

DR DATHU RAO MEMORIAL CHARITABLE TRUST



ANNUAL REPORT

2024-2025

“PATHWAY”

CENTRE FOR REHABILITATION & EDUCATION
OF THE INTELLECTUAL DISABLED

E-76/1, 12th West Street, Opp Judge's Avenue, Kamaraj Nagar, Thiruvananthapuram,
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FROM THE CO-FOUNDER-HON.DIRECTOR'S DESK

A LEGACY OF COMPASSION: REFLECTING ON 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

As we close yet another successful year, we stand humbled and proud to mark a significant milestone—fifty glorious years of unwavering commitment to serving those in need. This golden jubilee is not just a celebration of time passed but a testament to the vision, dedication, and collective spirit that has carried us forward. We are deeply grateful to every individual—past and present—who has been part of this journey, supporting us with their time, resources, and goodwill.

Through the decades, our mission has remained rooted in compassion, dignity, and service to the marginalized. Despite facing numerous challenges and setbacks along the way, each obstacle has only strengthened our resolve and deepened our faith in the work we do. The journey has never been easy, but it has always been meaningful.

The year began with several ongoing infrastructure projects. Thanks to the generous support of our benefactors and well-wishers, we completed the renovation of our guest house and gazebo, upgraded the bathrooms at Sabin Home, and painted the Sabin buildings and stage. We also successfully carried out full interior and exterior painting at our Chennai centre, giving the space a much-needed renewal. Natural calamities, which have long been a recurring theme in our lives, did not spare us this year either. Yet, as always, these trials brought forth an opportunity to give selflessly. During the devastating floods, our Community Rehabilitation Service reached more than 200 families across 24 villages, offering relief, care, and dignity to those most affected.

A landmark event this year was the celebration of our Golden Jubilee and Founder's Day. We had the honour of recognising the tireless efforts of our staff from all three centres. A cherished highlight was the release of our commemorative journey book, *"A Leaf in the Stream,"* by the founder couple's son, Mr. Chetan Prasad. This publication is not merely a record but a heartfelt tribute to the enduring vision that has guided us for five decades. In memory of our beloved founder, we also launched a new project—the installation of a Solar Water Pump, inaugurated by the renowned Mr. Amit Sachdeva, widely respected as the "CSR Man of India." His presence added immense value to the occasion and reminded us of the power of socially conscious leadership.

The new financial year began on an uplifting note with the celebration of World Autism Day at all our centres. We were overjoyed to welcome back our children—many of whom were new admissions—and felt a renewed sense of purpose. The trust and confidence placed in us by children, parents, and society at large has only strengthened our commitment to provide a life of dignity and opportunity for those we serve.

Our ongoing work and impact were recognised by prestigious organisations including ASSOCHAM Southern Region, TALENT VALUE Media Pvt Ltd, and RBL Bank—acknowledgements that we hold with deep appreciation.



Educational enrichment remained a core focus. Various educational tours were organised across our centres, offering our students broader perspectives and new experiences. In the agricultural sector, we had a fruitful paddy harvest, though unpredictable weather hampered vegetable production. However, our coconut and mango groves flourished following dedicated maintenance efforts.

Driven by a desire to expand our outreach, we extended vital services to 24 remote villages, providing physiotherapy and dental/oral screenings. We are especially proud of the assistance offered to children and adults with disabilities—efforts that speak to the very soul of our mission.

Our work would not be possible without the enduring support of our friends, donors, and partners. We were privileged to host Mr. Robert and Mrs. MaryAnn Parsons, and Mr. Matt and Mrs. Karen Parsons—second cousins of Mr. Gary Sabin—whose visit was a touching reminder of our global community. We were equally honoured by visits from Mr. Amit Sachdeva, Mr. A. Joseph Xavier (Retired Assistant Director, Office of the Commissionerate for Welfare of the Differently Abled), and Mr. Joseph D. Ravi (Retired District Disabled Rehabilitation Officer).

Our work would not be possible without the enduring support of our friends, donors, and partners across the globe. We are deeply grateful to the **Sabin Foundation**, and to **Mr. Gary and Mrs. Valerie Sabin**, whose steadfast commitment continues to guide and sustain us. We are equally thankful to **Mr. Eric Otteson, A Brighter Path** led by **Mr. Alex and Mrs. Pamela Martinez** whose legacy of generosity lives on. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to **Mr. and Mrs. William P. Benac, Mr. Bill Benac Jr., Mr. Tim Fewkes and family, Mr. BJ Butel, and Mr. Jean-Luc Butel** for their continued support and belief in our cause. The dedicated contributions of **Kinderhilfe-Drawing & Sponsorship Emmaus, Mr. Kirsten & Keyne Monson and Jim & Karen Dossdall** have made an extraordinary impact, helping us reach more lives in need. We are also especially thankful to **Mr. Shant Jain**, Trustee, for overseeing the farm and school unit renovations with remarkable dedication and without any remuneration. His selfless service is a shining example of the spirit that defines our journey.

Our sincere thanks also extend to the Government of Tamil Nadu, including the districts of Chennai and Chengalpattu, and the Government of India, whose grants and collaboration have been invaluable in expanding and sustaining our initiatives.

Finally, to our devoted staff—we acknowledge your tireless efforts, your commitment, and your compassion. You are the heart of this organisation, and through your service, we continue to bring light to many lives. As a member of the editorial board, I hope that this report serves not only as a record of our year but as a source of inspiration. We move forward with gratitude in our hearts and a steadfast resolve to continue serving the most vulnerable with dignity, compassion, and hope.

ORGANIZATION BOARD

Pathway has a clearly defined Memorandum and Articles of Association which directs the working of the organisation. This society has a distinguished Board of Trustees

DR DATHU RAO MEMORIAL CHARITABLE TRUST ORGANIZATION – BOARD

❖ The board members meet at least four times a year to transact the business of the organization and meets every year to conduct the Annual General Body meeting to review the work of the organization and resolve various important issues, including: Acceptance and passage of yearly budget.

- ❖ Reviews of audit accounts and balance sheet , Appointment of auditors and lawyer
- ❖ Election of officers, Long- range planning and development goals of the centres
- ❖ Offers general direction in the everyday operation of the organization.

ORGANIZATION – GOVERNANCE

Pathway has a clearly defined Memorandum and Articles of Association which directs the working of the organisation. This society has a distinguished Board of Trustees

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



MRS. DHULI PATNAIK
PRESIDENT

MR. ABHIJEET PAREKH
VICE-PRESIDENT

MRS. CHANDRA PRASAD
GENERAL SECRETARY

MR. SANTHANAGOPALAN ACHUTAN
TREASURER



EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Mr. M A RAMAR

MR. SHANTH K JAIN

MRS USHA RAMMOHAN

GENERAL BODY MEMBERS

MRS DHANAM DHARMARAJ

MR R SUNDAR

AUDITOR

SRIDHAR KRISHNAMURTHY
& ASSOCIATES



Pathway is run under the auspices of Dr. Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust a Registered Society under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act.

❖ Recognized by the office of the Commissioner for the Differently Abled, Government of Tamil Nadu (Department of Differently Abled Welfare).

The organization receives an annual grant-in-aid from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.

The organization receives grant in aid from the office of Commissioner for the Differently Abled, Government of Tamil Nadu (Department of Differently Abled Welfare) for the project “Pathway - Sabin Home for persons with Intellectual Disability and Associated Conditions”

Pathway is monitored and audited yearly by independent parties to ensure proper implementation of all finances and governance.

RECOGNITION AND GRANT-IN-AID



- ❖ Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India
- ❖ Office of the State Commissioner for the Differently Abled, Government of TN
- ❖ Department of Social Welfare as a recognized Orphanage.

REGISTRATION AND PERMISSION

- ❖ Director of Exemptions, Dept. of Income Tax, Govt. of India, Nungambakkam, Chennai U/S 80G of the Income Tax Act.
- ❖ Ministry of Home Affairs under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, Government of India, New Delhi
- ❖ Registered with The National Trust for Autism, under section 12(4) of the Act for the welfare of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Disabilities and Mental Retardation, Government of India, New Delhi
- ❖ Registered under Section 53 of Justice Juvenile Act, 2015, Dept of Social Defense, Govt of TN
- ❖ Registered under Section 34(3) of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2000, amended in 2006 and rules therein., The State Govt/Director of Social Welfare-Child Welfare .
- ❖ Registrar of Societies (South), Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Chennai
- ❖ Registered with Department of Social welfare, Govt of Tamil Nadu under Orphanages and other Charitable homes supervision and control act 1960
- ❖ Registered with Department of Social Welfare, govt. of Tamil Nadu under section 51(2) of the Rights of the Persons with Disability Act, 2016
- ❖ Registered under TN Recognized Private Schools (Regulations) Act, 1973 and Rules 1974
- ❖ Registered with Directorate of Matriculation Schools, Govt of Tamil Nadu
- ❖ Registered under NGO-Darpan Portal of NITI AAYOG, Govt of India

The details of each registration is given below

❖ **CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION- CHENNAI**

Recognised by **Commissioner For Welfare Of The Differently Abled**, Chennai As Special School Cum Vocational Training Centre For The Intellectual Disabled For The Period **07.04.2023 To 06.04.2026**

❖ **CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION- CHENNAI**

Recognised by **Commissioner For Welfare Of The Differently Abled**, Chennai As Special School Cum Vocational Training Centre For The Intellectual Disabled For The Period **07.04.2023 To 06.04.2026**

❖ **CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION-PATHWAY-SABIN CHENGALPATTU**

Registration is renewed to “**SABIN/ PATHWAY HOME FOR PERSONS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY AND ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS – REHABILITATION CENTRE**, No:1 A.D.S.N Prasad Street, Agili Village, Sendivakkam Post, Via Sothupakkam, Maduranthakam Taluk, Chengalpattu District – 603319, as an institution for the persons with Disabilities vide Regn. No. 315/2024 under Section 51 (2) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 to run a Home & Vocational Training Centre For Intellectually Disabled which is **valid from 01.07.2024 TO 07.03.2027**

❖ **CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION UNDER JJ ACT -PAMELA MARTINEZ/PATHWAY MATRICULATION SCHOOL CHILDREN'S HOME**

This Certificate of Registration renewal is awarded to – **PAMELA MARTINEZ PATHWAY MATRICULATION SCHOOL CHILDREN'S HOME**, (Dr. Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust) No:1 A.D.S.N Prasad Street, Agili Village, Sendivakkam Post, Via Sothupakkam, Maduranthakam Taluk, Chengalpattu **District - 603319 of Tamil Nadu** as an institution for children in need of care and protection vide SI.No.1285/DSD/2020 under section 41(1) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015, therein valid from **08.05.2024 to 08.05.2030**

❖ **CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION UNDER DEPT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION- PAMELA MARTINEZ/PATHWAY MATRICULATION SCHOOL CHILDREN'S HOME**

This Certificate of Recognition renewal is awarded to – **PAMELA MARTINEZ PATHWAY MATRICULATION SCHOOL CHILDREN'S HOME**, (Dr. Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust) No:1 A.D.S.N Prasad Street, Agili Village, Sendivakkam Post, Via Sothupakkam, Maduranthakam Taluk, Chengalpattu **District - 603319 of Tamil Nadu** - Chief Educational officer proceedings S NO 3833/A1/2021 dated 30.06.2024 as per the provisions of rule 9 of the Tamil Nadu Private Schools (Regulation) Rules, 2023 , Grant of renewal of Recognition from LKG TO X grade for the period from **01.07.2024 to 30 .06.2027**

❖ **CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION (UNDER SECTION 12 (4) OF THE ACT)**
REGISTRATION NO. TDRD16513235267

PATHWAY CENTRE FOR REHABILITATION AND EDUCATION FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABLED a unit of DR. D. M. C. TRUST, 12TH WEST, STREET, CHENNAI, Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600041 (SR/Company Act/ Public Charitable Trust : S.No.7 of 1985) Voluntary Organisation is registered with The National Trust. The Registration shall remain valid from **15/05/2021 to 14/05/2026**

❖ **CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION FOR CSR ACTIVITIES FROM MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS, GOVT OF INDIA**

Registration No. CSR00015933

IN EVERY SOUL A SEED OF STRENGTH

Pathway was founded in 1975 with just two children in a small rented house in Chennai, India. Dr. A. D. S. N. Prasad, an Audiologist and Speech Pathologist, recognized a profound gap in the care and rehabilitation of individuals with intellectual disabilities. Determined to make a difference, he laid the foundation for what would become a pioneering effort in inclusive care and education. From these modest beginnings, Pathway has grown into a beacon of hope, serving more than 41,950 children and adults through a city-based center and two rural agricultural facilities.

At the heart of Pathway is Dr. Prasad's guiding belief:

“EVERY INDIVIDUAL SHOULD BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO REALIZE THEIR POTENTIAL AND LIVE WITH DIGNITY AND SELF-RESPECT, REGARDLESS OF MENTAL OR PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS.”

Pathway is a voluntary, charitable, nonprofit, and non-governmental organization. It is committed to serving all individuals—without discrimination of religion, caste, creed, or background—with compassion, respect, and equity.



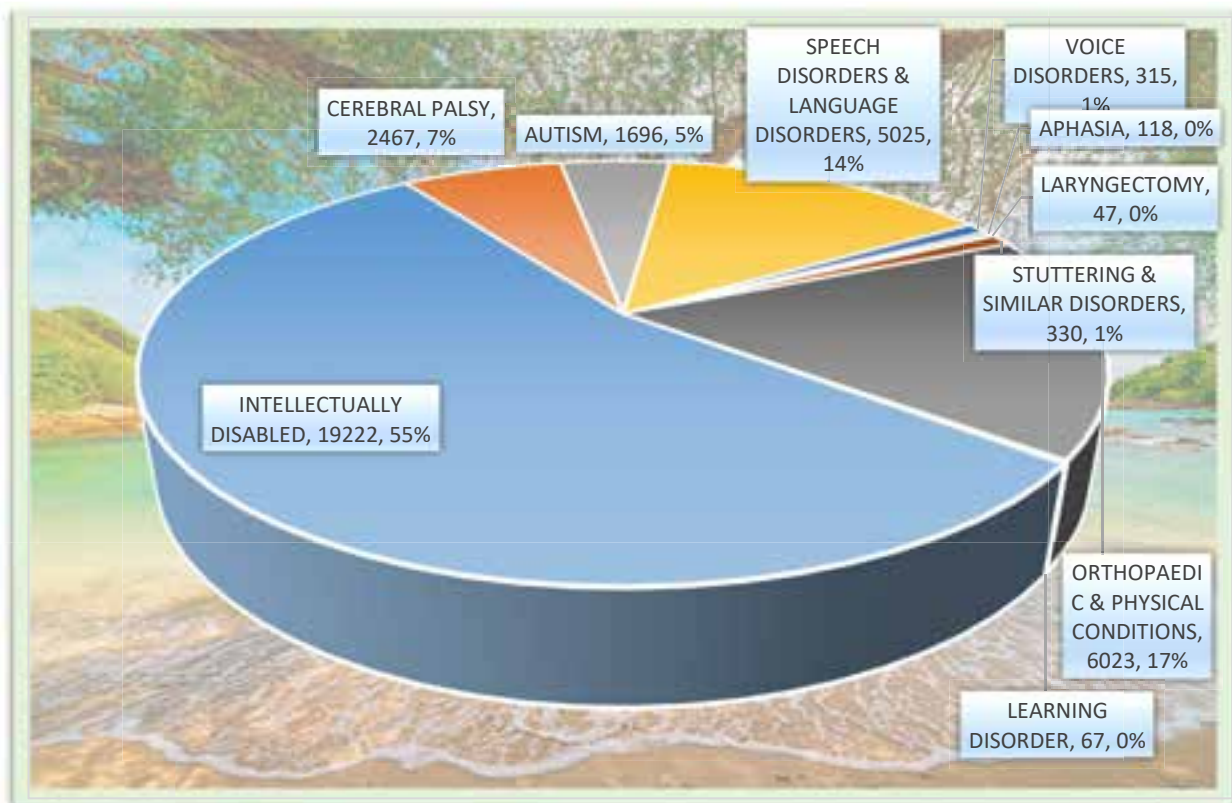
PATHWAY

CENTRE FOR REHABILITATION & EDUCATION
OF THE INTELLECTUAL DISABLED



PATHWAY'S TEAM OF SPECIALISTS INCLUDES

SPEECH PATHOLOGIST AND AUDIOLOGIST	PHYSIOTHERAPIST
CON.PSYCHIATRIST	OCCUPATIONAL
SURGEON	THERAPIST
YOGA INSTRUCTOR	SPECIAL EDUCATORS
PSYCHOLOGIST	DENTISTS
CREATIVE DRAMA AND ART THERAPIST	NUTRITIONIST
PEDIATRICIAN	VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTOR
CON. NEUROLOGIST	PHYSICIANS etc



CONDITION - 1974 to 2025	NO. OF CASES
INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED	19222
CEREBRAL PALSY	2467
AUTISM	1696
SPEECH DISORDERS & LANGUAGE DISORDERS	5025
VOICE DISORDERS	315
APHASIA	118
LARYNGECTOMY	47
STUTTERING & SIMILAR DISORDERS	330
ORTHOPAEDIC & PHYSICAL CONDITIONS	6023
LEARNING DISORDER	67
OTHERS	32
NO. OF CASES HELPED	35342
NO OF CASES SCREENED	35842



MEDICAL UNIT



Pathway has been extending medical centre services to the inmates as well as the community around it. The below given statistics are from the last financial year. Pathway's medical programme is a comprehensive and continues to grow. Established 40 years ago in a rented building in the slums of Thiruvanniyur, Kamarajnagar, the medical centre is committed to providing care for both Pathway beneficiaries as well as to the surrounding neighbourhood. Medical centre began with a modest grant from the Drawings & Sponsorship EMMAUS of Switzerland. Established under the direction of late Dr. V. Shankaran, Professor of Surgery (Retd). Now located within the Pathway Centre building in Thiruvanniyur, with funding from :

❖ Judge William Sheffield, USA

❖ Mr. Jean-Luc and Mrs. Carole Butel, USA

On average over 4,263 patients are treated every month at the medical facility:

- ❖ Nearly 1194 are men.
- ❖ Over 3069 are women and children

The medical centre runs now with the help of three visiting doctors namely- Dr Aruna , Dr. N Jagannathan and Dr. Manoprakash. The medical centre has the following capabilities:

CONDITION	NO OF CASES	CONDITION	NO OF CASES	CONDITION	NO OF CASES	CONDITION	NO OF CASES
FEVER	1245	INJURY	684	ECZEMA	670	MUSCLE SPASM	1173
RESPIRATORY INFECTION	1275	DYS MENORRHOEA	138	CHEST PAIN	824	ACUTE GASTRITIS APD	1123
ACUTE GASTRO	1314	ASTH BRONCHITIS	1595	DIABETES FOOT SYNDROME	550	GIDDINESS + NAUSEA	1649
HYPERTENSION	1119	DIABETES	980	MYALGIA	1155	SEIZURE DISORDER	1522
ABDOMINAL PAIN	1314	ARTHRITIS & ORTHOTIC	4	EYE/ THROAT INFECTION	563	GENERAL MEDICAL CHECKUP	32263
TOTAL - 51160 - MEN-28%, WOMEN - 44% AND CHILDREN 28%							

Total number of cases treated is 51160 Men : 14325, Women and Children : 36835

GENERAL MEDICAL CONSULTATION	DRESSING AND INJECTION AREA	PEDIATRIC CARE	PHARMACY
MINOR SURGICAL PROBLEMS	PSYCHIATRIC OUT PATIENT CARE	MEDICAL STORE	TREATMENT ROOM

GARBAGE CLEANING EXECUTED EVERY ALTERNATE DAY



SPRAYING OF MEDICINE DONE EVERY MONTH

The other basic measures taken are the following -

- Staff and children staying in our centre and day care have been instructed the following
- Clean your hands often. Use soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Maintain a safe distance from anyone who is coughing or sneezing.
- Wear a mask when physical distancing is not possible.
- Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Cover your nose and mouth with your bent elbow or a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Stay home if you feel unwell.
- If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, to report immediately
- Wearing of masks whenever necessary
- Proper use of sanitisers
- Teaching and demonstration classes conducted on the above
- Physically training the kids to make their masks with proper instructions
- Discussed the advantages of not meeting and shaking hands with anyone
- Looking into their personal hygiene and safety

- Conducting daily visit by medical doctors, checking their temperatures and bp. Instructing parents of day care children to avail our medical facilities.
- Provisions and monetary assistance given to all our day care and temporary custodial kids
- Any kind of emergency and help can be reported to the concerned staff and immediate action taken on that.
- The centre will enroll all the children irrespective of ages in government Insurance scheme known as NIRMAYA
- Corporation has been instructed to spray medication outside the building and wash rooms, corridors etc every week
- Garbage refuse is collected everyday by the corporation
- Maintenance and cleanliness is maintained on daily basis
- Fresh food is supplied daily, vegetables are ordered every week and provisions for a month.
- No refrigerated food is offered to any one
- Phone facility is offered and Counselling is done by their special educators and psychologists
- Therapeutic work like gardening, TV, bakery and handicraft making is introduced with proper instruction

2024-2025	
TYPE OF VOCATION	NO. OF TRAINEES
WEAVING	25
GREETING CARD: HANDMADE	10
JEWELLERY MAKING /PAPER MACHE	15
SPECIAL ARTIFACT WITH BEADS	20
BAKING	10
MAKING OF PRESENTATION ITEMS	15
GARDENING	12
SELLING VARIOUS PRODUCE	4
PACKAGING	2
HELPERS	8
CLEANING & BOOK BINDING	6



CHENNAI STAFF

Pathway currently employs a total of 48 staff members at the Chennai centre, plus 4 honorary experts

STAFF	N O.	STAFF	N O.	STAFF	N O.
SPEECH PATHOLOGIST & AUDIOLOGIST-part time	1	ASSISTANT TEACHERS	3	HELPERS	6
PEDIATRICIAN	1	OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST	1	CLEANERS	3
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON	2	YOGA INSTRUCTOR	1	ACCOUNTANT	2
DENTIST	1	PHYSIOTHERAPIST	2	PUBLIC RELATION OFFICER	1
NURSE	2	VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTORS	4	WATCHMAN	1
MEDICAL/DENTAL ASSISTANTS	2	BAKERY ASSISTANT	1	DRIVERS	2
SPECIAL EDUCATORS	13	WARDEN	1	COOK	2

AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

Celebrating Neurodiversity, Fostering Inclusion



April 2nd is globally recognized as World Autism Awareness Day, a significant occasion that brings attention to the need for greater understanding, acceptance, and inclusion of individuals on the autism spectrum. Observed by countries around the world, the day is marked by educational initiatives, public

awareness campaigns, and the powerful "Light It Up Blue" movement, in which iconic landmarks and buildings are illuminated in blue as a show of solidarity with the autism community.

At Pathway Centre, Autism Awareness Day 2024 was commemorated with enthusiasm, compassion, and a clear commitment to inclusivity. Our celebration was not merely symbolic—it

was a



meaningful demonstration of our belief in the strength, potential, and dignity of individuals with autism. A series of well-planned events throughout the day brought together students, educators, families, and the wider community



in a shared effort to spread awareness and honor neurodiversity.

The day began with a guided awareness walk to Besant Nagar Beach and Thiruvanmiyur Beach. Students and staff, all dressed in blue to represent the global campaign, actively engaged with the public.





Holding placards and posters featuring messages of support and information about autism, our students shared conversations and leaflets with beachgoers, helping to challenge stereotypes and spark important conversations. These interactions emphasized the importance of social visibility and community education in building a more accepting world.

One of the most impactful moments of the day was the illumination of our campus buildings in soft blue lights, as part of the worldwide "Light It Up Blue" initiative. This visual display was more than just an aesthetic gesture—it symbolized hope, unity, and our

unwavering support for individuals with autism and their families. The lighting ceremony, attended by students, staff, and visitors, included a moment of reflection and a candle-lighting segment, creating a serene and meaningful close to the day's events.

In addition to the public awareness activities, the Centre hosted a variety of engaging programs for students. Drawing competitions and team-based games offered opportunities for creativity, collaboration, and expression. The art activities invited students to depict themes such as "What Makes Me Unique" and "My World," encouraging them to share their individual perspectives and talents. The games promoted social interaction and confidence in a fun, supportive environment tailored to the diverse needs of our students.



Educational sessions were also held to deepen understanding of autism among students, teachers, and parents. Using stories, videos, and interactive discussions, facilitators highlighted the varied experiences of individuals with autism and emphasized the value of acceptance and respect. A special roundtable was organized for parents and caregivers, providing a safe



space for them to share their experiences, challenges, and successes. These conversations fostered empathy, strengthened community ties, and reinforced the importance of collaborative support.

World Autism Awareness Day serves as a reminder that autism is not a limitation, but a different way of experiencing the world. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental condition that affects communication, social interaction, and behavior. Each individual on the spectrum is unique, possessing distinct strengths and challenges. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that they are seen, heard, and empowered.

At Pathway Centre, we remain deeply committed to creating an environment where all individuals—regardless of ability—are valued and supported. Through awareness, education, and inclusion, we strive to build a future where neurodiversity is celebrated and where

every individual has the opportunity to thrive.

