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Vol. 10, No. 38

April 1 - 7, 2012

FREE

Large-hearted lottery seller honoured

By Our Staff Reporter
Suresh, a lottery ticket seller from Ernakulam, Kerala, who handed over a ticket which had won Rs. 1.4 crores to an old man who had 'blocked' it but not paid for it, was presented 'Manidha Neyam Award' by Actor R. Parthiban's Manidha Neyam Mandram, K. K. Nagar on March 25.

The award carries a cash component of Rs. 1 lakh.

The old man wanted to buy 5 tickets at a total cost of Rs. 250 but did not enough cash. He told Suresh to keep the tickets separately and he would collect them late. Even before he could collect the tickets the results were declared the next day and one of them hit the jackpot. If Suresh had treated



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the ticket as 'unsold' he could have himself collected the prize money but he was honest and large hearted enough to give the ticket to the old man.

Following a report in a Malayalam newspaper about Suresh's gesture, he was felicitated in 60 functions.

Manidha Neyam Mandram also decided to honour him with its award. It arranged to bring him, his wife, son and daughter to Chennai by air for the func-

tion and accommodate them in a 5-star hotel.

Suresh said that Parthiban has promised to help him start a new business.

Vivek (actor) also presented Rs. 50,000 to Suresh for the education of his children.

Justice K. Chandru (Madras High Court Judge) also felicitated Suresh.

Film personalities Bhagyaraj, Rohini and Prasanna were also present.

CPM workers protest power shutdown



By Our Staff Reporter
Hundreds of CPM party workers staged a demonstration at the Ashok Pillar Road-1st Avenue junction in Ashok Nagar at 8.30 a.m on March 27 protesting against the power shutdown and listing demands which they wanted to be implemented.

Traffic was disrupted on Ashok Pillar Road, 100 Feet Road, 15th Avenue and nearby roads.

The demonstrators were arrested and taken away in MTC buses and police vehicles. Normal traffic movement was restored at 11 a.m.

K. P. Shanmugarajeshwaran (Joint Commissioner of Police, South) visited the spot.



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Parked vehicles cause inconvenience



By Our Staff Reporter

A number of vehicles parked on both sides of the 30-ft road in LIC Colony, Ashok Nagar have been causing inconvenience to residents for several months. They told *Mambalam Times* that they include tourist cabs and earth movers. They said that cab drivers clean the vehicles on the road itself.

Talk on Vallalar on Thursday, Friday

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Vallalar Thondu Niruvanam (165/8, 10th Street, Annai Sathya Nagar, Nesapakkam), Prof. K. K. Chandrasekaran will give a talk on 'Thiru Aranga Ramalingam - Anuboga Nilaiyam Maalai Ilakkiam' at 6 p.m on Thursday, April 5.

Kumbakonam M. Gopala Ramanan will give a talk on 'Thiru Arutpa - Ingitha Maalai'

at 6 p.m on Friday, April 6 (Full moon day).

All are welcome.

More details can be had in phone 94453 43706.

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By M. A. SADANAND

I dread even looking at the open-ground cremation at the Corporation's final disposal arena strewn all over the city to enable this beautiful world's evictees to catch their free flight to heaven where all are treated as equals.

Since there are no reports from special correspondents from there, it is presumed that the early entrants like Hitler, Mussolini, Churchill, Truman, Hiro Hito, Gandhi, Godse, Martin Luther King *et al* always lined either side of the red carpet when a new entrant appeared to take the allotted final resting place, normally a marble and gold palace that would make Waldorf Astoria pink with envy.

I had always found life beautiful and thanked my parents for giving me this sojourn on earth. When their leases expired, they were treated to the same fiery journey at the Velangadu open ground since the Chennai Corporation believed in status quo which allowed a tribe of burners to turn highwaymen and skin the bereaved.

Having read a piece by me on the solemnity and cleanliness of the electric crematoria in Bangalore, through one of which I had sent a cousin of mine to heaven, a lawyer friend briefed me to appear in a Writ Petition for a Mandamus to modernize our final journey by adopting the Bangalore exit-line.

Justice K. S. Bhaktavatsalam asked me, "What Sadanand! You are talking about death on a beautiful Monday morning?"

"It is everybody's funeral and I am worried about life's evening. We all, except the mighty Chennai Corporation, think of the evening when we are the Vettians' victims", I responded.

