



70th Republic Day Celebration at Shri.B.K.Kothari School



Shri.B.K.Kothari Matric Higher Secondary School Kilpauk celebrated 70th Republic Day with pomp and pageantry. The Principal, teachers and the students didn't want to leave any stone unturned in making this monumental day a memorable one. Mr.A.J.Hariharan, Founder Secretary of Indian Community Welfare Organisation-I.C.W.O. presided over the function as

the chief guest and hoisted the National Flag and also delivered the key note address. A spectacular March Past and honouring the chief guest was done by our school students representing the four houses. The School's Senior Principal Miss.K.Ferdous Begum welcomed the gathering and the chief guest with here wonderful speech. A pleasant and thought providing speech was

given by students of various classes in Tamil Hindi and English patriotic songs were sung by the school choir girls. A, colourful dance performance with tri colour casuals were also present by our school girls. With vote of thanks given by Vice Principle Mrs. Asha the event came to a close gracefully. Everyone present in the celebrations felt happy.



Encouraging more young voters

In order to encourage more young voters to take part in the political process, Government of India has decided to celebrate January 25 every year as "National Voters' Day." As part of 9th National Voters Day, the students of Valliammal College

for Women , Anna Nagar East, Chennai took a pledge about exercising one's voting rights on 25th January 2019. The main purpose of the celebration is to encourage, facilitate and maximize the enrollment, especially for the new voters.

10th International Conference Seminar on Tamil Studies



The 10th International Conference Seminar on Tamil Studies sponsored by International Association of Tamil Research (IATR), (Federation of Tamil Sangams of North America (FeTNA) and Chicago Tamil Sangam (CTS) will be held at Schaumburg Convention Center, Chicago, USA during the 4th, 5th, 6th & 7th July 2019. There will be grand cultural functions on July 4 & 5 and a Global Tamil Entrepreneurs Meet

(GTEN) on July 6. The conference and seminar is dedicated to Late. Dr. V.C. Kulandaiswamy Vice Chairman IATR & Former Vice Chancellor, Anna University, who pioneered for this Conference in the United States. As part of the special highlight of the event a Thiruvalluvar Statue (5.5 ft) will be installed in the City of Chicago, as a part of the Conference, donated by Dr. V.G. Santhosam. Their Excellencies, The President of India

& The Prime Minister of Canada, and Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamilnadu have been invited. Federation of Tamil Sangams of North America (FeTNA) & Chicago Tamil Sangam (CTS) will be jointly facilitating this conference under the auspices of International Association of Tamil Research. Requesting all Tamil Scholars & Supporters for sponsorship, to bring in Tamil Research students and make the event great and successful.

Cooum River Restoration Awareness by students



Cooum River Restoration Awareness Program was conducted by CRRT with the coordination of NGC Chennai district in TVK Hr.Sec.School, Shenoy Nagar, chennai - 30 on 22.1.2019.. 850 students of this school attended this and a cultural

program. All students were given Cloth Bags and plastic pollution awareness was also demonstrated. Dr.Kalaiarasan, Project Office, CRRT, G.Thangaraj, Dist.coordinator, NGC, Mr.Jayanth Social Activist and HM Mr.John participated.

CBSE Regional Level Science Exhibition Held At Velammal



Science projects undoubtedly are easy ways to incorporate literacy and creativity into learning. Velammal Vidyalaya, Mel Ayanambakkam took pride & profound credit in hosting the prestigious CBSE Regional Level Science Exhibition – 2019 in its campus. 97 schools registered & more than 338 students of CBSE schools across Tamil Nadu participated & skillfully executed their projects under 6 categories via., Agriculture & organic farming, Health & cleanliness Mathematical modelling, Resource management, Transport

& communication and Waste management. This scheduled programme held between 24th and 25th January 2019 was an initiation by the CBSE board to popularize & increase positive awareness on science, Technology & society. Guests of Honour Shri. I.K. Mukherjee, Former Director General of NCSM, National Council of Science Museums and Dr. S. SoundaraRajaperumal, Executive Director, Tamil Nadu Science & Technology Centre inaugurated the exhibition & motivated the students.



