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3<sup>rd</sup> Sept to 9<sup>th</sup> Sep.2022 (7 Days) Gomathi Dwaraka, Bed Dwaraka, Mul Dwaraka, Balka Theerth, Dakur Dwaraka, Srinath Dwaraka, Kankroli Dwaraka, Pushkar, Jaipur.  
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### குப் குப் குப்பை

குப் குப் என்று ரயில் போய்க் கொண்டிருந்தது. ஐன்ன லோரத்து இருக்கையில் லோகநாதன் அமர்ந்திருந்தார்.

மனைவி கட்டிக் கொடுத்திருந்த இடலிப் பொட்டலத்தைப் பிரித்தார். இடலியின் உப்பலான பகுதி மீது மிளகாய்ப் பொடி பூசி சாய் பல்லவியின் கன்னம் மாதிரி இருந்தது இடலி.

இடலியை வில்லைகளாகப் பிளந்து வாயில் போட்டு மென்றார். மிளகாய்ப் பொடி துகள்கள் பல் இடுக்கில் மாட்டிக் கொண்டன.

'பேருதான் மிளகாய்ப் பொடி. பருப்பெல்லாம் தடி தடியாக இருக்கு' என்று மனைவியிடம் பலமுறை கூறியிருக்கிறார்.

'மிக்ஸியில் ப்ளேடு ப்ராப்ளம்' என்று ப்ளேட்டைத் திருப்பி விடுவான் மனைவி.

விரலைவிட்டுப் பற்களை நெருட ஆரம்பித்தார். நெடிய நெருடலுக்குப் பிறகு நியூஸ் பேப்பரில் கையைத் துடைத்துக் கொண்டார். இடலி கட்டியிருந்த இலையையும் பேப்பரையும் ஒரு காலிப்பினவர் மாதிரி சுருட்டிப் பக்கத்தில் வைத்துக் கொண்டார்.

காபி விற்பவன் வந்தான்.

'ஏக் காபி' என்றார்.

காபி விற்கும் பையன் செயலில் இறங்க ஆரம்பித்தான்.

ஒடுக்கு விழுந்த எவர்தில்வர் கேனை சாய்த்துப் பாலைப் பிடித்தான். S1 கோச் சுக்குப் போகும்போதும் சாய்த்துத் தான் பிடிப்பான். S13 கோச்சிலும் சாய்த்துத் தான் பிடிப்பான். மினிமம் பேலன்ஸ் பாலை வைத்தே முப்பது காபி கலக்கும் மந்திரவாதி அந்தப் பையன்.

கஞ்சா விற்பவன் போல் கொஞ்சமாக அதில் ப்ருவைத் தூவி அவருடைய கையில் கொடுத்தான். கஞ்சாவைக் கலக்க ஒரு ஓமக் குச்சியும் கொடுத்தான்.

காபியைக் குடித்த பிறகு காலியான பேப்பர் கப்பைப் பக்கத்தில் வைத்துக் கொண்டார். பஸ்ஸில் இடுப்பில் இடிப்பவன் தன் இலக்கை நோக்கி மெதுவாக நகர்வது போல் காலி கப் ரயிலின் அதிர்வால் நகர ஆரம்பித்தது. அதை சிக்கெனப் பிடித்துக் கழுத்தைத் திருகிக் காலிப்பினவருக்குள் போட்டு அதை மேலும் contaminate ஆக்கினார்.

அரை மணி நேரம் போயிருக்கும். பையிலிருந்து ஆரஞ்சுப் பழத்தை எடுத்தார். உரிக்க ஆரம்பித்தார். தோல்களை ஒரு பேப்பரில் போட்டார். உருண்டையாய் வெள்ளையாய் இருந்த பழத்தின் மீது இருந்த ஆயுள் ரேகையை நகத்தால் கீறி எடுத்தார். அதையும் பேப்பர் மீது பரப்பிக் கொண்டார்.

களைகளை வாயில் போட்டுக் கொண்டார். மெல்ல ஆரம்பித்தார். பிறகு வாய்க்குள் விரலைவிட்டு சாமியார்கள் சிவலிங்கத்தை எடுப்பதுபோல் கொட்டைகளை எடுக்க ஆரம்பித்தார். கொட்டைகளையும் பேப்பரில் வைத்தார்.

அடுத்து இன்னொரு ஆரஞ்சுப் பழத்தை எடுத்து அதையும் மானபங்கப்படுத்த ஆரம்பித்தார். வாயிலிருந்து சிவலிங்கங்களை எடுத்துக் கொண்டே இருந்தார்.

பிறகு சிறிது நேரம் கண்களை மூடிக்கொண்டு தூங்கினார். தூங்கி எழுந்தவர் தன் பையில் இருந்த சைடு ஜிப்பைத் திறந்து ஒரு டப்பாவை எடுத்தார். அதிலிருந்து காது குடையும் Ear budsகளை எடுத்தார்.

ஒரு காதுக்குள் விட்டார். ஸ்க்ரூ டிரைவர் கொண்டு திருகாணியைத் திருகுவது போல அதைத் திருகினார். வெளியே எடுத்தபோது அதில் புளிக்காய்ச்சல் மாதிரி ப்ரவுன் நிறத்தில் ஏதோ அசிங்கம் இருந்தது.

இன்னொரு செவிக்குள் இருந்த செப்டிக் டேங்கில் இன்னொரு Ear budயை விட்டார். இமைகளை மூடித் திருக்கும் இன்பத்தை அனுபவிக்க ஆரம்பித்தார். இந்தக் காதில் கனிம வளம் சற்று கூடுதலாகவே இருந்தது. எனவே Ear budயை வெளியே எடுத்தபோது ஒரு லாலிபாப் மாதிரி இருந்தது.

இரண்டு குச்சிகளையும் நியூஸ் பேப்பரில் போட்டார். இப்போது அவரிடம் கணிசமாகக் கழிவுகள் சேர்ந்திருந்தன. எல்லா சின்னக் கழிவுகளையும் ஒரு பெரிய பேப்பரில் போட்டு சுருட்டிப் பெரும் கழிவாக ஆக்கினார். அதை ஜன்னல் வழியாக வெளியே வீசப் போனார்.

'அங்கிள்' என்று தடுத்தான் எதிரே இருந்த பெண். 'இப்படி ஜன்னல் வழியா போடக்கூடாது. தண்டவாளம் முழுக்கக் குப்பையாயிடும். Pollution' என்றார்.

லோகநாதன் யோசித்தார். பிறகு கேட்டார். 'அப்படியா?'

'ஆமாம் அங்கிள். தண்டவாளத்துல விழும். அது பறக்கும். Pollution கெட்டுப் போகும், புரியுதா?'

