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FREE

## State Govt. invites applications for 'Kalpana Chawla' award

By Our Staff Reporter

The Tamilnadu govt. has invited applications for this year's 'Kalpana Chawla' award, which is given every year to a woman from the State for exhibiting courage and bravery in real life situations.

The award, which carries a medal and cash component of Rs. 5 lakhs, will be presented by the Chief Minister on Aug. 15 during the Independence Day celebrations.

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Any woman or anyone who knows a woman deserving this award, can apply with complete bio-data, full particulars of the brave act with supporting material on or before June 30 to the Principal Secretary to Government, Public Department, Secretariat, Chennai 600009.

A selection committee constituted by the govt. will screen the applications.

## Fleeing burglars drop Rs.1.56 crore cash looted from Nandanam

By Our Staff Reporter

Saidapet police have formed four special teams to nab the burglars who stole Rs.1.70 crore cash from the house of a businessman in Nandanam in the early hours of May 27.

In a freak incident, Rs.1.56 crore of the money was recovered when two of the robbers on a bike dropped the cash bag while trying to avoid a police checkpoint in Kotturpuram the same night.

Though the police gave chase, they managed to escape.

The bag with the cash confiscated by the police was correlated to the robbery that took place in Nandanam, based on the complaint lodged in the police station and footage of CCTV cameras in the house.

The house owner Balasubramanian had locked his house and gone to Kolkata on business.

The house maid who came to work the next day noticed the front door lock broken and alerted Balasubramanian's daughter living on the 1st floor.

After realizing that a robbery had taken place, she informed her father over phone and lodged a complaint with Saidapet police.

## Advanced baggage scanner soon in Chennai Airport

By Our Staff Reporter

Work has started on installing an advanced in-line baggage scanner system in the international terminal of Chennai Airport. It will be followed by the installation in the domestic terminal as well.

According to an official of Airports Authority of India, the new CT X-Ray and CT scan system can detect explosives, provide a good resolution picture of the bags and will auto-matically divert bags with suspicious content to a manual checking area.

The first two levels of checks are automatic and do not require human intervention. In the third level, the machine will divert bags with suspicious content for security personnel to screen and those which need to be opened will be sent to the fourth level where the passenger is summoned.

The old machine will be replaced with a new one and the conveyor that carries the bags through different levels of scanning will be removed and re-routed as per the new machine's design.

Five stand-alone baggage scanners have been installed in the terminal for passengers to scan the bags until the work to install the new four-level in-line baggage scanner is completed.

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## தமாஷா வரிகள்

ஜே. எஸ். ராகவன்

சீமந்த ஃபைல்!

வீட்டு வாசலில் குதிரை வண்டி வந்து நிற்கும் சப்தம் கேட்டது. ஊருக்கு வெளியே இருக்கும் ஏரி வரை குடையுடன் வாக்கிங் போய்விட்டுக் கால் வலிக்கிறது என்று சில சமயங்களில் அப்பா அந்த வண்டியில் திரும்பி வருவது உண்டு.

ரூபகமாகத் திரும்பக் கொண்டு வந்த மடக்கிய குடைக்குள் சில நாட்களில் நுங்கு, கொடுக்காப்பூளி, மாவடு, இலந்தம் பழம், குந்தமணி என்று ஏதாவது இருக்கும். பிடிக்காத பிரண்டை கூட இருக்கலாம். அன்று அந்த வார ஆனந்த விகடன் இருந்தது. 'அட? விகடன்? நீ வாங்கினியாப்பா? ஏன்? எதுக்கு? அதான் ஒம்பது மணிக்கு ராவ் கொண்டு வந்து போடுவாரே?' என்றேன். விகடனுக்குள் துப்பறியும் சாம்புவை ஆவலுடன் தேடிக்கொண்டு.

வீட்டிலுள்ள பெரியவர்களை 'நீ' என்று கூப்பிடுவது குல வழக்கம். 'நீங்க, வாங்க, போங்க' எல்லாம் கிடையாது. 'ஐயிரே! அது மரியாதைக் குறைவில்லையா?' என்று ஒரு தடவை ஆதிசேக சவலு கேட்டார்.

'ராமசாமி வரார், கிருஷ்ணசாமி வரார்' என்று 'நீ' விசுவாசம் போட்டு சொல்கிறோம். ஆனால் சாமி வரது என்றுதானே சொல்கிறோம். அதிலே மரியாதை, அன்பு, பக்தி அதிகமாகிறது இல்லையா?' என்று கேட்டேன். 'வக்கீல் பிள்ளைதானே, நீ அப்படித்தான் பேசுவே' என்று என் தாடையைத் தடவிவிட்டுப் போனார்.

'பஸ் ஸ்டாண்டிலே சுப்பையாவைப் பார்த்தேண்டா. விகடனைக் கொடுத்தார். அவர் பையன் சீனுமணி எழுதின கதை வந்திருக்காம். சுப்பையாவோட வாயெல்லாம் பல்லு.'

'சுப்பையா மாமாவுக்குப் பொக்கை வாயாச்சே? வாயெல்லாம் பல்லுன்னு எப்படிச் சொல்றேப்பா?'

'போடா கிறுக்கா. அவனுக்கு அவ்வளவு சந்தோஷமா.'

சீனுமணி லார் கதை எழுதுவாரா என்ன? மடிப்புக் கலையாத பேன்ட், ஷர்ட் போட்டுக் கொண்டு தினம் பஸ் ஏறி ஆபீஸுக்குக் போவாரே அவரா கதை எழுதுவார்? எப்படி? என்னுடைய பார்வையிலே கதாசிரியர் என்றால் ஜிப்பா, கதர் வேஷ்டி கட்டிக் கொண்டு, கக்கத்தில் ஜிப் வைத்த பையுடன், புகையிலையைக் குத்திக்கொண்டு இருக்க வேண்டாமா? எனக்குத் தெரிந்து கல்கி, தேவன், நாடோடி எல்லாம் பேன்ட் சட்டையில் காட்சி அளிக்கவில்லையே?

ஊஞ்சலில் ஆடிக்கொண்டே சீனுமணி லாரின் கதையைப் படித்தேன். அதைக் கதை என்று சொல்ல முடியாது. ஒரு கட்டுரை. தன் பெண்ணுடைய கல்யாண சமாச்சார கடிதப் போக்குவரத்துகளை ஜாதகங்களிலிருந்து ஆரம்பித்து, பக்க வாட்டுக் குறிப்புகளுடன் ஒரு ஃபைலில் போட்டுத் தன் நண்பரிடம் விளக்குவது போல நகைச்சுவை தரும்படி இருந்தது.

