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தமாஷா வரிகள்

ஜே. எஸ். ராகவன்

‘அதாவது, எனக்குப் பேச வராதே!’

‘ஆடி வெள்ளிக் கௌமை நம்ம பனையாத்தா அம்மா கோயிலாண்ட கூழ் ஊத்தறோம். ஐயாவோடது செம் ராசிக் கைன்னு ஊர் உலகத்துக்கே தெரியுமே. பெருசா ஒரு தொகை எழுதி, போணி பண்ணுங்க. டேய்! துலக்காணம்! ஓலக்கை! சீமக் கொரங்கு! எங்கடா பராக் பார்த்துணுகிறே? சாமி எவ்வளவு நேரம் வாசல்லே நிக்கும்? பொஸ்தகத்தை நீட்டுடாங்கிற தடிமனான வார்த்தைகளுடன் சிலர் வருவது உண்டு.

அந்தப் பனையாத்தா அம்மனே உருவெடுத்து வந்த மாதிரி வந்த பெண்மணி. ‘லார், என் பொண்ணுக்கு வர மாசம் திருநீர் மலையிலே கலையாணம் வெச்சிருக்கு. திருமாங்கல்யம் வாங்கறதுக்குப் பணம் குறையுது. எனக்குத் தாலி கட்டின மகாபாவன் பொண்ணைக் கொடுத்துட்டு ஓடிப் போயிட்டான். காசியோ, ராமேஸ்வரமோ எங்கே கரைஞ்சு போயிட்டான்னு தெரியலே. நீங்க இஷ்டப்பட்டதைக் கொடுத்தா எம்பொண்ணு கழுத்திலே தாலி ஏறும். தலைமுறைக்கு உங்களுக்குப் புண்ணியம் கிடைக்கும்னு பேசுபவர்கள் அடுத்த ரகம்.

‘லார், நீங்கதானே ஜே.எஸ். ராகவன்? வாரா வாரம் ஜோக்கா எழுதறேனே, ஒரு நிமிஷம்... டேய் ரமணி! லார் எந்தப் பேப் பரிலே எழுதறார்? மாம்பலம் டைம்ஸ்லே தானே? லார் நானும் படிக்கணும், படிக்கணும்னு பாக்கறேன். டைம் கிடைக்க மாட்டேங்கிறது. என் மச்சினிக்கு உங்க எழுத்துன்னா உசிர். எங்க ‘மாலோலம்’ ப்ளாட் அசோஸியேஷன் 10வது ஆனிவெர்சரி அடுத்த மாசம் வருது. நான்தான் செக்ரட்டரி. ஈபிலேயிருந்து ரிடையர் ஆனவன். விழாவுக்குத் தலைமை தாங்க கிரேஸி மோகன், எஸ்.வி.சேகர், டில்லிகணேஷ், கோவை சரளாவைக் கூப்பிட்டபோது சப்ஜாடா யாருமே வரதுக்கு இல்லைன்னு கையை விரிச்சுட்டா. அதனாலே நீங்க வந்து தலைமை தாங்கி 45 நிமிஷம் பேசி அசத்தணும். கூட்டத்துக்கு முன்னாலே ‘ஹைட்’ உண்டு. அநேகமா சங்கீதா சப்பனதான். மினி ஜாங்கிரி, அப்புறம் மிக்ஸர்... அட்டா தப்பா சொல்லிட்டேன். இப்போ ‘மிக்ஸர்’ங்கிற வார்த்தை அவ்வளவு கௌரவமா புழங்கறது இல்லை. அதுக்கு பதிலா காராபூந்தியோ, ஓம்பொடியோ உண்டு. இந்துப்பு போடாதது. வந்து போறதுக்கு ஓலா டாக்கி இல்லை. ஃபண்ட்ஸ் பிராப்ளம்... ஓலா ஆட்டோவை ஏற்பாடு பண்ணிடறோம். இந்த ரமணி உங்களை அழச்சிண்டு வந்து பூப்போலப் பாத்துப்பான். முடியாதுன்னு சொல்லக்கூடாது.’

அவரைப் பார்க்கப் பரிதாபமாக இருந்தது. வந்த மூன்று பேரையும் உள்ளே ஹாலுக்குள் அழைத்து உட்கார வைத்தேன். காபி கொடுத்தேன். 180 ப்ளாட்டுக்கள் உள்ள என்னுடைய பூர்வாசி ரமக் குடியிருப்பிலே அசோஸியேஷன் மெம்பரா இருந்து பட்ட காயங்கள் இன்னும் ஆறிக் கொண்டிருக்கின்றன. ‘என் பேரு ராமசப்புனு சொல்லுவா’ என்றார். ஏதோ அவருக்கு இப்போதுதான் அது தெரிய வந்த தோரணையில். ‘இவர் ரமணி. அடுத்தவர் ஸ்ரீதர். கமிட்டி மெம்பர்ஸ். மாம்பலத்திலே இவங்க குடும்பத்தினர் நாலு தலைமுறையாக குடி இருக்கா. அப்போது எல்லாம் துரைசாமி ரோடிலே நரி ஓடுமாம். பெளர்ணமி ராத்திரி ஊனையிறுமாம். மாம்பலமே ஏரியாகத்தானே இருந்தது. நல்லி செட்டியாரைக் கேட்டா பழைய சமாச்சாரங்களை பட்டுக் கத்திரிச்சா மாதிரி சொல்வார்.’

‘அண்ணா, விஷயத்துக்கு வாங்கோன்னு’ ரமணி அவரை திசுருப்பினார். ‘கட்டாயம் வந்து தலைமை தாங்கி நடத்திக் கொடுக்கணும்னு ராமசப்பு சம்பிரதாய க்ளோஸிங் கொடுத்துக் கேட்டுக் கொண்டார்.’

‘லார், என்னைத் தப்பா எடுத்துக்கக்கூடாது. எனக்கு மேடை ஏறிப் பேச வராதே. உங்களுக்கு நம்ம மால்குடி ஆர்.கே. நாராயணனைத் தெரிந்து இருக்குமே.’

‘என்ன அப்படிக்கேட்டுட்டேன். அவர் எங்க காம்பிளக்ஸிலே தான் இருக்கார். கட்டிடங்களை வேல்யுவேஷன் பண்ணவர். ஆனால் அவர் லால்குடிக்காரர்.’

