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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unlicensed eateries increasing alarmingly

Sir, The growing number of unhygienic roadside eateries and fast-food joints in the city and this neighbourhood has raised questions about the health of its customers. Smoke from such eateries on public roads and in residential areas is increasing air pollution. The eateries flourish as Chennai Cooperation and police continue to turn a blind eye. In the last one year, the number of eateries near T. Nagar bus terminus has doubled to 20. Eateries are continuing to increase at an alarming pace on main roads like G. N. Chetty Road, Gopalakrishnan Road, Buzullah Road and Venkatanaryana Road. The food is cooked and served unhygienically in the open. Often, non-permitted additives are used in the cooking which can lead to long-term health problems in those who consume them.



Other woes include encroachment, haphazard parking of vehicles by customers visiting these outlets and unhygienic maintenance of the surrounding. Several of these locations have now become open urinals. The eateries dump the food waste openly into storm water and sewage drains.

Unless roadside vending is licensed and regulated in the immediate future, it will lead to multitude of civic and health issues in the long run which then will become difficult to bring under control. **Sri Ganesh, T. Nagar**

Storm water drain project needs appraisal

Sir, Since June, Chennai Corporation has started the implementation of the city-wide storm water drain project costing crores of rupees.

Due to road cuts and trenches, road users and residents are facing a lot of issues like road blocks, traffic congestion, damage to civic amenities like sewage and metro water pipeline etc.

Many defects and inadequacies have been pointed out with regard to the choice of location, design of the storm water drainage system, non observance of required gradient in several places and digging the roads too deep and wide in what looks to be a haphazard way by unskilled or semi-skilled workers with lack of on-the-spot inspection by the officials.

In locations which are near the seashore, experts have pointed out that storm water drains are not necessary as water quickly percolates into the soil and flooding has never been an issue.

The main issue is water stagnation caused primarily by uneven roads, potholes and overflow of sewage.

In many places, the main reason for stagnation has been due to the fact that the openings to the storm water drains are above the road and the floor level of buildings adjoining the road. In several places, where the work is in progress, live EB cables are lying overground or sunk inside drains filled with stagnant water.

As workers are not wearing any protective equipment like gloves, it is unsafe for them to work under such conditions.

Exposed cables are a life risk to the local residents, passersby and the workers who are seen working on the drains without wearing any protective gear like gloves and gumboots.

Due to road blocks and narrowing of roads, ambulances are facing a tough time to move patients in time to hospitals in case of emergencies. Motorists are put to hardship due to the damaged condition of the roads. With trenches dug in pavements, pedestrians, especially senior citizens, are put to risk as they have to walk on the road.

It would only be appropriate for the Tamilnadu Government to stop the work, which is in the early stages or where the work has not yet commenced, to get a reappraisal after consultation with the residents and experts.

Further, the officials should take immediate steps to alleviate the problems caused to residents due to the shoddy work undertaken by the contractors and ensure that the mistakes are not repeated in the newer locations where the work is to be started. **N. S. Venkataraman, M 60/1, 4th Cross Street, Besant Nagar, Ph: 2491 6037**

Kudos to Ashok Nagar police for quick action

Sir, Thanks for publishing the report about the theft of my bike in *Mambalam Times* last week in the 'Letters to the Editor' column.

I would like to record my appreciation on behalf of Postal Colony 1st Street Welfare Association for the prompt action taken by the police.

In response to our complaints to R3 Ashok Nagar police station, Asst. Commissioner Dhanaselvan came in person to investigate and assigned a special team to nab the culprits.

He gave directions to increase patrolling during daytime to avoid such crimes in future and requested us to install additional CCTV cameras on our street.

They identified the culprits from CCTV footages and arrested them. **S. K. Arun, VPN Apartments, 6/11, Postal Colony 1st Street, West Mambalam, Ph: 98410 17152**

Non-vegetarian eatery dumps kitchen waste in garbage bins

Sir, A non-vegetarian eatery located on Brindavan Street Extension is regularly dumping kitchen and food waste in garbage bins kept on the road opposite Elgi Ultra Industries Limited.

Unbearable stench emanates from the waste dumped causing hardship to nearby residents.

The food waste attracts stray dogs which strew the waste all around the bins.

It is a health hazard. It is also a safety hazard to conservancy workers who remove the waste from the bins daily.

I request the officials concerned to take immediate action and prevent the eatery from dumping waste in public bins. **V. Ganesan, 20/8, Brindavan Street Extension, Ph: 94455 63161.**

Toy Day celebrated in school



By Our Staff Reporter

The Kindergarten section of Sri Narayana Mission Senior Secondary School, West Mambalam, celebrated Toy Day recently.

The occasion saw the auditorium filled with a wide variety of colourful toys and children enjoying playing with them and interacting with one another.

According to a teacher of the school, the idea behind organising Toy Day was to make their learning fun with toys and also to introduce different themes.

