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தமாஷா வரிகள்

ஜே. எஸ். ராகவன்

நாட்டுக்குள்ளே திருவிழா!

அன்று காலையும் வாசலிலிருந்து சேவல் போல் கூவிய தம்பையா, குளித்து முழுகிவிட்டு விழுதிக் கீற்றலுக்கு பதில் கருப்பு சாந்தை இட்டுக் கொண்டு காட்சி அளித்தார். முன்பெல்லாம் கொட்டாங்கச்சியில் தயாரித்து வைத்து இருப்பார்கள். கவனத்தை ஈர்க்கப் பெண்கள் குழந்தையின் தாடையைப் பிடித்து 'கொரக்... கொரக்' என்று சத்தம் போட்டு நெற்றியில் வட்டமாக இட்டுவிடுவார்கள். சாந்து சென்டிராக இல்லாமல் சைடு வாங்கி இருந்தால் 'என்னடி? அடுத்த ஆத்திலே இட்டிருக்கே?' என்று தாத்தா அத்துவாரி.

குறிப்பால் உணர்ந்துவதில் தம்பையா குரார். நெற்றியில் துலங்கிய கருப்புப் போட்டு தேர்தல் வருகின்றது, அடையாளச் சின்னமாகக் கை விரலில் வைக்கப்படும் என்பதின் சூசகம். தேர்தல் தேதிகளில் வரும் எண்களைக் கூட்டிக் கழித்து, பெருக்கி, வகுத்து, கணக்குப் போட்டு தேதி ஜோஸ்யம் சொல்லப் போகிறார் என்று நினைத்தேன். இல்லை.

'இந்த தேர்தலில் முற்போக்குக் கூட்டணி என்னென்ன அஸ்திரங்களை அம்புறாத் துணியிலிருந்து எடுத்துவிடப் போறாங்க தெரியுமா? என்று கேட்டுவிட்டு பதிலை எதிர்பார்க்காமல் பட்டியலை வாசித்தார். வேலையின்மை, ஜி.எஸ்.டி, ரஃபேல், புல்வாமா, பாலகோட் தாக்குதல், பொள்ளாச்சி வெறியாட்டம் அப்படினானு நிறைய இருக்கும் என்று சொன்னார். நான் அசரவில்லை. அரசியலில் ஊறி இருக்கும் நிறை மாத கர்ப்பினியின் வயிற்றில் இருக்கும் ஒரு சிசுகூடச் சொல்லிவிடும்.

'ஆச்சு! இனிமேல் ஊரே இரண்டுபடும். கொழுத்த ராகு காலத்தில் அறிவிச்சிருக்காங்கனே? டில்லி நிர்வாகப் பவனில் ஹேராம், ஹேராம் சால்வை போட்ட பண்டித்தி வேண்டாம், குறைந்த பட்சம் ஒரு டெய்லி ஷீட் காலண்டர் கூட இல்லையா என்ன? முற்போக்குக் கட்சிகளுக்கு இது ஒரு பிற்போக்கு. திரும்பிப் பார்த்தால் அஷ்டமி, நவமி, கரி நாள், பிரதமை, ராகு காலம், சந்திராஷ்டமம்னு ஏதாவது வந்து தொலையறதேன்னு அலுத்துக் கலாம். ஆனால் ஒன்னும் செய்ய முடியாது. அண்ணா! இது யாஹூ காலம். ராகு காலம் இல்லை. பி.ஜே.பி.யைக் கேட்டால் ராஹூல் காலம்னு சொல்லுவா.'

என்ன காரணமோ தெரியவில்லை சமீப காலமாக தம்பையா என்னை அண்ணா என்று கூப்பிடத் தொடங்கிவிட்டார். கேட்க கௌரவமாக இருந்தது. தம்பையா என்னுடைய தம்பியா? குப்பர்! அவரை வைத்துக் கொண்டு எவ்வளவு கட்டுரைகளை ஒட்டியிருக்கிறேன்! கணபதி அருளோடு இதையெல்லாம் சேர்த்து இனி எவ்வளவு ஒட்டப் போகிறேன்! பெரியவங்க சும்மாவா சொன்னாங்க, 'தம்பி உடையவன் படைப்புக்கு அஞ்சான்' என்று!

'என்ன லார், ரொம்ப நேரம் கேட்டன் கட்சியோட தலைமை கூட்டணிக்கு என்ன செய்யறதுன்னு முழிச்சுண்டு இருந்த மாதிரி மோவாயைச் சொறிஞ்சுண்டு இருக்கேன்? விஷயத்துக்கு வரேன். உங்களைக் கேட்டால் தெரியும். நம்ம டி.என். சேஷன் நிர்வாகப் பவன் 'ஹாட் சிட்டிலே' கூலா உட்கார்ந்து இருந்தபோது எலெக்ஷன் எப்படி நடந்தது தெரியுமோல்யோ?'

'கப்பி' என்றேன். 'ஓரே வார்த்தையில் அடக்கிப்புட்டிரே அண்ணா. ஆமாம் ஓரே நிசப்தம். ஒரு போஸ்டர் உண்டா? ஒரு சத்தம் உண்டா? வாக்காளப் பெருமக்களேன்னு ஒரு துருப்பிடிச்ச கூக்குரல் உண்டா? ஏதானும் தமாஷ் உண்டா? அருள்மிகு பெரியபாளையம் அம்மன் கோவிலுக்கு டயர் வெச்ச ரெண்டை மாட்டு வண்டி கட்டிண்டு சாதி சனங்களோட போற மாதிரி ஒட்டர்வை வேன்களில் அழைச்சுண்டு போற காட்சிகள் உண்டா? எதுவும் கிடையாது. தேர்தல் திருவிழான்னா இதெல்லாம் இல்லாமல் என்ன?'

ஒரு பெரியவர் அடுத்த வாரம் எனக்கு 90 வயச ஆகப் போறதுன்னாராம். சிறப்பா கொண்டாடப் போறேன். ஆனால் குடிக்க மாட்டேன். அசைவம் சாப்பிட மாட்டேன். ஜஸ் கிரீமைத் தொட மாட்டேன். சினிமா, டிராமா, சர்க்கஸ் எல்லாம் போகமாட்டேன். அந்த மாதிரி பலான தப்புத் தண்டாக்களுக்கெல்லாம் போகமாட்டேன். ஆனால் கொண்டாடப் போறேன். அப்படினாராம். அதுக்கு 'எப்படினா?' உங்களை மாதிரி ஒரு ஆளு கொக்கி போட்டாராம்.'

