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824th Issue : March 26 - April 1, 2011

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## நாலு முலை

ரா. கி. ரங்கராஜன்  
நிலா நனையும்?

இது ஒரு சிறுகதை.

ஒரு பெரியவர் ஒரு ஆறு வயது சிறுமியுடன் அந்தப் பூங்காவுக்கு வருகிறார். அது அவருடைய பேத்தி. அவர் புத்தரையில் உட்கார்ந்து கொள்ள அது குதிப்பதும் ஓடுவதுமாக விளையாடிக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது.

கல்யாணி என்று அவருக்கு ஒரு பிரியமான மகள் இருந்தாள். அவளுக்குத் திருமணமாகி, சென்னைக்கு அருகில் கிராமப்புறம் போன்ற இடத்தில் வசித்து வந்தாள்.

கல்யாணி கர்ப்பமாகிறாள். வசதிக்குறைவான ஊரில் பிரசவம் வைத்துக் கொள்ள வேண்டாமென்றும் சென்னையில் தாங்கள் பார்த்துக் கொள்வதாகவும் இவர் சொல்கிறார். மாப்பிள்ளை சற்று முரடன். ஒப்புக் கொள்ளவில்லை. அவனுடைய ஊரிலேயே பிரசவம் நடக்கிறது. இவர் பயந்தபடியே ஒரு பெண் குழந்தையைப் பெற்று விட்டு அவள் இறந்துவிடுகிறாள்.

அந்தக் குழந்தையைத் தங்களுடன் அழைத்து வந்து தாத்தாவும் பாட்டியும் பிரியமாக வளர்க்கிறார்கள். குழந்தையைத் தன்னிடம் ஒப்படைக்கும்படி மாப்பிள்ளை கேஸ் போடுகிறான். அதோடு மட்டுமல்லாமல் கொஞ்ச நாட்களுக்கு முன்பு இரண்டாவது திருமணமும் செய்து கொண்டு விடுகிறான். இவருடைய ஆத்திரம் அதிகரிக்கிறது.

பூங்காவில் இரண்டு முயல் குட்டிகள் துள்ளிக் குதித்து விளையாடிக் கொண்டிருந்தன. அவைகளை வளர்க்கிற ஆள் எட்டத்தில் உட்கார்ந்திருந்தான். சிறுமி பிரேமா அந்த முயல்களுடன் ஆனந்தமாக விளையாடிக் கொண்டிருந்தாள்.

சிறிது நேரம்தான். இருட்டத் தொடங்கியதால் முயல் குட்டிகளைக் கொண்டு வந்தவன் அவைகளை ஒரு கோணிப் பையில் போட்டு எடுத்துக் கொண்டு கிளம்பிவிட்டான்.

சிறுமி பிரேமாவுக்கு ஏமாற்றம் 'ஏன் தாத்தா, இரண்டு முயல்களையும் அந்த முட்டையில் மூச்சுத் திணறாது?' என்று கேட்கிறாள்.

'ஓன்றும் ஆகாது. அவன் பத்திரமாகக் கொண்டு போவான்' என்கிறார் இவர்.

இருந்தாலும் மனசுக்குள் ஒரு நெருடல் ஏற்படுகிறது. 'ஓவ்வொரு யமிருக்கும் ஓர் இடம் இருக்கிறது. உரிய இடம். அங்கே இருந்தால் தான் அந்த முட்டை மகிழ்ச்சி. வளர்ச்சி. மற்ற இடங்களெல்லாம் செயற்கை; நிர்ப்பந்தம்; கட்டுப்பாடு' என்று நினைத்துக் கொள்கிறார்.

வானத்தில் நிலா பிரகாசமாகக் கிளம்பிக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது. 'நிலாவுக்குப் பக்கத்திலே கறுப்பா இருக்கே, அது என்ன?' என்று சிறுமி கேட்கிறாள். 'மேகம்' என்கிறார் 'மேகம் என்ன பன்னணும்?' என்று அவள் கேட்கிறாள். 'மழை பெய்யும்' என்கிறார். 'மழையிலே நிலா நனைஞ்சு போகாது?' என்று குழந்தை கேட்கிறாள். 'சீசீ அசடு, மேகத்துக்கு ரொம்ப தூரத்திலே ரொம்ப உயரத்திலே நிலா இருக்கு. அது நனையாது' என்கிறார். பிறகு குழந்தையை அழைத்துக் கொண்டு வீட்டிற்குத் திரும்புகிறார்.

ஒரு பெண் ஓடி வந்து அவர் காலில் விழுந்து நமஸ்காரம் செய்கிறாள். அவளுடைய கழுத்தில் புதுத் தாலி மின்னுகிறது. 'உங்களிடம் ஆசீர்வாதம் பெற்றுக் கொண்டு குழந்தை பிரேமாவை அழைத்துப் போகத்தான் வந்திருக்கிறேன். இவளைப் பார்த்துக் கொள்ள யாரும் இல்லை என்றுதான் நீங்கள் இவளை அனுப்ப மறுக்கிறீர்களாம். உங்கள் பிள்ளை சொல்கிறார். நான் இவளை என் குழந்தைக்கு மேலாக வளர்க்கிறேன். நீங்கள் எப்போது வேண்டுமானாலும் வரலாம், போகலாம்' என்று மனப்பூர்வமாக சொல்கிறாள்.