‘நான் சொன்னது ‘மால்குடி’ ஆர்.கே. நாராயண். ஃபேமஸ் ரைட்டர் லார். அவருக்கு மைக்கைப் பிடிச்சுப் பேசறதுன்னா அலர்ஜி. ‘வந்தவங்களோட சுற்றி உட்கார்ந்து ஒரு கேள்வி-பதில் செஷன் வெச்சக்கலாமென்னு சொல்வாராம்.’ ஆனானப்பட்ட நாராயணனுக்கே அப்படின்னா பார்த்துக்கோங்க. பேனா பிடிக்கிற எல்லா கைகளுக்கும் மைக்கைப் பிடிக்க வராதே. ‘சுஜாதா’கூட அதே கதைதான்னு கேள்விப்பட்டிருக்கிறேன். மைக்கைப் பார்த்தாலே அது என் முன்னாலே படம் எடுத்து நிக்கிற நாகம் மாதிரியும், மகுடியை நிறுத்தற மாதிரிப் பேச்சை நிறுத்தினா கொத்திடுமோன்னு பயம் லார். இது தேவையா? நான் எழுத ஆரம்பிச்சா அங்கங்கே நிறுத்தி, யோசிச்சு, வாய்தா வாங்கிண்டு, மறுபடியும் எழுதி, அடிச்சு ஃபைனல் பண்ணறேங்கிறது எனக்கும், பிள்ளையாருக்கும், சரஸ்வதிக்கும், மகா பெரியவாளுக்கும் தான் தெரியும். லார் உங்களுக்கு வின்ஸ்டன் சர்ச்சிலைத் தெரியுமா?’

‘ராமசப்பு விழித்தார். ஆனால் ஸ்ரீதர் எரிச்சலுடன் முந்திக் கொண்டார். ‘நம்ம காந்தியை அரை நிர்வாணப் பக்கிரின்னு ஆணவத்தோட சொன்னவர் தானே?’

‘தலையைத் தாழ்த்தி அவருடைய ஆறாத சினத்துக்கு மரியாதை செய்தேன்.’

‘எக்ஸ்டம்ப்ளாங்கிற திடீர்னு பேச வேண்டிய பேச்சுக்கே நான் எத்தனை நாள் எழுதி, பேசிப் பழகிவிட்டு வரேன் தெரியுமா?ன்னு சர்ச்சில் சொல்வாராம். நான் ஸ்கூல் படிக்கும் போது சுதந்திர தினத்திலே பேச மாட்டிண்டேன். அந்த உரையிலே பதினெட்டு ‘அதாவது’ இருந்ததுன்னு கணக்கு வாத்தியார் பதஞ்சலி லார் கூட்டி, அதுக்கு மரியாதை பண்ண எனக்கு ‘அதாவது’ ராகவன்னு பேர் சூட்டினார் தெரியுமா?’ பேசும் போது நெர்வஸா சொக்காய் பட்டன்களை ‘மர்ஃபி’ ரேடியோ நாப் மாதிரித் திருகிண்டிருந்ததாலே மூணு பட்டன்கள் விழுந்து ஓதுது. ‘வாயிலே என்ன கொழுக்கட்டையா’ன்னு கேட்டார். இன்னைக்கும் நீளமா பேசணும்னா என் வாயில் கொழுக்கட்டை வந்து அடைச்சுக்கும்.

‘ராமசப்பு என்னைப் பரிதாபத்துடன் பார்த்தார். தன்னையும் பரிதாபத்துடன் பார்த்துக் கொண்டார். மூன்று பேரும் நயன மொழியிலே பேசிக்கொண்டு, எழுந்து நின்றனர். துக்கம் கேட்க வந்த இடத்தில் சொல்லிக் கொள்ளாமல் கிளம்பற மாதிரி பாவனையாகத் தலையை சிறிது தாழ்த்திவிட்டுக் கிளம்பினார்கள். writerjsr@gmail.com

T. NAGAR BAZAAR

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. 600) and 4 cm. x 2 column (costing Rs. 1200)

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Breast cancer awareness program on Wednesdays in Vasantha Memorial Trust

By Our Staff Reporter

Vasantha Memorial Trust (33, 35th Street, near Jawahar Vidyalaya, Ashok Nagar) in association with Matha Trust, is conducting breast cancer awareness program this entire month.

Under this program it is striving to offer free mammogram to 1000 women above 40 years of age.

Interested women can attend a 45- minute multimedia presentation on Wednesdays at 11 a.m at the Trust's address mentioned above.

A senior doctor told *Mambalam Times* that breast cancer is the single largest type of cancer in women accounting for nearly 10% if all cancers seen in India.

She said that most women irrespective of their social, educational or financial background, often come for treatment in advanced stages and succumb to the disease.

She said that Vasantha Memorial Trust has been conducting awareness programs in in several forms since 1998.

To enroll for the program, call the Trust in 72004 14446 / 97910 48379 / 2471 7871.

OBITUARY

JANAKI NARAYANAN

Janaki Narayanan, resident of 7, 9th Avenue, Ashok Nagar (residing earlier in Brindavan Street, West Mambalam) passed away on Sept. 21.

She was 99, and had been a resident of the neighborhood for the past 45 years.

She is survived by her sons N. Subramanian (Pune), N. Panchapakesan (Founder, Chennai Sai Sankara Matrimonial) and two daughters.

Panchapakesan's contact number is 98403 30531.



Sai bhajans on Fridays

By Our Staff Reporter

Sai bhajans are conducted on Fridays, from 6.15 p.m to 7.15 p.m in Sri Krishnan Temple, Thanikachalam Road, Pandy Bazaar, T. Nagar.

All are welcome.

Level in city reservoirs at 6% of capacity

By Our Staff Reporter

The combined storage of 713 mcft in the city's reservoirs as of Oct. 5 was 6% of their total capacity of 11,057 mcft. It was 221.14 mcft on Sept. 5.

The storage has more than doubled due to good rainfall in September in the city and surroundings.

But with water level still only at 6% of capacity, the city still stares at a water crisis unless it receives copious rains this monsoon.

Poondi has 77 mcft as against its capacity of 3231 mcft (212 mcft on the same day last year); Cholavaram has 52 mcft (capacity 881 mcft, 96 mcft last year), Red Hills has 286 mcft (capacity 3300 mcft, 660 mcft last year) and Chembarampakkam has 298 mcft (capacity 3645 mcft, 920 mcft last year).

Uriyadi Utsavam in Venugopalaswamy Temple

By Our Staff Reporter

'Uriyadi Utsavam' will be conducted at 7 a.m on Saturday, Oct. 14 in Sri Venugopalaswamy Temple, Ellaiamman Koil Street, West Mambalam.

