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‘பழசா? சீச்சீ! சீச்சீ! புதுசுதான் வேணும்!’

(கந்தர் சஷ்டிகவசத்தின் கணிப்புப்படி, பெண்களைத் தொடரும் பிரும்ம ராட்சசனாகக் கர்ப்பாம் பூச்சிக்கு அந்தஸ்து கொடுத்து, அதை என்சுவுண்டில் போட்டுத் தள்ள லலிதா துடப்பத்தைத் தேடிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறாள்.)

லலிதா: நேத்து இங்கே இருந்ததே? ச்சே! எங்கே போச்சு?

சிவா: (கனிவுடன்) லலி! இன்னிக்கு மாட்டறது எது? கர்ப்பா? பல் வியா? இல்லாட்டி பெரு...சா அன்கோண்டாவா? கர்ப்புன்னா இன்னிக் கணக்குக்குப் புதுசா வாங்கின ஃபிரிட்ஜ் பின்னாடி தலை மறைவா இருக்கு.

லலிதா: (பரவசத்துடன்) ரியலி! ஆனா அதைப் போட்டுத் தள்ளத் துடப்பத்தைக் காணாமே. எங்கே போய்த் தொலைஞ்சது? நாயைக் கண்டா....

சிவா: லலி! அதுக்கு பதில் புதுசா ஒரு துடப்பம் வாங்கி வெச்சிருக்கேன்.

லலிதா: என்னது? தூக்கிப் போட்டாச்சா? ஏன்? ஏன்னேன்? இப்போதானே வாங்கித்து? ஸர்வென்ட் மெய்டு சாந்தா கூட குப்பரா பெருக்குதுமான்னானே.

சிவா: லலி! நேத்திக்குப் புதுசா திறந்திருக்கிற ‘அண்ணாச்சி அங்காடி’ யிலே மொதல் பத்து கஸ்டமர்களுக்கு கிஃப்ட் பேக்லே ‘குங்குமச் சிமிழ், ஹேவிளம்பி பாக்கெட் பஞ்சாங்கம், ஸ்ரீ ஆண்ட்ரன் ஸ்நானப் பவுடர், பதினெட்டு மரச்சீனி அப்பளம், இஞ்சி மொரபா, சொட்டு நீலம், ஃபினைல் பாட்டில், துடப்பம்’ எல்லாம் ஃபிரீயா தரோமனு போட்டிருந்ததா, அதனாலேதான்! அந்தப் புதுத் துடப்பம் ஸ்டோர் ரூமலே இருக்கு. அதுக்குப் பட்டுக் குஞ்சலம் போல என்ன பேக்கிங் தெரியுமா? இஸ்ரேலிலிருந்து கிளம்பற ராக்கெட்டோட அதி முக்கிய ஸ்பேர் பார்ட்டுக்குக் கூட அவ்வளவு உஷார் பேக்கிங் இருந்திருக்காது. அதை விடு. ஃபிரிட்ஜ் பின்னாடி நீ பார்த்த கர்ப்பு எங்கேயும் போகாது. நான் தான் ப்ளாஸ்டிக் கர்ப்பை பெவிக்கால் போட்டு நிக்க வெச்சிருக்கேன். ஏன்னா? உனக்கு ஒரு நாளைக்கு ஒரு கர்ப்பையாவது போட்டுத் தள்ளலேன்னா தூக்கம் வராது.



லலிதா: (சனஸ்வரத்தில்) ஈஸ் வரா! வேங்கீஸ்வரா, வேதபூர்ஸ் வரா! உன்னாலே முடியும்தான், என்னை இந்த விவகார மனுஷன் கிட்டேயிருந்து ரட்சிக்கணும். (உரக்க) சரி! ரெண்டு நிமிஷத் திலே காஃபி ரெடி...புதுப் பொடியிலே போட்டது. இன்னிக்கு எதிலே குடிக்கணும்? டபரா டம் எரா? எவர்சில்வரா? காப்பர் செட்டா? இல்லாட்டி, கப் அண்ட் ஸாசரா?

சிவா: ம்? அம்சமா ஒரு பீங்கான் பூடி வாங்கியிருக்கேன். எதுக்கு? அழகு பார்க்கவா? அதிலே கொண்டு வரது.

(வேறு ஒரு பிளாட்டில் காந்திமதியின் ஸர்வென்ட் மெய்டு (அதே) சாந்தா ‘காலீலேர்ந்து ஒரே ஹெட்டேக்குமா’ன்னு முன்கிண்டு வந்தவளுக்கு நெத்தியில் டைகர் பாமைத் தடவியபடி பேச்சுக் கொடுக்கிறாள்.)

காந்தி: ம்! மேலே சொல்லு, சாந்தா. அப்புறம்?

சாந்தா: எனக்கு ஏம்மா வம்பு! ஆனால், பெத்த ஆத்தா கூட இப்படித் தடவி விட மாட்டாங்க. ம்! சொல்றேன். மாசம் ஒரு தடவை லலிதா மேடம் பூட்டி பார்லருக்குப் போவாங்க. தலைக்கு டை அடிச்சு, அந்த சோஷியலோ, ஃபேஷியலோ பண்ணிண்டு, மெனிக்யூர், பெடிக்யூர், திருப்பூர், வள்ளியூர் ஏதேதோ சொல்றதை செஞ்சுக்க. காலிலே போனா சாயந்தரம் நேரத்துக்கு ‘துவம்சம்’ சிரியலைப் பார்க்க வந்துடுவாங்க.

காந்தி: துவம்சத்தை நீ பார்க்கறயா? அதிலே ராதாவோட இரண்டாவது புருஷன்தானே ஜவஹர்? அவன்தானே ஆழ்வாரோட முணாவது பெண்டாட்டி துளசியைக் கல்யாணம் பண்ணிக்கிறான்?

சாந்தா: மம்மி, துளசி ஆழ்வாரோட பெண்டாட்டி இல்லே, கீப் பூனு என் மூணு வயசுப் பொண்ணு சொல்லித் திருத்தறா. தலையிலே ரெண்டு போட்டேன்.

காந்தி: சுத்தம்! துவம்சத்தை விடு. லலிதாவைப் பத்திச் சொல்லு....