சற்று முன் பூங்காவில் பிரேமா பேசியதும், முயல் குட்டிகள் விளையாடியதும் நிலா நனையுமா என்று சிறுமி கேட்டதும் அவருக்கு ஞாபகம் வருகிறது. 'மழையினால் நிலா நனையாது. அது மேகத்துக்கு அப்பால் இருப்பது. பிரிவினால் அன்பு குறை யாது. அது எல்லைக்கும் சுவருக்கும் நபருக்கும் தொலைவுக்கும் அப்பாற்பட்டது' என்று எண்ணிக் கொள்கிறார். பேத்தியைப் பார்க்கிறார். அவள் தன்னுடைய புது அம்மாவின் பக்கத்திலே நின்றுகொண்டிருக்கிறாள். அவளுக்கு உரிய இடம் எதுவோ அங்கே.

'அழைத்துப் போம்மா' என்கிறார் வந்தவனிடம். 'மேற்கண்ட சிறுகதை கிட்டத்தட்ட ஐம்பது வருடங்களுக்கு முன் குமுதம் இதழில் வெளி வந்தது. எழுதியது அடியேன்தான். இப்போது அந்தக் கதை ஞாபகம் வந்ததற்குக் காரணம், ஜீன் பால் லெட்டா என்பவர் பிரெஞ்சு மொழியில் எழுதிய ஒரு தொகுப்பைப் பற்றிப் படித்ததுதான்.

இவர் ஒரு முறை இந்தியாவுக்கு வந்த போது தொழு நோயில் அவதியற்ற ஒரு சிறுவனைக் கண்டு இரக்கம் கொண்டு தன்னுடன் அழைத்துச் சென்றார். பிறகு மேலும் பல குழந்தைகளை சேர்த்து ஒரு விடுதியைத் தொடங்கி, மத போதனைகள் செய்து வருகிறார். இவர்களுக்கு ஏதாவது செய்ய வேண்டுமே என்ன செய்யலாம் என்று குழம்பியபோது பிரார்த்தனையில் விடை கிடைத்தது. 'என்ன கேள்விக்கு பதில் தெரிய வேண்டும் என்று குழந்தைகள் ஆசைப்படுகிறார்கள் என்பதைக் கண்டுபிடி' என்று ஒரு குரல் சொல்லிற்று. அது சொல்லியபடி அவர் பல நாடுகளுக்கு சென்று கல்விக் கூடங்களில் குழந்தைகளை சந்தித்துப் பேசினார். அவர்கள் விடை அறிய ஆசைப்பட்ட கேள்விகளைத் தொகுத்து ஒரு புத்தகத்தை வெளியிட்டிருக்கிறார். 'எப்போதும் கேள்வி கேட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கும் குழந்தை' என்பது அதன் தலைப்பு. அதில் சில கேள்விகள்:

நாம் இறந்த பிறகு எங்கே போகிறோம்? கடவுள் பக்தி உள்ளவர்களுக்கும் கூட விபத்து ஏற்படுகிறதே, ஏன்? கடைசியில் எல்லோரும் இறந்து போகிறோம். பின்னே ஏன் நாம் பிறக்கிறோம்? ஏன் சில பேர் ஏழைகளாக இருக்கிறார்கள்? ஏன் சில பேர் நோயாளிகளாக இருக்கிறார்கள்? ஏன் கடவுள் கொசுவையும் ஈயையும் படைக்கிறார்?.....

('நிலா நனையுமா?' என்ற என் சிறுகதையில் சிறுமி பிரேமா கேட்டது உண்மையான நிகழ்ச்சி. பூந்தமல்லி நெடுஞ்சாலையில் உள்ள நேரு பூங்காவில் ஒரு நாள் மாலை நான் உட்கார்ந்திருந்த போது ஒரு பெரியவரிடம் அவருடைய பேத்தி அப்படிக்கேட்டதை நான் கேட்டேன். பிறகு அது போன்ற குழந்தைகளின் கேள்விகளை ரசிக்கலானேன். என் மகன் குழந்தையாக இருந்த போது கேட்ட கேள்விகளையும், கருத்துக்களையும் பேச்சுக் களையும் குறித்து வைத்துக் கொண்டு 'முன்றியின் டயரி' என்று குமுதம் இதழில் ஒரு பத்தியை சில வாரங்கள் எழுதினேன்).

rankamala@yahoo.co.in

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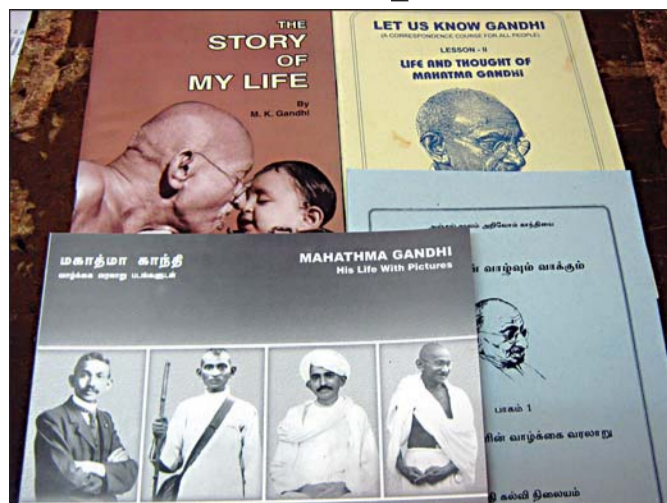
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# Correspondence course on Gandhi



# Firm provides counselling on investment

**By Our Staff Reporter**  
ithought (Ankur Plaza Base- ment, 113, G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar), an equity research and investment strategy firm, provides assistance for long term investment according to the needs of the customer.

egy. More details can be had in 4202 4276, 98403 64995, 9841 148177 and www.ithought.co. in Also on facebook and twitter @ithoughtwealth.

