



NEWS | INTERVIEWS | FEATURES | SPECIALS | PICTURES | INFO

Asawari Mathur's eco-conscious lifestyle - natural, but not easy

Shalini Ramesh



“I first started my eco-friendly life journey by removing all chemical cosmetics, shampoos, and self-care products from my lifestyle. I wanted to replace them with natural, and organically sourced ones – but I couldn’t find affordable ones.

Asawari Mathur, a 22-year-old has adopted an environmentally conscious lifestyle and lives in Kelamangalam, a village near Hosur, 60km south of Bangalore. She lives with her two cats and two dogs, surrounded by nature.

Asawari completed mainstream education until Grade 5, after when her parents pulled her out of school and started Aarohi – an open learning community that explores learner-chosen, self-paced activities as a means of unschooling. She went on to enrol in the Swaraj University in Rajasthan, where she pursued a two-year degree-less program.

After attending a ‘Rethinking Development Workshop’ in 2015, where she learnt about the devastating effects of development and consumerism on the environment,

“I use cloth pads for the past 5-6 years now, and it is one of the best decisions I have made, health-wise and environment-wise. Your average pads contain chemicals and are mostly made of non-degradable plastic – meaning that it takes thousands of years to break down.”

Read the full story at : tinyurl.com/asawarim

Founder Editor

Revathi R

**Student Reporters team
for this issue**

Maitreyi Aravindan
Reema Varsinii T H
Samyuktha Chandrashekar
Sanjitha S
Sanjanya S
Shalini Ramesh

Circulation

Free ePaper

<https://yocee.in/category/epaper/>

Disclaimer

Readers are advised to exercise caution and use their discretion to visit the external websites mentioned in this Paper.

YOcee does not vouch for any of their claims.

Get in touch

email: editor@yocee.in

Connect with YOcee



<https://yocee.in>



yocee.in



[yoceenews](#)



[yoceenews](#)



[yoceenews](#)



Copyright: [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License](#).

Quick News ...

Chennai Central station goes green



Powered by solar energy, Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran Central (Chennai Central railway station) becomes the world's largest green railway network.

The Solar PhotoVoltaic (SPV) panels installed on the station's platform shelters now meet the 100% daytime energy requirement of the station.

A press release says that the Indian Railways plans to be a Net Zero Carbon Emitter by 2030.

Photo: RailMinIndia/Twitter

Police Museum in Chennai



The 179-year-old Chennai Police Commissionerate at Egmore in Chennai has been converted into a Police Museum. It was thrown open to the public on Sep. 28, 2021.

The building constructed in Indo-Saracenic style housed the office of the Commissioner of Police, Chennai from 1856 to 2014.

Photos of Penny Farthing bicycle used by the beat constables, Despatcher Royal Enfield bikes, models of country bombs and pistols, revolvers and firing

guns, time-maps and the latest Coronavirus shaped headgear used by the police to create awareness among the public during the lockdown times in 2020 are among the exhibits. The museum speaks a lot about the history of the city police.

The museum located at 483, Pantheon Road, Egmore, Chennai is open for visitors every day from 10 am to 5 pm. Monday is a holiday.

Photos: [instagram/tnpolicemuseum_chennai](#)

Features

**Aadi special:
Home gardeners
exchange plants**

Page 5

**Samukta publishes
her first fantasy
fiction**

Page 6



In rapport with Mother Nature

The Young Naturalists' Network (YNN) is a platform for sharing knowledge on anything and everything related to nature and wildlife.

Sanjitha S

Ever since her childhood, Mahathi Narayanaswamy was enamoured by nature and wildlife. Initially, her friends made fun of her, as hobbies like bird-watching were not very popular among youngsters then. "Eventually, I was lucky enough to find a peer group who kept encouraging me to pursue my hobby of watching nature. I always wished other kids also had such peer groups so that they stay motivated and do not lose interest in wildlife." And that led to the formation of The Chennai Young Naturalists' Network in April 2020.

