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The Neighbourhood Newspaper for T. Nagar & Mambalam

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Vol. 27, No.27

1472nd Issue: November 21 - 27, 2021

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rain water stagnation in flat complexes



Sir, Rain water stagnates to a depth of 4-5 feet in Kokila Apartments complex on Melony Road T. Nagar. Raj Impex, Oakland Apartments, Swarnalok Apartments and Vasanth Apartments complexes also suffer similar flooding.

Residents of ground floor apartments dread the constant threat of rain water entering their houses.

Chennai Corporation officials have suggested digging of rain water wells in the road for each apartment complex from Kokila Apartments to Vasanth Apartments but the work is yet to start. Meanwhile, rain water is stagnating on this stretch making residents, motorists and pedestrians to suffer.

We hope this letter will prompt the Corporation to take immediate steps to commence work on the wells. **Kokila Apartments Residents Association**

Scrap Smart City project

Sir, We appeal to the Tamilnadu government to immediately scrap the Smart City project in T. Nagar as it has only increased flooding. What is the point in beautifying a city which does not have a proper drainage system. With no coordination between various departments, the crores spent on the project have literally gone down the drain and exposed the 'smartness' of officials involved in the project. **T. Nagar Residents' Welfare Association, T. Nagar**

Drainage water overflowing in Rajaji Street

Sir, Drainage water is overflowing in Rajaji Street, West Mambalam, and entering sumpsin most of the houses depriving residents of drinking water.

The authorities should take immediate steps to find a solution. **Krishnamurthy, West Mambalam**

Pensioners' life certificate

Sir, Pensioners should submit Life Certificate (Jeevan Pramaan Patra) to prove that they are alive and to ensure that they continue to receive their pension.

Since the validity of the certificate is one year, it is required to be submitted every November. As this has been digitized, the process has become simple. One can either visit the Provident Fund Offices or the designated branches of the banks where the pension amount is credited to carry out the process of biometric authentication. **V. S. Jayaraman, 31, Motilal Street, T. Nagar**

Heritage Week celebrations begin

By Our Staff Reporter

World Heritage Week is celebrated globally from November 19 to 25.

This year, various organisations in the city including the social group Nam Veedu Nam Oor Nam Kadhai, founded by Thirupurasundari Sevel (resident of West Cross Street, Shenoy Nagar) is hosting events on social media.

"This is a chance for us to look deeper and understand what heritage means to us and things surrounding it. It could be something simple as a postbox, a small tea shop, an old bakery, a heritage building, and so on," Thirupurasundari said.

The following are the program details from Nov. 21:

Nov. 21: Documenting Madras through photos by Ramaswamy Nallaperumal (Senior Photographer)

Palaeontologist Aswatha Biju from Chennai will showcase her collection and talk about her journey.

Nov. 22: Magic of post boxes by Pee Vee

Nov. 24: Exploring the city through parkour by Prabhu Mani

Nov. 25: Exploring heritage architecture by Kaushik Srinivas

To view the above programs, visit the Instagram page [https://www.instagram.com/namveedu\\_namoor\\_namkadhai/](https://www.instagram.com/namveedu_namoor_namkadhai/).



By Our Staff Reporter

Mounds of rubbish were recently removed from the water stagnating in the 2-wheeler Rangarajapuram subway connecting Kodambakkam and T. Nagar. The subway is now open to traffic. Meanwhile, water being pumped out from Mambalam High Road, T. Nagar is entering the subway.

Velammal student in team which excels in swimming tourney



By Our Staff Reporter

S. V. Hasini (Std. 7 student in Velammal Vidyalaya, Melayanambakkam) was a member of the SDAT Dolphin team that won the silver medal in the 4x100 meters Medley Relay event (girls Group 2 category) in the 37th Sub-Junior and 47th Junior Tamilnadu State Aquatic Championship conducted in SDAT Aquatic Complex, Velachery between Sept. 29 and Oct. 1.

Swimmers from all over the state participated in the event organised by Tamilnadu State Aquatic Association.

For details call 8056063519.

50 abandoned animals stuck in floods rescued

By Our Staff Reporter

The Blue Cross of India rescued 17 dogs, 13 cats, 9 buffaloes, 5 cows and 6 calves stranded in flooded areas in Villivakkam and Kolathur areas last week.

"In one of our rescue missions, we entered a compound inundated with waist deep water in Villivakkam to rescue a calf and found 3 dogs and 2 cats struggling to stay afloat, and brought them to safety," Dawn Williams (General Manager, Blue Cross) said.

Sai Vignesh (Founder, Almighty Animal Sanctuary) is trying to find homes for the rescued dogs and puppies.

Animal lovers can contact Sai in 8939320846.