ELECTION AND SURVEY



On 19th April 2024, during the Lok Sabha Election, your special children, along with the Director Madam and the staff, exercised their right to vote, showcasing their pride as citizens of our Nation. This event highlights the significance of participation in the democratic process and the pride that comes with it, symbolizing the inclusiveness of the electoral system. It's a moment of empowerment, where everyone, regardless of their background or abilities, can take part in the nation's future.



The Lok Sabha Election in Tamil Nadu is an important part of the national electoral process. As a state in India, Tamil Nadu plays a significant role in determining the composition of the Lok Sabha, which ultimately influences the formation of the central government. The election in Tamil Nadu follows the same principles as the rest of the country, with eligible voters electing representatives to the Lok Sabha from various constituencies in the state.

In the Lok Sabha Election of April 2024, Tamil Nadu will elect its representatives from 39 constituencies (out of 543 constituencies in India). The election will see a large turnout of voters, as people in Tamil Nadu actively engage in the democratic process. The state's elections are often a mix of national and regional issues, with various local parties participating alongside national political parties.

On 19th April 2024, during the Lok Sabha Election, special children, along with the Director and staff, cast their votes as proud citizens of the nation, including those in Tamil Nadu. Their participation in the voting process reflects the inclusive nature of the election, where every citizen, regardless of their background, has the opportunity to contribute to the democratic process and the future of the nation.

The Tamil Nadu Lok Sabha Election holds a lot of importance as the state has a significant influence on national politics, and the outcome will have a direct impact on the central government's policies and priorities. The election is an essential occasion for the people of Tamil Nadu to exercise their democratic right and participate in shaping the future of the country.

Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP): A Guide to Voter Awareness Initiatives

Democracy thrives on active participation, and voting is the cornerstone of a functional democracy. However, ensuring voter awareness and maximum electoral participation requires dedicated efforts. The Election Commission of India (ECI) launched the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) program to educate citizens about their voting rights, encourage voter registration, and boost voter turnout. SVEEP employs a range of activities to engage different segments of the population and ensure that every eligible citizen exercises their right to vote.





For any SVEEP activity to be effective, strategic planning is crucial. The first step is to identify the target audience, which includes first-time voters, women, differently-abled individuals, senior citizens, and marginalized communities. Different voter groups require tailored approaches to address their unique challenges and concerns regarding electoral participation.

Setting clear objectives is another essential step in organizing SVEEP activities. These objectives may include increasing voter registration, educating citizens about the electoral process, promoting ethical and informed voting, and reducing voter apathy.

Choosing the right mode of outreach plays a significant role in the success of these initiatives. Mass media campaigns through television, radio, and newspapers help disseminate information widely, while on-ground activities such as rallies, street plays, and door-to-door campaigns provide direct engagement. Educational

institutions serve as excellent platforms for voter awareness programs, and technology-driven initiatives such as mobile apps and digital media campaigns further enhance outreach.

Implementation of Activities

Once a strategy is developed, SVEEP activities must be executed effectively. One of the most impactful initiatives is the voter registration drive, which involves setting up camps in schools, colleges, workplaces, and public spaces to facilitate easy registration. Booth Level Officers (BLOs) play a crucial role in assisting new voters and guiding them through the registration process.

Awareness campaigns are another important component of SVEEP. These can include seminars, cultural events, and the distribution of informative pamphlets and banners. Collaborating with influencers, community leaders, and celebrities can further amplify the message and reach a larger audience.

Educational institutions play a key role in voter awareness by setting up Electoral Literacy Clubs (ELCs), which conduct quizzes, debates, and essay competitions on electoral rights and responsibilities. Students and youth ambassadors can take pledges to encourage responsible voting and educate their peers.



To ensure that voters are familiar with the voting process, mock polling booths are set up in various locations, allowing citizens to practice using Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) systems. This initiative helps in reducing confusion and hesitation on election day.



Another vital aspect of SVEEP activities is the inclusion of marginalized and special groups.

Women-centric programs are organized to encourage female voter participation, while special provisions are made to ensure accessibility for differently-abled voters. In rural and tribal areas, interactive approaches such as street plays and folk performances help in spreading electoral awareness effectively.



Assessing the impact of SVEEP activities is crucial for continuous improvement. Comparing voter turnout rates before and after the implementation of SVEEP initiatives provides insight into their effectiveness. Identifying challenges and understanding voter concerns help in refining strategies for future campaigns.

Engaging volunteers and local bodies such as NGOs, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and National Service Scheme (NSS) or National Cadet Corps (NCC) members enhances the reach and effectiveness of SVEEP activities. Encouraging citizens to become SVEEP ambassadors ensures sustained voter education efforts beyond the election period.

Collecting feedback from participants through surveys and community discussions helps in evaluating the success of various initiatives. This data

can be used to make improvements and design more effective voter awareness campaigns in the

On election day, several measures are implemented to ensure smooth voter participation. Setting up help desks at polling stations assists voters with queries and provides necessary information. Special

provisions for differently-abled and elderly voters, such as wheelchair assistance and priority queues, make the voting process more inclusive. Encouraging early voting and family participation in the electoral process fosters a culture of voting. Initiatives like selfie points at polling booths with hashtags like #ProudVoter serve as motivation for others to cast their votes. Some districts also implement reward-based incentives, such as appreciation certificates, to recognize dedicated voters.

The success of democracy depends on an informed and active electorate. SVEEP activities play a crucial role in ensuring voter awareness and increasing electoral participation. By employing diverse strategies, leveraging technology, and engaging communities, SVEEP ensures that every eligible citizen exercises their right to vote. The continuous monitoring, creative outreach, and inclusive approach of SVEEP make it a powerful initiative in strengthening the democratic process. Through collective efforts and widespread awareness, SVEEP contributes to making elections more transparent, accessible, and participatory.

SUMMER VACATION PROGRAMME

Birla Planetarium and Besant Nagar Beach



galaxies, and the universe's formation, all narrated by experts. The children would have had the opportunity to explore the cosmos, learn about constellations, and understand the importance of space exploration in a fun, interactive way.

In addition to the planetarium, there are educational displays, models, and exhibits about space technology, celestial bodies, and famous space missions. These exhibits encourage children to dive deeper into the

The Birla Planetarium, located in the heart of Chennai, is a renowned center for science and astronomy education. It is part of the Birla Science Center, which was established to make learning about space science more accessible and engaging for students and the general public. The Planetarium features an advanced dome-shaped auditorium equipped with high-tech projectors that simulate the night sky. Visitors can watch fascinating shows about stars, planets,





wonders of the universe. The atmosphere is ideal for sparking curiosity and inspiring young minds to think about space science and the possibilities it holds.

Educational Session: The children participated in a Planetarium Show, which was an immersive experience where they learned about space science, the solar system, and the mysteries of the universe. The show included visual projections of celestial bodies, making learning fun and interactive. **Interactive Activities:** After the show, the children engaged in a quiz

competition, testing their knowledge about the planets, stars, and the universe. The children worked in teams, answering questions and earning points. The winners received small prizes.

Arts and Crafts: Children participated in a hands-on activity where they created their own models of the solar system, drawing and coloring the planets and other celestial bodies. They worked in groups, making it a collaborative learning experience.

Trip to Besant Nagar Beach: The children spent time playing on the beach, collecting seashells, and enjoying the fresh sea breeze. Teachers organized beach games such as frisbee, volleyball, and relay races, fostering teamwork and outdoor fun.



Kalaingar Memorial Museum and Lighthouse

The Kalaingar Memorial Museum, also known as the M. Karunanidhi Memorial, is dedicated to the life and legacy of M. Karunanidhi, the late Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. The museum stands as a tribute to his decades-long service to the people of Tamil Nadu and his contributions to politics, art, and culture. The children would have learned about his pivotal role in shaping the political landscape of Tamil Nadu and India, as well as his advocacy for social justice and education.

The museum is filled with photographs, personal items, and memorabilia from his political career. There are also exhibits showcasing his involvement in Tamil cinema and literature, which helped establish him as a cultural icon. The museum offers an educational experience, connecting children with the state's rich political history and its iconic leaders. The children would have gained insight into his life, the challenges he faced, and the positive changes he helped bring to society.



The Chennai Lighthouse, an iconic landmark on the Marina Beach, has been guiding ships along the southeastern coast of India for over a century. The lighthouse stands tall at about 150 feet and is an excellent vantage point for panoramic views of the city and the Bay of Bengal. Visitors are allowed to climb the lighthouse, where they can look out over the vast expanse of the ocean and the city skyline.

The children would have been excited to climb the spiral staircase and reach the top, where they could enjoy stunning views of the coastline and the busy streets of Chennai below. The lighthouse itself is a historic structure, and its role in maritime safety would have been an interesting topic of discussion for the children. The visit would have been both thrilling and educational, giving them a unique perspective of Chennai's coastal geography and maritime history.

Storytelling Session: The children listened to an engaging storytelling session about the life of M. Karunanidhi, focusing on his contributions to Tamil Nadu's political and cultural life. The teachers shared anecdotes from his life, helping the children connect with his legacy.

Museum Tour: The children toured the museum, learning about M. Karunanidhi's political achievements, his influence on Tamil cinema, and his role in advancing social justice. They were encouraged to take notes and identify significant items in the museum's collection.

Art Activity: Following the tour, children participated in an art competition, where they drew portraits of M. Karunanidhi or created illustrations depicting important events from his life. This allowed them to creatively express what they had learned.

At the lighthouse, the children took part in a historical scavenger hunt, where they searched for clues about the lighthouse's history, construction, and role in maritime safety. The children climbed to the top, where they could view the city and coast from a unique perspective.

Eco Park, Chetpet

The Eco Park in Chetpet is a lush, green space located in the heart of Chennai. It is a perfect escape from the city's hustle and bustle, offering a serene environment where children can connect with nature.



The park features walking trails, beautifully landscaped gardens, and a peaceful lake that allows for boating. It is an ideal spot for outdoor activities like cycling, birdwatching, and enjoying nature's tranquility.

The highlight of the trip for the children was likely the boating experience on the lake, where they could row boats on calm waters while surrounded by greenery. It's an experience that fosters teamwork, communication, and a love for nature. The children would have also had the chance to learn about eco-friendly practices and the importance of preserving green spaces in urban

environments. It's a place where the children could have fun while also learning about environmental conservation.

The children participated in a fun boating session on the park's picturesque lake, where they learned about water safety and the ecological importance of maintaining clean water bodies. Teachers explained the different types of plants and animals that depend on the lake.

The children took a guided nature walk, where they explored the park's flora and fauna. They were encouraged to take notes in a nature journal and observe the types of trees, flowers, and birds they could identify.

After the walk, the teachers organized a group discussion about the importance of preserving natural spaces, water bodies, and wildlife. The children were encouraged to share their ideas on how they can help protect the environment.

Eco-themed Arts and Crafts: The children created nature-themed crafts, such as leaf prints or animal masks, using materials found in the park. This hands-on activity allowed them to connect with nature while expressing their creativity.

Anna Nagar Tower and Marina Beach

The Anna Nagar Tower, also known as the Anna Tower or the "Ann Nagar Observation Tower," is one of Chennai's tallest and most popular landmarks. Standing at 135 feet, it provides a 360-degree view of the city from its observation deck. The children would have been excited to climb the 10-story tower and reach the top, where they could see the sprawling cityscape below.

From the observation deck, the children would have enjoyed an unobstructed view of nearby areas like



the Vepery region, and even glimpses of the Bay of Bengal on clear days. The tower is surrounded by a park, which adds to its charm as a recreational spot. This visit would have been a thrilling experience for the children, as they could see Chennai from a whole new perspective. The tower's elevated position offers an opportunity to understand the city's layout and development.

Marina Beach

Marina Beach is one of the most famous beaches in India and the second-longest urban beach in the world. Located along the southeastern coast of Chennai, it stretches for over 13 kilometers, offering wide sandy shores, cool sea breezes, and vibrant street markets. The children would have been excited to visit the beach, where they could play in the sand, enjoy the waves, and take part in beach games like frisbee, kite flying, and ball games.

The children could also have witnessed the bustling atmosphere of the beach, with local vendors selling snacks, toys, and souvenirs. The visit to Marina Beach likely included a walk along the promenade, where they could see historical monuments and statues, including the famous M.G. Ramachandran statue. The visit was not only a fun trip to the beach but also an opportunity for the children to learn about the cultural significance of Marina Beach as a public space for recreation, socialization, and leisure.

Observation Challenge: At Anna Nagar Tower, the children participated in an observation challenge, where they looked for landmarks and noted their locations. They used the tower's elevated position to understand the layout of the city and compare different regions.

Drawing Activity: After the observation, the children drew their interpretations of the city as seen from the tower. Some drew the skyline, while others focused on the parks and lakes they could spot from above.

Trip to Marina Beach: At the beach, the children participated in a series of fun beach games, including sandcastle building, relay races, and a seashell collection contest. The children were tasked with finding the most unique or colorful shells along the shoreline.

Environmental Awareness: Teachers organized an eco-awareness session, where children learned about the importance of keeping beaches clean and protecting marine life. The children also participated in a beach cleanup activity, picking up litter to help maintain the cleanliness of the beach.

Reflection Session: At the end of the day, the children gathered in a reflection circle to discuss their favorite parts of the trip, what they learned, and what they enjoyed the most. This gave them a chance to share their experiences and reflect on the lessons learned.

Vocational Program

Vocational Skills Session: On May 27th, Mrs. Sangeetha and Mrs. Manimegalai led a special vocational skills program, where they introduced the children to basic life skills, including simple tasks like stitching, basic cooking, and organizing materials. The aim was to teach children useful skills they can carry forward into their daily lives. **Hands-on Activities:** The children participated in activities like making simple crafts, learning the basics of handicrafts, or creating DIY projects that could be taken home. This was a more practical, skill-building day designed to foster creativity and independence.

Discussion: Teachers engaged the children in a discussion about how vocational skills can help in everyday life and prepare them for future challenges. They also talked about potential career paths in arts, crafts, and other vocational fields.

Snacks and Meals: Throughout the trips, the school provided snacks, drinks, and packed meals for both children and staff to ensure they stayed energized during their activities.

Private Transport: Comfortable private vans were arranged for transportation to each of the venues, ensuring safe and easy travel for the children and staff.

Team-building and Fun: The trips were designed not only to educate but also to build friendships and foster teamwork. Group activities, games, and discussions encouraged the children to work together, share ideas, and learn from each other.

The overall program was designed to be both educational and enjoyable, offering the children opportunities to learn about science, history, and nature while participating in fun activities that helped them develop social, creative, and physical skills. The trips allowed them to experience new places, make lasting memories, and learn important life lessons outside the classroom. Each of these locations provided a unique blend of education, history, culture, and fun, ensuring that the summer program was both enriching and enjoyable for the hostel children.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

“OUR LAND, OUR FUTURE”

World Environment Day is observed globally every year on June 5th to raise awareness and encourage action for environmental protection. Established by the United Nations Environment Programme



(UNEP) in 1972, it has grown into the largest international platform for environmental outreach, engaging governments, organizations, and individuals worldwide. This annual event serves as a reminder of the collective responsibility to safeguard our planet, combat environmental challenges, and promote sustainability.

Each year, World Environment Day highlights a specific theme that addresses pressing environmental issues. The theme for 2024 was "Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience", with the

powerful slogan "OUR LAND, OUR FUTURE." This theme underscores the urgent need to restore degraded land, prevent desertification, and enhance resilience against droughts. With nearly 40% of the world's land already degraded, affecting billions of people globally, this year's campaign aimed to emphasize the importance of sustainable land management, afforestation, and soil conservation. Healthy land is fundamental for biodiversity, agriculture, water resources, and climate regulation, making it essential for ensuring a sustainable future for all.

World Environment Day is not just a celebration but a call to action. Governments, environmental organizations, and communities worldwide organize various activities such as tree planting, awareness campaigns, clean-up drives, and policy discussions to address environmental concerns. Countries most affected by land degradation and desertification have been encouraged to adopt sustainable agricultural practices, restore ecosystems, and mitigate the adverse effects of climate change.

Pathway's Participation in World Environment Day 2024

PATHWAY actively observed World Environment Day on June 5th, 2024, with enthusiastic participation from students and teachers. The event aimed to instill environmental consciousness in young minds while promoting responsible actions for a greener future. The activities focused on educating students about the importance of restoring land, preserving nature, and implementing sustainable practices in daily life.

Student Activities and Creative Expression

One of the highlights of the celebration was a drawing competition, where students expressed their creativity by illustrating themes related to land restoration, afforestation, and the impact of desertification. Many drawings showcased the stark contrast between barren lands and thriving green ecosystems, reinforcing the importance of conservation efforts. Through their artwork, students conveyed powerful messages about the urgent need to protect nature.

To enhance awareness, teachers conducted interactive sessions explaining the causes and effects of desertification and drought on ecosystems and human life. Students actively participated in discussions on how simple actions, such as planting trees, conserving water, and reducing deforestation, can contribute to land restoration. The session aimed to empower students with knowledge and inspire them to take responsibility for the environment. A tree-planting initiative was also organized as a hands-on activity to emphasize the





importance of restoring green cover. Students and teachers planted saplings within the school premises, symbolizing their commitment to protecting the environment. Each student took a pledge to nurture their saplings, fostering a sense of responsibility toward nature.

In addition, students prepared handmade posters and slogans advocating for environmental conservation. Messages such as "Save Our Soil," "Green Today, Greener Tomorrow," and "Protect Land, Protect Life" adorned the school walls, spreading awareness among peers. This creative initiative helped reinforce the theme of the year and encouraged others to adopt eco-friendly habits.

A collective eco-pledge was taken by students and staff, affirming their commitment to sustainable practices. They vowed to reduce plastic usage, conserve water, minimize waste, and promote afforestation. This pledge served as a reminder that even small, consistent efforts can make a significant impact on the environment.

Impact and Takeaway

The celebration of World Environment

Day 2024 at PATHWAY was not just an event but a meaningful step toward building a sustainable future. Students not only gained awareness about land restoration and environmental conservation but also actively engaged in initiatives that contribute to ecological well-being. Their creativity, enthusiasm, and commitment reflected the true essence of the theme "OUR LAND, OUR FUTURE."

By involving young minds in such impactful activities, PATHWAY continues to foster environmental



responsibility among future generations. The observance of World Environment Day serves as a reminder that protecting our planet is a shared duty, and through collective efforts, we can restore our land, combat desertification, and build a resilient future for all. The legacy of these initiatives goes beyond a single day of celebration, inspiring continuous efforts to preserve and protect the Earth for generations to come.

NOON MEAL SCHEME OF TAMILNADU

The Noon Meal Scheme of Tamil Nadu is a pioneering initiative launched by the state government to combat malnutrition and improve the educational outcomes of school children. This program is one of the most extensive and well-recognized school meal schemes in India, benefiting millions of children across the state. Here's a detailed overview of the scheme:

Objective of the Scheme

The primary goal of the Noon Meal Scheme is to provide nutritious and balanced meals to children attending government and government-aided schools, especially those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. By ensuring that children receive adequate nutrition, the program aims to enhance their physical health, cognitive development, and academic performance.

Target Group











- **Schoolchildren:** The scheme primarily benefits students from classes 1 to 8 in government and government-aided schools.
- **Preschool Children:** It also extends to children in Anganwadi centers (preschools) to ensure early childhood nutrition.
- **Vulnerable Groups:** The scheme is particularly beneficial for children from low-income families, ensuring they have at least one nutritious meal each day.

Meals served under the Noon Meal Scheme are designed to provide a balanced diet that meets the nutritional needs of growing children. The food typically includes:

Meal Components

Meals served under the Noon Meal Scheme are designed to provide a balanced diet that meets the nutritional needs of growing children. The food typically includes:

- **Rice-based dishes** such as sambar rice, curd rice, vegetable rice, or kichdi.
- **Vegetables** like sambar (a lentil and vegetable stew), poriyal (stir-fried vegetables), or avial (a coconut-based vegetable dish).
- **Grains and Pulses:** The meals are rich in carbohydrates and proteins, sourced from rice, lentils, and other legumes.
- **Eggs:** In some areas, eggs are provided on specific days to offer a good source of protein and essential nutrients.

Days	Images	First and Third Week	Images	Second and Fourth Week
Monday		Vegetable Biryani with Pepper Egg		Sambar Sadham (Bisibelebath) with Onion Tomato Masala Egg
Tuesday		Black Bengal Gram Pulav with Tomato Masala Egg		Mixed Meal Makeri with Vegetable Rice and Pepper Egg
Wednesday		Tomato Rice with Pepper Egg		Tamarind Rice with Tomato Masala Egg
Thursday		Rice, Sambar and Boiled Egg		Lemon Rice, Sundal and Tomato Egg
Friday		Curry Leaf Rice / Keerali Sadham with Masala Egg and Chilly Fried Potato		Rice, Sambar and Boiled Egg with Fried Potato

- **Nutritional Supplements:** On certain days, children may receive milk, fruits, or other fortified food items to address any nutritional gaps.

Implementation and Logistics

- **Meal Preparation:** Meals are prepared in centralized kitchens or in some schools, depending on the locality. The food is cooked in large quantities and distributed to schools.
- **Delivery:** Meals are delivered to schools every day and served during lunchtime. This ensures that children receive a nutritious meal in the middle of their school day, helping them remain energized and focused on their studies.
- **Quality Control:** The government maintains strict hygiene and quality standards to ensure that meals are safe, nutritious, and properly prepared.

Special Features of the Scheme

1. **Increased Enrollment & Attendance:** The provision of free, nutritious meals encourages parents to send their children to school, leading to higher enrollment and regular attendance.
2. **Improved Health:** The scheme has helped reduce malnutrition and related health issues among children. Regular access to nutritious meals promotes overall well-being and development.
3. **Community Involvement:** Local communities, school authorities, and teachers play an active role in ensuring that the meals are distributed properly and on time. This fosters a sense of community involvement and ownership.
4. **Nutritional Impact:** The meals are carefully planned to meet the dietary needs of children, helping combat issues like stunted growth, anemia, and other deficiencies.

Special Programs

- **For Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers:** In some regions, the scheme is extended to pregnant and lactating women to ensure they receive the necessary nutrients during and after pregnancy.
- **For Malnourished Children:** In certain cases, children who are identified as malnourished are given additional nutritional supplements like vitamins or fortified foods to address deficiencies.

Our school, Pathway, is actively involved in the Noon Meal Scheme, receiving daily meals from a government school near Thiruvannamiyur. Through this initiative, 27 of our children benefit from nutritious meals that support their health, concentration, and overall academic performance.

By participating in this scheme, we ensure that our students, especially those from economically vulnerable backgrounds, have access to nutritious meals that help them grow both physically and mentally. The meals are

balanced and designed to provide the essential nutrients required for healthy development, helping our students stay focused and perform better in school. The Noon Meal Scheme is a cornerstone of our school's commitment to fostering a healthy, supportive learning environment, where students' well-being is prioritized along

with their academic progress. Through this government initiative, we aim to not only reduce hunger but also create a foundation for long-term health and success for all our students. This holistic approach to addressing nutrition in Tamil Nadu is a model for other states, and the program continues to play a crucial role in building a healthier, more educated future for children across the state.



ASSOCHAM AND THE PRESTIGIOUS HR TRAILBLAZER AWARD



The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is one of the country's most influential trade and industry organizations, playing a pivotal role in shaping economic policies and promoting sustainable business growth. Established in 1920, ASSOCHAM represents a vast network of businesses,

including large corporations, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), and industry associations. It serves as a crucial bridge between the government and the private sector, advocating for business-friendly policies, fostering innovation, and promoting corporate social responsibility (CSR).

One of ASSOCHAM's key initiatives is recognizing excellence in various fields, including leadership, human resources, and social responsibility. Among its many prestigious honors, the ASSOCHAM Southern Region HR Trailblazer Award stands out as a symbol of exceptional commitment to human resource development, employee welfare, and community engagement. This award acknowledges individuals and organizations that go beyond business growth and actively contribute to the betterment of society through sustainable and ethical practices.

In 2024, this distinguished award was conferred upon Mrs. Chandra Prasad, our esteemed Director Madam, for her outstanding contributions to community engagement and social responsibility. The award ceremony took place on June 13, 2024, in Bangalore, where she was honored by the chief guest, Shri DINESH GUND RAO, Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka. This recognition is a testament to her dedication to uplifting underprivileged communities, promoting education, and fostering social welfare initiatives.

Mrs. Chandra Prasad's leadership has been instrumental in driving initiatives that empower disadvantaged groups, particularly in the fields of education, women's empowerment, and child welfare. Through her vision, various programs have been implemented to provide quality education,

mentorship, and support to those in need. Her efforts in corporate social responsibility have not only transformed individual lives but have also contributed to the broader mission of societal development.

The HR Trailblazer Award highlights the importance of corporate responsibility in shaping a better future. It serves as an inspiration for organizations and leaders to go beyond business operations and make meaningful contributions to society. Mrs. Chandra Prasad's recognition in this category reflects her unwavering commitment to ethical leadership, community service, and social progress.