கல்யாண விஷயங்கள் வாய் வழி மூலமாக ஆரம்பித்து நடந்து நடந்தி முடிந்த அந்தக் காலத்தில் இந்தக் காரியாலய அணுகு முறை வித்தியாசமாக இருந்தது. கட்டுரையின் தலைப்பு 'பாணிக்கிரஹணம் ஃபைல்' என்று நினைவு.

சீனுமணி லாரின் கதை வந்த அன்றுதான் எனக்கு எழுத்துக்கும் எழுதுபவரின் உடைக்கும் சம்பந்தம் இல்லை என்று தோன்றியது.

அன்று இரவு என் கனவில் துப்பறியும் சாம்பு வந்தார். 'நீ ஏதோ கதை எழுதி அனுப்பினாயாம். விகடன் ஆபீஸிலே அதைக் காணாமல். தேவன் லார் என்னைத் தேடிக்கண்டு பிடித்துத் தரும்படி உத்தரவு போட்டிருக்கிறார்' என்று தன் வழக்கை மண்டையைத் தடவிக்கொண்டே சொன்னார்.

எனக்குப் பெருமை தாங்கவில்லை. கையைத் தட்டிக் கொண்டே வீட்டுக் கூடத்தில் இரண்டு தடவை எகிறிக் குதித்து, தூணில் முட்டிக் கொண்டபோது 'என்ன ஆச்சுடா? சொப்பனம் ஏதானும் கண்டியா' என்று தரையிலிருந்து தாத்தா தூக்கிவிட்டார்.

மறுநாள் காலை கதை கேட்டு அழைப்பு வந்தது. தேவனிடமிருந்தா? ஆசை, தோசை அப்பளம் வடை! நல்ல கதையாக இருக்கிறதே! பார்சாரதிதான் கேட்டிருந்தான். எங்கள் 'சுவனை' கையெழுத்துப் பிரதியின் ஆசிரியர் அவன். துண்டு சீட்டு அனுப்பி இருந்தான்.

'டேய் ராகவா, டேய்! நீ உடனே இங்கே வந்து அடுத்த குவார்ட்டர் 'சுவனை' இதழுக்குக் கதை எழுதணும்டா. எழுதிண்டு வந்து காப்பி பண்ணைக் கூடாதுடா. டைரக்டர் எழுதிணும்டா, முடியுமா? உன்னால் முடியுமா. ஒரு சவால்னு வெச்சுக்கேயேண்டா.' பார்சாரதி எவ்வளவு 'டா' போடறானோ அவ்வளவு நெருக்கம் என்று பொருள்.

கதை எழுதப் போனாவைத் திறந்தேன். என்னத்தை எழுதுவது? சீனுமணியின் பாணிக்கிரஹணம் ஃபைல் மனத்திரையில் ஓடியது. அதை மாடலாக வைத்துக் கொண்டு எழுதலாமா? ஆனால் அது பிளேஜியரிஸம் ஆகாதா? ஆனானப்பட்ட வேக்ஸ்பியர் பிற நாட்களில் தழுவித்தானே எழுதி இருந்தார்! இருந்தாலும்... என்ன இருந்தாலும்?

வேக்ஸ்பியர் கொடுத்த தைரியத்தில் எழுத ஆரம்பித்தேன். பாணிக்கிரஹணம் மேட்டர் ஏற்கெனவே சீனுமணியால் கையாளப்பட்டு விட்டதால் 'சீமந்த ஃபைல்' என்கிற தலைப்பைப் பிள்ளையார் சுழி போட்டு ஆரம்பித்தேன்.

தேரடித் தெருவில் இருந்த கிண்டல் பேர்வழி சக்கரவர்த்தியை 'சக்கரை'ன்னு ஸ்பூன் சைவில் அடக்கிக் கூப்பிடுவது வழக்கம். ('அஸ்கா' என்கிற பாட பேதமும் உண்டு) அதை சாரங்கள் என்று மாத்தினேன். அவருடைய பெண்ணின் பெயர் கல்யாணி. அதை அப்படியே வைத்துக் கொண்டேன். சாரங்களுக்கும், அவர் சம்பந்தி தேசிகனுக்கும் கல்யாணியின் கற்பனை சீமந்த சமாச்சார விஷயங்களைக் கடிதப் போக்குவரத்தாகவும், குறிப்புகளாகவும், சீனுமணி அனுஷ்டித்த பாணியில் வரைந்து தள்ளினேன். 'அப்பன் குதிருக்குள் இல்லை' என்கிற பாணியில் கதை, பாத்திரங்கள் கற்பனையே என்கிற பொறுப்புத் துறப்பையும் எழுதினேன். கட்டுரை கச்சிதமாக அமைந்த ரெடிமேட் ஷர்ட் மாதிரி 'சுவனை' யின் இரண்டரை பக்கங்களில் சிக்கென்று உட்கார்ந்தது.

அப்பறம் என்ன ஆச்சு என்று நீங்கள் கேட்பதற்கு முன்னால் இதோ சொல்கிறேன்.

பதினாறே வயசான என்னை நாலு பேர் மத்தியிலே 'என்னடா, எப்போடா சீமந்தம்?' என்று கண்களைச் சிமிட்டிக்கொண்டே, அவுட்டுச் சிரிப்புடன் கேட்டு கிண்டல் பண்ணிக் கொண்டிருந்த சக்கரை, 'சுவனை' வெளிவந்த பிறகு கப்பி என்று அடங்கிவிட்டார்.

காரணம் வேறு ஒன்றுமில்லை. கதையில் கல்யாணியின் புருஷனுக்கு என் பெயரை குட்டியிருந்தேன். jsraghavan@yahoo.com

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## Fleeing burglars drop Rs.1.56 crore cash looted from Nandanam

Saidapet police have formed four special teams to nab the burglars who stole Rs.1.70 crore cash from the house of a businessman in Nandanam in the early hours of May 27. In a freak incident, Rs.1.56 crore of the money was recovered when two of the robbers on a bike dropped the cash bag while trying to avoid a police checkpoint in Kotturpuram the same night.

Though the police gave chase, they managed to escape. The bag with the cash confiscated by the police was correlated to the robbery that took place in Nandanam, based on the complaint lodged in the police station and footage of CCTV cameras in the house. The house owner Balasubramanian had locked his house and gone to Kolkata on business. The house maid who came to work the next day noticed the front door lock broken and alerted Balasubramanian's daughter living on the 1st floor. After realizing that a robbery had taken place, she informed her father over phone and lodged a complaint with Saidapet police.

