

BIG BIKING COMMUNE

Coverage Docket

Pre Event Stories and Listings

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commune 2019, a first all under one roof. ofitskind Bikers Festival in South India, willbe Big Biking Commune, held from 22nd-24thFebruary, 2019 in the picturesque bikingtrails ofMahabalipuram; spread across 40 acres at the seaside Chariot Beach Resort, the Big Biking Communewill see the congregation of motorcycling clubs, passionate bikers and the

Chennai, Jan 11: best of the motorcycle The Big biking brands and accessories,

Arun Kumar, Convenor, said, " This 3 day festival willcelebrate the spirit of biking with workshops, bike technicals, stunt shows, custom-made and vintage bike exhibit, beachside games, contests, rockband performances and more. The event is expected to attract 250+ biking clubs across South India, 8000+bikers, 100+ motorcycle brands and accessorieswho will partake in the spirit of the Big Biking Commune. Speaking about Big Biking Commune, R. Ramasubramanian, Big Biking Commune Architect, says, "It is the perfect pit stop for bikers and biking clubs to group together under a single roof to celebrate the bonding and brotherhood that runs deep in the biking community."

Publication- Makkal Kural

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Publication- Malai Malar

Date- 13.1.19



Publication- Rajasthan Patrika

Date- 12.1.19



Online Listings

Website- Times of India

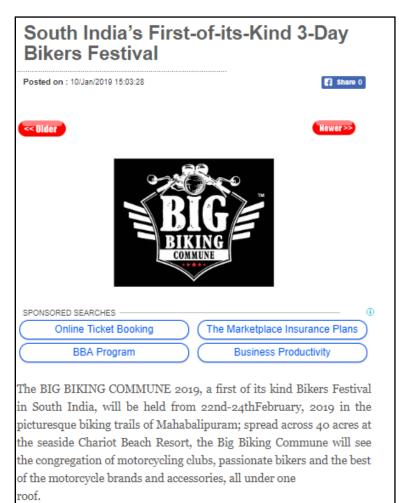
Link: <u>https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/entertainment/events/bikers-festival-to-begin-from-february-22-in-chennai/articleshow/68010318.cms</u>



Online Listings

Website- Live Chennai

Link: https://www.livechennai.com/detailnews.asp?catid=10&newsid=46220



Publication: The Hindu Metroplus

Date- 16.2.19



Motorcycle diaries

Monster bikes, custom rides and stunt shows at the Big Biking Commune at Mamallapuram next weekend

: NIDHI ADLAKHA

Over 8,000 bikers, 250 bike clubs and 20 influencers, with monster bikes and custom-made beasts to vintage rides and stunt shows. The Big Biking Commune, a motorcycle festival that starts on Friday at Mamallapuram, promises all this and more, including parades, panel discussions and music shows.

South central "It took us over a year-and-a-half to put the show together," says R Ramasubramaniyan, Big Biking Architect of the event, adding, "Every bike brand and its corresponding club has

the backing of fiercely loyal riders who host private events and rides. We wanted to bring them all under one roof and build a community of sorts, irrespective of brands. And since approximately 50% to 60% of riders are from the South, picking the location was easy."

Spearheaded by Arun Kumar, MD of Bengaluru-based branding outfit, Ax-

iom, the event will see riders from Chennai, Bengaluru, Kerala, Goa and Pune, among others.

Safety first

Apart from dedicated time for biker participants, there will be offroading shows, community interactions, vintage bike displays, and competitions to keep them occupied. "The theme is safety, and hence, one of our highlights is the relay race, First Gear. The backpack challenge requires participants to fill up their backpacks with biker essentials such as safety gear, tools, a power bank, etc, in the shortest time possible," says Kumar.

There is also a lot to look forward to when the gates open for the public at 5 pm. Music bands The Unknowns and Thaikkudam Bridge will perform on Friday, while Swahaa and Pineapple Express take the stage on Saturday.

Also teaming up with the community are a range of social media influencers from across the country: Aravind KP, who was second to finish the recently-concluded Dakar Rally at Peru, national road racing champion Rajni Krishnan and Deepak Kamath, who did a round-the-world trip on a Yezdi Roadking among others. Women riders Minakshi P Mohanty from The Bikerni, Uttara Sharma and Veena Shetty of the Roaring Riderz Club will also be present.

The Big Biking Commune will take place from February 22 to 24 at Chariot Beach Resort Mamallapuram. At ₹1,500 (all three days) for bikers and clubs. Open to visitors post 5 pm at ₹750 (per day). Tickets available on in.bookmyshow-.com. @7337657740

Publication: The Times of India

Date- 20.2.19

Vroom! Make way for 'bikernis', hijab rider

Kamini.Mathai@timesgroup.com

Chennai: This weekend, the shores of Mamallapuram will pulsate with the roar of bikes as more than 150 motorcycle clubs and thousands of biking enthusiasts will get together for a Big Biking Commune.

It promises to be South India's biggest motorcycle festival, says event organizer R Ramasubramaniyan. While on the one hand there will be bike stunts to watch, off-roading courses to participate in, beach volleyball games, and entertainment, Ramasubramaniyan says there will be talks by 'influencers' from the biking community, several among them being women bikers who are campaigning 'for gender rights.

First on that list is Maral Yazarloo Pattrick of Iran, who rode solo more than 1,00,000 kilometers solo across 44 countries between 2017 and 2018 to campaign for freedom of expression for women.

Maral, 37, came to the country a few years ago to complete a PhD in marketing at Pune University, and loved the



SETTING THE TREND: Roshni Misbah rode her bike from Kashmir to Kanyakumari; (R) Maral Yazarloo Patrick rode more than 1 lakh kilometers across 44 countries between to campaign for freedom of expression for women

idea of being able to ride a bike, which was something she was forbidden from doing in Iran.

