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# Events >

## Chaturmasya festival

Sri Satchinanda Tirtha Mahaswamiji, Bilaspur, is in Chennai to observe the annual Chaturmasya vratam from July 21 till Sep.18. There will be regular puja twice daily of Mahatripurasundari, Mahaperiyava and Chandramaulisvara. Programmes at various times include veda parayana, veda pariksha, discourses namasankertana, bhiksavadana and music etc. All are invited to Amarabharathi Kalyana Mandapam, Thiruvanniyur. For more information contact C.Narayanan at 90032 22621. Schedule for this week, held at 6.30 pm:

- **Aug.18:** Pancharatna Kriti by leading vidwans and vidushis at 9 am; Vocal by Sriranjani Kaushik and party;
- **Aug.20:** 'Eternal Wisdom of Mahaperiyava' and Upanyasam by H.V.Shankar;
- **Aug.22:** Vocal by Srividya Ganesh and party;
- **Aug.23:** Vocal by S.Srilalitha and party;
- **Aug.24:** Vocal by Shriraghav and party;
- **Aug.25:** Vocal by S.Aishwarya and party;

## Hamsadhvani's anniversary programmes

Hamsadhvani will celebrate its 34th anniversary dedicated to Founder R.Ramachandran's Birth Centenary from Aug.10 to Sept.1. At Youth Hostel, 2nd Avenue, Indira Nagar, Adyar. Ph: 98409 84038. Schedule for this week:

- **Aug.18 (6.05 pm):** Hamsadhvani's Annual Day Presentation of the 'Distinguished Citizen of the Year' Award jointly with Sri Krishna Sweets, to philanthropist S.Seetharaman - Chairman of Super Auto Forge. Justice S.Vaidyanathan - Chief Justice (High Court of Meghalaya) presides as the chief guest while Manish Patil - Director of ONGC Ltd., will be the guest of honour. This will be followed by a dance drama by Saraswathi Gana Nilayam - 'Deiveega Vahanangal' by Padmini Krishnamurthy and troupe;
- **Aug.23 (6.30 pm):** Vocal and devotional songs by 11-year-old prodigy H.Sooryanarayanan;
- **Aug.24 (6.15 pm):** Mandolin melodies by Nagamani & U.P.Raju and party;
- **Aug.25 (6.15 pm):** Gokulashtami special, 'Colours of Krishna', Thematic vocal concert by Vasudha Ravi and Vidya Kalyanaraman;

## Upakarma venues on Aug.19

- Brahma Sri Venkatajala Shastrigal is conducting Rig and Yajur Veda Upakarma at Shri Anantha Padmanabha Swamy temple, Gandhi Nagar, Adyar. Timings: 6 am to 12.30 pm - 1 batch per hour; Homam at 1 pm. Ph: 93456 85123, 99406 33142, 80722 28567.
- Yajur and Rig Veda Avani Avittam at Sri Arupadai Veedu Murugan temple, Kalakshetra Colony, Besant Nagar, by M.Chandrasekara sastrigal. Batch 1 at 7 am (without homam); batch 2 at 9 am (with homam). Ph: 94441 80069, 63803 31869.
- Yajur Upakarma at Bala Vidya Mandir School, 4th Main Road, Gandhi Nagar, by N.V.Narasimhan Dikshitar. Batch 1 at 6.30 am; batch 2 at 7.30 am. Ph: 90923 13555.
- Rig and Yajur Avani Avittam at Mahalakshmi Kalyana Mandapam, West Tank Street (Near Indian Bank), Thiruvanniyur, by Acharyan Brahmasri Kasi Ramamurthy Sastrigal. Rig Upakarma at 6 am; Yajur Upakarma 1st batch at 7.30 am; 2nd batch with homam at 9.30 am. Ph: 73586 63670.
- Rig and Yajur Upakarma will be held at Sri Varasiddhi Vinayagar temple (Atrium), Kalakshetra

Road, Thiruvanniyur. From 5.30 am onwards; homam will be in the 10.30 am batch. Contact Ganesa Sastrigal at 93810 10174, 93812 10173.