Its promoter Shyam Sekhar is a value investor and invest- ment researcher with two de- cades of experience in the do- mestic capital markets. The firm has a young team of professionals who will study investments already made and devise a more profitable strat-

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**By Our Staff Reporter**  
Gandhi Study Center (Tha- kkar Bapa Vidyalaya Cam- pus, 58, Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar will conduct a correspondence course on 'Let us know Gandhi'.  
A. Annamalai (Director) told *Mambalam Times* that no edu- cational qualification is re- quired and there is no age limit. Course material in Tamil or English will be provided free of

charge. The question paper will be sent to candidates who can write the examination in their residence itself and send the answer sheets to the center. The examination will be conducted on June 6, he added  
Certificates will be issued based on the performance in the examination. He said that the registration and course fee of Rs. 150 may

be sent through money order/ DD drawn in favour of the Center. No other fees will be collected. The last day for registration is April 20. The applications form can be downloaded from the website www.gandhistudy centre.org. Annamalai said that the course has been extended to Maharashtra from this batch. It is already being conducted in Tamilnadu,

Kerala and Andhra Pradesh. He said that the course was started in 1999 and more than 6000 persons have appeared for the examination so far. Annamalai said that hun- dreds of books on Gandhiji are available in the center's library which can be utilized for refer- ence by those interested. More details can be had in phones 2434 0607 and 94441 83198.

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# Free counselling on career in architecture

**By Our Staff Reporter**  
Edufusion (9, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Maha- devan Street, West Mambal- am) offers free counselling for students seeking a career in architecture from 10 a.m to 6 p.m daily.  
Those interested may regis- ter their names in phone 98410 17290, S. Lakshminaaraya- nan (Managing Director) told *Mambalam Times*.



# Hanuman Nakshatra pooja on Friday

**By Our Staff Reporter**  
108 musk fruits ('kirini') astothram will be performed for Lord Hanuman at 11 a.m on Friday, April 1 in Sri Sanjeevani Peetam, 16/45, BRP 1<sup>st</sup> Street, West Mam- balam as part of Sri Hanuman Nakshatra pooja. There will be chanting of Sri Hanuman chalisa. All are welcome. More details can be had in telephone numbers 2471 2231 and 98404 45633.

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Register Now!  
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# Mat instead of door



**By Our Staff Reporter**  
A mat has been used to cover the front of this Electricity Board junction box on Janaki Raman Street, T. Nagar which has no door.

**SISTER SUBBALAKSHMI NURSERY & PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
T. Nagar, Chennai 17. Ph: 2436 1726/94456 33991  
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Yoga, Karate, Chess, Slokas, Drawing and many other interesting activities.  
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Admission going on for LKG - 5th Std.

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**ABACUS PROGRAM**  
U can see improvement in  
C oncentration  
M emory  
A ccuracy  
S peed ..... in your child.  
Precious gift to your child  
New Batches from 15th April 2011  
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**KALYANA MANDAPAMS**  
27 & 27/1, 100 Feet Road, Koyambedu, Chennai 107.  
(Opp. Andal Azhagar Kalyana Mandapam)  
Ph: 2479 3650, 2479 9192  
E-mail: neerajahall@gmail.com  
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Hotel Pentagon INN, 27/1, 100 Feet Road. Rooms Available: Ph: 2479 5980, 2479 3234

# Discourses on 'Saisath Saritha'

Under the auspices of Sri Shirdi Sai Meditation Mandir (6, Sarojini Street, T. Nagar) there are discourses on 'Sri Saisath Saritha' at 6.30 p.m on Sundays in its premises. T. Thiruvalluvan (Founder) told *Mambalam Times* that mass spiritual healing is con- ducted at 7.30 p.m on Thurs- days and Sundays. More details can be had in phones 2643 2323, 4212 5118 and 94444 53777.

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**LEARNING BOX** Age group: 3 - 6 yrs.  
**HANDWRITING** Age group: 5 yrs. & above  
**VEDIC MATHS** Age group: 12 yrs. & above  
**CREATIVE ART INDIA** Age group: 4 - 15 yrs.  
**BRITE** Age group: 7 - 14 yrs.  
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**T. NAGAR NORTH - 99401 83984**

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ஜே. எஸ். ராகவன்

மேலே பாய்ந்த பூனை!

விடியற்கால ஜந்து மணிக்கு வாக்கிங் போக சாக்ஸையும், ஷூலையும் அணிய வராந்தாவில் குனிந்த போது, மேடை மேலிருந்து திறந்த அட்டைப் பெட்டியிலிருந்து கரிய பைந்து போன்ற உருவம் ராக்கெட்டாக எழும்பி சந்துருவைத் தாக்கியது. பின்னர் விருட்டென்று கரில் கதவின் இடைவழியாக வெளியே தப்பி ஓடிற்று.

இந்த கொரில்லா தாக்குதலை எதிர்பார்க்காத சந்துருவின் லப்டப் சில நொடிகள் நின்று, ஆயுசு கெட்டியானபடியால் பட்டப்பட்டுத் தொடர்ந்தது. ஒரே ஒரு ஷூலுடன் கிளி போலத் தத்தி நடந்து கதவிற்கு வெளியே எட்டிப் பார்த்தபோது, ஒரு கருப்பு நிறக் கடுவன் பூனை கெத்துடன் உட்கார்ந்து கண்களில் பகைமையுடன் பார்த்தது.

