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Anointah A. (Class V) of Velammal Vidyalaya West won two medals at the Commonwealth Chess Championship held in Sri Lanka. She secured a silver medal in the blitz event with 6/7 points and bronze medal in the classical event with 6.5/9 points, making the school proud with this outstanding achievement.

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## Application deadline for UG courses extended

GOVT arts, science colleges extend application deadline to June 1. The Tamil Nadu government has announced that students who missed the deadline for applying to undergraduate courses in government arts and science colleges can submit their applications again through the online portal from June 1.

In an official release, Higher Education Minister P Viswanathan said that applications for first year UG admissions for the 2026-27 academic year in government arts and science colleges across the State have been received through the online portal www.tngasa.in since May 7.

Around 1.27 lakh seats are available in 159 courses offered across 181 government arts and science colleges in Tamil Nadu.

Of these, 1.01 lakh seats are under Shift I and 25,937 seats under Shift II. Students can apply online for the courses of their choice in the colleges they prefer. So far, more than 2.24 lakh applications have been received.

Considering the welfare of students who were unable to register within the stipulated period, the government has decided to reopen the application portal for two days from June 1. Students can obtain detailed information on the admission process and guidelines on www.tngasa.in. For students who are unable to apply online on their own, Admission Facilitation Centres (AFCs) have been established in all government arts and science colleges to assist with the application process.

For details, call (044) 24343106, 24342911 from Monday to Friday between 10 am and 5 pm.



### Puviatral secures 3 gold medals

Velammal Vidyalaya West's Puviatral of class IX secured 3 gold medals at the 7th Junior and Sub Junior State Para Swimming Championship, conducted by the Tamil Nadu Paralympic Sports Association at Salem. He won gold in 100m backstroke, 100m butterfly stroke, and 200m individual medley (IM).

## Metrowater starts work on Mogappair-Thirumangalam Road

By N Rathi Chithra

**O**NGOING Chennai Metrowater infrastructure works near DAV Boys Senior Secondary School on the busy Mogappair-Thirumangalam Road have drawn attention from motorists and local residents, who have called for improved safety measures and greater transparency regarding the project's completion timeline.

The work site, located along a major arterial stretch connecting Mogappair and Thirumangalam, has been barricaded using green safety mesh and temporary barriers. Heavy machinery, including excavators, was seen engaged in earthwork activities, while a portion of the road margin has been occupied for the utility project.

Despite the barricading, several motorists expressed concern over the lack of adequate advance warning signs for road users approaching the site. The road witnesses heavy traffic throughout the day, including school buses (once school reopens after summer vacation), two-wheelers, cars and commercial vehicles, particularly during school opening and closing hours due to its proximity to DAV Boys School and other educational institutions when they function.

Motorists who regularly use the corridor said that a clearly visible "Men at Work" signboard should be installed at least 50 metres ahead of the excavation zone to alert approaching drivers and enable them to reduce speed or change



lanes safely.

"Drivers coming from either direction may not immediately notice the work area, especially during peak traffic hours. An advance warning board is a basic safety requirement and should be placed well before the barricaded section," said a commuter travelling daily between Mogappair West and Anna Nagar.

Another motorist pointed out that roadworks on a busy stretch require continuous traffic management measures. "The barricades are visible only when one gets close to the site. Advance signage would help prevent sudden lane changes and reduce the risk of accidents," he said.

Residents also stressed the need for the contractor and executing agency to display project details at the site. According to them, a board indicating the nature of the work, the agency carrying it out, the commencement date and the expected completion date would improve public awareness and accountability.

"People are willing to cooperate with infrastructure projects if they know

how long the inconvenience will last. A display board showing the completion deadline should be mandatory," said a resident of Mogappair West.

The excavation work appears to be part of Metrowater's efforts to strengthen underground utility infrastructure in the area. Such projects are typically undertaken to improve water supply or sewerage systems and form part of the city's broader infrastructure enhancement initiatives.

However, road users noted that public safety should remain a priority while the works are being carried out. They urged the authorities to ensure proper warning signs, reflective barricades, adequate lighting during evening hours and the display of project information to minimise inconvenience and enhance safety for thousands of commuters who use the Mogappair-Thirumangalam Road every day.

Residents expressed hope that the work would be completed within the stipulated timeframe and that the road would be restored quickly once the project is finished.



### Unique but Creative:

Owners of the Brik House Apartment, Vanagaram struck upon a unique idea to join hands and give a colourful experience to the children of the colony by allowing the little ones to paint the compound wall. Each of them have come out with their best efforts to give a facelift to the walls. A proud moment for the kids indeed.





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# TNEA applications have increased this year

**A**PPLICATIONS for Tamil Nadu Engineering Admissions (TNEA) have increased compared to last year, with officials expecting enrolment to rise further before the registration deadline on June 2.