- Sankara Satsang has arranged for Yajur Upakarma at 7.30 am. Bring panchapatram and other needed items. At No.2/469, 2nd Main Road, AGS Colony, Kottivakam. Contact Dr.S.Ganesh at 98410 98434.

## Krishna Janmashtami at ISKCON

Janmashtami celebrations at ISKCON ECR (Akkarai). Schedule:

- **Aug.26:** 4.30 am - Mangala Arati; 7.30 am - Guru Puja; 8 am - Special Srimad Bhagavatam class; 10 am to 12 am - Kirtan Mela; 6.30 pm - Sandhya Arati; 10.30 pm - Maha Abhishekam; 12.00 am - Maha Arati; 12.30 am - Anukalpa Prasadam.
- **Aug.27:** 9.30 am - Kirtan and Srila Prabhupada glorification; 10.30 am - Srila Prabhupada Abhishekam; 11.45 am - Class by Bhanu Swami Maharaj; 12.30 pm - Srila Prabhupada Arati and Raj Bhog Arati.

## Krishna Jayanthi celebrations

Krishna Kala Mandiram invites all devotees and rasikas to celebrate Krishna Jayanthi on Aug.23 at Sri Krishna Mandiram temple, Canal Road, Thiruvanniyur.

- **5.15 pm:** Humorous speech by Sekar from Humour Club (Chennai).
- **7.15 pm:** Vocal concert by Palaghat sisters (Lalitha and Gayathri) with Subhashree Siviramakrishna (violin) and Burra Sriram (mridangam).

## Madras Day events

Know more about the city of Madras through these events.

- **Nature Walk:** Aug.24 (6.15 am) at Elliot's Beach by The Madras Naturalists' Society (email: gopivkumar58@gmail.com);
- **Heritage walks by Madras Inherited:** Aug.24 (6.30 am) - The Madha Streets of Royapuram; Aug.25 (4.30 pm) - Chronicles of the Custodians: A Walk through the Police Museum; Aug.25 (6.30 pm) - From Pillar to Ghost: The Tales of Mandavelipakkam. Register at [www.madrasinherited.in/heritage-walks](http://www.madrasinherited.in/heritage-walks).
- **Talks by Press Institute of India at 5 pm:** Aug.19 - Verse and Veneration: Famous Temples in Madras; A talk and presentation by Dr Lakshmi Ramaswamy; Aug.20 - The Anglo-Indians: Curating a Fascinating Culture; Dr Merin Simi Raj, Richard O'Connor and M. Natarajan in conversation with Harry MacLure; Aug.21 - A Battle for Language Identity in the Madras Presidency; Presentation by Meenakshi Devaraj; Aug.22 - Dhenupurishwar Temple, Madambakkam; Presentation by Dr Chithra Madhavan; Aug.23 - Social and Cultural History of Madras; By Vinita Sidhartha - Founder of Kreedha. At Press Institute of India, 2nd Main Road, Taramani CPT Campus.

## Freedom Sale at Woodpecker showroom

Woodpecker, a premier furniture and decors showroom in Chennai is conducting a 'Freedom Sale' at their showrooms. On purchasing the items, customers can pay Rs.78 as downpayment and EMIs the remaining amounts in 10 EMIs. Avail additional discount up to 20% on Carving Sofas Set, Recliner Set, Powerlift recliner for senior citizens. The showrooms at Adyar and ECR offer a wide range of furniture, decors and furnishing solutions that are curated to the customer's satisfaction.

The showroom is at **Besant Nagar** - No. 42, 7th Ave, GOCHS Colony, Besant Nagar. Ph : 99404 62277. ECR - 2/1B, 3A Part 2 Door, No. 9A, VGP Layout, Akkarai, ECR. Ph : 73580 41110 and 73580 41115.

## Kala Santhe: Grand Handloom and Handicraft Bazaar

Manya in collaboration with Smart Art Events is hosting Kala Santhe, an extensive handloom and handicraft fair, at the CERC Campus on Kalakshetra Road, Thiruvanniyur, until Aug.25.

