publishing the footage without her permission amounted to a violation of her privacy. She and her par-

ents came to know of the video after it began circulating online in recent days. Shocked by its content, they reportedly approached the content creator and sought the removal of the video. Subsequently, a formal complaint was lodged with the Anna Nagar police.

Police sources confirmed an inquiry is under way. "We have received a complaint from the student stating that the video was recorded and shared without her consent. We are examining the legal aspects, including whether her right to privacy has been infringed," a police officer said.

Legal experts point out that while helping a person in a vulnerable condition without consent can raise serious legal concerns. "The right to privacy is protected under Article 21 of the Constitution. Even in a public place, capturing and disseminating images of someone in a weakened or uncon-

scious state without permission may amount to a violation," said an advocate familiar with cyber law.

Some residents of Anna Nagar expressed concern over what they described as a growing trend of "content-driven compassion." "Nowadays, everything is viewed through the lens of 'views' and 'likes'. Even acts of help are sometimes documented for online popularity," said a local resident.

However, others urged caution before passing judgment. "If the person genuinely intended to help and did not foresee the legal implications, the matter should be handled sensitively. Awareness about consent in digital content creation is still evolving," another resident observed.

Activists have emphasised that publishing footage of a woman, especially without blurring her identity or obtaining permission, could affect her dignity and reputation. They called for clearer guidelines and greater digital responsibility among vloggers and social media influencers.



Carlsen, most dominant player for the last 15 years

By R Srinivasa Raghavan

Magnus Carlsen has been the most dominant chess player for the last 15 years. From becoming a GM at 13 to winning his 21st World title, the Norwegian keeps raising the bar higher and higher. Remarkably, the 35-year-old excels in all the formats: classical, rapid, blitz and freestyle chess. His recent achievement was winning the FIDE Freestyle World Chess Championship, defeating Fabiano Caruana 2.5-1.5 in Weissenhaus, Germany.

Importantly, Carlsen has made chess popular in Norway with his astounding performances. Most of his chess tournaments are telecast live in his

country. An interesting fact is people of Norway who have less knowledge of chess follow it with a lot of interest. He is treated like a superstar in his country, which is well deserved.

Father Henrik Carlsen, who accompanies his son Carlsen to most of the tournaments, deserves a lot of credit for Carlsen's success. Understanding Carlsen's love for chess at a young age, he allowed him to follow his passion without putting too much pressure on him.

Carlsen's first big success came in 2004, winning (Group C) Corus Chess in Wijk aan Zee, The Netherlands. He showed his growing prowess as a chess

player, sharing the top spot with Levon Aronian (Group A) in Corus Chess in 2008.

Carlsen's spectacular performance (8/10) in Nanjing Pearl Spring Tournament in Nanjing, China (2008), winning the event by two and half points, stunned the chess world, which gave a clear indication of Carlsen being the future of chess.

The late American player Lubomir Kavalek dubbed him the Mozart of Chess for his phenomenal skills on the chessboard. Besides all-round chess skills, Carlsen's fitness is one of the reasons for his continued success. He keeps himself in shape by dabbling in football, basketball

and swimming.

He became the youngest world No.1 at 19 in 2010, which was a big milestone in his glittering career.

After winning the nerve-racking Candidates in London, Carlsen achieved the pinnacle in his career, winning his first World title, ending Viswanthan Anand's six-year tenure as World champion in his hometown of Chennai in 2013. Carlsen prevailed 6.5-3.5 in the 12-game match.

Four more World titles followed, with his fifth World title happening in Dubai (2021), when he defeated Ian Nepomniachtchi 7.5-3.5 in a 14-game match.

Being an outlier, Carlsen shocked the chess world, when he didn't defend his World title in 2023. Having won a lot of World titles, he found the process of defending the World title gruelling and exhausting. He didn't enjoy the routine of months of preparation before the World Championship, which he felt less enjoyable. Carlsen's 21 World titles is somewhat similar to Novak Djokovic's 24 Grand Slam titles. Both performances will be hard to emulate. It will not be a surprise if Carlsen ends up with 30 World titles, when he hangs up his boots.

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

Project 100: A landmark school ensemble featuring 105 students

PONNERI recently witnessed an extraordinary milestone in school-level music education with Project 100, a grand ensemble presentation by the Cadence School of Music and Performance Arts, the Department of Music of Velammal Knowledge Park Group of Schools. The event was held at the MS Subbulakshmi Auditorium, Velammal Knowledge Park, Ponneri on Feb. 14.

The highlight of the evening was a magnificent 105-member String Ensemble comprising violins,



violins and cellos - all trained within a single educational institution. This ensemble is believed to be among the first of its kind in India, and possibly one of the largest school-based

string ensembles in the world drawn from a single campus ecosystem.

Project 100 is the visionary initiative of Mr MVM. Sasikumar and Smt. Geetanjali Sasikumar, Di-

rectors of Velammal Knowledge Park Group of Schools.