Receiving this award is not just a personal achievement for Mrs. Chandra Prasad but a proud moment for our entire organization. It reinforces our collective mission to continue working towards the betterment of society and creating opportunities for the less privileged. Her dedication and leadership serve as a guiding light, encouraging others to take responsibility for positive social change.

In conclusion, the ASSOCHAM Southern Region HR Trailblazer Award is a prestigious honor that celebrates excellence in community engagement and human resource development. Mrs. Chandra Prasad's remarkable contributions in these fields have earned her this well-deserved recognition. As we celebrate this achievement, we are reminded of the power of visionary leadership and the impact of social responsibility in building a more inclusive and sustainable world. Her award is not just a recognition of past efforts but a motivation for continued service and innovation in the realm of social welfare.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA

On the 10th International Day of Yoga in 2024, our school actively participated in the celebrations, embracing the theme “YOGA FOR SELF AND SOCIETY.” The students performed a variety of yoga poses, highlighting the importance of yoga in achieving physical, mental, and spiritual well-



being. Our school's participation was a demonstration of how yoga can help individuals discover a sense of oneness with themselves, society, and nature, promoting both individual growth and community harmony.

The children, under the guidance of their teachers, engaged in a series of yoga activities that reflected the holistic benefits of the practice. They not only learned the physical aspects of yoga but also explored its deeper significance in cultivating mindfulness, focus, and inner peace. This event was a reminder of yoga's

transformative power and its ability to foster a balanced and harmonious life, both for the individual and society at large.

In particular, special children in our school also participated in adapted yoga sessions, which were designed to be inclusive and accessible. Through these sessions, they experienced the calming effects of yoga, enhancing their body awareness, flexibility, and overall well-being. The entire event was a beautiful celebration of the inclusive spirit of yoga, where every student, regardless of ability, was encouraged to explore and enjoy its benefits.

Yoga is increasingly recognized not only as a practice for adults but also as a vital tool for children and individuals with special needs. For special children, yoga can be a powerful and accessible way to build strength, flexibility, and focus while also calming the mind. It fosters an environment of inclusivity, where every child can participate and experience the many benefits of yoga.

Here are some simple and effective asanas for special children that can be easily incorporated into a practice:

1. Tadasana (Mountain Pose)

- Benefits: Improves posture, balance, and stability. Helps with body awareness.
- How to Perform: Stand tall with feet together, arms by the sides. Engage the legs and stretch the body upwards. Take deep breaths, focusing on the sensation of standing tall.

2. Baalāsana (Child's Pose)

- Benefits: Calms the mind, stretches the back, and helps with relaxation.
- How to Perform: Start in a kneeling position. Sit back on the heels and lower the torso towards the floor, stretching the arms in front or by the sides. Hold and breathe deeply.

3. Vrikshāsana (Tree Pose)

- Benefits: Enhances balance and focus, promotes strength and stability.
- How to Perform: Stand with feet together, then shift the weight to one leg while placing the foot of the other leg on the inner thigh or calf (avoid the knee). Bring the hands together at the chest or stretch them upward like branches of a tree.

4. Sukhasana (Easy Pose)

- Benefits: Encourages relaxation and meditation, improves flexibility in the hips and knees.
- How to Perform: Sit with legs crossed comfortably, with hands resting on the knees or in a mudra. Close the eyes and focus on deep breathing.

5. Cat-Cow Pose (Marjaryāsana-Bitilasana)

- Benefits: Enhances flexibility in the spine, relieves stress, and improves coordination.





- How to Perform: Start on hands and knees (tabletop position). Inhale as you arch the back (cow pose) and exhale as you round the spine (cat pose). Move between these two positions with each breath.

6. Seated Forward Fold (Paschimottasana)

- Benefits: Stretches the spine, hamstrings, and promotes relaxation.

- How to Perform: Sit with legs extended forward. Slowly hinge at the hips and reach for the feet or shins, allowing the back to lengthen.

7. Butterfly Pose (Baddha Konasana)

- Benefits: Stretches the inner thighs and hips, improves flexibility, and promotes

relaxation.

- How to Perform: Sit with the soles of the feet together, knees bent outward. Gently press the knees towards the ground and breathe deeply, focusing on a sense of openness.

8. Legs Up the Wall Pose (Viparita Karani)

- Benefits: Reduces fatigue, calms the nervous system, and improves circulation.

- How to Perform: Sit with one hip against a wall, then swing the legs up the wall and lie back, keeping the arms relaxed at the sides. Hold for several minutes, breathing deeply.

9. Lion's Breath (Simhasana)

- Benefits: Helps release tension, improves lung capacity, and stimulates facial muscles.

- How to Perform: Sit comfortably and place hands on the knees. Inhale deeply through the nose, then exhale forcefully through the mouth while sticking the tongue out and roaring like a lion. This is great for energy and focus.

10. Simple Breathing (Pranayama)

- Benefits: Calms the mind, reduces anxiety, and enhances focus. How to Perform: Sit comfortably in a chair or on the floor. Focus on slow, deep breaths in and out through the nose. You can guide the child to count as they inhale and exhale, making it a fun activity.

Considerations for Special Children:

- Adaptation: Modify the postures to suit the child's abilities and needs. For example, if a child has limited mobility, you can perform seated yoga or use props such as cushions, chairs, or blocks for support.



- **Breathwork:** Focus on simple breathwork techniques, such as deep belly breathing or counting breaths, which can help children stay calm and centered.
 - **Fun Elements:** Incorporate storytelling or animal poses (like “Lion’s Breath” or “Butterfly Pose”) to make yoga more engaging.
 - **Patience:** Ensure a relaxed and patient environment where children can explore yoga at their own pace.
- Yoga offers a gentle and supportive approach for special children, helping them develop physical strength, flexibility, and emotional resilience, while promoting a sense of peace and inclusivity. This participation in the International Day of Yoga was a meaningful experience for all, reinforcing the importance of yoga in nurturing personal growth, community well-being, and a sense of connectedness with the world around us.



VISIT OF -THE ALI YAVAR JUNG NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SPEECH AND HEARING DISABILITIES

The Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech and Hearing Disabilities (AYJNISHD) is a premier institution dedicated to providing services to individuals with speech, hearing, and communication disabilities. Based in India, it works to advance the quality of life for people with disabilities through



various programs such as speech therapy, special education, and research. The Regional Centre in Orissa is one of its branches, focusing on outreach, training, and creating awareness in the region.

The visit of the 35 students, along with their principal and staff, to Pathway on 27.06.2024, highlights the significance of such institutions in promoting inclusive education and creating awareness about the

challenges faced by individuals with disabilities. It's great to hear that they were impressed by the work at Pathway!

The Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech and Hearing Disabilities (AYJNISHD) is a government-run institution that aims to provide services for individuals with speech, hearing, and other communication disabilities. It was established in 1983 by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. The institute is named after Ali Yavar Jung, a distinguished social worker and former governor of Maharashtra, who contributed significantly to the cause of people with disabilities.

Key Objectives:

1. **Research and Training:** AYJNISHD focuses on research in speech and hearing disabilities, aiming to improve interventions and therapies. It also provides specialized training to professionals, such as speech therapists, audiologists, and special educators.
2. **Rehabilitation Services:** The institute provides rehabilitation services for children and adults with speech and hearing disabilities, including speech therapy, auditory training, and assistive technologies to improve communication skills.
3. **Special Education:** AYJNISHD offers specialized education programs for children with speech and hearing disabilities, helping them integrate into mainstream schools or offering specialized education programs that cater to their specific needs.
4. **Awareness and Advocacy:** The institute works to raise public awareness about speech and hearing disabilities, advocating for policies that ensure the rights and inclusion of individuals with these disabilities in all aspects of life.



The institution often collaborates with various international and national agencies, universities, and organizations to enhance its services, research, and training programs. It aims to create a holistic approach to the treatment and rehabilitation of people with speech and hearing disabilities.

The visit by the students from the Regional Centre in Orissa to Pathway was an excellent opportunity to share knowledge and experiences with another organization making strides in similar areas of social service and education.

INTERNATIONAL DOCTOR'S DAY



International Doctor's Day was observed at Pathway Centre, where our school children and staff expressed their gratitude by greeting our doctors with flower bouquets and greeting cards.

This small gesture was a heartfelt way to honor the dedication and hard work of doctors, recognizing their invaluable contributions to healthcare and the well-being of others.

International Doctor's Day, observed on the 1st of July every year, is a day to honor and recognize the dedication, sacrifice, and tireless efforts of doctors in the field of healthcare. The significance of this day is not just to acknowledge their medical expertise, but also to celebrate their compassion, resilience, and commitment to improving the quality of life for others.

The observance of Doctor's Day began in 1933 in the United States, marking the anniversary of the first successful anesthesia surgery performed by Dr. Crawford W. Long. It has since evolved into a global celebration, acknowledging doctors worldwide for their invaluable contributions to health and well-being. The theme of International Doctor's Day 2024 is focused on celebrating the critical role doctors play in providing quality healthcare, especially in times of crises like pandemics, natural disasters, and global health challenges.

Doctors are not just medical professionals; they are caregivers, confidants, and the pillars of strength during times of illness and uncertainty. Their role extends beyond

diagnosing and treating diseases; they are at the forefront of research, innovations in medical technology, and public health awareness. During the pandemic, doctors proved their unwavering commitment by working tirelessly in hospitals and clinics, often putting their own lives at risk to save others. Their resilience in the face of such adversity was a testament to their dedication to humanity.

This year, International Doctor's Day was observed at PATHWAY CENTRE. Our school children and the staff greeted our doctors with flower bouquets and greeting cards as a token of appreciation for their unwavering service and dedication to health. The heartfelt gestures served as a reminder of how much we value the doctors in our community and the essential role they play in our lives.

On International Doctor's Day, we also acknowledge the emotional toll that the profession often brings. The long hours, the emotional challenges of dealing with suffering and death, and the pressure to make



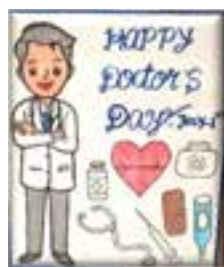


critical decisions in life-and-death situations can be overwhelming. Yet, doctors continue to give their best every day, driven by the desire to make a difference in the lives of their patients.

As we celebrate this special day, it is important to remember that doctors do not work alone. They are part of a larger healthcare system, including nurses, medical technicians, pharmacists, and support staff, who all contribute to the healing process. Recognizing their collective efforts is crucial in fostering a holistic and compassionate healthcare environment.

In conclusion, International Doctor's Day is a reminder to appreciate the selflessness, professionalism, and unwavering commitment of doctors worldwide. On this day, we honor not only their medical achievements but also their human qualities, which make them indispensable in our lives. It is a day to reflect on the importance of healthcare in our societies and express our gratitude to those who dedicate their lives to helping others live healthier and happier lives.

We take this opportunity to thank the doctors for their service and continue supporting them in their noble journey of healing and care.



THE YUVA OLYMPICS 2024

The Yuva Olympics 2024 was held on July 7, 2024, at SDAT Nehru Park in Chetpet, Chennai, and was organized by the Yi Chennai Chapter. This event was a celebration of sportsmanship, inclusivity, and unity, where both able-bodied and differently-abled athletes came together to compete in various track and field events. The event featured participants from 16 Yuva colleges, including the Yuva Club of Rajalakshmi Engineering College (REC), with over 200 participants. Additionally, seven accessibility institutions also participated, with more than 100 differently-abled athletes, showcasing a commitment to inclusivity and breaking barriers.



The day began with an engaging boccia match, led by Mr. Sathish Vidhya Sagar, followed by an inspiring blind football game led by Mr. Sebastian. These events were not only a display of athleticism but also of teamwork, determination, and the power of sports to bring people together. One particularly touching moment of the event was when a wheelchair-bound participant and his father expressed their deep gratitude for the inclusive nature of the event, highlighting the positive impact it had on all participants.

Your school's children were part of this memorable event, participating in track and field competitions and winning numerous prizes. They contributed to the spirit of the Yuva Olympics with impressive performances, including 4 first prizes (Devendran, Vani), 4 second prizes (Bharath), and 3 third prizes (Joseph, Rani, Ishwarya). Additionally, in the 25-meter running event, Tharun won the 1st prize and Hariharan won the 2nd prize. All participants were awarded medals, and lunch was provided to the students and staff. Transportation was also arranged by the school, ensuring the smooth participation of everyone involved.



This event was a culmination of weeks of planning and dedication, making it a truly unforgettable day that not only celebrated sports but also the power of inclusivity and community.

CELEBRATION OF DR. KAMARAJAR'S BIRTHDAY

On July 15, 2024, Monday, DR. KAMARAJAR'S BIRTHDAY was celebrated at Pathway with great enthusiasm. We are indeed grateful that our DDAWO Mr Kumar was a integral part of this important day Teachers delivered speeches highlighting the contributions of Dr. Kamarajar to education and national development. Additionally, a drawing competition was held for children to creatively express their admiration for the



great leader. The event served as a tribute to his remarkable legacy and inspired young minds to follow in his footsteps.

Kamaraj's life and achievements remind us of the power of dedication and selfless service. His contributions to education, politics, and social welfare continue to shape India's progress, making him one of the most respected leaders in Indian history.

Kumaraswami Kamaraj, popularly known as K. Kamaraj, was a great leader and statesman who played a crucial role in shaping modern India. Born on July 15, 1903, in Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu, Kamaraj was a dedicated freedom fighter and an influential politician who served as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and later became the president of the Indian National Congress. His contributions to the nation, particularly in the fields of education and rural development, remain remarkable.

Kamaraj was born into a humble family and had limited formal education. However, his strong sense of patriotism and dedication to public service led him to join the Indian independence movement at a young age. Inspired by Mahatma Gandhi, he actively participated in the Non-Cooperation Movement and was imprisoned multiple times for his involvement in the freedom struggle.



After India gained independence in 1947, Kamaraj continued his political journey and became the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in 1954. During his tenure, he focused on improving education, infrastructure, and rural development, earning him the reputation of a visionary leader.

One of Kamaraj's most significant contributions was his emphasis on education. He introduced the concept of free and compulsory education for all children in Tamil Nadu, leading to a significant rise in literacy rates. Under his leadership, thousands of schools were opened, and the mid-day meal scheme was launched to provide nutritious food to school children, ensuring that poverty did not prevent them from gaining an education.

In addition to education, Kamaraj played a key role in the industrial and agricultural development of Tamil Nadu. He initiated major irrigation projects, promoted small-scale industries, and improved road and transport infrastructure, which boosted the state's economy and improved the quality of life for its people. Kamaraj was not only a strong leader in Tamil Nadu but also played a crucial role at the national level. As the president of the Indian National Congress, he was instrumental in shaping India's political landscape. He was known as the "Kingmaker" for his role in selecting Lal Bahadur Shastri as the Prime Minister after the demise of Jawaharlal Nehru and later, Indira Gandhi as the Prime Minister.

Even after stepping away from active politics, Kamaraj remained a respected leader known for his honesty, simplicity, and dedication to public service. He passed away on October 2, 1975, but his legacy continues to inspire generations.

AWAAZ



AWAAZ is an initiative aimed at empowering underprivileged children through education, technology, and social welfare programs. The organization works closely with schools, government agencies, and local communities to provide resources and opportunities that enhance the learning experience of students.

On 29.07.2024, two of our school children received Tab Phones from the Collector of Chennai as part of a special initiative organized by AWAAZ. Representing our school, Mrs. Jayaseeli attended the event and received the Tab Phones on behalf of the students.

AWAAZ continues to support and uplift young learners by providing them with essential tools for digital learning and academic success.



GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION



On the evening of July 19, 2024, Pathway marked a momentous occasion—its Golden Jubilee—celebrating fifty years of unwavering commitment to the service of children and communities in need. The grand opening ceremony began at 5 p.m. with the traditional lighting of the *Kuthu Vilakku*, a symbolic ritual invoking blessings for the event and Pathway’s continued journey. The presence of

esteemed dignitaries—Mr. Chetan Prasad, Mr. Tim Fewkes, Mr. William P. Benac Jr, Mr. Keyne Monson, and Mrs. Chandra Madam—lent grace and significance to this solemn moment.



Honoring the Journey

Dr. Chandra Prasad, co-founder and director of Pathway, delivered a heartfelt welcome address that reflected on the organization’s five-decade journey. She spoke of the many challenges faced, the

victories achieved, and the invaluable support received from patrons, alumni, and staff. In recognition of their dedication and contributions, the dignitaries were honored with garlands—an expression of gratitude that set a warm and respectful tone for the evening.

Launch of "A Leaf in the Stream"

One of the evening's most significant highlights was the release of *A Leaf in the Stream*, authored by Mr. Chetan Prasad. This book encapsulates Pathway's rich history, its values, and the lives it has



transformed over the past 50 years. The audience received the book with enthusiastic applause, acknowledging it as both a literary tribute and a symbol of Pathway's enduring legacy.

Cultural Celebrations and Artistic Expressions

Children from all three Pathway centers captivated the audience with a vibrant cultural program. The performances, which included traditional dances, skits, and songs, not only entertained but also showcased the creative development nurtured within Pathway's holistic



educational environment.

A video presentation titled *Our Life, Our Work* followed the cultural events. This short but powerful film captured the essence of Pathway's mission—highlighting student stories, lifelong connections, and the transformative impact of the institution. It was a poignant reminder of the organization's role as a beacon of hope and empowerment.

Showcasing Vocational Skills

At the venue's swimming pool area, vocational products crafted by the students were displayed. These included handcrafted items and intricately made nativity sets, demonstrating the skills and dedication fostered by Pathway's training programs. Many visitors purchased these items, contributing to a fundraiser that supports the organization's ongoing initiatives.





A Celebration of Community

Beyond the formalities, the Golden Jubilee was a heartfelt gathering of people connected by a shared mission. Staff, children, alumni, and guests came together to celebrate a legacy built on compassion and commitment. This communal spirit reinforced the idea that Pathway's success is not only measured by milestones but by the people who have helped shape its story.

The evening concluded with a dinner, bringing everyone together in a spirit of fellowship and unity. Conversations, laughter, and shared memories made it a fitting close to an evening that honored the past while looking forward to the future.



Student Recognition and Future Promise

Further celebrations took place on July 29, 2024, when two students were recognized and awarded Tab Phones by the Collector of Chennai, as part of an AWAAZ initiative. Representing the school, Mrs. Jayaseeli accepted the devices on the children's behalf. This gesture symbolized a commitment to education and a recognition of the students' efforts and perseverance.



A Global Circle of Support

A notable aspect of the Golden Jubilee was the presence of overseas patrons, alumni, and beneficiaries. Their participation underscored Pathway's global reach and the lasting bonds it has forged over the decades. The celebration acknowledged their continued support with deep appreciation, recognizing the international community that has helped sustain Pathway's vision.



A Leaf in the Stream: A Chronicle of Hope and Transformation

Released as part of the Jubilee celebrations, *A Leaf in the Stream* is more than a commemorative publication—it is a living testament to the power of compassion, resilience, and community. The title itself is rich in symbolism, reflecting the journey of individuals carried by the currents of life. It suggests both vulnerability and strength, and it eloquently captures the role Pathway plays in guiding and uplifting children.

Core Themes and Content

The book explores several key dimensions of Pathway's journey:

1. **Founding Vision:** It begins with the story of Pathway's humble origins, detailing the vision and determination of its founders, especially Dr. Chandra Prasad. From these early challenges emerged an organization that would become a sanctuary of hope for thousands of children.



2. **Personal Narratives:** The book includes moving stories and testimonials from students, alumni, and staff. These firsthand accounts paint a vivid picture of Pathway's life-changing impact—providing not just education and vocational skills, but also emotional support, dignity, and purpose.

3. **Milestones and Achievements:** A chronological journey through Pathway's growth, the book highlights key achievements, such as the



establishment of various centers, the evolution of programs, and partnerships that have broadened its scope and impact.

4. Community Engagement: It reflects on the broader influence Pathway has had—not only transforming individual lives, but also uplifting entire communities by fostering inclusion, empowerment, and solidarity.

5. Vision for the Future: Looking forward, the book outlines aspirations for further expansion and innovation. It envisions reaching more children, deepening community ties, and preparing future generations to face new challenges with confidence and courage.

The Symbolism of the Title

The title *A Leaf in the Stream* embodies a philosophy of resilience and growth. Just as a leaf is carried by the stream, each child journeys through life supported by the nurturing current of Pathway and its community. It is a reminder that even the most delicate beginnings can flourish when guided by compassion and care.



A Legacy Preserved

This book stands as a legacy document—not only of Pathway's institutional memory, but also of the countless individuals who have contributed to its cause. It honors the dedication of supporters, volunteers, and staff, preserving their efforts for future generations to draw inspiration from.

The response to the book was overwhelmingly positive. Attendees at the Jubilee were eager to receive



copies, and it is expected to continue inspiring readers—whether they are new supporters or long-time allies of Pathway's mission.

The Golden Jubilee of Pathway was more than a celebration; it was a reflection of a legacy built on compassion, vision, and unwavering dedication. From cultural performances and symbolic rituals to the launch of a landmark publication, the events of July 2024 captured the heart and soul of the organization.

As Pathway steps into the next chapter of its journey, it does so fortified by the love of its community, the strength of its past, and the promise of a brighter future for every child it serves. The Golden Jubilee was a celebration of history—but even more, it was a celebration of hope.



THE WALK ALONG 2.0 EVENT



The Walk Along 2.0 event, organized by Young Indians (Yi), was a vibrant celebration of community engagement and active participation. Held at Namma Chennai Park 2.0 in Adyar, the event aimed to create a platform for individuals to come together, share their stories, and contribute to building a more connected and inclusive community.



This year's event was marked by an exciting walkathon that encouraged participants of all ages to walk for a cause, promoting health and wellness while fostering a sense of unity. In addition to the walkathon, the event featured a fun-filled carnival, offering a variety of games, performances, and activities that captivated attendees of all ages.

A highlight of the event was the experiential sessions, which provided valuable insights and learning opportunities for participants. These sessions not only encouraged personal growth but also allowed individuals to share their unique experiences, thereby enriching the sense of community.

Among the participants were a group of 50 children and staff from Pathway, who actively took part in the walkathon and engaged with the activities. Their involvement reflected the





inclusive nature of the event, where everyone, from young children to adults, had the chance to connect, learn, and make memories



together.

Overall, Walk Along 2.0 was a wonderful initiative that emphasized the importance of togetherness, storytelling, and engagement, making it a truly memorable event for everyone involved.

THE 78TH INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION



India's Independence Day, celebrated every year on the 15th of August, holds a place of immense pride and emotional significance for every Indian. It commemorates the historic moment in 1947 when the nation broke free from over two centuries of British colonial rule. The day is not



just a reminder of past sacrifices, but also a celebration of India's rich cultural heritage, democratic ideals, and continuous progress. In 2024, as the country celebrated its 78th Independence Day, Pathway Centre marked the occasion with a vibrant and meaningful celebration that brought together students, staff, and the wider school community in a shared spirit of patriotism and unity.

The day's celebrations at Pathway Centre began promptly at 8:30 AM. Students, teachers, and invited guests assembled in the school courtyard, eagerly awaiting the start of



the ceremony. The atmosphere was charged with anticipation and reverence. The event commenced with the hoisting of the national flag—a deeply symbolic act that serves as a tribute to the countless freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives for the country's independence. The honour of hoisting the tricolor was given to Mrs. Usha, a respected trustee member of the institution. As the flag unfurled against the morning sky and the national anthem was sung with solemn pride, the gathering stood in unity, reflecting on the values of freedom, dignity, and resilience.

Following the flag-hoisting ceremony, the focus shifted to a series of cultural performances organized by the students. These performances were not only entertaining but also educational and inspiring. The students presented a variety of acts including patriotic songs, traditional dances, and dramatic skits portraying key moments from the freedom struggle. Each performance was a creative expression of love for the nation and a tribute to India's diverse culture. The participants, dressed in colorful costumes, embodied the spirit of the day, and their dedication and enthusiasm were evident in every act. These cultural

presentations reminded everyone present of India's unity in diversity and the importance of preserving its unique heritage.

An important part of the celebration was the sense of community and sharing that was fostered throughout the event. After the cultural program, sweets were distributed among all attendees. This small yet significant gesture symbolized the sweetness of freedom and the joy of being part of a united nation. The school management further arranged a wholesome breakfast for students, staff, and guests. Sharing a meal together helped deepen the sense of camaraderie and mutual respect among everyone present. It created an environment of warmth and togetherness that perfectly complemented the patriotic fervor of the occasion.

As the program drew to a close, additional snacks were served, ensuring that the event ended on a note of hospitality and gratitude. The 78th Independence Day celebration at Pathway Centre was not just about remembering historical events; it was about reaffirming the values that those events stand for—freedom, equality, unity, and responsibility. The day offered an





opportunity for reflection as well as celebration, allowing students and teachers to reconnect with their identity as citizens of a free India and to recognize the role they play in its future.



The Independence Day celebration on 15th August 2024 at Pathway Centre was a memorable and enriching experience. Through a well-organized blend of ceremonial rituals, cultural expression, and community bonding, the event successfully instilled a deep sense of national pride in all who attended. It served as a heartfelt tribute to the legacy of the freedom movement while also looking forward to the aspirations and responsibilities of the next generation. This celebration stood as a testament to the enduring spirit of India and the importance of nurturing that spirit in every young citizen.