தொடர்ந்து அவனுக்கும், பூனைக்கும் நடந்த காரசாரமான பேச்சுவார்த்தையின் விவரம் பின்வருமாறு:

பூனை: யாருடா நீ? விடியற்காலையில் என் பூனைத் தூக்கத்தைக் கெடுத்தது?

சந்துரு: நல்ல கதையா இருக்கே? ரிஜிஸ்டிரேஷனை சேர்க்காமல் நாற்பது லட்சம் கொடுத்து நான் வாங்கின விடு இது. ஓரிஜினல் பத்திரத்தை வேணுமானால் லாக்கிலிருந்து எடுத்துக் காட்டறேன். நீ யாருடா? அல்லது யாருடி என்னைக் கேக்க? இது என்ன அருணாசலப் பிரதேசமா, சைனாவா அத்துமீறி ஊடுருவல் பண்ண?

பூனை: ம்! நான் டி இல்லே. டா. பூனை சாஸ்திரம் தெரியாத மூடனே! யாதும் ஊரே, யாவையும் வீடேன்னு எங்கள் இன கணியன் பூனைக்குன்றனார் பாடி இருக்கிறார் தெரியுமா? எங்களுக்கு உயிர்கள் வேண்டுமானால் ஒன்பது மட்டும் இருக்கலாம். ஆனா வீடுகள் ஓராயிரம். பிசாத்து ஒரே ஒரு வீட்டை வெச்சண்டு இப்படி முறைக்கிறயே? அதுவும் வீடா இது? எலி கூட வேண்டாமய்யா. கேவலம் ஒரு மூஞ்சூறு, நோஞ்சான் பல்லி கூட இல்லியே?

சந்துரு: அவ்வளவு திமிரா? அல்சேஷன் நாயை வாங்கி நான் வெஜ் போட்டு முரடாக்கி உன் மேலே அவுத்து விடுவேன்.

பூனை: அறிவிலியே! உங்களை அடுக்கு மாடி அசோசியேஷன் சப் ரூல் 3(a) படி நாயை வளர்க்கக் கூடாது, தெரியுமா? பூனை எக்ஸம்ப் ட்ட். வெள்ளைப் பஞ்சு மிட்டாய்க் கலர் பாமரேனியனை உள்ளே விட்டால் கூட உங்க செக்ரட்டரி



ராஜபாளையமா மாறி உன்னைக் குதறி எடுத்து விடுவார். ம்! நாயாம் நாய்! என்ன சொன்னே? நான் வெஜ்ஜா போடப் போறே? உங்க காம்ப்ளெக்ஸிலே நான்-வெஜ் கூடாதுன்னு அன் ரிட்டன் ரூல் கூட இருக்கு தெரியுமா?

சந்துரு: அவ்வளவு விவரமான பூனையா நீ? சட்டம் எல்லாம் பேசறியே? இப்படியா திருட்டுத்தனமா உள்ளே நுழையறது.....?

பூனை:..... செக்ஷன் 441 அப்பறும் 448 பிரகாரம் ட்ரெஸ்பான்ஸ், பனிஷ்பின் வித் ஒன் இயர் இம்பிரஸன்மென்ட் அண்டு ஆர் ஃபைப் அப்படின்னு சொல்ல வரியா? அது உங்களுக்குள் இந்தியன் பீனல் கோட். ஆனா எங்களுக்கான இந்தியன் பூனை கோடில் அந்த மாதிரியான பிதற்றல் ஏதும் கிடையாது. அதை விடு. என்னை முறைச்சண்டா நடக்கிறதே வேற. ஆனா கூட்டணியா வெச்சண்டா உனக்கு கறுப்புப் பூனை கமாண்டோவா இருந்து பாதுகாப்புக் கொடுப்பேன். அதுக்குத் தோதா என் கலர் கூடக் கறுப்பு. உங்க பாரதி பாடின பூனை மாதிரி வெள்ளை நிறம் இல்லை.

சந்துரு: அட! சட்டப் பூனை மட்டும் இல்லாமல் கவிதைப் பூனையுமா? அப்பறும் ருத்திராட்சப் பூனை அவதாரம் உண்டா?

பூனை: அப்படி நான் வேஷம் போட மாட்டேன். உன்னோட பிள்ளையார் வாகனமான மூஞ்சூரைக் கொழுக்கட்டையா தின்னுட்டு அப்படி சொல்லின்டா எனக்குப் பாவம். அப்பறும் நான் தங்கத்தாலே பிள்ளையார் செஞ்சு தானம் கொடுக்கணும். அதை விடு, நீ தனியாக் தானே இருக்கே?

சந்துரு: ஆமாம், உஷா ஊருக்குப் போயிருக்கா. பிரசவத்துக்கு.

பூனை: அப்போ அவுத்து விட்ட கழுதை. அவன் இல் லாதப்போ ஏதானம் விஷமம் பண்ணினா உன் பொண்டாட்டி கிட்டே வத்தி வெச்சிடுவேன். உஷார்!

பால் பாக்கெட் போடுவதற்காகத் தடதடவென்று படியில் ஏறி வரும் பையனின் காலடி சத்தத்தைக் கேட்டுப் பூனை துள்ளி ஓடி மறைந்து விட்டது.

பொழுது விடிந்தவுடன் விஜயா கிளிவிக்குக்கு சந்துரு போனான்.