The number of applications for engineering courses varies each year depending on factors such as employment opportunities, family economic conditions and student preferences. Tamil Nadu has over 443 engineering colleges offering nearly 2.55

lakh seats.

Officials expect admissions to exceed last year's figures. Students are also likely to show greater interest in core disciplines such as Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE) and Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE), amid expectations of improved employment prospects in these sectors in the coming years.

The increase in applications comes despite large-scale lay-offs by several leading information technology companies in India and abroad. According to

officials of the Directorate of Technical Education, uncertainty surrounding this year's National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET), following allegations of irregularities and the subsequent cancellation of the examination, has prompted many medical aspirants to consider engineering courses. As a result, applications for TNEA have crossed 2.5 lakh. With the registration process set to conclude on June 2, officials expect the number of applications to increase further in the coming days.



Displaying excellent form throughout the event, V Haritha, Class 12 of Velammal Vidyalaya Annexure won the ITF J60 International Junior Tennis Singles Title held in Nairobi, Kenya. She also finished runner-up in the doubles too in the same tournament.

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## GCC undertakes desilting of silt filter chambers in Mogappair West

By Our Correspondent

**A**S part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen stormwater drain infrastructure ahead of the monsoon season, the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) has carried out desilting operations in Mogappair West under Ward 91 of the Anna Nagar Zone.

According to civic officials, workers removed accumulated silt and debris from specially designed silt filter chambers installed along stormwater drains in the locality. The maintenance exercise was undertaken this past week to ensure the efficient flow of rainwater and prevent blockages that could lead to waterlogging during periods of heavy rainfall.

Photographs released by the Corporation showed workers opening and cleaning the chambers, which had collected significant quantities of mud, leaves, plastic waste and other debris over time. The images also showed the chambers after cleaning, highlighting the volume of sediment removed during the operation.

Silt filter chambers play a crucial role in Chennai's stormwater drainage network. These chambers are designed to trap mud, sand and floating waste before they enter the



main drain channels. By preventing excessive sediment from accumulating inside the drains, the chambers help maintain the carrying capacity of the stormwater system and reduce the risk of flooding.

Officials said regular cleaning of such structures is essential, particularly in areas that experience rapid urban runoff during the northeast monsoon.

If left unattended, the chambers can become clogged, reducing their effectiveness and leading to drainage bottlenecks.

Residents of Mogappair West welcomed the initiative, noting that proactive maintenance is often more effective than emergency measures taken after flooding occurs.

"Many people only notice stormwater drains during heavy rains. Cleaning these chambers in advance is a good step because it can help prevent water stagnation on roads," said a resident of the locality.

Another resident said that routine maintenance of civic infrastructure should continue throughout the year. "We appreciate the Corporation carrying out the work now. Consistent monitoring and cleaning will ensure the drains remain functional when the monsoon arrives," the resident added.

The desilting work forms part of a broader city-wide maintenance programme being undertaken by the GCC across several zones.

Civic authorities have intensified inspections of stormwater drains, catch pits and filtration chambers in preparation for the upcoming rainy season.

Officials reiterated that public cooperation is equally important in keeping the drainage network functional. They urged residents not to dump garbage, construction debris or plastic waste into roadside drains, as such practices contribute significantly to blockages and reduce the effectiveness of flood mitigation infrastructure.

If you or your neighbours are facing any civic problems such as water logging, stray dogs menace, garbage dump on vacant sites and so on. Don't hesitate to send a photo with a caption to [ayanambakkamtimes@gmail.com](mailto:ayanambakkamtimes@gmail.com) or alert us at 4269 0063.

## Pragg Occupies Second Spot In Norway Chess

By R Srinivasa Raghavan

**R**AMESHBABU Pragganandhaa occupied the second spot after the fourth round of the Norway Chess in Oslo on Thursday. The highlight of Pragg's first four rounds was his victory over World No.1 Magnus Carlsen in the third round. It was the Indian's second classical victory over the Norwegian. He had defeated the five-time World champion for the first time at the Norway Chess in 2024.

Pragg's (6) only setback came in the second round, when he went down to French No.1 Alireza Firouzja. The Chennaiite also won his Armageddon

games against Wesley So and Vincent Keymer. After the rest day on Friday, Pragg faces his fellow-Chennaiite Dommaraju Gukesh in the fifth round.

Firouzja, who suffered an ankle injury in Bucharest, wrested the lead with 8.5 points. Organisers have made the arrangement for Firouzja to stretch his legs because of his injury. Showing no signs of discomfort, Firouzja posted his first classical victory against Carlsen, who faltered in time pressure. He also registered an Armageddon victory over Gukesh. His only loss came against So in Armageddon.

World champion Gukesh (3.5) has had a moder-



ate start, going down to Carlsen. His only bright spot was his Armageddon win against his World Championship second Keymer. Gukesh will be hoping for a better show in the next six rounds.