Launch of Young Naturalists' Network

The Young Naturalists' Network (YNN) is a platform for sharing knowledge on anything and everything related to nature and wildlife. With the help of Vikas Madhav Nagarajan, another nature enthusiast, Mahathi designed the YNN website and created application forms, inviting young people to join the network. Anyone under 26 years of age, who is zealous about nature and based in Chennai is eligible to join this network as a member.

"We predominantly aim to bring together people who are already interested in wildlife. To ensure we can motivate each other to continue our passion. We wish to share knowledge not just amongst ourselves but also with the public, particularly

youngsters. We also hope to develop valuable skills that would be helpful for us later on" says the teen naturalist Mahathi, who is a first-year student at Azim Premji University, Bangalore.

iNaturalist Project

There are about 60 members in the network now and they keep in touch with each other through WhatsApp and email groups. YNN also has an iNaturalist project which allows its members to record their observations. These observations are photographs of birds, animals and insects taken by the members which are stored on the iNaturalist website along with a few scientific information about the species.

The team

As the network spreads its branches, Team YNN expanded and an admin team came up to look after its overall functioning. Aditya Ramakrishnan, Ashwin J Chandran, Aswathi Asokan, Claudia Pinheiro, Mahima Nair, Mahathi Narayanaswamy and Vikas

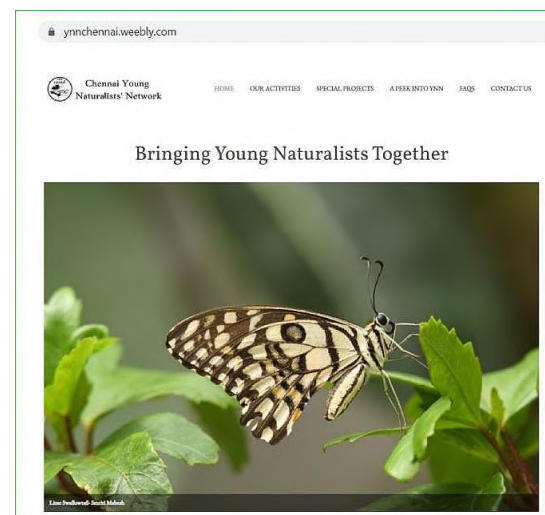
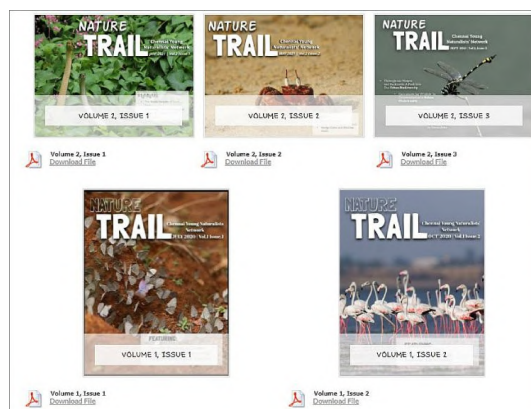
“We predominantly aim to bring together people who are already interested in wildlife.

Madhav Nagarajan together make up the Admin Team. "Our admin team does most of the groundwork but they seldom get the spotlight. They go through each and every application form and recruit new members, frame the ground rules for the network and make sure everything runs smoothly," says Mahathi.

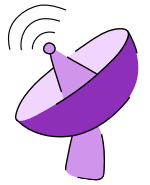
Proud moment

"My goal is to ensure all the YNN members have fun and at the same time learn new things. I also want to influence the public to get interested in nature and wildlife," shares Mahathi.