This vibrant event brings together over 100 stalls featuring a diverse range of traditional and contemporary ethnic products from across India.

Visitors can explore a wide variety of items including traditional textiles like Kantha, Kasuti, Ikat, Phulkari, Uppada, Patola, Chikankari, and hand-woven Urmul tops from Phalodi. Discover exotic sarees from Kolkata and Banarasi, intricate candle stands, Lambani and Jaipur jewellery, bamboo crafts, Tanjore paintings, Pattachitra, Madhubani art, wrought iron and antique furniture, Batik and block print apparel, sea shell artefacts, grass baskets, and artistic sculptures. Don't miss the unique handcrafted jewellery, including Orissa tribal ornaments, silver filigree, Jaipur lacquerware, and dazzling imitation pieces. At CERC campus, Kalakshetra Road, Opp. Pamban Swamy Koil, Thiruvanniyur. Contact: 98456 95922.



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# News >

▲ Greater Chennai Police's new poster campaign for zero accidents.

## Dr. T.V. Somanathan ascends to Cabinet Secretary role

Dr. T.V. Somanathan, IAS, has been elevated to the position of the Cabinet Secretary, for a tenure of two years, starting Aug.30. He will succeed incumbent Rajiv Gauba, IAS, who has been the Cabinet secretary since 2019. He is currently the Finance Secretary (since 2019).



This 1987 batch IAS officer from the Tamilnadu cadre, will be the second Finance Secretary to have become Cabinet Secretary. The first finance secretary to have been elevated to this position was P K Kaul, in February 1985. Dr. Somanathan holds a PhD in Economics from Calcutta University and is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, the Chartered Institute of Man-

agement Accountants (London), the Institute of Chartered Secretaries (London), the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (London), the Institute of Company Secretaries of India and the Institute of Cost Accountants of India. Earlier, he has also

served as Additional Secretary and Joint Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office.

He also worked as Director at the World Bank Group, Washington D.C. where he initially joined under its Young Professionals Program.

Dr. Somanathan is a resident of Sastri Nagar. *Adyar Times* wishes him the very best!

## Dr. Kamakshi Memorial Hospitals inaugurates new HDR Brachytherapy System

Dr. Kamakshi Memorial Hospitals inaugurated a new High Dose Rate Brachytherapy system Flexitron, a robust and precise treatment delivery unit for cancer. Brachytherapy is a form of radiation therapy where a radioactive source is placed inside/near to the vicinity of the tumor via suitable applicators. This enables the tumor to get maximum doses and a rapid dose fall-off to the surrounding normal tissues. This treatment modality can be used either in combination with external beam radiotherapy or as a standalone treatment for specific cancer sites. Brachytherapy has its significant role in the management of many cancer sites like cancer tongue, Bronchus, Oesophagus, soft tissues, Buccal mucosa, Breast, prostate etc., but brachytherapy to cancer cervix and endometrium is a definitive mode of treatment.

“ The Flexitron Brachytherapy system is Ir-192 radioactive source based high dose rate system which delivers treatment in a short time. This system enables safe and precise treatment delivery to the patients. ”



Team of Dr. Kamakshi Memorial Hospitals at the Flexitron HDR Brachy Inauguration event.

of Radiation Oncology participated and discussed on the beneficial uses brachytherapy on Cancer management.

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Dr. Kamakshi Memorial Hospitals is a top group of hospitals in Chennai, with branches in Pallikaranai, Medavakkam, Adyar & Siruseri (OMR). Each branch is committed to providing high-quality medical care, with state-of-the-art facilities and a team of qualified experts to ensure exceptional patient care.

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# Independence Day >



▲ Independence Day celebrations at Riverdale Apartments, Kotturpuram.



▲ K.Hema hoisted the National Flag at Swagath Apartment, Kottur on Independence Day. Residents celebrated by distributing sweets and gifts to the children.



▲ Kandasamy Nagar Residents Welfare Association celebrated the 78th Independence Day by hoisting the national flag at the children's park.



▲ Bay View Apartments, Parvathy Street, Besant Nagar, celebrated Independence Day at the park.