TALENT SHOW



The event is an inspiring one for the students! The performance is especially powerful, with the theme of depicting the emotions of an





autistic person. "Ashiana" from *Barfi!* is a beautiful and deeply emotive song, composed by Pritam with lyrics by Amitabh Bhattacharya. It is part of a movie that focuses on the complexities of love, emotions, and connection, particularly in the lives of individuals who might struggle to express their feelings in conventional ways.

The song itself has a slow, mellow rhythm, creating a peaceful atmosphere. Arijit Singh's voice is tender and soulful, perfectly capturing the nuances of longing and sensitivity. The lyrics talk about a desire for a safe space—a metaphorical "home" or "ashiana"—that represents warmth, understanding, and acceptance. For the group dance recital, especially one representing the inner world of someone with autism, "Ashiana" is a fitting choice. The song's gentle pace and emotional depth allow the



dancers to express the subtleties of feeling isolated, yearning for understanding, yet also experiencing moments of joy and connection in their own way. The choreography focuses on conveying emotional expression through movement, helping the audience connect to the feelings of an autistic person—someone who might not always communicate in typical ways but still experiences the world with intensity and depth.



The *Young India Chennai Chapter* plays a significant role in organizing and supporting this remarkable event. As a platform dedicated to empowering young minds, Young India provides students with the opportunity to showcase their talents, express important social themes through art, and interact with distinguished guests from various fields. It is an incredibly powerful moment for both the performers and the audience. Receiving an award from the director is a well-deserved recognition of their hard work and the meaningful message they convey. The presence of *Young India Chennai Chapter* further strengthens the impact of the event, inspiring students to continue using their talents for a greater purpose.

KRISHNA JAYANTI CELEBRATIONS



Krishna Jayanti, also known as Janmashtami, is one of the most joyous and significant festivals in Hinduism, celebrated to mark the birth of Lord Krishna. Krishna is revered as the eighth incarnation of Lord Vishnu and is one of the most beloved deities in Hindu tradition. He is a symbol of love, wisdom, and divine playfulness, and his teachings continue to inspire millions around the world. Krishna Jayanti, the celebration of his birth, falls on the eighth day of the dark fortnight of the month of Shravana (usually in August or September), and is observed with fervor and devotion by Hindus

worldwide.

The meaning of Krishna Jayanti goes beyond just a celebration of a birth; it signifies the triumph of good over evil. Lord Krishna's life is filled with tales of courage, wisdom, and divine miracles. His teachings, particularly those in the Bhagavad Gita, stress the importance of righteousness, love, and devotion to God. His childhood exploits, filled with joy, mischief, and divine miracles,



CLAY WORK MADE BY



serve as a reminder of the playful, yet powerful, nature of divine energy in the world. Thus, Krishna Jayanti is not just a day to celebrate his birth, but also a time for devotees to reflect on his teachings and to renew their faith in divine righteousness.

In 2024, Krishna Jayanti was celebrated with great zeal and enthusiasm at the PATHWAY centres, where the spirit of devotion and joy filled the air. On August 26th, the centres were alive with excitement as children

and staff alike gathered to honor the beloved deity. The celebrations were centered around the joyous depiction of Lord Krishna's childhood, his playful nature, and the many enchanting tales associated with his life.

One of the most endearing aspects of the celebrations was the children dressing up as little Krishnas and Radhas. The sight of these young ones, adorned in traditional attire with peacock feathers, garlands, and other vibrant decorations, was a visual treat. It was a heartwarming experience to witness the innocence and enthusiasm with which the children embraced the festivities, embodying the divine characters they were portraying. From small Krishna impersonators with their mischievous smiles to Radha in her graceful attire, the atmosphere was filled with a sense of purity and joy. The children's costumes reflected the love and devotion they felt for the deity, making the occasion even more special.

The activities organized throughout the day were equally captivating. From traditional dance performances to devotional songs, every moment of the celebration reflected the values associated with Lord Krishna. The children participated in various games and activities that highlighted Krishna's playful spirit. One popular activity was the 'Dahi Handi' competition, where children tried to break a pot filled with yogurt, symbolizing the playful and mischievous side of Krishna, who was known for stealing butter from the village homes. The





excitement and energy of the children participating in this event created a lively and spirited atmosphere.

In addition to the fun-filled activities, the PATHWAY centres also organized a series of devotional programs, where children sang bhajans and offered prayers to Lord Krishna. These moments of reflection and devotion helped the participants connect deeply with the

divine energy that Krishna represents. The teachings of Lord Krishna, especially his messages of love, selflessness, and dharma, were shared with the children, helping them understand the deeper significance of the festival.

The sense of community was palpable throughout the celebrations, with families and staff members coming together to witness the performances and partake in the festivities. The PATHWAY centres' Krishna Jayanti celebrations were not just about fun and entertainment, but also about learning and growing together as a community. The event provided an opportunity for the children to immerse themselves in the rich cultural and spiritual heritage of India while fostering a spirit of camaraderie

The Krishna Jayanti celebrations at PATHWAY centres in 2024 was an unforgettable event, bringing together the love and devotion for Lord Krishna while also offering a platform for creativity, joy, and community spirit. The children's performances, their heartfelt prayers, and the shared moments of laughter and joy made this celebration a beautiful experience, embodying the very essence of what Krishna Jayanti represents. As the year progresses, the memories of this celebration will continue to inspire the PATHWAY community, reinforcing the timeless values of love, devotion, and unity.

TEACHER'S DAY



Teacher's Day is celebrated on September 5th every year in India, in honor of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, the second President of India and a renowned scholar, philosopher, and educator. Dr. Radhakrishnan's birthday holds significant importance in the field of education, as he believed that teachers play an integral role in shaping the future of society. His contributions to education and his dedication to fostering learning are commemorated on this day.



Teacher's Day serves as an opportunity for students to express their gratitude and admiration for their teachers, who are the guiding lights in their lives. On this day, students across India engage in various activities to show their respect for their mentors. Many students present greeting cards, perform dance programs, sing songs, and play games. Additionally, sweets are distributed, and the classroom atmosphere is filled with joy and appreciation.

At PATHWAY Centre in Chennai, the occasion of Teacher's Day 2024 was made even more special when a team

from R.B.L. Bank honored the staff. R.B.L. Bank, formerly known as Ratnakar Bank, is a leading private sector bank in India with a legacy of over 70 years in the banking industry. The bank is committed to supporting education and social causes, and its gesture of honoring the staff at PATHWAY Centre was a testament to their recognition of the important role educators play in society. The R.B.L. Bank team's involvement added a unique touch to the celebrations, reinforcing the bond between the educational and corporate sectors and highlighting the shared responsibility of nurturing future generations.



Teachers are the backbone of our society. They are not only responsible for imparting knowledge but also for shaping the values, behavior, and character of their students. Teachers nurture curiosity, develop critical thinking skills, and encourage students to reach their fullest potential. In addition to academic learning, teachers also play a crucial role in fostering personal growth and helping students navigate life's challenges. They inspire and motivate young minds, teaching them how to be responsible, empathetic, and respectful individuals.

Without teachers, there would be no progress in any field, as they are the primary source of knowledge and skill development. They create the foundation for innovation, growth, and development, which ultimately shapes the future of society. Teachers influence not just individual lives but entire communities, empowering people to contribute meaningfully to the social, economic, and cultural development of the nation.

Teacher's Day is thus a celebration of the immense impact that educators have on our lives and the world. It serves as a reminder of their selfless dedication, hard work, and the critical role they play in building a brighter future. Through simple acts of appreciation, students can show



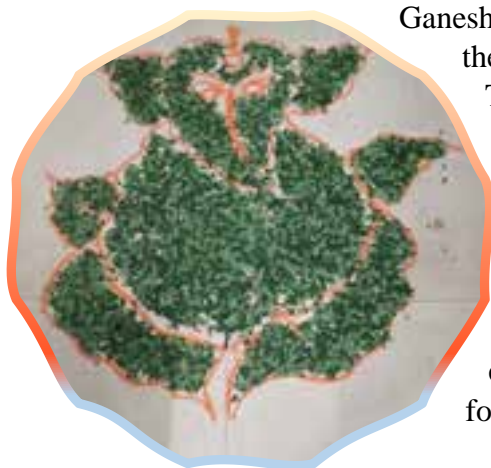
their respect and gratitude for the teachers who guide them along their educational journey. It is a day to reflect on the power of education and the unwavering commitment of those who shape the minds of tomorrow.



In conclusion, Teacher's Day is more than just a celebration; it is a reminder of the vital role that teachers play in shaping our futures. They are the architects of society, and through their guidance, we build a better world.

GANESH CHATURTHI CELEBRATION

A BLEND OF TRADITION, CREATIVITY, AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT



Ganesh Chaturthi is a festival that celebrates the birth of Lord Ganesha, the remover of obstacles and the god of wisdom and prosperity. The occasion is marked by vibrant celebrations across India, bringing together families, communities, and people from all walks of life in a spirit of devotion, creativity, and joy. This year, Pathway celebrated Ganesh Chaturthi in all three of its centers, creating an atmosphere filled with enthusiasm and unity. The celebration was not only an expression of religious devotion but also an opportunity for the children and staff to engage in cultural activities, learn traditional practices, and foster a sense of togetherness.



At Pathway, the Ganesh Chaturthi celebration was a blend of devotion and creativity. The children actively participated by dressing up as Lord Ganesha, bringing the spirit of the festival to life. This not only entertained the entire community but also allowed the children to connect with the festival on a deeper level, understanding the significance of Lord Ganesha and the cultural practices associated with his worship. Through these creative performances, the children shared in the joy of the occasion while learning valuable cultural and spiritual lessons.

The celebration at Pathway was also marked by the distribution of traditional prasad, such as *sundal* and *kolukkattai*, to all the children and staff. These offerings are symbolic of blessings, prosperity, and

the spirit of sharing. By distributing these traditional treats, Pathway embraced one of the most cherished aspects of the festival: the communal sharing of food. It created an environment of warmth and unity, as everyone came together to enjoy the delicious, culturally significant prasad. This simple act not only filled the celebration with flavor but also reminded everyone of the importance of sharing, a value deeply ingrained in Indian culture.



What made the Ganesh Chaturthi celebration at Pathway even more special was its emphasis on participation and community involvement. The festival became an occasion for the children and staff to bond, celebrate, and learn together. Beyond the rituals and offerings, the event allowed everyone to come together, strengthening the sense of community at the centers. By encouraging active participation, Pathway reinforced the importance of unity and collective joy in celebration, making the occasion meaningful for all involved.

Moreover, the celebration at Pathway went beyond just a religious event. It was an opportunity to promote cultural values, such as devotion, creativity, and respect for tradition. Through activities like



dressing up as Ganesha, performing dances, and offering prasada, the children learned about the importance of cultural traditions and how festivals like Ganesh Chaturthi bring people together. It also provided them with an understanding of the significance of rituals, the role of Lord Ganesha in people's lives, and the importance of spiritual reflection during festive occasions.

Pathway's celebration of Ganesh Chaturthi was a reflection of the vibrant spirit of the festival. It was a day of devotion, joy, and creativity, filled with laughter, learning, and togetherness. The children's participation in dressing up as Lord Ganesha and the sharing of prasada highlighted the cultural and communal aspects of the festival. Through this celebration, Pathway not only marked an important religious occasion but also fostered a sense of community, unity, and cultural pride. The Ganesh Chaturthi celebration was a beautiful reminder of the power of tradition to bring people together and inspire creativity, devotion, and goodwill.



Dr. A.D.S.N. Prasad was more than just a leader; he was a beacon of hope and a symbol of dedication to the service of humanity. As the visionary Founder of PATHWAY INDIA, his tireless efforts have left an indelible mark on countless lives, not just in India but around the world. Dr. Prasad's legacy is one of selfless service, compassion, and a profound belief in the power of education, health, and empowerment to transform communities.

Dr. Prasad's journey was driven by a deep understanding of the struggles that many people face, particularly those in underprivileged communities. His work with PATHWAY INDIA reflects his commitment to providing opportunities for people to break free from poverty and to live with dignity and purpose. His initiatives in education, healthcare, and social welfare have paved the way for many to achieve better lives. He was a visionary who saw beyond immediate challenges, always focused on long-term solutions. His ability to bring together diverse communities and inspire collective action for social change is one of the cornerstones of his legacy. He was not just a director or founder; he was a true mentor and guide, imparting wisdom, knowledge, and strength to all who had the privilege to work alongside him.

Dr. A.D.S.N. Prasad's compassion was his greatest strength. Whether through his leadership or personal interactions, he always made time for individuals, listened attentively, and offered guidance with humility. His approach was not only about addressing immediate needs but also empowering people to become the architects of their own future.

Today, as we gather to remember and honor him, we continue to carry forward his mission. His teachings, values, and the foundation he established through PATHWAY INDIA serve as a living testament to his extraordinary life. The work he began continues to inspire future generations to pursue justice, equality, and service to others, ensuring that his impact will be felt for years to come.



Dr. A.D.S.N. Prasad's memory is alive in every step we take forward in his name, and we are committed to upholding the ideals that he so deeply believed in—hope, compassion, and a relentless dedication to making the world a better place for all.

C M TROPHY – THROW BALL



The Chief Minister's Trophy is an annual sports event organized by the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu (SDAT) to promote sports and identify talent across the state. The competition encompasses a wide range of sports, including athletics, basketball, football, volleyball, and throwball, among others. Participants from various districts compete at district and state levels, fostering a spirit of sportsmanship and unity.

In the 2024 edition of the CM Trophy, Chennai district emerged as the overall champion, securing the top

position with a total of 254 medals—105 gold, 80 silver, and 69 bronze. Chengalpattu and Coimbatore districts followed in the second and third positions, respectively.

The CM Trophy serves as a significant platform for athletes in Tamil Nadu to showcase their talents and gain recognition at higher levels of competition.

C M TROPHY – THROW BALL

The C M Trophy is a prestigious annual sports event designed to encourage young athletes and foster a spirit of sportsmanship among school students. By providing a platform for students to demonstrate their skills in various sports, the tournament attracts participants from different schools, creating a highly competitive atmosphere.

On September 11, 2024 (Wednesday), our school proudly participated in the Throw Ball event held at Nehru Stadium as part of the CM Trophy. Both our boys' and girls' teams enthusiastically competed in this prestigious competition, showcasing their determination and teamwork.



The girls' team delivered an outstanding performance and secured the Runner-up position. Their exceptional efforts were recognized with a cash prize, acknowledging their dedication and resilience. In a thrilling match against Balavihar School, our girls' team fought valiantly, earning a final score of 23 points against 25. Despite the narrow margin, their perseverance and sportsmanship were commendable. The boys' team also put forth a commendable effort, demonstrating great skill and enthusiasm throughout the competition. Their participation reflected their

hard work and the rigorous training they underwent in preparation for the event.



The following students represented our school in the competition:

Boys Team:

- Madhavan
- Joseph
- Bharath
- Arun
- Hariharan
- Naveen
- Deventhiran

Girls Team:

- Beena



- Vani
- Rani
- Poongodi
- Ishwarya
- Srinikitha
- Madumitha

The success of our teams would not have been possible without the dedicated guidance and support of our teachers in charge: Bindhu, Bhavani, and Valliammal. Their commitment to mentoring and training our students played a crucial role in preparing them for the competition.

The CM Trophy remains an essential event for young athletes, instilling in them the values of discipline, perseverance, and teamwork. Our school is immensely proud of our participants for their dedication and remarkable efforts, and we look forward to more such achievements in the future.

CM TROPHY – RUNNING RACE



medals

motivate the participants.

On 11.09.2024 Wednesday, our school children participated in the Throw Ball event conducted at Nehru Stadium for the CM Trophy. Both our girls' and boys' teams took part in this event, with the

The CM Trophy is an annual sports event organized by the state government to encourage athletic excellence and team spirit among schoolchildren. It features a variety of sports, including the popular Throw Ball event. The competition is held at venues like Nehru Stadium, where schools from across the region come together to showcase their skills.

The event is designed to promote physical fitness, teamwork, and camaraderie among young students. It also provides an opportunity for students to compete at a higher level and interact with peers from other schools. Winning teams are awarded and prizes, often including cash awards to further

girls' team being selected as Runner-up, receiving a cash prize for their outstanding performance. They competed against Balavihar School and scored 23/25 points.

Participants:

- Boys Team:
 1. Madhavan
 2. Joseph
 3. Bharath
 4. Arun
 5. Hariharan
 6. Naveen
 7. Deventhiran
- Girls Team:
 1. Beena
 2. Vani
 3. Rani
 4. Poongodi
 5. Ishwarya
 6. Srinikitha
 7. Madumitha

Teachers Incharge: Bindhu, Bhavani, Valliammal
Sports and Its Benefits

Sports play a vital role in the overall development of children. Participating in sports helps students build physical strength, mental resilience, and character. Through regular involvement in physical activities, children learn essential life skills such as teamwork, discipline, leadership, and time management.

Here are some of the key benefits of sports:

1. **Physical Health:** Sports promote physical fitness, reduce the risk of chronic diseases, and enhance cardiovascular health. Regular physical activity helps children develop strength, flexibility, and coordination.
2. **Mental Well-being:** Engaging in sports helps reduce stress, anxiety, and depression. It boosts mental health by encouraging the release of endorphins (the "feel-good" hormones), which improve mood and overall mental clarity.
3. **Social Skills:** Sports create a sense of community and teach students how to work effectively with others. They develop communication skills, learn to respect authority, and understand the importance of collaboration in achieving common goals.
4. **Discipline and Focus:** Sports require dedication and practice, which helps students develop self-discipline. They learn to set goals, maintain focus, and understand the importance of hard work and perseverance.
5. **Confidence and Self-esteem:** Success in sports can significantly improve a child's confidence and self-esteem. Winning, achieving personal bests, or simply participating and doing their best can give children a sense of pride in their abilities.



6. **Teamwork and Leadership:** Being part of a team allows children to develop leadership skills, learn how to support others, and understand the importance of working toward a common objective. It teaches them how to handle both victory and defeat gracefully.



competition but also create lasting memories and teach valuable life lessons that extend far beyond the field. The experience of working as a team and striving for excellence builds confidence, resilience, and skills that are useful in all areas of life.

7. **Academic Performance:** Studies have shown that students who engage in sports tend to perform better academically. Physical activity stimulates brain function, improving concentration, problem-solving skills, and memory.

By encouraging participation in sports, events like the CM Trophy not only promote healthy



OORUNI FOUNDATION EVENT

Pathway proudly participated in the recent event organized by Ooruni Foundation, contributing to an inclusive and joyful experience for children with special needs. The event aimed at fostering engagement, creativity, and fun for all participants.

Participation Details:

- Total Participants: 25 students from Pathway
- Support Team: 4 dedicated helpers
- Activities:
 - Dance performance by the students
 - Participation in fun games and interactive sessions

The students showcased their talents through a vibrant and energetic dance performance, spreading joy and enthusiasm among the audience. The fun games segment provided an





opportunity for the children to engage, interact, and develop their social skills in an encouraging environment.

Impact & Experience:

The event successfully created a platform for children to express themselves and build confidence through creative and recreational activities. The participation of Pathway students was met with appreciation, highlighting the importance of inclusivity and empowerment for children with special needs.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Ooruni Foundation for organizing this wonderful event and for their continuous efforts in making a difference in the lives of children. Looking forward to more such collaborations in the future!

Ooruni Foundation is committed to supporting children with disabilities through its "Give Their World" initiative.

This program focuses on creating awareness and providing resources for children with learning disabilities, particularly autism.

One of the key events under this initiative is the "Freedom Carnival," an annual celebration designed for children with learning disabilities. The carnival offers a platform for these children to engage in various activities, fostering social interaction and personal development.

Additionally, the foundation organizes exclusive awareness programs for



parents of special children. For example, a session titled "Children with Autism and Their Challenging Behaviour – An Exclusive Awareness Program for Parents with Special Children" was conducted to educate parents on managing challenging behaviors and understanding sensory issues. The session featured experts in special education, occupational therapy, speech pathology, and clinical psychology, providing practical strategies to support children on the autism spectrum. Through these initiatives, Ooruni Foundation aims to create an inclusive environment where children with disabilities can thrive and reach their full potential.



PUNNAGAI- A CELEBRATION OF TALENT AND CREATIVITY



PUNNAGAI 2024, a grand cultural and talent event, was successfully organized by the Rotary Club of Akash at Asan Memorial College, Pallikarnai. This annual event serves as a platform for students to exhibit their creative and artistic abilities while fostering a spirit of healthy competition and camaraderie. Schools from various regions participated enthusiastically, making it a truly remarkable gathering of young talent.

The Rotary Club of Akash, known for its commitment to community service and youth empowerment, has been actively

involved in various initiatives aimed at fostering education, leadership, and personal development among students. Through events like PUNNAGAI, the club encourages young minds to explore their talents and provides them with opportunities to shine on a bigger stage. Their continuous efforts in organizing such programs highlight their dedication to making a positive impact on society.

Our school was proud to be a part of this vibrant celebration, with about 50 children accompanied by dedicated staff members. The well-organized transportation ensured a smooth and





comfortable journey for everyone. At exactly 7:30 AM, the school bus departed with the eager participants, filled with excitement and anticipation for the day's events. Upon arrival at the venue, the atmosphere was abuzz with energy as students prepared to showcase their talents across various categories, including drawing, dance, singing, skit, and special talent performances.

The dedication and perseverance of our students shone brightly as they secured top positions in multiple categories. Their achievements were as follows:

- 1st Prize in Drawing – Nithishwaran captivated the judges with his artistic prowess, earning him the top spot in this category.
- 1st Prize in Skit – A powerful and engaging performance by our talented students secured them first place. The team comprised Arun, Bharath, Joseph, Madhavan, Joshwa, Devendran, Vijay Prakash, and Tharun, who brought the skit to life with their incredible acting skills.
- 3rd Prize in Special Talent – Vasanth Kumar demonstrated his unique abilities and earned a well-deserved third



place in this category.

Every participant was acknowledged and appreciated with gifts, making the event even more special for them. The organizers went the extra mile to ensure that all students were well taken care of, providing breakfast and lunch to keep their energy levels high throughout the day.

PUNNAGAI 2024 was a memorable experience for all, leaving a lasting impact on the students. The event not only encouraged them to push their creative boundaries but also instilled a



sense of teamwork, confidence, and determination. Witnessing our students excel in various fields filled us with immense pride, and we look forward to continuing this legacy of excellence in the coming years. As we celebrate this success, we also extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Rotary Club of Akash and the organizers for putting together such a well-executed and inspiring event.

GANDHI JAYANTI

- A TRIBUTE TO THE FATHER OF THE NATION



India Movement, all of which played a significant role in India attaining independence in 1947. His philosophy was deeply rooted in simplicity, self-discipline, and a commitment to social justice.

This year, Gandhi Jayanti was celebrated with great enthusiasm at all our three centers. Our school children and staff came together to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi. The event was filled with cultural performances and activities that showcased the essence of his life and

Gandhi Jayanti is celebrated every year on October 2nd to honor the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation. This day is observed with great respect and enthusiasm across India and in various parts of the world. It is not just a national holiday but also a day of reflection on Gandhi Ji's teachings of truth, non-violence, and peace. As a mark of respect, the United Nations has also declared this day as the International Day of Non-Violence.

About Mahatma Gandhi

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, popularly known as Mahatma Gandhi, was born on October 2, 1869, in Porbandar, Gujarat. He played a crucial role in India's struggle for independence against British rule. Gandhi Ji was a firm believer in non-violent resistance, also known as Satyagraha, which became a powerful tool in the freedom movement. His principles of truth, non-violence, and self-reliance continue to inspire generations across the globe. Gandhi Ji led several movements, including the Non-Cooperation Movement, Civil Disobedience Movement, and the Quit



principles. Children participated in a variety of performances, including skits, songs, and poems, all dedicated to the values Gandhi Ji stood for. A special highlight of the event was the children dressing up as historical figures such as Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, and Indira Gandhi, adding to the festive spirit of the occasion.

Punnagai Competition and Awards

As part of the celebration, a special prize distribution ceremony was conducted. Our honorable President, Mrs. Dhuli Ma'am, distributed certificates to the children who won in the Punnagai Competition. This recognition encouraged the young minds to keep striving for excellence and to embody the virtues that Mahatma Gandhi preached.

The celebrations concluded with the distribution of chocolates to all students and staff, bringing smiles to everyone's faces. The day was not just about remembering a great leader but also about instilling his values in the



younger generation.

Gandhi Jayanti 2024 was truly a memorable event that inspired everyone to walk on the path of truth, non-violence, and selflessness. As we move forward, let us continue to follow the principles of Mahatma Gandhi and contribute to a better and more peaceful world.

INTERNATIONAL GIRL CHILD DAY EMPOWERING THE FUTURE

In line with this theme, Pathway India celebrated the day by honoring girl children with gifts and hosting an inspiring speech by our principal, Mrs. Jayaseeli, who emphasized the importance of supporting girls in realizing their visions for the future. By embracing the theme "Girls' Vision for the Future," we commit to listening to and supporting the aspirations of girls, recognizing that their dreams and leadership are vital to building a more equitable and prosperous society.



