

ISSUE 5 · DEC 2024

# THE CROSS ROADS

NEWSLETTER of CHENNAI RENEGADES

Curated by: Ananthakrishnan T C

## From the editorial desk

DEAR FELLOW RIDERS

We wish you and your family a very happy and prosperous new year 2025. Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter! We're excited to share all the thrilling moments, new adventures, and unforgettable experiences we've had together as a community of passionate motorcyclists. This newsletter is not just about the roads we've travelled, but about the friendships we've forged, the events we've celebrated, and the stories we've shared.

This past quarter was one of the most eventful with CR celebrating its first anniversary in a grand style at Kolli Hills, where our website was also launched. As the website contains the live information of certain segments covered in the newsletter, we have redesigned the newsletter to include only those information not reflected elsewhere.

To begin 2025 with a bang, we have already planned our ride in January 2025 to Dhanushkodi, the last land of India.

Thank you for being part of this incredible journey. Together, we continue to live our love for motorcycles, pushing boundaries and making memories every mile of the way.

RIDE WITH PRIDE



## This edition:

Tree planting  
PAGE 2

Ride data  
PAGE 3

Accolades  
PAGE 4

Rider's experiences  
PAGE 5

Amendment to SOP's  
PAGE 6-7

Budget explained  
PAGE 8-9

THE CROSS ROADS - VOL 5 - DEC 2024





# Making a difference, Together

OUR PLANET, OUR RESPONSIBILITY

ACHIEVING 200 TREE PLANTINGS: A GREEN MILESTONE

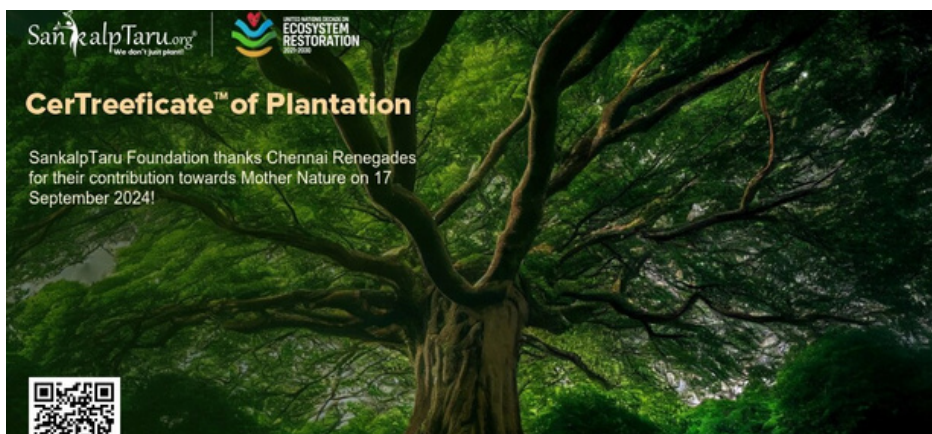
We are thrilled to announce that we've reached the remarkable milestone of planting 200 trees! This achievement marks a significant contribution to enhancing our environment, promoting biodiversity, and supporting local ecosystems.

Through the collective efforts of our volunteers and supporters, we planted trees that will help combat climate change by absorbing carbon, improving air quality, preventing soil erosion and provide a recurring income to the local farmers. The success of this initiative showcases the power of community action in creating a greener, healthier planet.

Thank you to all who participated and made this possible. We're proud of our members for coming together to make this happen, and we look forward to more tree planting events and other green initiatives in the future!

# When we plant trees and ride our bikes, we create paths for a healthier, happier planet

UNKNOWN



Trees Planted

CO<sub>2</sub> Absorbed



221

110.5 Tonnes





# Ride Data

## A FEW NUMBERS

Let's embrace the power of data to better organize rides, events, and club activities. By tracking ride distances, member participation, and preferences, we can plan more exciting routes and engaging events that meet the needs of our diverse community.

In 2024, we had conducted 17 rides covering over 10,800 kms across 4 southern states to clock cumulative distance of 196K kms. This shows our enthusiasm and great passion for riding.

Data is not just numbers. Data is information that, when analyzed, can tell you a story

Particulars	To-Date	Q4-24
Club members (nos)	41	4
Road Masters members (nos)	35	-7
Rides conducted (nos)	19	4
Distance covered (Kms)	12,695	1,530
Cumulative Distance (Kms)	2,30,056	43,710
Trees planted	221	46

## NEW MEMBERS DURING THE PERIOD



SARAVANAN



RAMPRASAD



PREM



JAYESH







# Accolades

## CELEBRATING CONTRIBUTIONS



We are thrilled to announce the Exemplary Contributor Award to honor the dedication and hard work of standout members who had gone above and beyond to support the initiatives by the Club. This recognizes not just participation, but true commitment to enhancing the club's activities, fostering community spirit, and driving our initiatives forward.