Beyond the historic string ensemble, the evening featured:

- A 50-member Recorder

Ensemble trained under an international curriculum

- A 50-member Guitar Ensemble

- A Percussion Solo by Master Vishwa (Std. IV, Velammal Bodhi Campus, Salem), recognised as the world's youngest drummer to have completed Grade 8 from Trinity College London

- A Classical Guitar Recital

- A Piano Recital

- A Choir Presentation

The event was graced by Ms. Marni Teraoka, Consul-General of Japan in Chennai.

The gathering was welcomed by Mr. Godwin

Jebakumar, Head of the Department, Cadence School of Music and Performance Arts.

The ensembles were conducted by: Mr. Keerthan Roberts - String Ensemble; Mr. Joel Devavaram - Guitar Ensemble; Mr. Vasanth KM - Recorder Ensemble; Mrs. Caroline Godwin - Choir

More than a concert, Project 100 represented a powerful educational movement - demonstrating how structured ensemble training can shape young minds, foster unity and raise artistic standards within school education.



Velammal Vidyalaya West Kabaddi team won at the West Sahodaya Cluster Tournament.

NH toll plazas may go cashless from April 1

HIGHWAYS authority NHAI is considering discontinuing cash payments at national highway toll plazas from April 1 to develop a fully digital national highway tolling ecosystem, requiring commuters to use only digital modes such as FASTag or UPI for toll

payments.

The transition will help enhance 'ease of commuting' for national highway users by reducing congestion at fee plazas and bringing greater consistency and transparency in toll transactions.

In the past few years, over 98% penetration of

FASTag has significantly transformed toll collection practices in the country. At present, an overwhelming proportion of toll transactions are processed electronically through RFID-enabled FASTag affixed to vehicles, facilitating seamless and contactless movement across toll plazas.

₹25,000 fine imposed for violating clean and safe construction norms

By N Rathi Chithra

The Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) has imposed a penalty of ₹25,000 on a property owner in Anna Nagar for violating clean and safe construction guidelines in Ward 105. The fine was levied following an inspection by civic officials who found that mandatory safety and sanitation norms were not adhered to at a construction site in the locality.

According to Corporation sources, the violation falls under the "High Significance" category of offences, applicable to construction sites measuring between 500 square metres and 20,000 square metres. Officials stated that the builder had failed to comply with prescribed guidelines intended to ensure public safety, prevent debris spillage, and maintain cleanliness around the construction premises.

The action was taken by officials attached to the Anna Nagar Zone after



complaints were received regarding poor housekeeping practices at the site. Civic authorities conducted a field inspection and documented lapses including improper disposal of construction waste and failure to implement adequate safety measures.

A receipt issued by the Greater Chennai Corporation dated February 17, 2026, confirms that the penalty amount of ₹25,000 was collected from the violator. The payment was made through card transaction, and the Corporation has officially recorded the violation under clean and safe construction

norms.

Corporation officials reiterated that construction activities must strictly adhere to civic guidelines, especially in densely populated residential areas such as Anna Nagar. "The guidelines are in place to ensure that construction does not inconvenience residents or pose risks to pedestrians and motorists. Builders are expected to maintain barricading, prevent dust pollution, and ensure proper waste disposal," an official said.

Residents of Ward 105 have welcomed the action, stating that enforcement of norms is essential to maintain public health and neighbourhood hygiene. "Construction debris often blocks pavements and roads, creating hazards. Strict penalties will act as a deterrent," said a resident. The Greater Chennai Corporation has been intensifying its monitoring of construction sites across the city, particularly in rapidly developing zones.

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PERCENTILE

SIVIN G K

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STUDENTS

WHO HAVE SECURED **99.00 PERCENTILE** AND ABOVE



VAISHNAVI S D



DHARSHINI S



SHREE SHARAN M



PAVITHRA R S



PAVAN S



LAKSHAN D



HARIPRASAD A.K



VIJAYA SURIYA B A



JASWANTH P



YUVAN N



ANEESH NARAYANAN L



SHANMUGAM N



AJAY GAUTHAM A



SAMUEL JOHN G



SHRAVAN J



SHAIK TOUFIQ AHMED



PRASHANTHESH S



DEVESH S



ABHINAV SAI VARUN B



KAVIDARAN S



C.VISHWANATHAN



ROHIT MATHEW



R.RAMPRASATH



PRANAV M



SONEESH KUMAR S



SHREEYADATTA.M.V



VARSHA S S



ANISH S S



SANTHOSH S



KRISHITH C



LOGITH PERUMAL



MANYA TIWARI



JEMIMA SHALOM E



SHASHWATH KAMAL K



ADITHYA V



HARSSHAVARDHAN K



HARSHITH N



42
STUDENTS
SECURED ABOVE
99
PERCENTILE

80
STUDENTS
SECURED ABOVE
98
PERCENTILE

125
STUDENTS
SECURED ABOVE
97
PERCENTILE

161
STUDENTS
SECURED ABOVE
96
PERCENTILE

185
STUDENTS
SECURED ABOVE
95
PERCENTILE

318
STUDENTS
SECURED ABOVE
90
PERCENTILE



OUR STUDENTS & OUR CONSISTENCY... OUR PRIDE

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