'பின்னே தேர்தலைக் கொண்டாட வேணாமா? ஒரு திரில் வேணாமா? சின்ன வயசிலே எங்க ஊர்லே பஞ்சாயத்து போட்டு எலெக்ஷன் நடந்தது. அதிலே மெட்ராஸிலே பரம்பரையா செட்டில் ஆகியிருந்த பவர்லானு ஒரு மார்வாடி களத்திலே இறங்கி இருந்தார். சின்னம் கூஜா. ஊர்லே இருக்கிற எல்லா வீடுகளுக்கும் மண் கூஜா ஒண்ணை இலவசமா கொடுத்து 'தாகத்தைத் தீர்க்கும் கூஜா பெட்டியிலே ஒட்டுப் போடுங்கன்னு' குதிரை வண்டியிலே சவாரி பண்ணி, பிரச்சாரம் பண்ணினார். வண்டியிலே பேண்டு செட் வேற அடிச்சு ஊதி குதிரையை மிரள வெச்சுண்டு இருந்தாங்க. பின்னாலிருந்து மிட்டாய் கலர் பிட்நோட்டீஸ்களை நான்தான் அள்ளி அள்ளி வீசிக் கொண்டு வந்தேன். டேய், டேய் தம்பு எனக்குடா, எனக்குடானு வண்டியைத் துரத்தி வந்துண்டிருந்த கனகா, வெங்கி, துளசி, பேபி, கிட்டு, லட்சுமியோட பார்வையிலே நான்தான் ஹீரோ.

'எலெக்ஷன்னா அப்படி ஒரு திரில் இருக்கணும். அரசியல்வாதிகள் சேர்த்து வச்ச பணத்தை எடுத்துச் செலவு பண்ண ஒரு கல்யாணம் கார்த்திகை மாதிரி எலெக்ஷன் ஒரு வழிகால்தானே? அதையும் பிளாக் பண்ணிட்டா பரணிலே இருக்கிற பணத்தைப் பூச்சி பொட்டு அரிச்சுடாதா? அண்ணா என்னுடைய வாதம் சரியா?'

அவர் சொன்னது மையமா, குழப்பமா இருந்தது. இதெல்லாம் ரகுராம் ராஜன், அமர்த்தியா சென் லெவல் சமாச்சாரம். பேசாமல் இருந்தேன்.

'கடைசியிலே அந்த எலெக்ஷன் முடிஞ்சு ரிசல்ட் வந்தது. பவர்லால் தோத்துப் போயிட்டார். துக்கம் கேக்க அவர் வீட்டுக்குப் போனேன். மண் கூஜாவை வெறியுடன் சிதறு தேங்காயாகப் போட்டு உடைத்தார். மௌனமாக வீடு திரும்பிய எனக்குப் பேரிடி. என் தாத்தா கையில் பிரம்பை நீவிக்கொண்டு காத்துண்டு இருந்தார். பவர்லால் எலெக்ஷன் டீட்டியில் (அதை இந்தியில் கனாலன்னு சொல்லணும்) இருந்த நான் எங்கே படிச்சேன்? அந்த வருஷமும் பணால், அவர் விளாசினது இன்னும் வலிக்கிறது!' என்று சொல்லி, பின் பக்கத்தை சிபிச் சக்கரவர்த்தி அடிபட்ட புறாவைத் தடவினது போல ஆதரவுடன் தடவி விட்டுக் கொண்டார். jsraghavan@gmail.com

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Residents lodge police complaint against youth abusing dogs

Almighty Animal Care Trust (Chennai) lodged a complaint with the police that a youth working in a tea stall in Nandanam abuses street dogs in the neighbourhood.

Residents caught the youth and let him off with a warning when they saw him abusing the dogs.

When he continued to repeat the offence and started to even target pet dogs, a local resident Sai Vignesh (President of Almighty Animal Care Trust), on Feb. 26 lodged the police complaint on behalf of the residents.

"Abusing and molesting animals is a punishable offence under sections 377 and 429 of the IPC, and we have requested that an FIR be lodged," said Vignesh.

"Such perpetrators also pose a threat to women and children. Awareness must be raised among the public to approach authorities as soon as they sense suspicious activities," he added. T. Pugazhendi (Inspector, Saidapet) is investigating.

Residents clean, barricade road around temple tank



By Our Staff Reporter

Residents of Mambalam took up the initiative to clean and maintain the service road around Kothandaramar Temple Tank behind Kittu Park, Ellaiamman Koil Street, West Mambalam.

They have placed barricades and pillars to prevent parking of vehicles.

Residents said that the service road around the temple tank was being used as a public convenience and was not only a health hazard to the nearby residents but was also ruining the sanctity of the holy place.

Screen printing workshop on March 27

By Our Staff Reporter

The Art and Culture Department of Shri Shankarlal Sundarbai Shasun Jain College for Women (Madley Road, T Nagar) has organized a 'Screen printing workshop' for girls above 14 years from 11 a.m to 2 p.m on Wednesday, March 27 in its premises.

User manual, screen printing kit including printing screen, paint and cloth will be provided for the participants.

The registration fee is Rs.500.

Those who are interested may register their names by March 24 in 96008 51200 or 99440 41524.

'Thiruvagam paaraayanam' in Saidapet temple tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

The members of Appar Artupani Mandram have organized 'Thiruvagam paaraayanam' by Nirmala Ravi from 8.30 a.m to 1.30 p.m on Sunday, March 24 in Arulmigu Soundarashwarar Temple, Saidapet.

All are welcome

More details can be had in 99417 55111.

Hotel employee held for stealing Rs.1.4 lakh from foreign guest

Mathias (26), a housekeeping employee of a star hotel in Teynampet, was arrested on March 15 for stealing Rs.1.4 lakh from a businessman from China staying in the hotel.

Jing-Le found the cash kept in his suitcase missing when he returned to his room in the hotel in the evening.

Based on his complaint, hotel staff checked the CCTV footage and saw Mathias entering Jing-Le's room. When he was questioned, Mathias admitted to stealing the cash.

The cash was recovered from him and he was handed over to Teynampet police.

Garbage dumped in vacant plot

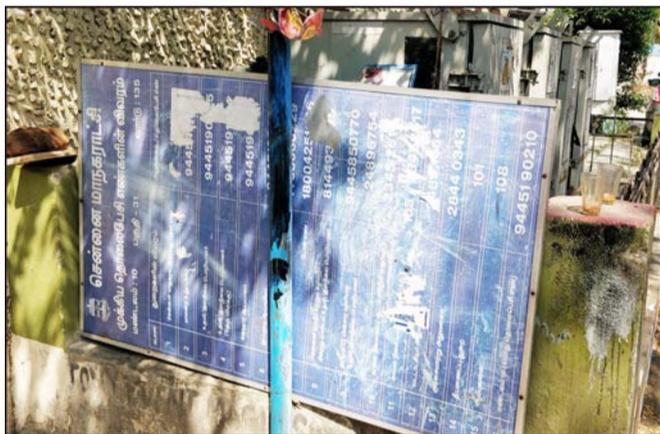
By Our Staff Reporter

An unprotected vacant plot on Vazhathoppu 4th Street in West Mambalam (opposite Corporation Playground) with an overgrowth of bushes is filled with garbage and plastic waste.