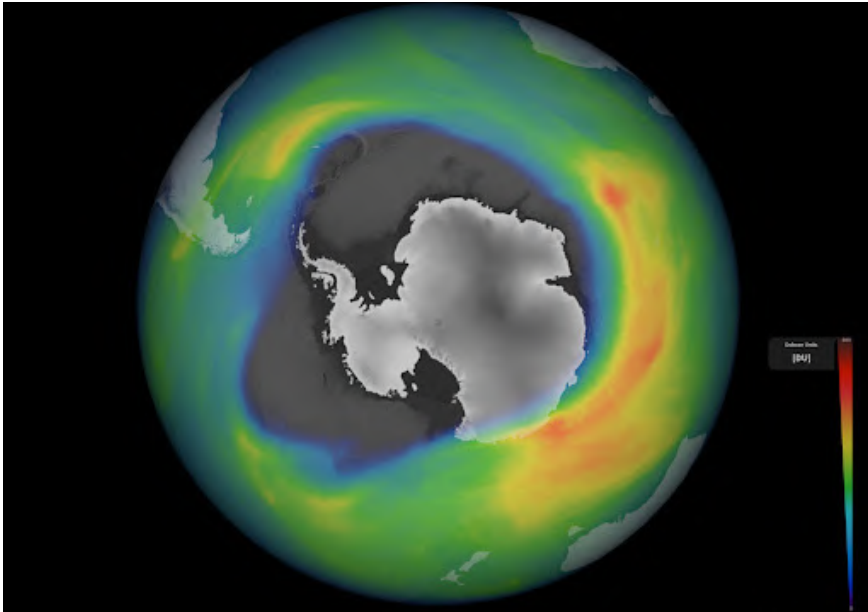
Read the full story at tinyurl.com/ynenchennai



NEWS



Ozone hole over the South Pole is now bigger than Antarctica



Pic: Sci-News.com

The hole in the ozone layer that forms annually over the South Pole has grown larger than Antarctica in the past week.

Already larger than the entire ice-covered continent, the ozone hole has surpassed the size of 75% of ozone holes measured since 1979 and is still growing. Scientists believe climate change might be the cause.

The ozone layer provides us with protection from the sun's harmful UV ,

rays. The use of synthetic compounds such as chlorofluorocarbons, over the past century, has contributed to holes in this layer, as they can reach the stratosphere where they break down and release chlorine atoms that destroy ozone molecules.

According to newscientist.com, this change is being closely monitored by the Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service (CAMS) through computer modelling and satellite observations.

A chair's travel from Maharashtra to manchester

A simple iron chair made it to big news last week. Cricketer and sports analyst Sunandan Lele found a chair in a restaurant in Manchester, UK with the words 'Balu Lokhande, Savlaj' in Marathi.

Apparently, Balu Lokande, a space decorator from the village Savlaj in Sangli district, Maharashtra sold a few such chairs for scrap, some 15 years ago. This chair, one among them was bought by a businessman as antique furniture and found its way to Manchester.

Wildlife week: Tiger Rally begins on Oct 2, 2021



'India for Tigers - A Rally on Wheels' is organised across 51 tiger reserves in 18 Indian states to join the tiger dots in the country. The rally begins on Oct 2, 2021.

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has planned this event to coincide with the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations (October 4-10) by the Environment, Forests and Climate Change Ministry.

All 51 tiger reserves will be participating at the landscape level. A 'Pledge for Tiger Conservation' too would be administered to the participants.



Pic: Sunandan Lele/Twitter

Features

Aadi special: Home gardeners exchange plants

Sanjanya A S



The sowing season begins in the Tamil month of the Aadi (mid-july to mid-August). Rains are abundant; the water level in rivers and lakes rises at the onset of the monsoon.

On the first Sunday of Aadi, Chitlapakkam Rising, a social welfare group, organised an event to commemorate the start of Aadi. Residents of Chitlapakkam in Chennai, who have gardens came with their plants to this event to swap them with others. As a result, residents could get to know about various plant species and also how to grow them.

"We did not expect this event to draw so many people," says Mr. Bala, one of the organisers. It was a surprise to see people exchanging plants enthusiastically on a Sunday morning. Through this event, Chitlapakkam residents got the opportunity to meet people who spend their life on gardening. These gardeners do not just grow a plant or two; their gardens are all over their house. Members of

various streets of Chitlapakkam joined the event.

The Kumar Avenue park at Chitlapakkam, which is located near the lake, has also become a well-known landmark. The Miyawaki plantation in that park deserves all of the credit. Miyawaki is a technique for creating dense forests by planting trees. Almost a hundred different plants could grow on a very small patch of ground.