The presiding deity will be taken in procession around the temple at 5 p.m.

All are welcome. More details can be had in 98849 19400 and 98410 82266.

Awareness program on palliative care conducted

RMD Pain & Palliative Care Trust (T. Nagar) conducted an awareness program on palliative care in Indianoil Petrol Bunk, G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar on Oct. 2. Dr. Republica Sridhar founded the Trust in 2005 to provide treatment for terminally ill patients.

Its hospice home Karuna Sagar in Madurovoyal has 50 beds and well trained paramedical staff to provide palliative care for the elderly and terminally ill patients.

Exnora arranges students' visit to Goshala

By Our Staff Reporter

Exnora Greater Chennai organized a visit to the Goh Samrakhana Sala maintained by Sankara Mutt in Kasi Viswanathar Koil, West Mambalam for the NSS students



of Sri RKM Sarada Vidyalaya Girls School last week.

The staff explained the working of the goshala and its maintenance to the students.

Security beefed up for Deepavali

By Our Staff Reporter

With Deepavali fast approaching, the police are gearing up to provide additional security for the increased flow of shoppers to T. Nagar.

"100 police personnel have been deployed and the number will be increased to around 400 as Deepavali nears," said A. K. Viswanathan (Police Commissioner).

Apart from the permanently installed CCTV cameras, three watch towers are being erected and 34 additional cameras have been installed at sensitive locations to monitor the crowd.

Temporary control rooms have been set up near the junction of Usman Road and Duraiswamy subway and in T. Nagar police station for monitoring the CCTV cameras.

According to an official, 30 woman constables will be used as decoys and will be provided with photos and other details of habitual criminals and chain snatchers.

Flex boards with pictures of pickpockets have also been displayed at important junctions.

Shop owners have been told to ensure the working of the CCTV cameras in their shops.

The traffic department has earmarked locations near

The also explained about use of cow dung in vermicomposting, for making sacred ash and preparing 'panchakavyam' (a concoction used in

traditional Indian rituals and made with cow dung, urine, milk, curd and ghee).

R. Govindaraj (President, Exnora Greater Chennai), and Jayanthi and Shalini (Program officers, NSS) coordinated the program.

Shop in Arya Gowda Road sells traditionally prepared edible oils

Vel Oil Mills (68/65, Arya Gowda Road, West Mambalam) sells traditionally manufactured edible oils including groundnut oil, gingelly oil and coconut oil.

According to M. Anburaj (Proprietor), the oils are manufactured hygienically from seeds using the traditional Chekku (wood cold press) method. He said that the organically grown seeds are directly procured from the farms. He said that oil extracted using this method is healthier as it retains nutritional value, is rich in antioxidants and also has better flavour.

He said that this is the first of its kind store in the neighbourhood. The shop also stocks organic cereals, nuts, sugar and other food products.

For more details, Anburaj can be contacted in 99442 02015.

Talk on astrology in Ayodhya Mandapam tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Nannilam Vai Rajagopala Ganapadigal (publisher and editor of Vaithikasri, a Tamil magazine) will give a talk in Tamil on the significance of 'Sri Lakshmi Kubera Pooja' in astrology from 3 p.m to 5.30 p.m on Sunday, Oct. 8, in Ayodhya Mandapam (Arya Gowda Road, West Mambalam).

It will be followed by an interactive session on spiritual matters.

All are welcome.

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By M. A. SADANAND

SWEET HOME MEMORIES

In early 1976, when my parents, their four children and their grandchildren congregated in our palatial home 'Padmalyam' in Pallikunnu, Kannur district, North Malabar, it was not a ritualistic orgy of food and sleep.

We had music in our blood waiting for a tremendous tap. We picked at random kitchen utensils as the universal aid, and launched into a sea of music on the first evening itself. Perhaps Vishwanathan & Ramamurthy, the famous Tamil cine music wizards, had snooped in and learnt a trick or two to become famous!

My younger brother Chandrakant's wife Kamala and her children were also in the scenario, playing instruments available in the kitchen. My wife Lakshmi was seen wielding a spatula on a vessel to create some metallic noise, while my father, walking on the verandah, watched the orchestra through a peep hole that looked into the dining room each time he passed it during his walk.

My mother, eldest sister and my brother were all teeth at the musical orgy that was happening there. My father allowed this orchestra to continue though his Radio News Hour was on and continued his walk. Young minds must be given the freedom to express themselves was his philosophy!

My sister Sumukhi, who was cooking, chose to switch on her Sumeet mixer at that precise moment and, for the next ten minutes, everything was in a 'screechocray'! Which was ample time for a thimbleful of water to the parched throats, who had sung solos.

To keep the bonhomie warm, Suresh, my sister Sumukhi's son, had a jig in the back verandah with our dog 'Blacky' and received a round of applause for his performance!

This was several years ago and the home music orchestra is almost liquidated with the passing of the seniors in the family and some juniors.

Life, the giver, is good but when it takes away the recipient, the gift turns sour.

That was our last full family meet at 'Padmalayam' before we sold the home of a thousand memories and music.

Vacant plot used as garbage dump



Garbage and other household waste are found dumped in a vacant plot in Srinivasa Reddy Street, T. Nagar. There is an overgrowth of bushes.

Play equipment damaged in Ashok Nagar Corporation Playground



By Our Staff Reporter

Most of the play equipment in Corporation Playground (43rd Street Ashok Nagar) is in a damaged condition.

Free class on 'Maths Made Easy' tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

S. Rajalakshmi will conduct a free class on 'Maths Made Easy' for children above 8 years from 6 p.m to 7 p.m on Sunday, Oct. 8 in Smart Kids (23, Pinjala Subramanian Street, T. Nagar).

She told *Mambalam Times* that the class will help students to get rid of Maths phobia, learn tables in a rhythmic pattern, improve mental calculation, employ powerful answer verification tools and learn Science with simple experiments.

For free registration, call 94453 16363 / 812 40 23 222.

Chennai Corporation to permit hoardings to generate revenue

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Corporation has identified 1,100 spots in the city including T. Nagar where the cash-starved local body is planning to encourage outdoor advertisements through hoardings. According to Corporation officials, the civic body is planning to generate Rs. 50 crores annually by renting out hoardings.

Most of the spots where hoardings will be regularized will be in commercial and public areas like Corporation parks and playgrounds.

In 2009, the Supreme Court passed orders banning illegal hoarding structures in Chennai upholding the previous orders passed by Madras High Court.