Though there is a compound wall, the gate is broken. Goats, cattle and dogs rummage through the waste. Nearby residents have appealed to the owner of the plot to clean it and install a gate.

Corporation info board used to close gap in wall



By Our Staff Reporter

An information board listing important phone numbers of local Corporation offices and officials toppled over several months back.

It has not been reinstated and has been, instead, used to close a gap in the damaged fence of the wall surrounding the overhead transformer on Umapathy Street, West Mambalam.

Don't pay for sports facilities in Corporation parks

By Our Staff Reporter

All parks maintained by Chennai Corporation are free for the public, but it has been reported that the person-in-charge in some parks is charging for use of a few facilities like sports equipment.

At the skating rink in Natesan Park on Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar while the coaching is termed free, amounts varying from Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 6,000 are collected for the use of the kits

varying in quality and period of training.

It has also been reported that a fee is charged for using the badminton court in Panagal Park under the pretext of maintenance.

A park official told *Mambalam Times* all services in the Corporation Parks in the city are free. He said that while sports facilities are outsourced to contractors, no fee was required to be paid to access the facilities.

He has appealed to park users to lodge complain if they are asked to pay to use any facility.

Free class on 'Maths Made Easy' tomorrow

S. Rajalakshmi will conduct a free class on 'Maths Made Easy' for students above 8 years from 6 p.m to 7 p.m on Sunday, March 24 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 registration, call 94453 16363 / 90031 26596.

'Samashti Upanayanam' on May 8

By Our Staff Reporter

Registration is open for the 'Samashti Upanayanam' to be performed for Brahmin boys on May 8 in Pandian Marriage Hall (Station Road, West Mambalam). It has been organised for the 13th consecutive year by Sri Iyyappa Bhakta Samajam Charitable Trust (141, Alwarthirunagar Annexe, Chennai 87).

Boys of parents from economically weak background and below 13 years of age from any Vedom, subsect, can have their upanayanam. Since arrangements have to be made, parents wishing to have the upanayanam of their sons are requested to register early.

For registration and other details, contact the Samajam in 97909 82085, 94440 25536.

Gayathri homam in Sankara Mutt tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

The monthly Samashti Gayathri homam will be performed from 6 a.m on Sunday, March 24 in Sankara Mutt (West Mambalam).

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

All are welcome.

Dept. of Posts trains, employs poor women

The Chennai City Central Division, Department of Posts, is training underprivileged women living in slum areas in the city to earn their livelihood.

Under this program, 15 women from the fishing hamlet of Nochikuppam are being trained in pre-mailing services such as labelling and addressing business and bulk mails.

The Postal Department has trained and offered similar jobs in the T. Nagar post office to residents of slums.

The Department also plans to extend such daily wage jobs to more persons from the marginalised sections of society

It held camps for several groups such as street vendors, fisherwomen, restaurant workers, drivers, patients affected by leprosy and transgender persons.

Another sub-station in K. K. Nagar

The construction of a new sub-station on Munusamy Salai, K. K. Nagar has commenced.

According to an EB official, the additional sub-station is being constructed to meet the extra power demand from K. K. Nagar and Nesapakkam.

The 110 kv sub-station will be ready in 15 months, he said.

At present, there are sub-stations on Anna Main Road, Ramasamy Salai and P. T. Rajan Salai.

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Protruding bolts removed after report in *Mambalam Times*



Before



Now

By Our Staff Reporter

Following the report 'Protruding steel bolts near subway pose danger' published in *Mambalam Times* (Feb 16-22 issue), the protruding bolts near Duraisamy Subway, T. Nagar were removed last week.

Students develop app to map house sparrows

By Our Staff Reporter

To map the dwindling sparrow population, students of the Eco Club in Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering have developed a mobile application for public use to crowd-source information about the bird.

To mark International Sparrow Day on March 20, the app, 'SoS - Save Sparrow', was launched to enable users to pin the location of the sighting of a house sparrow.

Users can take a photograph of the bird or its nest and this data can be uploaded. Using this app a sparrow map in the city can be created that shows the distribution of the bird's population in various parts of Chennai.

"After recording sizable sightings, this data will be transferred to the e-bird portal," said K. Jaswanth, one of the students who developed the app.

The Eco Club, along with Environmental Monitoring and Action Initiating (EMAI), is part of the team that developed the app.

Vishnu Kumar of EMAI said that the organisation is also distributing sparrow nests that can be kept in residential areas.

"Before taking the nests, residents have to confirm that sparrows have been spotted in their neighbourhood," he said.

Principal of the college Ganesh Vaidyanathan said: "The project sparrow was initiated by the Eco Club five years back. Now, the students have used technology to make a difference in nature conservation."

Nests have been distributed in some residential areas in north Chennai such as Royapuram, New Washermenpet, Thiruvottiyur, Mannady, Parrys Corner and Chintadripet as these areas have old tiled houses which attract sparrows.

Those who wish to take a nest can contact 98406 19193.

Android users can download the app from PlayStore.

Block opened in Rajan Eye Care Hospital for poor patients

By Our Staff Reporter

'Nethra Seva' block was inaugurated in Rajan Eye Care Hospital (5, Vidyodaya East 2nd Street, T. Nagar) on March 21.

It is a joint initiative of Chennai Vision Charitable Trust, Rotary Rajan Eye Bank and Rotary Club of Madras, T. Nagar to provide free eye care for the poor.

Mohan Rajan (Chairman and Medical Director of Rajan Eye Care Hospital) told *Mambalam Times* that the facility will function on all days.

Anyone who needs eye care but cannot afford it, can just walk in and get treated, he explained.

Police, paramilitary conduct rally on voting rights

By Our Staff Reporter

Policemen from Ashok Nagar and personnel of paramilitary force jointly conducted an awareness rally to highlight the importance of exercising voting rights in West Mambalam on March 22.

They took out the rally from Arya Gowda Road to Ashok Nagar Police Station.



Abandoned vehicles block margin of Mambalam High Road



By Our Staff Reporter

A number of abandoned vehicles have been blocking the margin of Mambalam High Road in T. Nagar near Unnamalai Street junction for several months.

Nearby residents have appealed to Corporation and police officials to remove the vehicles.

Chennai Metro begins soil testing for Phase 2 in Nandanam



By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Metro has started soil testing in Lotus Colony 1st Street, Nandanam for its Phase 2 project. The photo was taken on March 20.