## Schools, colleges to reopen on June 6

The Directorate of School Education has issued a circular stating that Government and aided schools in Tamilnadu will reopen on Thursday, June 6 instead of June 3 as announced earlier. The Directorate of Higher Education has also announced that colleges in the State will reopen on June 6. According to V. C. Rameswaramurugan (Director of School Education), the decision was taken on account of the ongoing festival of Ramzan which ends on June 5. Meanwhile, schools are preparing to face the severe water crisis. "We have two borewells. But with no metro water supply, we don't know if there will be enough water to cater to our student strength, as girls need more water," said V. Shanthi (Headmistress, Vidyodaya Girls Higher Secondary School, T. Nagar). A few private schools in the neighbourhood are planning to source water from farm wells in the suburbs using private tankers as there is no guarantee that Metrowater will supply them. According to an official of the Education Dept., schools with around 2,000 students need around 20,000 liters of water for sanitary purposes and 2,000 liters of drinking water daily.

A number of government and Corporation schools do not have well or borewell facility, and are dependent on Metrowater for their daily supply. According to Health Department officials, the Govt. and the school administrators should plan for exigencies as without water there will be serious health risks for students.

## OBITUARY

P. S. NARAYANASAMY IYER

P. S. Narayana-samy Iyer (resident of 9/48, Rani Anna Nagar, K. K. Nagar) passed away on May 23.

He was 94, and had been a resident of K. K. Nagar for more than 30 years.

He had worked as head cookin VallakottaiMuru-gan Temple, and later started a catering business. He is survived by his son Ramkumar (retired from TNEB), daughter Mythili Mahadevan and grandchildren.

T. V. VARADAN

T. V. Varadan (resident of 20, Srinivasa Pillai Street, West Mambalam. Ph: 2474 5039) passed away on May 19.

He was 78, and had been a resident of Mambalam for over 65 years. He had retired from State Bank of India.

## New film after 6-year break

Tamil movie director Selvaraghavan (a resident of K. K. Nagar) has released a film after a break of 6 years. Actor Surya is the main hero in the film titled NGK (short for Nandha Gopalan Kumaran). He is the brother of actor Dhanush. He has previously directed popular films like Pudhupettai and 7G Rainbow Colony. "After the failure of my film Irandam Ulagam in 2013, I decided to take a long break. It took two years for me to write the script for the movie. It is a political thriller and a complete entertainer," he said.



## Children enjoy new play equipment in Sharma Park



A number of children are visiting Sharma Park (Habibullah Road, T. Nagar) with their parents to enjoy the new play equipment installed in the park. The Corporation had reno-

ated the park recently and had replaced all the damaged play equipment like slides and swings with new apparatus. The walkers' path was re-laid, exercising equipment repaired and additional benches provided for the visitors to relax. A regular visitor told *Mambalam Times* that, after renovation, the park is maintained well and the plants are watered regularly.

## 'Acharya Sangamam' from Thursday

**By Our Staff Reporter**  
Sri Vasudeva Sathsangam (35A, Vasudevapuram Street, West Mambalam, Ph: 2471 7090) has organised 'Acharya Sangamam', a 3-day mahotsavam on the teachings of Adi Shankara, Ramanuja and Mathwachariar, from Thursday, June 6 to Saturday, June 8 in its premises. Experts will give discourses on Athvaitham, Visidhathvaitham and Advaitam daily at 6.30 p.m. All are welcome.

## Vasantha utsavam in K. R. Temple from Thursday

**By Our Staff Reporter**  
Vasantha utsavam will be celebrated in Arulmigu Kothandaramar Temple (K. R. Koil Street, West Mambalam) from June 6 to 8. The program includes Alangaaram, thirumanjanam and procession. All are welcome.

## Harikatha discourse on Monday

Under the auspices of Sree Suprabhata Sabha, Girija Ramaswamy will give a Harikatha discourse in Tamil on 'Srinivasa Kalyanam' from 6.30 p.m to 8.30 p.m on Monday, June 3 in the Sabha's premises. All are welcome. For more details, call 2480 0440 / 4356 3360.

## Chandi homam in Sankara Mutt today morning

Jothidar Dethiyur V. Mahadevan will perform Chandi homam at 7 a.m on Sunday, June 2 in Sankara Mutt (Easwaran Koil Street, West Mambalam). All are welcome. More details can be had in 98417 89483.

## Workers brave the sun to attend to repairs



**By Our Staff Reporter**  
Workers of a private telecom company were seen working on the distribution box located on Natesan Road, Ashok Nagar, on May 19 to restore faulty connections. A number of lines had gone dead following digging work undertaken by a civic agency nearby. They used an umbrella to protect themselves from the sun.

## Vertical garden on flyover pillars neglected



**By Our Staff Reporter**  
Due to lack of regular watering, most of the saplings planted in the vertical garden on the pillars of G. N. Chetty Road flyover in T. Nagar have withered and died. A Corporation official told *Mambalam Times* that the saplings have died due to the negligence of the contractor assigned to maintain the garden. He added that steps will be taken to restore the garden.

## Damaged speed breaker causes accidents on Govindan Street

**By Our Staff Reporter**  
A heavily damaged speed breaker on busy Govindan Road, West Mambalam is causing frequent accidents, according to residents. They said that many riders fail to notice it in the absence of adequate lighting. lose their balance and fall on the road. Passengers in buses on MTC routes 18K and 88D also have a bumpy ride. Residents said that the area is crowded because there are temples, a church and shops. The officials concerned should immediately repair the speed breaker, they added.

## Alumni meet of Rajah Muthiah School on June 9

**By Our Staff Reporter**  
An alumni meeting has been organised in Rajah Muthiah Higher Secondary School (R.A. Puram) at 4 p.m on Sunday, June 9. The school has appealed to past students living in the neighbourhood to attend the meeting. For more details, call Seshan in 98411 55282 / 97911 58347 or R. Ravikumar (resident of 37A, Jubilee Road, West Mambalam) in 98840 14813 or send email to nirmaltex33@gmail.com.

## Donate Blood

## Spiritual talk, meditation in Annai Dhyana Maiyam on Thursday

**By Our Staff Reporter**  
Sri Annai Dhyana Maiyam (Bakthavatchalam Street, West Mambalam) has organised a talk on 'SuperMind' by A. V. Ramesh Kumar at 6 p.m and meditation at 7 p.m on Thursday, June 6. All are welcome. Those interested in performing pushpanjali or need personal counselling, may contact Annai Adigal (Founder) in 98414 25456

## 'Kids Carnival' in Jeeva Park next Saturday

**By Our Staff Reporter**  
Jeeva Park Walkers' and Joggers' Association and Chola MS General Insurance have jointly organised a 'Kids Carnival' from 3 p.m to 6 p.m on Saturday, June 8 in Jeeva Park (G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar). The carnival will include games like Ladder and Snake, Tug of War and Musical Chair. There will be competitions in skipping, drawing, kolam, balloon shooting and castle building. Free popcorn, cotton candy, biscuits and water will be provided for the participants. Prizes will be given to the winner and runner-up in each contest. For more details, call 98414 32604 / 96005 60555 or 97909 74624

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## Empowering elders with mobile technology

By Felista Jose

Dignity Foundation (AK132, 7th Main Road, Anna Nagar) is a not-for-profit organization that has been working for the cause of senior citizens for more than 24 years.

