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Monish Vijay B. of Velammal Vidyalaya Annexure, earned the Arena FIDE Master (AFM) title in chess. He also secured the Arena Candidate Master (ACM) title this year.

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BEFORE



AFTER

Iron grill installed along Mogappair canal after residents flag safety hazard

By N Ratni Chithra

RESIDENTS of Kavimani Street in Mogappair can now breathe easier after an iron grill was installed along a vulnerable stretch of the Mogappair canal, months after concerns were raised over the risk posed by a broken portion of the canal's retention wall.

The damaged stretch, located just ahead of Kavimani Salai near Kavimani Street, had earlier left an exposed edge between the road and the stagnant, garbage-filled canal. The spot was particularly risky for two-wheeler riders negotiating the bend, with no protective barricade or

warning structure in place.

Mogappair Mail had in a report last year reported on this issue. At that time residents had pointed out that a vehicle veering slightly off the road could plunge into the canal. The danger was considered greater at night, when visibility was poor, and during rain, when the road could become slippery and the edge of the canal difficult to notice.

The issue was highlighted after the retention wall at the roadside was found damaged, prompting residents to seek immediate protective measures. Now an iron grill has now been erected along the open edge of

the canal, creating a physical barrier between the road and the drain. The grill, though basic, has been welcomed by residents as an important safety intervention. "Earlier, there was nothing between the road and the canal at this point. A rider taking the turn could easily lose control and fall into the drain. The grill gives us some sense of security," said a resident of the locality adding the grill was installed some weeks ago.

The stretch, however, continues to have other civic concerns. The canal remains stagnant and contains considerable quantities of floating and accumulated waste. Garbage and debris can

also be seen along the edges of the drain and the roadside.

Residents said the installation of the grill had addressed their immediate safety concern, but urged the authorities not to stop with the protective barrier. They wanted the canal to be cleaned regularly and the damaged portions of its retaining structure to be properly repaired.

They also called for better maintenance of the roadside, particularly the portion adjoining the canal, where loose soil, litter and overgrown vegetation had accumulated.

Residents now hope that the remaining civic issues along the canal will receive similar attention, particularly before the monsoon, when stagnant water, slippery surfaces and poor visibility could again increase the risks.

NHAI sets 10-min response time for ambulances

STATE-owned NHAI has set a 10-minute deadline for ambulances deployed on national highways to reach any accident site within a 10-km vicinity, to cut delays in emergency response. It said failure to meet the timeline could attract a penalty of Rs 10,000 per incident.

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), in its policy guidelines, further said ambulances should bring accident victims to the nearest hospital within 1 hour from the time of ticket acceptance, failing which will attract a penalty of Rs 10,000.

With an aim to strengthen the incident management system through the use of the NHAI care system, the agency has come out with the new norms to effectively manage the dispatch of on-road units, including ambulances, cranes and patrolling vehicles.

The NHAI said, "Based on the location of an incident, the ambulance should not take more than 10 minutes to cover any accident within a 10-km vicinity."

"For locations beyond 10 km, allowed time shall be proportionally increased. The same shall be verified through GPS data/IMS care dashboard," it added.

Property tax revision put on hold

THE city corporation has put on hold, with immediate effect, its property tax reassessment exercise following several petitions in recent days seeking its withdrawal.

In a statement on Thursday, the corporation said property tax would revert to the amount prevailing before the revision. For assesses who have already paid the revised demand, the amount will be adjusted against subsequent half-years as advance tax, it added.

The civic body, with-

out increasing property tax rates, had undertaken a reassessment of properties it considered under-assessed, issuing 3.49 lakh notices with revised demands.

The 28,382 assesses had already accepted the reassessment. The civic body had collected an additional Rs 11.10 crore through the exercise as of Thursday.

The Chennai corporation had undertaken the exercise amid a fund crunch, hoping to increase tax collection by correcting demands for under-assessed properties.

A fiesta of patriotism, creativity and joy!

EUROKIDS Pre-School, Mogappair West and Maduravoyal hosted a vibrant Independence Day Fiesta 2026, on August 8th, bringing together young participants for a day filled with patriotism, creativity and joyful learning.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from children aged 2 to 8 years from their schools, as well as various other schools and preschools too. The young participants showcased their talent through fancy dress, T-shirt painting, salad art, colouring, national symbols, patriotic singing, puzzle solving, dance,



storytelling, model making and picture puzzles. Their creativity, confidence and enthusiasm made the celebrations truly special.