Every year on October 11, the world comes together to celebrate International Girl Child Day, a significant observance dedicated to promoting the rights and well-being of girls. Established by the United Nations in 2012, this day highlights the importance of empowering young girls, ensuring their access to education, healthcare, and opportunities for a



brighter future. The inaugural International Day of the Girl Child was observed on October 11, 2012, marking the beginning of a global movement towards gender equality and female empowerment.

This day aims to address the challenges faced by girls worldwide and advocate for their rights. It serves as a platform to highlight issues such as child marriage, gender-based violence, lack of education, and unequal opportunities. Through various initiatives, organizations and individuals work to create an environment where every girl can thrive, dream, and achieve her full potential.

The theme for the 2024 International Day of the Girl Child is "Girls' Vision for the Future." This theme emphasizes the importance of empowering girls to articulate and pursue their aspirations, ensuring they have the opportunities and support needed to shape a better future for themselves and their communities.

In India, International Girl Child Day is widely



celebrated with programs that support girls' education, health, and social well-being. Schools, NGOs, and government organizations conduct awareness campaigns, scholarships, mentorship programs, and community outreach initiatives to support and uplift young girls. At Pathway India, we recognize and celebrate the immense potential of girls in shaping our future. On this special day, we honored girl children by presenting them with gifts as a token of appreciation and encouragement. Our



principal, Mrs. Jayaseeli, delivered an inspiring speech on the welfare and empowerment of girl children, emphasizing the importance of education, self-respect, and equal opportunities for girls in our society.

The observance of International Girl Child Day is crucial in breaking stereotypes and fostering a culture of equality. In many parts of the world, girls still face challenges like gender discrimination, early marriage, lack of access to education, and unsafe environments. By

acknowledging these issues and working towards solutions, we ensure that girls have the opportunity to succeed and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

We can make a difference if --

Individuals and communities can contribute to this cause by:

- Supporting girl child education through sponsorships and mentorship.
- Encouraging skill development and leadership training for young girls.
- Raising awareness about gender equality and girls' rights.
- Challenging harmful societal norms that restrict girls from reaching their full potential.



International Girl Child Day 2024 is not just a celebration; it is a call to action to empower girls and create a more inclusive society. By investing in girls today, we are building a stronger, more equitable future. Let us all work together to honor, uplift, and support every girl child, ensuring they receive the respect, education, and opportunities they deserve.



NAVARATRI & GOLU CELEBRATION

We joyfully celebrated the Golu function at our 'PATHWAY' centre, bringing together our staff, children, and parents for a truly memorable and culturally enriching event. This celebration was a part of the Navaratri festival, a sacred nine-day festival dedicated to the worship of Goddess Durga in her various divine forms.



The highlight of the event was the beautifully arranged Golu display, a traditional practice in South India where figurines of gods, goddesses, saints, mythological characters, and everyday life scenes are meticulously arranged on stepped platforms. Our teachers and children worked enthusiastically to create a stunning and meaningful Golu setup, showcasing various aspects of tradition and culture.

Creativity and Cultural Significance

In addition to the Golu arrangement, our children and teachers crafted intricate traditional displays, including:

Traditional games that were once an integral part of our heritage. Miniature models of traditional transport such as bullock carts and palanquins. Handmade replicas of traditional cookware and utensils used in ancient kitchens and Beautiful models of rural villages and cityscapes, depicting the harmony of past and present lifestyles. Our vocational students also put together a magnificent nativity-themed Golu model, highlighting their creativity, dedication, and craftsmanship.

The event was graced by the enthusiastic participation of parents, who joined in the festivities and encouraged the children. The highlight of the celebration was the children's melodious singing, filling the air with divine energy and festive spirit. The celebrations concluded with everyone enjoying a delightful serving of Sweet Pongal and Sundal, traditional delicacies that are an integral part of Navaratri.

The Deeper Essence of Navaratri & Golu

Navaratri is more than just a festival—it is a celebration of the power of the divine feminine, devotion, and righteousness. Each of the nine days is dedicated to different forms of Goddess Durga, symbolizing





strength, wisdom, and prosperity. The tradition of setting up Golu is a way of telling stories—stories from mythology, folklore, and everyday life—while also fostering creativity, social bonding, and knowledge-sharing among generations. It represents a deep sense of community, empowerment, and cultural continuity.

Through this grand celebration, our PATHWAY family embraced the true essence of tradition, unity, and diversity, making it a meaningful and joyous experience for everyone involved.

WORLD CEREBRAL PALSY DAY

EMBRACING UNIQUENESS AND PROMOTING INCLUSION



Cerebral palsy (CP) is a neurological condition that affects movement, coordination, and posture. It is typically caused by brain damage that occurs during early development, most often before birth.

Individuals with CP may face a range of physical challenges, including difficulty with muscle control, balance, and mobility. However, it is important to understand that cerebral palsy presents differently in each person. Every individual has a unique experience, shaped not only by their physical condition but also by their personality, environment, and support systems.

World Cerebral Palsy Day, observed annually on October 6, serves as an important occasion to raise awareness about CP and advocate for the rights and inclusion of those living with it. This global initiative highlights the need for early intervention, personalized support, and accessible environments that enable individuals with CP to thrive. It also brings attention to the many challenges faced by people with CP, while celebrating their resilience, talents, and contributions to society.





The theme for World Cerebral Palsy Day 2024, #UniquelyCP, is a celebration of individuality within the CP community. This theme emphasizes that people with CP are not defined by their disability but by their unique interests, passions, and abilities. It encourages society to look beyond physical limitations and see the whole person—someone who has dreams, talents, and the capacity to make meaningful contributions. By challenging stereotypes and promoting understanding, the #UniquelyCP campaign fosters a deeper appreciation for diversity and inclusion.



In India, the Government has taken several commendable steps to mark World Cerebral Palsy Day through the efforts of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD). National institutes and regional centers under the DEPwD host various awareness programs aimed at empowering individuals with CP. These programs spotlight both the struggles and achievements of people living with cerebral palsy and serve as platforms to share their stories, advocate for their rights, and celebrate their unique strengths.



As part of these initiatives, physiotherapists played a vital role by conducting awareness sessions for children, staff, and parents. These sessions were designed not only to educate but also to engage participants in a meaningful way. The physiotherapists introduced novel activities, including fun and interactive games, that helped foster a greater understanding of CP in a lighthearted and inclusive environment. These activities allowed participants to gain insight into the experiences of individuals with CP, while also promoting empathy, inclusion, and community spirit.



Ultimately, World Cerebral Palsy Day is a reminder of the importance of embracing diversity and building a society where everyone is included, respected, and supported. By breaking down misconceptions and celebrating the individuality of each person with CP, we take important steps toward a more compassionate and inclusive world. The message of #UniquelyCP encourages us all to see beyond disabilities and recognize the richness that diversity brings to our communities.

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY WORKPLACE MANAGEMENT AND WELL-BEING

World Mental Health Day is observed every year on October 10th to raise awareness about mental health issues, reduce stigma, and promote positive well-being. In 2024, the theme for the day was "Workplace Management: Prioritizing Mental Health at Work." This theme emphasized the importance of mental health in professional settings and encouraged organizations to create healthier and more supportive work environments.

Pathway Centre for Intellectual Disabled's Involvement

Pathway Centre for Intellectual Disabled, a renowned organization dedicated to supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities, played a significant role in World Mental Health Day 2024. The center emphasized the importance of mental health for both caregivers



and individuals with disabilities by organizing a series of activities and awareness programs.



Some of Pathway Centre for Intellectual Disabled's key initiatives included:

- Special Awareness Workshops: Educating caregivers, teachers, and employers on the mental health challenges faced by individuals with intellectual disabilities and how to create an

inclusive and supportive environment.

- Mental Health Support for Caregivers: Recognizing that caregivers often experience stress, anxiety, and emotional exhaustion, Pathway provided counseling sessions and stress management programs to help them maintain their own well-being.
- Workplace Inclusion Programs: Encouraging companies to adopt inclusive hiring practices and provide mental health resources for employees with intellectual disabilities.

- Therapeutic Activities: Conducting art therapy, music therapy, and yoga sessions to improve the emotional well-being of individuals with intellectual disabilities.
- Community Engagement Initiatives: Organizing interactive events where individuals with disabilities, caregivers, and employers could engage in open discussions about mental health, inclusion, and emotional support.
- Through these efforts, Pathway Centre for Intellectual Disabled ensured that mental health awareness extended beyond traditional workplaces and reached those who often face greater emotional and psychological challenges in their daily lives.
- Ways to Stay Mentally Fit

To maintain good mental health, experts suggested the following practices, which individuals and workplaces were encouraged to adopt:

1. Eat Well

A nutritious diet has a direct impact on mental well-being. Consuming a balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins helps regulate mood, boost energy levels, and enhance brain function. Avoiding excessive caffeine, sugar, and processed foods also plays a role in maintaining emotional stability.

2. Drink 2 Liters of Water

Hydration is key to cognitive function and emotional balance. Dehydration can lead to fatigue, difficulty concentrating, and increased stress levels. Drinking at least 2 liters (or eight glasses) of water daily can improve focus, mood, and overall health.

3. Sleep Well

Adequate rest is crucial for mental and emotional resilience. Poor sleep can lead to irritability, anxiety, and decreased productivity. Experts recommend 7-9 hours of quality sleep per night to support mental well-being and improve cognitive function.



4. Exercise and Walk

Physical activity releases endorphins, the body's natural stress relievers. Regular exercise, such as walking, yoga, or gym workouts, helps reduce anxiety and depression. Even a 30-minute daily walk can significantly improve mental health by enhancing mood and reducing stress levels.

5. Connect with People



Social connections are essential for emotional well-being. Engaging in meaningful conversations, spending time with family and friends, and participating in social activities provide a sense of belonging and emotional support. Workplaces were encouraged to create team-building activities and open communication channels to foster a supportive environment.

6. Express Your Feelings

Bottling up emotions can lead to stress and mental strain. Talking about your thoughts and feelings with trusted colleagues, friends, or mental health professionals can be incredibly beneficial. Journaling, art, music, or therapy can also be effective ways to express emotions.

Workplace Initiatives for Mental Well-being

Many organizations worldwide took steps to improve mental health at work. Some of the notable initiatives included:

- Mental health awareness workshops to educate employees.
- Flexible work schedules to maintain a healthy work-life balance.
- Employee Assistance Programs (EAPs) offering counseling services.
- Meditation and relaxation zones in offices.
- Encouraging open discussions about mental health to reduce stigma.

World Mental Health Day emphasized that mental health at the workplace is not a luxury but a necessity. With our active involvement, the event went beyond traditional workplaces and highlighted the need for mental health support in inclusive environments. Their contributions ensured that individuals with intellectual disabilities, their caregivers, and their employers received the necessary tools and support to create a mentally healthy and compassionate society. By taking small yet significant steps, individuals and organizations can enhance mental resilience, increase awareness, and foster a world where mental health is prioritized for all.

MEMORIALIZING DR. KALAM'S LEGACY

In order to celebrate Dr. Kalam's time-less legacy, institutions like Pathway organize activities to inspire and enlighten. On the birthday of Dr. Kalam, his birthday was celebrated on the birthday anniversary by students and teachers at Pathway by drawing Dr. Kalam. Teachers informed them about his life and his success, highlighting his dream for India. These activities not only are a tribute to Dr. Kalam but are also instilling his values and dreams in the minds of children to dream big and make a good contribution to society. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's life is an illustration of the power of determination, study, and foresighted thought. His own path, from Rameswaram to the Rashtrapati Bhavan, is an inspiration that never palls, an inspiration that drives home the revolutionizing power of hard work and persistence.

Dr. Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam was born on October 15, 1931, in Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu, and rose from humble beginnings to be one of India's most celebrated scientists and leaders. His achievement from a humble seaside town to the highest office in the nation is a beacon of his perseverance, foresight, and unwavering commitment to the development of the country.

After his graduation, Kalam was recruited to the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in the Aeronautical Development Establishment. His first tasks were to build a small

hovercraft. In 1969, he moved to the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), where he was appointed the project director of India's maiden Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV-III), placing the Rohini satellite into near-earth orbit in July 1980. This had led India into the exclusive club of space-faring nations.

Kalam's contributions were not limited to India's missile development programmes either. He was at the helm of Agni and Prithvi projects, earning him the nickname "Missile Man of India." His role proved to be critical during the 1998 Pokhran-II nuclear tests that established India's capabilities in nuclear technology.

Presidency and Later Life

In 2002, with the support of the then-ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and opposition party Indian National Congress, Kalam was voted to serve as the 11th President of India. For his two terms in office from 2002 to 2007, he was commonly referred to as the "People's President" because of his friendly personality and commitment to the people. Post-presidency, he again returned to his love for education and writing and motivated millions by giving talks and writing books. His autobiography, "Wings of Fire," is an account of his life and efforts towards Indian scientific pursuits. en.wikipedia.org

Honors and Legacy

His contribution was rewarded by various awards like Bharat Ratna, which is India's highest civilian honor. His birth day, i.e., 15th of October, has been declared to be celebrated as World Students' Day, owing to his ardent love and regard for the student community and studying. Initiatives and societies all over India remember him, and his vision for a developed and self-reliant India inspires generations after him.

WORLD OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DAY IMPORTANCE AND HISTORY

World Occupational Therapy (OT) Day is celebrated every year on October 27th to promote and recognize the vital role of occupational therapy in improving individuals' health and well-being. This day highlights the efforts of occupational therapists worldwide who help people of all ages overcome physical, mental, and developmental challenges to live more independent and fulfilling lives.



Importance of World Occupational Therapy Day

1. **Raising Awareness** – It spreads awareness about the importance of occupational therapy in improving daily life skills, enhancing mobility, and fostering independence for individuals facing disabilities or health conditions.
2. **Promoting Inclusion** – Occupational therapy focuses on enabling people to participate fully in their communities, workplaces, and homes, ensuring an inclusive society.

3. Recognizing Therapists – The day acknowledges the contributions of occupational therapists who work tirelessly to help people regain their abilities and lead productive lives.



4. Encouraging Innovation – It provides a platform for new research, methods, and interventions in the field of occupational therapy, improving patient care.

World Occupational Therapy Day was first launched on October 27, 2010, by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT). Since then, it has been celebrated

annually to promote the profession and its impact on global health. WFOT, established in 1952, continues to advocate for occupational therapy and supports therapists worldwide in advancing their practice.

At Pathway, the significance of World OT Day was observed with enthusiasm. Mrs. Sumathy, the dedicated OT mam, organized fun and engaging games for the children. These activities aimed to enhance their motor skills, coordination, and cognitive abilities while making therapy enjoyable. The event not only celebrated occupational therapy but also reinforced its importance in the development and well-being of the children.



By recognizing and celebrating World Occupational Therapy Day, we continue to promote the mission of occupational therapy—helping individuals lead independent, meaningful, and empowered lives.

LIFE STYLE FOR ENVIRONMENT ACTIVITIES REPORT



As per the instructions of



the Central Government's Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, our school



supporting recycling efforts, reducing the usage of single-use plastics, and participating in plastic waste management.

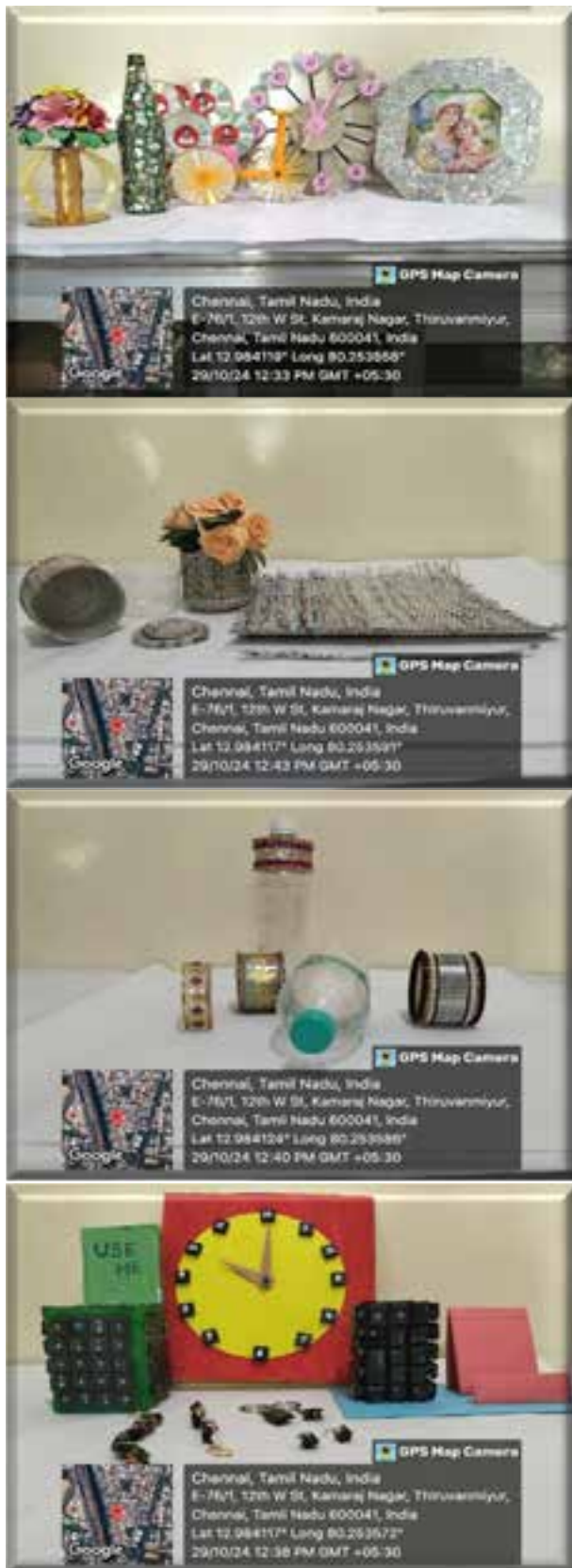
Our dedicated school staff and students demonstrated creativity by repurposing e-waste materials into useful and decorative items. Some of the innovative products they created included: Wall hangings made from old CDs: CDs were arranged



conducted a program at Pathway Centre focused on environmental sustainability. The key topics addressed were the proper disposal of e-waste,



in artistic patterns and glued together, then decorated with paint and embellishments to create beautiful wall décor.



- Flower vases crafted from waste wires: Discarded electrical wires were twisted and woven together to form sturdy and attractive vases, which were then coated with colorful paint for a polished look.

- Pen stands assembled with discarded CDs: CDs were stacked and secured with adhesive, forming cylindrical stands, while additional decorations were added for an appealing finish.

- Peg boards constructed using waste batteries: Used batteries were carefully cleaned and arranged on a sturdy board, forming a functional and decorative peg board for hanging small items.

- Clocks fashioned from keyboard buttons and CDs: Old keyboard buttons were used as number markers on a CD base, and a working clock mechanism was inserted to create a unique timepiece.

Additionally, the vocational department contributed by crafting practical items such as:

- Flower vases from varnish tin lids: The lids were cleaned, shaped, and painted, then adorned with fabric or beads to create attractive flower vases.

- Containers from used water bottles: Empty water bottles were cut, reshaped, and decorated with eco-friendly materials to make reusable storage containers.

- Bangles from Sprite bottles: The plastic from Sprite bottles was cut into strips, shaped into circular bangles, and painted with vibrant colors or wrapped with decorative threads.

- Pots for plants using 5-liter plastic cans: Large plastic cans were cut in half, reinforced for stability, and decorated with eco-friendly paints, making durable and stylish plant pots.

This report has been forwarded to the Government, highlighting our commitment to environmental awareness and sustainable practices. Our initiative

not only educates students on the importance of recycling but also encourages the community to reduce their environmental footprint.

ENERGY SAVED: A STEP TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Energy conservation plays a vital role in shaping a sustainable future. Pathway Institutions recently hosted an enlightening program on energy conservation, educating students about solar energy, energy storage, and efficient electricity usage. The event aimed to instill awareness among students about the significance of saving electricity and how small actions can lead to a significant impact.



Solar Panels and Energy Conservation

During the program, experts explained the functioning and benefits of solar panels. Solar energy is an abundant and renewable resource that can replace conventional electricity sources, reducing dependence on fossil fuels. Demonstrations were conducted to show how solar energy is converted into electricity and stored in batteries for later use, such as powering streetlights.

Storing Energy for Efficient Use

One of the key highlights of the event was the practical demonstration of energy storage in batteries. Students were shown how solar panels charge batteries during the day, which then provide electricity for streetlights at night. This not only ensures continuous lighting but also reduces the reliance on grid electricity, ultimately saving energy.

Awareness and Student Participation

A total of 38 students actively participated in the program. They were categorized into three age groups:

- Ages 10 to 19: 11 students
- Ages 20 to 25: 12 students
- Ages 25 and above: 15 students

Students engaged in discussions, asked insightful questions, and pledged to adopt energy-saving habits in their daily lives. They recognized the importance of simple actions such as turning off fans and lights when not in use, which can collectively lead to significant energy conservation.

Impact and Future Goals

The awareness program successfully instilled a sense of responsibility among students towards energy conservation. Moving forward, Pathway Institutions plan to conduct similar programs and encourage practical initiatives such as installing solar panels in school premises and organizing energy audits.

By making energy conservation a collective responsibility, we can contribute to a greener and more sustainable future. Every individual's effort counts, and together, we can make a significant difference.

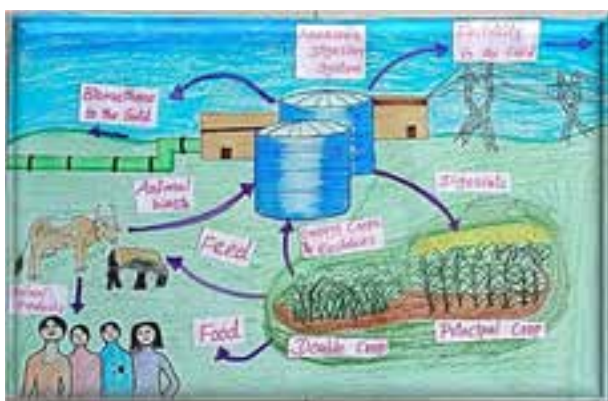
Chart: Number of Students Participated
Age Group Number of Students

10 - 19	11
20 - 25	12
25+	15
Total	38

Poster: Save Energy, Save the Future

By taking small yet effective steps, we can all contribute to a sustainable world. Let's make energy conservation a habit and build a better future together!

LIFESTYLE ADOPTED - A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH



Pathway Institutions recently hosted an educational program on "Lifestyle Adopted," aimed at promoting sustainable living practices among students. The event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 48 students from diverse age groups, including 11 students aged 10 to 19, 12 students aged 20 to 25, and 25 students above 25 years. This initiative successfully instilled awareness about eco-friendly practices and encouraged students to embrace a responsible and sustainable lifestyle.

One of the key topics covered during the program was organic waste management and organic fertilizers. Students learned about the importance of composting kitchen waste and converting biodegradable materials into nutrient-rich compost. This session provided practical insights into reducing landfill waste and utilizing organic fertilizers as a natural alternative to chemical-based fertilizers, thereby promoting healthier soil and crops.

The exploration of seasonal fruits was another significant aspect of the program. Students were



educated on the benefits of consuming locally available, seasonal fruits, which are not only rich in essential nutrients but also reduce carbon footprints associated with the transportation of imported produce. This session encouraged healthier dietary choices while reinforcing the importance of supporting local farmers.

To emphasize water conservation, students observed the process of rainwater harvesting. They learned how harvested rainwater can be used for

irrigation, household activities, and groundwater replenishment. This hands-on demonstration highlighted the need for effective water management strategies to combat water scarcity and ensure long-term sustainability.

The program also addressed sustainable transportation, where discussions revolved around reducing carbon emissions by opting for public transport, carpooling, cycling, and walking. By promoting the use of eco-friendly transportation alternatives, students were encouraged to minimize their environmental impact and contribute to a cleaner, healthier planet.

One of the most engaging activities of the program was a skit on biodigesters, performed by the students. The skit creatively demonstrated how biodigesters help in converting organic waste into biogas and fertilizers, reducing pollution and providing an alternative energy source. This performance not only showcased the students' understanding of sustainable energy solutions but also effectively spread awareness about the benefits of waste-to-energy conversion.

The "Lifestyle Adopted" program successfully equipped students with the knowledge and motivation to incorporate sustainable practices into their daily lives. By focusing on waste management, sustainable food choices, water conservation, eco-friendly transportation, and renewable energy solutions, the initiative reinforced the significance of adopting an environmentally conscious lifestyle. Events like these play a crucial role in shaping responsible global citizens who can make a positive impact on the planet.

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS WITH STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

Pathway Institutions recently hosted a remarkable program focusing on Sustainable Food Systems, engaging students with intellectual disabilities in an interactive and educational experience. This initiative aimed to raise awareness about the importance of healthy eating habits, particularly the benefits of consuming greens and other vegetables. The program successfully combined learning with entertainment, making it an enriching experience for all participants.

One of the highlights of the event was a series of skits and a mime performance by the students.