K. K. Nagar resident held in insurance scam

By Our Staff Reporter

The bank fraud wing of Chennai Crime Branch arrested P. Manikandan (a resident of K. K. Nagar) on March 17 in connection with the case related to the gang running fake BPOs offering insurance and loan services in the city.

12 other suspects including the kingpin Gopalakrishnan have already been arrested.

Manikandan was running a company named InfoZee Pvt. Ltd., which was one of the front companies in the chain that took money as insurance premium from gullible customers on behalf of the dubious insurance company run by Gopalakrishnan.

After receiving the money, Infozee deducted its commission and transferred the balance to the accounts of several other companies belonging to Gopalakrishnan.

Meet on 'Saving young generation from tobacco' on Tuesday

By Our Staff Reporter

Consumers Association of India (CAI), Chennai, in coordination with Consumer Voice, New Delhi, has a meeting on 'Saving young generation from tobacco' from 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26 in Hotel Raj Park (TTK Road, Alwarpet, near Music Academy).

M. P. Nirmala (Chairperson Tamilnadu Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Government of Tamilnadu), Dr. A. Somasundaram, Joint Director, Tobacco Control Board (TCB), Chennai, and experts from Health Department will be among the speakers.

A report on the study of the impact of tobacco on the younger generation conducted by TCB will be presented.

All are welcome.

For more details, call M. Somasundaram (Liaison Officer) in 94442 53739/81246 66285.

Interactive session on Tamil magazines tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Kuvikam Illam (Flat 'A' 6, 3rd floor, Silverpark Apartments, 24, Thanikachalam Road, T. Nagar, Opp. Hindi Prachara Sabha) has organized an interaction session on the future of Tamil magazines with V. Ravishankar (Editor, Tamil Literary Web Magazine and Founder Editor of the Tamil magazine 'Pragnai') under the 'Alavalaaval' program from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, March 24 in its premises.

The discussions will focus on the 'Challenges of literary magazine - then and now'.

All are welcome.

More details can be had in 94425 25191.

Student from T. Nagar college found dead

A 21-year-old married student from a private women's college in T. Nagar was found dead in her house in Pattabiram under mysterious circumstances on March 17.

According to the police, Soundarya (a 1st year B.Com. student) had married Shiva, a businessman, in Oct. 2018.

On March 17, she attended the annual day function in the college and went home.

The next morning, Shiva took her to a private hospital near his house after she failed to wake up from her sleep.

The doctors declared her brought dead.

Pattabiram police registered a case of suspicious death and sent the body for autopsy to the Government Kilpauk Medical College and Hospital.

An RDO probe has been ordered into the incident as the couple has been married for less than seven months.

Temple chariot taken in procession



By Our Staff Reporter

Hundreds of devotees braved the heat and pulled the chariot of Kasi Viswanathar Temple (Easwaran Koil Street, West Mambalam) on March 17 as part of Brahmotsavam festival..

The chariot was pulled along Easwaran Koil Street, Madley Service Lane, K. R. Koil Street, Arangappan Street, Ellaianman Koil Street and Gandhi Street.

Birth anniversary celebrations of M. N. Nambiar today

By Our Staff Reporter

The birth anniversary celebrations of renowned stage artiste and film actor M. N. Nambiar (resident of 44/21, Bagirathi Ammal Street, T. Nagar) will be conducted in Chromepet Cultural Academy (Kamakshi Wedding Hall, Radha Nagar Main Road, Chromepet) from 5 p.m to 9 p.m on Saturday, March 23.

They will start with bhajans sung by M. N. Manikantan, Vinodh and troupe.

Nambiar's son M. N. Mohan Nambiar and others will pay tribute to the thespian.

The drama troupe Nxgs headed by Shivappasadh (nephew of Nambiar) will present the popular drama 'Manasaatchi' directed K. S. N. Sundar.

Shivappasadh will don the lead character in the play. His daughter S. Sruuthi also plays a prominent role.

Entrance is free.

All are welcome.

For more details, call G. Nagarajan (Secretary, Chromper Cultural Academy) in 94446 90174.

Free month-long yoga course from tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Sannyasi Krishnayogam will conduct a month-long free yoga course for adults from 5.30 a.m to 7 a.m, from Sunday, March 24 in Bala Vidya Higher Secondary School (30, Vasudevapuram, near Doraiswamy Road subway).

The classes are conducted according to the curriculum of the Bihar School of Yoga.

Asanas, praanayama pratyahara (sense withdrawal techniques), dharana (concentration), meditation, mantra, value education, food habits and shat kriyas (internal pathways cleaning for managing diseases) will be taught.

The classes will include sessions on anatomy and physiology for better understanding of the benefits of yoga.

Classes on stress management for corporate executives are also conducted. Doctors give lectures on alternative medicines.

Swamiiji also offers counseling for his students.

For more details, call 94442 40383 / 94450 51015 or visit www.satyamyogatrust.net.

Art exhibition on railways in Egmore station

By Our Staff Reporter

An art exhibition themed on 'railway stations and trains' by 72-year-old L. Govindaraj (resident of West Mambalam) was held in Egmore railway station last week.

He displayed 24 works which depicted common scenes in railway stations from an old porter carrying luggage to an overcrowded Coimbatore railway station.

"Though I have been drawing from the age of six, I never really focused on it till I retired from my bank job. I started to focus on art only from 2016. This is my sixth exhibition. So far, I have organised exhibitions on different topics in Chromepet, T. Nagar and Keelkattalai," he said.

He is planning his next exhibition on trains and stations in Central Station.

'Avahanti homam' in Rukmini Street on Monday

By Our Staff Reporter

Uma Natarajan (Maha Periyavaa devotee and resident of 44/4, Rukmini Street, West Mambalam) has organised 'Avahanti homam' from 6.30 a.m to 8 a.m on Monday, March 25 in her residence as part of Kanchi Maha Periyava Birth Star Day (Anusham).

Devotees can also contribute to the 'Pidi arisi' scheme as directed by Maha Periyava during the program, and it will be distributed among needy organisations.

All are welcome.

She conducts yoga classes in the same venue.

More details can be had in 98408 42811.

Elliot's Beach to become disabled-friendly

By Our Staff Reporter

A wooden pathway will soon be constructed at Elliot's Beach for the benefit of the disabled community to enjoy the surf.

The Corporation, which had provided disabled persons a temporary pathway on World Disability Day last December, has got clearance from Tamilnadu Coastal Zone Management Authority for building a permanent walkway.

The 34-meter long, 3-meter wide pathway will run behind Ashtalakshmi Temple on the beach and connect the road with the high tide line at the same level as that of the shore. Wooden framework with panels will be used on the walkway and on the landing decks.