Free eye screening tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Karunai Trust (Saidapet) and Daasya (an NGO, Ashok Nagar) have jointly organized free eye screening from 9 a.m to 12.30 p.m on Sunday, Oct. 8 in Karunai Trust, 69, V. G. P. Salai, West Saidapet (near Anjaneyar Temple)

A team of doctors from Sankara Nethralaya will examine the patients.

Free surgery will be done for patients diagnosed with cataract.

More details can be had in 99406 38972.

Free Gita classes on Wednesdays

By Our Staff Reporter

Lavanya Ramgopal (Disciple of Swami Brahmayogananda, Founder, Yoga Shanthi Gurukulam, West Mambalam) conducts free classes on Bhagavad Gita on Wednesdays from 6.30 p.m to 7.30 p.m in Sri Sarva Sakthi Vinayagar Aalayam, Indra Colony, Ashok Nagar.

For more details contact 97910 19514, 98840 24046. All are welcome

Women's college adopts village



By Our Staff Reporter

Shri Shankarlal Sundarbai Shasun Jain College for Women (Madley Road, T. Nagar) has adopted Kaliyanoor village in Kanchipuram district.

Under the program, Kaliyanoor Panchayat Union Middle School's restroom has been renovated facilitating better hygiene for the students. The unused library building has been provided with fans, lights, book racks and over 200 books. Both English and Tamil newspapers will now be available in the library.

NCC cadets undertake 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' in school



By Our Staff Reporter

Under the 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan', NCC students of Jawahar Vidyalaya cleaned the school and its surroundings.

They cleared garbage and also carried out an anti-dengue drive by removing empty bottles, broken coconut shells and other items in which water can collect.

Chief NCC Officer M. Vaithyanathan guided the cadets in creating a clean and green environment.

School principal Alice Jeevan lauded the efforts of the cadets.

Protruding iron rods in storm water drain pose danger



By Our Staff Reporter

A slab in the storm water drain in Vidyodaya 1st Main Road, near its junction with Prakasam Street, T. Nagar has broken and fallen into the drain.

The iron rods used to make the slab are exposed and pose a danger to pedestrians. Garbage and other debris are being dumped in the drain through the opening. The picture was taken on Oct. 5.

Lectures on prominent National leaders for Std. 10 to 12 students

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Aravind Bharathi (T. Nagar) has organized lectures followed by an interactive session with Std. 10 to 12 students on National leaders who have contributed to the growth of the country and their achievements from 10 a.m to 3 p.m on Sunday, Oct 8, in Mahalakshmi Welfare Association, 11, Park View Street, Srinivasa Avenue, Raja Annamalaipuram.

There is no entry fee. Breakfast and lunch will be provided free. For registration, call 99411 30700.

Free Telugu classes on Saturdays

By Our Staff Reporter

World Telugu Federation (113, G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar) conducts free Telugu classes on Saturdays, from 4.30 p.m to 5.30 p.m.

Free study materials are also given to the students.

Spoken English classes are also conducted in the same premises on alternate days.

Interested persons may call K. Manikamma in 2815 2191 or 98416 16465 for enrollment.

T. Nagar bus terminus cleaned in anti-dengue drive

By Our Staff Reporter

In a special anti-dengue drive, Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC) along with Greater Chennai Corporation cleaned 11 major bus depots in the city including T. Nagar bus terminus on Sept. 28.

It also distributed Nilavembu Kudineer among commuters on the day.

Student volunteers took part in the cleanliness drive.

The entire bus terminus and the toilets were cleaned and fumigated.

New dustbins have been placed in the depot and steps taken to ensure that garbage is cleared twice a day.

2.5 lakh voters in T. Nagar constituency

By Our Staff Reporter

In the draft voters list published for 16 constituencies in Chennai on Oct. 3, there are 236 polling booths and 2.5 lakh voters in T. Nagar constituency.

The total number of voters in the 16 constituencies is 40.73 lakhs.

The district election office has requested residents to enrol their names in the electoral rolls from Oct. 3 to 31 in the zonal offices of Chennai Corporation.

A special camp will be held on Oct. 8 and 22 in all polling booths for distribution and receipt of forms 6, 7, 8 and 8A.

Residents can visit www.elections.tn.gov.in to include names or change in address.

Jutting base of light post in G. N. Chetty Road poses danger



By Our Staff Reporter

About 6 inches of the base of a dismantled iron street light post is causing obstruction to motorists on G. N. Chetty Road, near its junction with Habibullah Road, T. Nagar.

It is only visible when nearing it and invisible at night, and poses a danger to motorists, especially 2-wheeler riders as they can trip and fall while inadvertently riding over it. It could also damage vehicle tyres. Motorists have appealed to EB to remove the post from the spot.

RMD Trust appeal for Deepavali

By Our Staff Reporter

RMD Pain and Palliative Care Trust (Raghavaiah Road, T. Nagar) has appealed to the readers of Mambalam Times to donate in cash or kind (sweets and new clothes) to celebrate Deepavali.

Dr. Republica Sridhar (Managing Trustee) has also welcomed the readers to visit its palliative care home Karuna Sagar (Maduravoyal) and spend time with its residents and personally hand over the gifts which would bring some happiness into their lives.

She said that 52 persons with terminally ill diseases like cancer are undergoing treatment and palliative care in the home.

Donors can also contribute for breakfast, lunch, dinner, medicines and other hospital projects.

Those who are interested in donating or visiting Karuna Sagar may contact Republica Sridhar in 93810 16558.

Unused shop misused for nefarious activities



By Our Staff Reporter

An unused bunk shop once used as a milk booth has been dumped on the margin of Ramakamathpuram Main Road, near Tilak Street junction in T. Nagar.

Nearby residents told this reporter that it has been lying in the spot for a couple of years.

They said that since there is a garbage bin a few feet away

from the bunk, the surrounding is unhygienic and stinks due to the overflow of garbage and misuse of the location as an open urinal by passers-by.

They added that antisocial elements are misusing the bunk at night for nefarious activities. They said that empty liquor bottles and plastic cups can often be found strewn around the bunk.

International dog show in Madhuravoyal on Oct. 7, 8

By Our Staff Reporter

The 2-day International level all-breed championship dog show has been organized by The Madras Canine Club (Shenoy Nagar) on Saturday, Oct. 7 and Sunday, Oct. 8, in Shiva Parvathi Pushpa Gardens, 51, Seemathamman Koil Street, Mettukuppam Main Road, Madhuravoyal

Dr. C. K. Gandhirajan (Director General of Police, State Human Rights Commission) will inaugurate the show.