These creative expressions emphasized the nutritional advantages of including greens and vegetables





in daily diets. The students showcased their talents by using humor, storytelling, and visual cues to convey the importance of consuming fresh produce. Through these performances, the audience was able to grasp essential messages about sustainable food choices in an engaging manner.

In addition to the performances, participants also had the opportunity to tour a vegetable garden. This hands-on experience allowed them to witness firsthand the process of growing vegetables,

THE IMPORTANCE OF TREE PLANTATION

Tree plantation is one of the most effective ways to combat environmental issues such as air pollution, climate change, and deforestation. Trees purify the air, provide oxygen, prevent soil erosion, and support biodiversity. Among them, *Azadirachta Indica* (neem) stands out for its remarkable environmental and medicinal benefits. Recognizing the significance of tree plantation, Pathway Institutions organized a Tree Plantation Program on November 11, 2024, focusing on the plantation of neem trees.

The tree plantation drive at Pathway Institutions aimed to educate students about the importance of trees and encourage them to take active steps toward environmental conservation. A teacher led an informative session explaining how neem trees benefit the environment and contribute to human health. Students were encouraged to plant a neem tree at home and design posters to highlight the significance of trees.

The program saw enthusiastic participation from 45 students, categorized into different age groups:

10 to 19 years: 17 students

20 to 25 years: 10 students

25+ years: 18 students

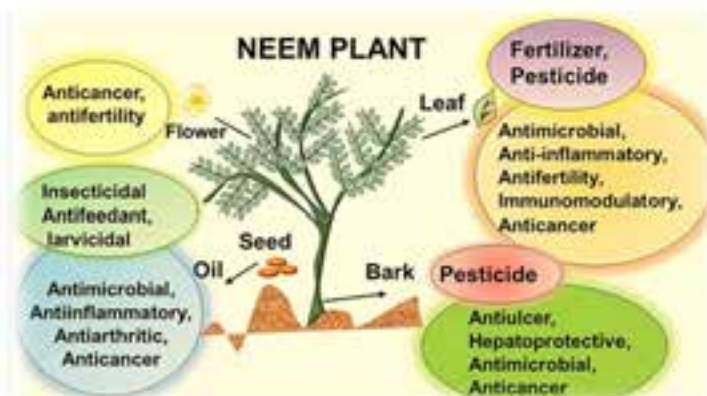
Their engagement in the event reflected a strong commitment to



sustainability and ecological responsibility.

Environmental Benefits of Neem Trees

Trees are essential for maintaining ecological balance. They act as natural air purifiers by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen. Additionally, they reduce global warming, lower temperatures, and help conserve groundwater.





Neem trees, in particular, offer exceptional benefits: They improve soil fertility and prevent soil erosion. Their leaves release oxygen even at night, improving air quality.

Neem trees act as natural pesticides, protecting crops without harmful chemicals.

By planting neem trees, Pathway Institutions' students actively contributed to making their surroundings greener and healthier.

Medicinal Properties of Neem Trees

The neem tree has been widely used in Ayurvedic medicine for centuries due to its antibacterial, antifungal, and anti-inflammatory properties. Its leaves, bark, and oil are used for:



Treating skin disorders such as acne and eczema.

Promoting oral health by preventing cavities and gum infections. Supporting digestive health and boosting immunity. The medicinal value of neem makes it an essential tree for both health and environmental sustainability. The assignment given to students—planting neem trees at home and creating awareness posters—was an excellent initiative to instill environmental responsibility. Such activities encourage young people to take proactive steps in protecting nature. Pathway Institutions' efforts serve as a great example of how educational institutions can motivate students to become environmentally conscious citizens.

Tree plantation is a crucial step toward environmental conservation and sustainability. The initiative taken by Pathway Institutions not only contributed to increasing greenery but also educated students on the benefits of trees, especially the neem

tree. With 45 students actively participating, the program successfully spread awareness and inspired young minds to protect nature. By continuing such efforts, we can create a cleaner, greener, and healthier future for generations to come.

DIWALI – THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS



Diwali, also known as Deepavali, is one of the most significant and widely celebrated festivals in India. It

symbolizes the victory of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance. Celebrated by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, and Buddhists, the festival holds deep cultural and spiritual importance across different communities. The festival brings families and communities together in a spirit of joy, gratitude, and festivity.

The origins of Diwali are rooted in various legends and traditions. In Hindu mythology, it is believed that Diwali marks the return of Lord Rama to Ayodhya after defeating Ravana and completing his fourteen-year exile. In South India, the festival is associated with Lord Krishna's victory over Narakasura, symbolizing the removal of evil and darkness.



Many also worship Goddess Lakshmi, the deity of wealth and prosperity, as it is believed that she emerged from the churning of the ocean (Samudra Manthan) on this day. In Jainism,



Diwali is significant as the day Lord Mahavira attained nirvana (liberation), while Sikhs



commemorate Bandi Chhor Divas, marking the release of Guru Hargobind Ji from imprisonment.



Diwali is a five-day celebration, with each day having its own significance. The festival begins with Dhanteras, a day for buying gold, silver, and utensils as a sign of prosperity. The second day, Choti Diwali, involves house cleaning and rangoli decorations. The third day, the main Diwali celebration, is marked by lighting diyas (oil lamps), performing Lakshmi Puja, and exchanging sweets and gifts with loved ones. The fourth day, Govardhan Puja, is dedicated to Lord Krishna, while the festival concludes with Bhai Dooj, a day that celebrates the bond between brothers and sisters.

At PATHWAY, Diwali was celebrated with joy, enthusiasm, and a deep sense of togetherness. The event was filled with colors, lights, and happiness, bringing our children and staff together in a spirit of unity. One of the most exciting parts of the celebration was the fireworks display, which lit up the night sky with dazzling colors and mesmerizing patterns. The event was conducted with utmost safety, ensuring that children could enjoy the beauty of fireworks in a controlled environment.

Adding to the excitement, the children at PATHWAY participated in a unique "fireworks costume parade", where they dressed up as sparkling fireworks, showcasing their creativity with bright and colorful outfits



designed to resemble rockets, sparklers, and flowerpots. The joy and excitement on their faces mirrored the brilliance of the fireworks themselves. The festival was made even more special with cultural performances, role plays,



festivity but a true celebration of culture, unity, and tradition. It was a moment to cherish, reminding everyone of the deeper values of Diwali—the triumph of light, hope, and togetherness.

and rangoli decorations, capturing the essence of Diwali in a unique and meaningful way. No celebration is complete without delicious food, and Diwali at PATHWAY ended on a delightful note with the distribution of samosas and kesari, spreading warmth and joy among all.

The festival was not just an occasion for



CHILDREN'S DAY – A JOYOUS CELEBRATION



Children's Day in India is observed on November 14th every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the country's first Prime Minister. A beloved leader, fondly referred to as *Chacha Nehru* by children, he was deeply passionate about their welfare,

education, and development. He firmly believed that children are not only the future of the nation but also the most valuable resource we must nurture with care and dedication.

At our school, Children's Day





2024 was celebrated with great enthusiasm, love, and excitement. It was a day that truly honored the spirit of childhood, filled with joy, laughter, and meaningful interactions. The event was meticulously planned to ensure that every child felt special and appreciated.

In the days leading up to the celebration, the entire school campus was transformed into a vibrant and colorful space. Balloons, streamers, banners, and posters adorned every corner, creating a festive atmosphere that immediately brought smiles to everyone's faces. The decorations, crafted largely

by students and staff, featured themes of innocence, joy, and unity—echoing Pandit Nehru's ideals.

The morning of November 14th began with a sense of excitement in the air. Students arrived in bright, festive clothes, their faces glowing with anticipation. Teachers greeted them warmly, reminding everyone that this day was dedicated to celebrating the very heart of the school—the children.

This year's celebration was made even more memorable by the presence of students from RIT College and members of YUVAS YI (Young Indians). Their involvement brought fresh energy to the day. These guests collaborated with school staff to organize and conduct various fun-filled activities and shared meaningful experiences with the students.

Their interaction with the children created a bridge between young adults and school students, offering both inspiration and encouragement. The presence of these external participants gave the event a broader perspective and showcased the power of community involvement in educational spaces.

The day's events began with a heartfelt welcome speech by the school principal, who emphasized the significance of Children's Day and shared stories about Pandit Nehru's love for children. The principal also spoke about the role of students in shaping the nation's future and encouraged them to pursue their dreams with determination.

Following the address, the real festivities began. The school auditorium came alive with cultural performances, including:

- Traditional and contemporary dance performances





- Musical renditions by the school choir and soloists
- Short skits and plays that highlighted themes of friendship, kindness, and courage

These performances were not only entertaining but also offered a platform for students to express their creativity and confidence.

The outdoor playgrounds and classrooms were buzzing with energy as various games and competitions took place simultaneously. Events included:



- Musical chairs, which brought laughter and fun
- Relay races and other team sports that promoted teamwork and physical activity
- A drawing and painting competition, allowing students to depict their imagination and thoughts on canvas



Each activity was designed to be inclusive, ensuring that children of all ages and abilities had something to enjoy and participate in.

One of the most impactful segments of the celebration was the motivational session held by senior students and guests from RIT College. These young role models shared their life journeys, educational experiences, and the importance of setting goals and staying resilient. Through stories of perseverance and success, they encouraged the younger students to believe in themselves and strive for excellence in everything they do. This segment added depth to the celebration, reminding students that while fun



and festivity are important, so are dreams, values, and hard work.

As the day came to a close, a sumptuous lunch was served to all students, teachers, and guests. The meal was enjoyed in a communal setting, symbolizing the togetherness and harmony that Children's Day represents. Laughter, conversations, and shared moments turned the lunch into a true celebration of unity and joy.

The happiness on the faces of the children, their enthusiastic participation, and the warm interactions between students, teachers, and guests were testaments to the event's success.

Children's Day 2024 at our school was not just a day of celebration—it was a reaffirmation of our commitment to the holistic development of every child. It was a day to reflect on Pandit Nehru's legacy, to celebrate the innocence and potential of childhood, and to inspire our young learners to embrace their journey with hope and courage.

The event was a perfect blend of fun, learning, and emotional connection, and it left lasting memories in the hearts of everyone involved. As we look forward to the future, we remain committed to nurturing our students with love, respect, and the tools they need to become the leaders of tomorrow.

NUTRITIONAL EVENING SNACKS PROGRAMME

Every day, Pathway Centre provides around 130 students and staff with carefully prepared, hygienic, and nutritious evening snacks. These snacks are designed to contribute to the overall health and well-being of the children while supporting their energy levels throughout the day. The children eagerly look forward to these snacks, which are made with high-quality ingredients to ensure they are both delicious and healthy. Types of Snacks----



1. Vegetable Sandwiches

Whole wheat sandwiches filled with colorful vegetables like cucumbers, tomatoes, and carrots.

Nutritional Value: High in fiber, vitamins A and C, and antioxidants.



2. Fruit Chaat

Mixed seasonal fruits like papaya, pomegranate, apple, and banana, topped with a sprinkle of lime and chaat masala.

Nutritional Value: Rich in vitamins, antioxidants, and dietary fiber.



3. Sprouts Salad

Mixed sprouts with chopped onions, tomatoes, and a lemon wedge.

Nutritional Value: High in protein, fiber, and essential minerals like iron and magnesium.



4. Vegetable Pakoras

Crispy golden vegetable pakoras made with spinach and other veggies.

Nutritional Value: Good source of protein, vitamins, and fiber, although it's fried, it's done with minimal oil for a healthier option.



5. Boiled Eggs or Paneer Cubes

Sliced boiled eggs or small cubes of paneer.

Nutritional Value: High in protein, healthy fats, and calcium.



6. Curd and Rice

Rice with creamy curd and a seasoning of mustard seeds and curry leaves.

Nutritional Value: Good source of probiotics, calcium, and protein, aiding in digestion.



7. Muffins, Cakes, Buns, and Bread

Freshly baked muffins, slices of



cake, soft buns, and bread loaves from your bakery, arranged neatly on a plate.

Nutritional Value: Provides carbohydrates for energy, and the baked goods are made with minimal sugar and healthy fats to maintain balance.



8. Sundal

Traditional sundal made from chickpeas or black-eyed peas, garnished with grated coconut and curry leaves.

Nutritional Value: High in protein, fiber, and healthy fats from the coconut.

Nutritional Goals:

- Ensure balanced intake of protein, fiber, vitamins, and minerals.
- Promote healthy growth and development.
- Provide sufficient energy for after-school activities and studies.
- Maintain overall health and immunity.

Hygiene and Preparation: All snacks are prepared in a clean and safe kitchen environment, following strict hygiene protocols. The ingredients are sourced from trusted suppliers, and food is served fresh to ensure its quality and taste.

TALENT VALUE

-A CATALYST FOR EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION

Talent Value Media Pvt Ltd is a distinguished media organization committed to curating transformative corporate business summits and prestigious award ceremonies. The company has established itself as a key player in recognizing excellence, fostering innovation, and creating impactful experiences that elevate brands, inspire audiences, and drive meaningful change across industries. Through its initiatives, Talent Value has contributed significantly to the corporate and social ecosystem, providing



a platform for organizations and individuals to showcase their achievements and contributions to society.

The Mission and Vision of Talent Value

At its core, Talent Value strives to bring together industry leaders, visionaries, and changemakers through well-structured events that celebrate excellence and progress. The organization envisions a world where businesses and individuals are acknowledged for their dedication to innovation, leadership, and positive societal impact. By hosting high-caliber summits and awards ceremonies, Talent Value fosters collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and networking opportunities that encourage growth and excellence.

Recognizing Excellence Through Prestigious Events

One of the standout contributions of Talent Value is its dedication to hosting nationally recognized summits and award functions. One such prominent event is the *National Economic Growth Summit and Awards 2024*, which brings together influential personalities from diverse sectors to discuss economic growth, business expansion, and leadership strategies. This event serves as a testament to Talent Value's commitment to fostering national progress through meaningful discourse and recognition.

The summit has witnessed the presence of esteemed chief guests, including:

- Shri SP Singh Baghel – Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying and Panchayati Raj, Government of India.
- Shri Pawan Arora IAS – Commissioner of Rajasthan Housing Board & CEO, First India News.
- Shri Suresh Singh Rawat – Cabinet Minister of Water Resources, Government of Rajasthan.
- Shri Jaiveer Singh – Minister of Tourism & Culture, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
- Shri Sandeep Singh – Minister of State for Basic Education, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
- Dr. Bu Abdullah – Entrepreneur and Philanthropist.
- Shri Gopal Sharma – MLA-Civil Lines, Jaipur.

The participation of such esteemed personalities highlights the credibility and prestige associated with Talent Value's events. These summits provide a unique space for leaders to exchange ideas, discuss industry trends, and recognize individuals and organizations that have made exceptional contributions to their respective fields.

Our Achievement: Dr. Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust – 'Pathway' Recognized as One of India's Most Trusted NGOs

Among the prestigious recognitions awarded by Talent Value, one of the most significant honors was presented to Dr. Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust – 'Pathway'. On November 12, 2024, at Hotel Radisson, Mumbai, 'Pathway' was recognized as one of India's Most Trusted NGOs in the category of Community Engagement and Support for Intellectual Disabilities.

This esteemed recognition, confirmed by the distinguished jury members of Talent Value, highlights 'Pathway's dedication to serving individuals with intellectual disabilities and its unwavering commitment to community engagement. Through its work, the organization has transformed the lives of countless individuals, offering them education, vocational training, rehabilitation, and lifelong support.

Receiving this award is a testament to the trust and credibility that ‘Pathway’ has built over the years. It reflects the organization’s continued efforts to create an inclusive society where individuals with intellectual disabilities are empowered to live fulfilling lives. The honor further strengthens ‘Pathway’s’ mission and inspires the organization to expand its reach and impact.

Through its meticulously planned events, Talent Value has created a significant impact on various industries by bridging gaps between business leaders, policymakers, and entrepreneurs. The recognition and awards presented by the organization serve as a motivation for individuals and institutions to continue striving for excellence. Furthermore, Talent Value’s efforts contribute to the larger goal of economic development by encouraging innovative practices and sustainable growth strategies.

For organizations like ‘Pathway’, such recognition serves as a validation of years of dedicated service and community impact. It also amplifies awareness about the cause, inspiring more individuals and institutions to support initiatives that make a meaningful difference in society.



Talent Value Media Pvt Ltd stands as a beacon of excellence in the corporate event space. With a commitment to innovation, recognition, and industry collaboration, the organization continues to empower businesses and individuals alike. By hosting impactful summits and awards ceremonies, Talent Value fosters an ecosystem where leadership, creativity, and dedication are acknowledged and celebrated.

The recognition of Dr. Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust – ‘Pathway’ as one of India’s Most Trusted NGOs reaffirms Talent Value’s credibility as a platform that honors organizations making a real difference in society. As both Talent Value and ‘Pathway’ move forward,

they remain dedicated to their respective missions of driving change, fostering inclusivity, and shaping a better future for all.

WORLD DISABLED DAY

A CELEBRATION OF TALENT AND INCLUSION

The World Disabled Day sports event, organized by the District Differently Abled Welfare Office on November 21, 2024, in Chennai, served as a platform to recognize and celebrate the talents of individuals with disabilities. This annual event aims to promote inclusion, accessibility, and equal opportunities for persons with disabilities, reinforcing the message that they are capable of achieving great success in all aspects of life. The children of Pathway Centre participated with enthusiasm, demonstrating remarkable determination and excellence across various sporting events.

The Significance of World Disabled Day

Officially known as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD), World Disabled Day is observed globally on December 3rd every year. Established by the United Nations in 1992, the day aims to raise awareness about the rights, dignity, and well-being of individuals with disabilities. The 2024 theme, “Empowering Inclusion: Breaking Barriers and Creating Opportunities,” highlights the importance of fostering an inclusive society where people with disabilities are given equal access to education, employment, and community participation.

Tamil Nadu has always been at the forefront of promoting the welfare of differently-abled individuals. As part of the World Disabled Day celebrations, the state government and various organizations conduct awareness programs, cultural events, and sports competitions to recognize and empower persons with disabilities. Some of the key initiatives include:

- ❖ State-Level Felicitation Programs – Honoring achievers with disabilities in academics, sports, arts, and vocational fields.
- ❖ Assistive Device Distribution – Providing prosthetics, hearing aids, and mobility aids to improve accessibility.
- ❖ Job Fairs & Skill Development Programs – Conducting special employment drives and vocational training for better job opportunities.
- ❖ Cultural and Sports Events – Encouraging participation in dance, music, drama, and inclusive sports activities.

This year’s sporting events in Chennai were a true testament to the resilience and spirit of persons with disabilities, and the Pathway Centre children emerged as shining stars with their exceptional performances.



Pathway Centre's Remarkable Achievements in Sports

The students of Pathway Centre participated with great enthusiasm and showcased extraordinary talent in various sports categories. Their victories reflected their dedication, perseverance, and sportsmanship, proving that disability is not a limitation but a challenge to be overcome. In the 0 to 6 years category, young Sadana displayed outstanding energy and determination, securing first place in the 25 meters running event. Her victory stands as a testament to the incredible potential present even in the youngest participants.

The 9 to 11 years category saw remarkable performances in multiple events. In the Potato Gathering competition, both Jeevitha and Kowshik exhibited skill and agility, earning the third prize. The 50



meters running event witnessed an exceptional race, with Kavin claiming the first prize, followed closely by Tharun, who secured second place. Additionally, in the Soft Ball Throw event, Harshitha emerged as the champion, achieving first place through her impressive strength and coordination.

The 12 to 14 years category was equally competitive, with Pathway Centre's students demonstrating great potential. In the Running Long Jump event, Meghana showcased her agility and secured the second prize. Furthermore, the Throw Ball event witnessed a fantastic performance by Suresh and Divya, who worked as a team to clinch the first prize.

In the 15 to 17 years category, the students of Pathway Centre continued their streak of excellence. The Running Long Jump event saw Madumitha securing the second prize, followed by Visha Raj, who won the third prize. The 100 meters running event was fiercely contested, with Aravind sprinting to victory and earning the first prize. In the Shot Put competition, Mohan's strength and precision helped him secure the second prize.

For participants in the above 17 years category, the competition was equally intense. In the 100 meters running event, Devendran and Vani both showcased incredible speed and endurance, earning the second prize. Meanwhile, in the Discus Throw event, Krishna Kumar's exceptional technique helped him claim the first prize. The Open to All category featured a challenging 800 meters running event, in which Barath displayed remarkable endurance and determination to secure the first prize, standing as an inspiration for all participants.

HONORING EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

In addition to celebrating the achievements of the young athletes, the event also recognized the invaluable contributions of Mrs. Porkodi, a Vocational Trainer at Pathway Centre. She was honored with the Best Teacher Award for her relentless dedication to the development and empowerment of individuals with Intellectual Disabilities. Her efforts have played a crucial role in guiding, mentoring, and inspiring students, helping them realize their full potential.

A Step Towards Inclusion and Empowerment

The World Disabled Day 2024 celebrations in Tamil Nadu highlighted the power of inclusion, accessibility, and equal opportunities for persons with disabilities. Through such initiatives, the state continues to lead by example, fostering an environment where every individual, regardless of ability, is given the chance to excel and thrive.

The achievements of these young athletes serve as a shining example of resilience, hard work, and determination. Their victories not only highlight their individual talents but also reflect the commitment of Pathway Centre in nurturing and empowering individuals with disabilities. These accomplishments truly reinforce the spirit of World



Disabled Day, emphasizing the importance of breaking barriers and creating opportunities for everyone.

On December 3rd, our school children and staff celebrated WORLD DISABILITY DAY with immense joy and enthusiasm. At PATHWAY, we proudly joined hands to honor and celebrate the abilities, dreams, and achievements of every individual. Our students and staff came together for meaningful interactions, heartfelt smiles, and joyful movement, reminding us of the beauty of diversity. Various games and activities were organized for the children, and gifts were distributed to all participants.

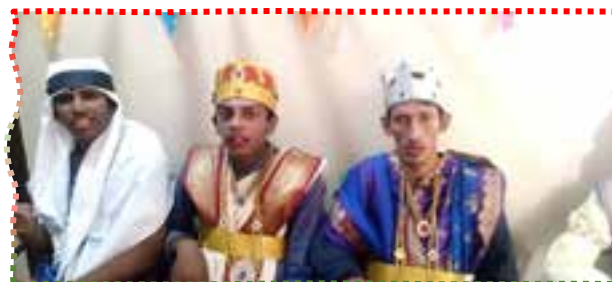
Disability is a matter of perception. Together, let's build a world where everyone is empowered to shine.

Celebrating Triumph and Inclusion - The event was a remarkable celebration of ability over disability, showcasing the incredible potential of each participant. Their inspiring performances remind us that with determination, support, and encouragement, every individual can rise to their fullest potential. Congratulations to all the participants for their outstanding performances! Your achievements inspire us all!

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



On December 20, 2024, our school came alive with the joyous spirit of Christmas. The event was celebrated with great enthusiasm by students and staff, creating a festive and heartwarming atmosphere. The children, dressed in colorful and vibrant outfits, performed mesmerizing dances, songs, and a beautifully enacted nativity play, portraying the birth of Jesus Christ. Their outstanding performances were a



delight to watch and truly reflected the essence of Christmas.

The celebration commenced at 3 p.m., with parents attending to witness the wonderful performances of their children. The event was made even more





special with the distribution of delicious cake, prepared in the vocational section, and crispy vadai, freshly made in the kitchen. These treats were shared among parents, students, and staff, spreading joy and togetherness.

"Christmas is not as much about opening presents as it is about opening our hearts."

– Janice Maeditere

On December 23, 2021, the "Christ Mom and Christ Child" celebration took place at Pathway, adding another dimension of fun and camaraderie to the Christmas festivities. This unique event involved a delightful game where each participant picked a chit with a name, designating them as either a Christ Mom or a Christ Child. The person who picked the name became the "Christ Mom," and the person whose name appeared on the chit was the "Christ Child."



This beautiful tradition symbolizes the essence of Christmas spirit – love, giving, and togetherness. As part of the event, all staff members exchanged gifts with their respective Christ Mom or Christ Child, making it a day filled with excitement and gratitude. Additionally, everyone brought a variety of homemade dishes from their homes and shared them during lunch, reinforcing the values of sharing and unity. The event strengthened the bonds between colleagues and added warmth to the festive celebrations.

"Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone." – Charles M. Schulz

Christmas is much more than a festival—it is a message of love, hope, and kindness that transcends boundaries. Celebrated worldwide, Christmas marks the birth of Jesus Christ, who preached the values of peace, compassion, and selflessness. It is a time when people come together, irrespective of religion or background, to celebrate joy, unity, and goodwill.

Beyond the glittering decorations, carols, and festive gatherings, Christmas serves as a reminder of the importance of kindness, generosity, and empathy. It encourages us to look beyond ourselves and extend a helping hand to those in need. Many people





engage in charitable activities, such as donating food, clothes, and gifts to the less fortunate, embodying the true spirit of giving.

Across the world, Christmas brings people closer—families reunite, communities celebrate together, and friendships are strengthened. It is a time when hearts are filled with warmth, homes are filled with laughter, and the world is filled with the magic of love and goodwill.