22 Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya students selected in campus interview



Twenty two students of Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya (58, Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar) were selected by Johnsons Lifts and Escalators (Chennai) in the campus interview conducted on July 29. They had completed the

Electrician, Fitter and Wireman courses conducted by the Vidyalaya. P. Maruthi (Secretary) said that all the students are from poor families.

The Vidyalaya has thanked Johnson Lifts for giving an opportunity to meritorious

students from poor families.

He said admissions are on for the next batch of vocational courses.

Interested persons can contact Maruthi in 98420 13195 or Jawaharlal (Principal) in 94451 25048.

Painting, fancy dress contests for children

Tamilnadu Brahmin Association (T.Nagar) and Jaimaa Charitable Trust have organised online fancy dress and drawing competitions for children on the occasion of Sri Krishna Jayanthi. Children up to 6 years can compete in the fancy dress competition and those between 7 and 10 in the drawing competition.

Fancy dress competition is on Mahabharata and painting competition on Lord Krishna.

Photos of the fancy dress and paintings can be sent on WhatsApp app to 9884284348 by Aug.1. The registrations fee is Rs.100.

Debris blocks carriageway



A big heap of construction debris has been dumped on the margin of Sough Boag Road, near Neelakanta Metha Street, T. Nagar. It is blocking a third of the carriageway and hindering motorists and pedestrians. A nearby resident told this reporter that the debris had been dumped at night more than 2 weeks ago.

He said despite many complaints to the zonal office of Chennai Corporation, no action has been taken to remove it.

Velammal presents Rs. 30 lakhs to its chess prodigies

Velammal Nexus presented cash awards totalling Rs. 30 lakhs last week to nine of its present and former students for excelling in chess at international level. While six of these players are representing India in the ongoing 44th Chess Olympiad in Mahabalipuram, three of them are coaching the Indian teams. Ma Subramanian (Minister for Health and Family Welfare) presented the awards. Bharat Singh Chauhan (Secretary, All-India Chess Federation and Director of the Olympiad) was present. D. Gukesh, R. Praggnanandhaa and B. Adhiban are members of Indian B Team while S. P. Sethuraman and Karthikeyan Murali are members of C Team.

R. Vaishali is a member of the Senior Women team. Narayan Srinath, Shyam Sundar and Priyadarshan have been appointed as coaches. In the tournament, India A team is seeded 2nd, B Team 11th and C Team 17th. About 2,500 players from 188 countries are taking part in the tournament.

Café Levista opens in Mambalam

Café Levista, the first exclusive store from the coffee brand Levista, was recently opened at 3, Thambiah Road, Opp. SRM Hospital, West Mambalam.

It offers Levista's Filter Coffee, Instant Coffee, Black Coffee and Cold Coffee.

There are a few inaugural offers: A premium instant coffee pack (worth Rs.10) is given free on buying a cup of filter coffee and on instant coffee a Rs.5-pack. A coffee mug is offered free on purchase of 500gm. of filter coffee powder or instant coffee powder.

Fresh and hot snacks such as, samosas, puffs, fried snacks, baked snacks, sandwiches, pastries, 'sundal' and cookies are served. It is open from 6.30 a.m to 8.30 a.m. Its phone number is 9841070590.

Its Manager said that coffee beans are procured from its estates in Coorg.

3-day workshop on handlooms, seed conservation, terrace gardening

By Our Staff Reporter

India Handmade Collective (IHMC), Safe Food Alliance and Mission Samridhi have jointly organised 'Sustainability Festival' from 10 a.m to 7 p.m from Aug. 5 to 7 in Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya (58, Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar) as part of National Handloom Day celebrations.

There will be an exhibition on naturally dyed handmade garments and other products.

There will be workshops on hand spinning, natural dyeing, terrace gardening, seed conservation, seed bank in home, seed exchange, heirloom seeds and stalls serving organic food and snacks.

All are welcome.

Poor response for EV charging docks in metro stations

Charging docks for Electric Vehicles (EV) installed in 20 metro stations in the city have received poor response from the public.

Chennai Metro, along with Energy Efficiency Service Limited (EESL), began installing charging docks from 2019.

T. Ramesh (Additional General Manager of EESL) said, "Though the usage is lower than anticipated, it will increase with rise in number of vehicles."

Sathish Kumar, a resident of Anna Nagar, who frequently charges his Nexon at Thirumangalam Metro station said, "We have to wait in a long queue to charge the vehicle. Hence I come on Sunday afternoon to avoid the crowd. Additionally, the usage of these docks will increase if tariff is reduced."

Six cars can be charged at a time from the currently installed charging docks.

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Metro rail work in full swing in Panagal Park

By Our Staff Reporter

Barricades have been placed around Panagal Park (T. Nagar) which has been taken over by Chennai Metro for construction of an underground station under the Phase 2 project.

A total of 3,069 sq m of land will be used for the work and



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will be handed over to the Corporation after completion of the work.

The park is spread over 19,434 sq m and the Chennai Metro had sought 6,911 sq m of land for the project.

However, the existing rules

permit construction in only 5% of the park area.

As the project is essential for better transportation, the Chennai civic body permitted the Chennai Metro to cut down 87 trees, demolish 893 sqm of the pavement and 93m of the wall.