▲ Sri Sankara Vidyashramam, Thiruvanniyur, celebrated the 78th Independence Day with chief guest, Col.P.Latha - Principal Matron at Military Hospital (Chennai) hoisting the national flag. She inspired everyone with her words of wisdom. The event began with the NCC parade, followed by a flag hoisting ceremony and vibrant cultural programmes.



▲ Journalist Colony, Thiruvanniyur, celebrated Independence Day enthusiastically with senior journalist P.Soundrajan hoisting the national flag and speaking about the history and future plans for the colony.



▲ Dr.A.Amarnath - Deputy Registrar of NIEPMD, hoisted the national flag in the presence of Dr.S.Karthikeyan, Director I/c and Associate Professor (Clinical Psychology) celebrating Independence Day. He also distributed prizes to the winners of the many competitions conducted as a run-up to the celebrations. Staff, persons with disabilities, parents and HRD students participated.



▲ The Kasturba Nagar Residents Association celebrated Independence Day at KNRA Hall with nearly 40 members participating enthusiastically.



▲ Beach Boys Walkers Association celebrated Independence Day at Elliot's beach with Bala Sundaram as the special guest who hoisted the national flag. K.T.Venkatesan - Managing Director of Adyar Ananda Bhavan and many others participated.

▼ Kalakshetra Foundation organised a series of programmes as part of Independence Day celebrations, including the 'Tiranga Rally' by the Besant Theosophical Higher Secondary School. Students created awareness about the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign by walking towards the statue of Gandhiji at Lakshmiapuram, Thiruvanniyur and back.



▼ Vannanthurai resident Dr.Pasumai Murthy and his friends celebrated Independence Day with Besant Nagar resident Vanaja Krishnamurthy as the chief guest. Tulsi plants were distributed on the occasion and everyone pledged to plant trees. A free medical camp was also organised in association with Malar MGM Hospital.



▼ Coronet Gardens Residents Association, Kannappa Nagar Ext, Thiruvanniyur, celebrated Independence Day at the park. Dr.P.Sadana Srihar hoisted the national flag. The association honoured the conservancy workers with cash awards. They also recognised Aswin Sairam for his achievements in chess this year.



# Campus >

## Vana Vani celebrates Annual Day



Vana Vani School, IIT Madras, celebrated its 61st Annual Day on Aug.9. Prof. Balaji Narasimhan - Department of Civil Engineering (IIT Madras), S.P. Dhanavel - Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Secretary cum Treasurer Raman Kumar, Principal M. Sathish Kumar, Vice-Principal Princy Tom and the dynamic student leaders, Head Boy Gokulnath Srihari and Head Girl

Netra K, along with proud parents and exuberant students graced the occasion.

Sathish Kumar delivered the annual report. Special address was given by Raman Kumar. Presidential address was presented by Professor Dhanavel who urged everyone to strive for excellence and contribute positively to society.

The keynote address was given by the chief

guest, Prof. Balaji Narasimhan.

He motivated students to strive for excellence and innovation, emphasised that teachers play a crucial role in helping students reach their goals, and spoke about the importance of managing stress effectively. He also encouraged the children to give a round of applause to their teachers and parents, acknowledging their unwavering support and dedication.

## Live Biology Classes at Medical College



The biology students and teachers of Sri Sankara Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Thiruvalluvar Nagar, Thiruvanniyur visited the Madras Medical College and Rajiv Gandhi General Hospital recently. With the guidance of

the college and hospital staff, they visited various departments like the Histopathology lab, pathology museum, forensic medicines, anatomy museum and Biochemistry lab. It was a very useful knowledge-gaining trip for future doctors.