"Sri Ranjani Nagar"
Venugopalapuram - Near Tiruvallur

Panchayat Approval No.13/2011

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Rs 4300 crore earmarked for Maha Kumbh Mela 2019

A total allotment of Rs 4300 crore has been made for creating all necessary infrastructure for Maha Kumbh Mela 2019 at Prayagraj, formerly called Allahabad, from January 15, said Jai Pratap Singh, Minister of Excise and Prohibition, Government of Uttar Pradesh. Addressing the media under the auspices of FICCI, he said the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath has made him an ambassador to promote Prayagraj Kumbh, which has UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage of humanity acknowledgement. He said the whole idea is to promote spiritual tourism and showcase Uttar Pradesh to the outside world. He also said the state government is making elaborate arrangements for the successful organisation of the Kumbh 2019, which will see a gathering of over 20 lakh people from all over the world. "The UP government has already launched the new logo of Prayagraj Kumbh 2019 in accordance with the nature of the event," he said and added, "Special priority has been accorded to providing better facilities to the devotees and tourists attending the Kumbh for all its religious and cultural fervour." Shri. Jai Pratap Singh said that the state of Madhya Pradesh also held a Kumbh Mela two and a half years ago to attract people from different walks of life and make them partake of the spiritual food offered at the event. He said that the people from south visit Ayodhya and the Ram Mandir and this time they can come to Prayagraj



to enjoy the events associated with the grand Kumbh happening on the confluence of the mighty Ganga. The holy event is organised at four places in the country and the event held at Prayagraj is the subject of special curiosity and attraction for the country and the world. The UP minister said the state government is committed to providing a devotionally and spiritually changed atmosphere to pilgrims coming to the event, adding, "In this most massive human congregation of humanity, people of over 6 lakh villages of India along with the overseas devotees will participate." For the convenience of pilgrims, the minister said the facility of reaching the place by air, road, rail and river has been made for the first time. Jai Pratap Singh said,

"The UP government is making efforts to familiarise the world with the high-quality life, conduct and thoughts of Indian culture through Kumbh Mela." For the convenience of devotees visiting the Kumbh, the UP government has made available the facility of modern and smooth traffic movement to Prayagraj by constructing flyovers and widening railway underpasses besides creating traffic crossings. It is also for the first time, the Kumbh area is being brightened up by installing over 40,000 LED lights. Efforts are on through road shows in various states to bring the people to the Kumbh and there will be programmes on ancient cultural heritage as also cultural, food festivals and more. There are facilities for housing, meal, tours and holy bath and a

tent city is being developed in the Kumbh Mela area. As Kumbh 2019 has been linked to the concept of Cultural Kumbh, Safe Kumbh and Digital Kumbh, the UP government is laying special emphasis on cleanliness during the event and there are 122000 toilets available for the pilgrims as against only 34,000 toilets during the previous Kumbh. There are efforts to keep the banks of Ganga and Triveni clean and the waters of the holy rivers polluting free. Prayagraj city has been beautifully decorated with pictures and drawings of Indian culture and art. The walls of Prayagraj are showcasing Indian culture in the most effective way. T R Kesavan, Co-Chairman, FICCI Tamil Nadu State Council and President and COO, TAFE, in his welcome

address, said the first Kumbh dates back to 644 AD on the banks of Ganga in Prayagraj and there is so much of the importance attached to the holy event all because of its connect to astronomy, astrology and socio-cultural traditions of yore. He said the UP minister's presence will make the people of Tamil Nadu understand the significance of Maha Kumbh Mela 2019 and make their attendance at the important spiritual event. He also recalled his earlier trips to Allahabad and the place that had all the essence of modernity. Ruban Hobday, Head, FICCI Tamil Nadu State Council, spoke on the importance of Kumbh Mela and FICCI's association with the government of UP in promoting the most happening event on the earth.

Southern Railway Scores high on train maintenance

Indian Railway Catering Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) was entrusted by Ministry of Railways to carry out "Train Cleanliness Survey - 2018" of 209 important trains of Indian Railways. A three-part survey including Process Audit, Direct Observation and Passenger Feedback was designed in order to assess the cleanliness and sanitation conditions of the running trains. While the Audit was carried out by IRCLASS Systems and Solutions Pvt. Ltd., analysis of the Passenger Feedback survey was carried out by IPSOS Research Private Limited. The first part of the survey focused on cleanliness and sanitation process at the washing lines and terminals / halts whereas direct observations included the parameters such as condition of toilets, seats and windows, doorways, gangways and Vestibules, condition of linen, pest management and waste management etc. For passenger feedback, a total of 100 passengers' feedback was collected from premium category and 60 from 'other than premium category' trains. Analysis of the trains was carried out in two categories - Premium category including Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Duranto trains and other than premium category including Sampark Kranti, Intercity, Jan Shatabdi and other important Mail / Express trains. While there were a total of 77 trains in the premium category, there were 132 trains in the other than premium category. A total of 4 trains in the premium category and 14 trains in other than premium category of S. Railway were included in the above list of 209 trains. Results of the above survey have since been published. SOUTHERN RAILWAY has been ranked the first position out of all the 16 Railways in other than premium category with a score of 736 out of a total of 1000. In the premium category, Chennai Central - Mysuru Shatabdi of S. Railway with a score of 906/1000 has been ranked 3rd out of 26 in the country. Chennai Central - Coimbatore Shatabdi has been ranked 9th with a score of 873 points against an All India average of 844. Another premium train Chennai - Nizamuddin