Road blocked to pump out water



By Our Staff Reporter

A portion of the road at the junction of Thirumalai Road and G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar was blocked on Nov. 19 to facilitate pumping out of water from Thirumalai Road, Bazullah Road and other roads. A portion of Easwarnkoil Street, West Mambalam was also blocked to facilitate pumping out of water from streets leading to Madley Subway.

Sand bags placed to prevent water entering



By Our Staff Reporter

Sand bags have been placed outside a commercial building on G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar to prevent stagnant water on the road near the flyover from entering.

Pipelines in Sambasivam Street being repaired

By Our Staff Reporter

Metrowater workers have begun repairing damaged pipelines in Sambasivam Street, T. Nagar near Arulambal Street.

Mambalam Times had earlier reported that a trench dug for the purpose was filled with debris.



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FREE

## Water pumped from drain collects on roads



**By Our Staff Reporter**  
 Rain water flooding the drain was pumped out on

North Usman Road, T. Nagar but it flowed into nearby roads including Bazullah Road and Anand Street. There was traffic congestion due to water stagnation on the road.

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## Chennai police to have exclusive drone unit

**By Our Staff Reporter**

Chennai Police will soon have an exclusive Drone Police Unit to be developed at a cost of Rs 3.6 crores.

According to a senior police officer, the unit will have six quick response drones, two long range surveillance drones and one lifeguard drone

Elevated structures with automated roofs will house the drones with landing and take-off pads and other support hardware. A control room will be built under the platform.

As a pilot project, the drones will be initially operated over Marina Beach, Elliots Beach and Pandy Bazaar.

The drones will be fitted with night vision HD camera to livestream videos, and loudspeakers for making public announcements.

While the short range drones can be operated continuously within a 2-km radius for 30 minutes, the long range surveillance drones can be operated continuously within a 30-km radius for 100 minutes.

## Subways cleaned and reopened to traffic

**By Our Staff Reporter**

All the subways in the neighbourhood which were flooded during the rains last week have been reopened to traffic.

While Duraiswamy subway was opened on Nov. 14, Rangarajapuram two-wheeler subway and Madley subway were opened on Nov. 15.

"We used motor pumps to remove water from the subways. Mud and muck from the subways have also been removed and disinfection carried out," a traffic official said.

13 of the 22 subways in the city were heavily flooded and closed on Nov. 11.

Of the 22 subways, 16 are maintained by the Corporation and the rest by the Highways Department.

## Corporation desilts drain culverts under major junctions

**By Our Staff Reporter**

Chennai Corporation has started to desilt stormwater drain culverts under major junctions across the city.

According to an official, the exercise was done in at least 10 major junctions where culverts are present including Anna Main Road-Jawaharlal Nehru Road junction in Ashok Nagar and in T. Nagar.

Failure to desilt the culverts was seen as one of the reasons for flooding in K. K. Nagar and T. Nagar during the heavy rains last week.

## Inundation despite spending Rs. 200 crores on flood prevention

Though Rs. 200 crores has been spent to reduce flooding in T. Nagar under the Smart Cities Mission in the last three years, the city's first monsoon showers seem to have pushed that money down the drain. A large portion of these funds was spent on the area-based development project.

In T. Nagar, Chennai Corporation had spent over Rs. 110 crores to construct stormwater drains during 2019-2021 and under area-based development of the Smart Cities Mission, nearly Rs. 80 crores was spent to restore the Mambalam Canal to help divert rain water in the area to reduce flooding.

However, these expensive projects turned out to be in vain as the Corporation staff are now forced to remove the bunds which were constructed as part of the Mambalam restoration project to enable draining of water.

Officials said that it was a temporary measure and the bunds will be reconstructed after the rains.

The arterial G. N. Chetty Road, which is also covered under the area-based development of the Smart Cities Mission, remained waterlogged for four days.

## Mega vaccination camps on Thursdays, Sundays

**By Our Staff Reporter**

- UHPC (Nallan Kuppam, Ashok Nagar)

Health Minister Ma Subramanian announced on Nov. 17 that mega vaccination camps will be conducted twice a week on Thursdays and Sundays starting from Nov. 25.

The camps will be conducted at various locations in the neighbourhood including the following:

- Kumaran Nagar UHPC (1, Govindan Road, West Mambalam)
- CMC (Mettupalayam, West Mambalam)
- UHPC (Sivagnanam Street, T. Nagar)
- 1, Brindavan Street, West Mambalam
- Thambiah Road, West Mambalam
- Duraisamy Road, T. Nagar
- Divisional Office, 10th Sector, K. K. Nagar
- UHPC (Ayyavoo Street, Jafferkanpet)

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(இஃது குரு பகவான் மகர ராசியிலிருந்து கும்ப ராசிக்கு நவம்பர் மாதத்தில் பயணிக்கவிருப்பதால் ஜோதிட சிம்மங்கள். சிறுத்தைகள், வேங்கைப் புலிகள், கிரஹவாரியாக கணித்த பலன்களைப் பற்றியது அல்ல. கடந்த லாக்டவுனின் போது தம்மடைந்த குரு என்னும் ஒரு வேலை போன கணினி டீம் லீடர் மாமனார் வீட்டிலிருந்து நீண்ட இடைவேளைக்குப் பிறகு இடப்பெயர்ச்சி செய்து இருப்பதாகத் தகவல் அறிந்த அவனுடைய உறவினர் சிலரினின் மைண்டு வாய்ஸ்கள்.)