It has an outreach center on 45th Street, 9th Avenue, Ashok Nagar.

As per latest statistics, India has 340 million smart phone users, of whom only a small percentage make up senior citizens.

With smart phones not intuitive for first time users, senior citizens are easily intimidated by the technology. With communication shifting to mobiles, the elders feel left out and isolated from society.

We have noticed this shortcoming while conducting regular entertainment programs for elders.

To get over the same, we have started conducting smart phone classes for senior citizens. While they get familiar with using some aspects of the phone such as social networking apps, SMS features or making payments for utility

bills, they are still not able to utilize the full potential of the technology like playing intuitive games like chess or taking photos and videos or using apps that can monitor BP, heart rate and other such ailments.

These features also help in improving the cognitive and motor functions associated with ageing, and also help in improving memory and overcoming depression.

In an endeavour for better use of the technology by senior citizens, the Foundation plans to have a two-pronged approach.

Initially it will conduct workshops to get them accustomed to using smart phones.

The 2nd phase will involve skill building like photography and videography.

It will also conduct contests to motivate the participants to showcase their creative skills.

Senior citizens wishing to enroll for the programs can contact me in 2621 0363 or 98403 95943.

(Felista works as Manager in Dignity Foundation)

## Blue Cross gets rescue van with hydraulic lift

Indian Oil Corporation has donated a big van to Blue Cross of India (Velachery) to rescue big injured animals like horses and cattle. The specially designed van is fitted with a hydraulic lift. According to an official, Blue Cross has rescued 400 injured cattle since April 2018.

He said that a number of stray cattle get hit or run over by speeding vehicles and the rescue van fitted with hydraulic lift will help move the injured bovine into the vehicle.

Blue Cross owns two more such vans which are a decade old.

Anyone who comes across injured cows or buffaloes can contact the Blue Cross Rescue Helpline in 2235 4959 or 2230 0666 or 2230 0655.

## Locked Health Center on Giriappa Road misused



By Our Staff Reporter

The Corporation Health Center on Dr. Giriappa Road, T. Nagar has been kept locked for a number of years. The building is also in a dilapidated condition. Though the gate is kept locked, miscreants jump over the compound wall and use the premises for anti-social activities.

The nearby residents have appealed to Chennai Corporation to secure the premises or to repair the building and put it to use.

## Uprooted tree resting on fence on Giriappa Road

By Our Staff Reporter

A dead tree inside the compound of a building on Dr. Giriappa Road was uprooted a week back.

The branches of the leaning tree are resting precariously on a bunch of overhead cables and its trunk is resting on the fence surrounding the building.

It is likely to fall on the road any moment.

It poses a danger for pedestrians and motorists.

Nearby residents have appealed to Chennai Corporation to cut and remove the dead tree.



## Commuters sweat it out in underground metro stations

By Our Staff Reporter

Commuters waiting in underground metro stations have to sweat it out between noon and 5 p.m as the air-conditioning is switched off.

A commuter told this reporter that the wall-mounted fans do not provide enough relief against the hot and humid conditions on the platforms.

“After walking in the sun to reach the station, we hope to get comfort from the air-conditioning, but conditions are worse on the underground platform,” a commuter told *Mambalam Times*.

“Nowadays I wait at the concourse where there is some air circulation and get down to the platform only a few minutes before the arrival of the train,” he added.

According to Chennai Metro officials, the air-conditioning is switched off intermittently to maintain a temperature of around 26 degrees between noon and 5 p.m to save on water.

## Appeal for sponsors for program for elders

By Our Staff Reporter

Dignity Foundation (AK132, 7th Main Road, Anna Nagar) has appealed for sponsors for an exhibition of photos and videos taken by senior citizens with their mobile phones on Sunday, June 23 in Russian Cultural Center (Teynampet).

It has an outreach center on 45th Street, 9th Avenue, Ashok Nagar

The Foundation has been conducting free classes for senior citizens on the use of mobile phones and also teaching them to take quality photos and videos to trigger their creative instincts.

It will present gifts to the winners of best photos and videos selected by a panel of judges.

Other programs at the event include light music and mime show.

Persons willing to sponsor can contact Felista Jose in 2621 0363 or 98403 95943.

## Discourse on Gita today

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, June 2 in the Ashram's premises.

All are welcome.

For more details, call 2814 3896.

## Unused toilets in bus depot demolished after report in Mambalam Times



Before



After

By Our Staff Reporter

Following the report 'Closed toilets in T. Nagar bus terminus misused' published in *Mambalam Times* (May 25-31 issue), the damaged sanitary ware in the toilets is being removed and the structure is also being demolished.

An MTC worker told *Mambalam Times* that the area will be used for creating some facilities for the MTC crew and commuters.

## Infrastructure to be improved in Corporation-run schools

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Corporation will soon revamp the infrastructure and quality of education in the schools run by it, including those in T. Nagar and West Mambalam.

The special committee formed by the Education Department conducted a study on improving the curriculum, need for making the schools completely English medium, creating smart classrooms with technological intervention, improving sports facilities and providing an ambience equal to that in private schools.

The report was submitted to Deputy Commissioner of Education last week and Rs. 200 crores has been earmarked for the projects.

85,000 students are studying in the 251 Corporation-run schools when the actual capacity is more than 2 lakh.

The Department is focusing on 40 schools located in T. Nagar, Mambalam, Anna Nagar, Shenoy Nagar, Royapuram, Thiru-Vi-Ka Nagar, Anna Nagar, Teynampet and Kodambakkam.

## Cables block carriageway in Singaram Street



By Our Staff Reporter

A big bunch of cables has been dumped on Singaram Street, at its junction with Arulambal Street, T. Nagar. It is blocking the way for pedestrians and motorists. It poses a danger to road users at night due to poor visibility.

## New Whatsapp group for reporting missing persons

By Our Staff Reporter

Indian Community Welfare Organization (ICWO) (AP-216, 18th Main Road, I block 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Vallalar Colony, Anna Nagar) has started a new Whatsapp group 'Help Missing Personnel' on May 23.

A. J. Hariharan (Founder) told *Mambalam Times* that the purpose of starting the group is to help locate and reunite missing persons within a short time.

He added that, at present, details of missing persons are shared and forwarded randomly between various Whatsapp groups and often get ignored as spam.

"We maintain a good rapport with the police, advocates and other NGOs, and can coordinate the rescue and rehabilitation in a more professional way," he said.

