

The stage is set



It is 6 pm. A group of six girls appear from nowhere on the busy walkway of the Thirumangalam metro station, tying their red shawls tight on their waists. Two of them clap their hands and sing "*vandhen irānga paarunga*". Soon, a group of passengers

gather. If you find these performers at Besant Nagar beach or Central railway station, do not be surprised. The girls, students of MOP Vaishnav College for Women, have been performing at different venues for the past week, organised by the Department of Communication and staged by the students of Department of Sociology in collaboration with the CMRL's Metro Music Edit series. A prelude to the 'Know Your Rights' campaign conducted with UNICEF in January, the five-minute play discusses child rights, like right to development, right to participation, right to protection. "Education is the most important one we have identified," says Sujatha, a first-year student of BA Sociology.

At Thirumangalam, most passengers wait till the end. Radha, a teacher, goes up to the team, and requests them perform in the school where she works. "Such mediums work," she says.