Two held for stealing bikes

By Our Staff Reporter

Ashok Nagar police arrested two persons on the charge of lifting motorcycles parked on the roadside

Police said R. Suresh (29) of Gangaianman Koil in Virugambakkam, a painter, parked his bike on 7th Avenue, Ashok Nagar and went to have a cup of tea on July 24 evening. On his return, he was shocked to find his vehicle missing.

On his complaint, the police investigated and arrested M. Prabhu (32) and Saravanaraj(38) of West Mambalam. The two reportedly confessed to also stealing another vehicle from Saidapet. Police recovered the two bikes from them.

Seepage from roof, walls in Nandanam metro station

By Our Staff Reporter

Water has been seeping through the roof and side walls in three underground metro stations, Nandanam, Anna Nagar Tower and High Court, since last week.

In Nandanam station, water has been leaking from the roof over the stairs connecting the concourse level and the platform. S. Lakshmi, a commuter, said that the walls frequently leak even during dry season in spite of regular repairs undertaken by Chennai Metro.

She said yellow signboards indicating a wet floor, have become quite common in Nandanam station, especially during monsoon season.

Metrowater begins desilting sewer networks

Metrowater has taken up desilting of sewers across all the 15 zones as part of its monsoon preparation work

Nearly 595 million litres of sewage is collected daily in 302 sewage pumping stations in the city through a pipeline network running for 4,093 km. The work will be carried out till July 30 on 1,460 streets in various zones.

Of the 15 zones, Teynampet has the maximum number of 162 streets. It will engage 500 sewer machines, including desilting machines, jet rodding machines and super sucker machines to clear the sewer pipelines. Residents may contact the respective area offices or depot offices to resolve complaints of sewage overflow or blocks in their streets.

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அன்று மகன் வால்மார்ட்டிற்குப் போனபோது வால் மாதிரிப் பின்னாலேயே தொற்றிக் கொண்டார். மகன் ரேக்கிலிருந்து பொருட்களை அள்ளி அள்ளி ஷாப்பிங் டிராலியில் போட்டுக் கொண்டிருந்தான். வண்டியைத் தள்ளுவது ஆனந்தனின் வேலை. எப்போதும் ஷாப்பிங் டிராலியில் ஒரு சக்கரம் கோணலாக சுற்றும். அது குரோம்போட்டையாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, கலிபோர்னியாவாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, இதே விதிதான். அன்றும் அதே மாதிரி சுற்றித் தாட்டியான மூதாட்டியின் இடது பக்கத்தில் டிராலியை இடித்துவிட்டார்.

'ஸாரி' என்று பணிந்தார் ஆனந்தன்.

'அப்பா, இப்படியெல்லாம் செய்யாதே. ஈவ் டிஸ்டிங்க்ஸ் உள்ளே தள்ளிடுவாங்க.'

'இவ ஈவா? என்னடா விளையாடறே?'

ஃபர்னிச்சர் பகுதிக்கு வந்தார்கள்.

ஒரு மடக்கும் ப்ளாஸ்டிக் ஸ்டூலைப் பார்த்தார் ஆனந்தன். குட்டியாக அழகாக இருந்தது. மடக்கினால் சப் பட்டையாக மடிந்தது.

'டேய், இந்த ஸ்டூல் நல்லா இருக்குடா. எனக்கு வாங்கிக் கொடேன்' என்றார் ஆனந்தன்.

'அது எதுக்கு?'

'இதுலே உட்காரலாம். வேணும்னா இதன் மேலே ஏறி உசரத்துலேயிருந்து எதையாவது எடுக்கலாம்.'

'ஆனா அதுலே படுத்துக்க முடியாது. பாதி நேரம் நீ படுத்துகிட்டுதானே இருக்கே?'

'ஆறு ஸ்டூலை வரிசையா போட்டா படுத்துக்கலாம். ஒண்ணே ஒண்ணு தானே கேட்கறேன். வாங்கிக் கொடு.'

வேண்டா வெறுப்பாக அதை வாங்கினான் மகன்.

ஒரு மாதம் போனது. மகன் திடீரெனக் கேட்டான்.

'அப்பா, மடக்கற ஸ்டூல் வாங்கினே... ஒரு தடவைகூட அதுலே உட்காரவே இல்லையே?'

'அது இங்கே உட்காரதுக்கு இல்லை. இந்தியாவுக்குக் கொண்டு போகப் போறேன். அங்கே போய் புதுசா உட்காருவேன்.'

'இந்தியாவுக்குக் கொண்டு போகப் போறியா? வெயிட் அதிகம். லக்கேஜ் ப்ராப்ளம் வரும்.'

'நான் பார்த்துக்கறேன். ஒரு பக்கம் சிவப்பு, ஒரு பக்கம் மஞ்சள். எவ்வளவு அழகா இருக்கு பாரு!'

இந்தியாவிற்குத் திரும்புவதற்கு ஒரு மாதம் முன்பாகவே பேக்கிங்கை ஆரம்பித்திருந்தார் ஆனந்தன்.