The prize winners were announced and felicitated, while all participating children were given cer-

tificates acknowledging their active involvement. The lucky draw winners will be announced later.

With vibrant performances, creative entries and cheerful young faces, the fiesta was a grand success.

Admissions are now

open at EuroKids Mogappair West and EuroKids Maduravoyal with a special Independence Day Offer!

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Anna Nagar Roundtana clock tower falls silent

By N Rathi Chithra

The clock tower at Anna Nagar Roundtana, one of the prominent landmarks at one of the busiest junctions, has stopped working, leaving locals and motorists to wonder when the landmark will tick again.

The clock, mounted on a tall white tower in the landscaped median at the Roundtana, has long been a familiar visual marker for Anna Nagar. Its distinctive four-sided clock face and heritage-style design have made it an easily recognisable feature for people travelling through the junction.

However, the clock hands are currently stuck, rendering the timepiece non-functional. The photograph taken at the junction shows the clock displaying a fixed time, even as traffic moves past the Roundtana.

The defunct clock has drawn the attention of locals who feel that a promi-



nent civic landmark should be maintained properly. They said the clock tower is not merely a decorative structure but also forms part of the visual identity of Anna Nagar and deserves regular upkeep.

The Anna Nagar Roundtana is located at a major traffic intersection and witnesses movement of vehicles throughout the day. The landscaped central median around the clock tower adds to the appearance of the junction and is maintained as an important public space.

Residents said civic authorities should inspect the clock mechanism, identify the reason for the malfunction and restore it at the

earliest. They also suggested that periodic maintenance be undertaken so that the clock does not remain non-functional for long periods.

"Anna Nagar is one of Chennai's best-known planned neighbourhoods. Therefore paying attention to such landmarks is important in preserving the character of the locality. Public infrastructure in prominent locations should not be allowed to deteriorate simply because it is ornamental or not directly linked to essential civic services," said a local historian.

The clock tower also stands prominently amid

the traffic signals, streetlights, commercial establishments and landscaped greenery surrounding the Roundtana. Its non-functioning clock is therefore particularly noticeable to commuters passing through the junction.

Residents have urged the Greater Chennai Corporation or the agency responsible for maintaining the structure to take up the repair without delay and ensure that the clock is once again set to the correct time.

For now, the landmark continues to stand tall at the Anna Nagar Roundtana — but its hands remain frozen.

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Radhika joins MGM Healthcare in celebrating world breastfeeding week

As part of its World Breastfeeding Week observance, MGM Healthcare brought together over 100 young mothers along with paediatric and neonatal experts at its premises to raise awareness about the importance of breastfeeding.

Veteran actor and politician Radhika Sarathkumar along with Dr. Urjitha Rajagopalan, Managing Director, MGM Healthcare presided over the event in the presence of Dr. Chandra Kumar, Senior Consultant & HOD Paediatrics and Neonatology, Dr. Deepa Easow, Senior Consultant, Paediatrics & Neonatology, Dr. Pilli Govardhan, Senior Consultant, Neonatology, MGM Healthcare.

World Breastfeeding Week has been observed annually between August 1 to 7 across the globe to create awareness among the public about the importance of breastfeeding for infants. This year's

theme was 'Breastfeeding for a Sustainable Start in Life: Strengthen That Works', focusing on tracking progress, evaluating impact, and scaling proven approaches that improve breastfeeding outcomes.

Inline with the theme, the hospital management has been organising a series of engaging and educational activities including poster competition, rangoli competition, reels competition for lactating mothers, and a well-baby contest based on exclusive breastfeeding practises over the week.

As a conclusion to the observance, an interactive session was organised with experts from Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Neonatology, and lactation consultants, creating an opportunity for lactating mothers to debunk myths and address their concerns.

The week-long celebration was aimed at educating and empowering

young mothers on the significance of exclusive breastfeeding in ensuring optimal growth, immunity, and overall health of infants. The Paediatric and Neonatology department and the Obstetrics and Gynaecology department actively participated in the programme under their 'Varam' initiative.