சாந்தா: வெள்ளிக் கிழமைனா வெம்பிப் போன கிருணிப்பழ வாசனை வர ஷாம்புவைத் தேச்சுக் குளிச்சுட்டு, கடைங்களுக்கு ஃபீபூ, ஃபீபூன்னு ஊதி சாம்பிராணி போடற சாயு கணக்கா சாம்பிராணிப் புரை போட்டுப்பாங்க. நல்லி, சுந்தரி, போத்தில்காரங்க கொள்முதல் செய்யற மாதிரி வாங்கிப் புடவைங்களை பீரோவிலே அடுக்கி வெச்சிருக்காங்க. நாயுடு ஹாலுக்கு (களுக்குன்னு சிரித்து) விசேஷ மரியாதை உண்டு.

காந்தி: லண்டி! லண்டி! மேலே சொல்லு.

சாந்தா: சாயந்தரம்னா மல்லிப்பூ தப்பாமல் தலையிலே இருக்கும். அவங்க முகத்திலே என்னை வழிஞ்சு பாத்ததே கிடையாது. பளபளப் போட ஜொலிக்கும் அன்னிக்கு வந்துட்டுப் போன அவங்க மாமியார் பெருசு எங்கிட்டே சொல்லுது ‘ஏண்டி சாந்தா! போற போக்கைப் பார்த்தா இவ கொஞ்ச நாளிலே புடவையை விட்டுட்டு நவராத்திரி யின் போது அப்பதான் வயசுக்கு வந்த பொண்ணுங்க மாதிரிப் பட்டுப் பாவாடை, மேலாக்குக்கு மாறிடுவாங்கறேன்னு தோளிலே பஞ்சா மோவையை இடிச்சு சொன்னாங்க.

காந்தி: போக்கிரி! விவரமான ஆளுடி நீ! இரு குடா காஃபி போட்டுத் தரேன்.

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This column is intended to help small businesses in & around T.Nagar and West Mambalam to have a cost-effective advertisement medium. Advertisement in this section will be in standard panel sizes of 4 cm. x 1 column (costing only Rs. 500) and 4 cm. x 2 column (costing Rs. 1000)

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BSNL junction box topples over



By Our Staff Reporter

A BSNL junction box without doors and in a rusted condition has been lying on its side on the pavement of Vidyodaya Main Road, T. Nagar near its junction with Habibullah Road for several days.

Sai bhajan programs in T. Nagar and Mambalam

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Sathya Sai Samiti conducts Sai bhajans every week in the following venues in T. Nagar and Mambalam.

T. Nagar:

Sai Keshav Hall, 157, G. N. Chetty Road (near Panagal Park, Vijaya Bank building): Saturdays, 5 p.m.

Ayurvedasramam, 155, G. N. Chetty Road (near Panagal Park): Mondays, 6 p.m.

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

Muthumaari Amman Temple, South Boag Road: Mondays, 6.30 p.m

Mambalam:

12A/27, Thambiah Road, West Mambalam: Saturdays, 5.15 p.m.

Vallabha Ganapathy Temple, Arya Gowda Road, West Mambalam: Fridays, 6.30 p.m.

Murugashramam, Srinivasa Pillai Street, West Mambalam: Second Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

For registration, please call 94456 11333 or 94447 73926.

All are welcome.

The Samiti also sells books on Sai literature and CDs of Sai bhajans.

Discourses on ‘Saisath Saritha’

By Our Staff Reporter

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 conducted at 7.30 p.m on Thursdays and Sundays. All are welcome.

'Most Ideal Couple' contest for senior citizens

By Our Staff Reporter

The Senior Citizens Group of Besant Nagar will hold a 'Most Ideal Couple' contest for senior citizens.

Senior citizen couples from anywhere in Chennai can participate in the contest.

Nominations with a photograph of the couple along with a write-up as to why they think they are an ideal couple should be sent by email to scgobn@gmail.com by April 30.

The entries should also mention age, names, education, retirement details, full address and mobile numbers.

A panel consisting of retired IAS officers, eminent lawyers, scientists and academicians will assess the entries and call the selected couples for a personal interview to select the best ten ideal couples.

No phone calls or personal visits will be entertained.

Corporate houses interested in sponsoring the event may please contact V. Chandrasekhar (President) in 98842 24480.

Permanent exhibition on 5000-year Tamil history

By Our Staff Reporter

With summer holidays to start soon, a family visit to the permanent exhibition on the 'History of Tamil Culture' in the International Institute of Tamil Studies (IITS), Taramani would be an enriching experience.

The exhibition encompasses the 5000-year-history of Tamil culture.

IITS was established in 1970 to do research on Tamil culture and to propagate the language.

There is a wealth of information in the exhibition about the rich Tamil history.

The exhibits prove that the ancient Tamil culture was advanced and diversified. The exhibits show how ancient Tamils could weave cloth so fine that yards could be packed in a matchbox, that they compared pinpoint surgery to a bird picking fish from deep waters and painted planets on the ceilings of their bedrooms.

The exhibition, through pictures, artifacts, inscriptions, models, maps, implements and manuscripts, explains the evolution of Tamils

as a settled group, their inventions to make life comfortable, their superior talent in weaving, growing crops, trade, ocean navigation, state administration, advancement in medicine, water management and formation of a society.

The other attraction is the mini theater where short films, videos and clips of Tamil culture through sculptures and murals from temples are shown.

The exhibition is divided into five galleries.

Tholkappiar Arangam displays art forms. Thiruvalluvar gallery displays metal craft/agriculture, education, medicine and weapons. Kapilar gallery showcases implements and exhibits on temples and gods. Avvaiyar Arangam is all about the life-like depiction of historical events in the lives of kings and Ilango Adigal gallery is about shipbuilding and sail-weaving. A mini lighthouse is also displayed here.

Students can visit the exhibition to know about the rich history of Tamils.

Talk on Thiru Arutpa on Tuesday

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Vallalar Sanmarga Sangam (V.O.C Street, MGR Nagar, Ph: 94453 43706), Mozhiaras Asokan will give a discourse on 'Thiru Arutpa' at 6 p.m on Tuesday, April 11, in Sakthi Vinayar Temple (P.T. Rajan Salai, K. K. Nagar). All are welcome.