டாக்டர் மூர்த்தி ஜாவி மனிதர். ஜெமினி (கணேசு) ராசி. வெண்ணிற ஆடை ரேஞ்சில் இரட்டை அர்த்தப் பேச்சில் எம்.டி. (மாஸ்டர் ஆல்ப் டிப்ஸ் மீனிங்) பட்டம் பெற்றவர்.

'வாருமய்யா? என்ன மூஞ்சியில் காமாசோமானு கிறல்? பெண்டாட்டி ஊரில் இல்லியே? என்ன ஆச்சு? ஏதாவது மன்மத வம்பில் லடாயா?

'பூனை பிராண்டிடுத்து, டாக்டர்.'

டாக்டர் மூர்த்தி புரென்று குதிரை சத்தம் போட்டுக் காடெடி பஞ்சு கொடுத்தார். பின்னர் விஷமமாக சிரித்தார்.

'பூனையா? என்னய்யா கதை விடுகிறீர்? நாலு கால் பூனையா? ரெண்டு கால் பூனையா?'

மேலே பாய்ந்த பூனையின் பிராண்டலை விட டாக்டரின் நையாண்டிப் பிராண்டலை எப்படி சமாளிக்கப் போகிறேன் என்று விழித்தான் சந்துரு.

jsraghavan@yahoo.com

## Award for contributing provisions to orphanage



By Our Staff Reporter

R. P. Krishnammachari (Managing Director, Textan House, 75, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ashok Nagar) was presented 'Sadguru Gnanananda Social Citizenry Award' by Manava Seva Dharma Samvarthani (Charitable Trust) on March 12 for his contribution of dhal, oil and sugar to Duraisamy Foundation (which runs an orphanage in Kancheepuram) for the past 10 years.

Swami Nityananda Giri (Sri Gnanananda Ashram, Thapovanam) presented the award.

Krishnammachari, one of the co-ordinators of the DOS (dhal, oil, sugar scheme) of Manava Seva Dharma Samvarthani, told *Mambalam Times* that anyone can contribute to the scheme. The provisions collected are distributed among 47 orphanages and se-

nior citizen homes, he added.

Krishnammachari said that he plans to provide 1000 kg. of dhal, 1000 kg. of sugar and 500 kg. of oil for orphanages and old age homes during the current year.

He said that his office is the one of the collection points. Contributions may be handed over between 10 a.m and 5 p.m from Monday to Saturday.

More details can be had in phones 4298 8700 and 2489 1684.

He said that Manava Seva Dharma Samvarthani was started by P. N. Devarajan and his friends in 1999. 2000 families now contribute for the project. There are plans to rope in 3000 more families for supporting old age homes and orphanages in Thiruvallur, Chengalpattu and Kancheepuram districts, he added.

## Fancy dress contest prize winners



By Our Staff Reporter

Students who won prizes in the fancy dress competition conducted recently by Sivan Arts Academy (5/11, Balakrishna Mudali Street, West Mambalam).

## Sai bhajans on 3 days a week

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Sathya Sai Samiti, T. Nagar conducts Sai bhajans every week in the following venues in T. Nagar:

Sai Keshav Hall, 157, G. N. Chetty Road (near Panagal Park, Vijaya Bank building): Saturdays, 5.10 p.m.

G. N. Chetty Road (near Panagal Park), Mondays, 6 p.m.

50/38, Motilal Street (opposite Ranganathan Street), Wednesdays, 6 p.m.

All are welcome. More details can be had from D. Srinivasa Rao (98400 50875) or C. Ramamurthy (94440 54819).

## TAMIL CINEMA 75 - A LOOK BACK

By RANDOR GUY

THE AVM STORY - 59

Rajkumar played leadroles in many genres like family drama, historical, mythology, folk myth, action movie, 'Bondish' entertainment and the lot. He was indeed a phenomenon in Kannada and Indian cinema.

'Bedara Kannappa' was remade in Telugu as 'Kalahasthi Mahatmyam' 1954) and in Hindi as 'Shiv Bhaktha' (1954). In the Telugu version, Rajkumar played the tribal hunter and Pandari Bai was replaced by a noted actress of Telugu and Tamil cinema, K. Malathi, who made a name in the Telugu films of the famed filmmakers B. N. Reddi and K. V. Reddi, like 'Sumangali', 'Pathala Bhairavi' and 'Gunasundari Katha'. She also acted in lead roles in Tamil films like 'Rajakumari' and 'Ratnakumar'. Later she acted in elderly roles. After retirement she lived in Hyderabad where she met with a tragic end when the old building she lived in collapsed, killing her.

Meiyappan introduced a new and box-office element in the Telugu version. The dancer Padmini, by a now an actress-star, was cast as a traditional temple dancer, and she performed excellent dance numbers. These sequences were a bonus to moviegoers.

The Hindi version 'Shiv Bhaktha' (1954) had Padmini playing the same role and this was her debut in Hindi. The film was also the first Hindi mythological of AVM Studios. Pandari Bai was the female lead under her own name.

Later Meiyappan dubbed his Tamil and Telugu films into Hindi, like 'Bhakthi Mahima' (1960) (original in Telugu) and 'Bhakthi Prahalada' (1967) (original in Tamil and Telugu).

The tribal hero in 'Shiv Bhaktha' was the well known Marathi and Hindi film star Sahu Modak who played many mythological roles as Lord Krishna and folk myth saints. The film was directed by H. L. N. Simha and the AVM Studios editor K. Shankar also worked with him, and the two were jointly credited with direction.