## Bala Vidya Mandir celebrates School Day



Bala Vidya Mandir hosted its School Day celebrations for lower and upper primary students on Aug.1. The event was graced by renowned vocalist Dr. K. Gayathri, who discussed how music can be a meaningful alternative to the distractions of gadgets. Vidhyalakshmi Srinivasan - Principal of Sankara Senior Secondary School, Adyar, was the chief guest. She encouraged parents to nurture their children by instilling strong values and the importance of holistic development. The students delivered a captivating performance through songs, dances, and plays. The program included the school orchestra's rendition of devotional songs, a Hindi song depicting a joyful school atmosphere, Manikandan's duel with Mahishi, and an adventurous portrayal of Moana's journey, all of which cap-

ivated the audience. The senior's School Day took place on Aug.2, in the esteemed presence of B. Raman - Assistant Secretary of CBSE (RO Chennai), and Brother John Kennedy - Principal of St. Patrick's School, Adyar. The chief guest appreciated the performance of the students and emphasised on the importance of discipline and making the school, family and the Nation proud.

The students exhibited their musical prowess through the orchestra, delivered captivating performances in plays across four languages—Tamil, Hindi, Sanskrit, and English—and concluded with an extraordinary dance-drama depicting the six abodes of Lord Muruga with a live orchestra on stage.

The event also recognised the dedication of teachers and support staff who had completed 10, 15, and 20 years of service. Other dignitaries present included members of the Bala Brindavan Trust, Correspondent Vijesh Kumar Garg, Principal Daffenee Rodgers and Vice Principal Shanthi Vasu.

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# Campus >

## Kidzee Pre School celebrates tigers



Kidzee Preschool - Kannappa Nagar branch and Valmiki Nagar branch celebrated International Tiger Day on July 29.

At both campuses, a special den was created to simulate a tiger's natural habitat, providing an immersive experience for the children. An informative assembly was held where educators spoke to the students about various threats tigers face, including poaching, habitat loss, and human-wildlife conflict. They explained the significant role tigers play in the ecosystem and emphasised the importance of collective action to ensure their survival.

Through engaging stories, interactive sessions, and creative activities, students learned about the plight of tigers and the steps that can be taken to prevent their suffering. The children were encouraged to think about the impact of their actions on wildlife and to consider ways they could contribute to conservation efforts.

For more information, contact Kidzee at 98843 00080, 98842 00080.

## Nikkhil Menon Shines with Two International Bronze Medals

Chennai's table tennis prodigy, Nikkhil Menon clinched a 'Bronze medal' in the under-15 Mixed Doubles event at the WTT Youth Contender Tournament at Amman, Jordan and a 'Bronze medal' in the under-15 Singles event at the WTT Youth Contender Tournament at Almaty, Kazakhstan held between July 31 to August 2, 2024. Nikkhil demonstrated remarkable skill and determination.

Nikkhil is a dedicated Khelo India athlete who trains at MST, under the guidance of the Rao Brothers and SK Table Tennis Center in Chennai. He partnered with Advika Agrawal from Indore and defeated the team from Lebanon 3-1 and secured a Bronze. In the under-15 Singles event, Nikkhil beat U-15 world no: 11 Chinese Taipei player 3-2 to enter the semifinals. His recent achievements reflect his hard work and commitment to the sport, setting the stage for even greater success in the future.



▲ Renshi Ayyappan Mani, from Born to Fight (Adyar), represented India and participated in the Advanced black belt category in the Karate World Championship, held in Pennsylvania, USA from Aug.1 to 3. Among 260 contestants, Renshi Ayyappan won the silver medal in Kobudo and bronze in Kumite. He can be contacted at 82487 52737.



▲ Reserve Bank Staff Quarters School, Besant Nagar, hosted the 3rd Inter School Athletic Meet on July 29. Participants from 10 schools showcased their talents in the track and field events. Srividhya Venkataraman, Indian basketball player and South Asian Games Gold medalist, congratulated the winners and encouraged all participants to continue to strive for excellence. Reserve Bank Staff Quarters School won the overall championship and emerged victorious among the participating schools.

## Dream India provides sports kit to school

Dream India team has been working with the Chennai High School at Kamaraj Avenue, Adyar since 2008 and conducts weekly classes for personality development and spoken English of the children. Recently, on the request from the school, the Dream India team with the help of Ashok Bashyam and Ms. Seetalakshmi Muthukrishnan provided sports material worth Rs.8000 (four volley balls and throw balls each) for the school.

The Dream India thanked Jayashree, Aathil and Sanjai for helping procure the items and Headmistress Hema, and other school teachers for their support.