Four championship shows along with obedience, agility trials, field, Gundog, Schutzhund (a special test for German Shepherd dogs) and four other specialty shows are being held. There will be specialty shows by German Shepherd, Labrador Retriever, Great Dane and Rottweiler dogs. The events will be judged by 6 international judges.

On Oct. 8, there will be specialty shows by German Shepherd, Labrador Retriever, Great Dane and Rottweiler breeds and special shows by the dog squads of police department, narcotics division and railway protection force.

According to the organizers, the main objective of conducting these shows is to improve the quality and breeding of pedigree dogs and popularise some of the fast vanishing breeds (especially the Indian ones). The competition is expected to attract more than 500 entries comprising 50+ breeds from all over India.

For more details, contact Madras Canine Club in 2626 0693 or 2621 4911.

Neighbourhood schools shine in group singing contest

By Our Staff Reporter

PSBB (K. K. Nagar) won the 1st prize in Sanskrit and Hindi in the 20th year National Group Singing Competition conducted on Oct. 4 in Chennai by Bharat Vikas Parishad, Ashok Nagar.

PSBB (T. Nagar) won the 1st prize in Tamil and Jaigopal Garodia Hindu School (West Mambalam) took the honours in Tamil folk.

The competition is held among Std. 6 to 12 students annually to inculcate a sense of patriotism and Nationalism in them.

K. Ramachandran (General Manager, Corporation Bank, Chennai Circle) was the Chief Guest and Dr. Ambika Kameshwar (Founder-Director RASA) was the Guest of Honour.

Damodar Arathi in Srinath Hall tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness) has organized Damodar Arathi from 6 p.m to 8 p.m, on Sunday, Oct. 8 in Srinath Hall, Thiruvengadam Street, near Ayodhya Mandapam, West Mambalam.

All are welcome. For more details, call 98401 23076



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* குழந்தைகளுக்கு புத்தகங்கள்

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* பெண் குழந்தைகள் தங்குவதற்கு விடுதி (நன்கொடையாளர் பெயர் விடுதியில் பொறிக்கப்படும்). * கோதானம்

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Samashti Gayathri homam on Oct. 15

By Our Staff Reporter
 The monthly Samashti Gayathri homam will be performed from 6 a.m on Sunday, Oct. 15 in Sankara Mutt (West Mambalam).

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

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 (4) Jan 24 - 29: Malai Nadu (Kerla) Temple. Vaidehi Partha Sarathy, Ph: 94447 62968, 94447 54468, 99401 47313.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MTC demanding Aadhaar copy for issuing free tokens

Sir, I understand that the Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC) is now making it mandatory for senior citizens to submit a copy of the Aadhaar card to avail of free coupons. Earlier they were issued based on the ration card.

Those who queue up to get the coupons are surprised by this sudden development. Many have had to return empty handed and re-visit bus depots with Aadhaar card copies. The result is that every depot is besieged with serpentine queues formed by

the elders. One does not understand why all of a sudden MTC is asking for Aadhaar card more so when things were well set and coupons were being issued without hassles. If Aadhaar details are shared, it loses its value and there is a good chance of it getting misused. Just for the ten free round trip tokens a month, seeking Aadhaar card copy is too much. Is MTC suddenly questioning the veracity of ration cards on the basis of which it has been issuing free tokens over the past couple of years? **V. S. Jayaraman, 31, Motilal Street, T. Nagar**

Separate counter needed for free bus tokens

Sir, I am a senior citizen. On Oct. 3, I went to T. Nagar Bus Depot to get the free senior citizen bus tokens when I saw a number of persons standing in line in the hot sun to get them.

Suddenly, without notice, the counter was closed and the staff asked us to come in the evening. When we protested, he said that he was short of tokens and he also had to issue regular season passes as the office is short on manpower. It is difficult for senior citizens to

go multiple times and stand in the queue to get the tokens.

I appeal to MTC officials to open a separate counter for senior citizens for issuing the free tokens. I also suggest that instead of restricting the number to 10 tokens per month issued three months in advance, MTC can issue 30 token to be used within three months. It does not cause any additional burden for MTC but gives more flexibility of time to the commuter to use the tokens. **R. Lakshmanan, T. Nagar**

More banks should open Aadhaar enrolment centers

Sir, I thank *Mambalam Times* for publishing the report about 2 private banks launching Aadhaar enrolment centers. More banks should open enrolment centers for the benefit of the public as it has become an important basic document.

While KVB opened the facility last month in its Nungambakkam Branch, LVB opened a center in its Abhirampuram Branch, and will extend the facility to 53 more branches including the one in T. Nagar.

Had the above information reached me earlier through the dailies or bit notices by the banks, I could have avoided a trip to the zonal center near Kodambakkam Power House on Sept. 15, where my wife and I had to wait in queue for almost 5 hours.

Anyhow, the report will be useful to those yet to complete Aadhaar formalities as the processing in banks will be very fast. **G. B. Easwaram, Golden Apartments, 30, Sarojini Street, T. Nagar**

Stray dog problem in Damodaran Street

Sir, There is a serious stray dog menace in and around Damodaran Street, West Mambalam. Their population has increased in the past few months causing a lot of problems to the residents.

It is a residential area and the street is frequented in the morning and evening by walkers. Often these dogs get into fights and chase each other, thereby scaring passersby.

Their incessant barking, especially at night, has become a big nuisance to the residents.

Dog owners find it difficult to walk their pets as these stray dogs are hostile towards them. They also jump compound walls and intrude into the houses. Our efforts to chase them away have been futile. I appeal to Chennai Corporation to catch these dogs and relocate them. **S. Ravi, Ph: 99419 50654**

Why not exam for politicians?

Sir, This refers to the report which said that the Madras High Court will conduct a written test, followed by a practical test and personal interview for appointment to the posts of 'Sanitary Worker' and 'Sweeper' in the court.

The minimum qualification prescribed for the posts is Std. 8 passed. The written test will comprise objective type questions and general knowledge questions in English and Tamil. The court has probably imposed such stringent conditions for the above posts to employ reasonably knowledgeable persons. When sweepers and sanitary workers get selected based on written test and per-

sonal interview, why should not such tests be made mandatory for those who contest elections? Considering that these elected representatives will hold prime posts, and come out with various rules and regulations as circumstances necessitate, it becomes mockery if they are ignorant of the portfolio they hold.

Though knowledgeable officials/bureaucrats provide inputs to the Ministers, the latter should know at least the basics.