'புரியுதும்மா. யூ ஆர் கரெக்ட். என் கண்களை நீ திறந்துட்டே. ஜன்னல் வழியா போடறது தப்புதான்' என்ற லோகநாதன் கழிவு மூட்டையை எடுத்துக் கொண்டு போனார். பிறகு திரும்பி வந்தார். கைகளைத் தண்ணீர்விட்டுக் கழுவிவிருந்தார்.

'வெரிசூட் அங்கிள். இப்படித்தான் இருக்கணும். டஸ்ட்பின்ல தானே போட்டீங்க?'

'டஸ்ட்பின்னா? ரெண்டு கம்பார்ட்மெண்டுக்கு மத்தியிலே ஒரு gap இருக்குமே, அது வழியா கீழே போட்டேன். ஜன்னல் வழியா போடலியே' என்றார் பெருமையுடன். nandaaft@gmail.com



காபி விற்பவன் வந்தான்.

'ஏக் காபி' என்றார்.

காபி விற்கும் பையன் செயலில் இறங்க ஆரம்பித்தான்.

ஒடுக்கு விழுந்த எவர்தில்வர் கேனை சாய்த்துப் பாலைப் பிடித்தான். S1 கோச் சுக்குப் போகும்போதும் சாய்த்துத் தான் பிடிப்பான். S13 கோச்சிலும் சாய்த்துத் தான் பிடிப்பான். மினிமம் பேலன்ஸ் பாலை வைத்தே முப்பது காபி கலக்கும் மந்திரவாதி அந்தப் பையன்.

கஞ்சா விற்பவன் போல் கொஞ்சமாக அதில் ப்ருவைத் தூவி அவருடைய கையில் கொடுத்தான். கஞ்சாவைக் கலக்க ஒரு ஓமக் குச்சியும் கொடுத்தான்.

காபியைக் குடித்த பிறகு காலியான பேப்பர் கப்பைப் பக்கத்தில் வைத்துக் கொண்டார். பஸ்ஸில் இடுப்பில் இடிப்பவன் தன் இலக்கை நோக்கி மெதுவாக நகர்வது போல் காலி கப் ரயிலின் அதிர்வால் நகர ஆரம்பித்தது. அதை சிக்கெனப் பிடித்துக் கழுத்தைத் திருகிக் காலிப்பினவருக்குள் போட்டு அதை மேலும் contaminate ஆக்கினார்.

அரை மணி நேரம் போயிருக்கும். பையிலிருந்து ஆரஞ்சுப் பழத்தை எடுத்தார். உரிக்க ஆரம்பித்தார். தோல்களை ஒரு பேப்பரில் போட்டார். உருண்டையாய் வெள்ளையாய் இருந்த பழத்தின் மீது இருந்த ஆயுள் ரேகையை நகத்தால் கீறி எடுத்தார். அதையும் பேப்பர் மீது பரப்பிக் கொண்டார்.

களைகளை வாயில் போட்டுக் கொண்டார். மெல்ல ஆரம்பித்தார். பிறகு வாய்க்குள் விரலைவிட்டு சாமியார்கள் சிவலிங்கத்தை எடுப்பதுபோல் கொட்டைகளை எடுக்க ஆரம்பித்தார். கொட்டைகளையும் பேப்பரில் வைத்தார்.

அடுத்து இன்னொரு ஆரஞ்சுப் பழத்தை எடுத்து அதையும் மானபங்கப்படுத்த ஆரம்பித்தார். வாயிலிருந்து சிவலிங்கங்களை எடுத்துக் கொண்டே இருந்தார்.

பிறகு சிறிது நேரம் கண்களை மூடிக்கொண்டு தூங்கினார். தூங்கி எழுந்தவர் தன் பையில் இருந்த சைடு ஜிப்பைத் திறந்து ஒரு டப்பாவை எடுத்தார். அதிலிருந்து காது குடையும் Ear budsகளை எடுத்தார்.

ஒரு காதுக்குள் விட்டார். ஸ்க்ரூ டிரைவர் கொண்டு திருகாணியைத் திருகுவது போல அதைத் திருகினார். வெளியே எடுத்தபோது அதில் புளிக்காய்ச்சல் மாதிரி ப்ரவுன் நிறத்தில் ஏதோ அசிங்கம் இருந்தது.

இன்னொரு செவிக்குள் இருந்த செப்டிக் டேங்கில் இன்னொரு Ear budயை விட்டார். இமைகளை மூடித் திருக்கும் இன்பத்தை அனுபவிக்க ஆரம்பித்தார். இந்தக் காதில் கனிம வளம் சற்று கூடுதலாகவே இருந்தது. எனவே Ear budயை வெளியே எடுத்தபோது ஒரு லாலிபாப் மாதிரி இருந்தது.

இரண்டு குச்சிகளையும் நியூஸ் பேப்பரில் போட்டார். இப்போது அவரிடம் கணிசமாகக் கழிவுகள் சேர்ந்திருந்தன. எல்லா சின்னக் கழிவுகளையும் ஒரு பெரிய பேப்பரில் போட்டு சுருட்டிப் பெரும் கழிவாக ஆக்கினார். அதை ஜன்னல் வழியாக வெளியே வீசப் போனார்.

'அங்கிள்' என்று தடுத்தான் எதிரே இருந்த பெண். 'இப்படி ஜன்னல் வழியா போடக்கூடாது. தண்டவாளம் முழுக்கக் குப்பையாயிடும். Pollution' என்றார்.

லோகநாதன் யோசித்தார். பிறகு கேட்டார். 'அப்படியா?'

'ஆமாம் அங்கிள். தண்டவாளத்துல விழும். அது பறக்கும். Pollution கெட்டுப் போகும், புரியுதா?'

'புரியுதும்மா. யூ ஆர் கரெக்ட். என் கண்களை நீ திறந்துட்டே. ஜன்னல் வழியா போடறது தப்புதான்' என்ற லோகநாதன் கழிவு மூட்டையை எடுத்துக் கொண்டு போனார். பிறகு திரும்பி வந்தார். கைகளைத் தண்ணீர்விட்டுக் கழுவிவிருந்தார்.

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## T. NAGAR & MAMBALAM BAZAAR

This column is intended to help small businesses to have a cost-effective advertisement medium. Advertisement in this section will be in standard panel sizes of 4 cm. x 1 column (costing only Rs. 600) and 4 cm. x 2 column (costing Rs. 1200)

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### Bags 1<sup>st</sup> prize in Gita contest



L.Srimathi (Std.9 student in Sitaram Vidyalaya Matric. Hr. Sec. School, West Mambalam) bagged the first prize in the Bhagavad Gita competition conducted recently by Sri Saradha Peetam, Sringeri.

### Karaoke concert of old Hindi songs

The music troupe Geet Gata Chal led by GD Sharma presented a karaoke concert of old Hindi songs from the 60s and 70s on May 22 in Sir Pitty Thyagaraya Hall (G.N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar). Sharma said that singing to karaoke is a delicate experience because of the absence of the real-time orchestra, but when the karaoke is rendered in chorus in a concert hall, it is even more challenging. This is the first such concert by the group in Chennai.