It was a pleasant site to view all the environment lovers assembled to discuss many aspects of the environment and the concerns relating to it- from plants varieties to their journey through the lake renovating process.

Mr. Sunil Jayaram, co-founder of Chitlapakkam Rising states, "Miyawaki is a very good addition to the park. The plants grew 7 feet in height, in a very short amount of time. Our efforts never go waste," he added confidently..

**WORLD
TEENAGE
REPORTING
PROJECT**
**CLIMATE
CHAMPION
PROFILES**

COP26
GLASGOW
1-12 NOV 2021



The World Teenage Reporting Project > Climate Champions showcases profiles by teenage reporters from around the world of other teenagers (and sometimes children or adults the reporters chose) who are succeeding in the quest to save the planet.

Organized the Global Youth & News Media, based in France, the project launched on Earth Day 22 April 2021 with submissions possible through the start of the United Nations Climate Change Conference COP26 in November, 2021.

The first set of stories were showcased on World Environment Day on June 5, 2021 and the second showase was published on World News Day on Sep. 28, 2021.

Read stories on Climate Champions from across the world at <https://www.globalyouthandnewsmediaprize.net/climate-reporting-project>

Features

Lockdown inspires Samukta to publish her first fantasy fiction

Reema Varsinii T H

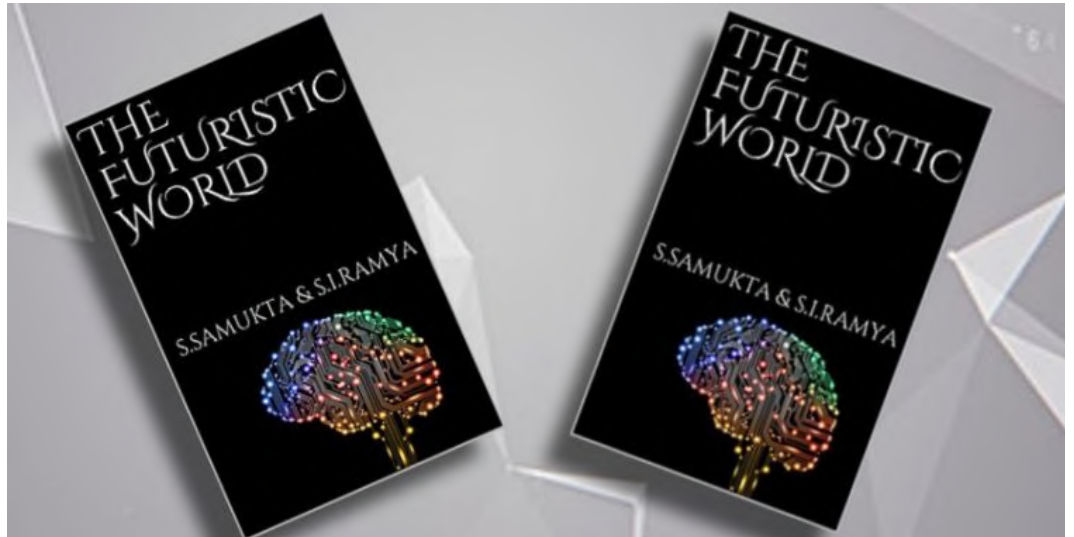
"A story indeed begins with the writer's imagination but actually concludes with the reader's," says Samukta.

Meet Samukta, a class 10 student, who has penned published a book titled 'The Futuristic World' at the age of 13. This fantasy fiction book will shepherd you through the future world and its dimensions, when it will have much more advanced and expert technologies than this instance, with some intriguing twists.

When asked, when did she realize that she wanted to become a writer, Sam cracks a laugh and replies, "My objective or my goal was actually not to become a writer. I just wanted to discover something new in myself."

"This boring lockdown, which made me read limitless books, has inspired me to write this book," says Samukta.

