About the journalist: Padmaja J

Padmaja J is a reporter for the Times of India (Chennai). Her entry for the PII-ICRC Annual Awards 2024 addresses the theme “Strengthening Disability Inclusion Through Stories with a Humanitarian Lens.” Her article, “No Splash For All: Swimming Dreams For Those With Disability Take A Dive As City Pools Remain Non-Inclusive,” was published on March 30, 2024, as a two-part news package. The first part discusses the lack of accessibility in Chennai’s swimming pools, which hinders the dreams and ambitions of people with disabilities. The second part highlights the story of a woman who defied her disability to win multiple Paralympic golds in swimming, illustrating both the challenges and triumphs faced by differently-abled athletes.

Read the full articles here:

1. [Swimming dreams take a dive as pools aren’t inclusive](<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/swimming-dreams-take-a-dive-as-pools-arent-inclusive/articleshow/108892427.cms>)

2. [Woman defies disability, wins Paralympic golds in swimming](<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/woman-defies-disability-wins-paralympic-golds-in-swimming/articleshow/108892480.cms>).