He admitted the petition and, by the time it came up for final disposal, I had become the Government Pleader and recused myself from the case.

I later discovered that incineration by electricity became the privilege of the Chennai citizens too, though the tribe of grumpy Vettians rose. Going to the courts through the New Avadi Road was a constant reminder that the brand new crematorium would be my last station, though the Metro Rail diggers could bar the way.

A recent 'Deccan Chronicle' write up said that, since it has not been working for about 5 years, open ground cremation is back in Velangadu and the Vettians will soon be raising a temple in a corner to offer obeisance to the persons in charge of the dead machine.

If Amma whips the fellows into action, I will continue in Madras to which I migrated in 1946 or shift to Bangalore, dirtied by Yeddy boy, because I want to go by electric traction to my pink palace in heaven when the invitation arrives by courier mail or through my cell phone.

I love the Madras climate and would love to be around for another 50 years, by which time we can sell nuclear power to the rest of the world and there is no danger of a half-cremated Sadanand at the Velangadu exit-station through power cut. How about it, handsome Mayor Saidai?

Jewel shops protest plan to hike excise duty

Nearly 3,000 retail jewellery shops in the city and suburbs remained closed on March 28 to press their demand for a rollback of Union budget proposals, particularly the levy of excise duty.

This is the second time they downed shutters in March.

Jewellers' associations in the city had called for the shut-down after a demonstration in the city on March 27 against the proposals in the Union budget to levy 1% excise duty on non-branded jewels and increase in customs duty from 2% to 4% on gold ornaments.

Jewellers alleged that this would mean maintaining accounts for yet another Government agency and threats of harassment. It would be more harmful for goldsmiths and small traders, they opined.

The volume of precious metal sold in the city is dipping due to price hike and the levy of more taxes apart from the value added tax, they added.

Jayantilal Chalani (President, Madras Jewellers' and Diamond Merchants Association)



tion) said that the levy of more tax would increase the cost of 8 gms. of 22 carat gold by Rs.800-900.

"We now retain 2% of the value of gold coin that is exchanged for cash. This will go up by 8% as we have to add the

tax amount collected from us. The rapport between the jeweller and customer will suffer," he said.

N. Anantha Padmanabhan (Regional Chairman, All India Gems and Jewellery Trade Federation) said that the loss

of business in the city and suburbs owing to the 2-day bandh was nearly Rs. 200 crores.

"We want a rollback of the proposals and are planning to hold demonstrations in Delhi soon," he said. *Report courtesy The Hindu*

Court order on landlords providing info on tenants

The Madras high court on March 29 restrained the Chennai police from prosecuting house owners who fail to submit details of their tenants before the deadline of April 30. But the court refused to suspend the order asking landlords to furnish such information in the prescribed format.

An interim order to this effect was passed by the First Bench comprising Chief Justice M. Y. Eqbal and Justice T. S. Sivagnanam on two public interest petitions, one filed by S. Jim Raj Milton, an advocate, and the other by R. Sridhar, a doctor.

The city police issued an or-

der on March 3 under Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure asking house owners who had rented out their homes to furnish all information relating to their tenants before April 30. As per the order, demographic information including name, age, father's name, occupation details and identity proof were required to be submitted, along with mobile numbers of the house owner and the tenant.

Those who fail to submit such information, the order said, would be prosecuted under Section 188 of the Indian Penal Code, which provides for imprisonment up to one month

for disobeying orders of public servants.

In his PIL, Milton said that the order was issued in the aftermath of two bank heists in Chennai which cast a shadow on the efficiency of police. The suspected dacoits were later tracked, but were gunned down in a midnight operation, he said. The controversial decision to collect the data of tenants, migrant workers and students from other states started thereafter, he said.

Noting that this type of data collection was not regulated under any specific law, Milton said that the police sought to implement its decision by cir-

cumventing the procedure established by law. Describing it as an arbitrary and excessive use of power, he said seeking such details would amount to police surveillance, and added that the order deserved to be quashed.

He also wanted the court to direct the police to destroy all the records and information already collected from the residents.

Adjourning the matter by two weeks for further hearing, the judges said: "In the meanwhile, the order shall not be suspended. But no criminal action should be taken for violation of the order."

