

Name of the newspaper	Afternoon
Date	September 7, 2015
Event	World Duchenne Awareness Day 2015

## Duchenne Awareness Day observed



**COIMBATORE, SEPTE 07:**

A programme to observe Duchenne Awareness Day was organised at a Janya Club premises and various events including magic show by Raja, balloon show by Nagalakshmi and along with toy-car race event by the participating children.

As many as 36 children from 16 and around Coimbatore took part in the events along with their parents.

The children affected with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) and Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), who took part in the World Duchenne Awareness Day observation here on Sunday, excited, thrilled and celebrated the fun filled events organised by the Molecular Diagnostics, Counselling, Care and Research Centre (MDCRC), Coimbatore.

J. Swarnalatha, Managing Trustee, Swarga Foundation, Coimbatore, attracted the children with her energising speech.

She said, "Children should find their skills they have and everyone should take care of themselves for being happy. Though we

are uncertain about the life, we should be happy with celebrating the presence."

Speaking on the occasion, Doctor K. C. Ramasami, Chairman of Kurnji Hospital, Coimbatore, said "The motivation for both the children and parents is essential to nurture the DMD and SMA affected children. They should not be weakened by their mind and they can overcome the physical disability by the mental strength with being positive mindset."

Leelavathi from Kuzhyanthur in Coimbatore took part with her son, said, "We got a rare chance to provide few hours for my son to spend it with celebrations, since he does not get chance in his regular days. We really felt happy, when my son was engaged completely for enjoying the events, despite the pain and disability, which always dominates his mind." She also said that the activities and magic show makes him excited and thrilled.

Another parent from Vadamadurai of Coimbatore, Radhakrishnan, who also present at the venue with his son, said, "He usually

does not get opportunity to meet other children in large number and he met more children of all age group today. It gives us the chance to be giving good outing experience."

In a statement, B. R. Lakshmi, Managing Director of MDCRC, said, "Till now we identified about 4000 children affected with DMD and about 600 of SMA. We are offering

treatment and services for them at free of cost with collaborating under National Rural Health Mission by covering the five health and districts of the state including Coimbatore, Tirupur, Dharaparam, Erode and Salem.

P. R. Krishnakumarji, Managing Director of Arya Vaidya Pharmacy and Doctor Nasrul Amin Shahid were also present.