The recipients have demonstrated unwavering support through their involvement in organizing rides and always lending a hand when needed. Their passion for the community has truly made a lasting impact, and we are proud to recognize their contributions. Please join us in congratulating the members who received this. We hope this inspires others also to contribute towards betterment of the community.

# Recognition is not just an acknowledgment, but a reflection of the effort and passion that lies behind every achievement



Abhi has gone above and beyond to find and secure the best lodging options for our rides, ensuring that every trip is smooth, enjoyable, and affordable for all members. Whether it's negotiating group rates, finding hidden gems, or ensuring comfort and convenience, Abhi has consistently shown exceptional commitment and attention to detail

Ram, as a Captain for his leadership and commitment in making the rides a memorable experience, He has taken up the task diligently and put in his best efforts to ensure that the rides were smooth. Ram also helped in the designing of the Club's logo and T-shirt.



Ramesh for his role in handling the finances during the ride. In particular he takes care of everyone's orders during refreshment breaks. He additionally undertakes the role of tail which is vital in ensuring the safety and smooth operation of the rides. One of the silent person in the group yet a strong contributor.

Rahul for his exceptional support, proactive mindset, and unwavering willingness to help whenever needed. He is always stepping up to lend a hand and assist with whatever is needed. His presence of mind during Hampi trip helped very much in handling a critical situation.



Aldo for his outstanding work in creating and managing the website. From designing a user-friendly layout and to ensure the website stays up-to-date with the latest events, ride details, and news. Aldo also doubles up a the tail of the riding group and ensures that no one is left behind. He takes his role seriously and do more than expected of him.

Survesh for his incredible talent and dedication in designing the visual elements of the website. From designing the website and banners to crafting stunning media graphics, Survesh has played a key role in ensuring that our club's visual presence is both appealing and cohesive.







# Rider's experiences

In this edition of our newsletter, we're excited to feature a collection of articles submitted by our members, highlighting their personal experiences and insights. From unforgettable rides to valuable tips on motorcycle maintenance, each article offers a unique perspective that enriches our club community.


These articles are available in the website and encourage you to read through them and share your feedback and comments.

# Every mile logged tells a story; every data point reveals a chapter of the ride



**1st Anniversary Ride to Kolli Hills**  
It began on a tumultuous night. You see, there are times when you think you are flying high. That...  
● Chennai Renegades /

[Click here to read](#)



**Gut health and riding**  
When you think of motorcycle rides, images of open highways the wind blast on your wiser, the beautiful landscapes. But have you ever considered how...  
● Chennai Renegades /

[Click here to read](#)




**The Joy of Unwinding on a Long Bike Ride**  
Sometimes, the best way to unwind is to hop on your bike and embark on a long, unplanned ride...  
● Chennai Renegades /

[Click here to read](#)



**Celebrating a Year of brotherhood: Happy first anniversary Chennai...**  
As we gather to celebrate the first anniversary of Chennai Renegades (CR), we reflect on the...  
● Chennai Renegades /

[Click here to read](#)



**On the first anniversary of CR**  
Riding free, through city streets, Chennai Renegades, a brotherhood meets. With engines roaring, hearts ablaze, Their passion for biking leaves all else in...  
● Chennai Renegades /

[Click here to read](#)



**Journey from RM to CR**  
In June 2024, I officially joined Road Masters (RM), a preparatory group for the Chennai Renegades (CR). Transitioning to the Renegades requires completin...  
● Chennai Renegades /

[Click here to read](#)



**TRIBE**  
Articulated the most important characteristic of CR in a structured manner.  
● Chennai Renegades /

[Click here to read](#)







## Amendments to SOPs

As we continue to grow and ride together, it's essential that we maintain strong, safe, and effective practices in all that we do. To that end, we've made several important updates to our Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), which are summarised below for the benefit of those who missed it earlier. These amendments will help us improve safety, streamline club operations, and ensure that all of us are on the same page when it comes to club's activities.

### 1. Ride cancellation

#### a) Long rides

If any rider(s) cancels their participation in the trip, then he shall bear the cost of non-cancellable accommodation charges pertaining to that individual. Variable costs like food, beverages and other incidental costs that are not incurred due to non-participation by individual shall be refunded. If, We are able to find alternate rider to fill in the vacancy created due to cancellation by the rider, then in such cases, the rider shall be returned such amount arrived after adjusting the registration charges, and fixed accommodation costs pertaining to one day stay from the total amount collected from the rider. In all cases, refund is decided at the discretion of the Club.

#### b) Short rides

In case, a rider drops out of a short ride after paying the amount, then he shall be allowed to carry forward and adjust the amount paid against the next immediate short ride only. Beyond that, the amount shall stand forfeited by the rider and shall be retained for future club activities. In all cases, refund is decided at the discretion of the Club.

### 2. Incident management

During the ride, in case of any incident(s) or accident(s) involving rider(s), other than static fall, such rider(s) shall mandatorily go through medical examination in the nearest clinic or hospital. The rider(s) will be allowed to continue the ride only after getting clearance by medical practitioner. In case, the medical practitioner advises against continuing with the ride, then the rider shall cease to ride and make his arrangements to return back to his home station.