## Ideation camp conducted at Patrician College

The Entrepreneurship Development and Innovation Institute-TN (EDII-TN), Chennai District, organised the 'Inaugural Ideation Camp' on Aug.7 at the Patrician College of Arts and Science.

The event was held for the 37 shortlisted teams of EDII's Hackathon 2023-24 first level from Chennai districts. The program commenced with a welcome address by G.Sandhya, District Coordinator, EDII TN.

The keynote address was delivered by R.Ambalavanan, IAAS, Director of the Entrepreneurship Development and Innovation Institute (Tamil Nadu). He underscored the importance of innovation for entrepreneurs and encouraged participants to continually enhance their business models, create and improve their brands, and strive for success.

Anbumathi, Master Trainer at EDII TN, guided the students through topics such as identifying problems, market research, customer segments, market size, business models, and competitive analysis. In the afternoon



session, the student teams presented their ideas to a panel of juries, which included Anbumathi, Dr. Kandavel - Assistant Professor of Jeppiaar University, Linta Josephine - HOD of Commerce at C.S.I Ewart Women's Christian College.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Dr.Sreepriya, Associate Professor of Corporate Secretaryship. A total of 138 higher education students from various districts participated and benefited from this camp.



◀ Chithkala Nursery and Primary School, Indira Nagar, took their students on an excursion to Farmguru on July 16.

# Community >



▲ To commemorate International Youth Day, the NSS unit of Patrician College organised a blood donation camp in association with the Adyar Cancer Institute, on Aug.9. The camp saw an impressive participation of 103 donors, highlighting the spirit of service among the college students.



◀ Pasumai Moorthy, a resident of Vannanthurai, and his friends paid tributes to former President of India Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam on the occasion of his 8th death anniversary on July 29.



◀ Ward 169 Councillor J.Kayalvizhi, on Aug.6 had lunch with the children of Odaikuppam primary school, Thiruvanniyur, and created awareness about clean habits, segregation, responsible waste disposal etc., among the children.

▼ Thambras Besant Nagar unit conducted Vilakku Pooja on Aug.6 at Sekaran Kalyana Mandapam, Thiruvanniyur. Nearly 115 ladies participated in the function and rendered Lalitha Shasranamam, led by Vedic scholar Venkataraman. P.Harikrishnan - Veda Parayana Samiti (Adyar) also participated while the couple, Vishwakumars, honoured the participants with silver coins.



## Eco projects by Inner Wheel Club of Thiruvanniyur



The Inner Wheel Club of Chennai Thiruvanniyur (IWCCT) recently completed two projects to contribute to a healthy ecosystem.

- Plant a Tree, Plant a Life: IWCCT planted 10 saplings at Thoraipakkam Government Higher Secondary School and donated 25 saplings to the teachers and students on July 26. The project cost amounted to Rs.1000.

- International Tiger Day 2024 - Call for Action: To highlight the importance of Tigers and to save the endangered species, IWCCT visited Vandalur Zoo on July 29 (International Tiger Day) and contributed Rs.72,500 to feed 26 tigers. It was a joint club project comprising 14 clubs and 24 members of IWCCT.

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# Sports >

## Marathon to popularise organ donation

On Aug. 4, Global Event and Entertainment, Mohan Foundation and Factor Events and Entertainment organised a Tamilnadu 10K run at Olcott Memorial Higher Secondary School, Besant Nagar, to observe National Organ Donation Day (Aug. 3).

The 10k run was flagged off by A.M.V.Prabhakara Raja (MLA from Consistency Virugambakkam) and Vanaja Krishnamurthy (Social worker and Treasurer of WIA Chennai). The special guests were Lion Dr.K.Indira (President of Lions Club of Madhavaram Truck Terminal) and Mr.Hariharan, a kidney recipient, who shared a few words on his successful life.

Mohan Foundation distributed brochures and donor cards to participants. Participants pledged for organ donation. Around 2000 people, including the physically challenged, participated in the cause and all received their medals and certificates. Winners also received mementoes. For more information, contact 91504 45550.



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