ஏர்போர்ட்டில் பெட்டிகளைத் தூக்கித் தூக்கிப் போடும்போது ப்ளாஸ்டிக் ஸ்டூல் உடைந்துவிடுமோ என்ற பயம் வந்தது.

பெட்டியின் அடியில் அவருடைய எட்டு முழ வேட்டியை லைனிங் மாதிரி வைத்து அதன் மேல் ஸ்டூலை வைத்தார். பிறகு ஸ்டூலின் மேல் ஒரு தடிமனான சட்டையை வைத்தார்.

'அப்பா, நீ தப்பா வைச்சிருக்கே.'

'கீழே வேட்டி, மேலே சட்டை. சரியாத்தானே இருக்கு?'

'தப்புப்பா.'

'ஸ்டூலுக்கு பனியன் போட்டுவிடணும்னு சொல்றியா?'

'Bubble wrap போட்டுப் பேக் பண்ணு. அதுதான் சேஃப்டி.'

அந்த முட்டைப் பேப்பரைப் போட்டு ஸ்டூலை சுற்றினார். தண்ணீர் வாரி மாதிரி உப்பிக் கொண்டது அது.

மருமகன் ஒரு கூடை நிறைய சாமான்களைக் கொண்டு வந்து போட்டான்.

'மாமா, இதையெல்லாம் மைலாப்பூர்ல என்னுடைய அம்மா கிட்டே கொடுத்துடுங்க. அம்மா கொடுத்த லிஸ்டிலே பாதிதான் வாங்க முடிஞ்சது.'

அந்தப் பாதியே பேக்கிங்கில் பெரும் பாதிப்பை ஏற்படுத்தும் போல் இருந்தது. மருமகன் கொடுத்ததையெல்லாம் பெட்டியில் அடைத்து எடை போட்டுப் பார்த்தார். இரண்டரை கிலோ அதிகமாக இருந்தது.

'மாமா, உங்க ஸ்டூலை எடுத்துடுங்க.'

ஆனந்தனுக்குத் திக்கென்றது. கடைசியில் ஸ்டூலுக்கே மோசமா? மஞ்சக் கலரு ஜிங்குச்சா... சிவப்பு கலரு ஜிங்குச்சா இந்தியா போகாதா?

இதற்கு ஒரே வழி ஸ்டூலின் எடை அளவுக்கு அவருடைய சில துணிமணிகளை விட்டுவிட்டுப் போக வேண்டியதுதான்.

குருவாயூரில் துலாபாரம் போடுவது போல ஸ்டூல் எடைக்கு சரி சமமாக சட்டை பேண்டுகளை துல்லியமாக எடை போட்டு வெளியே எடுத்து வைத்தார். ஊருக்குப் போகும் நாள் வந்தது.

Fragile என்ற ஸ்டிக்கரை ஒட்டும்படி ஏர்போர்ட் ஆட்களிடம் சொல்லி ஒட்டிக் கொண்டார். விமானத்தில் பயணிக்கும் போது புத்தி முழுக்க ஸ்டூல் மேலேயே இருந்தது.

இந்தியாவில் வீடு வந்து சேர்ந்ததும் பெட்டியை அவசர அவசரமாகத் திறந்து பார்த்தார். ஸ்டூல் பத்திரமாக இருந்தது.

அதை எடுத்துப் போட்டு உட்கார்ந்து பார்த்தார். அதன் மேல் நின்று பார்த்தார். சரியாக வேலை செய்தது. வேண்டுமென்றே அதில் ஏறிப் பரணில் சில பொருட்களை வைத்தார். மறுநாள் அவைகளை இறக்கினார்.

ஒரு வாரம் கழித்து சில சாமான்களை வாங்குவதற்காக ஷாப்பிங் மாலுக்குப் போனார். ஃபர்னிச்சர் செக்ஷனில் ஒரு பொருளைப் பார்த்ததும் வாயடைத்து நின்றார். அமெரிக்காவில் அவர் வாங்கிய அதே மாதிரி ஸ்டூல். அதே சிகப்பும், மஞ்சளும் கலந்த நிறம். விலையைப் பார்த்தார். அமெரிக்க விலையை விட நூறு ரூபாய் குறைவாக இருந்தது. nandaaft@gmail.com



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40 undergo free cataract surgery



By Our Staff Reporter

40 persons diagnosed with cataract during the free eye check-up organised by Sri Shirdhi Sai Seva Samajam (Jaishankar Street, West Mambalam) on July 10 underwent free surgery in Aravanda Hospital.

125 persons with vision problems were provided spectacles free on July 27 in the Samajam's premises. MaSubramaniam (Minister for Health and Family Welfare) and J.Anbazhagan (T. Nagar, MLA) attended the program and distributed the spectacles.

P. Srinivasan (President of the Samajam) told *Mambalam Times* that about 400 persons attended the eye screening camp.

Drain cover damaged

By Our Staff Reporter

The cover of astorm water drain at the junction of 7th Avenue and Balakrishna Street Extension in Ashok Nagar is damaged. A broken plastic basket has been placed in the opening to caution road users.



