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ஸ்டெப் சிஸ்டர்

'சங்கீதா, நீ கொஞ்சம் குண்டா இருக்கே!' என்றான் அவளுடைய கணவன் வெங்கடேசன்.

'அவ்வளவு ஒண்ணும் குண்டு இல்லை. தூரத்துலேயிருந்து பார்த்தா நான் ஒல்லியாகத்தான் தெரிவேன்' என்றான் சங்கீதா. 'செவ்வாய் கிரகத்துலேயிருந்து பார்த்தால்கூட நீ குண்டா தான் தெரிவே சங்கீதா. நீ உடம்பைக் குறைக்கணும்.'

'லேசா ஒரு சுத்து பருத்திருக்கேன். அவ்வளவுதான்.' 'நம்ம கல்யாணத்தப்போ ரெண்டு சுத்து கை முறுக்கு மாதிரி இருந்தே. இப்போ அஞ்சு சுத்து கல்யாண முறுக்கு மாதிரி ஆயிட்டே.'

சங்கீதா அழ ஆரம்பித்துவிட்டாள். 'நான் பாதி வயத்துக்குத் தான் சாப்பிடறேன், தெரியுமா?' 'எப்படி? சம்சாரம் அது மின்சாரம் படத்துலே வர வீடு மாதிரி வயித்துக்குள்ளே ஒரு கோடு போட்டு ரெண்டா பிரிச்சுட்டியா? கண்டதையும் சாப்பிட்டா கலோரி கூடும். உடம்பு ஊதிடும்.'

'என் உடம்புலே கலோரி இருக்கா?' 'ஒரு லாரி லோடு அளவுக்கு இருக்கு. அதை எரிச்சால் போதும். நீ தினமும் வாக்கிங் போ. டெய்லி எட்டாயிரம் ஸ்டெப் நடக்கணும்.'

'நம்ம வீட்டு வாசப்படி ரெண்டு ஸ்டெப்தான் இருக்கு. நாலாயிரம் தடவை அதுலே ஏறி இறங்கினா பார்க்கிறவங்க தப்பா நினைச்சுக்க மாட்டாங்களா?'

'ஊஸூ. எட்டாயிரம் காலடிகள் வைக்கணும். உன் கால் அளவுக்கு கிட்டத்தட்ட நாலரை கிலோ மீட்டர் வரும். எட்டு மாதிரி வளைஞ்சு வளைஞ்சு நடந்தா இன்னும் நல்லது.'

'ஐயோ... நான் ஒண்ணாம் நம்பர் மாதிரி ஸ்ட்ரெயிட்டாவே நடக்கறேன்!'

'அப்படி நடந்தா போய்க்கிட்டே இருப்பே. வீட்டுக்குத் திரும்பி வர மாட்டே. உனக்கு வாக்கிங் ஷூ வாங்கித் தரேன். பக்கத்துலே இருக்கிற பார்க்குக்குப் போய் தினமும் நடந்துட்டு வா.'

எட்டாயிரம் ஸ்டெப்பை எப்படி எண்ணறது? நான் கணக்குலே கொஞ்சம் வீக்.

'உனக்கு ஒரு ஸ்மார்ட் வாட்ச் வாங்கித் தரேன். அதைக் கையிலே கட்டிக்கிட்டா அதுவே எவ்வளவு ஸ்டெப்பனு எண்ணிடும்.'

அடுத்த நாள் ஸ்மார்ட் வாட்ச் வந்துவிட்டது. அதை சங்கீதா வின் கையில் கட்டிவிட்டான் வெங்கடேசன்.

'இந்த வாட்சையும் உன் செல்லிப்போனையும் லிங்க் பண்ணிட்டா நீ நடந்த ஸ்டெப்பை செல்லிப்போன் காட்டிடும்.'

'செல்லிப்போனையும் கையிலே கட்டிக்கணுமா? அது தப்பில்லையா?'

'உன்னை நான் கட்டிக்கிட்டது தான் தப்பு.'

'நானைக்கு ஆடி வெள்ளி. அன்னைக்கே 'நடந்தாய் வாழி காவேரி'ன்னு நடக்கறேன் பாருங்க.'

வெள்ளிக்கிழமை மாலை ஆறரை மணி. ஆபீஸிலிருந்து ஃபோன் செய்தான் வெங்கடேசன்.

'எங்கே இருக்கே சங்கீதா?'