The 3-layer structure will be fitted with anti-slip rubber mats on the surface to prevent slipping.

Free glaucoma screening conducted in Radhatri Nethralaya



By Our Staff Reporter

Hundreds of patients attended the free glaucoma screening program in Radhatri Nethralaya (Hindi Prachara Sabha Street, T. Nagar) between March 10 and 16 as part of World Glaucoma Week. Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham (Medical Director) examined the patients and also distributed glaucoma awareness pamphlets among patients.

Repc Home Finance donates Rs. 10 lakhs to RMD Trust

By Our Staff Reporter

A new ICU ward, installed at a cost of Rs. 10 lakhs, was inaugurated on March 18 in Karuna Sagar (Home for terminally ill patients in Maduravoyal) run by RMD Pain and Palliative Care Trust (13, Raghavaiah Road, T. Nagar). The project was funded by Repco Home Finance Ltd. under its Corporate Social Responsibility program.

The ward was inaugurated by Yashpal Gupta (MD and CEO, Repco Home Finance



Ltd.) in the presence of Dr. Republica Sridhar (Founder, RMD Trust). 45 inmates are under care in Karuna Sagar. For more details, call Dr. Republica in 93810 16588.

No regular water supply in Lakshmi Narayanan Street

By Our Staff Reporter

Residents of Lakshmi Narayanan Street (West Mambalam) have not been getting regular water supply from Metrowater for several years.

They told *Mambalam Times* that water is supplied on Wednesdays and Sundays through water tankers which is insufficient. The residents have to stand in queue carrying pots for the water.

They said that there is no metro water pipe line connection, hand pump or even a common tank like in many other localities in the neighbourhood.

"We do not receive any posi-



tive response from the authorities to our requests for installing handpumps and a large tank in which water can be filled from tankers daily to solve the problem. Most of the residents are from the lower income group and cannot afford to buy water to meet daily needs," said an elderly resident.

Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya to conduct workshops on free and fair elections

By Our Staff Reporter

To ensure free, fair and violence-free elections, Gandhian Institutions will release a manifesto at 5 p.m on Sunday, March 24 in Gandhi Gallery (Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya, 58, Venkatanaryana Road, T. Nagar).

Some of the salient points raised in the manifesto are:

1. To ensure elections are conducted without parochial approach by not involving caste, community, religion, language and refraining from personal attacks.
2. To ensure elections are fought on the basis of policies and programs.
3. To propagate to elect the right candidates and ensure corruption-free elections.
4. To request political parties to promise financially feasible programs/projects.

It will also conduct workshops, seminars and give training to the registered volunteers to ensure the above programs are implemented.

Volunteers willing to present cultural events, participate in forthcoming workshops on free and fair elections and report malpractices during elections to the authorities concerned can register their names with P. Maruthi (Convener) in 91766 24283, e-mail: tnhss32@gmail.com or K. Usha (89397 71592), email: tbvs1933@gmail.com.

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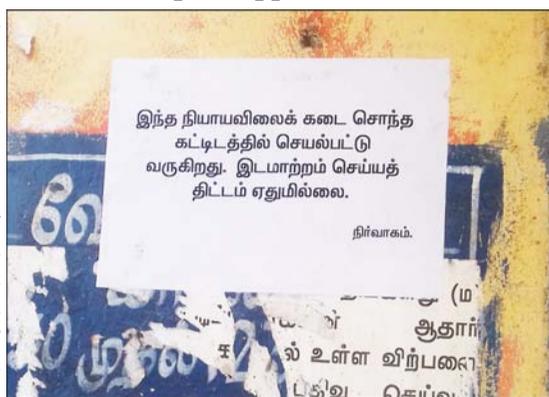
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Vishnu sahasranaamam chanting in goshala on Tuesday
Chennai Group of Sri Vishnu Sahasranaama Mandalis has organized mass chanting of Sri Vishnu Sahasranaamam at 10 a.m on Tuesday, March 26 in Goshala, Sankara Mutt, Kasi Viswanathar Kovil Street, West Mambalam on the occasion of the birth star day of Maha Periyavaa (Anusham). All are welcome. More details can be had in 95001 77505.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks to residents' protest, media publicity, plan to shift ration shops dropped

Sir, We thank Mambalam Times for publishing the report on residents' protests against the shifting of the ration shops bearing Nos. HC 007 and HC 009 from Rameswaram Street, T. Nagar to Mambalam High Road which is more than a kilometer away.



The shops cater to the residents of streets abutting Usman Road, Soundarajan Street, Ramanujam Street and Gandhi Street.

In an effort to stall the move, T. Nagar Residents' Welfare Association took up the issue with various officials of Civil Supplies, Tamil Nadu Urban Co-operative Society (TUCS) and the Joint Registrar (Public Distribution System).

The proposal to shift the shops was due to political pressure on the officials of TUCS which runs the two shops.

Further, the shops are now functioning in the premises owned by TUCS and the premises at the new location in Mambalam High Road would have been rented.

As a direct consequence of residents' persistence aided by media reports, an official from the Joint Registrar visited the shops to take stock of the situation.

All this has led the authorities to drop the proposal to shift the shops.

They have also erected a board at the shops which says that there is no plan to shift the shops. **T. Nagar Residents' Welfare Association, 30, Rangan Street, T. Nagar**

Garbage woes in Umapathy Street-Thambiah Road junction

Sir, Garbage is not collected regularly from the bin kept in front of the transformer in Umapathy Street, close to its junction with Thambiah Road Extension. Due to this, the bin regularly overflows and nearby residents and vendors dump garbage in and around the bin.



Cattle, crows and dogs rummage through the garbage in search of food and strew it all over the place. Ragpickers too collect waste like bottles and throw the rest of the garbage around. Passersby urinate around the bin.

The entire surrounding stinks and is in unhygienic condition.

I appeal to Corporation officials concerned to move the bin away from the transformer as it is hazardous, make arrangements to clear the bin daily and construct a public toilet for the benefit of those working in nearby shops. **B. Sriram, West Mambalam**

Low pressure affects water supply in Lake View Road Extension

Sir, I am a resident of Lake View Road Extension, West Mambalam. It falls under Zone 10, Division 140.

We receive metro water only on alternate days for 1 or 2 hours in the morning. Often the water supplied is contaminated with sewage water. As the pressure is low, the sumps do not fill up and the supply is insufficient to meet our day-to-day requirement.

Metrowater officials say that the street being at the tail end of the Division, the pressure is low and they are helpless. I feel the pressure is low as either the valve that connects to our pipeline has not been opened fully or the pumping pressure is low at the main station.

The residents of the street are forced to buy water from tankers to meet their needs in spite of paying Metrowater tax.