Duranto has got a score of 764 against All India average of 739. In other than premium category trains, two Inter-city trains of Southern Railway were selected out of a total of 20 inter-city trains over Indian Railways. Both the above trains of Southern Railway, i.e. KSR Bangaluru - Ernakulam and Chennai Central - Coimbatore have bagged first and second position of the total 20 trains, scoring 789 and 782 respectively against an all India average of 627. On the Jan Shatabdi front, a total of four trains of Southern Railway were selected out of a total of 19 trains over Indian Railways. In this category also, two trains of Southern Railway i.e. Trivandrum - Kozhikode and Chennai Central - Vijayawada bagged 2nd and 3rd position respectively scoring 766 and 738 against all India average of 613. In other important Mail / Express trains category, 7 trains of Southern Railway were selected out of a total of 73 trains over Indian Railways. In this category also, Southern Railway based trains Tirupati - Jammu Tawi has bagged first position with a score of 885 and Chennai Egmore - Mangalore Central has been ranked 4th with a score of 849. Southern Railway has bagged overall ranking of 2nd in other Mail / Express trains category scoring an average of 769 against an All India average of 684.

Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami presented Anna Medals for Gallantry

At a colourful function in front of the tastefully decorated Gandhi statue at Marina Beach front, Governor Banwarilal Purohit unfurled the National Flag and took the salute at the ceremonial march past. Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami presented the Anna Medals for Gallantry and the Gandhi Adigalaar Medals to police personnel. After the customary introduction of the officials of the Army, Navy, IAF, Coast Guard and Police department, the Governor unfurled the flag. It was followed by a Coast Guard helicopter showering petals on the venue. The Governor took the salute at the ceremonial march past in which contingents of the Army, Navy and Air Force, Coast Guard, Central Reserve Police Force, CISF, Railway Protection Force, Chennai City Police, Mounted Police, Tamilnadu Commando Force (men and women), Coastal Security Group, Tamilnadu Fire Service, Home Guard, NCC, Bharat Scouts and ex-servicemen participated. The defence forces showcased their might by displaying the aircrafts, besides, ships and helicopters. A carnival of school and college students and cultural programmes including the various dance forms of several states and folk dances of Tamilnadu organised by the South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur, Information and Public Relations department added colour to the Republic day fete. A float depicting the model of late Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa's memorial in the form of a phoenix bird, was also displayed. The float displayed by the Information and Public Department was adjudged as the best float at the parade.

26th TANKER Annual Charity and Awards Nite 2019



TANKER Foundation held its 26th Annual Charity and Awards Nite on Friday, 25th January 2018 at 5.45 pm at Hotel Savera, RK Salai, Chennai. For the past Ten years we have used this special night as a platform to recognise and appreciate the efforts of professionals working tirelessly to improve the lives of people, especially the underprivileged with kidney disease. This year the function began with The Mrs. Malathi Venkatesan TANKER Foundation Memorial Lecture by Mr. Lourd Vijay an International Salsa dancer, a Guinness World Record holder, Cultural Ambassador to South Africa, who has created a Latin dance revolution by bringing Salsa to India and now working on creating a new revolution of saving lives through the 'Spreading Hope' Foundation. He talked on "Spreading Hope- before & after transplant" at 6 pm. He spoke of his experiences as a busy successful dancer who suddenly was confronted with kidney failure and high Blood Pressure and was put on dialysis immediately. His message to people was to slow down in life, understand your body, eat and drink right and do not give up thinking that kidney failure is the end of life. He is back to dancing and teaching and spreads the message of organ donation through his Spreading Hope Foundation. This was followed at 7.00 pm by the presentation of the following Awards. The K. V. George Kottukulam Memorial TANKER & Kerala Kidney Research Foundation Young Investigator Award for outstanding research done in the field of Nephrology in India was awarded to Dr. D. V. S. Sudhakar for his research into "Genetic studies on Uddanam Nephropathy: A chronic kidney disease of unknown etiology".