'பார்க்கலே வாக்கிங் போய்க்கிட்டிருக்கேன்.'

பறவைகளின் ஒலிகளும், பக்கத்தில் நடப்பவர்களின் பூட்ஸ் சத்தமும் வெளிவாகக் கேட்டன வெங்கடேசுக்கு.

'வெரி குட். தினமும் இப்படியே நடக்கணும்.'

ஏழே காலுக்கு வீட்டுக்கு வந்தான் வெங்கடேசன். அப்போது தான் வாக்கிங் முடிந்து திரும்பியிருந்தான் சங்கீதா. அவளின் டி-ஷர்ட்டில் ஏகமாய் வியர்வை படிந்திருந்தது.

வாட்சை வாங்கிப் பார்த்தான். 8214 ஸ்டெப் காட்டியது.

ஒரு மாதம் போயிற்று. சங்கீதாவின் வாட்ச் தினமும் எட்டாயிரத்துக்கு மேல் எண்ணிக்கை காட்டிக் கொட்டிருந்தது.

சங்கீதா, தினமும் இவ்வளவு நடக்கிறே... ஆனா உடம்பு இன்னும் குறையலையே. கலோரி ஏன் காலியாக மாட்டேங்குது? என்றான் வெங்கடேசன்.

'நான் பட்ட கலோரிங்க. உடனே கரைய அடென்ன கல் உப்பா?'

அடுத்த நாள் மாலை ஆறே முக்கால் மணி. வெங்கடேசன் சங்கீதாவுக்கு ஃபோன் செய்தான்.

'பார்க்கலே தானே இருக்கே? உன்னுடைய கரன்ட் லொகேஷனை வாட்ஸ் அப்ஸ் எனக்கு ஷேர் பண்ணு.'

லொகேஷன் வந்தது.

'என்ன இது? டிரான்ஸ்பார்மரை போட்டோ பிடிச்ச அனுப்பியிருக்கே?'

'கரன்ட் லொகேஷன்.'

'ஐயோ... கூடுன் மேப் காட்டற லொகேஷனை அனுப்பு.'

சங்கீதா அனுப்பிய லொகேஷனைப் பார்த்தபோது பார்க்கில் தான் இருக்கிறான் என்று உறுதியானது.

பத்து நாட்கள் போனது. தலைவலி என்று சீக்கிரமாகவே வீட்டுக்குக் கிளம்பினான் வெங்கடேசன். சாவியை வாங்க சங்கீதாவைத் தேடி பார்க்குக்குப் போனான். தூரத்தில் ஒரு பெஞ்சில் சங்கீதா உட்கார்ந்திருப்பது தெரிந்தது. பட்டாணி சண்டல் சாப்பிட்டுக் கொண்டிருந்தான். அவள் அருகே வேறு பல பதார்த்தங்கள் வரிசை கட்டி நின்று கொண்டிருந்தன. ஒளிந்திருந்து பார்த்தான் வெங்கடேசன்.

பத்து நிமிடத்தில் ஒரு பெண் சங்கீதாவிடம் வந்தாள்.

'இந்தாங்க அக்கா உங்க வாட்ச். பார்த்துக்குங்க 8200 ஸ்டெப் நடந்துட்டேன்' கூறிவிட்டு ஸ்மார்ட் வாட்சை சங்கீதாவிடம் நீட்டினாள் அவள்.

'இன்னுக்கு உண்டான சம்பளம் 8200 பைசா. அதாவது 82 ரூபா கொடுங்க. பத்தாயிரம் ஸ்டெப் நடந்தா ரவுண்டா நூறு ரூபா ஆகிடும். செய்யட்டுமா?'

'வேணாம் போ' என்று சொல்லிவிட்டு வாட்டர் பாட்டிலை எடுத்துத் தன் டி-ஷர்ட்டில் தெளித்துக் கொண்ட சங்கீதா வீடு நோக்கி நடக்க ஆரம்பித்தாள். nandaaft@gmail.com

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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Damaged car blocks road margin



By Our Staff Reporter

A car in damaged condition and without number plates has been lying abandoned on the margin of 5th Avenue (near Balakrishna Street, West Mambalam) for several months. It is blocking 1/3rd of the carriageway causing hindrance to motorists.

Passersby have converted the spot into an open urinal. Nearby residents have appealed to traffic police to remove the vehicle from the spot.