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Pensioners' views sought on 7th Pay Commission recommendations

The high-level committee constituted by Finance (Pay Cell) Department, Government of Tamilnadu, has sent a letter to Tamilnadu Senior Citizens Association (TANSECA) (V 95, V Block 5th Street, Anna Nagar) seeking its views to make recommendations for the implementation of the 7th Pay Commission. TANSECA would like to receive the opinion of pensioners in this regard. Pensioners, including non-members of the Association, can send their opinions by email to gensec@tanseca.com or by post to the TANSECA's office latest by Saturday, April 22.

The TANSECA office can be contacted in 2621 3908, 2621 3850.

Nalayia Sigarungal's music contest on May 1

By Our Staff Reporter

Nalayia Sigarungal will conduct its 13th competition on Carnatic and film music, both vocal and instrumental, for various age groups on Sunday, May 1 in Ramakrishna Mission Higher Secondary School, Dhandapani Street, T. Nagar.

It will also conduct its Chithirai Isai Vizha on the same day.

Those interested in participating in the music competitions may contact A. S. Raman in 94444 21264 or send an email to Nalayiasigarungal@gmail.com.

The winners will get a chance to perform in Nalayia Sigarungal's music shows and

will also be groomed for participating in reality shows conducted by TV channels.

According to Raman, a number of Nalayia Sigarungal members have achieved success in reality shows in the past.

Meet to discuss drought/farmer relief tomorrow

A meeting will be held to discuss the suffering of farmers due to the severe drought in several parts of Tamilnadu and how to alleviate it, at 5 p.m on Sunday, April 16 in Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya (58, Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar).

P. Maruthi (Secretary, Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya, Ph: 91766 24283) has invited those with expertise in the field to discuss and put forth their ideas and suggestions.

All are welcome.

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Collapsed wall of Natesan Road playground not rebuilt



By Our Staff Reporter

A long portion of the compound wall along with the main gate of Corporation Playground (Natesan Road, T. Nagar) collapsed during the Vardha cyclone last December.

It has still not been rebuilt in spite of several pleas from the nearby residents.

The residents said that with the gate damaged, cattle have a free run of the playground. They said that most of the play equipment is also damaged.

Differently-abled kids to exhibit culinary skills today

By Our Staff Reporter

The differently-abled children of Arvind Institute of Vocational Excellence (575, 14th Street, 4th Sector, K. K. Nagar) will exhibit their culinary skills from 4.30 p.m to 6.30 p.m on Saturday, April 15 in the premises.

During the event titled 'Arvind Cafe', the students will cook and serve nutritious vegetarian dishes based on millet.

Sudha Athmaraj (Co-founder) said that to make the show more enriching, the students have also been trained in hospitality.

She said that they will personally receive visitors,

Chandi Homam in Sankara Mutt on Wednesday

By Our Staff Reporter

'Krishna Paksha Chandi Homam' will be performed at 6 p.m on Wednesday, April 19 in Sankara Mutt (West Mambalam).

For more details, contact R. Sridharan Iyer in 98410 97300. All are welcome.

arrange dining tables, take orders and serve the food in a professional manner, and also collect payment.

All are welcome.

Arvind Foundation has centers in Porur, Poonamallee, Chengalpattu and Kodaikanal.

It offers vocational training to young adults with learning disability, Dyslexia and slow learners.

Its contact numbers 72999 11022, 98416 15333 and 98842 70697.

Satsang in Hari Om Vidyalaya today evening

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Sarada Devi Seva Sangh (K. K. Nagar) has organized satsang on Sri Ramakrishna Parameshwar by Swami Paramasuganandha of Sri RKM Mutt at 6 p.m on Saturday, April 15 in Hari Om Vidyalaya, 5th Sector, K. K. Nagar.

It will be followed by bhajans. All are welcome.

More details can be had in 98840 45323.

'Samashti Upanayanam' on May 7

Registration is open for 'Samashti Upanayanam' to be performed for 9 Brahmin boys on Tuesday, May 9 in Sree Suprabatha Sabha (10/6, Baroda 2nd Street, West Mambalam).

Boys from economically weak background and below 12 years of age from any Vadam, subsect, can have their upanayanam.

Since arrangements have to be made in advance, parents wishing to have upanayanam for their sons are requested to register by Thursday, April 20.

For registration and other details, contact the Sabha in 2480 0440, 2474 2040, 94441 70360, 97899 77828.

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Audio alerts for visually challenged commuters awaiting buses

By Our Staff Reporter

Nethrodaya (47/1, Nolambur Phase II, West Mogappair) is an institution for the welfare of the visually impaired community. It has taken a number of initiatives to empower visually challenged persons.

In one of its recent initiatives, Founder C. Govindakrishnan has, with the help of IIT Madras and the Tamilnadu Govt., developed an audio system for the benefit of visually challenged commuters of MTC buses in the city.

Visually challenged commuters find it extremely difficult at bus stops and are dependent on fellow passengers to know the bus number and board the correct bus to reach their destination.

Nethrodaya represented this issue to the State Government and requested installation of an audio alert system at bus stops and bus terminuses. The project was funded by Tamilnadu Govt. The State Government sought the help of IIT Madras in developing the gadget and constituted a committee and also appointed Govindakrishnan as one of its members.

IIT Madras has come up with a successful design in which a wireless transmitter system is fitted in the bus and a small handheld gadget, which acts as a receiver, is provided to the visually challenged person.

The wireless system in the bus will alert the visually challenged commuters at bus stops by sending an audio message about the bus number and destination to the hand held device.

According to Govindakrishnan, Nethrodaya shared valuable suggestions in designing of the system like easy availability of spare parts for the handheld device and a waterproof mechanism for the device to avoid failure during rain.

The first handheld device was presented to Govindakrishnan by Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palanisamy.

For more information about the device, contact Govindakrishnan in 4265 5741 or 93828 96636.

EB junction box resting precariously on damaged foundation



By Our Staff Reporter

A TNEB pillar box on the pavement of Lakshmanasamy Salai, K. K. Nagar, opposite IOB had toppled over after its foundation collapsed several weeks back.