I appeal to Metrowater officials to increase the pressure in the waterline so that we get the regular supply received by the residents of nearby streets. **R. Kripanandan**

Save water to tide over crisis

Sir, We are heading for a scorching summer with impending water crisis due to failure of the monsoon for the past 2 years. To conserve water, we have to use it judiciously. For starters, it is estimated that each flush of the western toilet consumes around 10 liters and each person, on an average, flushes around 5 times a day. This can be considerably reduced by reducing the volume of the cistern or by adjusting the level of the floating ball to reduce the quantity of water used per flush. I have personally used this method successfully. It is estimated that an apartment complex with about 50 persons can save 400 liters of water per day using this method. In fact, there is a move by Indian Standards Organization to use only cisterns with a dual control method of operation for new constructions, one initiating a full flush and the other initiating a half flush depending on the need. Water conservation is no longer an individual's choice, but a social obligation. **P. K. Subramanian, Aishwarya Apartments, Gandhi Street, T. Nagar, Ph: 98402 93321**

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T. NAGAR, 20, Rameswaram Road, adjacent to Mambalam Railway Station, ground floor flat, 320 sq.ft, UDS 240 sq.ft, 1 hall, kitchen, bath attached, no water problem, Rs. 29 lakhs, cash payment, no brokers. Ph: 94449 30245, 94449 07244.

URAPAKKAM, Sulochana Nagar, ground floor, 720 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2-wheeler parking, price Rs. 26 lakhs, 5 years old. Ph: 97899 05185.

T. NAGAR, Gopal Street, 770 sq.ft + 350 sq.ft, UDS 433 sq.ft, 2nd floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, covered car park, 8 years old, 2nd floor, no lift. Ph: 96001 06457, 99400 44800.

KODAMBAKKAM, Flat No.9, Anand Square, Choolaimedu High Road, 460 sq.ft, UDS 240 sq.ft, 1st floor, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen. Ph: 8072583844, 94444 70006.

T. NAGAR, Thyagaraya Street, 820 sq.ft, UDS 478 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms apartment, hall, kitchen, west facing, 2nd floor, 23 years old, lift balcony, service verandah, open car park, price Rs. 95 lakhs. Ph: 9840263402.

ASHOK NAGAR
88/49, 7th Avenue
3rd floor flat, lift,
6 years old,
3 BHK, 1898 sq.ft,
UDS 952 sq.ft,
power back-up,
24x7 water
& security,
CCP, price:
Rs. 2.50 crores,
no brokers
63741 43525
94440 28894

T. NAGAR, Pillaiyar Koil Street, 785 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, ground floor, 20 years old. Contact: Elumalai, Ph: 99401 03813.

WEST MAMBALAM, Sathyapuri Street, 2602 sq.ft, land with house, north facing. Contact: Kamal, Ph: 99401 03809.

ASHOK NAGAR, 610 sq.ft, ground floor, single bedroom, immediate sale, no brokers. Ph: 95662 10584, 98400 67920.

WEST MAMBALAM, adjacent to Govindan Road, very close to Ashok Nagar, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, Hi-UDS, car park, 1st floor, 10 years old, higenic & posh locality, only serious buyer, quick deal, ideal for living or good investment, price Rs. 1.23 crores (negotiable). Crystal Clear Investments, Ph: 99622 72936.

ASHOK NAGAR, 40th Street, behind 4th Avenue, 1 bedroom, 520 sq.ft, UDS 200 sq.ft, 1st floor, approved, loan facility, rate Rs. 6250 per sq.ft (negotiable). Ph: 98841 22797.

T. NAGAR, Bazullah Road, opp. Ramakrishna School, alacritic construction, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 838 sq.ft, UDS 569.52 sq.ft, 3rd floor, 30 years old, no lift. Ph: 99411 85781, 97101 16078.

RENTAL
WEST MAMBALAM, 38A/46, Raju Street, 1150 sq.ft, ground floor, independent house, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, dining hall, attached bath, 2-wheeler parking, Brahmins only. Ph: 24893726, 98400 13493.

T. NAGAR, 37, Venkatesan Street, 1400 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 3 baths, 1 balcony, 1st floor, no lift, open car park, immediate occupation, rent Rs. 33000, maintenance Rs. 1200, advance Rs. 3lakhs. Ph: 98403 83000 (whatsapp only).

JAFFERKHANPET, Sri Narayana Flat, 25/11, 1st Cross Street, Raghavan Colony, near 12th Avenue, Ashok Nagar & Kumaran Nagar Police Station, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 950 sq.ft, spacious, renovated, 2-wheeler parking, Brahmins only. Ph: 93822 20115.

WEST MAMBALAM, 34/31, Kripasankari Street, spacious, 1st floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, rent Rs. 20000 (negotiable), Brahmins only, no brokers. Contact: Kumaraswamy, Ph: 2472 7975, 091488 94878.

T. NAGAR, 5, Muthukrishnan Street, near Pandy Bazaar, 1200 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, lift, no car park, 2-wheeler parking only, rent Rs. 25000, family/office. Ph: 2815 1132, 99402 92191.

WEST MAMBALAM, 61, Lake View Road, near Railway Station, 2 bedrooms apartment, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, balcony, bath attached, rent Rs. 12500, family/bachelors also. Ph: 98403 60785, 98411 93685.

WEST MAMBALAM, 2, Sathyanarayanan Street, close to Railway Station/Market, 2nd floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ventilated, independent, road facing flat, 2-wheeler parking, vegetarians only. Ph: 94447 10772, 94441 51811.

WEST MAMBALAM, Annai Ananth Flat, 11/4, Rajagopalan Street, off Jubilee Road, 985 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, covered car park, newly painted, small Brahmin family only, no brokers. Ph: 98840 66560, 98840 66561.

WEST MAMBALAM, Shanti Apartment, 31, Kuppam Road, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor, semi-furnished, vegetarians only. Ph: 94980 38289, 94449 03147, 2489 8325.

NUNGAMBAKKAM
32, Rama Street,
2 BHK Flats,
800 sq.ft,
2nd floor.
99411 44884
90940 42127

T. NAGAR, 31, Thyagaraya Gramani Street, 750 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, semi-furnished, 2nd floor, lift, rent Rs. 20000. Ph: 98400 39666, 98404 89530.

T. NAGAR, 33/13, Ramaswamy Street, near Bus Terminus/Railway Station, 700 sq.ft, 2 small bedrooms, ground floor, 2-wheeler parking. Ph: 94445 72344, 2434 0757.

WEST MAMBALAM, 50/6, Ganapathy Street, 2nd floor, 2600 sq.ft, self-contained, 4 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, dining, store room, semi-furnished, rent Rs. 35000, no lift. Ph: 98411 49251.