Man held for possessing 250 kg. gutkha

RavutharNainar Mohammed (37) (resident of Naickamar Street, West Mambalam) was arrested by Saidapet police for possessing 250 kg. of gutkha. According to police, a patrol team checking Mosque Garden Street (Saidapet) apprehended Ravuthar when he was selling gutkha in the neighbourhood. Upon investigation, police seized around 250 kg. of gutkha from his house. Investigation is under way to ascertain from where the tobacco product obtained.

Koyambedu to be next big junction of Chennai Metro

By Our Staff Reporter
Keeping the proposed Thirumangalam-Avadi sector in view, Koyambedu will be the next big interchange in the network of Chennai Metro as it will provide integration between Phase I and Phase II projects.

Also, for the future line, which has been planned between Thirumangalam and Avadi via Ambattur, there is a possibility that this network could start from Koyambedu instead of Thirumangalam.

According to officials of Chennai Metro, in the Rs.61,841 crores Phase II project that has three corridors — Madhavaram to SIPCOT (Corridor 3), Light House to Poonamallee (Corridor 4) and Madhavaram to Sholinganallur (Corridor 5) — they have made changes in the alignment and finalised it in Corridor 5.

CMBT station is likely to be merged with Koyambedustation.

In Koyambedu, the station built in Phase I and the station coming up for Phase II will be integrated and the platform for Phase II will come up over Phase I. The idea is to ensure those travelling in Phase I and Phase II can interchange seamlessly.

Presently, Koyambedu station has one of the highest number of daily footfalls or around 9,000 passengers.

Regarding Thirumangalam, there is remote possibility of integration between the existing station and the new one to be constructed in Phase II as the former is underground and the new one will be elevated.

28 schools of excellence to come up

By Our Staff Reporter
The Tamilnadu School Education Department has issued an order for upgrading 28 government schools across the state including Corporation Girls Higher Secondary School (Ashok Nagar) to Schools of Excellence at a cost of Rs. 171 crores.

These schools will have smart classrooms, computer labs, arts and crafts rooms, and Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) labs.

Funds will be set aside for these schools to establish clubs, host events such as annual and sports day, as well as teacher training programs.

Five youths held for bike stunts

By Our Staff Reporter
Five bikers were arrested by Pondy Bazaar Traffic Investigation Wing on Sept. 10, on the charge of performing dangerous stunts on the road in front of Anna Arivalayam at night on Sept. 8.

In a 30-second clip taken by a passerby which went viral on social media, the five youths were seen performing stunts on costly motorcycles on Anna Salai and heading for Anna Bridge from Teynampet.

Based on CCTV footage and other evidence, police arrested two college students, Harris (19), Shaffan (19), who hail from Ambur. On information provided by them, the remaining three, identified as Imran (20), Malik (19) and Mukesh (20), were arrested on Sept. 11.

Murder accused absconding for 17 years held

By Our Staff Reporter
Neelankarai police have arrested Rajan, a murder accused, who had jumped bail and had been absconding for 17 years.

He was part of a 7-member gang which had murdered Shajahan (21) (a taxi driver and resident of Ashok Nagar) in 2001 on Injambakkam beach.

The gang had hired the victim's car from T. Nagar to go to the beach.

After consuming alcohol there, the members beat him to death and stole the car.

All the 7 were arrested and later released on bail.

After Rajan absconded in 2005, Alandur court had issued a non-bailable warrant against him.

Free online coaching for Maths, English

Retired Professor Lakshman Rao will offer free online coaching for English, Maths and Soft Skills for students of Stds. 8 to 11 from Oct. 2. For registration, call 9381036989.

Golu idols sold on pavement



By Our Staff Reporter

Clay idols of deities are being sold on the pavement of Arya Gowda Road and nearby roads in West Mambalam ahead of Navarathri celebrations (Sept. 26 to Oct. 5).

Student trio's drive to recycle empty milk sachets

By Our Staff Reporter

Akshath, Keshav and Shreehari (the ECO-TRIO), Std.8 students in PSBB School, T. Nagar, have taken the initiative to create awareness in T. Nagar and Nungambakkam about recycling of empty milk sachets.

Their tip is "Cut horizontally along the edge of the milk sachet instead of across the corner". This ensures that the sachet through a proper channel for recycling. Their mantra is "encourage all to make it a habit to dispose plastic safely and recycle wherever possible". They have appealed to readers of *Mambalam Times* to participate actively in the drive to save Mother Nature.