Tree branches lying under transformer

By Our Staff Reporter

Dried tree branches are lying under an EB transformer on Bakthavatchalam Street, West Mambalam.



Conservancy vehicles removed from Corporation playground



Before



Now

By Our Staff Reporter

Following the report 'Conservancy vehicles parked on playground' published in *Mambalam Times* (July 24 - 30 issue), Corporation officials directed the conservancy workers not to park the vehicles on the Corporation Playground on Bakthavatchalam Street (West Mambalam).

The workers were seen segregating non-biodegradable waste like plastic items and selling them to a scrap dealer on the playground.



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- TAMIL NADU - 26
- VELAMMAL - 15**
- MAHARASHTRA - 10
- WEST BENGAL - 09
- DELHI - 06
- TELANGANA - 05
- KERALA - 04
- ANDHRA PRADESH - 04
- KARNATAKA - 03
- GUJARAT - 02
- ODISHA - 02
- GOA - 02
- HARYANA - 01
- RAJASTHAN - 01

LIST OF 15 GRANDMASTERS FROM VELAMMAL

ADHIBAN BASKARAN	VISAKH	R PRAGGNANANDHAA
ARAVINDH CHITHAMBARAM	SHYAM SUNDAR	LEON LUKE (GOA)
KARTHIKEYAN.P	SRINATH	KARTHIKEYAN MURALI
S P SETHURAMAN	ARJUN KALYAN	D GUKESH
PRIYADHARSHAN	VISHNU PRASANNA	KARTHIK VENGATRAMAN (A.P)

OUT OF 26 GRANDMASTERS FROM TAMIL NADU, 13 ARE FROM VELAMMAL



PROUD MOMENT FOR VELAMMALIANS

R Pragganandhaa (class XII, Velammal Main School) & **D Gukesh** (class XI, Velammal Vidyalaya) holding the Chess Olympiad Torch along with the Indian Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi & Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Shri. M.K. Stalin

Public hearing on power tariff hike after Aug. 11

By Our Staff Reporter

The Tamilnadu Electricity Regulatory Commission (TNERC) will hold public hearings after Aug. 11 on the tariff hike proposed by Tamilnadu Electricity Board (TNEB) after the State Advisory Committee (SAC) meets its members to discuss the proposal.

TNEB submitted its petitions to TNERC to revise the existing tariffs on July 18.

The venues will be finalised subject to availability and the consumers will be notified, an official said.

Prosperity Day celebrations in Annai Arul Maiyam tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Devotees can have balcony darshan of the Mother at 6.30 a.m on Monday, Aug. 1 in Sri Aurobindo Annai Arul Maiyam (9, Mahadevan Street, West Mambalam) as part of Prosperity Day celebrations.

B. Anuradha will speak at 6 p.m on 'Divine Mother'.

Sri Annai Adigal (Founder) will conduct a special program on Aug. 15 as part of Sri Aurobindo birth anniversary celebrations in its maiyams in T. Nagar, Mylapore, Ambattur, Nanganallur and Coimbatore. He said that there will be 'Savithiri Devi' idol installation in the Gnanoli temple under construction in Perumperkandigai (Acharpakkam) on Aug. 15. All are welcome. More details can be had in 98414 25456.

High Court defers collection of revised property tax

By Our Staff Reporter

The Madras High Court on July 27 told Chennai Corporation to defer the collection of the revised property tax.

Justice Anita Sumanth granted the injunction while passing interim orders on a writ petition from K. Balasubramaniam of Teynampet.

The petition sought to quash the property tax general revision notice for 2022-23 dated June 28. When the matter came up for hearing on July 25, the Corporation Standing Counsel circulated a resolution of Chennai Corporation dated May 30 based on a March 30 government order and a consequent notification dated April 11.

The judge noted that the order merely enhanced half-yearly tax from Rs 3,695 to Rs 7,170 and there was no clarity on the changed mode of assessment. As the counsel was also unable to explain the method of computation, the judge said that in circumstances like this, it is necessary for a computation sheet to be circulated which provides clarity in the method of assessment after the Council's resolution.

The matter was posted to Aug. 3 with a direction to the counsel to submit the file relating to the challenged enhancement on the date.

39 stray cattle impounded in Teynampet Zone

In July, Chennai Corporation impounded 402 cattle roaming on the streets and levied a fine of Rs 6.23 lakhs on its owners.

Of these, 38 were impounded in Teynampet Zone and Rs. 52,700 collected as fine from 34 owners.

Zonal Health Officers have been instructed to continue this drive. The owners who let their cattle loose in the streets are warned of severe action.

Residents can complain about stray cattle in their area in the local Corporation office or post their complaint with photos and videos on the Corporation's Twitter account.

Amma canteen on Anna Main Road to be closed

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Corporation has decided to close an Amma Canteen located on Anna Main Road (K.K. Nagar) owing to storm water drain work. According to an official, the canteen will remain closed till the work is completed.