It is time that a system is put in place whereby a minimum educational qualification is prescribed for those who contest elections who should also be made to undergo written tests like those who seek jobs. **K. Harihar, T. Nagar**

Residents' plea to widen foot overbridge and evict hawkers

By Our Staff Reporter

Following the stampede that killed 20 persons in Elphinstone railway station in Mumbai on Sept. 29, residents of the neighbourhood have appealed to Southern Railway to widen the narrow foot overbridge in Mambalam Station that ends on Ranganathan Street and evict hawkers occupying both the new and old overbridges.

Mambalam station is one of the most crowded suburban stations in the city as it links T. Nagar, one of the busiest commercial areas in Chennai.

With Deepavali coming up, lakhs of shoppers from Chennai and nearby areas are expected to utilize the suburban service to reach T. Nagar.

Residents Welfare Association, Southern Railway should depute staff or make arrangements with Railway Reserve Police to regulate crowds entering and leaving the station in the ensuing days till Deepavali.

The tragedy of Mumbai is a hard lesson and steps should be taken to widen the foot overbridge, he said.

Last year, a new foot overbridge was constructed connecting Mambalam Railway Station with Mambalam High Road (near Duraisamy subway), but most commuters prefer to use the older bridge due to its proximity to the shopping hub.

Further, hawkers are encroaching on both the overbridges, thereby further narrowing their usable width.

According to a senior member of T. Nagar

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T. NAGAR, Gopalakrishna Road, near Pandy Bazaar, 4 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, around 1700 sq.ft, UDS 1200 sq.ft, old flat, North facing, car park, no brokers. Ph: 9840807181.

NANDANAM, Play Ground View Street, Nandanam Extension, 3 bedrooms flat, 1750 sq.ft, 3 years old, never occupied, not near any canal or river, other flats owned by NRIs, 2 covered parking, no brokers. Ph: 99405 65520.

T. NAGAR, Habibullah Road 1st Street, plot size 2 ground + 200 sq.ft (50x100), clear title, price Rs. 12 crores. Contact: Ravi Chandran. Ph: 9841089791.

VELLACHERY, Rajalakshmi Nagar, 3 bedrooms, 1530 sq.ft, new flat, no brokers. Ph: 99405 65520.

WEST MAMBALAM, B.R.P. 1st Street, near Railway Station, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, dining, pooja room, flats plinth area 800 sq.ft, UDS 650 sq.ft, 2nd floor, semi furnished, 35 years old, well maintained, no brokers. Ph: 82485 16973.

WEST MAMBALAM, K.R. Koil Street Extension, near Srinivasa Theatre, 1700 sq.ft, built-up area 1300 sq.ft, independent house, car park, price Rs. 1.8 crores (nego.). Sridhar G. (between 10 a.m & 1 p.m). Ph: 98846 96090.

T. NAGAR, Jagadambal Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1000 sq.ft, ground floor, car park, 25 years old, rate Rs. 10000 per sq.ft. Contact: Babuji. Ph: 99413 65745.

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WEST MAMBALAM, 1/3, Kamakshipuram 1st Street, near Ayodhya Mandapam, 4 bedrooms, hall, modular kitchen, dining, independent 1st floor house, semi furnished, A/c, 3 phase, covered car park, rent Rs. 37000, vegetarian family only, ready for occupation. Ph: 9952096047.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 42/38, Priams Shivani, Block-B, Flat No. B-1, Kuppaiyah Street, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, compact 750 sq.ft, 1st floor, lift, car park, rent Rs. 25000, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: 98846 00770.

ASHOK NAGAR, No. 94/7, "Splendour Meadows" 11th Avenue, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 950 sq.ft, 2nd floor, lift, car park. Owner. Ph: 98406 22623, 98403 72900.

K. K. NAGAR (West), No. 6, Jawahar Street, near PSBB, Vani Vidyalaya Schools & Pondichery Guest House, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, car park, Brahmins only. Ph: 99625 65414.

WEST MAMBALAM, 15, Sunil Flats, Flat No. 6, Ramakrishnapuram 2nd Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 700 sq.ft, 1st floor, CCTV, vegetarians only. 98844 68770, 99625 46955.

WEST MAMBALAM, 29, Ellaiaimman Kovil Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 800 sq.ft, 2nd floor, 2 balconies, car parking, rent Rs. 15000 (negotiable), office / family / bachelors. Ph: 93807 11715.

WEST MAMBALAM, 23/15, Ram's Apartment, Flat No. 15, 2 bedrooms, 2nd floor, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: 94441 55749.

WEST MAMBALAM, 40/48B, Mahadevan Street, single bedroom, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor, no lift, rent Rs. 9000, Brahmins only. Ph: 98406 78426, 97898 70748.

WEST MAMBALAM, 18, Janakiammal Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 715 sq.ft, 1st floor, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 15000 (negotiable), Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: 90032 73657.

WEST MAMBALAM, 19, Thambaiah Road, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 460 sq.ft, 3rd floor, no lift, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 9300, vegetarian family only. Contact: Owner. Ph: 98843 35999.

SAIDAPET, 98, Perumal Koil Street, adjacent Perumal Koil, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, approx 700 sq.ft, 1st floor, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 10500, suitable for commercial purpose as well, vegetarians only, no brokers. Ph: 84899 00221, 94885 70579.

WEST MAMBALAM 26, Kripasankari Street, 1 big room, varandah, 220 sq.ft, attached bathroom, bachelors / working women / old people. 94440 68724

ASHOK NAGAR, 8, 43rd Street, 6th Avenue, behind Canara Bank, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 950 sq.ft, 1st floor, open car park, rent Rs. 20000, pure vegetarians only, no brokers. Ph: 93810 32667, 75502 28896.

T. NAGAR, 41/18, North Boag Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 750 sq.ft, 2nd floor, no lift, 2-wheeler parking, semi furnished, rent Rs. 18500, vegetarians only, no brokers. Ph: 2815 4494, 98400 42338.

WEST MAMBALAM, 1, K. V. Colony 4th Street, 3 bedrooms (A/c), hall (500 sq.ft), modular kitchen, pooja room, 1600 sq.ft, independent 1st floor, wardrobes, Brahmins only, finalizing from 15 November for inspection. Ph: 94442 84096. Owner ID: geekayscg@gmail.com.

WEST MAMBALAM, 14C, Srinivasa Iyengar 1st Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 600 sq.ft, 2nd floor, no lift, separate EB, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 12000 (negotiable), Brahmin family / bachelors, no brokers. Ph: 93805 56756, 72996 54241.