Instead of rebuilding the foundation, EB workers just loosely rearranged the damaged bricks from the old foundation and placed the pillar box on top of them. The pillar box is balancing precariously and is likely to fall on the pavement any moment.

It poses a grave danger to unwary passersby.

Diagnostic center offers discounts

By Our Staff Reporter

Aarthi Diagnostics (S116/1, 6th Main Road, Anna Nagar) is offering special discounts for Tamil New Year from April 10 to 16. It is offering a comprehensive health check consisting of 75 tests at Rs. 1,800 instead of the regular rate of Rs. 4,700.

It is also offering up to 50% discount on regular tests.

For more information, call 4550 0448 or 2620 8177.

Calling volunteers for free service in Tirumala

By Our Staff Reporter

Sevas (Pallavaram) sends volunteers for a week-long service to pilgrims in Tirumala starting on Mondays and ending on Sundays.

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.

Those interested can call 78455 58334

Pit closed after report in *Mambalam Times*



By Our Staff Reporter

Following the report 'Road caves in near Five Lights junction' published in *Mambalam Times* last week, the 2 ft wide and 5 ft deep pit was temporarily closed with construction debris 2 days back. The road had caved in 15 days back, but no action was taken till the report was published in *Mambalam Times*. Even now the filling is only temporary and proper patch-up work has not been done.

Manhole cover collapses on Habibullah Road

By Our Staff Reporter

The cover of a manhole in the middle of the traffic ridden Habibullah Road, T. Nagar, adjoining MCN Higher Secondary School collapsed last week.

The opening has been covered temporarily with a cover which is partly above the road surface and poses a danger to motorists.



Coaching for medical, CACPT entrance exams

By Our Staff Reporter

Thiruvalluvar Transport Corporation Employees' Co-operative Credit Society Ltd., in association with Tempz Academy, is conducting summer classes Std. 10, 11 and 12 students appearing for NEET/JIPMER/AIIMS and CACPT entrance exams.

The fee is Rs. 10,000.

According to the organizers, the classes are conducted by experienced teachers and there are regular mock tests.

The classes are held in two centers: TTC Office in J1916, J Block 2nd Street, 15th Main Road, Anna Nagar and TTC Office in 10, 23rd Street, Jai Nagar, Arumbakkam.

For more details, call 90037 43635 or 97913 86079.

Pedestrian path protected after letter in *Mambalam Times*



By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Corporation took quick action based on the letter '2-wheelers misuse pedestrian path under Usman Road flyover' published in *Mambalam Times* (March 25-31 issue).

Workers installed iron poles at both ends of the pedestrian path to prevent 2-wheelers from misusing it.

Abandoned car blocks road junction



A car in a badly damaged condition has been lying abandoned at the junction of Sadullah Street and Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar for several months.

It is blocking the carriageway at the junction, causing hindrance to motorists entering and leaving the street.

Thirukalyanam in Vasudevapuram Street tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Vasudeva Sathasangam (35A, Vasudevapuram Street, West Mambalam, Ph: 2471 8800) has organized Sri Rama Sita Thirukalyanam from 7.30 a.m to 12 noon on Sunday, April 16 in its premises.

It will be preceded by unjavrithi bhajans and Namasankeerthanam on Saturday, April 15.

All are welcome.

Tailoring, beautician courses for women

By Our Staff Reporter

Jayalakshmi Ammal Education and Charitable Trust (SP. 20, 3rd Street, 1st Sector, K. K. Nagar) will conduct a tailoring and beautician course for women from Monday, April 17 in its premises.

Application forms can be collected from the Trust's office between 10 a.m and 5 p.m.

A nominal fee is charged to support the Trust's activities.

For more details, call 2371 1184 or 2474 7728.

Samashti Gayathri homam in Sankara Mutt tomorrow morning

By Our Staff Reporter

The monthly Samashti Gayathri homam will be performed from 6 a.m on Sunday, April 16 in Sankara Mutt (West Mambalam).

For more details, contact R. Sridharan Iyer in 98410 97300.

All are welcome.

Tamil New Year, Ugadhi celebrated

By Our Staff Reporter

Members of Tulasi Apartments Flat Owners Association (Kuppasamy Street, T. Nagar) celebrated Tamil New Year and Ugadhi by providing educational and medical assistance to the needy.

They also felicitated the complex's caretakers like conservancy workers, security guards and others during the function.

V. C. Subramaniam (President), S. Narasimhan (Vice President), S. Raghukumar (Secretary), Mahalakshmi Subramaniam (Advisor) and other office-bearers were present.

Residents and their children presented cultural programs as part of the celebrations.

NO HOLDS BARRED

By M. A. SADANAND

Manu's Wedding

Manu, my grandson, took a look at Swathy and decided that he had found his sparkling future in the brilliant smile of the girl.

So, things moved swiftly and the families met and decided on the match, aided and abetted by the Gods, their wives, and miscellaneous hangers-on.

Of course, the respective parents and knowledgeable relatives approved the marriage between the TCS and Infy IT professionals, who are God's latest choices, for a coming together as man and wife.

Their wedding was fixed for 9th April at Tripunithura, Ernakulam, Kerala. Let's give the couple, their parents and the hordes of relatives a round of applause for the best and speedy decision in their lives.

My brood in Chennai closed shop and descended on the venue a day in advance of the wedding. I travelled early morning by plane from Bangalore to Kochi with my daughter and her family which included the groom. I loved the decision to travel by air since my flawed knee would not have stood up to supporting my hip on a long train journey to Kochi.

The Kempegowda Airport in Bangalore looked beautiful as we took off as dawn broke on the horizon. The rest of the day saw a flurry of relatives and friends arriving at different hours to fill up the dozens of hotel rooms booked in advance by my son-in-law.

The great day dawned and all the wedding invitees congregated at the venue, the Abhishekam Auditorium and, by noon, the hall was full to the boundaries with beautifully dressed people. Thanks to my octogenarian status, I was offered the front row next to my cousins Sarojini Nair, Premaja and my niece Beena.