"The response has been so good that we are motivated to do may more concerts," he said.

### New Additional Commissioner of Police

By Our Staff Reporter

Prem Anand Sinha took charge as Additional Commissioner of Police (Law and Order, South Chennai) in place of N. Kannanon May 25.

He was earlier Inspector General of Police, North Zone.



### 1-day program for children, adults in Snake Park

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Snake Park will organise summer programs from June 1 for children and adults to impart practical knowledge on snakes that are commonly encountered by people.

"The one-day program, from 9.30 a.m to 5 p.m, will help them understand snakes and their bites and safeguard themselves from snakes. Also, the participants will learn about the beneficial role of snakes in the ecosystem and human life," said a press release from Chennai Snake Park.

During the program there will be lectures and interactive sessions by experts and practical sessions including field visits.

The participants fee is Rs. 1,000 per person, and Rs. 1,500 for a child accompanied by one adult.

Registration starts on Wednesday, June 1.

### CSR funds to upgrade facilities in Corporation schools

Schools run by Chennai Corporation will get a facelift such as improvements in digital infrastructure, physical infrastructure, teachers' development, extracurricular activities and others as the civic body has proposed a Rs. 1,630.70-crore project by generating CSR contributions from corporate firms. According to a Chennai Corporation document, the project will be implemented in three phases to cover all the 281 schools run by it. Implementation of Montessori classes and early childhood education are also part of the project.

Of the total project estimation, Rs. 95.25 crores and Rs. 102.79 crores will be spent during the first two phases.

During the third phase, Rs. 1,432.66 crores will be spent.

The civic body has already commenced the first phase of the school transformation project under the CITIIS (City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain) initiative and Smart City Mission, and projects worth Rs. 80 crores are already under implementation in 28 schools.

### New traffic regulations near Kasi Theater

By Our Staff Reporter

New traffic regulations have been implemented on Anna Main Road, near Kasi Theater junction.

Vehicles going from MGR Nagar along Pillaiyar Koil Street to Jafferhanpet and Guindy should take a left turn at the junction of Kasi Theater towards UdayamCinema for a distance of 150meters and take a U-turn at the junction of K.K. Nagar RTO Office and Ashok Nagar 11th Avenue to reach their destination.

Vehicles from WestSaidapet along Pillaiyar Koil Street except heavy vehicles intending to go to UdayamCinema shouldturnleftatthejunction of Kasi Theater towards Guindy for a distance of 160meters and take aU-turn underneath the flyover to reach their destination.

Heavy vehicles, including MTC buses from Ashok Nagar 12th Avenue, heading for K.K. Nagar, Vadapalani and Koyambedu should turn right along Nagathamman Koil Street and take left along 11th Avenue to reach their destination.

### Residents want drains desilted ahead of monsoon

By Our Staff Reporter

After enduring water inundation last year, residents of T. Nagar urged Chennai Corporation to desilt the stormwater drains crisscrossing the shopping hub before the onset of monsoon.

In a petition to Gagandeep Singh Bedi (Chennai Corporation Commissioner), T. Nagar Residents' Welfare Association has pointed out that the residents suffered a lot during the flooding in November last year.

"Take up desilting of stormwater drains in various streets in T. Nagar and carry out repair works wherever necessary to prevent flooding. There is no point in taking up these works just before the onset of the monsoon," the association urged. A resident pointed out that stormwater drains in T. Nagar are filled with sewage due to unchecked violations by commercial establishments. "During the non-rainy season, water flows in the drains," he added.

## 1-man commission starts inspection of smart city projects

By Our Staff Reporter

The one-man commission headed by retired IAS Officer P.W.C.Davidar has begun inspection to find out irregularities in smart city projects across the city including T. Nagar.

Officials, who accompanied the officer, said that Davidar has been inspecting ponds, water bodies, storm water drains and other smart city projects.

On May 24, he visited several places including the storm water drain works carried out in T. Nagar, Ashok Nagar and KK Nagar.

The officer is expected to submit his findings in three months and, so far, through mail, he has received more than 1,000 complaints from



residents related to irregularities in the projects.

Jayaram Venkatesan (Convener, ArapporIyakkam) said that the aspects of missing links in storm water drains need to be inspected.

"In various places, instead of connecting the missing links, they have reconstructed the storm wa-

ter drains," he said.

He added that in various drain works, gradients have not been proper leading to water stagnation, despite spending so much money.

"Water body restoration work too needs to be looked at," he added.

## Free cervical cancer vaccination



By Our Staff Reporter

Free cervical cancer vaccination was done recently for 85 unmarried women in the 18-28 years age group in Swamy Vivekananda Rural Development Society Training Center, Ulundai Village, Thiruvallur District. Vaccine, costing Rs. 8.50 lakhs, was provided free under a major project of Single Teacher Schools which runs 1,650 schools in 11 districts of Tamilnadu.

## Kalpoondi Welfare Trust gifts ECG machines to PHC



Kalpoondi Welfare Trust (Bank of India Colony Road, Sri Devi Colony, Ashok Nagar) presented ECG Cardiac Machines costing Rs. 3.64

lakhs to Public Health Center (West Mambalam) recently.

K. R. Gopalakrishnan, K. V. Thiagarajan, R. Srinivasan and G. Anuradha (Members of the Trust)

handed over the machines to M.K.Srinivasan (President and Medical Director, PHC). R. Kannan (Honorary Secretary) was present.

## 68-year-old wins 5-km. campus run

By Our Staff Reporter

68-year-old Kasinathan (resident of 56, Rameswaram Road, T. Nagar) won the gold medal in the 50 years and above category in the 5 km. campus run in IIT-Madras on May 22 organised as part of the 2022 student festival for Data Science students.

700 students participated in the run and 2,500 students from all over India in the festival.

The event was sponsored by RedBull Company.



## Blood donation camp on June 4

Jayalakshmiammal Educational Trust (K. K. Nagar) has organised a blood donation camp from 9.30 a.m to 1 p.m on Saturday, June 4 in Chandrasekara Thirumana Mandapam (Ellaiammam Koil Street, West Mambalam) on the occasion of its Founder Varisekar's 1<sup>st</sup> death anniversary.

Paramedical staff from Red Cross (Egmore) will collect the blood units. The program will be inaugurated by Ma. Subramanian (Health Minister). Anyone in good health in the 18 to 65 years age group can donate blood.

More details can be had in 9841475566.

## Special pujas for Vasanthautsavam in K. R. Temple

Special pujas will be conducted for Vasanthautsavam in Arulmigu Kothandaramasamy Temple (K.R.Koil Street, West Mambalam) from June 3 to 5. There will be special alangaaram and thirumanjanam at 7 a.m and from 4.30 p.m to 7.30 p.m on all three days. All are welcome.