“Christmas will always be as long as we stand heart to heart and hand in hand.” – Dr. Seuss

As we celebrate Christmas, let us remember its true essence—not just as a holiday, but as a way of life. May the values of Christmas—love, kindness, and peace—guide us throughout the year, bringing happiness and harmony to our lives and the world around us.

“Peace on earth will come to stay when we live Christmas every day.” – Helen Steiner Rice

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a season filled with love, joy, and countless blessings!

NEW YEAR - CELEBRATIONS

The arrival of the New Year is a moment of joy, reflection, and new beginnings. It is a time when people across the world come together to celebrate, leaving behind the past and welcoming the future with hope and happiness. The year 2025 was welcomed with grand celebrations at Pathway Centre, across Tamil Nadu, and around the world. The festivities were marked by music, dance, fireworks, and traditional customs that made the occasion truly special.

New Year Celebrations at Pathway Centre



At Pathway Centre, the New Year 2025 was celebrated with great enthusiasm and excitement. The entire campus was decorated with colorful lights and balloons, creating a lively and festive atmosphere. The event began with energetic dance and music performances by students, filling the air with joy and celebration. A special cake-cutting ceremony was held, symbolizing sweetness and prosperity for the year ahead. Traditional snacks, including delicious vada, were distributed to all students and staff, adding a cultural touch to the celebrations. Teachers and students exchanged warm wishes, hoping for a successful and joyful year. The event fostered a sense of unity and happiness among everyone present, making it a truly memorable occasion. In Tamil Nadu, New Year's Eve was celebrated with grandeur across various cities. Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, and other major cities witnessed spectacular fireworks, music concerts, and gatherings. Marina Beach and Elliot's Beach were filled with people



The New Year is a time of renewal, where people set new goals, embrace positive changes, and look forward to a bright future. The celebrations of 2025, whether at Pathway Centre, in Tamil Nadu, or around the world, reflected the essence of joy, unity, and hope. It was a time for people to come together, cherish the present, and welcome the future with open hearts. The grand celebrations marked the beginning of a year filled with aspirations, happiness, and success for all.

eagerly awaiting the stroke of midnight to welcome the New Year with cheers and applause. Many families visited temples to seek divine blessings for a prosperous year. Churches also conducted special midnight prayers, bringing together people of different communities in a spirit of harmony and peace. Luxurious hotels and resorts organized grand parties, featuring live music and cultural performances. The blend of modern festivities and traditional rituals made the New Year celebrations in Tamil Nadu unique and vibrant.



DRAWING COMPETITION REPORT



The event was a great success, fostering creativity among students while also spreading awareness about essential healthcare initiatives.

A Drawing Competition was conducted on 07.01.2025 by the Department of CM's Health Insurance Scheme and PM's Insurance Scheme. All our students actively participated in the event, showcasing their creativity and artistic skills.





The winners of the competition were:
1st Prize – Karthik
2nd Prize – Shabeer
3rd Prize –
Nithishwaran

The event also aimed to raise awareness about government-sponsored health insurance schemes. The Chief Minister's Health Insurance Scheme (CMHIS) is a state-funded initiative

designed to provide free and cashless medical treatment to economically vulnerable families. It covers a wide range of medical procedures, surgeries, and treatments across empaneled hospitals.

The scheme ensures that quality healthcare is accessible to those in need, reducing the financial burden of medical



expenses. The event was also used to sensitize people about government-sponsored health insurance programs. The Chief Minister's Health Insurance Scheme (CMHIS) is a state-sponsored scheme for free and cashless medical treatment to economically backward classes of society. The scheme offers full coverage for various medical procedures, surgical operations, and treatments at panel hospitals. The scheme allows access to quality healthcare for those who need it, minimizing the economic cost of medical treatment.

The contest was a huge success, promoting imagination among students as well as raising awareness for important healthcare initiatives.

JOYFUL PONGAL CELEBRATIONS



The Four Days of Pongal – A Celebration of Gratitude and Prosperity

Our school's Pongal festivities beautifully reflected the rich traditions of this four-day harvest festival. Each day of Pongal holds special cultural and spiritual significance:

Bhogi Pongal (Day 1)



Bhogi marks the beginning of the celebrations. On this day, old and unused household items are discarded in a symbolic gesture of making way for new beginnings. At school, students participated in a special activity where they made drawings and crafts to represent letting go of negativity and





embracing change. Traditional kolams (rangoli) were drawn in front of classrooms, adding color and meaning to the day.

Thai Pongal (Day 2)

This is the main day of the Pongal festival, celebrated to thank the Sun God for a bountiful harvest. A traditional Pongal pot ceremony was held on campus, where sweet Pongal was prepared in earthen pots decorated with turmeric plants. The children enthusiastically chanted “Pongalo Pongal!” as the pot boiled over—a sign of abundance and prosperity. Cultural performances including folk dances, songs, and skits conveyed the importance of farmers and gratitude to nature.



3. Mattu Pongal (Day 3)

Mattu Pongal is dedicated to honoring cattle, especially bulls and cows, for their vital role in farming. At school, children learned about the significance of livestock in agriculture through storytelling sessions and visual presentations. Some classes also conducted creative activities like drawing and mask-making featuring decorated cows and bulls.

Kaanum Pongal (Day 4)

The final day, Kaanum Pongal, is about social gatherings, community, and togetherness. At school, this spirit was reflected in a joyful group lunch where students and teachers shared Pongal sweets and snacks. Games and traditional group activities were organized to strengthen bonds and celebrate unity.



On 10th January, our school was immersed in the vibrant spirit of Pongal, celebrating this traditional harvest festival with great enthusiasm and cultural pride. The day was filled with joy, color, and a sense of togetherness as students and staff came together to honor this special occasion.

The campus was beautifully decorated with colorful kolams (rangoli), festive banners, and traditional motifs that reflected the essence of Pongal. Students and staff arrived dressed in elegant traditional attire, adding to the festive charm of the day.



The celebrations began with a special assembly highlighting the significance of Pongal, followed by a delightful lineup of cultural performances including folk dances, songs, skits, and speeches by students about the importance of harvest and gratitude.

One of the highlights of the day was the Pongal cooking ceremony, where the traditional sweet Pongal was prepared with reverence and joy, symbolizing abundance and prosperity. The delicious dish was

lovingly served to all, thanks to the tireless efforts of our wonderful kitchen team.

A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated teachers and staff who planned and organized such a gracious and grand celebration. Your hard work brought joy to every corner of the school.

We are especially grateful to our school president, Mrs. Dhuli Patnaik ma'am, for joining us and enhancing the celebration with her presence and kind words.

It was truly a memorable day that brought the entire school community together in celebration and gratitude. Happy Pongal to all!



TRADE FAIR EXHIBITION



Empowering Through Inclusion: Pathway at the 49th India Tourism and Industrial Trade Fair

From January 7 to March 20, 2025, the 49th India Tourism and



Industrial Trade Fair unfolded at the Island Grounds in Chennai, bringing together diverse stakeholders in development, innovation, and public engagement. Organized



by the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation (TTDC), this annual event has long served as a platform for government departments, public sector organizations, and private enterprises to showcase their initiatives and offerings. With over 110 small shops and 30 private halls, the fair offered a vibrant blend of attractions, from adventure rides and cultural programs to exhibits that reflected the progress and creativity of the state. It welcomed thousands of visitors daily, operating from 3 PM to 10 PM on weekdays and 11 AM to 10 PM on weekends and public holidays.

A notable feature of this year's fair was the special section dedicated to the Department for the Welfare of Differently Aabled Persons. Inaugurated on January 6, 2025, by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, this section marked a significant step towards inclusivity and representation. For the first time, seven special schools, including Pathway, were invited to participate and showcase the talents of their students. This opportunity not only acknowledged the capabilities of individuals with disabilities but also highlighted the importance of community integration and empowerment through creative expression.

Pathway's stall was a vibrant reflection of its mission to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The products displayed—handcrafted by students using materials such as paper, beads, wood, dried leaves, and recycled plastic bottles—were met with admiration and enthusiasm by the visiting public. Among the featured items were the much-acclaimed special edition quilled Nativity sets, which have received both national and international recognition for their delicate craftsmanship and cultural significance. These works of art stood as a testament to what individuals with disabilities can achieve when given the right support, tools, and opportunities.

From January 11 to 15, Pathway staff members were present each day from 3 PM to 10 PM to guide visitors through the display and share the stories behind the creations. This daily presence fostered meaningful interactions and allowed for the sharing of insights into the inclusive, person-centered care model that Pathway upholds. The engagement with the public helped raise awareness, dismantle misconceptions, and foster a greater appreciation for the talents and potential of persons with disabilities.





The warm and encouraging response from the public was deeply affirming. It underscored the value of Pathway's commitment to skill development, the dignity of labor, and the creation of inclusive spaces where everyone has the opportunity to contribute and thrive. The trade fair not only celebrated creativity and innovation but also provided a powerful reminder of the importance of visibility and representation for marginalized communities.

Pathway extends its sincere gratitude to the Tamil Nadu State Government and the TTDC for providing this valuable platform. The experience strengthened Pathway's resolve to continue innovating, advocating, and empowering—and to build a more inclusive society where every individual, regardless of ability, can live with dignity and purpose.

ONLINE INSPECTION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNDER THE DDRS SCHEME - JANUARY 13, 2025

On January 13, 2025, our institution was honored to undergo an online inspection conducted by an official from the Government of India under the Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS). The session was held via Google Meet and served as a formal review of our school's implementation of the scheme and overall service delivery.

The inspecting officer initiated the process by gathering detailed information about the school's functioning. He inquired about the total number of students enrolled under the DDRS scheme, with specific data on the number of boys and girls, as well as residential students, categorized separately for boys and girls.

He then requested a breakdown of our staffing structure, including the number of special educators, vocational instructors, physiotherapists, speech therapists, support staff and the school nurse. He also asked about the school president and their role in overseeing operations.

Following this, the inspector engaged in individual interactions with each teacher, virtually visiting every classroom. These conversations allowed him to understand the educators' responsibilities, teaching methods, and student engagement firsthand. He then conducted a complete virtual walkthrough of the entire school building, observing classrooms, therapy rooms, residential facilities, and vocational training areas.

In addition to reviewing infrastructure, the official also examined key administrative records, including the staff and student attendance registers and the official holiday list, ensuring transparency and proper documentation.

At the conclusion of the inspection, the officer commended the school's infrastructure, describing it as well-maintained, functional, and conducive to the learning and development of children with disabilities. His encouraging remarks highlighted the strength of our school's commitment to inclusive education and holistic care.

This inspection was not only a valuable opportunity to present the diligent work of our staff but also served as a reaffirmation of our mission to empower children with disabilities through quality education, therapy, and vocational training under the DDRS scheme.

'VIDIYAL' EVENT CELEBRATING ABILITY AND INCLUSION



On February 8, 2025, the children and staff of Pathway Special School participated in the vibrant and inclusive 'Vidiyal' event, hosted by the Rotaract Club of Ambattur at Good Shepherd Higher Secondary School, Nungambakkam. 'Vidiyal', which means "a new dawn" in Tamil, is an annual celebration dedicated to recognizing and uplifting children with special needs, providing them with a platform to showcase their talents, build confidence, and feel a sense of belonging in the wider community.

The event brought together 23 special schools from across Chennai and surrounding districts, creating a joyful and energetic atmosphere filled with cultural performances, music, dance, and interactive activities. The day was not only a celebration of talent but also a powerful statement on inclusion, acceptance, and the rights of children with disabilities to participate fully in society.

Our students delivered a beautiful and spirited dance performance that captured the hearts of the audience. Their enthusiasm, confidence, and teamwork on stage reflected their hard work and the unwavering support of the school staff. The performance was met with resounding applause and admiration, highlighting the immense potential of children when nurtured in an inclusive and empowering environment.

A special moment of pride for Pathway was the recognition of Mrs. Radha, a dedicated teacher, who was honored with the prestigious Medallion Award by the Rotaract Club of Ambattur. This award recognized her outstanding service, compassion, and commitment to the holistic development of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Her achievement is a testament to the passion and dedication that define the spirit of Pathway.

The day's programme commenced at 9:00 AM and concluded at 5:30 PM, with a full day of performances, group activities, and social



interaction. The organizers generously arranged transportation, ensuring a safe and comfortable journey for all participants. In addition, breakfast and lunch were provided to all students and staff, reflecting the thoughtful planning and hospitality extended by the Rotaract Club.

‘Vidiyal’ served as an important reminder of the need for spaces where children with disabilities are celebrated, not sidelined—where their strengths and contributions are made visible and valued. For our students, it was a day of joy, pride, and connection. For our staff, it was a reaffirmation of their vital role in shaping inclusive futures.

Pathway Special School extends heartfelt thanks to the Rotaract Club of Ambattur for organizing such a meaningful event and for their continued commitment to empowering children with special needs. Events like ‘Vidiyal’ inspire a more inclusive society—one where every child is seen, heard, and celebrated.

PARENTS' MEETING - NIRAMAYA HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME



On the afternoon of February 14, 2025, Pathway Special School conducted a Parents' Meeting focused on raising awareness about the Niramaya Health Insurance Scheme, an initiative by the National Trust (Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India). The meeting aimed to inform and guide parents on how to access this vital health insurance coverage for their children with disabilities.



The session was well-attended, with all parents and guardians present, demonstrating their active involvement and concern for their children's well-being. The meeting was led by Mrs. Jayaseeli, Principal of Pathway, who delivered an empathetic and informative talk addressing both the practical challenges faced by

children with intellectual and developmental disabilities and the emotional and logistical struggles experienced by their families.

During her address, Mrs. Jayaseeli provided valuable insights into managing day-to-day behavioral and learning difficulties, shared strategies for improving communication and cooperation between home and school, and emphasized the need for emotional resilience and mutual support among parents. She then introduced the Niramaya Health Insurance Scheme, explaining its significance, coverage, and application

process in detail.

About the Niramaya Insurance Scheme: The Niramaya Health Insurance





Scheme is a government-funded program designed specifically for individuals with disabilities covered under the National Trust Act, 1999. This includes conditions such as autism, cerebral palsy, intellectual disability, and multiple disabilities.

Key features of the scheme include:

- Coverage up to ₹1 lakh per annum on a reimbursement basis
- No age limit for enrollment
- No medical check-up required for enrollment
- Coverage includes:

- Outpatient care, including regular medical checkups
- Hospitalization expenses, including surgeries
- Corrective surgeries for existing disabilities
- Therapies, including occupational, physiotherapy, and speech therapy
- Alternative medicine, such as AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy)
- Transportation costs for treatment

Mrs. Jayaseeli encouraged all parents to enroll their children under this scheme and explained the documentation requirements, such as the disability certificate, proof of identity, and a recent photograph. She assured parents of the school's full support in facilitating the application process.

The meeting concluded at 3:30 PM, with parents expressing their appreciation for the school's proactive approach to ensuring both medical security and overall well-being of their children. The session served as a powerful reminder of the school's holistic commitment to supporting not only students but also their families through practical resources, compassionate guidance, and community engagement.



THE 76TH REPUBLIC DAY OF INDIA A CELEBRATION OF UNITY, DIVERSITY, AND PROGRESS

India's Republic Day, celebrated on January 26th every year, marks the adoption of the country's Constitution in 1950 and the transition to a republic. As we celebrate the 76th Republic Day in 2025, the event stands as a powerful reminder of the progress India has made in the past seven decades. Republic Day is a celebration of the nation's





democratic ideals, its strength in unity, and its rich diversity. This year, amidst the grand festivities that take place nationwide, special recognition goes to the contributions of institutions like the **Pathway Centre in Chennai**, which supports children with intellectual disabilities.

The Significance of Republic Day

Republic Day is a momentous occasion for the entire nation, as it represents not only the adoption of India's Constitution but also the ideals of equality, justice, and liberty that were enshrined in that document. The 76th Republic Day in 2025 is an opportunity for

India to reflect on its journey, from a newly independent nation to one of the world's most vibrant democracies. It is also a time to celebrate the country's cultural richness and social progress.

Pathway Centre and its Role in Promoting Inclusivity

While the Republic Day celebrations in the capital city of New Delhi attract attention from around the world, local celebrations in various parts of India also highlight significant contributions to national progress. In Chennai, the **Pathway Centre** stands as a shining example of how individuals and institutions are working to build an inclusive society. The Pathway Centre, which caters to children with intellectual disabilities, has played a pivotal role in offering a nurturing environment where children can receive education, engage in skill-building activities, and participate in various forms of expression.

On this special day, the Centre's Republic Day celebrations showcased the abilities of its children, underlining the importance of inclusivity and equal opportunity for all. The celebrations were more than just a symbolic event—they were a powerful statement that every child, regardless of their challenges, can contribute meaningfully to society. It is in such moments that the spirit of India's Republic Day is fully embodied—celebrating the unity, dignity, and potential of all its people.

A Momentous Occasion: The Flag Hoisting Ceremony

On January 26, 2025, the Director of the Pathway Centre took part in the Republic Day celebrations by hoisting the national flag, a gesture that symbolizes India's unity, freedom, and pride. The hoisting of the flag by the Director was a moment of immense significance for the children and staff at the Centre, reinforcing the importance of national identity and participation in the democratic process.



The event was not just a formal occasion—it was a chance for the children to be directly involved in a ceremony that connects them to the heart of the nation's celebrations. Their participation in the hoisting of the national flag highlighted the central tenet of India's Constitution: that every citizen, regardless of their abilities, has the right to take part in the country's progress.

Showcasing Talent: Gymnastics with Flag Colours and Unity

One of the most heartwarming moments of the Pathway Centre's Republic Day celebrations was the children's gymnastics performance, which creatively highlighted the flag colors of India—saffron, white, green, and the blue Ashoka Chakra. Using props such as colored ribbons, hoops, and fabric, the children showcased their physical abilities and coordination, performing synchronized gymnastics routines that symbolized the unity and diversity of India.

The use of the flag's colors in the performance was a poignant reminder of India's strength in diversity. Just as the flag brings together different colors to represent the unity of the nation, the performance demonstrated how children, irrespective of their intellectual challenges, can come together and contribute in meaningful ways to their community. The gymnastics routines not only reflected the children's talent but also conveyed the message of strength, unity, and inclusivity that is at the core of India's national identity.

By engaging in such a display of talent, the children at Pathway Centre emphasized that intellectual disabilities do not limit the ability to participate in national celebrations or showcase one's skills. Their performance became a powerful demonstration of how every individual can be an active participant in the nation's cultural and democratic life, regardless of their abilities.

Celebrating India's Journey Toward Inclusivity



The Republic Day celebrations at the Pathway Centre were more than a mere performance—they were a celebration of India's journey toward becoming a more inclusive society. The Centre's efforts to provide specialized education and create opportunities for children with intellectual disabilities reflect the nation's growing commitment to ensuring that all its citizens, regardless of their background or challenges, are given the tools and resources to succeed.

This aligns with the larger vision of India's Constitution, which guarantees equality



before the law and the right to education and dignity for all. The Pathway Centre's approach is a shining example of how these rights are being brought to life, not just in policy but also in practice.

As India celebrates its 76th Republic Day in 2025, it is essential to remember that the nation's true strength lies in its ability to include all its citizens in its progress. The Pathway Centre's Republic Day celebrations in Chennai offer a touching reminder of this message. The flag hoisting ceremony and the gymnastics performance by children with intellectual disabilities exemplify the spirit of inclusivity, unity, and progress that is at the heart

of India's democratic ideals.

The 76th Republic Day is not just an occasion to celebrate India's achievements but also a call to continue working toward a society where everyone—regardless of their abilities—has the opportunity to participate fully. By honoring the contributions of institutions like the Pathway Centre, we affirm that the true essence of a republic lies in the recognition and empowerment of every citizen.

PATHWAYS'S PERFORMANCE AT THE RASA PROGRAMME



On February 20, 2025, the students of Pathway Special School once again had the honor of participating in the RASA (Ramana Sunritya Aalaya) School Programme, an annual cultural event that celebrates inclusivity and artistic expression through the performing arts. The event was held at the prestigious Narada Gana Sabha, Chennai—a space that has long been a center for excellence in music, dance, and drama.

This year, our talented children took to the stage to perform a soul-stirring drama based on the life of Kancherla

Gopanna, more popularly known as Bhakta Ramadasu—a 17th-century saint, poet, and ardent devotee of Lord Rama. The play beautifully depicted the spiritual journey and unwavering faith of Kopanna, who served as a Tahsildar (Revenue Officer) under the Golconda Sultanate.

The story unfolded with Kopanna discovering the dilapidated state of the Rama Temple in Bhadrachalam.

Deeply moved by its condition, he took it upon himself to renovate the temple, using funds from the royal treasury—an act of devotion that was not authorized by the ruling Sultan. As a result, Kopanna was imprisoned for 12 long years, during which he continued to compose bhajans and keerthanas in praise of Lord Rama, never losing faith despite his suffering.



In a miraculous turn of events, Lord Rama and his brother Lakshmana appeared in disguise before the king and repaid the money used for the temple's restoration, thereby proving Kopanna's innocence. Recognizing the divine intervention, the king immediately released Kopanna, who went on to dedicate the rest of his life to singing the glories of Lord Rama. His devotional compositions remain widely revered and are an integral part of Carnatic music and spiritual traditions to this day. The Bhadrachalam Temple continues to stand as a living symbol of his devotion, sacrifice, and divine love.

Our children's performance was deeply moving and



earned heartfelt applause from the audience. Through expressive acting, vivid costumes, and emotional storytelling, they captured the essence of faith, resilience, and divine grace. It was a proud moment for Pathway, showcasing not only the artistic talents of our students but also their discipline, confidence, and ability to connect with profound spiritual themes. We express our sincere gratitude to RASA for organizing this inclusive platform and for giving our students the opportunity to shine on such a

prestigious stage. The event was a testament to the transformative power of the arts in nurturing the confidence, creativity, and emotional expression of children with disabilities.

WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS AT PATHWAY AND TAGORE DENTAL COLLEGE



In honor of International Women's Day 2025, two special events were held that celebrated the achievements and contributions of



women

leaders associated with Pathway Special School, highlighting the spirit of empowerment, service, and community engagement.

March 7, 2025 – Women's Day Celebration at Pathway with RBL Bank

On March 7, 2025, a delegation of six members from RBL Bank visited Pathway Special School to join the Women's Day celebrations. The event was marked by warmth and appreciation as the RBL team recognized the dedication of the women who drive Pathway's mission forward.



Our Director, Mrs. Chandra Prasad, and School President, Mrs. Dhuli, were honored with special recognition for their unwavering leadership and tireless commitment to enhancing the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. As a



thoughtful gesture, all female staff members were gifted eco-friendly PET bottles symbolizing respect and encouragement for their invaluable contributions.



This celebration fostered a sense of unity and motivation among staff, reminding everyone of the power of women's leadership and compassion in creating inclusive and supportive communities.

March 10, 2025 – Women's Day Celebration at Tagore Dental College

On March 10, 2025, our Director, Mrs. Chandra Prasad, along with Mrs. Dhuli, were invited to participate in the prestigious Women's Day event at Tagore Dental College, located in Chennai. Tagore Dental College is a well-established institution renowned for its excellence in dental education, research, and community health outreach. The college is committed to fostering not only academic and clinical expertise but also social responsibility and empowerment through its various programs.



Mrs. Chandra Prasad was the Chief Guest of the function and was felicitated with an award of honor recognizing her outstanding leadership, dedication to inclusive education, and advocacy for persons with disabilities. Her inspiring address emphasized the importance of empowering women and promoting inclusive opportunities for people with

special needs. She shared insights from her extensive experience in disability education, highlighting the transformative impact of compassion, skill development, and community integration.

The event at Tagore Dental College was attended by faculty, students, and community members, all celebrating the achievements of women leaders across diverse fields. The recognition of Mrs. Chandra Prasad's work further strengthened Pathway's connections with academic and healthcare institutions, opening avenues for future collaboration in health, education, and disability support.

Together, these celebrations underscored the vital role of women as changemakers and advocates within and beyond Pathway. They reinforced the commitment to fostering an environment where every woman's contribution is valued and every individual's potential is nurtured.

STUDENTS EXCEL IN "BEYOND BOUNDARIES" ONLINE COMPETITION

Pathway Special School proudly participated in the "Beyond Boundaries" online competition, a national initiative organized by the United Support Organization (USO)—an NGO dedicated to empowering individuals with disabilities through education, skill development, and inclusive opportunities. The competition aims to provide a platform for differently-abled children from across India to showcase their talents, creativity, and determination beyond traditional boundaries.



The first round of the competition was a rigorous selection process held online, in which Pathway's students participated with enthusiasm and commitment. We are delighted to announce that our school was selected to advance to the next phase of the contest.

On March 13, 2025, USO officially announced that Pathway had earned 2nd place nationally, a prestigious recognition reflecting the hard work and potential of

our students among competitors from all over India.

The participants representing Pathway were:

- Joseph
- Madhavan
- Bharath
- Devanthiran
- Vani
- Rani



This accomplishment highlights not only the talents of these young participants but also the effectiveness of Pathway's inclusive teaching methods and supportive environment. USO's platform has been instrumental in connecting special schools like Pathway to a larger community, fostering confidence and opportunities for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

We congratulate all the participants for their outstanding performance and thank USO for creating such an empowering and encouraging competition. We eagerly anticipate further opportunities for our students to engage, learn, and excel on national and international stages.



WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY



Each year on March 21st, the world comes together to observe World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD)—a



global awareness initiative that aims to foster understanding, acceptance, and

celebration of individuals living with Down syndrome. The choice of the date—21/3—represents the presence of a third copy of chromosome 21, the genetic cause of this condition. Recognized officially by the United Nations since 2012, WDSD reminds us to recognize the contributions of people with Down syndrome and to advocate for their rights and inclusion in all areas of life.

At Pathway, we uphold a long-standing commitment to inclusion, compassion, and human dignity. On this meaningful day, our students and staff came together, proudly wearing the colors yellow and blue, to raise awareness and demonstrate solidarity with the global Down syndrome community.

“It is not our disabilities, but our abilities that count.”
— Chris Burke, actor and advocate with Down syndrome

Down syndrome, or trisomy 21, is a genetic condition in which an individual is born with an extra chromosome 21. It affects approximately 1 in every 800 live births and may result in intellectual disability, developmental delays, and certain health issues. Despite these challenges, individuals with Down syndrome are fully capable of learning, working, forming meaningful relationships, and living fulfilling lives. What matters most is not the condition itself, but the environment of support, respect, and opportunity that surrounds a person.

“Everyone has a gift. Everyone can contribute.”
— Jean Vanier, founder of L’Arche, advocate for people with disabilities

Celebrating Inclusion at Pathway

Our World Down Syndrome Day celebration at Pathway focused on amplifying the voices and strengths of individuals with Down syndrome. From awareness talks and expressive art projects to inclusive classroom activities and community engagement, the day served as a vibrant reminder of what is possible when diversity is embraced.

The symbolic act of wearing yellow and blue served not just as a tribute, but as a statement of unity. It



reminded all of us that inclusion isn't an act of charity—it is a human right.



“Having Down syndrome means I have an extra chromosome, but it does not define who I am.”

— Megan McCormick, self-advocate and graduate

Students expressed their appreciation for their peers with Down syndrome, describing them as kind, funny, creative, and inspiring. Through music, movement, and storytelling, we highlighted their many contributions, both big and small, to our Pathway community.

“People with Down syndrome can do anything—swim, dance, go to college, get a job, live independently. Don't limit us.”

— Madeline Stuart, model and global advocate

“See the ability, not the disability.”

— Author Unknown

At Pathway, we will continue to champion the values of respect, compassion, and equality. Today, and every day, we stand firm in our belief that every life holds value, every voice deserves to be heard, and every person has something unique to offer the world.

HONORING A LEGACY- SERVING THE COMMUNITY



On March 22, 2025, the Dr. Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust - Pathway conducted a free medical camp in Saravambakkam Village as a heartfelt tribute to Dr. ADSN Prasad, honoring his legacy of compassionate healthcare and community service. The event was presided over by Dr. Chandra Prasad, Co-founder and Director of Pathway, with participation from local leaders, including Mrs. S. Kumudhamudrai, President of Chithamur Village, Mr. Sivakumar, President of Saravambakkam Village, Mr. Suresh, Vice President of Saravambakkam Village, Mr. Sivakumar, President of

Polambakkam Village, and Mr. Muthu, Vice President of Chithamur.

The camp brought together a dedicated team of medical professionals, including Dr. M. Mano Prakash, Dr. S. Aruna, Dr. S. Dinesh Kumar, Dr. Gayathiri, speech therapists Ms. Anjanaa, physiotherapists Mrs. Pavithra Arjunan, Mrs. Sumathi Easwaran (occupational therapist), Government Optometrist Mr. S. Vijayaraghavan, ophthalmic technicians, and psychologist Mrs. Poornima. They were joined by the Pathway medical team in delivering much-needed healthcare to the people of Saravambakkam, Chithamur, and Polambakkam villages.



More than 300 patients benefited from the free medical services, including eye screenings, identification of cataract surgery candidates, diabetes screenings, speech therapy, dental care, and psychological counseling. Preliminary tests for cataract surgeries were conducted, and the surgeries were scheduled for the following week.

Held on the birth anniversary of Dr. ADSN Prasad, the camp served as a tribute to his lifelong dedication to improving healthcare access and serving underserved communities. The event was held in Saravambakkam, a semi-rural village on the outskirts of Chennai, where access to quality healthcare remains limited despite its proximity to the city.

Comprehensive Healthcare Services Delivered with Compassion

The camp provided a broad range of essential healthcare services to address both immediate and long-term needs, including:

- Diabetes screenings and management advice, addressing the growing prevalence of lifestyle-related diseases.
- Speech therapy consultations for individuals with communication challenges.
- Dental screenings and oral health education.
- Physiotherapy services for pain management and mobility issues, particularly for elderly patients.
- Psychological counseling and mental health support, recognizing the importance of holistic well-being.

Each patient was treated with care and respect, reflecting the values of empathy





and dignity upheld by Dr. Prasad throughout his life. As Dr. D. Rao, Trust Representative, shared, *“True service lies in reaching the ones who need it most. This camp is our way of continuing Dr. Prasad’s mission to heal and uplift.”*

A Collaborative Effort for Community Well-being

The success of the camp was made possible by the collective efforts of doctors, therapists, nurses, volunteers, and administrative staff. Their dedication turned the camp into a place of healing and hope, ensuring that quality care reached those who needed it most. In recognition of their hard work, mementos were presented to all medical professionals and volunteers who contributed their time and expertise.

Carrying Forward a Vision: Changing Lives Forever

The Free Medical Camp at Saravambakkam is part of the ongoing mission of the Dr. Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust to bring healthcare directly to underserved communities. This initiative embodies Dr. Prasad’s vision, proving that true legacy is not measured by words but by meaningful action.

As Muhammad Ali once said, *“Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth.”* By fostering health, hope, and dignity in Saravambakkam and beyond, the Trust continues to change lives—one person, one family, and one community at a time.



FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION 2025

HONORING DEDICATION, EMPOWERING FUTURES

On **March 29, 2025**, the **Dr. Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust** organized a heartfelt **Staff Welfare Event** to mark the **Founder's Day** at the Pathway campus, located at No. 1 Dr. A.D.S.N. Prasad Street, Agili Village, Madhurantakam Taluk, Chengalpattu District – 603 319.



This significant occasion was dedicated to **honoring our most committed staff members**, who have devoted decades of service as special educators, teachers, grassroots workers, agricultural laborers, and support staff. These individuals are the unsung heroes who form the backbone of our organization, working tirelessly to uplift vulnerable communities and enhance the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Recognizing their unwavering commitment is not only a gesture of

gratitude but also a celebration of the values that Pathway upholds—**compassion, resilience, service, and excellence**. These recognitions serve to motivate their peers and inspire younger generations entering the field of social work. By acknowledging their efforts, we reaffirm the importance of community service and the essential role these professionals play in building a more inclusive and supportive society.

Inauguration of Solar-Powered Water Pump

Symbol of Sustainability and Vision

As part of the Founder's Day celebration, a **Solar-Powered Water Pump** was inaugurated—an initiative that reflects Pathway India's enduring commitment to sustainability and self-reliance. This eco-friendly infrastructure ensures **continuous access to clean and safe water** for the children and residents of the campus, even in remote rural settings where electricity can be inconsistent.



The pump, powered entirely by solar energy, represents a **green solution to water management**, reducing dependency on conventional power sources and lowering our carbon footprint. It not only supports daily needs such as cooking, drinking, hygiene, and agricultural use, but also **demonstrates**



to our children the practical applications of renewable energy, embedding early lessons in environmental responsibility.

This innovative step was inaugurated by **Mr. Amit Sachdeva**, widely known as the **CSR Man of India**, who graced the event as **Chief Guest**. His presence signified the growing importance of corporate social responsibility in addressing grassroots challenges.

The event was further dignified by the presence of:

- **Mr. A. Joseph Xavier**, Retired Assistant Director from the Commissionerate for Welfare of the Differently Abled Persons, as **Guest of Honour**, and
- **Mr. Joseph D. Ravi**, Retired District Disabled Rehabilitation Officer, also from the same Commissionerate, as an **Honored Guest**.



The inauguration took place in the esteemed presence of the **Board of Trustees of the Dr. Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust**.

A Tribute to a Visionary: Dr. A.D.S.N. Prasad



The Heart and Soul Behind Pathway India

The Founder's Day is also a time to reflect upon and honor the extraordinary life and legacy of **Dr. A.D.S.N. Prasad**, the visionary who laid the foundation for **Pathway India**. A man of boundless compassion, humility, and determination, Dr. Prasad dedicated his life to the upliftment of those in need. He was more than a founder—he was a mentor, guide, and a beacon of hope for thousands.



Dr. Prasad firmly believed in the transformative power of **education, healthcare, and empowerment**. His journey was shaped by an acute awareness of the hardships faced by marginalized communities. He channeled this empathy into action, launching initiatives that created meaningful opportunities and restored dignity to countless lives.

His leadership was marked by foresight and an unwavering belief in **long-term, sustainable solutions**. Through Pathway, he built bridges between communities and created a space where children and adults with special needs could learn, thrive, and lead dignified lives. His legacy is not just found in buildings or programs, but in the spirit of every individual empowered through Pathway's work.



Dr. Prasad's unique ability to connect deeply with people, regardless of background or ability, made him an irreplaceable pillar of strength. His values—**justice, equality, humility, and service**—continue to guide every decision and direction Pathway takes today.

Carrying the Torch Forward

As we celebrate Founder's Day, we do so with profound respect and admiration for Dr. A.D.S.N. Prasad. His vision lives on in every classroom, every field, and every joyful smile that lights up our campus. We are committed to continuing his mission, embracing innovation while staying grounded in the core values he held dear.

His memory is etched in our hearts, and through our collective efforts, **his dream of a just, compassionate, and inclusive society remains very much alive.**



Pathway India – Changing Lives Forever
Empowering individuals. Transforming communities. Honoring legacies.



**PATHWAY CENTRE FOR
REHABILITATION AND
EDUCATION OF THE
INTELLECTUAL DISABLED**



**PAMELA MARTINEZ –
PATHWAY MATRICULATION
SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S
HOME**



**SABIN - PATHWAY HOME
FOR PERSONS WITH
INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY
AND ASSOCIATED
CONDITIONS**

CYCLONE FENGAL

IMPACT AND HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE BY PATHWAY INDIA



In December 2024, Tamil Nadu was struck by Cyclone FENGAL, a powerful and destructive storm that caused widespread devastation across rural and coastal regions. The cyclone brought with it torrential rain and fierce winds, resulting in the destruction of homes, severe flooding in low-lying areas, and widespread disruption of essential services. The aftermath of the storm left many families struggling for survival, particularly the most vulnerable segments of society—persons with disabilities, daily wage earners, and families living in poverty. Cut off from electricity, food, and clean water, these communities faced

an immediate humanitarian crisis.

Humanitarian Response Initiated by Pathway India

Understanding the severity of the situation, the Director of Pathway India immediately initiated an emergency relief operation to assist those affected by the cyclone. The primary goal was to provide urgent support to individuals within the Pathway ecosystem and its outreach programs, ensuring that their basic needs were met during this critical period. The relief efforts targeted two specific groups:

1. Staff members of the Pathway institutions
2. Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) beneficiaries spread across two operational zones

This rapid response not only offered tangible aid but also symbolized solidarity and care at a time of profound hardship.

Support to Pathway Staff Members

A total of 34 staff members from Pamela Martinez Pathway Matriculation School, located in Agili Village, were identified as direct beneficiaries of the relief initiative. This group included teachers, administrative personnel, kitchen staff, caregivers, and other support workers. Despite being personally affected by the cyclone, many of these individuals continued their commitment to serving children with disabilities and underprivileged students. Their unyielding dedication made them a





priority for immediate relief, ensuring they received food supplies and essential items to help sustain their households during the crisis.

Support to Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Beneficiaries

The Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) program beneficiaries, comprising 36 individuals from some of the most affected rural regions, were also provided with essential relief materials. These individuals include persons with disabilities and their families who rely on Pathway's regular outreach, rehabilitation, and support services. The relief distribution was categorized into two zones:

- **Zone I (27 beneficiaries):**

Villages served included L. Endathur, Kadamboor, Aalappakkam, Theetalam, Veppanai, Pappanallur, Thandarai, Koodappakkam, Pasuvangaranai, Kiliyanagar, Ottakoil, and Semboondi.

- **Zone II (9 beneficiaries):**

Villages included Sarvampakkam, Polambakkam, Thonnadu, Indaloor, and Chinnakayapakkam.

In many of these locations, access was severely restricted due to waterlogging, damaged roads, and downed power lines. Nevertheless, Pathway India's team ensured that food rations and hygiene supplies were delivered, preserving the health and dignity of the beneficiaries.

Upholding Humanitarian Values Amidst Crisis

Pathway India's timely and focused response during Cyclone FENGAL exemplifies its unwavering commitment to the motto "*Changing Lives Forever.*" By addressing the urgent needs of its own staff and extending care to those in the remotest parts of the district, the organization demonstrated resilience, compassion, and leadership. The relief



operation not only immediate the beneficiaries but sense of community defines Pathway's

As Tamil Nadu of Cyclone such as these stand reminders that even natural disasters, and compassion can security to those



mitigated the hardships faced by also reinforced the and support that mission.

rebuilds in the wake FENGAL, efforts as powerful in the face of collective action restore hope and who need it most.

AWARDS FROM INCEPTION



Pathway has received numerous awards and prizes from various sources and institutions over the years:

- ◆ Dr. Chandra Prasad, our esteemed Director and Co-Founder, has been honored with the prestigious **“COMMUNITY STAR AWARD” BY RBL BANK**. This award is a recognition of her tireless dedication and unwavering commitment to transforming lives through education, empowerment, and community service.



- ◆ “Dr Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust – Pathway” has been recognized as one of “INDIA'S **MOST TRUSTED NGO'S TO WORK WITH**” in the category of Community Engagement Support for Intellectual Disabilities! on the 12th November 2024 at Hotel Radisson Blu, Andheri East, Mumbai by esteemed jury members of Talent Value Media
- ◆ Dr. Chandra Prasad, Director, General Secretary, and Co-Founder of PATHWAY, has been honored with the ASSOCHAM Southern Region **HR TRAILBLAZER AWARD FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AWARD - 2024**. The award ceremony took place on June 13, 2024, in Bangalore. The prestigious award was presented by the Chief Guest, Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao, Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka. The event was graced by the presence of Mr. B.V. Naidu, Chairman of Karnataka Digital Economy Mission, Government of Karnataka, Mr. T.R. Parasuraman, Chairman of ASSOCHAM Karnataka State Development Council & Executive Advisor, and Mr. Augustus Azariah, Chairman of ASSOCHAM Southern Region.
- ◆ **LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD** by Puthia Vanigam Publications was conferred on CHANDRA PRASAD in the year 2024 on 7th January. The principal and PRO of Pathway Chennai too were honored under the category by them
- ◆ **FAME TIMES INTERNATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS (FTIEA)** recognizes people who are making considerable contributions around the world and in corporate social, economic fields with their hard and genuine work. We bring together corporates, individuals, entrepreneurs, businessmen, activists, professionals, educationists, and various fields on a common platform and honour them for their extraordinary work & achievements with FTIEA International Awards through various categories in the presence of World's Top Dignitaries, Celebrities & International Media's. The Jury board of the FTIEA - Fame Times International Excellence Awards - presented Dr CHANDRA PRASAD of DR DATHU RAO MEMORIAL CHARITABLE TRUST with the " LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD " at Concord Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on the 27th of October 2023.
- ◆ Brand Honchos Media through an extensive research on 250+ Indian NGOs from pan India found our NGO eligible for the Most Prestigious Title of “**TOP 20 MOST TRUSTED NGO'S OF THE YEAR 2023**”, felicitated “PATHWAY CENTRE FOR REHABILITATION AND EDUCATION FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABLED a unit of DR DATHU RAO MEMORIAL CHARITABLE TRUST” at one of the Biggest Convention of the year “Indian CSR Awards 2023”, on 7th October, 2023 at Hotel Hyatt Centric, New Delhi
- ◆ The Federation of NGO, Tamilnadu honoured our Director and Co Founder of Dr Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust, Dr CHANDRA PRASAD as the **BEST SOCIAL SERVICE AWARD**. This was presented by Dr. J Sadhakathullah, M.Sc., Agri and Dr. Radhakrishnan M.A., Ph.D., along with the team of K. Iyappan, R. Ashok kumar, R. Perumal, Balu Aiiyah, K. Karunanithi, A Ramamoorthi, Dr. K Ramamoorthi, Dr. Vivekanandhan , Shakthivel, Dr. Ummayal Murugasen, and V. Prabhu on the 28th May 2023 at Prasad Lab, Saligramam, Chennai.
- ◆ Dr. Chandra Prasad of Dr Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust was awarded the "**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**" for providing comprehensive care and educational opportunities for Intellectually Disabled children by 1 Million Entrepreneurs International Forum (non gov, not for profit org) in association with VyaaparJagat.com organized by FEMPRENEUR 2023 on 19th March 2023 at Ahmedabad



- ◆ Awarding Ceremony of **WORKING WOMEN ACHIEVER AWARD (WWAA)** was hosted by Ooruni foundation. Dr Chandra Prasad was presented an award under the **LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD** category at Chennai Institute of Technology, Kandrathur on the 4th March 2023.
- ◆ **RJ'S MUSIC PASSION TEAM'S** vision is to conduct the musical shows to help genuine and promising NGOs and NPOs Pan India, and to encourage new comers with genuine talent. Dr Chandra Prasad, Hony. Director/Co-Founder of Dr Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust was invited as the Chief guest for the above event. She was honoured and presented with a shawl, memento and a cheque in the name of the trust
- ◆ Social impact Awards 2023 is an initiative by Indian CSR Awards organized by Brand Honchos, **DR DATHU RAO MEMORIAL CHARITABLE TRUST** has been awarded this prestigious award for the category **-BEST NGO OF THE YEAR-2022-23 (SOUTH)** on 21st January 2023.
- ◆ **BEST SOCIAL SERVICE AWARD** by Puthia Vanigam Publications award conferred on **CHANDRA PRASAD** in the year 2022 on 26th November
- ◆ Dr Chandra Prasad, Co-founder of “Dr Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust-Pathway” received the award under the “Social Good and Impact Category” **MAHATMA AWARD** 1st October 2022 by Amit Sachdeva, Founder of Mahatma Award
- ◆ **SOCIAL AWARD** on 112TH Birthday Anniversary of **MOTHER TERESA** by Rev Verghese Rosario under the aegis of Saint Mother Teresa Charitable Trust conferred on **CHANDRA PRASAD** in the year 2022 on 26th August
- ◆ Received the **BEST NGO OF THE YEAR** award from Rural & Urban Development Summit & Awards 2022 with University Partner - SRM University & presented by the Government of India & implemented by Summentor Pro Sales & Marketing Consultants at India Habitat Centre on 8th July 2022
- ◆ **DR DATHU RAO MEMORIAL CHARITABLE TRUST-(NGO)** has won the award for **BEST NGO OF THE YEAR - INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED CHILDREN AND ADULTS** at **Time2Leap National Awards - MSME Edition 2020-2021**.
- ◆ Dr Chandra Prasad, Co-founder of “Dr Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust-Pathway” received the award from “Dr. Kiran Bedi, 24th Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry” under the “Social Impact Category” **MAHATMA AWARD** for Covid-19 Humanitarian Efforts on the 1st October 2021 by Amit Sachdeva, Founder of Mahatma Award
- ◆ Director & Co-founder, Dr. Chandra prasad has been awarded the **BEST SEVA RATNA AWARD** by the Kovai express YouTube channel and Thaitamil academy on 28.08.2021
- ◆ Eight staff members from Pathway India-Chennai center were given **MOTHER TERESA AWARD** by former judge-High Court of Madras, Justice S.Tamilvanan on 26.08. 2021.
- ◆ **DR CHANDRA PRASAD**, Co-Founder Pathway Centre For Rehabilitation and Education of The Intellectual Disabled receiving **the STAR OF EXCELLENCE AWARD**



at Rajaratnam Kalai Arangam ON 20.03.2021 from the NATIONAL INTEGRITY CULTURAL ACADEMY.

- ◆ THIS YEAR, **MAHATMA AWARD FOR SOCIAL GOOD 2020** IN 'DISABILITY AND INCLUSION' was presented to CHANDRA PRASAD, Co-Founder And Honorary Director of Dr. Dathu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust, On 30th January 2021.by Amit Sachdeva, Founder of Mahatma Award
- ◆ **CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION** FOR PATHWAY-SABIN CENTRE for rendering unparallel service to Differently Abled during pandemic period of COVID 19
- ◆ INTERNATIONAL UNICEF COUNCIL -ACCREDITED BY INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL, USA has conferred the **GLOBAL BEST SOCIAL WORKER AWARD** to DR CHANDRA PRASAD in recognition of her outstanding excellence, superior performance and accomplishments in the field of Social Work for the year 2020 and appointed her as **SENATOR** for INTERNATIONAL UNICEF COUNCIL.
- ◆ Our organization has been nominated for receiving a Trophy for 2019-20 in the Category of Charitable Association from **CFBP JAMNALAL BAJAJ UCHIT VYAVAHAR PURASKAR - 2019-20**
- ◆ The **NATIONAL AWARD FOR THE EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES** in the category of BEST INDIVIDUAL – PROFESSIONAL FOR THE YEAR 2019 is conferred on DR. CHANDRA PRASAD for her achievements.
- ◆ Receiving the **MAHATHMA GANDHI AWARD** on Oct 1st 2019, on the 150th Anniversary of our Father of the Nation for SOCIAL GOOD
- ◆ The Global Peace University has conferred the **HONORARY DOCTORATE** in the degree of - DOCTOR OF SOCIAL WORK on CHANDRA PRASAD on the first of September 2019.
- ◆ **BEST SOCIAL WORKER AWARD** conferred on CHANDRA PRASAD in the year 2019 by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Mr Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Govt. of Tamilnadu
- ◆ On 19th January 2019 the Kancheepuram District Self Financing School Association honoured our school in the –**THE FIFTH AWARDS CEREMONY**' for hundred percent result for the tenth standard for the year 2017-2018
- ◆ **BHARATH JYOTHI EXCELLENCE AWARD** conferred on CHANDRA PRASAD IN THE YEAR 2018 by the National Integrity Cultural Academy under Global Achievers Council
- ◆ **SOCIAL AWARD** on 107TH Birthday Anniversary of MOTHER TERESA by Justice S Rajeswaran and Justice M V Muralidharan of Madras High Court conferred on CHANDRA PRASAD in the year 2017
- ◆ **GODFREY PHILIP SOCIAL BRAVERY SPECIAL AWARD** conferred on A. D. S. N .PRASAD in the year 2013



- ◆ **THE PROFESSOR RAMESH K OZA ORATION AWARD** conferred on A. D. S. N. PRASAD in the year 2013
- ◆ “Best Employee” awarded to one Pathway employees – Hon’ble Social Welfare Minister, **GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU, 2013**
- ◆ **"THE NOBLE SOUL AWARD"** - Award of Excellence in the field of Social Responsibility & for Valuable Support presented by Sathyabama University on 7th December 2013
- ◆ Pathway Centre for Rehabilitation & Education of Mentally Retarded was awarded "
–**THE BEST INSTITUTION FOR THE DISABLED FOR THE YEAR 2009-2010** by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of TamilNadu, - Mr. M. Karunanidhi
- ◆ **“MCDS-AWARD FOR A COUPLE RENDERING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICES TO THE DISABLED”** awarded to - –Mrs Chandra Prasad and A D S N Prasad, 2007. Award consisted of cash award, plaque and a citation handed over by Hon’ble Shri Surjit Singh Barnala, Governor of Tamil Nadu, in the presence of many distinguished persons including Mr. Devarajan, Managing Trustee of MCDS.
- ◆ Award for **“SERVICES RENDERED TO THE MENTALLY DISABLED”**
–Council of Parent's Association of the Mentally Retarded, Chennai, 2002
- ◆ **“VOCATION EXCELLENCE”** award to A.D.S.N. Prasad for his services to the disabled
–Rotary Club International, 1999
- ◆ 1998 award for “Most Outstanding Institution in India Serving the Disabled” and “Most Outstanding Employer of the Disabled in India”
–**HON’BLE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA, MR. ATAL BEHARI VAJPAYEE,**
- ◆ **“BEST INSTITUTION SERVING THE DISABLED”**
Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Ms. J. Jayalalithaa, 1995
- ◆ **“BEST EMPLOYER OF THE DISABLED”**
Hon’ble Social Welfare Minister, **GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU, 1995**
- ◆ **“BEST EMPLOYEES”** awarded to two Pathway employees
Hon’ble Social Welfare Minister, **GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU, 1995**
- ◆ “Exceptional Contribution for Services to People”
–**GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA, 1995**
- ◆ “Services Rendered to the Mentally Disabled in India”
–**JAPANESE SIVUS COUNCIL, 1993**