Which was why she ensured the last stop on her world journey was her home country. "I entered Iran as the first world



traveller and got permission to cross the country on my bike and gave speeches in different states of Iran to make authorities aware that biking has nothing against any religion. I made appeals to authorities to allow women to get licenses for bikes and cars," says Maral, who got married on the South America leg of her journey, was pregnant during her India leg, and gave birth to her child Lakshmi in November 2018, two months after her ride. "I wanted to show people nothing is inmossible."

Another of the influencers at the commune is Delhi-based college student Roshni Misbah, known as the "hijabi biker". Roshni, who is doing her master's in Arab Islamic Culture, says she has been riding bikes for the past three years.

"I want to show people that religion and culture should not hold women back from doing what they like," says Roshni, who has done a Kashmir to Kanyakumari ride on her superbike to campaign for education of the girl child. "When girls from my community see me riding a superbike with my hijab on, it sends a message," she says.

Another group that will be present at the commune are the Bikernis, an all-female biker group that was formed around eight years ago, and has now grown to become a group of more than 350 enthusiasts.

The commune is ticketed for both bikers and visitors.

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manian, convenor.

brand- or club-specific activities.

The festival will take place at the Chariot Beach Resort spread across 40 acres. "Most times, when such festivals happen in places like Goa, the nightlife overshadows the essence of the event. We wanted to give a beachtown feel to the event while staying true to the vision of the festival," he says. The inaugural edition of the festival is supported by the Department of Tourism, Government of Tamil Nadu.

The three-day event will be dotted with workshops, technical analysis, bike club parades, stunt shows, custom-made and vintage bike exhibits, beach-side games and contests. Popular bands including the Thaikkudam Bridge, Pineapple Express, and Swahaa will perform at the festival, which is expected to attract over 250 biking clubs across south India and 100 motorcycle brands. "We are expecting about 5,000-8,000 bikers," says Ramasubramanian.

(The Big Biking Commune will take place from February 22 to February 24 at the Chariot Beach Resort. For registrations, visit: bigbikingcommune.com)

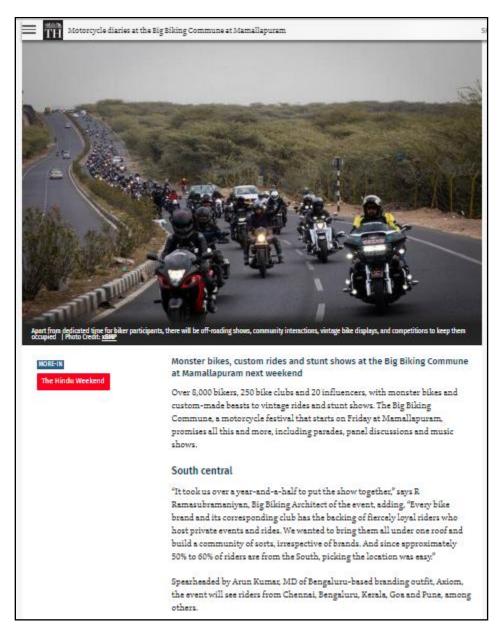
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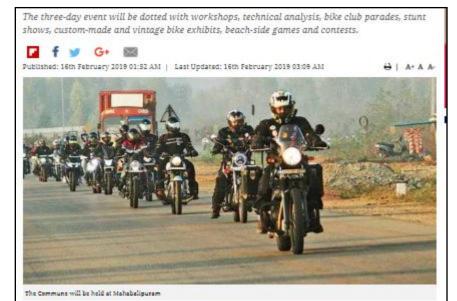
Website- The Hindu

Link- https://www.thehindu.com/entertainment/motorcycle-diaries/article26279990.ece



Website- The New Indian Express

Link- http://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/chennai/2019/feb/16/for-the-bikerbrotherhood-1939324.html



By Express News Service

CHENNAI: All you bikers out there, gear up! South India's first-of-its-kind bikers festival — The Big Biking Commune — is all set to happen in the picturesque trails of Mahabalipuram from February 22 to February 24. "Biking and the trend of weekend rides have grown multifold in both, the city and the country. There are quite a lot of bike brands, and clubs — all looking at growing in the market. But what we realised was, there are only brand- or club-specific activities.

There wasn't a single avenue for riders who own a different brand of bikes or from different clubs to gather and share experiences. We wanted to bring something special for the motorbiking community — a perfect pit stop where they can share their knowledge, experiences, and celebrate. That's how the Big Biking Commune was born," shares R Ramasubramanian, convenor.

The festival will take place at the Chariot Beach Resort — spread across 40 acres. "Most times, when such festivals happen in places like Goa, the nightlife overshadows the essence of the event. We wanted to give a beach-town feel to the event while staying true to the vision of the festival," he says. The inaugural edition of the festival is supported by the Department of Tourism, Government of Tamil Nadu.

Website- Times of India

Link- <u>https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/vroom-make-way-for-bikernis-hijab-rider/articleshow/68106683.cms</u>

Vroom! Make way for 'bikernis', hijab rider

Kamini Mathai | TNN | Updated: Feb 22, 2019, 19:17 IST



SETTING THE TREND: Roshni Misbah rode her bike from Kashmir ta Kanyakumari; 🖾 🖶 A- A+

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Website- Indulge- New Indian Express

Link: <u>https://www.indulgexpress.com/car-bike/bikes/2019/feb/22/big-biking-commune-2019-women-bikers-roshni-misbah-veena-shetty-maral-yazarloo-tell-us-how-they-b-12992.html</u>