## Kandha Sashti Kavacham Classes for Kids.

S.Sriram, resident of Srinivasa Pillai Street, West Mambalam will be conducting Kandha Sashti Kavacham class for KIDS of age 5 to 15 years from 25th June, 2022. The classes will be conducted thru ONLINE for half an hour on alternate days. Participants will be made to recite the Kandha Sashti Kavacham fluently. Sriram also conducts sloka classes for KIDS in other topics such as Vishnu Sahasranamam, Bhagavath Gita, Ramayana and Thirukkural.

To register please call / Whatsapp Mr.Sriram Ph: 93825 13825 Advt.

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**APPEAL FOR MEDICAL AID**  
 My daughter, V.Darhsika, aged 5 years has been diagnosed with heart problem. The Madras Medical Mission, Mogappair has advised her to undergo Cardiac Catheterisation Test and Atrial Septal Stenting. For the first phase of treatment it would cost around Rs. 2 Lakhs & Surgery should be done in a week's time. Being an auto driver, I am unable to afford the cost of Surgery. So I appeal to readers of Mambalam Times to donate fund Directly to the Madras Medical Mission Hospital.  
  
 B.Vinoth Kumar, Auto Driver, Ganapathy Street, W.Mambalam, Ph: 97898 78627 or 96001 06990.

## Sewage water overflowing in Postal Colony 4<sup>th</sup> Street

By Our Staff Reporter

Sewage water has been overflowing from a manhole chamber in Postal Colony 4<sup>th</sup> Street (West Mambalam, opposite JGHV School) for two weeks.

Nearby residents and passersby are put to health risk due to the foul smell and the unsanitary condition.

Chennai Corporation should remove the block in the manhole chamber to stop the overflow.



## Revitalising SMC's in government schools

By Gopika Kumaran

Shilpa, a fellow educator, and I have been teaching in an under-resourced government school in T. Nagar for the past two years.

We started in August 2020, during the first wave of the pandemic.

The students we teach are first generation learners from an urban slum community in T. Nagar, and their parents are daily wage workers, house help and roadside vendors.

One of the things we noticed was that there is hardly any parental involvement in the child's educational journey. The only time parents are called in is to hand over documents, sign applications, or for one-way parent-teacher meetings, where the child is reprimanded by both parent and teacher.

Currently, we teach Stds. 7 and 8 students and follow an adaptable model of teaching whereby classes are conducted online, offline or partially online in response to uncertainties caused by frequent lockdowns.

In the past three months, we have had in-person classes, which have allowed for maximum access and continuity.

A frequent line we hear from parents is: "Naangapadachathillai, naangaennasollamudiyum. (We aren't educated ourselves, what can we even say). Ellamungakaiyileirruku, Miss (Everything is in your hands, Miss)."

From our experiences it became clear that a variety of factors prevent parents from feeling empowered and being actively engaged when it comes to their child's education. In order to understand this further, we spoke to parents, the school management and teachers on these issues and even tried to carve out spaces for increased parental involvement.

Interaction with parents: online vs offline

Due to the largely virtual nature of teaching during lockdowns, we interacted extensively during our teaching journey with the parents.

When we started interacting with parents during the pandemic, they gained a completely new level of access to children's learning. Though they were not welcomed inside the school earlier, we were able to welcome them to our online class and have them observe or create activities that involved them.

Parental ownership became extremely important in the learning process at this time. Without peers or teachers to motivate, push and assist them, parents became primary players in creating their schedules and monitoring their progress.

Once in-person schools reopened, we found this harder to do. We felt a stark difference because of how the parents almost became invisible and we hardly interacted with them.

The parents work long hours and barely have time to see their children, let alone be a part of their educational journey. It became clear that their duty and involvement ended with dropping the children off at the school gate. They hand over responsibility to the teacher and the school, because they either feel they have inadequate skills or they do not realize how much their effort or voice matters.

They also seemed to be very hesitant to provide their inputs. One of the reasons for this hesitation could be that English as a medium of instruction makes the content feel inaccessible to them. This was present during our online classes as well; however, due to our increased engagement with parents in monitoring the child's work during virtual classes, we felt we could be more hands-on in bridging this gap.

The school management and teachers are also quite averse to the idea of increased parental involvement. This was evident in how teachers responded to our efforts to increase parent inputs with apprehension. A few teachers even said that they didn't believe that parents could provide any value apart from providing permission and signing documents.

Role of SMCs in increasing parental involvement

During our research, we were exposed to literature and testimonies on successful projects which set up School Management Committees (SMCs) in other states.

An SMC is a committee tasked with overseeing the quality of education and the financial management of the school, as per the Right to Education Act. RTE mandates that 75% of SMCs are to be composed of parent representatives. The SMC is therefore an important structure for increasing parent involvement and ownership in their child's education.

Several studies undertaken in the past decade of the RTE's implementation have painted a dismal picture of SMCs, year after year. According to the Unified District Information System for Education's (UDISE) statistics, nearly 97% of all government schools in India have an SMC in place. However, these studies also point to the dysfunctional and limited operations of these SMCs country-wide. Thus, while helpful institutional frameworks are available, the implementation is shoddy and hollow.

There has been a recent push to reconstitute and revitalise SMCs in government schools in Tamilnadu. The School Education Department, in April 2022, released new guidelines on how SMCs are to function. For one, the 20-member committee will be headed by a female parent, while the vice-president will be the parent of a child with disability. The status of this

revitalization is unknown as the guidelines were only released recently.

In the case of our school, prior to this push, the SMC did not exist beyond a list of names of parents, noted down in a register. There were no meetings with parents, election ceremonies, or even awareness programs to highlight what an SMC is. Once the new guidelines were released, an orientation was held and the SMC was reconstituted. How it functions and whether it is effective can only be determined with time.

Even when the occasional parent-teacher conferences were held, they were on weekday mornings. Many parents had to suffer pay cuts to be able to attend these meetings.

Institutional frameworks which aim to work against the intimidating nature of a school, seem to be poorly implemented. Efforts to increase sense of ownership

Though reforms at the school-level seemed beyond our control, we attempted to increase the sense of ownership among parents of the children we teach. When we talk of 'ownership', we want parents to play an active role in providing support, sharing opinions and feedback about the classroom and school. They should also feel a sense of responsibility for the progress the child is making.

Creating avenues for parents to come inside the classroom and contribute ideas seemed like a good first step.

One idea for classroom involvement was sharing circles. This is where students' parents and other family members came in and took sessions for students on diverse topics they possess knowledge in such as craft, making pickles, and more. We connected these sessions to the syllabus, thus allowing for parents to be a part of the classroom space and curriculum.