'Water booth' opened for pedestrians



By Our Staff Reporter

Dr. S. Siva (Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic) inaugurated a 'water booth' at Pothys junction on March 29. S. N. Surendranath (Asst. Commissioner of Police, Traffic, T. Nagar Sub-division) told *Mambalam Times* that the 500-liter container will be filled with mineral water for the benefit of thirsty pedestrians. Buttermilk was also distributed on the occasion. Traffic inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of T. Nagar Sub-division were present.

Rotary award for Tarachand Galada Jain School Headmistress

By Our Staff Reporter
 Sita Ranjith (Headmistress, Sri Tarachand Galada Jain School, T. Nagar and resident of Pinjala Subramaniam Street, T. Nagar) was presented 'Vocational Excellence Award for Education' by Rotary Club of Chennai Towers on March 29 for serving the field of education for more than 25 years.

The award was presented by Abirami Ramanathan. N. K. Ranganath (CEO, Grundfos India), Sanjay Dallari (Club President), Sathish Kandimalla (Vocational Service Director) and M. Srikumar (Secretary) were present.

Sita holds an M.Sc (Analytical Chemistry) degree and a doctorate. Her thesis was on 'Life skills program for underprivileged adolescent girls'. Sita has been Headmistress since 1996 and was instrumen-



tal in the then primary school becoming a 'recognized matriculation school'. She is involved in vocational

ages and needy organizations. Sita introduced games for the teachers as a stress reliever. Bhajans are also conducted. She has published a series of books titled 'Just -4- U' for students.

Sita started FOWERD (Fondation for Women Rehabilitation and Development) in 2005 which conducts vocational training programs for women, publishes a monthly magazine 'Penin Kural' and organizes street plays under the auspices of 'Bhavan Theater Workshop' to create an awareness about social and health issues.

She has directed 2 short films, 'Nirangal', which highlights the suppressed emotions of women, and 'Guruve Namaha', which opposes corporal punishment in school.

Sita can be contacted in phone 98400 33337.

Free course on garment making, fashion designing

By Our Staff Reporter
 Jayalakshmi Ammal Trust (SP 20, 3rd Street, 1st Sector, K. K. Nagar) and Smart Organization will begin a free 45-day training program on garment making and fashion designing for a new batch of men and women on April 16.

Vaira Sekar (President, Jayalakshmi Ammal Trust) told *Mambalam Times* that trainees will be paid a stipend. He said that those in the 18-40 age group can apply. The last date for registration is April 10. More details can be had in 2371 1184 and 99404 52539.

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Rotary award for geriatric specialist

By Our Staff Reporter
 Dr. Kamalie Sripal (resident of 13, Kanadasan Street, T. Nagar) was recently presented 'Excellence Service Award' by Rotary International.

She is a geriatric specialist and has conducted a number of health camps for senior citizens and needy persons in urban and rural areas.

Dr. Kamalie told *Mambalam Times* that she is creating an awareness about the family doctor concept which provides better treatment.

She offers counselling for women, senior citizens and students.

She holds B.Sc (Chemistry) and M.B.B.S degrees, and Ph.D and diploma in Cosmetology.



She has been Editor of *Gokulam Kathir* magazine since 1996. She is President of Council of Medical Science and Practice, Patron of Women's Indian Association and Vice President of Red Cross

'Sundarakanda paarayanam' next Sunday

By Our Staff Reporter
 Under the auspices of Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal Vishnu Sahasranamam Mandali (11th Avenue, Ashok Nagar), there will be 'Sundarakanda paarayanam' from 7 a.m on April 8 in Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal Temple, Mettupalayam Road, West Mambalam.

Usha (President) told *Mambalam Times* that there will be special alangaaram for the presiding deity.

She appealed to amateur musicians to conduct bhajans and concerts in neighborhood temples. Usha can be contacted in phones 98412 94449 and 99411 44407.

Students bring plastic waste to school

Temple program can be seen online

By Our Staff Reporter
 Alangaara thirumanjanam and pattabishekam thirukolam to be performed for presiding deity of Sri Kothanda Ramar Temple, K. R. Koil Street, West Mambalam on April 1 can be seen online by logging onto <http://www.livestream.com/mambalamsrikothandaramartemple>, according to D. Mohan Bhattar (Chief Purohit).