Speaking at the event Dr. Urjitha Rajagopalan said, "Breastfeeding is a critical component of maternal and child health, but its success depends not only on a mother's intent, but also on the environment in which she is supported".

In his comments, Dr. Chandra Kumar stated "Breastfeeding is the ideal source of nutrition for every newborn baby. It is vital to ensure exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months because it lays the foundation for lifelong health, stronger immunity, and optimal development".

GCP launches special cell to stop bribery

THE Greater Chennai Police (GCP) have launched a new 'Anti-Corruption Special Cell' to ensure transparency and prevent bribery within the department.

In a release, GCP Commissioner A Amalraj said that while the majority of police personnel, from constables to senior officers, perform their duties honestly, the actions of a few others bring disrepute to the entire department. To prevent such incidents and establish public trust, a special unit has been formed. Members of the

public can report to this cell if police personnel demand bribes.

Citizens can contact the Anti-Corruption Special Cell at 78717-23000. Complaints can be made either through a direct call or via WhatsApp. The identity of the complainant will be kept strictly confidential, it said. "All the information received will be thoroughly investigated and immediate action will be taken against those found guilty," it added.

The commissioner also appealed to the public not to offer bribes to police personnel.



Rensil Judah David, of Velammal Vidyalaya Annexure, Melayanambakkam secured the 1st Place in the Under-7 Category in Silambam (Single Stick) in the All India Level Tournament, held at Montfort Higher Secondary School, Chennai.

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Scholarship account mela helps students access government benefits

By Our Correspondent

A Post Office Savings Bank (POSB) and India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) scholarship account opening mela was held at PMR School in Mogappair East this past week, helping eligible students open bank accounts required for the seamless credit of government scholarships and other Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) benefits.

The mela was among the scholarship account-opening initiatives conducted under the Tambaram Postal Division to facilitate students who are eligible for government financial assistance. The initiative is aimed at ensuring that scholarship amounts and other benefits reach beneficiaries directly through their bank accounts without unnecessary delays or procedural hurdles.

Students and their parents were able to make use of the facility at the school itself, making the account-opening process more accessible. The camp also helped students understand the importance of maintaining an account that can receive government payments directly.

Officials said such account-



opening melas are particularly useful for students who may not have an existing bank account or who face difficulties in completing the account-opening process independently. By bringing the service closer to educational institutions, the postal department can reach a larger number of eligible beneficiaries.

The POSB and IPPB facilities provide students with access to banking services through the postal network. The initiative also complements the government's DBT mechanism, under which scholarships and welfare benefits are transferred directly to eligible beneficiaries, reducing dependence on intermediaries.

The Mogappair East mela comes at a time when students

are preparing in the new academic year and applying for various government scholarships and educational assistance schemes. Ensuring that their bank accounts are ready and properly linked for receiving benefits can help prevent delays in the disbursement of scholarship amounts.

A similar POSB/IPPB scholarship account opening mela was also conducted at Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS), Puzhal, under the Tambaram Division. The Postal Department's outreach through educational institutions is expected to benefit students from economically weaker sections who depend on government scholarships to meet part of their educational expenses.

அழகின் மொத்தம் நீயா...? ஆச்சரியப்பட வைக்கும் கட்டணத்தில்

ஸ்ரீ லலிதாம்பிகை மருத்துவமனை சிகிச்சைகள்

இயற்கையாகவே நமக்கு அழகு இருந்தாலும், சில பல நகாச வேலைகள் அதை மேலும் சிறப்பாக்கி, அழகுக்கு அழகு சேர்க்கிறது. அதற்கு மருத்துவத் துறையும் பங்களிக்கிறது. அழகாக இருக்க யாருக்குத்தான் ஆசை இருக்காது? “இது இளமையில் இருப்பவர்களை விட, 35 வயதைக் கடந்தோருக்கு பெரும் வரமாக இருக்கின்றது. வயதைக் குறைத்து காட்டுவதற்கு இது பயன்படுகிறது..” என்கிறார் ஸ்ரீ லலிதாம்பிகை மருத்துவக் கல்லூரி மற்றும் மருத்துவமனையின் சருமப் பராமரிப்பு சிகிச்சை பிரிவின் தலைவர் எச்.அம்பிகா அவர்கள். இந்தியாவிலும், வெளிநாட்டிலும் இருக்கும் தோல் பராமரிப்பு சிகிச்சை முறைகளில் மிகுந்த அனுபவம் பெற்றவரான அம்பிகா, அதிநவீன நடைமுறைகளை லலிதாம்பிகை மருத்துவமனையில் அமல்படுத்தி வருகிறார்.