Initially, it took some effort to encourage the parents to show up as being invited into the classroom for such a session was a new concept. We worked around their schedules of parents who were away at work by including them during weekends. Some outspoken parents, who were waiting for an avenue to express themselves, jumped at the opportunity. Once they realised we valued their feedback, they started becoming more comfortable, even with criticising us or offering suggestions. One such suggestion was to share student progress through verbal conversation in addition to written reports, thereby making it accessible to parents who cannot read or write.

As we explored this problem more, we realised that in our student community, they often live in large extended families and have other caretakers in the absence of working parents. So, just limiting our concept of 'ownership' to parents wouldn't have helped. The next step, therefore, was to broaden our scope to involve other family members, including the people who spend most time with the students at home and outside of school. Thus, we were able to bring in older brothers and grandmothers to take part in skill sharing sessions with the students.

At a school-wide level, the management was initially sceptical about having parents give feedback on facilities and activities. Eventually, because of the recent State Government push, they moved into rapid action to reconstitute a working SMC. In fact, one of the parents we worked with was voted the head of the SMC.

Parental inputs will also help educators like us create more relevant content and activities for their children. It is also important to ensure that the student does not think learning or education is confined to merely the classroom or school. It's easy for this to happen because many of the children here have bigger tasks or problems to deal with once they return home, such as household chores, electricity/water problems or even domestic violence. Getting the parent to be more invested in the student's education also creates some space for learning at home.

In many instances, the definition of 'parental contribution' is so narrow; it doesn't look at responsibility and ownership. When we open it up and include parents in discussions of how they can participate, new solutions like the ones we have witnessed emerge.

## Trees painted to caution motorists



By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Corporation has started painting stripes on roadside trees to caution motorists during night. Photo taken on 49th Street (Ashok Nagar) shows a painted tree.

## Corporation to give public health infrastructure a makeover

Chennai Corporation has proposed to improve infrastructure in health centres across the city to increase the number of beneficiaries by 10%.

It runs 140 Urban Primary Health Centers (UPHCs), 16 Urban Community Health Centers (UCHCs), three Emergency Obstetric Care Centers and diagnostic centers.

The measure is expected to reduce the load on the tertiary care facilities of the State government's Health Department in the city, an official said.

Currently, the number of patients visiting Corporation hospitals is more than 15,000 a day. At least 28,000 patients visit primary health centers a day whenever there is an increase in infectious diseases.

Once the infrastructure is improved, the number of such patients is expected to increase at most of the centers for treatment of minor ailments, minor surgical services, treatment of fever cases, TB, dengue, malaria, diagnosis and management of communicable and non-communicable diseases, Caesarean and normal deliveries, newborn care and immunisation of children under five, civic officials said.

T. Nagar resident V.S. Jayaraman said that middle-class residents have started visiting the Corporation's urban primary health center on Radhakrishnan Street after the pandemic and demanded better services from the centers.

"We came to know about a primary health centre on Radhakrishnan Road in our neighbourhood only after the pandemic when residents started visiting it for vaccination. The services are good. Treatment is given for free. So, residents have started demanding more infrastructure at the centre," he said. According to Corporation Commissioner Gagandeep Singh, all the UPHCs will be repaired and upgraded at a cost of Rs. 5 crores.

"We will fill the vacancies in UPHCs and the UCHCs. The community-based outreach will be strengthened through women health volunteers of Magalir Thittam. We will create awareness among people of the services provided at the UPHCs and at the UCHCs," he said. Evening services to improve. The Corporation will strengthen the services at the UPHCs in the evening. Currently, doctors of various specialisations provide services for free in Corporation primary health centers. On Sundays, most of the urban primary health centers are open in the forenoon. The services of the evening clinics are not offered on Sundays in many UPHCs due to paucity of doctors and paramedical staff.

## Velammal School wins throwball tourney

By Our Staff Reporter

The girls throwball team of Velammal Main School (Mogappair) won the Sub-Junior State Throwball Tournament in the Under-14 category conducted by Cuddalore District Throwball Association in Virudhachalam (Cuddalore District) from May 20 to 22.

24 teams participated in the tournament. The team defeated the Kanchipuram district team 15-1 and 15-11 in the final.



## Damaged car dumped on road



By Our Staff Reporter

A damaged Maruti Swift car (TN01/AK2325) has been dumped on the margin of Mambalam High Road (T. Nagar). Nearby residents have appealed to traffic police to remove the vehicle from the spot as passersby have converted the spot into an open urinal.

## Storm water drain opening closed but flooding fears



By Our Staff Reporter

Following the report 'Cover of storm water drain broken' published in *Mambalam Times* (May 22 - 28 issue), the opening in the storm water drain in Postal Colony 4th Street (West Mambalam, near JGHV School) was closed with concrete mix on May 24.

But a nearby resident pointed out that as the opening had now been closed permanently, the drain on the stretch cannot be desilted which could lead to flooding during heavy rain.

## Tree stump leaning into road



By Our Staff Reporter

The stump of an axed tree is leaning precariously into the carriageway of North Crescent Road (T. Nagar). It is a hindrance for motorists and pedestrians.

A nearby resident told *Mambalam Times* that the tree was axed in December.

## Ice cream for Rs. 2 in Vinu's Igloo

By Our Staff Reporter

Vinu's Igloo (Thambiah Road, near Five Lights, West Mambalam) continues to sell cone ice cream for Rs. 2 even as prices of essential commodities have surged.

In comparison, a liter of petrol costs Rs.103. A 750ml bottle of coke costs Rs.38, a glass of sugarcane juice costs Rs. 15 and most vegetables are priced between Rs. 30 and Rs. 100 per kg.

It is popularly called 'Rendu Roopa Icer Cream Kadai'. The flavors sold are vanilla, strawberry, mango and pista. A larger serving of the ice cream costs Rs. 8. They also sell rasagulla and paalkova with ice cream.

With the mercury rising, crowds of customers are seen outside the ice cream shop in the evenings. The outlet was set up by Vinuth's father Vijayan in 1995.



"I was in Std.9 then, and we used to frequent ice cream shops like Milky Way. My father sensed a business opportunity there and set up his own outlet, charging just Re. 1 for a cone initially," he said. A

few weeks later, it was hiked to Rs. 2, and remained so till 2008, when the outlet had to be shut owing to labour issues. In February this year, Vinuth re-opened the outlet, pricing the icer cream at the

2008 rate of Rs. 2. "I won't say I make profits by selling ice cream at Rs. 2, but you will always see crowds outside the shop due to this pricing. At most times, customers do not stop at the Rs. 2

ice cream but have other ice creams or juices, which is how I benefit," Vinuth said.

"I have not compromised on the quality. I only use milk and the ice cream is prepared hygienically," he added.

## Open drain in Habibullah Road unsafe for pedestrians

By Our Staff Reporter

There is a wide opening in the storm water drain under the pavement of Habibullah Road, (T. Nagar).