மாமனார் மாதவன்: சாமியே... சரணம் ஐயப்பா! இஷ்ட தெய்வம் சாஸ்தா தான் என்னை ரட்சித்தார். கசப்பு கபசுர குடிநீர், முகமூடி, சானிட்டைலர் என்கிற கோரப் பற்களால் குத்திக் குதறி வந்த கொரோனா முதலில் போய்ச் சேருமா அல்லது விக்கிரமாதியனின் முதுகுபோல் என் மேல் சவாரி செய்து வந்த மாப்பிள்ளை வேதாள குரு வீட்டைவிட்டுக் கிளம்புவாரா என்று அல்லாடிண்டு இருந்த எனக்கு இது ஒரு பால் பாய்சம் செய்து குடித்துக் கொண்டாட வேண்டிய நியூஸ். கூடாரத்தில் புகுந்த ஷேக்கின் ஓட்டகம் போல் என்னுடைய ருமுக்குள் ஊடுருவிப் பெர்சனல் கம்ப்யூட்டர், வாக்கமென், ஷீஃப்ர்பேனாவிலேயிருந்து ஆரம்பித்து பாத்தரும் ரப்பர் சப்பல் வரைக்கும் பங்காளியாக இருந்து சொந்தம் கொண்டாடி அலைக்கழிக்கிறான். இதுவாவது பரவாயில்லை. காலை வேளையில் எழுந்த வடன் மடிப்பு நெகிழாத ஹிண்டு பேப்பரை எனக்கு முன்னாலேயே தாவி எடுத்து அதை நல்லி கடையில் ஷிபான் புடவைகளை கன்னாபின்னா என்று பிரித்துப் பார்க்கிற திமிர்மிடிச்சலேடி மாதிரிக் கலைத்து 'ச்சி! பேப்பரிலே ஒண்ணுமே இல்லை' என்று ஃபேனுக்குக் கீழே நாலா திசையிலும் பறக்க விட்டுட்டு பாத்தருக்குப் போயிருவான். தப்பித்தேன். குரு பெயர்ச்சி ஆகப் போறானே. சகலமும் அந்த சாஸ்தாவோட அனுக்கிரஹம். அதே!

மாமியார் மங்களம்: காலம் மாறிப் போச்சு. என்னுடைய நாத்தனார் வசந்தியோட மாப்பிள்ளை மாமியாருக்குக் கால் குடைச்சல் என்றால் பாட்டா ஷோரூமில் செருப்பு மாட்டி விடுகிறவர் மாதிரி உட்கார்ந்து பிண்டதைலம், துளசி தைலம், சுக்கு தைலம், கற்பூராதைலம்னு தினம் ஒரு தைலக் காப்பு சாத்தி நீவி விடறானாம். ச்சே! ஒரு பொம்மனாட்டிக்கு லஜ்ஜையா இருக்காது? ஆச்சு



அடுத்த தைக்கு எனக்கு எழுபது ஆகப் போகிறது. இன்னும் மாப்பிள்ளையை நேரிலே பார்க்கக் கண் வர மாட்டேங்கிறது. 'மஞ்சு! காபி கொடுடி' என்று சமையல் கட்டு வாசலுக்கு வந்து அவர் நின்றால் நான் மேல் புடவையை சரிசெய்து கதவு பின்னாலே மறைஞ்சுண்டுநேன். உடம்பு குப்புனு வேர்த்துடறது. நெஞ்சு டங்கு டங்குன்னு மாவிளக்குக்கு இடிக்கிறதுபோல் அடிச்சுக்கிறது. 'கோவிலுக்குப் போயிருக்காங்கிற' குரல் போர்வெல்லேயிருந்து கிளம்பியதுபோல் தான் வருது. என்ன செய்ய? நான் அப்படி வளர்ந்துட்டேன். 'சுத்த கர்நாடகம்' என்று கோட்டா பண்ணினாலும் மனசு கேட்க மாட்டேங்கிறது. இனிமே அந்தக் கஷ்டம் இல்லை. மாப்பிள்ளை குத்துக்கல்லாக உட்கார்ந்து இருக்க மாட்டார். ஃப்ரீயா இருக்கலாம். சோட்டானிக்கரை பகவதி அம்மனுடைய அனுக்கிரஹம்.