வயது ஏற ஏற முகத்தில் சுருக்கங்கள் வருவது இயல்பு. அதிக உணர்வுகளை காட்டுவோருக்கு இது விரைவிலேயே வந்துவிடும். இந்த தற்காலிக சுருக்கங்களைக்

குறைத்து முகத்தில் பொலிவை ஏற்படுத்த போட்டாக்ஸ் என்ற மருந்து பயன்படுகிறது. இதற்கு மருத்துவமனையில் அனுமதிக்கப்பட வேண்டும் என்பதெல்லாம் இல்லை. ஜஸ்ட் 30 நிமிடங்கள் ஒதுக்கினாலே போதும். முகத் தசைகளில் திறமையான மருத்துவர்களின் உதவியோடு இந்த மருந்தை உட்செலுத்திக் கொள்ளலாம்.

இதை செலுத்தும் அளவுநபருக்கு நபர் மாறுபடும். எனவே அனுபவம் மிக்கவர்களிடம் இதை எடுத்துக் கொள்வது சிறந்த பலனைத் தரும். மூன்று முதல் நான்கு நாட்களில் இதன் பலன் தெரிய ஆரம்பிக்கும். விரைவானது.. வலியற்றது பொதுவாக பாதுகாப்பானது. இந்த சிகிச்சை வழங்கும் முன் குறிப்பிட்ட நபரிடம் நாங்கள் விரிவான கவுன்சிலிங் கொடுப்போம். செய்ய வேண்டியது, செய்யக் கூடாதது என்று சில விஷயங்களை விளக்குவோம். அதன் பின்னரே சிகிச்சை தொடங்கும். இது ஆறு மாதம் முதல் ஒன்பது மாதங்கள் வரை சிறப்பான பலன்களைத் தரும். பின்னர் மீண்டும் தேவைப்பட்டால்



இதைத் தொடர்ந்து கொள்ளலாம் என்றவர் தொடர்ந்தார்.

அதிகம் வெயிலில் அலையும் பணியில் இருப்போருக்கு விரைவிலேயே முகம் பொலிவை இழக்கும் அபாயம் உண்டு. இதே போன்று அதிகம் மேக்கப் போடுவோர் சினிமா, சின்னத்திரையில் இருப்போர், மாடலிங் துறையினர் ஆகியோருக்கும் இளம் வயதிலேயே முகப்பொலிவுக்கான தேவை ஏற்படும் அவர்களுக்கு நாங்கள் இந்த சிகிச்சைகளை அளித்திருக்கிறோம். இதில் “ஆண், பெண்பாடுபாடல்லாமல் இருபாலரும் சம அளவில் வருகிறார்கள்” என்றார் அம்பிகா.

வெளியில் ஆகும் சிகிச்சை செலவில் இங்கே பாதிப்பளவு மட்டுமே செலவாகும். அதுவும் மருந்துக்கான



செலவு மட்டுமே. மருத்துவக் கட்டணம் முற்றிலும் கிடையாது அல்லது மிக மிக குறைவு என்பது இந்த சிகிச்சை முறையின் முக்கிய

அம்சம்.

ஸ்ரீ லலிதாம்பிகை மருத்துவமனையில் உயர்தர மருத்துவ கருவிகளும், வளர்ந்த நாடுகளுக்கு நிகரான மருத்துவ அனுபவம் கொண்டோரும் என பத்துக்கும் மேற்பட்ட டாக்டர்கள் எங்கள் குழுவில் இருக்கிறார்கள் எங்கள் குழுமத் தலைவர் திரு. ஏ. சி. எஸ். அவர்களின் ஆலோசனைப்படி எளிய மக்களும் பயனடையும் வகையில் சிறந்த மருத்துவத்தை சிறிய கட்டணத்தில் அளிக்கிறோம். நமது சுற்றுப்புற மக்களின் நல்வாழ்வை மேம்படுத்துவதில் தரமான சேவை செய்து வரும் இம்மருத்துவமனை நம்பகமான சூழலை உருவாக்கி பலரது வாழ்வில் ஒளியேற்றி உள்ளது. அனைவரும் இதை பயன்படுத்திக் கொள்ள வேண்டும் என்பதே எங்களின் ஆர்வம் என்கிறார்.