A plywood sheet has been placed loosely over the opening to caution pedestrians.

Rusted iron rods are protruding from the opening.



The drain filled with stagnant rain water produces an offensive smell.

It is a severe hazard to unwary pedestrians, especially elders and children, as they can fall into the drain and be injured grievously, especially at night due to poor visibility.

Chennai Corporation should remove the stagnant water from the drain and close the opening immediately to prevent untoward incidents.

## Road above BSNL chamber damaged

By Our Staff Reporter

A 3 feet x 2 feet portion of the road above the BSNL chamber on Usman Road (near Police Assistance Booth, T. Nagar) is damaged.

As the road width is reduced, motorists are put to hardship. Photo shows an autorickshaw driver skirting the damaged portion of the road.

A nearby shop owner told *Mambalam Times* that the road was re-laid over the chamber cover, forcing BSNL workers to break the surface to carry out repairs.



## Lamp posts, silt bags dumped on road



A pile of new street lamp posts, bags containing silt and garbage have been dumped on the road along the railway compound wall on Railway Border Road (near Mambalam Station, West Mambalam). They are an eyesore and health hazard for passersby and nearby residents.

## Geeta Bhavan Trust to conduct marriage for disabled persons

By Our Staff Reporter

Shree Geeta Bhavan Trust (334, Avvai Shanmugam Salai, Gopalapuram) has conducted free marriage for 507 disabled persons in the last ten years.

Post-Covid, it is resuming the service in 14 locations in Tamilnadu including Chennai.

The last date for receipt of applications is Sept. 19.

Short-listed brides and grooms will be given counseling on Oct. 9 and the marriages will be conducted on Nov. 20 in the Trust's premises. The Trust provides 'thirumangalyam', 'metti', wedding dress, utensils, other home essentials and groceries for the couples sufficient for two months.

According to a senior member of the Trust, selected persons should undergo medical check-up organised by the Trust to be declared fit for marriage.

For registration and other details, call 2835 1513.

The Trust has appealed to readers of *Mambalam Times* to advise deserving disabled persons to apply.

## Discourse on Bhagavad Gita today

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Sri Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama (3, Maharajapuram Santhanam Salai, T. Nagar), Swami Satyaprabhananda will deliver a discourse in Tamil on Bhagavad Gita at 5.30 p.m on Sunday, May 29 in the Ashram's premises.

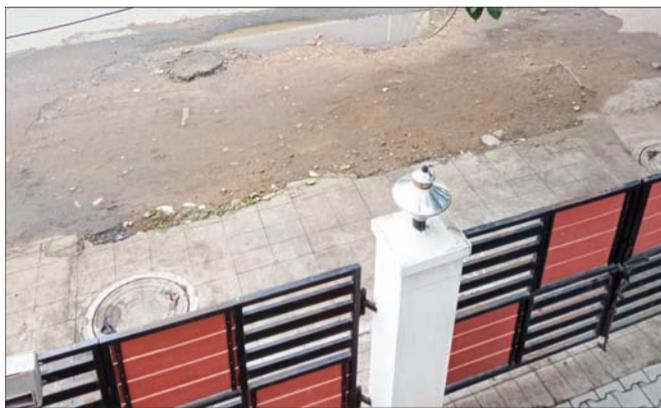
All are welcome.

More details can be had in 2814 3896/3514/2014.

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

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Permanent breeding ground for mosquitoes



Sir, When dengue is rampant, it is unfortunate that, in spite of repeated reminders and reports in *Mambalam Times*, the Corporation is yet to relay the road near Thambiah Road-Giri Street junction to prevent rain water collecting and remaining as a pool for long periods. This has become a permanent breeding ground for mosquitoes. It is hoped that the officials concerned will act immediately in the interest of the residents. **R.Sekar, West Mambalam**

## Malfunctioning of escalator in Railway Station

Sir, After frequent complaints about the escalator on the Ranganathan Street side of Mambalam Railway Station not working, our Association wrote to Southern Railway.

Following this, railway officials conducted an inspection and informed that the escalator was malfunctioning due to misuse by commuters.

They explained that the escalator has been programmed to work only in the upward direction. But a button has been provided for it to function only in the downward direction for a short time in case of an emergency. Once the button is pressed, the escalator can only be reset by the officials for it to work again in the upward direction.

The officials said that some commuters are misusing the emergency feature to get down, leading to the escalator not working and having to be reset.

They have set right the escalator and affixed a warning board near the emergency button to caution commuters against misusing it and warned violators of action.

We thank the railway officials for their quick action. **T. Nagar Residents' Welfare Association, T. Nagar.**

## Persons damaging, misusing civic amenities should not be spared

Sir, I read the report last week in *Mambalam Times* about Chennai Corporation penalizing those who deface street name boards.

I welcome the move and thank Chennai Corporation officials for their action to protect civic properties.

Civic amenities cannot be kept clean without the cooperation of the public and those who cause damage to public property should be punished. **P. Rajaraman, Flat 20, Kamakoti Apartments, 85, Rameswaram Road, T. Nagar, Ph: 99943 27303**

## Mercury crosses 40 degree Celsius



By Our Staff Reporter

After witnessing a dip in temperature last week, Chennai recorded the hottest day of this year with 40.1 degree Celsius on May 23.

S. Balachandran (Deputy Director, General of Meteorology, RMC) said that in the last five years in May month, 2017 had recorded the highest maximum temperature with 42.6 degree Celsius while 2019 and 2020 had 41.5 degree Celsius and 41.8 degree Celsius respectively.

Since May 23, the average temperature has hovered between 39 and 40 degree Celsius with around 50% humidity.

## Bikers raise funds for research on prostate cancer

By Our Staff Reporter

On May 22, over 600 bikers and several motorcycle clubs in Chennai including 22 members of three such clubs from T. Nagar participated in a rally to raise funds to promote research on prostate cancer.

The rally titled 'The Distinguished

Gentleman's Ride 2022' was organised by Phoenix Marketcity. The ride was flagged off from Phoenix Marketcity (Velachery). The bikers headed for Old Mahabalipuram Road, covering the distance of 50 km. and ended their ride at Four Points (Sholinganallur).

Visitors gathered at the finishing point to laud the bikers for their initiative.



## 5,589 pillion riders booked for not wearing helmet

On May 23 when the city traffic police reinforced the helmet compliance rule for pillion riders, 2,023 persons were fined for disobeying the rule.

In the next 3 days, 3,566 more pillion riders were fined for breaking the rule

Of these 1,047 were booked in Teynampet and Kodambakkam Zones between May 23 and 26. Traffic police said that during this special drive more than 2,500 two-wheeler riders across the city were also booked for not wearing helmets.

According to a traffic official, an analysis of road accidents in the city in 2021 showed that 611 persons were killed in two-wheeler accidents of which 134 were pillion riders.

