

June 13, 2014

Visual impairment no block



Mayor Saidai Duraisamy greeting Beno Zephine, a visually challenged candidate, on Thursday.

— PHOTO: R. RAVINDRAN

K. Lakshmi

CHENNAI: What started as a dream in school days, a pursuit in college days, has finally fructified into reality for Beno Zephine N.L. Her visual impairment did not deter this Villivakkam resident from her passion to secure a position in the Civil Services Examination. Ms. Zephine has secured the 343rd rank in the Civil Services Examination 2013.

Her colleagues and faculty in various institutes recall her effi-

ciency in learning through Braille.

As there are not enough books in Braille, her family and friends read for long hours and helped her prepare.

Several IAS academies, including Shankar Academy, Ganesh's Academy, Sathya Academy and All India Civil Services Coaching Centre, have also lent a helping hand to Ms. Zephine. "The mock interviews conducted by Manithanaeyam free coaching centre helped me," said Ms. Zephine.

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Blind girl from TN cracks UPSC exam

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: It was a tough climb to the top, but N L Beno Zephine enjoyed it and made friends on the way. The 24-year-old, who was ranked 343 in the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) exams, is visually impaired.



"Cracking the civil services only requires hard work and an intuition of what the examiner expects the candidate to know. You have to make an effort, and coaching institutes help you," said Beno.

The results were announced on Thursday. Zephine studied in Little Flower School for the Blind and completed her BA in English literature from Stella Maris College and MA from Loyola College. She is working as a probationary officer in SBI, Tiruvallur, and is pursuing PhD in English literature.