Self-help Group workers currently posted in the canteen will be shifted to other canteens where hands are required.

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, July 31 in the Ashram's premises. All are welcome.

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

Appeal for donations to provide food for homeless

By Our Staff Reporter

Jaimaa Charitable Trust has appealed for donations to distribute food among the homeless living on pavements in and around T. Nagar.

The donations are eligible for deduction under 80G of Income Tax Act.

More details can be had in 98841 95197.



Jothi Madhar Sangam conducts skill-based programs



By Our Staff Reporter

Following the report published last week in *Mambalam Times*, a number of women participated in the wire bag making class organised by Jothi Madhar Sangam (79, Burkit Road, T. Nagar). Lakshmi Raghukumar (President) organised the class. Anyone interested in joining skill-based job-oriented programs can contact Lakshmi in 97894 13523.

Saplings planted in Sarada Vidyalaya



By Our Staff Reporter

Members of Lions Club of Central Madras and Exnora Greater Chennai planted saplings in Sri RKM Sarada Vidyalaya (Muthurangan Salai, T. Nagar) on July 28 as part of World Nature Conservation Day celebrations. E.K.T. Sivakumar (Scientist and Visiting Professor of Anna University), S. Thirumurgan (President of Lions Club of Central Madras) and R. Govindraj (President, Exnora) were present.

Free breakfast scheme launched in government schools

By Our Staff Reporter

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin announced on July 27 that the state government will soon provide free breakfast for students of Stds. 1 to 5 in government schools for which Rs 33.56 crores has been allocated.

Stalin said that the scheme has been announced to ensure the wellbeing of the physical and mental health of children as many come to school early without having breakfast.

He said that the scheme would also encourage students to attend school.

The dishes that will be offered to the students include upma, khichdi and pongal served with vegetable sambar.

Driver poses as tax officer, caught while taking bribe

By Our Staff Reporter

Pondy Bazaar police arrested 46-year-old P. Velu (a resident of T. Nagar) who posed as a commercial tax officer and tried to extort Rs. 25 lakhs as bribe from D. Nehru (48), a wholesale merchant, by threatening to issue tax evasion notices.

According to police, Velu, who was employed as a car driver in the commercial tax department, had collected details about several businessmen and shortlisted a few among them.

He rang up Nehru and told him that he had evaded income tax to the tune of Rs. 4 crores and demanded Rs. 25 lakhs to hush up the matter.

After negotiating and agreeing to accept Rs. 10 lakhs, Velu asked Nehru to hand over the cash next day in a restaurant on G.N Chetty Road (T. Nagar).

However, Nehru became suspicious and informed three of his friends who together met Velu the next day and asked him to show his ID card.

When he dodged and tried to escape, he was caught and handed over to the police.

Eye camp, blood donation camp on Thursday

By Our Staff Reporter

Premila Sampat (BJP State Secretary) has organised a free eye camp and blood donation camp from 8 a.m to 12.30 p.m on Thursday, Aug. 4 in Punniyakoti Kalyana Mandapam, Chakrapani Street, West Mambalam (near Five Lights) as part of her birthday celebrations.

A team of doctors from Dr. Agarwal Eye Hospital will examine the patients. Those with vision problems will be provided spectacles free.

Blood units will be collected by Lions Blood Bank.

Annadhanam will be provided for 1000 persons.

All are welcome.

More details can be had in 96001 06990.

Medical Council launches Search for Doctors App

By Our Staff Reporter

Tamilnadu Medical Council has launched the mobile application Search for Doctors.

Users can choose to use Tamil or English.

The app is not a commercial venture and aims at giving patients a directory of qualified doctors in their city/proximity.

The app offers two modes of search: one is based on specialization (like cardiologist, neurologist) and the other on symptom/ailment (like fever, cancer). After choosing an option, the user needs to enter his email address, mobile number and city or pin code to get the list.

The list provides name, qualification, address, time and mobile number of the doctors in the city or within the vicinity of the pin code search.

The App can be downloaded from Google Play Store.

Guindy Children's Park upgraded to medium zoo

By Our Staff Reporter

Tamilnadu Government on July 26 said the Guindy Children's Park has been upgraded from mini to medium category zoo and Rs. 20 crores has been sanctioned for a complete makeover.

Spread over 22 acres, the park is a major eco-tourism spot in Chennai with a 8-9 lakh visitors per year. More than 68,000 students from 1,050 schools have taken part in the basic zoo exposure program, which is conducted annually.

The money will be spent on changing animal enclosures, footpath, library, landscape, upscaled parking facility and cafeteria.

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ASHOK NAGAR, 4th Avenue, 2nd floor, 550 sq.ft, UDS 295 sq.ft, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 30 years old, no lift, no car park. Contact: Subbu, Ph: 99621 96695, 94450 23695.

ASHOK NAGAR, 53rd Street, near Anjaneyar Temple, 2 bedrooms, 2 balconies, 2 attached bathrooms, 1st floor, car park, 988 sq.ft, UDS 733 sq.ft, 26 years old, genuine buyers. Contact: Subbu, Ph: 99621 96695, 94450 23695.