The trio can be reached at ecotrio241@gmail.com or 9500112665/7358024238/9940130071 for handing over dried empty packets, suggestions and clarification.

Sewage overflow on streets near Corporation playground



Sewage water has been overflowing from sewer chambers and collecting on Rama Rao Street and Rajachar Street (West Mambalam) which are adjacent to a Corporation playground for the past 2 weeks.

It is a health hazard to nearby residents and visitors to the playground.

A nearby resident told *Mambalam Times* that in spite of complaints, no action has been taken by Metrowater officials to stop the leakage.

Fresh digging of roads causes concern

With the onset of the northeast monsoon expected in a few weeks, residents in several areas have complained about the fresh digging of roads for stormwater drain work.

According to residents, roads in areas including T. Nagar have been dug up recently. T. Nagar resident V.S. Jayaraman said work on development of a bigger drain on Motilal Street is under way.

"They should link the drain with the disposal point on Usman Road before the monsoon," he said. Roads in other flooded parts of T. Nagar have been dug up to develop new drains. Similarly, roads in areas such as Thiruvengadapuram in ward 109 have been dug up by the Corporation to develop new stormwater drains. In Teynampet zone, ward 109 councillor E. Suganya said work in flood-prone areas would be completed this month. Officials said digging up new stretches of roads will stop by September 20 and they will concentrate on preparation for the northeast monsoon.

Police cautions against wrong-side driving

By Our Staff Reporter

In a special drive conducted from Sept. 3 to 5, traffic police collected Rs. 26 lakhs as fine from 2,680 persons for driving on the wrong side of the road.

Police has warned that traffic inspection will be carried out regularly across the city and advised drivers to obey the rules.

DONATE BLOOD

Navarathri celebrations in Meenakshi College temple

By Our Staff Reporter

'Sharadha Sharan Navarathri-2022' will be celebrated from Sunday, Sept. 25 to Wednesday, Oct. 5 in Sri Saradambal Temple (Meenakshi College Campus, Arcot Road, Kodambakkam).

Maha abhishekam will be performed from 9 a.m to 12 noon to the deity on Mahalaya Amavasya day (Sept. 25).

Navarathri special poojas and Deepa Aaradhanai will be performed daily in the morning.

Chandi homam will be conducted from 8 a.m to 12 noon on Saraswathi pooja day (Oct. 4).

Aksharabayasam will be done on Vijayadasami day (Oct. 5) from 8 a.m to 12 noon. All are welcome.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Increase in number of mobile vendors, post Covid

Sir, Since the pandemic restrictions have eased, there has been an alarming increase in the number of street vendors, leading to further encroachment of public spaces like pavements and road margins.

Many of them sell their wares from carts, passing through residential colonies, with non-stop announcements through loudspeakers or megaphones that disturb the peace, especially in the afternoon when the elderly and housewives are snatching 40 winks..

I appeal to Chennai Corporation to curb this increasing nuisance. **R. S. Naagarazan, 18, Srinivasa Street, West Mambalam**



Appeal to operate S86 bus service via Madley Road

Sir, The small bus service on route number S86 was originally operated via Madley Road and Ellaiamman Koil Street (T. Nagar) for several years.

After the skywalk work was taken up two years back, buses on the route were diverted via Aranganathan Subway, Srinivasa Street and Govindan Road.

As all the major work on the skywalk has been completed, I appeal to Metropolitan Transport Corporation to restore the original route. **V. Padmanabhan, G1, Ganesh Flats, 15/6, Pushpavathi Ammal Street, West Mambalam**

Debris not cleared from storm water drain work sites



By Our Staff Reporter

The Corporation recently formed flying squads in all its 15 zones to inspect the construction sites thrice a week to identify and remove debris dumped in public places, apart from acting against encroachments and connecting sewer lines to stormwater drains.

With the Corporation launching an operation to clear debris, members of the public have urged the civic body to give priority to clearing the sites where construction of stormwater drains has been taken up.

Residents in many areas, including this neighbourhood, where the stormwater drain work is going on have complained about the delay in clearing the debris.

S.S. Babu (a resident of Giri Road, T. Nagar) said the accumulation of debris posed an issue on streets. In a few streets, nearly half the carriageway is not usable because of the dug-up earth lying there.

Many residents have lodged complaints about the delay in the removal of construction debris which is causing innumerable problems for the residents and motorists.