The following is the program:
 9 a.m: Alangaara thirumanjanam.
 6.30 p.m: Pattabisheka thirukolam.
 7.30 p.m: Madaveedhi purappadu.

There will be Sri Ranganathar and Sri Ranganayaki thirukalyana utsavam at 6.30 p.m on April 5 (Panguni uthiram). All are welcome.



By Our Staff Reporter
 Students of Chennai Primary School (Easwaran Koil Street, West Mambalam) are bringing used plastic covers from their houses on Wednesdays and putting them in bins kept in the school premises,

Padmini Sundaram (Councillor, Ward 135) told *Mambalam Times* on March 28. G. Hemalatha (Headmistress) said that teachers are educating students on the need for segregation of plastic waste.

Conservancy workers are also collecting plastic waste from houses on Wednesdays.

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

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Appalam Spl. Kallidaikurichi (50 no's) 300 gm.	63.00	55.00
Cothas Coffee 500 gm.	190.00	183.00
Cardia Life Cooking Oil 1 ltr.	130.00	113.50
Hatsun Butter 500 gm.	135.00	127.00
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Special program in Annai Ashram today



By Our Staff Reporter
Sri Annai Ashram (10, 45th Street, 9th Avenue, Ashok Na-

gar) has organized a special program on Sunday, April 1 as part of Prosperity Day celebra-

tions. The following is the program: 6.30 a.m.: Balcony darshan.

6 p.m.: Talk on 'Savitri Mahimai' by Prof. Selvamani.
7 p.m.: Mass prayer.
Devotees will light candles in front of portraits of The Mother and Sri Aurobindo at 6 p.m. on Friday, April 6 (full moon day).
Annai Adigal (Founder) told *Mambalam Times* that a one-day visit to Auroville Mathir Mandir and Pondicherry Ashram has been organized on April 8. The bus will be start at 6 a.m. from the Ashram office and return by 8 p.m. the same day. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. The fee is Rs. 800.
He also appealed for donations for distribution of food on the 1st of every month, Sundays and Pondicherry Ashram darshan days.
Annai Adigal said that classes on 'Savitri' in Tamil are conducted at 6 p.m. on Sundays. More details can be had in 2474 600, 98414 25456/22456 and 99412 48456.

Free Veda classes during weekends

Free Veda classes are conducted from 6.30 a.m. to 7.30 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays in Krishna Gana Sabha, Maharajapuram Santhanam Salai, T. Nagar.
More details can be had in phone 98843 05676.

200 units of blood collected in camp



By Our Staff Reporter

400 persons attended the blood donation camp conducted by Actor R. Parthiban's Manidha Neyam Mandram, K. K. Nagar in Lakshmi Hall, Ashok Nagar on March 25. 200 units of blood were collected by a team of Government doctors.

Tamil panchangam release on Friday

By Our Staff Reporter
Thamiznadu Brahmin Association, K. K. Nagar (west) will release 'Sri Nandhana' Tamil New Year panchangam at 10

a.m. on Friday, April 6 in Saranam Hall, Sri Ayappan Temple, Ponnambalam Salai, K. K. Nagar.

Vedic V. Ravi (President) told *Mambalam Times* that the panchangam will be released by N. Narayanan (State President, Thambrass) and the 1st copy will be received by V. R. Lakshminarayanan (former Director General of Police).

The following is the program:
8 a.m.: Sri Lalitha sahasra-naama archanai.
11 a.m.: Bhajans.
3 p.m.: General body meeting.
4.30 p.m.: Thirupugazh bhajans.
6.30 p.m.: Bhrathanatyam by Ramya Venkataraman (disciple of Padma Subramanian).
All are welcome.
More details can be had in phone 98407 87957.

Special program in Sanjeevini Peetam today

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Sanjeevini Peetam (13/45, BRP 1st Street, West Mambalam) there will be chanting of Sri Rama raksha stotram, Rama namasankeerthanam, Rama bhajans and Rama shabdha visishtatha discussions at 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 1 (Rama Navami).

There will also be chanting of Sri Hanuman chalisa.
Mathaji (Founder) will talk to children from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. the same day.
Mathaji will put thulasi garlands on devotees at 8 a.m. on Friday, April 6 before the start of the 40-day 'Sri Hanuman diksha' program.
More details can be had from K. S. Venugopal (Managing Trustee) in phone 98403 64567.

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