It took her two months to finish writing the book. She drafted and revised the story about 2 to 3 times before the publication. "I was not satisfied with any of my output when I wrote them down. Even now, I would make some changes, if I have a chance to rework on it," she says.



Talking about her next project, Samukta says, "I have worked and now have about three drafts of stories, and I'm currently focusing on the second part of this book, which is going to reveal the twist."

What was the hardest part of writing in the book? With a calm smile, she says, "I felt I have not done anything great so far. And it was really upsetting me when I realised that I could not cast up any achievements in my author bio. Hopefully, the author bio for my next book will not make me sick."

How would one get a good book out? "Mind-blowing plot and twist is very important to make storyline captivating. Only then, your characterisation and the epic settings will get stronger. If you can tell your own stories, devise incidents and create characters, no matter what you write, it's just going to be fabulous," says Samukta with a chuckle.

'The Futuristic World' is available on Amazon:
<https://www.amazon.com/FUTURISTIC-WORLD-S-SAMUKTA-S-I-RAMYA-ebook/dp/B08GH4MFPH>



<https://yocee.in>



yocee.in



yoceenews



yoceenews

Have a story to share?



MAIL TO - editor@yocee.in

Photo Story



Sun and clouds – Hide and Seek!

Samyuktha Chandrashekar

The weather in Chromepet, Chennai has been on and off the past week. The scorching sun and humid weather on a few days and unexpected showers and thunderstorms the next day.

There were spells of light showers last evening, continuing to pour all night as thunderstorms. Last evening's mixed weather of sunshine and light drizzles displayed beautiful views of the evening sunset.



Evening sky with rain clouds and the setting sun at Chromepet, Chennai. Clicked on Sep. 21, 2021



The morning clear skies after the heavy thunderstorms during the previous night. Clicked on Sep. 22, 2021

Get Y News delivered to your digital device every fortnight!

FREE FOR NOW!

Visit yocee.in/category/epaper



To school after one and a half years

Maitreyi Aravindan

After a long time, I finally got to go to school! It was an amazing experience for me, after one and a half years! I had a wonderful time in school!

The digital classes which have been going on for almost two years, were not that enjoyable for me because they gave a lot of strain for the eyes to sit in front of the laptop for three hours, continuously. I was literally looking forward to going to school and it was then that I got to know the Government has allowed schools to start for children of my age, of course, with a lot of precautions.

I got an intimation from the school and asked the parents to give their consent to allow their children to go to school. I was pleading with my parents to give consent for me and promised that I would abide by all the regulations that the school had stipulated. After they sent the consent to the school, we marched to the shop to get the uniform and my pleasure just got multiplied.

At the school staff checked our temperature and gave us sanitisers.

Now sanitisers are part of everyone's schoolbag. Only one student was allowed to sit at each desk. Even though there were many such unusual rules, school is fun.

We got to meet our new teachers in person and all our classmates after a long time. we were very excited to discover our new building in the school. Although I had seen my teachers on the computer screen many times, it was a different experience to see them in real. I guess it was a new experience for them too, as they called each of us by guessing our names, by comparing the image and real face they saw. I was very happy that many teachers recognised me even though they saw me in real for the first time.

As soon as we went inside the classroom, we were hardly able to tell who is who! All my friends had grown taller and were difficult to identify!

There was another funny incident – on the first day of school, during the last period, we had to recite our school prayer. Unfortunately, no one remembered. After one and a half years of online school, we all had forgotten our prayer! My friend who was sitting on the next bench said, “I know half of the prayer.” She asked me if I knew the other half; but I thought she was asking if I remembered the other prayer and I said, “Yes!” She recited half of the prayer and then told me to continue! I said, “I don’t know this prayer, I meant the other one!” Everyone, including the teacher, started giggling.

I hope it continues and slowly, things get back to normal. I enjoy going to school and I’m sure you all would love to. I eagerly await the day COVID-19 disappears from our world and life gets back to normal. Stay safe everyone, ensure all safety protocols and enjoy your school!

Read the full story at
tinyurl.com/schooldaysagain