Of the 3,294 persons suffering injuries in 2-wheeler accidents, 365 were pillion riders.



He said that in the last 5 months alone, 841 riders were grievously injured of which 127 were rear-seat travelers.

In this context, the order to make it compulsory for those riding pillion to wear helmets has been brought into effect, the official said.

On May 23, members of the public, mainly officegoers de-

pendent on bike taxis, had a tough time booking a trip as bikes were not available due to the helmet-compliance rule.

"Many riders cancelled the trip as they expected us to carry a helmet with us," said Raghunath, who lives in Saidapet and goes to his office in Mahalingapuram daily by bike taxi.

## Green wonders in glass jars

By Our Staff Reporter

With open spaces shrinking across cities, green crusaders have found ways to keep their passion for planting alive.

Hence, came the idea of growing plants in small enclosures. In recent years, enthusiasts have actively been investing in terrariums, aquascaping, and paludariums to give their home gardens and aquariums an aesthetic touch.

Kodambakkam-based TerraForm has created a similar self-sustaining ecosystem with just a jar, some soil, and stones.

Run by childhood friends Sai Krishnan and Sriram, the store was opened in February after year-long research.

Besides offering a vibrant range of fast-moving and custom-made terrariums, they set up planted aquariums and paludariums at homes based on orders.

"Terrariums may not be a new concept but it's still in nascent stage. Despite this, we have already sold 100 pieces and have received two orders for planted aquariums. The paludarium is like a mix of an aquarium (solely aquatic) and a vivarium, or terrarium (solely terrestrial), encompassing both water and land environments in one tank. We are toying around with all ideas," Saisaid.

They have conducted four online and in-person terrarium workshops during which they offered the participants the tool kit and asked them to design their ecosystem.

Their build-it-yourself terrarium kit comprises a mix of small and large gravel to act as the drainage layer, activated charcoal, dried sphagnum moss, cocopeat mix, aquarium soil, an assorted collection of three types of moss, a medium-sized glass jar, a spray can and planting tweezers.

To cater to a broad clientele, they have products in sizes ranging from the bedside, paperweight terrarium models to bigger ones with Bonsai.

They also accept bulk orders from corporates.

The prices of terrarium kits start from Rs. 1,000.

For details, visit Instagram @terraformterrariums or call 9380975597/9360571814.

## Underground sewage lines to be revamped

The decades-old underground sewage system in the core city zones under the Chennai Corporation will soon get a makeover, as the State government has proposed to implement a project with the help of Asian Development Bank (ADB) to identify bottlenecks and rectify them.

According to TNUISL (Tamilnadu Urban Infrastructure Financial Services Limited), a detailed project report will be prepared to improve the existing sewage system (174 sq km) in Teynampet, Kodambakkam, Tondiarpet, Royapuram, Thiru Vi Ka Nagar, Anna Nagar, and Adyar zones. Additionally, a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system will be developed to monitor sewer lines remotely across the city covering 426 sq km.

"The detailed project report will be completed by the end of the current financial year.

Based on the design, works will be carried out to replace or improve the old sewer lines," an official said.

Presently, Metrowater maintains around 5,200 km of underground sewage lines, of which 1,223 km were constructed before 1978.

## Bus stops to have toilets soon

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Corporation has decided to build toilets in all the major bus stops in the city.

According to a Corporation official, six major bus stops have been selected for the first phase of the project.

The shortlisted ones are old and new bus stands in Saidapet, Ekkatuthangal, Race Course, Anna Square and Velachery Vijaya Nagar.

"Roofs, seats and information boards will be restored in the 6 bus stands along with toilets. The project will be implemented at a cost of around Rs. 4 crores. Footfalls in the selected bus stops are higher as buses connecting various parts of city are being operated on those routes," an MTC official said.

The bus stops will be upgraded under public-private partnership by allowing advertisements at the renovated bus stops.

By implementing the project, the civic body will also earn revenue through advertisements.

## 50-year-old woman gives birth to twins

By Our Staff Reporter

50-year-old Radhika (resident of K.K. Nagar) gave birth to twins through invitro fertilisation on April 29 in Institute of Child Health Hospital (ICH), Egmore.

A senior doctor stated that this is one of the rare cases in the hospital.

C-section surgery was performed to deliver the twins, the doctor said.

Married for 25 years, she did not have a child even after visiting several clinics and hospitals for treatment, he added.

During her eighth month of pregnancy, she developed complications, including severe leg swelling, and fluid overload in lungs. As the patient could not afford treatment in a private hospital, she visited ICH for further treatment.

The new-born babies were kept in incubation for 3 weeks and discharged with the mother on May 25.

## Hotels set to increase prices

By Our Staff Reporter

Dining out may soon become dearer as hotel owners are contemplating an increase in prices of food items due to the rising cost of commercial LPG.

"During January 2021, LPG cylinders for commercial purposes were sold at around 1,300. Now, the price has almost doubled to Rs. 2,500. This has increased the operational cost," R. Rajkumar, Secretary of The Chennai Hotels Association said.

He said that an increase in prices of food is inevitable.

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T. NAGAR, 3, Lakshmi Colony, behind Jain Temple, G.N. Chetty Road, 1st floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, require small family, strictly vegetarian. Ph: 98843 62160.

WEST MAMBALAM, Srinivasa 1st Street, via Pushpavathiammal Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor, 400 sq.ft, vegetarian only, east facing, family/bachelor/office/godown, 24 hours water, 2-wheeler parking, immediate rental Rs. 7500. Ph: 96000 75991. Google map location 26MF+86P

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WEST MAMBALAM, Rams Flat, K.V. Colony 2nd Street, 700 sq.ft, ground floor flat, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, semi-furnished, vegetarians only. Contact: Krishnan, Ph: 86109 48820.

WEST MAMBALAM, Mahadevan Street, Janani Flats, 800 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, rent Rs. 15000, plus maintenance, 1st floor, Brahmins/vegetarians. Ph: 98405 85952.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Lake View Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor, no lift, rent Rs. 11000, advance 6 months, nobrokers. Ph: 97907 67153.

WEST MAMBALAM, 41/85, Lake View Road, first floor, 800 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2 wheeler parking, Brahmin family only, rent Rs. 17000. Ph: 95001 45855.

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ASHOK NAGAR, 7th Avenue, near Balakrishna Naicken Street Extension, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, dining, balcony, 1050 sq.ft, 1st floor flat, rent Rs. 20000, Brahmins only. Contact: Sridhar, G, Ph: 98846 96090 after 9 a.m.

WEST MAMBALAM, Rams Flat, K.V. Colony 2nd Street, 700 sq.ft, ground floor flat, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, semi-furnished, vegetarians only. Contact: Krishnan, Ph: 86109 48820.

WEST MAMBALAM, Mahadevan Street, Janani Flats, 800 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, rent Rs. 15000, plus maintenance, 1st floor, Brahmins/vegetarians. Ph: 98405 85952.