He has appealed to like-minded persons to join the group. His contact number is 98401 88821.

## Free coaching for LIC recruitment exam

All India Insurance Employees Union (Tower Plaza, 2nd Avenue, Anna Nagar) will conduct free coaching classes for candidates appearing for the Apprentice Development Officer (ADO) examination in its premises in 6, Kachaleswarar Temple Complex, Armenian Street, Parrys Corner from Saturday, June 1. Vasu Devan (Program Coordinator) told *Mambalam Times* that the classes will be conducted from 10 a.m to 5 p.m on Saturdays and Sundays. He said that retired officers from leading insurance companies will conduct the classes.

The preliminary test will be conducted in July and the final examination in August.

For more information, call Vasu in 94446 41712.

## Biker escapes unhurt in accident at Bazullah Road junction



By Our Staff Reporter

A biker escaped unhurt after he was thrown off the motorcycle he was riding after it was hit from behind by a car at the junction of Bazullah Road and Raghaviah Road, T. Nagar at around 3 p.m on May 28.

According to bystanders, the accident occurred when the car driver tried to overtake the bike at the turning.

## Roots damaged while laying storm water drain



By Our Staff Reporter

The main roots of a number of decades-old avenue trees were damaged when a trench was being dug to lay a new storm water drain in G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar.

A shop owner told *Mambalam Times* that the peepal tree in front of his shop is more than 20 years old.

"It provides shade for commuters waiting for buses as there is no shelter at the nearby stop. The Corporation workers damaged the tree's roots. I hope that this has not weakened the tree," he said.

## Talk on Tamil literature today evening

By Our Staff Reporter

Kuvikam Illam (Flat No. 6, 3rd Floor, A Wing, Silver Park Apartments, Thanikachalam Road, T. Nagar) has organized a talk on Tamil literature by writer M. Nithyanandam at 5 p.m on Sunday, June 2.

More details can be had in 94425 25191 and 97910 69435.

## ISKCON to conduct 'Bhakta Prahlad' course

International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) will conduct its year-long 'Bhakta Prahlad' course for children in the age groups of 5 to 10 years and 11 to 15 years from Saturday, June 8 in 66 centers in Chennai including this neighbourhood. The theme for this year is "Avatar". The children will learn about the ten principal Avatars listed in Srimad Bhagavatham. The classes will be conducted for two hours once a week to give children strong roots in Indian Vedic history, culture and discipline. The students will be taught bhajans, Bhagavad Gita slokas, mantra meditation, craft, cultural and

social activities.

At the end of the course, the children will be trained to participate in a cultural event in the ISKCON temple and be given participation certificates.

-To know the details of the venues in T. Nagar and Mambalam, call or Whatsapp to 92821 57776 or download the ISKCON app in your mobile phone.

## Talk on 'Brahmasutras' today

Under the auspices of Akhsara Vidya Trust, Swamini Satyavratanda Saraswati will give a talk in English on 'Brahmasutras' at 5.30 p.m on Sunday, June 2 in Kesari High School, Pandy Bazaar Extension. All are welcome.

For more details, call Vani in 2432 8087.

## Free counseling for law aspirants

Deepak Srinivasan (resident of 240, LIG Flats, 7th Avenue, Ashok Nagar), a student of National Law University (Trichy), offers free guidance for law school aspirants who have appeared for the CLAT exam this year.

He told *Mambalam Times* that he passed the exam 3 years back and is familiar with the procedure for applying for admission to law schools based on the merit and marks scored.

Anyone is welcome to call him in 96000 21124 or 63794 05393.

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Sir, While we come across accidents caused due to explosion of LPG cylinders, not many are aware about the compensation that can be got from oil companies or the LPG distributor.

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Under the policy, in case of LPG accidents, the consumer is eligible for compensation based on the assessment made by the insurance company. The consumer only needs to inform his/her distributor/agent to start the process of claim. R. Manivannan, Lake View Road, T. Nagar

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**Metrowater pipes block Rajamannar Salai**

Sir, A Metrowater contractor has heaped 10-ft long and 2-ft diameter pipes on the margin of P. V. Rajamannar Salai, K. K. Nagar. They are not only blocking the carriageway, but also the entire pavement.



The pipes have been piled one on top of another and a couple of big stones have been pushed under the bottom-most pipe to prevent the heap from collapsing.

They pose a grave danger to pedestrians and motorists. I request Metrowater to remove the pipes from the pavement. R. Harihar, Kamarajar Salai, K. K. Nagar

**Fire safety norms still alien to T. Nagar**

Sir, Two years after a major fire gutted the Chennai Silks building on Usman Road T. Nagar, fire safety norms in the commercial hub of T. Nagar continue to be flouted. Most buildings violate fire safety norms. While some have deviated from the planning permission by illegally adding up to eight floors, many others do not have adequate extinguishers, signs or fire exits. In this regard it is interesting to note that the Directorate of Fire and Rescue Department (Tamilnadu) has recently written to the Government requesting that it be vested with the powers to lock and seal the buildings which flout the fire safety norms. It sends a wrong signal that the present authority is not exercising its powers to take action against the violators. Except for some knee-jerk action, no stringent inspection was carried out in the commercial hub of T. Nagar after the 8-storey Chennai Silks showroom was gutted in the fire in 2017.

Last year, CMDA initiated a detailed project report (DPR) on a fire safety management plan for T. Nagar, but there has been no further development. The residents of T. Nagar had also sought legal recourse against the flouting of fire safety norms by filing a PIL petition in Madras High Court through a local Residents' Welfare Association.

The court then issued a notice to civic agencies and departments concerned, who sought directions to take action against owners of buildings on Usman Road and Ranganathan Street that lack fire safety measures.

The Association had first filed an RTI on the issue and obtained a status report on fire safety measures in more than 100 shops and buildings on the two roads. But in spite of all the measures taken, the situation remains grim with violations taking place openly. N. Balendran, Veeraswamy Street, West Mambalam

**Weigh LPG cylinder to ensure quantity**

Sir, Recently, there was a report about the arrest of 8 persons involved in LPG gas pilfering racket, and 77 cylinders were seized from them.

The LPG delivery challan states that the consumers must insist upon the delivery person breaking open the seal to check the cylinder for defect/leakage and also ascertain that the weight of the LPG is around 14 kg. to ensure that there has been no pilferage. The distributors are duty-bound to equip the delivery boys with a weighing scale for the consumers to check the weight at the time of delivery.