As I was listening to the divine music created by a set of talented artistes seated on the aesthetically decorated stage with its flower garlands and glowing brass lamps, I looked around and suddenly felt that I saw my wife Lakshmi standing smiling and beckoning me from a corner. I felt tears on my cheeks. Looking for my handkerchief, which was left behind in the hotel room, my unbridled tears started overflowing when the divine songs preceded the 'thali-tying' ritual. I must have looked terribly foolish and utterly lost. Then, a handkerchief from Premaja wiped away my continuous flow of tears. They were the tears that Lakshmi would have shed on this pure occasion had she not gone to her heavenly abode over a year ago.

As the wedding unfolded with its simple, brief and solemn rituals, I could barely see the event through my overflowing eyes. But for the presence of my cousins and niece, whom I had not met in years, I wonder how I would have got through my outburst of emotions. Full marks to family as they are really there when you need them the most. I have always been sceptical and used to wonder why people cried at weddings. Now I know!

Garbage spills over from damaged bin in Sivasailam Street



By Our Staff Reporter

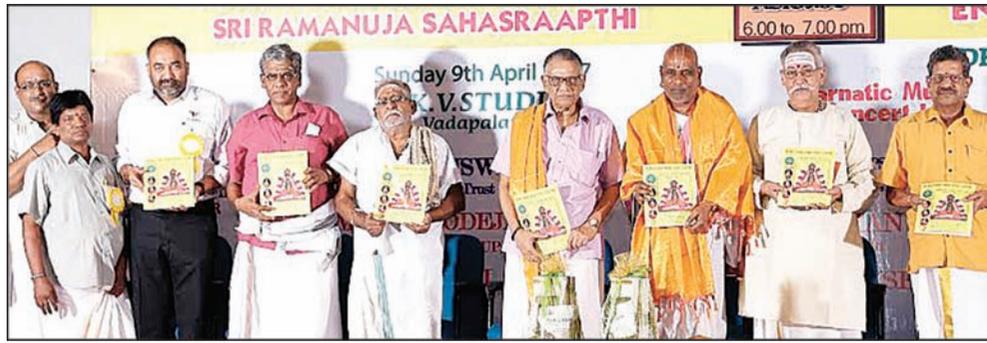
The garbage bin on the margin of Sivasailam Street, T. Nagar was found lying on its side as its base is damaged.

Garbage was found lying around the toppled bin. According to nearby residents, the sanitation staff who come to collect the garbage regularly, empty the bin and stand it again on stones, but it often topples over under the weight of the garbage inside.

They have appealed to Chennai Corporation to replace the damaged bin.

Women Helpline 1091

Tamil Panchangam released



The first copy of 'Hevilambhi Varusha Tamil Panchangam', compiled by Vedic Ravi (president, Bhuvanewari Vedic Center and ex-president, Tamilnadu Brahmin Association, K. K. Nagar), was released by R. Nataraj (Mylapore MLA) and received by Narayanan Viswanath (Chairman, Narayanan Iyer Memorial Trust) and Gurumurthy (Leading Economist and Journalist) on April 9. The panchangam is priced at Rs. 50. The digital format can be downloaded free from the website www.vedicravi.com

300 attend cancer awareness program for women

By Our Staff Reporter

More than 300 women participated in the free health check and cancer awareness program conducted jointly by RMD Specialties (a unit of RMD Trust, T. Nagar) and Repco Micro Finance Ltd. on the occasion of World Health Day in T. G. Kalyana Mandapam, West Tambaram.

The program was inaugurated by Isabella Mohan (Managing Director, Repco Bank) in the presence of Dr. Republica Sridhar (Founder, RMD Trust). Free health cards were given to the participants to avail of more free checks in RMD Speciality Hospital.



Women Associations, NGOs and other such organizations interested in conducting such camps for women can contact Dr. Republica Sridhar in 93810 16588.

25 computers donated to govt. school in MGR Nagar



By Our Staff Reporter

Rotary Club of Madras Vadapalani, Ford Motors and Carlisle Brakes and Friction together donated 25 computers and other allied equipment worth Rs. 30 lakhs to Government Higher Secondary School, MGR Nagar recently.

Safety commissioner inspects underground metro rail section

By Our Staff Reporter

The city's first underground metro rail line is expected to open in a few weeks instead of first week of June as expected earlier.

According to the officials, the final round of inspection by the Commissioner of Metrorail Safety and his team of the 8-km. underground Koyambedu-Nehru Park metro rail section was completed on April 14.

When services begin, trains from Koyambedu to Shenoy Nagar will use two tunnels, those from Shenoy Nagar to Nehru Park will use one. The second tunnel on this line will open with the Chennai Central station at the end of the year. This is because at present, there are no crossover tracks at Nehru Park station, unlike Shenoy Nagar station.

According to Pankaj Kumar Bansal (MD, CMRL) the inspection also covered aspects like access to service, tunnel ventilation, emergency measures and disaster management which are different from those on elevated lines.

Book exhibition in Circle Library till April 23

By Our Staff Reporter

Tamilnadu Government Public Library has organized a book festival from 2 p.m to 9 p.m on weekdays and 11 a.m to 9 p.m on Sundays and govt. holidays till April 23 in Circle Library, 11th Avenue Ashok Nagar as part of World Book Festival.

Books published by Sandhya Publications, Rajmohan Publications and Om Sakthi Books International are on display. 20% to 50% discount is offered on the books.

T. S. Soundarajan (CEO, Sandhya Publications) told *Mambalam Times* that more than 1000 titles in English and Tamil including children's books, books on literature, sports, health, spirituality, and award winning books are available for sale. For more details, call 98411 91397.

11 to undergo free cataract surgery

More than 100 persons participated in the free eye screening camp organized by Jaimaa Charitable Trust in Sathya Mahal, Lake View Road, West Mambalam on April 7 on the occasion of 'World Health Day'. A team of doctors from Sankara Nethralaya examined the patients.

11 detected with cataract and 20 others with other vision problems will be given free treatment in Sankara Nethralaya. The Trust conducts free counselling for all kinds of personal and emotional problems by prior appointment.

More details can be had in 99400 30939.