மச்சினன் மணிகண்டன்: குரு வீட்டைவிட்டுக் கிளம்பப் போறாராமே? ரியலி? பிரேக்கிங் நியூசா சேனல்களிலே ரன்ன ராகப் போடலாம். லாப்டாப்பிலே நான் ஓர்க் பண்ணிண்டு இருக்கும்போது அரதப் பழைய பாய்ஜூ பாவ்ரா, ஆவாரா, முக்கந்தர் கா சிக்கந்தர் என்ற இந்தி சினிமா பாட்டுக்களை அப்பாவோட டெஸ்க் டாப்பில் போட்டுக் கழுத்தறுப்பார். அவருக்குப் பிடிச்ச பெங்காலி பாடகர் பங்கஜ் மல்லிக். அந்த மகாநுபாவன் அடி வயத்திலேயிருந்து ரப்பீந்திர ஷொங்கீதத்தைப் பாடுவார். பாட்டு வயதான கல்கத்தா டிராமோட நத்தை வேசத்திலே நகரும். வாழ்வே மாயம்தான். 'கம்ப்யூட்டர் பற்றிப் படிக்கிறதுக்கு பதில் சிவனே என்று தென்னந்த தோப்பிலே மட்டைத் தேங்காய்களை உரிக்கலாம். வெள்ளைக்கார களைண்ட் டுக்காக நம்முடிலே சிவராத்திரிபோல் கொட்டகொட்ட முழிச்சுண்டு இருக்க வேண்டுமா?' என்று உபதேசம் பண்ணுவார். நிஜமாகவே அவர் கிளம்பற அந்தப் பொன்னாள் வருமா? இல்லே என்னத்த கன்னையாவோட ஜோஸ்யம் மாதிரி 'வரும்மம்ம்... ஆனால் வராது?'

மனைவி மஞ்சு: அப்பா, நிம்மதி. பொறந்த வீட்டிலே எத்தனை மாசத்துக்குத்தான் டிகானா போடறது? 'எலி வளையானாலும் தனி வளை வேணும்'னு என்னுடைய பாரு பெரியம்மை சொல்லுவா. சாமி, கடவுளே! இந்த நியூசாவது நிஜமா இருக்கணும். வீட்டோட இருக்கிற மாப்பிள்ளையால் பிரச்சினைதான். இங்கேயிருந்து கிளம்பப் போறோம் என்கிறதைக் கேட்டவுடனே மனசு சிட்டுக் குருவியின் இறக்கைபோலப் படபடன்னு அடிச்சுக்கிறது. எல்லாத்தையும் விட முக்கியமான மேட்டர் மூணு வருஷமாக ஆர்லிங்டனில் படிச்சுண்டிருந்த ஹரிணி அடுத்த மாதம் திரும்பப் போறா. ஹரிணி வேற யாரும் இல்லே என் செல்லத் தங்கைதான். பீட்ஸாவையும், பர்கரையும் மொக்கி, அமெரிக்க செளந்தரியத்திலே முழுசி வாழ்ந்தவ. சும்மா மொழு மொழுன்னு வேக வைச்ச உரிச்ச ஊட்டி உருளைக் கிழங்குபோல் இருப்பா. அவன் வந்துட்டானா குரு அவளை 'சுத்தி சுத்தி வந்தீங்க' மாதிரி சுத்தி சுத்தி வர இங்கேயே டேரா போட்டுடுவார். அதுக்காகவே கிளம்பிடணும். ஆற்றுக்கால் பகவதி அம்மனுக்கு பொங்கல் வைக்கிறேன் என்று வேண்டிண்டு இருக்கேன். அம்மே, பகவதி காப்பாத்துடி! jsraghavan@gmail.com

## T. NAGAR & MAMBALAM BAZAAR

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## Damaged manhole cover replaced after report in Mambalam Times



Before



Now

By Our Staff Reporter

Following the report 'Protruding drain cover hazardous for motorists' published in Mambalam Times (Sept 26-Oct. 2 issue), the damaged cover projecting from the manhole opening in the service lane of Duraisamy Subway (T. Nagar) was replaced by Metrowater workers recently. The damaged concrete cover is still lying at the spot.

## Rush to repair cars following heavy rains

By Our Staff Reporter

In the past few days, many mechanics in the city have been getting numerous calls from customers seeking to repair their vehicles damaged in the floods. B. Saravanan, who has been running an automobile workshop in T. Nagar for more than two decades, said that he had been receiving calls from residents in T. Nagar and West Mambalam.