In 1956 Meiyappan took the step in another direction when he produced a Sinhalese film 'Doctor' (1956) with the popular Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) star couple Eddie Jayamanne and the stunningly beautiful actress Rukmini Devi. K. Shankar directed the film.

During those years the motion picture industry in the island country was not well developed and most Sinhala movies were produced in South Indian studios with Indian technicians. Such films were made in Madras, Salem and Coimbatore. An enterprising Sri Lankan film person, S. M. Nayagam, even built a studio in the outskirts of the famed temple town Madurai named 'Chitrakala Movietone' but it did not last long. When conditions and filmmaking facilities in Sri Lankan capital Colombo improved, many technicians from Madras went to Sri Lanka where they worked for some years in Sinhalese movies. Such technicians included S. V. Venkataraman (film laboratorian and father of the latter-day drama and movie star S. V. Sekhar), M. Masthan (cinematographer and director) and A. B. Raj (director).

With the AVM movie enterprise expanding its wings, Meiyappan formed more than one unit which could make films simultaеously and independently, all under his supervision, like Hollywood moguls. No film ever left his studio unless he saw and approved its every frame. He watched the 'rushes' of the films many times, each time with a different purpose and reason: To view how the sets had been exploited; To view the costumes and such, and judge their appropriateness with respect to the milieu, ambiance, and also aesthetic values and visual appeal. India being a hot and humid country and Madras being more so, one sweats much, especially in the closed atmosphere of a studio floor. So, ugly unsightly wet patches appear in the costumes under the arms of artistes - a sight which Meiyappan disliked most, especially in actresses! He would insist that such shots to be re-shot. In AVM Studios it was the practice to have many sets of blouses and other costumes to avoid such wet patches. (As they say, Madras has three kinds of weather - hot, hotter and the hottest!).

(To be continued)

Plant more trees

### Calling volunteers for free service in Tirumala

**By Our Staff Reporter**  
Sevas (50, Darga Road, Rajaji Nagar, Pallavaram) is sending volunteers for week-long service to pilgrims in Tirumala starting on Sundays and ending on Saturdays.

Men and women who are physically fit and are willing to stay in Tirumala for a week are welcome to offer their services for 6 hours everyday. The work will be of supervisory nature.

Accommodation, lunch and dinner will be provided free of cost. They can have special darshan of Lord Venkateswara.

Travelling expense and the cost of breakfast must be borne by the volunteers.

Those interested can contact Nalini Ravikumar (18/43, Jubilee Road, West Mambalam) in 99621 53644, P. Sundaram (98417 26695) or D. Gopinath (94442 09751).

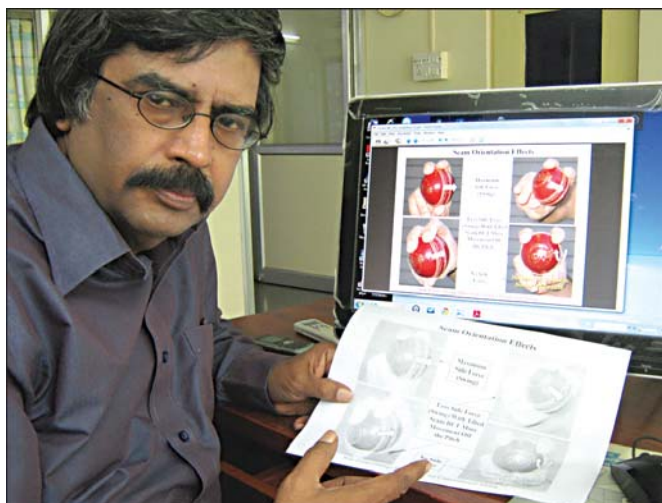
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### Exhibition on 'Cricket and science'



**By Our Staff Reporter**  
T. K. V. Rajan (Founder, Indian Science Monitor, G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar) has

organized an exhibition on 'Great cricket controversies and science behind...' in Russian Centre of Science and

Culture, 74, Kasturi Rangan Road, Alwarpet.

The exhibition will be inaugurated by K. Jayaramakrishnan (Vice President, Tata Consultancy Services) at 4 p.m on Thursday, March 31.

It will be open to the public from 11 a.m to 7 p.m on April 1 and 2.

Rajan told *Mambalam Times* that the exhibition explores the dynamics of cricket and reveals the role of science in the game.

There will be about 40 displays on techniques, graphs and methodology related to science involved in cricket.

He can be contacted in phone 93805 54557

### Having sweet dreams?



**By Our Staff Reporter**

A cotton candy seller sound asleep on his cart on Sadullah Street, T. Nagar on March 24.

### Temple premises offered for spiritual programs

**By Our Staff Reporter**  
The premises of Devi Sri Aachi Amman Temple (48, Siddhi Vinayagar Koil Street, Kannammampet, T. Nagar) is available free for conducting bhajans, discourses, concerts and other spiritual programs, according to M. Muthaian (Temple In-charge).

A number of devotees participated in 'Thiruvillaku pooja' on March 19 (Pournami).

More details can be had in phone 92831 03990.