Seven-time champion Carlsen lost twice in his first three games, which is a rarity. With 4.5 points, Carlsen is expected to bounce back strongly in the coming rounds.

In the Norway Chess

Women, which is happening simultaneously at the same venue, Bibisara Asaubayeva forged ahead with seven points. The Kazakh is the only player to record a classical win, which came at the expense of Koneru Humpy. India No.2 Divya Deshmukh, who won three Armageddon games against Ju Wenjun, Bibisara and Humpy, follows behind the leader on 5.5 points. India No.1 Humpy (3) is yet to win a single game but she will be looking for a better show in the next four rounds.

## Esha Strikes Gold

Shooting is one of the

sports where India consistently performs well. Esha Singh validated that fact, winning the women's 25m Pistol gold in the ISSF World Cup in Munich. The Indian had the satisfaction of upstaging Olympic champion Yang Ji-in. She also rewrote the World record with a score of 43 in the summit clash. This victory fetched her a spot in the World Cup Final, which will take place in Rome in December.

Suruchi Inder Singh captured the 10m Pistol gold in comprehensive fashion, totalling 242.1 points. It was India's second gold. Esha added another medal, bagging a

silver with a score of 241.2 points.

## Sindhu Bows Out

Pusarla V Sindhu bowed out of the Singapore Open, going down to World champion An Se Young of Korea in the women's last-eight clash. The Indian lost 17-21, 14-21. Lakshya Sen went down fighting in the men's quarterfinals to Koki Watanabe (19-21, 21-15, 15-21). Satwiksairaj Ranki Reddy and Chirag Shetty kept India's flag flying, defeating Khai Xing Kang and Aaron Tai 19-21, 21-17, 21-13 to enter the men's doubles semifinals. (The writer of this article is a senior sports correspondent)



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# Restored traffic signal brings relief to motorists

By N Rathi Chithra

**M**OTORISTS and residents of Mogappair West have welcomed the restoration of a long-defunct traffic signal on Mogappair West Third Main Road at the crucial junction near the Mogappair West Bus Depot and the turning leading to Kambar Street.



The signal, which had remained non-functional for many months, has recently been brought back into operation by the traffic authorities, significantly improving traffic management at the busy T-junction. The development has been widely appreciated by daily commuters who had been grappling with chaotic traffic conditions due to the absence of signal regulation.

The junction serves as an important traffic node connecting several residential and commercial areas. Vehicles approach-

ing the intersection typically proceed straight towards the busy Nolambur Junction or take a right turn towards the Ambattur Industrial Estate. The road also witnesses substantial traffic from buses, school vehicles, two-wheelers, cars and goods vehicles throughout the day. During the period when the signal remained inoperative, motorists were often forced to negotiate the intersection on their own, leading to confusion, delays and frequent near-miss situations. Residents said

traffic movement became particularly difficult during peak morning and evening hours when vehicle volumes were at their highest.

"The junction may appear simple because it is a T-road intersection, but traffic from multiple directions converges here. Without a functioning signal, drivers had to rely on judgment and patience, which often resulted in congestion," said a regular commuter.

The issue had also attracted public attention in the past and was high-

lighted in the columns of *Mogappair Mail*, with residents urging the authorities to restore the signal in the interest of road safety.

Motorists said the newly functioning signal has already brought a noticeable improvement in traffic discipline. Vehicles are now able to move in an orderly manner, reducing confusion and improving pedestrian safety as well.

"The difference is visible immediately. Earlier, everyone tried to move at the same time, creating bottlenecks. Now traffic flows in a regulated manner and drivers know when to stop and when to proceed," said another road user.

The restored signal includes digital countdown timers that display the remaining waiting time before the signal changes, helping motorists anticipate movement and reducing uncertainty at the intersection.

Residents of the area

said the restoration was particularly important because the junction is located near bus stops, educational institutions and densely populated residential neighbourhoods. They noted that proper signal functioning would contribute significantly to accident prevention and smoother

traffic movement. Many commuters expressed hope that authorities would ensure regular maintenance of the signal infrastructure to prevent future breakdowns. They also urged periodic inspections of other traffic signals across the locality to ensure uninterrupted operation.

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ஜய வகுடம் வைகாசி சும்பகோணம் சுப்ரமணிய ஸாஸ்திரிகளுக்கு புதிய குமாரர் ஸ்ரீ ஸந்திர லோக ரேந்திர ஸ்ரீஸ்ரீவதி ஸ்வாமிகள் சப ஜெனரம்.

கமிட்டி ரூப	ரூபாய் மதி 100	ரூபாய்	மேது மணி	100
100	இராணி 20.05.1894 ஞாயிறு	கிணர்	கமிட்டி	நுவாய்மம்
கமிட்டி	மணி 100	கிணர்	கமிட்டி ரூப	100

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