"I had to turn down many requests as I do not have the space or equipment to handle more than 5 cars at a time. Many cars needed some minor brake and clutch repairs costing Rs.5,000-Rs.7,000. Major problems arise when water reaches the petrol or diesel tank or the engine itself," Saravanan explained.

## Exnora donates cow feed to Goshala



**By Our Staff Reporter**  
Exnora International donated nutritious cow feed to the Goh Samrakshana Sala (4, Kasi Viswanathar Koil Street, West Mambalam). The feed consisted of 300 grain balls made with sesame, jaggery and ghee. Senior Exnora members

including R. Govindaraj (Secretary, North Chennai), J. Fatheraj Jain (Vice President) and G. Vasundara (Joint Secretary) visited the Goshala. The Goshala is a unit of Sri Chandrasekarendra Swamigal Trust (West Mambalam). It is presently taking care of

160 cows. Goh poojas are conducted daily and devotees are welcome to participate in them. Periodical medical check-up is done by a team of doctors and treatment given. It is open from 6 a.m to 9 p.m on all days.

## Cupboard used to cover drain



**By Our Staff Reporter**

An open storm water drain at the junction of Guild Street and Madley Road in T. Nagar has remained covered with a cupboard for several days.

## 'Samarthya Prodigy Award' for PSBB student

**By Our Staff Reporter**  
V. G. Yuvalakshmi (resident of 14<sup>th</sup> Sector, K. K. Nagar) was presented the 'Samarthya Prodigy Award' for her prowess and achievements in creative arts by Dorai Foundation (Palavakkam) in MGR Janaki Arts and Science College (RA Puram).

The award was jointly presented by T. A. P. Varadakutti (State President) and Latha Rajendran (Principal, MGR Special School).

She is well versed in Bharatanatyam and Carnatic and Hindustani classical music and has won several competitions. She has also performed in dance festivals and leading sabhas and temples. She is a student in PSBB School (K. K. Nagar).



## Diabetes awareness, detection camp conducted



**By Our Staff Reporter**

Hundreds of members of Jeeva Park Walkers and Joggers Association (G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar) participated in the awareness and detection camp organized by Lions Club of Central Madras, Diabetes Association of India, Southern Chapter, Exnora Greater Chennai and Rotary Club of Madras Port City on Nov.14 on the occasion of World Diabetes Day.

This year's Theme was 'Access to diabetes care'.

## Debris dumped in Mambalam Canal causes flooding

**By Our Staff Reporter**

Debris dumped in Mambalam Canal was a major cause for flooding in several areas in T. Nagar including G. N. Chetty Road, Usman Road and Boag Roads.

According to Corporation Commissioner Gagandeep Singh Bedi, contractors and officials engaged in Mambalam Canal improvement work had dumped debris in the canal to enable them to move heavy equipment to lay concrete slabs above the canal, and also to desilt the water body.

It was this debris, dumped in a stretch of 1.7 km, from Valluvar Kottam to T. Nagar, that caused blocks when 20 cm of rain fell on Nov. 6 and 7, Bedi said.

The issue came to light when the Commissioner noticed a lot of debris blocking many inlets during flood inspection.

"After we worked overnight and removed all debris from the canal, water began to recede," Bedi said.

## Van falls into crater on Anna Main Road

**By Our Staff Reporter**

Following heavy rains, a large crater formed in Anna Main Road in K. K. Nagar on Nov. 10.

A portion of a van parked nearby fell into the crater.

Corporation workers removed it using an excavator.

No injuries or casualties were caused as the road had remained closed for the last couple of months for maintenance work.

## Surfers to the rescue

During the 2015 deluge, instructors from Surf Turf received calls seeking help to rescue those stranded in water-logged areas. Within no time, the instructors were ready with kayaks and rescue boats.

This time too, the rescue team from Surf Turf was prepared to help those stranded.

A member of Surf Turf said that they were unprepared in 2015 but not this time. In 2015, rescue operation started with a call from one of its students who wanted his grandmother rescued. Soon, trained instructors were ready with

kayaks and rescue boats. After seeing them in action, they started getting calls seeking help. They shared the details on social media and helped a lot of people. They even prepared food for those in need.

Earlier this week, when the India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicted heavy rains and flooding, the Surf Turf rescue team prepared itself with kayaks and rescue boats. Members shared details on social media with contacts and helped those stranded in Kelambakam, Kovalam and Kanathur.

When the rains started, Manikandan Appu, co-owner of Ocean Delight Surf School, got a call from Vishal, one of his students who runs a company that sells fruits and vegetables. Vishal asked Manikandan if he could help deliver vegetables and bread to the needy. Without a second thought, Manikandan and a few other surfers plunged into action and started delivering vegetables. They covered 60 areas including Velachery, T. Nagar, K. K. Nagar and Nandanam.