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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 MY client M. Krishnan, son of An. Meiyappan, resident of 57, Dhandapani Street, T. Nagar, Chennai 17 (M. No. 96260 57679) has proposed to purchase the under mentioned property from its present owners S. Raja gopal, son of G. Sivarajan, V. Parvathavarthini, wife of S. Venkataraman, N. Girija, wife of P. Narasimhan, who are legal heirs of original owner Late T. S. Gowrishankaran through their power agent Mr. G. H. G. Harihara Subramanian. Anybody who has objection relating to ownership or relating to power of attorney can lodge the same either with me or my client, at respective address within 15 days of this notice. If nobody lodges his/her objection, my client will proceed with the sale transaction as if nobody has objection to it. DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Flat No. B-30-A, B-Block in second floor with undivided share over the land, situated in Door No. 5, Babu Rajendra Prasad Road, West Mambalam, Chennai, comprised in T. S. No. 6/1A, 6/2 and 6/3 in Block No. 6. (N. Vallinayagam, Advocate, Madurai. Off. No. 1, D.D. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Arappalayam, Madurai 16).

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**She has 'adopted' a Chennai School**



By Our Staff Reporter

B. Manimegalai (resident of 9/2, Ramasamy Street, T. Nagar) has been rendering service for students for several years. She 'adopted' a Chennai School in Aminjikarai a year back. She conducts various programs including medical camps, counseling sessions, and talent revealing and personality development programs. She organizes programs in villages too. Manimegalai is President of Central Government Employees Welfare Association, Founder-President of Shastri Bhavan SC/ST Women Employees Welfare Association and an honorary member of Atchayaa Foundation. Manimegalai works in the Audit Department in Shastri Bhavan. She told *Mambalam Times* that she arranges educational assistance including scholarships, and medical assistance for under privileged students through Central and State Government schemes. She said that her mother Susheela had worked as Headmistress of Kolar Gold Field School during British rule. Her father Deviasigamani, an advocate, was the first Dalit candidate of the Republican Party who had contested the Assembly election from Egmore constituency. She is a member of Lions Club International and other service organizations. She can be contacted in phones 98401 28040 and 4212 9042.

**If anything interesting is happening in your neighbourhood please inform Mambalam Times.**

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Classified Advertisements under the heads Accommodation Required, Old Age Home, Marriage Hall, Mini Hall, Real Estate (Buying & Selling) and Rental will be published on this page. The charges are Rs. 300 upto 35 words; Bold Rs. 450. Ashok Nagar- K.K. Nagar and Mambalam-T.Nagar Editions: Rs. 400 (upto 35 words); Bold Rs. 600; Display: Rs. 220 per col. centimeter. Each advertisement of Real Estate and Rental must relate to only one house /flat. Advertisement will be received upto 1.00 p.m on Friday.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Mahadevan Street (State Bank Building) 2 Halls - Kamakshi Mini Hall A/c (100 guests), Kamakshi Hall A/c (200 guests) just opened. Ph: 4351 2233, 4351 2556, 9940454545, 9445054545.

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**OLD AGE HOME**

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T. NAGAR, No. 36/25, Sarojini Street, near Mambalam Railway Station & bus terminus, 1 bedroom, kitchen, ground floor, rent Rs. 3500, small Brahmin family. Contact: Premises 1<sup>st</sup> floor, interested party please come with advance.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 25/13, Krishnamoorthy Street, 2 bedroom, spacious hall and dining, kitchen, study & pooja room, ground floor, complete woodwork, 24 hours water, separate entrance, covered car parking, rent Rs. 20000, brokers excuse, Brahmins only. Ph: 94447 13596.

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T. NAGAR, Soundararajan Street, 2 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 625 sq. ft., ground floor, rent Rs. 10K, Brahmins only. Contact from 28/3/11. Ph: 98416 91386.

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ASHOK NAGAR, 100 Feet Road, near Lakshman Struthi, double bedroom, balcony, 900 sq. ft., 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, lift, covered car parking, woodwork, IT professionals or executives. Ph: 9884422119.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Lake View Road, single bedroom, hall, kitchen, 600 sq. ft., 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, lift, car park, rent Rs. 7500, Brahmins only. Contact: Appu. Ph: 9841467463, 9790825121.

KODAMBAKKAM, Gangaaiman Koil Street, 2 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 1300 sq. ft., flat, 2 A/c, covered car park, rent Rs. 13500, advance Rs. 50000. Ph: 9444167851.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Ellaiamman Koil Street, 2 bedroom, hall, kitchen, independent house, ground floor, rent Rs. 10000 (negotiable), Brahmins/vegetarian only, no parking, brokers excuse. Ph: 4551 3881.

WEST MAMBALAM, Satyapuri Street, near Doraisamy Subway & Jain School, single bedroom, 560 sq. ft., 1<sup>st</sup> floor, rent Rs. 7000, inspection on Sunday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., no brokers. Ph: 27238033, 9597261690.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 11/6, Rajaji Street, 2 rooms, hall, kitchen, western & Indian toilets, 24 hours water, ground floor, rent Rs. 7200, advance Rs. 50000, Brahmins only. Ph: 92831 80834, 90427 63416.

T. NAGAR, Griffith Road, 2 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, no lift, brokers excuse. Ph: 97103 90329, 9841059856.

T. NAGAR, Habibullah Road, near Padma Seshadri / TCS / Hexaware, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, A/c, self contained, vegetarians, employed software, brokers excuse. Ph: 2834 0871, 96770 50155.

**Child Helpline**  
**1098**

**Shoppers dance with Suriya on Ranganathan Street**



A song sequence featuring actor Suriya shot on busy Ranganathan Street in T. Nagar recently caught hundreds of shoppers, street hawkers and shopkeepers by pleasant surprise.

They spontaneously joined him to dance to the music played through speakers.

It was a sequence planned and executed by Director Murugadoss for the actor's next big film '7uam Arivu'.