### 3. Fines

With regard to fines for not following the rules of the ride, the following approach shall be followed:

- A fixed sum of Rs. 350 for each instance of violation shall be collected from the member who is found violating the rules
- The amount collected shall be solely used for planting trees

For this purpose, the Captain shall concur with the CRWC member(s) participating in the ride and agree the rationale before levying any fine to the riders. The final decision rests with the CRWC members.

**SOPs are not just guidelines; they are the clear directions that guide us to success with every step we take**







## Amendments to SOPs

### 4. Policy on Rental Bikes for Long Rides

After considering a few challenges with using rental bikes on long rides, we have decided that riders with rental bikes will no longer be allowed to join the Club's long rides. The main reasons for this decision are:

1. Bike Performance: Rental bikes may not perform well on long rides.
2. Mechanical Support: There may be limited help available if a rental bike breaks down.
3. Group Ride Compatibility: Rental bikes might not fit well with the group's riding style and pace.
4. Breakdown Assistance: Roadside help for rental bikes may not be reliable during the ride.

This decision helps to ensure that everyone has a safer and smoother experience on long rides.

### 5. Inactive members

If a member has not consistently participated in group rides for a specified period of time, the following actions will be taken:

1. Move to RM Group: The inactive member will be moved from the CR WhatsApp group to the RM WhatsApp group.
2. 6-Month Participation Requirement: The member must participate regularly in rides for 6 months after being moved to the RM group.
  - They need to complete at least 2 short rides and 1 long ride, or 2 long rides and 1 short ride within this 6-month period.
3. Return to CR Group: Once the member shows consistent participation, they will be moved back to the CR WhatsApp group.
4. Evaluation for Removal: If the member remains inconsistent, they will be evaluated for potential removal from the Club.

**SOPs are not about stifling creativity, they're about ensuring that the essential elements of work are done right every time**





## Budget explained

As we prepare for our next group ride, we felt that it's important to have a clear understanding the way the trip costs were estimated. Proper budgeting ensures that everyone can enjoy the ride without financial surprises. The important aspect of the budgeting is to ensure that the costs are affordable and there is fairness and equity. We don't want any rider to miss out the rides due to a few hundred rupees.

The first step is planning the route and estimating the distance, which helps determine the number of meals and accommodations required.

### 1. Accommodation (long rides)

For long rides, we research affordable options on room sharing basis, mostly on twin sharing basis. Our guys always have a tough negotiation with the accommodation provider so that they could get the maximum benefit for the club members.

### 2. Food and refreshments

Food and refreshments is the second most important part as riding can work up an appetite and it's a must to keep the riders well nourished and hydrated during the ride.

#### a) Meal Stops:

We plan for breakfast, lunch, and possibly dinner. We estimate the average cost per person for each meal stop (this can vary based on whether we stop at a local diner, a fast-food chain, or a more upscale restaurant or even the choice of food between Veg and Non-Veg). We calculate the cost of meals, snacks, and beverages at various stops, while negotiating possible discounts in advance at restaurants, where possible. The costs are consciously estimated considering basic food options plus a beverage during lunch time and not to cater for any exotic dining experience.

#### b) Snacks and Drinks:

We estimate an average per-person expenditure to cover basic hydration needs of the individual e.g. water, snacks and tea/coffee, aerated bottled beverage and other limited choices (lime juice or coconut water) etc. along the ride.

Sometimes, you might have been asked to pay for your drinks, snacks and refreshments at pitstops as the cost of that one drink would be exceeding the budget of snacks and refreshments for the day by far and this would be disproportionate and unfair to other members who opt for the affordable choices. No hard feeling here.

However, you are free to pay on your own and indulge in your choice of refreshments and snacks that are not factored as part of the budget. We don't stop you from enjoying your experience in your own way.

The best way to enjoy a ride is to plan for it wisely, so you can focus on the road, not the cost



## Budget explained

### 3. Local sight seeing

Usually, the cost of local sight-seeing is left to the individuals unless it's a group activity where everyone participates and the cost is already factored in the trip expenses. The reason is to avoid being disproportionate when there is participating and non-participating group.

### 4. CSR

As you are aware, it's the club's policy to plant a tree per rider on long rides. For short rides, we budget a fixed sum of Rs.50 per rider for this purpose. The cost of tree planting is also included as part of the trip costs.

### 5. Contingencies

Everything cannot be planned to the perfection, this is true for budgeting also. In order to meet any exigencies or overruns, we budget a small amount which can take care if such situation arises.

### 6. Refunds

Once the ride is over, we compare the budgeted costs and the actual expenses and arrive at under / over spending for the trip. If there is spending is less than the budgeted amount, the CRWC deliberates and agree to process a refund for each rider after retaining a portion for club's future activities and other expense requirements.

We want to ensure that our group rides remain fun, fair, and affordable for all members.

Planning will  
make every  
mile  
memorable  
without  
breaking the  
bank