Mass chanting of Sahasranaamam in Goshala today at 10 a.m

Chennai Group of Vishnu Sahasranaama Mandalis has organized mass chanting of Vishnu Sahasranaamam at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 15 in Goshala, Sankara Mutt, Kasi Viswanathar Koil Street, West Mambalam on the occasion of Sri Kanchi Maha Periyavaa's anusham (Birth Star Day). All are welcome. For more details, call Radha Sivasubramanian in 95001 77505.

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Advertise in the Classified Columns of Mambalam Times for immediate response.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Paul Appasamy Street residents suffer due to water contamination

Sir, For the past year, water supplied through the pipeline by Metrowater in Paul Appasamy Street, T. Nagar is contaminated with sewage water. The water stinks and is unfit for consumption or other household use.



Several complaints have been made to Metrowater authorities in Ward 117, but no action has been taken so far to rectify the problem. The residents, especially children and senior citizens, are facing regular health issues. The residents are also forced to spend a lot of money in frequently cleaning the sumps in their homes due to excess deposit of silt and sewage in the contaminated water.

Some residents have permanently closed the sump inlet and are spending money to buy water to supplement their needs. With summer hitting hard, the daily water needs have also gone up. I appeal to Metrowater officials to rectify the issue without further delay as the residents are suffering. **T. Mahalakshmi, Paul Appasamy Street, T. Nagar, Ph: 94448 10192**

Appeal for pedestrian crossings on Arya Gowda Road

Sir, A number of commercial establishments, banks, temples and Post Office are situated on Arya Gowda Road, West Mam-balam. Pedestrians, especially senior citizens, find it very difficult and unsafe to cross the busy road. I request the authorities to earmark pedestrian crossing points on the road by drawing zebra lines.

Since the road has no median, at these pedestrian crossings, a couple of barricades interspaced by a foot or two can be used as a central median. This will enable the pedestrians to cross the road safely, especially when they reach the middle section of the road. They can cross the first half of the road and safely stand between the barricades and then cross the other half of the road after the traffic eases.

No policemen will be required. I recommend pedestrian crossings near Indian Bank, ICICI Bank, IOB, Post Office, Thambiah Road-Station Road junction and Thambiah Road Jubilee Road junction on Arya Gowda Road. **R. Hariharan, 58, Jubilee Road, West Mambalam. Ph: 98401 72892**

Public Health Dept. must take action against unlicensed eateries

Sir, The Public Health Department of Chennai Corporation, in the overall interest of the public, has come out with some 'Do's and Don'ts' to tackle the summer heat.

One of them advises the public not to eat food items or cut fruit with flies swarming over them, and avoid drinking butter milk/cold drinks being sold at roadside eateries as they are likely to contain harmful pathogens. While one appreciates its advisory, isn't it the primary duty and responsibility of the PHD to come down on eateries that serve substandard food. Having turned a blind eye to the proliferation of unlicensed roadside eateries, what is the point then in cautioning the public? Instead of advising the public, what PHD should do is to take immediate action and remove unlicensed eateries and also keep a constant vigil to ensure such shops do not reappear. **V. S. Jayaraman, 31, Motilal Street, T. Nagar**

'Inefficiency' of civic departments helps resident

Sir, On April 4, I had issued two cheques towards payment of property tax and water/sewerage tax to Greater Chennai Corporation and CMWSSB respectively. At that time, I did not realize that I did not have enough balance in my bank account.

On April 10, I issued another cheque to pay the monthly bill of a service provider and then decided to check the bank balance. To my surprise, I found the balance was insufficient. Luckily, neither of the cheques issued to Chennai Corporation nor the Metrowater Department had been received at the bank for clearance. I immediately remitted enough money into my account to honour all the three cheques.

I gave a sigh of relief as, had the cheques bounced for insufficient funds, it could have caused embarrassment and ignominy. So, sometimes, inefficiency in the work culture of the civic departments also has some benefit. **K. Harihar, T. Nagar**

Appeal for bus stop between Ashok Pillar and Postal Colony

Sir, There is no bus stop in the 2 km. stretch from Postal Colony to Ashok Pillar. Though there is a bus stop at Ram Colony, near 7th Avenue junction, only white board buses (low fare) halt at this stop.

But MTC has of late reduced the number of white board buses to augment its income. Sometimes even white board buses skip this stop, especially when the drivers see the green light in the traffic signals at the junction close by. It is causing a lot of hardship to residents of the adjoining colonies who commute by bus as they are forced to walk a long distance.

I request MTC officials to install a bus stop between Postal Colony and Ashok Pillar where all buses on the route should stop, to alleviate the problems of the commuters, especially senior citizens, who are otherwise forced to walk in the hot sun. **H. Nagesh Bhandarkar, 40, 8th Avenue, Ashok Nagar**

SPECIAL CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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. 600 (upto 30 words); Bold Rs. 900. Ashok Nagar - K.K. Nagar & Mambalam- T.Nagar Editions. Display: Rs. 250 per col. centimeter. Each advertisement of Real Estate and Rental must relate to only one house / flat. Full Address with Door Number is must for Rental advertisement. Advertisement will be received upto 1.00 p.m on Friday.

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NANDANAM, CIT Nagar (East), No. 44/11, 2nd Cross Street, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, duplex apartment, semi furnished, 3 A/cs, residential / office cum residential. Ph: 94441 16321.

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ASHOK NAGAR, No. 8/5, Kala Flats, 9th Avenue, near Govt. Girls High School, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 810 sq.ft, 2nd floor, lift, balcony, open car park, family, no brokers, rent Rs. 19000. Ph: 90805 51897.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 4, Bakthavatsalam Street, single room, separate bathroom. Ph: 98205 96238.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 18/19, Krishnamurthy Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 900 sq.ft, 1st floor, covered car park, woodwork, balcony, rent Rs. 19000, Brahmins only, no brokers, visit on Saturday & Sunday (April 15 & 16) from 10 a.m to 1 p.m. Ph: 9611561469, 9611561649.

T. NAGAR
No. 23, Motilal Street,
2 bedrooms flat,
750 sq.ft,
ground floor,
vegetarians only,
no brokers.
98412 93978

T. NAGAR, 22, Vaithiyaraman Street, 850 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2 baths, 5th floor, lift, rent Rs. 18000. Ph: 97910 63232.