The award carried a cash prize of Rs. 2,00,000/-, a citation and a gold medallion. The Renny Abraham TANKER Foundation Love for Service Award for a medical doctor who has gone beyond the call of duty in serving the underprivileged was awarded to Dr. T. S. Chandrasekar, MedIndia Hospitals and Medindia Charitable Trust. The award carried a cash prize of Rs. 1,00,000/-, a citation and a gold medallion. The La Renon TANKER Foundation For the Sake of Honour Award given to an individual who has done exemplary work in his or her field was awarded to Mr. Lourd Vijay an International Salsa dancer, a Guinness World Record holder, Cultural Ambassador to South Africa, who has created a Latin dance revolution by bringing Salsa to India and now working on creating a new revolution of saving lives through the 'Spreading Hope' Foundation. The award carried a cash prize of Rs. 1,00,000/-, a citation and a gold medallion. The La Renon TANKER Foundation Lifetime Achievement Awards given to an individual who has done exemplary work in the field of Nephrology was awarded to Dr. Kumud P Mehta (Mumbai) and Dr. Ghulam Hassan Malik (Srinagar). The award carried a cash prize of Rs. 1,00,000/-, a citation and a gold medallion each. The K. Venkatanarayana TANKER Foundation Awareness Award given to an individual for creating awareness of any disease, mental, physical and social was awarded to Dr. A. V. Srinivasan who has been creating awareness of Parkinson's disease, Dementia, Stroke, Epilepsy, Depression and other neurological disorders through his books, talks and free clinics. The award carried a cash prize of Rs. 1,00,000/-, a citation and a gold medallion.

The Ashok Sankaralingam TANKER Foundation Patient Endowment - One year dialysis support was given for 3 underprivileged deserving patients with kidney failure Rs. 1,00,000/-. Five of TANKER's valued staff who have been with TANKER for over 10 years were recognized for their dedication and service. Dr. Georgi Abraham, Founder Trustee of TANKER Foundation welcomed the gathering and spoke of the importance of creating awareness of the disease and reaching out to the marginalized with free dialysis treatment so that they may live in dignity and lead fruitful lives. Mrs. Latha Kumaraswami, Managing Trustee, Tanker Foundation gave an update on TANKER activities. She said TANKER has provided 271,237 free and subsidized dialysis for 1362 patients and also given financial support of Rs. 191 Lakhs to 3047 patients and reached out to 1.67 lakh people with the 1080 Awareness Programmes, screened 29,788 individuals for early detection of kidney disease through their 338 screening camps. She also thanked the CMCHIS, Greater Chennai Corporation, various Rotary Clubs, Round Table organizations, Corporates, Trusts and individual donors who have helped TANKER in their mission to help the underprivileged with kidney ailments. The Chief Guest Mr. G. R. Ananthapadmanabhan, Managing Director, GRT Group spoke about his appreciation of TANKER's activities and said that the GRT Group would continue to give their support. He also presented the awards. This was followed by games, prizes, and dinner. We thank all our well-wishers, sponsors and donors especially Mrs. Nina Reddy for sponsoring the dinner at Savera Hotel.

Additional passenger trains from Beach Station are needed



Often gets halted at Basin Bridge signal for platform clearance as the movement of trains are increasing. In an effort to decongest the traffic at the Chennai Central railway station a few trains can start from Beach station via Royapuram. Moreover Beach station will well connected once the Chennai Metro train service opens at High Court. Chennai Beach already serves the important suburban services of the Chennai suburban railway and Mass Rapid Transit System. But presently only a few passenger trains are operated from Beach station even though being a major MTC bus transportation hub for passengers destined to north and northwest Chennai. Trains are operated from Beach station every day to Beach-Tambaram-Chengalpattu sector and Beach Velachery MRTS sector, in addition to train services to Gummidipoondi and Ennore in the north and Avadi, Pattabiram and Thiruvallur.

Art Exhibition at Soul Spice Art Gallery

An art exhibition by talented and well known artist A. Viswam, Village Mookkaiya and K.R. Karthikeyan was inaugurated in a grand manner on 24th January 2019 by senior artist Kalai Chemmal B.R. Anna Pillai, Founder-President of Tamil Nadu Arts and Crafts Improvement Association at Soul Spice Art Gallery 21/11, CIT Colony, 1st Main Road, Mylapore, Chennai. The show is sponsored by Oviya Nunkalai Kuzhu Art and Culture, Government of Tamil Nadu. The show is on till 5th February 2019.