As far as I know, no consumer bothers to check the weight. Also, delivery boys do not carry a portable weighing machine which they are supposed to. The weight of an empty cylinder is around 15.5 kg. So, at the time of delivery, the cylinder should weigh around 30 kg. While plus or minus in terms of grams is acceptable, deviation of one kilogram or more should be reported. V. S. Jayaraman, 31, Motilal Street, T. Nagar

**Surat fire a wake-up call**

Sir, The recent fire in a coaching center in Surat seems to have woken up the authorities in States. It has been reported that the Directorate of Fire and Rescue Department, Tamilnadu, has written to the Government requesting that it be vested with powers to lock and seal the buildings which flout fire safety norms. Even under the present rules and regulations, when the Fire Department can act tough against violations, one fails to understand why it should be given further powers to lock and seal buildings. When bodies like the Greater Chennai Corporation and Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority are vested with the authority to lock and seal, fail to enforce the rules, what is the guarantee that the Fire Department will act?

Presently, prior to obtaining planning permission from GCC/CMDA, one has to obtain no objection certificate from the Fire Department. Towards this, the builder has to provide various details. Further, to get the Completion Certificate/Fire License, again the builder has to furnish various details such as fire safety measures, fire safety plan of the building including fire alarm plan, hydrant layout etc. Once these are provided, the fire safety team conducts a check to ensure that everything is in place and in working condition. Only after this, the completion certificate/fire license is provided. It must be mentioned that only after the completion certificate is issued by the Fire Department, the GCC/CMDA processes the papers to issue its completion certificate.

When the Fire Department can play a vital role to ensure safety under the present set of rules, why does it need more powers? Further, the Department is supposed to undertake fire audit at regular intervals and conduct mock drills to ascertain the preparedness of the building owners to meet any eventuality. If the Department is unable to rein in violators, it only has to blame itself for its ineptitude. K. Harihar, T. Nagar

**SPECIAL CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS**

Classified Advertisements under the heads Accommodation Required, Old Age Home, Marriage hall, Mini Hall, Real Estate (Buying & Selling) & Rental will be published on this page. The charges are Rs. 700 (upto 30 words); Bold Rs.1000. Ashok Nagar - K.K. Nagar & Mambalam- T.Nagar Editions. Display: Rs. 270 per col. centimeter. Each advertisement of Real Estate and Rental must relate to only one house/flat. Full Address with Door Number is must for Rental advertisement. Advertisement will be received upto 1.00 p.m on Friday.

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18th Avenue, 92 Street, 3324 sq.ft (46x72 ft) south facing, G+1 building  
Contact owner: 735 825 0472 735 825 0432

WEST MAMBALAM, Jubilee Road, prime location, 2 bedrooms, 1st floor, 2-wheeler parking, separate water tank, recently renovated, 600 sq.ft, Rs. 70 lakhs (negotiable). Ph: 88074 21715.

NESAPAKKAM, near Arogya Hospital, 840 sq.ft, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, UDS 440 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, wood work, 2-wheeler parking, 8 years old, East facing, price Rs. 37 lakhs. Ph: 9444257659.

**RENTAL**

SAIDAPET (West), No. 9, Gandhi Street, Abid Colony, near Railway Station & Kathipara, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1500 sq.ft, individual 1<sup>st</sup> floor house, apartment style, pure vegetarians, Brahmins preferred, office purpose/working women also. Ph: 98410 98601, 98410 98606

WEST MAMBALAM, 1, Kasi Viswanadhan Koil Street, near Railway Station, ground floor apartment, 1100 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, fully wood work, Brahmins only, rent Rs. 21000 (negotiable). A.C. Saarathy, Ph: 81489 59362.

WEST MAMBALAM, 1, Kasi Viswanadhan Koil Street, near Railway Station, ground floor apartment, 460 sq.ft, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, Brahmins only, rent Rs. 9000 (negotiable). 2-wheeler parking. A.C. Saarathy, Ph: 81489 59362.

ASHOK NAGAR, 15, 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, near GRT & Jawahar Schools, 2 bedrooms apartment, ground floor, bath attached, wood work, balcony, car park, lofts, rent Rs. 15000, 6 months advance. 98403 60785, 98411 93685.

WEST MAMBALAM, 4, Sathyanarayana Street, near Railway Station, 750 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor apartment, attached bath/toilet, 2-wheeler parking, pure vegetarians only, rent Rs. 15500 (negotiable). A.C. Saarathy, Ph: 81489 59362.

WEST MAMBALAM, Savithri Garden, 4/27, Brindavan Street Extension, 1<sup>st</sup> Cross Street, new building, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, covered car park, lift, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Brahmins only, rent Rs. 23000 + maintenance, visiting time: 4 p.m to 6 p.m. Ph: 94441 020886, 73584 48528.

**WEST MAMBALAM 6, Brindavan Street, 685 sq.ft, 1st floor, 2 BHK, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 17000 (negotiable), vegetarians only 97899 17572**

WEST MAMBALAM, 6, Ganapathy Street, near KS Academy & Jain School, 2600 sq.ft, 4 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, dining hall, fully wood work, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor apartment, covered car park, attached bath & toilet, rent Rs. 31500 (negotiable). A.C. Saarathy, Ph: 81489 59362.

WEST MAMBALAM, 91/9, Lake View Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lane, near Bank of India, ground floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, study, pooja, 2-wheeler parking, approx. 1100 sq.ft, vegetarians. Ph: 097654 56344, 077740 60753 (Goa).

WEST MAMBALAM, 41, Sukha Nivas, Janakiraman Street, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, 1 bedroom, lift, one 2 wheeler parking, vegetarian small family, no bachelors, rent Rs. 9000 + maintenance. Ph: 98400 02733.

T. NAGAR, 88, South West Boag Road, 3 bedrooms apartment, ground floor, car parking, rent Rs. 25000, Brahmin only. Ph: 98848 17296.

WEST MAMBALAM, 92-94, 'Navin's Madhuvandan', Brindavan Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 830 sq.ft, ground floor, open car park, plenty water, vegetarian/family only, rent Rs. 18000 + maintenance. Ph: 78294 44504, 95000 01486.

WEST MAMBALAM, D-11, Sri Vidhya Apartment, 14, Balakrishna Mudali Street, Gokulam Colony, 900 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, no car park, no lift, rent Rs. 16000, advance Rs. 1 lakh. Ph: 98412 75001.

WEST MAMBALAM, 5A, Gandhi Street, 600 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, rent Rs. 13000, Brahmins only. Ph: 98401 45939.

WEST MAMBALAM, C-7, Sri Vidya Apartment, Balakrishna Street, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 795 sq.ft, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, rent Rs. 19000, advance Rs. 10000, no car park, no lift. Contact: Owner, Ph: 91766 00734.