WEST MAMBALAM, 14C, Srinivasa Iyengar 1st Street, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 300 sq.ft, ground floor, separate EB, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 6200 (negotiable), Brahmin family / bachelors, visit: 12 noon to 6 p.m, no brokers. Ph: 93805 56756, 72996 54241.

WEST MAMBALAM, 43, Brindavan Street, near Data Udipi Hotel, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 1 small store room, 2nd floor, no lift, young couple / 2 bachelors, Brahmins only. Ph: 90948 54173, 80154 22914.

T. NAGAR, 87, Vijayraghava Road, opposite Andhra Club, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1100 sq.ft, 1st floor, covered car park, rent Rs. 25000 (negotiable), pure vegetarians. Ph: 90801 50021, 99411 89008.

T. NAGAR

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WEST MAMBALAM, 10/22, Srinivasa Pillai Street, opposite Sathya Narayana Temple, 3 bedrooms, 1st floor, car park, 3 phase, sufficient water, car park, Brahmin / pure vegetarians. Ph: 99406 60313.

WEST MAMBALAM, 4, Flat No. 2, Dhanasekaran Cross Street, 2 bedrooms, 750 sq.ft, 1st floor, lift. Ph: 94453 59782.

T. NAGAR, 5, Burkit Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1100 sq.ft, deluxe ground floor flat, car park, rent Rs. 22000. Contact: Ravi Chandran. Ph: 98410 89791.

T. NAGAR, 5, Krishnasamy Street, near Jayalukas, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor, lift, car park, rent Rs. 30000, ideal for office purpose. Contact: Ravi Chandran. Ph: 98410 89791.

WEST MAMBALAM, 12/10, Baroda Street Extension, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, independent ground floor house, A/c, semi furnished, rent Rs. 17000, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: 95000 48077.

ASHOK NAGAR, 8, 11th Main Road, near State Bank, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, new 2nd floor flat, lift facility, double attached bathroom, 24 hours water, covered parking, rent Rs. 23000 + maintenance. Contact: Satish. Ph: 90439 40898, 93805 66667.

WEST MAMBALAM, 52, K.R. Koil Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 700 sq.ft, 1st floor, A/c, furnished, rent Rs. 17000, vegetarians only. Ph: 98410 65110.

WEST MAMBALAM, 11/6, Ganapathy Illam, Rajaji Street, 2 rooms, kitchen, 24 hours water. Ph: 92831 80834, 2370 0834.

T. NAGAR, 54/146, Habibullah Road, near PSBB School, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, A/c, marble flooring, vegetarian employed only, no brokers. Ph: 96770 50155.

WEST MAMBALAM, 6, Sankara Narayana Flat, E-8, Kuppaiyah Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, modular kitchen, 740 sq.ft, 3rd floor, fully furnished, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 15000 (negotiable). Ph: 96000 46501.

T. NAGAR, 25, Lakshmi Colony, 5 rooms, 850 sq.ft, 2nd floor, 2 bathrooms, commercial purpose. Ph: 98402 14914, 98402 53056.

T. NAGAR, 8, Sunny Valley, Flat No. 2, Cart Track Road, near Krishnagana Sabha, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 650 sq.ft, ground floor, 2 bathrooms, covered shelves, car park, rent Rs. 20000, vegetarian only. Ph: 94443 42392.

WEST MAMBALAM, 14, Baroda Street, near Duraisamy Subway, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 910 sq.ft, lift, car park, electrical fitting, residential / office (without board) / 2 executive bathelors. Ph: 93822 97127.

ASHOK NAGAR, 14, 62nd Street, 7th Avenue, near Anjaneyar Koil & Ashok Pillar, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor apartment, attached bathroom, tiles flooring, rent Rs. 12500, family / bachelors. Ph: 97907 87935, 98411 93685.

WEST MAMBALAM, 91/9, Arya Gowda Road, single bedroom, 550 sq.ft, 1st floor apartment, balcony, rent Rs. 13000 + maintenance, advance 6 months. Ph: 93632 41226.

T. NAGAR, 8, Alacrity Flat, Dr. Narasimhan 2nd Street, near G.N. Chetty Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, study room, 1200 sq.ft, 3rd floor, lift, open car park, rent Rs. 32000, vegetarian family. Ph: 94446 26187.

ASHOK NAGAR, 17, Ashok Kedar, 19th Avenue, 2 bedrooms, study room, 2nd floor, lift, car park, rent Rs. 23000, vegetarians only. Ph: 97909 66568, 97909 66570.

WEST MAMBALAM, 31, Shanti Apartment, Reddy Kuppam Road, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor, vegetarians only. Ph: 93822 54304, 89395 11309.

KODAMBAKKAM, 177/7, Pallava Jaikrishna Apartment, Rangarajapuram Main Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, lift, open car park, rent Rs. 15000, vegetarians only, visit on 7.10.17 from 10 a.m. Ph: 94424 90845.

WEST MAMBALAM, 146, Lake View road, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1500 sq.ft, ground floor, rent Rs. 18000. Contact: Appu. Ph: 98414 67463, 99416 71063.

WEST MAMBALAM, 9, Chozha Apartment, B.R.P. Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, open car parking, 24 hours water. Ph: 98410 18261.

T. NAGAR, 99, Vijayaragava Road, near Residency Hotel, 1800 sq.ft, ground floor, rent Rs. 45000, suitable for office / clinic. Contact: Babuji. Ph: 99413 65745.

T. NAGAR, 99, Vijayaragava Road, near Residency Hotel, 800 sq.ft, rent Rs. 18000, suitable for office. Contact: Babuji. Ph: 99413 65745.

ASHOK NAGAR, 11, 10th Avenue, near Krishna Sweets, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1000 sq.ft, 2nd floor, lift, open car park, CCTV, security, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 18000, family / bachelors / office. Ph: 73053 44555.

T. NAGAR, 42/162, South West Boug Road, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 250 sq.ft, 2nd floor, rent Rs. 7500. Ph: 95511 43232.

ASHOK NAGAR, No. 9, Raghava Reddy Colony, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 720 sq.ft, 1st floor, 2 attached bathrooms, East facing, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 13500. Ph: 94442 57659, 98403 13696.

T. NAGAR, 25, Nathamuni Street, near Panagal Park, 3 bedroom, 1100 sq.ft, 3 floor, no lift, pent house, rent Rs. 25000, car parking, bachelors / office. Ph: 98847 82442.

WEST MAMBALAM, 30, Anand Square, Govindan Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, Brahmins / pure vegetarians. Ph: 99622 31204, 98845 76876.