WEST MAMBALAM, 1, Appaswamy Street, near Kali Bari, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 3 phase, 1st floor, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 14000 (negotiable), advance 5 months. Visit on Saturday, 4 p.m to 6 p.m, Sunday, 10 a.m to 12 noon. Ph: 95000 87472.

WEST MAMBALAM, A9/184, Ragamalika Apartment, Lake View Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, covered / road facing balcony, 650 sq.ft, 2nd floor, no lift, vegetarian family only, visit on 23rd & 24th March, from 10 a.m to 4 p.m. Ph: 81227 64577.

WEST MAMBALAM, 14/8, Thulukkanam Street, 1st floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 760 sq.ft, lift, covered car park, rent Rs. 19000 (negotiable), Brahmins only. Ph: 98403 64137, 97898 64158.

WEST MAMBALAM, Flat No. 8, Gokul Flat, ground floor, Ram Colony, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, wash area, 650 sq.ft, 2-wheeler parking, inspection on Sunday. Ph: 99400 96703, 94441 71949.

ASHOK NAGAR
5, Jawaharlal
Nehru Road,
Ashoka Colony,
3 BHK, CCP,
Rent Rs.30000,
Veg. only.
98409 90817

KODAMBAKKAM, Flat No. 9, Right Choice Chittrakoodam, 25, Subramania Nagar 1st Street, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, lift, open car park. Contact: Kalyan, Ph: 98846 16100.

WEST MAMBALAM, 40, Chakrapani Street, 2nd floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, fully furnished, A/c, fans, car park, rent Rs. 20000 (negotiable), no brokers. Ph: 99628 44093.

KODAMBAKKAM, 6, Sakthi Nagar, Aziz Nagar 1st Street End, near Raghavendra Kalyana Mandapam, new, modular kitchen, 2 bedrooms, hall, lift, 24 hours water, 2nd floor, vegetarians only, no brokers. Ph: 87782 49253.

T. NAGAR, 22, Dr. Thomas Road, opp. GRT Hotel, 1025 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, furnished, open car park, lift, 2nd floor, rent Rs. 26000. Ph: 94449 97898.

WEST MAMBALAM, 4/41, Ramakrishnapuram 3rd Street, new building, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, baths, dining, verandah, car park (small cars), enough water, Rs. 20000 + low maintenance, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: 94440 81705, 96001 87802.

T. NAGAR, 15, Coats Road, near Pandy Bazaar, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1 A/c, ground floor, 1100 sq.ft, open car park, rent Rs. 25000 (negotiable), geyser. Ph: 95000 45839.

WEST MAMBALAM, S6, Sharadha Kriupa Apartment, 27, Kriupasankari Street, Near Sharadha Temple, 2nd floor, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 2-wheeler parking, lift, security, Italian marble flooring, vegetarian family only, rent Rs. 10500, maintenance Rs. 1000 extra + water charges extra. Ph: 73975 04078, 91764 46800.

ASHOK NAGAR, 19, 12th Avenue, near SBI, 900 sq.ft, 1st floor, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 13000, with car park Rs. 14000, 6 months advance. Ph: 97105 85571, 93805 66667.

ASHOK NAGAR, 51, 43rd Street, near Sony Showroom, 1st floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, service area, 1100 sq.ft, lift, car park, rent Rs. 24000 + maintenance, semi-furnished, tiles flooring, family/bachelors/office. Ph: 73053 44555.

T. NAGAR, 1, Cart Track Road, 1100 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor flat, 4 balconies, wood work, car park, vegetarians only. Ph: 98414 06777.

WEST MAMBALAM, 11/6, Rajaji Street, Ganapathy ILLam, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 24 hours water, EB as per card, rent Rs. 9000, advance Rs. 30000. Ph: 92831 80834, 4865 3505.

GODOWN FOR RENT
ASHOK NAGAR
47A, Govindan
Road, 2300 sq.ft,
3400 sq.ft,
ground floor,
hall type,
any purpose,
rent Rs. 44000,
Rs. 55000
Gentleman G. Velmurugan
98406 05716

T. NAGAR, 25, Abdul Aziz Street, 1250 sq.ft, 1st floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, lift, attached bathrooms, open car parking, family/bachelor/office. Ph: 98401 31073.

WEST MAMBALAM, 1, Brindavan Street, semi-furnished, independent room, for a Brahmin bachelor, rent Rs. 4500. Ph: 4264 5817, 94990 37434.

WEST SAIDAPET, 35, V.S. Mudali Street, ground floor, independent house, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, service area, rent Rs. 16000, Brahmins only. Ph: 98404 46656, 99404 77329, 4280 3605.

WEST MAMBALAM, 5, Jothi Ramalingam Street, Grace Flats, 500 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, for lease Rs. 10 lakhs. Ph: 98846 72177.

Guide on 'Senior Citizen Safety' to be released today

By Our Staff Reporter
Jeevathma Kainkarya Trust (West Mambalam) will release a guide on 'Senior Citizen Safety' at 4.30 p.m on Saturday, March 23 in VMA Hall (Srinivasa Iyer Street, West Mambalam).

Senior police officials will attend the launch. According to a Trust member, the guide contains important contact numbers of nearby police stations, hospitals and other helplines. For more details, call 98410 12779.

Talk on 'Brahmasutras' in English tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter
Swamini Satyavratana Saraswati will give a talk on 'Brahmasutras' in English from 5.30 p.m to 6.30 p.m on Sunday, March 24 in Kesari High School, next to GRT Grand Hotel, Pandy Bazaar, T. Nagar.

For more details, call Akshara Vidya Trust in 2432 8087.

Burglars steal 8 sovereigns jewellery from Vadivukkarasi's house

By Our Staff Reporter
Burglars broke into veteran actress Vadivukkarasi's house in T. Nagar last week and stole 8 sovereigns of jewellery. She had locked her house and gone to stay with her daughter for 10 days.

A police complaint has been lodged and investigation is on.

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), D. Selvaboopathy will give a discourse on 'Thiru Arutpa' on Tuesday, March 26, at 6 p.m, in Sakthi Vinayagar Temple (P. T. Rajan Salai, K. K. Nagar). All are welcome.

Base of light post poses danger to motorists



By Our Staff Reporter

The base of a dismantled iron street light post has been causing obstruction to motorists for the past 6 months at Jawaharlal Road-P.T. Rajan Salai junction, K. K. Nagar.

It is only visible when nearing it and invisible at night, and poses a danger to motorists, especially 2-wheeler riders as they may trip and fall while inadvertently riding over it.

It could also damage vehicle tyres. Motorists have appealed to officials concerned to remove the base from the spot.