WEST MAMBALAM, Balakrishna Street Extension, near Ayodhya Mandapam, independent house, 1130 sq.ft, ground & 1st floor, 38 years old, price Rs. 1.70 crores (negotiable). Ph: 98844 02849, 99620 30715.

T. NAGAR, 24, Dr. Nair Road, 1850 sq.ft, UDS 900 sq.ft, 2nd floor, lift, open car park. Ph: 94999 73000, 94440 54812.

WEST MAMBALAM, Near Arya Gowda Road, 1 ground land with house, price Rs. 5 crores. Ph: 73583 57499.

T. NAGAR, Krishna Street, South Boag Road, near Sivaji Ganesan's House, resale flat, 1060 sq.ft, UDS 530 sq.ft, 2nd floor, lift, 2 bedrooms, big hall, kitchen, pooja room, car park. Contact: Babu, Ph: 93810 30933.

WEST MAMBALAM, Kirupasankari Street, 1.25 ground, prime plot, behind 12 feet wide, exclusive approach on 3865 sq.ft land, rent yielding sturdy two storeyed, independent house, total facilities, buyer/investor invited to pay discounted rate for land only, to finalise owner resetting. Ph: 88382 60115.

ASHOK NAGAR, near R.R. Colony, independent house of one ground, (40x60), with 5100 sq.ft, construction, 2 covered car park, south facing, 30 feet Road, excellent condition, price Rs. 3.5 crores (negotiable), ready for sale. Ph: 98408 07181.

T. NAGAR, Main Road, road facing, ground floor flat, 650 sq.ft, flat for sale, suitable for hotel/catering/residential. Ph: 91767 24407, 97102 13544.

WEST MAMBALAM
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 T. NAGAR, Burkit Road, opp. Canara Bank, near Bus Stand, ground floor, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 1100 sq.ft, covered car park, vegetarians preferred, rent Rs. 29000 (negotiable). Ph: 9841350607.

K.K. NAGAR (West), 6, Jawahar Street, near PSBB School/Vani Vidyalaya Schools & Pondicherry Guest House, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, car park, vegetarians only. Ph: 98408 58915.

WEST MAMBALAM, 16/20, Brindavan Street Extension, 1st Cross Street, independent House, ground floor, 1000 sq.ft, 3 rooms, bath attached, hall, kitchen, pooja, furnished, Brahmins only, no pets, no brokers. Ph: 2484 5608, 98405 39974.

WEST MAMBALAM
22, Veerasamy St, Independent house 1 / 2 BHK each with separate 3 phase EB, 2 wheeler parking. Vegetarian Brahmins only. No brokers.
95009 06860

WEST MAMBALAM, 21/9, Postal Colony 3rd Street, Vedha Enterprises upstairs, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, 2-wheeler parking. Contact: R. Muralidharan, Ph: 2489 2267, 95662 07811, between 10 a.m and 5 p.m.

T. NAGAR, Nathamuni Street, near New GRT, 600 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor flat, residential/commercial, rent Rs. 17000, semi-furnished. Ph: 93447 02324, 89397 88721.

WEST MAMBALAM, 5/9, Viswanathan Street, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, car park, independent house, ground floor, 1000 sq.ft, rent Rs. 28000, vegetarians only, no pets allowed, office use/residential. Ph: 99406 69745.

WEST MAMBALAM, 10/22, Srinvasa Pillai Street, opp. Satya Naryana Temple, 3 bedrooms, 1112 sq.ft, 1st floor, no lift, sufficient water, prime location, Brahmins, pure vegetarians. Ph: 99406 60313, 89393 20142.

RANGARAJAPURAM, 18A, Aziz Nagar Main Road, opp. Rajan Vegetable Shop, near 2-wheeler subway, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, individual house, small family, one 2-wheeler parking only, rent Rs. 12000, no pets, no brokers. Ph: 91767 73001.

WEST MAMBALAM, 31/9, Ramakrishnapuram 1st Street, near Postal Colony Bus Stop, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, independent house, 800 sq.ft, 2-wheeler parking, Brahmins, rent Rs. 18000, advance Rs. 60000. Ph: 98844 96376, 98849 02248.

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WEST MAMBALAM, 1/6, Eswari Apartment, Appasamy Street, Umapathi Street Extension Puthu Koil, near Kali Bari Temple, tiled flooring, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, service area, Indian, western toilet, separate 24 hours water, 2-wheeler parking, vegetarians & Brahmins only, fully furnished. Ph: 80154 30105.

WEST MAMBALAM, Chakrapani Street, 890 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, fully furnished, 2nd floor, no lift, car park, rent Rs. 20000 (including maintenance), 24 hours water, vegetarians only. Ph: 72009 21147.

T. NAGAR, Gopalakrishna Road, near Holy Angels School, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, bath attached, small family/bachelors also, vegetarians only, rent Rs. 12000, advance 5 months. Vimal, Ph: 94441 16320.