CIT NAGAR (West), No. 22, Gandhi Street, near Bus Stand, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor apartment, attached bath, rent Rs. 11500. Ph: 99520 06859.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 17, Janakiraman Street, single bedroom, hall, kitchen, 500 sq.ft, independent 2nd floor, EB as per card, immediate occupation, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: 2480 2013, 94440 40066, 4356 8785.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 8/1, Ramakrishnapuram 3rd Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 600 sq.ft, ground floor, 2-wheeler park, EB as per card, rent Rs. 15000, vegetarians preferred, no brokers. Ph: 98847 55606.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 4, Rajmandir, Janakiraman Street, facing railway track, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 850 sq.ft, 1st floor, 2-wheeler park, 24 hours water, vegetarian / Brahmins preferred. Ph: 97890 00556.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 20/32, Jothi Ramalingam Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 860 sq.ft, 2nd floor, no lift, 2-wheeler park, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 15000, family / bachelors. Contact: Owner. Ph: 99622 90310.

T. NAGAR, No. 39, Motilal Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 760 sq.ft, 1st floor, 2 attached bathrooms, no brokers, Brahmins only. Ph: 94441 66570, 97908 33222.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 15, Kala Flat, F-2, Kamakshipuram, near Postal Colony 2nd Street Extension, 2 bedrooms, 820 sq.ft, rent Rs. 20000, 6 months advance, occupation from April 23rd, no brokers. Ph: 80757 93831, 97898 25037.

ASHOK NAGAR, No. 5, 9th Avenue, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, flat, covered car park, rent Rs. 18000. Ph: 2371 2404, 89395 08693.

T. NAGAR, No. 11, North Boag Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1000 sq.ft, individual 1st floor house, rent Rs. 23000, advance 5 months, suitable for small family / clinic / advocate office. Ph: 95512 64009, 76672 12253.

WEST MAMBALAM, New No. 18, Old No. 26, South Kothandaramasamy Koil Street, near Srinivasa Theatre, ground floor portion, rent Rs. 7000, Brahmins only. Ph: 97901 13141.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 7/2, Gokulam Colony, near Ayodhya Mandapam & Satyanarayana Koil, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 933 sq.ft, marble flooring apartment, rent Rs. 21000, advance 6 months, Brahmins / vegetarians only, no brokers. Ph: 98412 89525, 98412 89556.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 23/1, BRP 1st Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, rent Rs. 15000. Brahmins preferred, visit 16th & 17th April. no brokers. Ph: 97897 10511.

T. NAGAR, New No. 22/6, REG Complex, Flat No. C-6, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1000 sq.ft, ground floor, rent Rs. 18000 (negotiable), Brahmins only. Ph: 2436 3762, 94447 53755.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 31, Reddykuppam Road, near Aranganathan Subway, single bedroom, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor, semi furnished flat, vegetarians, no brokers, visit on Sunday only. Ph: 94449 03147, 94980 38289.

RANGARAJAPURAM, No. 9, Kannadasan Street, single bedroom, hall, kitchen, 550 sq.ft, outhouse, bath, small open area in the back with bathroom, rent Rs. 10000, small Brahmin family Ph: 94442 80121.

COMMERCIAL T. NAGAR
New No. 9, Old No. 6,
Vyasar Street,
2000 sq.ft,
ground floor,
no brokers
98842 22577

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 14, Sri Vidya Apartments, Balakrishnan Mudali Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 616 sq.ft, 3rd floor, no lift, 2 balconies, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 12000, Brahmins / vegetarians only. Ph: 97898 13428.

WEST MAMBALAM, New No. 113, Arya Gowda Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, rent Rs. 16000, no brokers. Ph: 98410 05443.

WEST MAMBALAM, New No. 18, Postal Colony 1st Street, 2 bedrooms, 1000 sq.ft, 2nd floor, no lift, vegetarians only, visit on Sunday from 11 a.m to 4 p.m. Ph: 94442 61919.

T. NAGAR, No. 10, Mylai Ranganathan Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1000 sq.ft, ground floor, rent Rs. 20000 (negotiable), vegetarians only. Ph: 98407 06496.

ASHOK NAGAR, No. 223, 15th Avenue, near Kasi Theatre Signal, 2 bedrooms (A/c), hall, kitchen, 800 sq.ft, 1st floor, car park, semi furnished, rent Rs. 12000, family / bachelors / office. Ph: 73053 44555.

T. NAGAR, No. 90, Burkit Road, close to Bus Terminus & Railway Station, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 810 sq.ft, balcony, attached bathroom, rent Rs. 16000, family / office / bachelors. Vimal. Ph: 94441 16320.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 35, Rukmani Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 535 sq.ft, 2nd floor, no lift, rent Rs. 11500, vegetarians only. Ph: 94440 42143.

K.K. NAGAR, No. 602, 95th street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 850 sq.ft, 1st floor, 30 feet road, North facing, EB as per card, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 10000. Ph: 98404 42500.

Dismantled Lake View Road name board lying on nearby street



By Our Staff Reporter

The name board of Lake View Road, West Mambalam was removed when the road was relaid a couple of months back and kept on the pavement of Lakshmi Street close by.

It has still not been re-fixed. The name board was found resting on the fence of a building on Lakshmi Street a few days back. The sticker bearing the name has faded and is also torn in a few places.

Resident sells home-made health mix

By Our Staff Reporter

S. Vijayalakshmi (resident of LIG Flats, 7th Avenue, Ashok Nagar) sells home-made health mix made with micro-milletts like Kambu (pearl millet), Thinai (Foxtail millet), Samai (Little millet), Varagu (Kodo millet), Kuthiraivali (Barnyard millet), Ragi (Finger millet) and Cholam (Sorgum).

The mix can be used for making porridge for breakfast. 'Dosai' and 'adai' can also be prepared using the mix.

Vijayalakshmi has attended several training programs on millet products conducted by Tamilnadu Agriculture University Information & Training Centre. "Micro-milletts are God's gift for diabetics and they are hypertension friendly too," she said.

It is available in 500 gm. and 1 kg. packs. Anyone interested in buying it may contact her in 97907 72370 or 2371 1835.