Seminar on Vedic astrology tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter
The Vedic Astrology Association for Social Awakening and Change (Subba Reddy Street, West Mambalam) will conduct a free seminar/interactive session on the implications of the 5th and 7th houses in the horoscope from 5 p.m to 7.45 p.m on Sunday, March 24 in Auditorium Hall, Koviloor Madalayam, Kuppaiah Street, West Mambalam.

The topic of discussion will be 'Transit effects of Rahu ad Ketu'. All are welcome. More details can be had from VKSM Sharmaji (Founder President) in 91763 59580 / 88381 58072 / 2474 1952.

Discourse on Gita tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter
Under the auspices of Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama (5, Maharaja Santhanam Salai, T. Nagar), Swami Satyaprabhananda will give a discourse on Bhagavad Gita in Tamil at 5.30 p.m, on Sunday, March 24 in the Ashram's premises.

All are welcome. For more details, call 2814 3896.

Kite thread cuts neck of man on bike

By Our Staff Reporter
A man suffered injuries in the neck after he got entangled in a manja thread used to fly kites while returning home on his bike in Kodambakkam recently.

Police said Om Ezhilan (44) fell off his two-wheeler after the manja thread coated with glass cut his neck. He was not wearing a helmet and was on Kodambakkam flyover when the incident happened.

Passers-by took Ezhilan, who teaches in a college, to a government hospital in K. K. Nagar. Quoting hospital doctors treating him, police said the man's condition was stable.

Kodambakkam police have registered a case and launched a search for those using manja thread to fly kites.

Watermelons arrive in the city

By Our Staff Reporter
With summer slowly setting in, the demand for luscious thirst-quenching watermelons is picking up.

S. Kuppasamy from Marakanam is selling watermelons on the pavement of Govindan Road, West Mambalam. He said that he procures the fruit from Villupuram.

The price is Rs. 20 per kg, and Rs. 10 for a slice.

Similarly, watermelon vendors can also be seen in Kamarajar Salai, K. K. Nagar.

Guru Purnima festival in Thiruvengadam Street tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness) has organised Guru Purnima from 10 a.m to 1 p.m on Sunday, March 24 in Srinath Mini A/c Hall (30, Thiruvengadam Street, West Mambalam).

Special abhishekam will be performed to Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu with naamasankeertanam.

The following is the program:
10 a.m: Naamasankeertanam and abhishekam

11.30 a.m: Lecture on the teachings of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu by Sri Ranga Krishna Das

12.30 p.m: Aarathi followed by prasadam distribution

All are welcome.
For more details, call 89395 39042.

Rama nama japam in K. K. Nagar temple on Friday

By Our Staff Reporter

There will be Akanda Rama nama japam from 7 p.m to 8 p.m on Friday, March 29 in Arulmigu Muthumari Amman Temple, Dr. Ramasamy Street, K. K. Nagar.

All are welcome.
More details can be had in 91766 51942.

Flying squad of Election Commission checks vehicles in T. Nagar

By Our Staff Reporter

A flying squad of the State Election Commission, assisted by the local police, conducted checks of vehicles in Habibullah Road, T. Nagar on March 20.

The State Election Commission (SEC) has taken steps to prevent any breach of the model code of conduct, which will be in force for the Lok Sabha elections till April 29.

According to senior SEC officials, flying squads, static surveillance teams and video surveillance teams have been deployed across the State. Citizens also would be able to file complaints against candidates for violating the model code of conduct or election expenditure norms on the toll free number 1950.



Appeal to restore 2-way traffic in Chamiers Road

The one-way traffic rule is violated in Chamiers Road-Anna Salai junction.

It was made one-way after Chennai metro started work at Nandanam junction 5 years back.

Currently, motorists coming on Chamiers Road and going towards Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar have to turn left at the junction and take a roundabout opposite YMCA grounds.

But motorists, to save time, drive on the wrong side of Chamiers Road and enter Venkatanarayana Road before cutting across Anna Salai, thereby risking their lives and that of other motorists. With Chennai Metro completing all the work in phase-1 on the stretch, motorists have appealed to traffic police to restore the earlier traffic pattern at Nandanam signal, which would prevent the violation of the one-way traffic rule. According to a traffic official, signals on the T. Nagar side have been made operational. "We will restore 2-way traffic as soon as Chennai Metro hands over the road to us," he added.

Donate for a noble cause

By Our Staff Reporter

P. Sakthivel (Social worker) has launched 'Shelf of Kindness' program on the pavement of Arya Gowda Road (near Mahadevan Street, West Mambalam).



With the approval of Chennai Corporation, he has kept open shelves on the pavement of Arya Gowda Road on which donors can leave washed old clothes, slippers, toys, school books, sanitary napkins and other items of personal use for free distribution among poor persons. The shelves are protected by an awning installed



on the pavement adjoining the wall.

Anyone can contribute to the welfare program by donating used clothes and other such material.

He told *Mambalam Times* that poor persons and beggars in need come and take the

items, and no questions are asked.

He said that there has been good response from the public to the noble cause.

He has also installed similar shelves in Ekkatuthangal, Porur and Navalur. His contact number is 91768 67696.

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5 Hrs 50 Kms	850	950	1200	1300	1600
8 Hrs 80 Kms	1400	1600	2000	2400	3200
Extra 1 Hr	150	190	240	280	340
Out station per km	9	10	12	14	17

DRIVER beta, toll, permit to be borne by the party

Damaged garbage bins dumped near water tank

By Our Staff Reporter

Three damaged garbage bins were dumped on the street corner in Anandh Street, T. Nagar several days ago.

Garbage is dumped around the bins and the surroundings are in unhygienic condition.

The common tank providing water for the residents of the street is located close to the spot where the bins have been dumped. Metrowater fills the tank on alternate days through tanker lorries.



Axed tree branch dumped in service lane

By Our Staff Reporter

A big tree branch with leaves is found dumped on Duraisamy Road Service Lane (opposite B. S. Mootha Girls' School).

It is blocking the carriage-way of the narrow road causing obstruction to motorists and pedestrians.



Worker falls to death as makeshift lift crashes at construction site

By Our Staff Reporter

Marimuthu (a resident of K. K. Nagar) fell to his death after the makeshift lift he was using collapsed at a construction site in Adhanur near Guduvancheri on March 15.

He was engaged in taking construction materials from the ground floor to the fourth floor in the open lift.

The mishap occurred when the lift had almost reached the 4th floor.

The workers told the police that the ropes supporting the lift snapped suddenly and the structure collapsed, came crashing down and hit the ground with great force.

Marimuthu, who suffered grievous injuries, was taken by other workers to a private hospital, where he was given first aid and referred to Government Hospital in Chengalpet and later to the Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital in Chennai as his condition worsened.

He died on the way to Chennai.

Police summoned the builder, site supervisor and engineer for questioning.

Further investigation is on.

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