WEST MAMBALAM, 113, Arya Gowda Road, near Bajaj Bike Showroom, 1st floor, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, partly furnished, 2-wheeler parking, 24 hours water. Ph: 98410 05443.

WEST MAMBALAM, Srividya Apartments, Balakrishna Mudali Street, newly renovated, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, semi-furnished flat with 1 KVA inverter, non-vegetarians preferred, no brokers & bachelors. Inspection by appointment, Ph: 94447 00288.

ASHOK NAGAR, 4th Avenue, close to Arya Gowda Road, spacious, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ventilated flat, gated community, covered car & bike parking, lift, security, camera, rent Rs. 36000 + maintenance, Brahmins preferred. Ph: 72999 14780.

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WEST MAMBALAM, 23, Vasudevapuram Street, ground floor, 990 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, service, verandah, all electrical fittings, no pets, 2 A/c's, 24 hours water, pooja room, small Brahmin family only, 94458 62886, 2481 7447.

KODAMBAKKAM, Pappathi Ammal Street, Samiyaramadam, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 900 sq.ft, ground floor. Ph: 98945 29726.

T. NAGAR, 4/7, Bagirathi Ammal Street, commercial 1500 sq.ft, 1st floor, no brokers. Ph: 96770 68146.

K.K. NAGAR, 51st Street, 9th Sector, Plot No. 619, Nutech Villa, close to PSBB School/Amman Temple, 1st floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, north facing, rent Rs. 17000, vegetarians only. Ph: 94443 04644.

ASHOK NAGAR, 7th Avenue, near KV Bank, 900 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, CCTV camera, semi furnished, open car park, rent Rs. 21000, advance 6 months, family/bachelor/office. Ph: 73053 44555.

SITUATION VACANT (GENERAL)
 S.T.G.J.V Matriculation School, 2/44, Madley 1st Street, T. Nagar. (Ph: 2434 0702), wants efficient teachers for nursery/primary. Walk-in from 1st August to 8th August, from 10 a.m to 3 p.m.

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New eye hospital on Arya Gowda Road

Sree Krishna Nethralaya Centre for Glaucoma Excellence was recently opened at 17, Arya Gowda Road, West Mambalam (opposite KS Academy and Shobana Kalyana Mandapam). As an inaugural offer, free consultation will be available for senior citizens till Aug. 15. Facilities like comprehensive eye examination, computerised eye testing, glaucoma evaluation and diabetic retinopathy screening are available. Dr. Pavan Kumar (Medical Director), Phacosurgeon and

glaucoma specialist, who has 12 years of experience, told *Mambalam Times* that advanced cataract surgeries are performed and glaucoma is also treated in the hospital. 25% discount is given on spectacles in the optical centre attached to the hospital. Contact lenses and spectacles of major brands are available. Dr. Kumar

can be consulted from 10 a.m to 1 p.m and 5 p.m to 8 p.m. The phone numbers of the hospital are 044-42620469/9489860469.

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Jayanth's flute concert on Wednesday

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Sarvani Sangeetha Sabha Trust (T. Nagar), J. A. Jayanth will present a flute concert at 6.15 p.m on Wednesday, Aug. 3 in Raga Sudha Hall (Luz Avenue, near Nageswara Park, Mylapore).

He will be accompanied by L. Ramakrishnan (violin) and N. C. Bharadwaj (mridangam).

All are welcome.

For more details, call 99404 18424 or 94443 58882.

Resident gifts Rs. 35,000 to Single Teacher Schools



R. Sivakumar (resident of R. P. Krishnamachari (Honorary Secretary, Single Teacher Schools). Babai (Director, Meenakshi College) and Mohammed Navin (Governor, Lions Club International) were present.

The cheque was received by

Virgo Foundation to micro finance self-employed women



By Our Staff Reporter

Virgo Foundation was inaugurated on July 23 by actress Satyapriya during the 27th anniversary celebrations of Ashok Nagar Progressive Women's Association in Zodiac Club (Ashok Nagar).

Poornima (Founder-President and Managing Trustee of the Association) told *Mambalam Times* that one of the objectives of Virgo Foundation is to micro finance needy self-employed women who run roadside and small eateries and those who sell flowers, fruits and vegetables for a living.

She said that as such women are not able to avail of loans from banks, they are forced to take short-term loans at high interest from private parties or pledge their jewels at high interest.

She said the Association will help such self-employed women in and around T. Nagar, West Mambalam, Saidapet,

KK Nagar and Ashok Nagar. The Foundation will conduct vocational courses for underprivileged women in vocations like sewing, cooking, baking and beauty care.

Sewing machines and grinders will also be given to persons joining the courses to enable them to start their own business.

For details call 99410 18210

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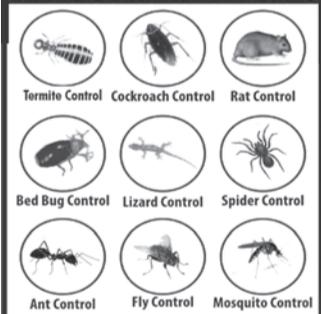
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