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WEST MAMBALAM, 10/6, Baroda 2nd Street, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, independent ground floor portion, available for immediate occupation, for small Brahmin family. Ph: 94441 83090, 94453 40718.

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T. NAGAR, Rajambal Street, Jain Flat, 1st floor, lift, 1400 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2 western/1 Indian toilet, fully woodwork, east facing, covered car park, rent Rs. 33000 (negotiable). Ph: 96008 47116.

WEST MAMBALAM, 4A, Gokul Flats, Balakrishna Naicken Street, 750 sq.ft, fully renovated, 2 bedrooms, attached bathrooms, 2nd floor, small vegetarian family, rent Rs. 19500, brokers excuse. Ph: 88970 09461.

WEST MAMBALAM, 105/2, Lake View Road, near Sandya Hall, 650 sq.ft, 1st floor, Brahmins only, Rent Rs. 8000. Ph: 97907 80270.

Continued on Next Page

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Continued from Page 7

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WEST MAMBALAM, 4/48, Govindan Road, 800sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, western and Indian toilet, A/c, fans, geyser, marble flooring, 2 wheeler parking only, rent Rs. 17000. Ph: 99623 60622.

WEST MAMBALAM, 11/6, Rajajistreet, 1 bedroom portion, hall, kitchen, 24 hours water, E. B as per card, rent Rs. 8000. Ph: 92831 80834, 90427 63415.

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## Tamil play 'Tharai Mel Pirakka Vaithaan' to be staged on Saturday

By Our Staff Reporter



The Tamil play 'Tharai Mel Pirakka Vaithaan', produced and directed by the troupe 'Naatya Naadha Nataka Sangamam' founded by S. Sruuthi (resident of 44/21, Baghirathi Ammal Street, T. Nagar), will be staged at 6.30 p.m on Saturday, June 4 in RR Sabha (Mylapore). Admission is free. All are welcome. The play has been written by veteran dramatist T. V. Radhakrishnan. The lead role of Sengamalam is played by Sruuthi and her father S. Shivprasad enacts the role of politician Neelamegam.

The play is about fishermen who have lost their lives while fishing and those languishing in jail in neighbouring countries. Sruuthi's contact numbers are 2834 4876 and 73586 96613.

## Drop in prices of petrol, diesel

By Our Staff Reporter

Following the cut in excise duty by the Central Government, the price of petrol fell to Rs. 101.35 per liter and that of diesel to Rs. 93.94 per liter in Chennai.

Before the excise cut, the fuels were priced at Rs. 110.85 per liter and Rs. 100.94 per liter respectively.

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(1) JUNE 3 to 8 - Cholanadu (40) Temples. (2) Jun 24 to 27 - Ahobila Yatra. (3) July 23 to 29 - Nava Tirupati, Pandian Nadu Temples. (4) Aug 12 to 17 - Kerala Divya Desams. (5) Aug 23 to Sep 5 - Badrinath Yatra. Vaidehi Partha Sarathy, 94447 62968, 94447 54468, 99401 47313, 63831 89770.

## Appeal for help for heart surgery for 5-year-old

By Our Staff Reporter

B. Vinothkumar (Auto driver, Ganapathi Street Autorickshaw Stand, West Mambalam) has appealed for medical assistance for his 5-year-old daughter V. Darshika who is suffering from a heart problem.



According to The Madras Medical Mission Hospital, Mogappair, Darshika has been advised to undergo 'Cardiac Catheterisation Test and Atrial Septal Stenting'. The first phase of treatment will cost around Rs. 2 lakhs and surgery should be done in a week.

Vinothkumar has to appealed readers of Mambalam Times for donations for his daughter's treatment which can be sent directly to the hospital.

He is a resident of Ayyapakkam. Vinothkumar can be contacted in 97898 78627 or 96001 06990.

## Free Silambam classes for school students

By Our Staff Reporter

Silambam exponents B. Jayasri and B. Swathi will conduct free 'Silambam' coaching from 6.30 p.m to 8 p.m daily from Monday, May 30 in Shasun Jain College for Women (3 Madley Road, T. Nagar).

Students (both boys and girls) in the 5-15 years age group can join the classes.

For more details, contact Jayasri in 98414 75566.

## Stalin visits bedridden Sindhu in hospital

Chief Minister M. K. Stalin visited S. Sindhu (a resident of Kodambakkam) whom he had hailed for her grit and will power in writing board exams despite being bedridden for the last 15 months, in Omandurar Government Hospital on May 23. He had earlier announced that the Tamil Nadu Government would bear the cost of further treatment for her and also help her realise her dream of playing volleyball again.

Stalin also handed over an order allotting a tea shop in the hospital to Sindhu's father Shakti, who was struggling to support his family and the treatment of his child with his meagre income. Sindhu underwent 10 surgeries last year after she fell from the third floor of a building in December 2020 and had written her exams with the help of a scribe. The state government had also arranged an ambulance for her to travel to the exam center in T. Nagar from her house in Kodambakkam.

She studied in Vidyodaya Girls Higher Secondary School (T. Nagar) and was a district volleyball player.

## Award for Dr. Uma Maheswari

By Our Staff Reporter

Dr. M. R. Uma Maheswari (Chief Medical Officer of AMOL Health Resource Centre) was presented 'Entrepreneurs Empowerment Business Icon Best Inspiring Doctor Award 2022' by Impresario Events Chennai in a function in Hotel GRT Grand.

Impresario Events presents the award every year to chosen persons.

Dr. Uma Maheswari is known for her committed services to the needy, especially those in need of pain relief and rehabilitation. She is an expert in manual therapy and trigger point therapy. She has treated more than 40000 cases.

AMOL Health Resource Centre is a specialty hospital which treats all pain related ailments and is run by Anirudha Foundation of which she is the Managing Trustee.

She has been practising in Chennai and other parts of the state for two decades. She has patients with varied ailments and in all age groups.

Dr. Uma Maheswari delivers lectures on her work and conducts workshops and training programs on Manual Therapy, Trigger Point



Therapy, Taping, Ergonomics etc.

She says she treats the root cause of an ailment which results in permanent relief without medicine or surgery.

She is involved in the team wellness of several corporates. She has received several awards.

Dr. Uma Maheswari can be contacted in 7401294482, 9094044422, 7904422880 and 044-24345526.

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## OBITUARY



Smt Savitri

W/o Sri V. Srinivasa Iyer (Retd. RMS, Postal Dept), aged 94 years attained Sivaloka prapthi on 19.05.2022 at her house at Postal Colony, West Mambalam. She was a resident of Postal Colony for more than 60 years and was a well-known and liked person. She leaves behind sorrowing husband, a son, 4 daughters, grand children, great grandchildren and host of relatives and friends.

Contact: S.Santhana Gopalan, 74011 09222

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