**SAIDAPET**

36A/21A, Sarathambal Street, Nr. Aranganathan Subway, FF - 3BHK, rent Rs. 25000 SF - 2BHK, rent Rs. 14000 Brahmins / software professionals only  
79046 83538 90030 20585

T. NAGAR, 11/8, Ramachandra Street, near Panagal Park, opp. Sri Muppathman Koil, 1 bedroom with split A/c, hall, kitchen, 400 sq.ft, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, rent Rs. 10000, vegetarians only, no brokers. Ph: 98408 55723.

WEST MAMBALAM, 24, Veeraswamy Street, 1250 sq.ft, newly built, 2 bedrooms, hall, modular kitchen, wood work, lift, car park, for immediate occupation, vegetarians only. Ph: 83103 67903.

KODAMBAKKAM, 7/1, Parangasapuram Street, near 5 Lights, 1100 sq.ft ground floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, dining, semi-furnished, rent Rs. 20000 (negotiable), Brahmins only. Ph: 91766 14200.

WEST MAMBALAM, Shridi Graha, 42/18, Sampangi Street, ground floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, modular kitchen, 580 sq.ft, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 12500 (negotiable), Brahmins only. Ph: 98406 29218.

T. NAGAR, 52, Rajabather Street, Pondy Bazaar, next to Rich Inn Rooms, office space/godown, approx. 160 sq.ft, Rs. 6500, ground floor. Ph: 90943 46824, 94452 09097.

WEST MAMBALAM, 26/59, Thambiah Road, next to Venkatramana Boli Stall, 3 bedrooms flat with A/c, spacious 1600 sq.ft, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, vegetarians only. Ph: 98400 19865.

KODAMBAKKAM, 1, Rangarajapuram 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 900 sq.ft, ground floor, East facing, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, attached bathroom, for office/godown/catering. Ph: 98415 36078, 97911 36751.

WEST MAMBALAM, 76/82, K.R. Koil Street, 200 sq.ft, commercial shop or godown. Ph: 98407 21502, 94448 86795.

KODAMBAKKAM, 32, Vedhachalam Nagar 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, near R-3, Ashok Nagar Police Station, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 825 sq.ft, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, East facing, 2-wheeler parking, non-vegetarians only. Ph: 90259 81393, 94448 15386.

WEST MAMBALAM, 16/12, Mainckam Street, near Jubilee Road, 900 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2-wheeler parking only, 3 phase, sufficient water, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, ready for occupation, vegetarians preferred. Ph: 98405 76469.

K.K. NAGAR, AP25, 5<sup>th</sup> Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Sector, near Bus Terminus, opp. EB office, 750 sq.ft, ground floor, independent, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, side room, 2 toilets, all facilities, small Brahmin family, rent Rs. 13000, no brokers. Ph: 80560 75044.

WEST MAMBALAM, 16B/39, Arangappan Street, 1000 sq.ft, duplex style, 2 bedrooms, hall, renovated kitchen & bathrooms, 24 hours water, immediate occupation, no brokers, rent Rs. 20000. Ph: 89390 79103.

ASHOK NAGAR, 19, 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 700 sq.ft, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, commercial space, for office use, rent Rs. 20000. Ph: 98843 14456.

WEST MAMBALAM, 136, Lake View Road, 750 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, vegetarians only, rent Rs. 15000. Ph: 98409 50700, 97413 05607.

K.K. NAGAR (Nesapakkam), Flat No. S1, H Block, Prakash Galaxy, Annai Sathya Nagar, near Arogya hospital, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1300 sq.ft, semi-furnished, gated community, covered car park, lift, rent Rs. 19000. Ph: 91767 24435.

EKKATUTHANGAL, Flat No. 2, 21, Balaji Nagar 2<sup>nd</sup> Cross Street, Near ICICI Bank/Saravana Bhavan, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, semi-furnished, covered car park, lift, rent Rs. 16000. Ph: 72999 10023.

WEST MAMBALAM, F-2, Srividya Apartment, 9, Balakrishnan Mudali Street, 650 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, rent Rs. 15000 (negotiable), vegetarians only. Ph: 95000 57115, 95000 47115.

ASHOK NAGAR, 6/14, Sri Devi Colony, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 2 bedrooms, attached bathrooms, hall, kitchen, pooja, study room, service area, ground floor, 1300 sq.ft, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 23000, Brahmins only, no brokers, no pets. Ph: 2471 9797, 99403 59977.

WEST MAMBALAM, Mahalakshmi Flat, 19/20, Giri Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, lift, 2 bedrooms, 700 sq.ft, common car park, rent Rs. 16000, no brokers. Ph: 94441 53582.

T. NAGAR, 47, Hindi Prachar Sabha Street, 1200 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, dining, pooja, service verandah, open car park. Ph: 94440 22902, 94449 62738.

WEST MAMBALAM, 3, Venkatchalam Street, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, independent entrance, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, verandah, one western type, toilet, bath, rent Rs. 14000, 6 months advance, employed Brahmins. Ph: 2814 2474, 94444 18596.

SAIDAPET, 24, Railway Border Road, near Vasanth TV, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, 24 hours water, lease Rs. 10 lakhs. Ph: 98408 72062.

T. NAGAR, 78, South Boag Road, very near to Nandanam Metro Station, fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, no lift, vegetarians only. Ph: 98406 05410, 98403 89216.

WEST MAMBALAM, 3/7, Rajaji Street, near Aranganathan Subway & Saidapet Railway Station, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, vegetarians or Brahmins only, 2-wheeler parking. Ph: 98415 52857.

ASHOK NAGAR, 14, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, near GRT School, 1000 sq.ft, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, individual house, semi-furnished, marble flooring, rent Rs. 19000, car park, 24 hours water, family/bachelor/office. Ph: 73053 44555.

ASHOK NAGAR, 8, 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, near Saga Hotel, 2000 sq.ft, new house, full wood work, modular kitchen, balcony, sit-out, dining, pooja, family or office use. Ph: 97105 85571, 93805 66667.

WEST MAMBALAM, Navaratna Flats, 34-35, Veeraswamy Street, near SRM Hospital & Nightingale School, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, Brahmins only, rent Rs. 15000. Ph: 97911 35658, 99948 11406, 4857 8432.

WEST MAMBALAM, 2/6, Shanthi Apartment, Reddy Kuppam Road, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, ground floor, rent Rs. 8000. Ph: 98840 72472, 70222 77706.

K.K. NAGAR, 932, 69<sup>th</sup> Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Sector, outhouse, 1 room & kitchen with bath & toilet, for small vegetarian family. Ph: 94442 28989.

T. NAGAR, 35/16, Nathamuni Street, 850 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, car park, independent house. 94440 54812.

T. NAGAR, 8/20, Ramakrishna Street, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, semi-furnished, electrical fittings, rent Rs. 25000, vegetarians only. Ph: 95001 75971, 99120 44425.