On how he managed to do so, Murugadoss said that it took a lot of planning and practice. The crew, including Suriya and 700 dancers, rehearsed for three days in AVM Studio.

On the day before the actual shoot, the Director and his team went to the street well past midnight and placed cameras in six locations.

"We wanted the whole sequence to be natural. We wanted to capture the genuine reaction of surprised shoppers and vendors. We could not afford to make any mistake because there was no question of a second take," Murugadoss said.

Another interesting element about this sequence, which is the 'introduction song' in the film, is that the 700 dancers included some senior artistes who have made a re-entry into the field after a break of over 10-15 years.

"As more and more young dancers enter the field, the senior artistes retire from active performance in films. We thought it would be nice to include many of them in this song. It was an enjoyable experience for all of us," the Director said.

With the equipment being placed in advance and the technicians assembling quietly, the whole shoot was completed in about 10 minutes.

The film, being produced by Udhayanidhi Stalin's Red Giant Movies, is said to have many such little surprises. "We are most likely to complete the filming by the end of this month. Post-production and computer graphics work will be taken up after that," Murugadoss said. *Report: courtesy The Hindu*

Your window to the whole of Mambalam & T. Nagar?  
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**Vacant plot converted into rubbish dumping site**



By Our Staff Reporter

Dung from a cow shed and rubbish are being dumped on a vacant plot on Patel Street, West Mambalam.

# Corporation seals serviced apartment complex

By Our Staff Reporter

Officials of Chennai Corporation's Public Health Department sealed Star City, a service apartment complex on Crescent Park Street, T. Nagar on March 24 for not having drainage and sewage connections.

This follows a contempt petition filed by T. G. Rajagopalan, resident of the street, in the Madras High Court.

The officials led by S. Saraswathi (Asst. Health Officer) sealed all 16 flats in the complex, besides the office room, store room and washing area on the ground floor.



The owner is said to have approached the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board for connections but was directed to submit the completion certificate from Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority for

deviation-free construction. The Madras High Court had directed the Corporation in December to take appropriate action within four weeks against the building owner for running the serviced apartments without basic amenities. Rajagopalan had complained that sewage was collected in a sump and pumped to lorries twice a day, causing unbearable smell and posing health hazards for other residents.

Justice Basha, who had heard the case, said it was clear that Star City is running the serviced apartments without even applying for sewage and

drainage connections.

"This is a very serious issue as the conduct of Star City will cause serious health hazards to the public, particularly during rainy season. The building is located in a prime location and such being the position, Star City cannot be allowed to run serviced apartments without providing basic facilities and amenities," the Judge observed. "It goes without saying that it is the duty and responsibility of Chennai Corporation to take all coercive steps and actions in a manner known to law to stop the said menace," the Judge held.

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## '108' ambulance shifted to Ashok Nagar



By Our Staff Reporter  
A '108' ambulance of Emergency Management Research and Institute is now parked in

Fire & Rescue Service Station, Ashok Nagar.

M. Mohammed Billal (District Manger) told Mambalam

Times that the vehicle will respond to calls from Ashok Nagar, K. K. Nagar, MGR Nagar, Nespakkam, Jaffer Khanpet, West Mambalam, T. Nagar and nearby areas.

It will also be rushed to any other area if other vehicles are not immediately available.

Billal said that earlier a '108' ambulance used to be parked in Ashok Nagar police station but it was shifted to T. Nagar police station about 1 1/2 years ago from where it was later moved to Saidapet.

He said that the new vehicle is equipped with advanced life support equipment.

Billal said that the vehicle has responded to more than 70 calls since it was stationed last week.

## Free computer course for poor youths, senior citizens

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's Gandhi Institute of Computer Education & Information Technology will conduct a free computer course for educated unemployed youths belonging to the economically backward section and senior citizens in its Mylapore (18, 20 & 22, East Mada Street) and T. Nagar (12, Thanikachalam Street) centers from May 4. The course includes Tally, DTP, C & C++, VB.NET and Multimedia.

Application forms can be had from Mylapore center (10 a.m to 6 p.m.) and T. Nagar center (9 a.m to 3.30 p.m.).

The last date for submitting applications is April 18.

Details may be had in person at both centers.

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## Bank told to reverse Rs. 111 wrongly debited

By Our Staff Reporter  
The District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum directed ICICI Bank Ltd. (48, Arya Gowda Road, West Mambalam) on Feb. 21 to reverse the amount of Rs. 111 it

had wrongly debited to the account of G. Vijayakumar (resident of 142, Lake View Road, West Mambalam) in 2006 along with 12% interest with quarterly rest from the date of debit till the date of reversal within 6 weeks of the passing of the order.

It also directed the bank to pay the petitioner Rs. 10000 as compensation for mental agony and Rs. 3000 as cost within 6 weeks failing which the amount will carry an interest of 9% till the date of payment.

## Traffic cops start wearing pith hats



By Our Staff Reporter

As the days are becoming hotter, traffic constables have started wearing pith hats keep to off the heat. Picture was taken at the junction of G. N. Chetty Road and Thirumalai Road in T. Nagar on March 24.

## Blood donation camp tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Vatsalyam (12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ashok Nagar) has organized a blood donation camp from 9.30 a.m to 1.30 p.m on Sunday, March 27 in Panigraha Kalyana Mandapam, Arya Gowda Road, West Mambalam.

V. Nandhakumar (Deputy Director, Investigation, Income Tax Department) will inaugurate the camp.

More details can be had in phone 99406 38972.

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