Velammal Vidyalaya, Mogappair West kindergarten students celebrated Independence Day with great patriotic fervor and enthusiasm.



Joshita Shree, of Velammal Vidyalaya Annexure, won three gold medals at the Thiruvallur District Taekwondo Championship. She emerged winner in the group Poomsae, under-29 kg weight category and pair poomsae (Cadet girls) competitions.

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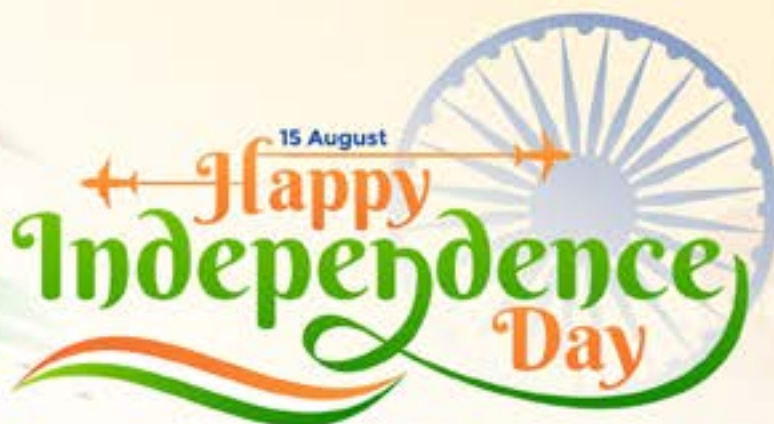
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Pragnanandhaa wins St. Louis Rapid and Blitz titles for the first time

R Srinivasa Raghavan

R Pragnanandhaa, an alumnus of Velammal School won the St Louis Rapid and Blitz title for the first time. Pragg won both rapid and blitz titles with 23.5 points. Pragg continued his momentum to score an important victory. It was Pragg's second tournament victory. Candidates winner Javokhir Sindarov played well to finish securing second with 22 points. Wesley So performed well to finish third with 20.5 points.

He won with 1.5 points. It was also the first title for Pragg in the GCT Tour. He also became richer by \$50,000. He took 13 points for his success. The top four players will qualify for the final four.

Fabiano Caruana leads the GCT Standings with 25 points, followed by Pragg on 24 points. So occupies 23 points.

"When you see the score... everything

looks smooth, but it wasn't the case. It was crazy. I mean, kudos to Javokhir, he kept the fight to the end," said Pragg on his victory. After drawing the first game against Vincent Keymer, Pragg suffered a shocking defeat against A wonder Liang. After that he turned it around to race away with the title.

Tanzid Hits Ton

Tanzid Hasan Tamim became the first Bangladesh player to score a century vs Aussies in Darwin on the second day. The opener playing in his second Test scored 101 from 197 balls. Australia have lost only one Test to Bangladesh at Mirpur in 2017.

Starc Highest

Mitchell Starc became the highest wicket taking left-handed bowler. Starc took the 434th wicket of Shadman Islam of Bangladesh.

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

Revaluation for supplementary exam already started

The Directorate of Government Examinations (DGE) has announced that candidates who appeared for the June/July Classes 12 and 11 arrear supplementary examinations and had applied for copies of their answer sheets can download the scanned copies online from August 13. Candidates can visit www.dge.tn.gov.in to download. They must enter their registration number and date of birth to download scanned copies of the answer

sheets for the applied subjects. Candidates who wish to apply for revaluation or retolling must visit the same DGE website and download the prescribed application form.

The completed application should be prepared in two copies and submitted between 11 am and 5 pm on August 17. Candidates requiring clarification can contact the Directorate through 9498383075 or 9498383076.



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