T. NAGAR, 1, Wason Street, 1000 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1<sup>st</sup> floor flat, marble flooring, full wood work, car park, 24 hours water, security, rent Rs. 20000 (nego.), all electrical fittings. Ph: 98414 06777.

WEST MAMBALAM, Ganapathy Illam, 11/6, Rajaji Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor portion, EB as per card, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 9500, advance Rs. 4000. Ph: 92831 80834, 4865 3505.

WEST MAMBALAM, Nithyananda Nivas, 46, BRP 1<sup>st</sup> Street, new flat, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, car park, lift, rent Rs. 25000, no brokers. Ph: 99406 51592.

**Fire Department seeks powers to act against violators**

By Our Staff Reporter

The Tamilnadu Fire and Rescue Services Department has sent a proposal to the government seeking authority to lock and seal buildings which flout fire safety norms. According to the Fire Officer in Teynampet fire station, the Department's role is now limited to displaying boards indicating the lack of safety of the buildings or collecting fines not exceeding Rs. 500.

"When we issue notices, defaulters continue to flout norms. If we have powers to prosecute them, we can ensure that no violation goes unaccounted for and that they abide by the rules," he said.

He added that in the past two months, the Department has found more than 140 building owners guilty of not complying with fire safety norms, of which at least 30 were educational institutions. The Department could only display cautionary notices outside the buildings.

"The authority to lock and seal buildings at present lies with the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority. They lock and seal only the buildings that do not stick to the original building plan but they do not look at fire safety violations," said B. Kannan (Secretary, T. Nagar Residents' Welfare Association).

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## Elected Madras District Governor of Y's Men International

By Our Staff Reporter

V. Ramesh (resident of Jubilee Road, West Mambalam) was elected as Madras District Governor of Y's Men International (South India Region) during the Annual District Conference on May 25 in Chetpet

It comprises 20 Y's Men Clubs across South India which conduct a number of health awareness programs and free health check-ups for the poor. The other activities include organising blood donation and conducting first-aid and environmental awareness programs.

Ramesh told *Mambalam Times* that Y's Men International is headquartered in Geneva and has representation in 78 countries. His contact number is 97909 04574.



## Local residents to stage street plays on air pollution

By Our Staff Reporter

The team of Sabarivas and Raghavendr, youngsters and longtime residents of West Mambalam, have been staging street plays to spread awareness on several social issues under the banner 'Theaterkaran'.

This week they will be staging street plays on air pollution in public places like parks and bus terminuses.

"Our team will depict danger of vehicular pollution, and also offer solutions to combat the same," said Sabarivas.

They will include car pooling, promoting public transport and cycling.

Families and friends help with funds. They also receive monetary support from corporates like L&T and other companies, he said.

For more details, contact Sabarivas in 98849 66613.

## Jaisankar Street Sai Baba Temple being renovated



By Our Staff Reporter

The 12-year-old Shirdi Sai Baba Temple located in the premises of Shirdi Sai Seva Samaj (Jaisankar Street, West Mambalam) is being

renovated.

The renovation includes installation of a kalasam at the main gopuram, silver 'unjai' for Sai Baba, ornamental work and additional decorative wood

work. The work will be completed in the 1st week of August and kumbhabhisekam will be performed on Aug.18.

Devotees can continue to have darshan from 5.15 a.m to 12.30 p.m and from 4.30 p.m to 9.45 p.m daily.

## Sale of organic farm products today

By Our Staff Reporter

Organic Farmers Market has organized an exhibition-cum-sale of produce of farmers on Sunday, June 2 from 10 a.m to 1 p.m in 32/44, Madhavan Nair Road, Mahalingapuram, near Ayyappan Temple.

On sale will be indigenous rice varieties including kichli sambahand pounded boiled and raw rice, sona masuri hand pounded raw rice, kullakar boiled rice and aromatic rice, thooyamalli, pulses, sweeteners, salt and cooking oil.

Anand (Organizer) told *Mambalam Times* that they have aggregated a number

of small and marginal farmers who cultivate only food crops.

No middle men are involved and the sale proceeds go directly to the farmers to help them get the maximum benefit.

He added that most of farmers participating in the sale own less than 2 acres of cultivable land and, in spite of failing monsoon, inadequate support from family members and lack of welfare schemes, are still passionate and rooted to the traditional method of farming. For more details, call Anand in 98405 25516 or 99622 25225

## Free Veda classes

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Sai Seva Chakra (15, Bharathi Street, West Mambalam) conducts free Veda, bhajans and sloka classes on Fridays from 5 p.m to 6 p.m and on Sundays from 3.30 p.m to 4.30 p.m in its premises.

It also conducts the classes at the following venues:

From Monday to Friday from 6.30 a.m to 7.30 a.m in Sai Murugan Trust Temple (Vadhiyar Thottam, Ranga-rapuram).

On Mondays, Wednesdays and Tuesdays from 4 p.m to 5 p.m in Sarva Priya Ganapathi Temple (Moorthy Street Extension, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ashok Nagar).

On Saturdays from 6.30 a.m to 7.30 a.m in Sri Krishna Gana Sabha (Maharajapuram Santhanam Salai, T. Nagar) and from 8 a.m to 9 a.m in Guha Apartments (29, Vivekanandapuram 1<sup>st</sup> Street, West Mambalam).

All are welcome.

## Mambalam Canal cleaned and de-silted



By Our Staff Reporter

Mambalam Canal flowing along Thyagaraya Road, T. Nagar was cleaned and de-silted on May 29. A JCP machine was used to remove the accumulated garbage, debris and other waste that had been inhibiting the flow of sewage.

## 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), Dr. M. A. Hussian will give a discourse on 'Thiru Arutpa' on Tuesday, June 4, at 6 p.m, in Sakthi Vinayagar Temple (P. T. Rajan Salai, K. K. Nagar).

All are welcome.

## Kitchen waste composted in Corporation parks

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Corporation has dug 4-ft deep pits lined with cement rings for making compost from biodegradable waste in a number of parks in T. Nagar and West Mambalam.

The pits are covered with split bamboo frames.

According to an official, the Commissioner has ordered that biodegradable waste collected from houses in a Zone must be composted within the Zone itself.

A paste of jaggery, curd and rice husk powder is added to the waste and left to decompose into organic manure.

The manure is sold at Rs. 20 per bag and also used in Corporation parks.

The Corporation has also been conducting door-to-door campaigns, requesting residents to segregate the waste before handing it over to the conservancy workers.

Earlier, compost was made in the decomposing yards in burial grounds.

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

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## Umbrellas provide shade for roadside vendors



By Our Staff Reporter

Colourful umbrellas adorn the service lanes of Usman Road, T. Nagar as vendors brave the sun to carry on their business.