Leaning EB junction box may topple over

By Our Staff Reporter

The leaning trunk of an avenue tree is resting on an EB junction box adjacent to it on 10th Avenue, Ashok Nagar near Ortho Hospital.

The EB box is already leaning under the weight of the tree and may topple over any moment.

Residents have appealed to EB officials to

move the junction box a little away from the present location.



Chandi Homam in Sankara Mutt on Thursday

By Our Staff Reporter

'Krishna Paksha Chandi Homam' will be performed at 5 p.m on Thursday, Oct. 12 in Sankara Mutt (West Mam-balam).

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

Akhanda sahasranaama paarayanam today

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Prasana Venkatesa Perumal Vishnu Sahasranama Mandali (Ashok Nagar) will conduct akhanda Vishnu sahasranaama paarayanam from 6.30 a.m to 6.30 p.m on Saturday, Oct. 7 in Sri Prasana Venkatesa Perumal Temple, Mettupalayam, West Mambalam. There will be thirumanjanam around 11.30 a.m followed by annadaanam. All are welcome.

More details can be had in 95661 80510 and 98412 94449.

Group singing contest for school students on Oct.17

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Aravind Bharathi (T. Nagar) has organized a group singing competition in Tamil for Std. 6 to 12 students on 'Mythree Bharatham' song at 10 a.m on Tuesday, Oct. 17, in Mahalakshmi Welfare Association (11, Park View Street, Srinivasa Avenue, Raja Annamalaipuram).

There is no entry fee. More details can he had in 99411 30700

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), Prof. Aranga Ramalingam will give a discourse on 'Thiru Arutpa - வள்ளலார் வாய்மையும், வாக்குமும்' Tuesday, Oct. 10, in Sakthi Vinayagar Temple (P. T. Rajan Salai, K. K. Nagar). All are welcome.

Postal Dept. invites students to open philatelic deposit account

By Our Staff Reporter

In an effort to promote philately at a young age, the Department of Posts is popularizing its 'My Stamps' scheme in which students can get a postage stamp with their photos or those of their school premises, or even open a philatelic deposit account.

The dept. also plans to conduct workshops in schools to create awareness on philately. Its staff will carry a mobile printer to issue personalised stamps to interested students on the spot in these workshops.

A senior official in T. Nagar Post Office told *Mambalam Times* that students can open a philately account with a minimum amount of Rs. 200.

"The students can use the amount to buy commemorative stamps and special covers which will be door delivered", he said.

The 'My Stamps' scheme, which also provides an opportunity for anyone to print their photographs on the customised stamp, is now available in T. Nagar Post Office, he added.

Anbu Karangal appeals for donations to celebrate Deepavali

Anbu Karangal (an orphanage and old age home at 1/216, Vivekananda Street, Kottivakkam) has appealed for donations to celebrate Deepavali on Oct. 18.

M. R. S. Lakshmi (Founder) said that the home has 100 residents of which 50 are senior citizens and the rest are studying in schools and colleges. It provides free shelter, food, education and medical assistance for them.

Anbu Karangal, which was started in 1996, is run with donations from individuals, organizations and philanthropists. She said that several of its past resident students are well settled in life.

Donors may contact Lakshmi in 2492 8282/8383, 2474 1003 or 98404 03750.

Elders exhibit talents in 'Senior Citizens Day' celebrations



By Our Staff Reporter
94-year-old Namagiri actively participated by singing a song in the 'Senior Citizens Day' celebrations in Andhra Club on Oct. 1.

Poornima Kumar (Virgo Events, Ashok Nagar) had organised the event.

She told *Mambalam Times* that 100 seniors participated with fervour showing their talents and enthralled the audience.

Actor Nazar was the Chief Guest.

Mr. & Mrs. Ranganatha Rao (85 and 83 respectively), who

took to the ramp in traditional Konkani attire, won the 'Mr. & Mrs. Chennai Seniors' title

Parthasarathy, who acted as *Julius Caesar*, and Gomati, who acted as *Avvaiyar*, won the 'Talent King' and 'Talent Queen' titles respectively.

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Trust donates artificial limbs to 4 persons

By Our Staff Reporter
V. R. Kannan (Founder-Managing Trustee, Dharma Vikas Charitable Trust, Rajaji Street, West Mambalam) donated artificial limbs to four disabled persons on Oct. 4 in Gita Bhavan, Gopalapuram as part of 'Joy of Giving' week celebrations.

K. Ramachandran (General Manager, Corporation Bank, Chennai Circle) was the Chief Guest and Dr. Ambika Kameshwar (Founder - Director, RASA) was the Guest of Honour. According to Kannan, it is an ongoing project of the Trust. Anyone interested in supporting the project may contact 98410 23450.



Hanumar Street in bad condition



By Our Staff Reporter
Hanumar Street, West Mambalam is in a bad condition. The road was dug up by Metrowater and the trench was not closed properly. The earth was left on the road margin. It has now turned slushy and slippery after the recent rains. Both pedestrians and motorists are having a hard time using the road. It is an important link to Mambalam Railway Station. Will Corporation officials take immediate steps to relay the road in view of Deepavali approaching for the benefit of the shoppers?

ISKCON to conduct Damodar Arathi in homes, public venues

By Our Staff Reporter
ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness) is celebrating Karthikai month by performing Damodar Arathi from Oct. 6 to Nov. 4.

To enable the residents of Chennai to participate, its volunteers are willing to conduct Damodar Arathi on invitation in homes, offices, hospitals and educational institutions.

It will feature bhajans, narration of Damodar Lila, and offering of lamps to Goddess Yashoda.

Anyone interested in conducting the arathi in homes/other locations, may contact 98401 23076.

Discourse on Bhagavad Gita tomorrow

Under the auspices of Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama (5, Maharaja Santhanam Salai, T. Nagar), Swami Satya-prabhananda will give a discourse on Bhagavad Gita in Tamil at 5.30 p.m., on Sunday, Oct. 8 in the Ashram's premises. All are welcome.

For more details, call 2814 3896.

Interactive session on 'Positive Thoughts'

By Our Staff Reporter
Jaimaa Friends Club (a wing of Jaimaa Trust, 1st Floor, Vengeesh Apartments, 16, Karuneegar Street, Vadapalani, near Vadapalani junction flyover, 100 Feet Road) has organized an interactive session on 'Positive Thoughts' in Tamil from 4 p.m to 6 p.m on Sunday, Oct. 8, its premises.

There will also be a discussion on positive thoughts for all age groups. All are welcome. More details can be had in 99400 30939.

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