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## Engineers deputed to mitigate flooding in vulnerable areas

**By Our Staff Reporter**

After another red alert to the city was issued on Nov. 18, Chennai Corporation deputed 36 Engineers, Assistant Executive Engineers and Junior Engineers to carry out flood mitigation works in 54 areas in the city including T. Nagar, K. K. Nagar and Kodambakkam, that suffered severe flooding last week.

Apart from deputing engineers, the Corporation also deputed 10 engineers at 1913 control room to collect complaints from the public and coordinate with the engineers in the field for rectification.

## 5,794 polling booths for local body polls

Chennai Corporation has started preparations for the election of Chennai Mayor and 200 councillors which is to be completed in three months. The dates will be announced soon.

5,794 booths will be created of which 255 will be exclusively for women voters. The list of polling booths is available in all the 15 zonal offices and 200 Division Offices.

The draft electoral roll has been published, and voters whose names are missing from the list, can apply for inclusion.

## Garbage removed following report in Mambalam Times

**By Our Staff Reporter**

Following the report 'Garbage dumped outside EB sub-station' published in *Mambalam Times* (October 17-23 issue), the garbage

dumped outside the EB sub-station on Hanumantha Street, T. Nagar, which had remained uncleared for several days, was removed.

Residents have appealed to officials concerned to take steps to keep the area clean and hygienic.



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## Contaminated water enters flat complexes



By Our Staff Reporter

Most of the roads and residential complexes have been flooded with water contaminated with sewage.

Metrowater workers are removing blocks in sewersto prevent water stagnation but such blocks remain in many areas due to lack of work force.

Residents said that there is no proper response from officials concerned to complaints.

## Axed tree branches block road



By Our Staff Reporter

Broken branches of an avenue tree on Lake View Road (West Mambalam) axed by Corporation workers on Nov. 10 were dumped on the road margin and are blocking the way for pedestrians and motorists.

## Damaged road near PHC turns slushy



Following the heavy rains, a stretch of Lake View Road (near Public Health Center, West Mambalam) has turned slushy, causing inconvenience to patients visiting the hospital.

## IIT collects details of waterlogged areas

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras has asked residents of Chennai to provide details of roads in their neighbourhood inundated after the city was lashed by heavy rains over the weekend.

The Civil Engineering Department will get support from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (USA) to advise Chennai Corporation on future construction plans.

Balaji Narasimhan (Professor of Civil Engineering) said that the data provided by residents on flooding will help Chennai Corporation improve the design of roads, stormwater drains, and improve their maintenance.

"We are working in association with the Corporation to put together a real-time system," he added. Residents can visit <https://in.riskmap.org> and click on it to submit reports and upload photographs of the flooded site.

## Diabetic Retinopathy Project launched

By Our Staff Reporter

Project RADAR (Radhatri Nethralaya Diabetic Retinopathy Project in Association with Rotary) Season 9 was launched for the 9<sup>th</sup> consecutive year on Nov. 9 on the occasion of World Diabetes Day in Radhatri Nethralaya (12, Hindi Prachara Sabha Street, T. Nagar, Ph: 24311550).

Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham (Medical Director, Radhatri Nethralaya) said that the theme for this year's World Diabetes Day was 'Access to diabetic care'. Every year the number of patients with diabetes and its complications, especially diabetic retinopathy (affection of the retina of the eye by diabetes), was exponentially increasing. The key to stop blindness due to this condition was energetic screening and improving



Pamphlets to promote public awareness about diabetic retinopathy being released by the Rotary District Governor Sridhar in Radhatri Nethralaya. Dr. Praveen Krishna and Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham (Medical Directors Radhatri Nethralaya) are also in the picture.

awareness, she added.

To achieve this end, pamphlets jointly created by Radhatri Nethralaya and Rotary club of Chennai Towers to promote awareness about diabetic retinopathy, were released by Rotary District Governor Sridhar for

distribution at busy road junctions.

Dr. Praveen Krishna (Medical Director, Radhatri Nethralaya) said that public education was important as India is the diabetes capital of the world, with the maximum number of diabetics and the

risk of diabetic retinopathy increasing two-fold every five years. Rotary district health chair Dr. Ravi and president of Rotary Club of Chennai Towers Ramakrishnan Mani were present.

More details can be had in of [www.radhatrinethralaya.com](http://www.radhatrinethralaya.com).

## EB staff brave rain, floods to restore power

By Our Staff Reporter

The maintenance wing of Tamilnadu Electricity Board worked on a war footing to undertake repairs and restore power supply last week after the heavy rains left the city flooded in many areas, leading to widespread blackouts.

Hundreds of field staff struggled to restore power supply to the lakhs of residents affected by the blackouts.