Open drain at road junction poses danger

By Our Staff Reporter

A 6 feet section of the 3 feet deep storm water drain on Kamarajar Salai at its junction with Anna Main Road, K. K. Nagar is lying open.

The slab covering the drain was removed to carry out some work and has not been refixed properly. It is lying on one side and partly within the drain. The opening is close to the corner of the road at the junction where vehicles including MTC buses take a turn from Kamarajar Salai into Anna Main Road, and hence poses a danger. Similarly, unwary pedestrians can fall into the drain while crossing the junction, especially at night due to poor visibility. Will the Corporation officials take immediate steps to close the drain?

Plea to shift junction box from flat complex entrance

Krishna Nivas Flat Owners Welfare Association (22/27, Vaidhyaraman Street, T. Nagar) has appealed for removal of the telephone pillar box of a service provider located very close to the entrance of the apartment complex which is causing obstruction. Residents said that in spite of several letters to the company, no action has been taken to relocate the pillar box.

Govt. buses carrying school students must also meet safety norms

By Our Staff Reporter

Not just school buses, even government buses ferrying school students must conform to guidelines on student safety, the Madras High Court has said. However, it is enough for school vehicles to undergo a check once in six months instead of once in three months, it added.

"We direct the state government to look into the issue and, if possible, issue necessary guidelines, and take care of the safety of the children travelling even in government buses," said the first bench of Acting Chief Justice Hluluwadi G. Ramesh and Justice R. M. T. Teekaa Raman on April 3.

The modifications were made after the Tamil Nadu Nursery, Primary, Matriculation and Higher Secondary Schools Association wanted two specific provisions in the Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles (Regulation and Control of School Buses) Special Rules, 2012 quashed.

As per Rule 5(2) the age of the bus attendant should be between 21 and 50, and he should be medically fit to get down from the bus at each stop to help children get off or get in.

Rule 8(2)(iii) says a school bus must be inspected by a special cell once in three months, though the requirement for other buses is only once in three years.

While relaxing the inspection norms by holding that it is enough if the special cell inspects school vehicles once every six months, and not every three months as stipulated in Rule 8(2)(iii), the bench refused to have a relook at the age restriction for vehicle attendants.

CEO appointed for smart city project

By Our Staff Reporter

Five months after issuing a recruitment notice, Chennai Corporation has appointed two key office-bearers of Chennai Smart City Ltd (CSCL).

Raj Cherubal has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer of CSCL, a special purpose vehicle for the execution of the T. Nagar smart city project. Cherubal had founded 'Chennai City Connect', an urban transportation infrastructure planning agency.

Harish Kumar has been appointed as Company Secretary.

It is still to fill the vacancy of Chief Financial Officer.

With the appointment of a CEO, the smart city project is expected to get a boost.

Meet to discuss drought/farmer relief tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

A meeting will be held to discuss the suffering of farmers due to the severe drought in several parts of Tamilnadu and how to alleviate it, at 5 p.m on Sunday, April 16 in Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya (58, Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar).

P. Maruthi (Secretary, Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya, Ph: 91766 24283) has invited those with expertise in the field to discuss and put forth their ideas and suggestions.

All are welcome.

Corporation park ill maintained Brahmins concludes on Friday



By Our Staff Reporter

Brahmins which started on April 11, will conclude on Friday, April 21 in Venkatesa Perumal Temple (Mettu-palayam Road, West Mam-balam).

Special thirumanjanam and homam are held daily at 10 a.m.

The deity is taken on procession in different vahanams at 6.30 a.m and 6.30 p.m.

The temple chariot will be taken out in a procession at 6 a.m on Tuesday, April 18 along the nearby streets. All are welcome.

More details can be had in 98401 93982 and 86800 32086.

The Corporation Park in Chari Street, T. Nagar is not maintained properly.

According to park users, the park is not cleaned regularly. There is overgrowth of bushes and garbage and dried leaves are found along the sides of the walkers' path.

Street name board topples over

By Our Staff Reporter

The name board of Dharmapuram 3rd Street toppled over several days back and is found lying on the pavement of Padmanabhan Street, T. Nagar which is close by.



Donate Blood

Resident businessman gets 'Life Time Achievement' award

By Our Staff Reporter

Narendra Srisrimal (resident of T. Nagar and Chairman of Medi Sales India Pvt. Ltd.) was presented the 'Nimcare Life Time Achievement' award during the World Health Day Summit in New Delhi on April 7.

The award was presented by President Pranab Mukherjee.

He is a native of Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

He runs Parasmal Srisrimal Dialysis Center in Ayana-



varam and Parasmal Srisrimal Pharmacy, a charitable pharmacy, in Perambur.

He has partnered with Rotary Club of Madras, T. Nagar, to educate marginalized girl students under the 'Kamalabai Srisrimal Girl Education Project'.

He received the 'Yuva Rathna' award in 2012 from Rajasthani Association, Tamilnadu.

Medi Sales has offices in 12 cities and is involved in marketing and distribution of pharma products, logistics, and pet bottle printing.

Satsang in Pandian Hall tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Ramsurat Kumar Satsang will chant Yogi Ramsurat Kumar namajapam from 3 p.m to 6 p.m on Sunday, April 16 in Pandian Hall (Station Road, West Mambalam).

The following is the program: 3 p.m: Akhanda bhajan; 4 p.m: Discourse on 'Guru Aruliya Mahimai' by Swarupananda; 5 p.m: Thiruppugazh by Mambalam Vijayalakshmi group; 5.45 p.m: Ramanama akanda bhajan; 6 p.m: Guru

ashtothram and aarthi. All are welcome.

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Open trench in Ganapathy Street hinders motorists

By Our Staff Reporter

A 2 ft wide and 3 ft deep trench has been dug by Metrowater workers to carry out some work in Ganapathy Street, near its junction with Thambiah Road, West Mambalam.

According to road users, the trench was dug a week back but no further work was carried out, nor was the trench closed.

An EB cable can be seen exposed in the trench. Traffic police have placed barricades around the trench to caution motorists.

Will Metrowater complete the work and close the trench at the earliest to prevent any untoward incident?



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