According to a senior official, heavy rains caused technical snags in hundreds of feeder lines in addition to the snapping of overhead power lines. In several areas, including T. Nagar, West Mambalam and Kodambakkam, power supply was stopped due to knee-deep water stagnation.

The maintenance staff braved the rains and floods to work through the night to rectify major faults.

Power was restored to 95% of the households in the city by the evening on Nov. 12.

The complaint cell received 3,167 service calls between Nov. 7 and 10.

## Police protection for actor Suriya

By Our Staff Reporter

Due to the ongoing row involving actor Suriya's recently released movie 'Jai Bhim', armed police have been posted outside his house in T. Nagar.

After Vanniyar Sangam sent a legal notice to Suriya, his wife Jyotika, director T. J. Gnanavel and Amazon Prime Video, some senior members of Paatali Makkal Katchi announced cash rewards for anyone who attacks Suriya.

Those in the Vanniyar community have alleged that 'Jai Bhim' had tarnished their reputation.

'Jai Bhim' is currently streaming on Amazon Prime Video.

## Event on terrace gardening, waste management conducted

By Our Staff Reporter

The Leo Club of Shri Shankarlal Sundarbai Shasun Jain College for Women, T. Nagar, in association with Exnora Greater Chennai and Lions Club of Central Madras, organised an event on 'Terrace gardening and solid waste management plan' in Jafferkhanpet, Ashok Nagar, recently.

Lakshmi (Environmental) explained the growing of various plants on the terrace by showing pictures of her terrace garden. She explained solid waste management and the importance of segregating biodegradable and non-bio degradable waste. She also demonstrated the process of composting kitchen waste and its usage.



Lakshmi replied to queries from the students.

R. Govindaraj (President, ExNoRa Greater Chennai), J. Fatheraj Jain (Secretary), R. Kalyani (Leo Club Co-ordi-

nator of Shasun Jain College), Dr. D. Sasikala, V. Gayathri and Dr. G. K. Lavanya (Shabash Team) also participated.

More details can be had in 9941007058.

## Leprosy patients given clothes, sweets



By Our Staff Reporter

Members of Jaimaa Charitable Trust and Vedic Ravi (Managing Trustee, Sri Bhuvaneshwari Charitable Trust) distributed new clothes, sweets and essentials among leprosy afflicted persons in Government Saidapet Hospital recently as part of Deepavali celebrations.

Both the organizations have been rendering service to the needy for several years. More details can be had in 93456 65918.

## Police try out drones, hovercraft for relief operations

The city police used 10 drones – five of them attached with speakers, one with camera and four unmanned hovercraft for relief operations in waterlogged areas in T. Nagar, K. K. Nagar, Washermenpet, Tondiarpet, RK Nagar, Pulianthope, Mylapore, Marina, Foreshore Estate and Kolathur.

While the unmanned hovercraft were used as mini boats to carry medicines and groceries to the affected residents, the drones were used as public addressing systems.

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WEST MAMBALAM, 49/24, Subramanian Street, single bedroom, 550 sq.ft, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 10500, vegetarians, no brokers. Contact: Radhakrishnan. E. Ph: 9444577491.

WEST MAMBALAM, 5/6, Ramakrishnapuram 1<sup>st</sup> Street, near Sitaram Vidyalaya School, ground floor, double bedrooms, hall, kitchen, double bathrooms, marble flooring, woodwork also, 2-wheeler parking only, rent Rs. 14000. Ph: 9962360622.

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**Public Health Centre appeals for donations**

Following heavy rains last week, medical equipment, drugs, furniture and other items were damaged after water inundated the pharmacy section, scan room and casualty ward in Public Health Centre (PHC) (174, Lake View Road, Ramakrishnapuram, West Mambalam). According to R. Kannan (Secretary) equipment worth Rs. 1 crore was damaged.

PHC has appealed to readers of *Mambalam Times* for donations to recoup the loss.

Donations to PHC are exempt under Sec 80 (G) of IT Act.

Its account details are: Public Health & Welfare Society, Punjab National Bank, West Mambalam Branch, Account No: 2510010100000015, IFSC Code: PUNB0602800.

Established in 1953, PHC is a non-profit organisation rendering yeoman service to the community by offering quality health service at affordable rates. It also runs the BVS Murthy Centre for Special Children on Thambiah Road (West Mambalam) which provides care and education for differently-abled children.

PHC is largely a legacy of collective efforts by dedicated doctors, philanthropic donors, selfless volunteers and devoted staff.

Donors may contact Kannan in 94451 10358 and 7397 773 508.

**Stray cattle hinder traffic**



By Our Staff Reporter

Cows let loose by private owners are attracted by the garbage and food waste dumped near bins on Madley Road, Arya Gowda Road and other busy roads in the neighbourhood.

They rummage through the garbage and scatter it around thereby leading to unsanitary conditions. Often, they also topple the bins as they search for food. They also stand in the middle of the road, occupy road margins and the pavement causing hindrance to road users including motorists.

A resident told *Mambalam Times* that the cows are a big nuisance to both motorists and pedestrians. He said that the owners let them loose on the road and the Corporation takes no action against them.

Photo shows two calves near a garbage dump on Madley Road Service Lane (T. Nagar).

**Std. 6 boy drowns in Adyar river, friend missing**

By Our Staff Reporter

12-year-old R. Santhoshkumar drowned while swimming in the Adyar river (near Nandanam) on Nov. 14, while his friend, 10-year-old P. Harsih, who went swimming with him, is still missing.

According to police, the river was deep after desilting and rains, and the boys could not swim back. Passersby who noticed the boys struggling alerted the fire control room and personnel from Saidapet, Teynampet and Guindy launched a search.

Santhoshkumar was rescued and rushed to the Govt. Royapettah Hospital but was declared brought dead.

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**MAMBALAM TIMES**

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## THAMBRASS helps underprivileged college student



By Our Staff Reporter

Thamizhnadu Brahmin Association (THAMBRAAS, T. Nagar branch) provided educational assistance of Rs. 12,000 for a meritorious underprivileged college student towards his final year fees.

The Association has been rendering yeoman service for underprivileged communities.

It had helped a number of poor families and temple priests whose livelihood had been impacted during the lockdowns by providing monthly essentials.

## Rubber raft to the rescue



By Our Staff Reporter

T. Nagar Fire & Service personnel transporting a rubber raft to a flooded area for rescue operations on Nov.19.

## 150 persons attend medical camp



By Our Staff Reporter

About 150 persons attended a special medical camp conducted on Nov.14 in Public Health Centre, West Mambalam under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Insurance Scheme.

Blood pressure, sugar level, oxygen level etc. were checked.

## No storm water drains in 50% of city streets

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Corporation maintains 33,374 interior roads stretching over 5,525 km and 471 bus route roads over 387 km, but its storm water drain network extends to just 2,058 km of which 1,000 km was built in the last 5 years.

On narrow roads where drains cannot be laid, there are no rain water harvesting structures or silt pits.

During heavy rains, the sewage system comes to the rescue by draining excess water, but pipelines and pumping stations are often unable to handle the large inflow.

This also leads to water contamination.

As per a recent report, more than 8 lakh houses in the city do not have sewage connection, and the sewage is often let into storm water drains.

## Rs. 3.6 lakhs presented to three NGOs

By Our Staff Reporter

Three NGOs offering palliative care in Chennai, Chennai Pain & Palliative Care, RMD Pain & Palliative Care Trust and DEAN Foundation Hospice & Palliative Care Centre, received Rs.1,21,500 each donated by employees of L&T Construction.

A first-of-its-kind joint venture between Prayas Trust & Team CSR of L&T Construction, the initiative fetched a total of Rs.3.64 lakhs that was presented to the NGOs at an



event in Toubro Hall on Nov.6 (President, Prayas Trust) and to celebrate the 'Joy of Giving'. other trustees were among those present.

Meena Subrahmanyam

## Road cave-in still not closed



By Our Staff Reporter

Following the heavy rains, a 2-foot-wide portion of Hindi Prachara Sabha Street (T. Nagar) caved in on Nov. 10.

The pit has not been closed and the surface relaid.

Barricades have been placed in front of the pit to caution motorists.

## Sruuthi wins Miss Versatile title

By Our Staff Reporter

In the yearly intra-college contest, S. Sruuthi (2<sup>nd</sup> year B. Com student) (resident of 44/21, Bagirathi Ammal Street, T. Nagar) was selected as 'Miss Versatile' by MOP Vaishnav College for Women (Nungambakkam) for excelling in both academics and co-curricular activities by securing the most points.

She had recently won the 1<sup>st</sup> prize in music, dance and mono acting events in the 'Seize the Day' contest conducted by the Rotaract Club of the college.

She had bagged 4 prizes in the annual Luminescence inter-college cultural contest held last month.

She is the daughter of dramatist S. Shivprasad and the granddaughter of thespian R. S. Manohar.

She has been acting in stage plays of her father's troupe RS Manohar Nxgs and also has her own dance troupe.



## Parents donate deceased daughter's eyes and skin

By Our Staff Reporter

The eyes and skin of 11-year-old A. Harini (resident of T. Nagar), who, on Nov. 15, succumbed to injuries sustained when she fell from the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of a building on Oct. 31, were donated by her mother Kamaladevi (an employee in the hospital) and her father Arun.

The girl was on ventilator support in Institute of Child Health and Hospital (Egmore).

According to the doctors, her eyes and skin were given to an organ bank.

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