N. Susheela of Burkit Road complained that the road turns slushy after rains as the earth dumped along the trenches gets mixed with rain water.

A local Corporation official said that although there had been some delay, removal of debris was being ensured in all places where work had been completed.

Villivakkam orphanage needs cook

Surabi Trust (Millennium Apartments, 163/21, Mangalam Colony, 7th Avenue, Anna Nagar) is in urgent need of a male or female cook for its orphanage for boys on New Avadi Road (Villivakkam). The selected person will get a monthly salary of Rs. 10,000, incentive based on performance, uniform, food and accommodation. Interested persons can contact D. Radhakrishnamurthy (In-charge) in 98411 86432.

Velammal teams excel in inter-school sports



By Our Staff Reporter

Velammal Vidyalaya (Mogappair) participated in the Interschool Sports Tournament organised by Sudharsanam Vidyaashram (Avadi) in its premises on Sept. 9 and 10.

While the girls' team won the throwball event, the boys' team won the cup in cricket and the singles title in table tennis.

Book on founder of Flying Squad Ambulance Service released

By Our Staff Reporter

In 1978, PRMM Shantha Kumar (a resident of Parthasarathi Puram, T. Nagar), then aged 18 years, started the Flying Squad Ambulance Service (48, Outer Circular Road, Police Colony, Kilpauk Garden Colony, Kilpauk) with just one ambulance. Today, with 36 state-of-the-art vehicles, he has transported lakhs of ailing patients across the State and country and worked relentlessly during the Covid crisis.

A book titled India's Ambulance Man, which has Shantha Kumar narrating his experiences of over four decades, was launched on Sept. 3.



In the book, he talks about his experiences and provides information on key issues related to ambulances, and how one can reach out to these vehicles. His inspiration was his father, a taxi driver who used to transport patients to hospitals in his vehicle.

"I thought why not start an ambulance service itself to help people out. We have carried patients to many parts of the country, even during trying times. One of the most difficult things was operating the ambulance service during the pandemic", he said.

"I still remember a call we got from Adyar. The patient had to be ferried to a hospital in T. Nagar. Within eight minutes, we transported the patient to the destination," he recalled. For ambulances during emergencies, contact Flying Squad in 7449177777.

EB cables, debris lying on Moosa Street



By Our Staff Reporter

EB cables and debris lying outside Nandhini Flats, 61, Moosa Street, T. Nagar, are occupying a portion of the street.

Thiruvasagam Mutrothal in Siva-Vishnu Temple today

By Our Staff Reporter

Nirmala Ravi and party will perform Thiruvasagam Mutrothal from 8.30 a.m to 1.30 p.m on Sunday, Sept. 18 in Siva-Vishnu Temple (Usman Road, T. Nagar).

It will be followed by Annadhaanam.

All are welcome. More details can be had in 99417 55111.

Mass cleaning in temples

By Our Staff Reporter

Hindhu Alayangal Sutham Seiyum Iraipani Mandram (Ambattur) will organise mass cleaning and awareness programs in Arulmigu Kasi Viswanathar Temple, Arulmigu Kothandaramar Temple and Sankara Mutt in West Mambalam from 7 a.m to 5 p.m on Sunday, Sept. 18.

All are welcome.

Discourse on Kaivalya Upanishad today evening

By Our Staff Reporter

Acharya Rangaji will deliver a discourse on Kaivalya Upanishad from 7 p.m to 8 p.m on Sunday, Sept. 18 in Swami Vidyanaraya Hall (Mahalakshmi Street, T. Nagar).

All are welcome.

His first discourse on Vedanta and Upanishads was delivered on Sept. 15. He is scheduled to speak at various locations in T. Nagar.

For more details, call 98841 78792, 98847 06195, 98844 32444.

Shop sells Hormann brand steel doors

Doors & Beyond (168/10, Jawahar Colony, adjacent to Natesan Institute of Cooperative Management, 4th Avenue, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar) are the dealers of the world renowned Hormann brand readymade steel doors for residences and offices..

C. Karthikumar (Managing Partner) told Anna Nagar Times that Hormann is one of the oldest brands of Germany since 1935.

He said that the look alike wooden finish steel doors have been installed in the showroom for demonstration.

He said that the shop offers a wide variety of doors to suit all types of bedrooms, bathrooms and entrances.

The doors which are available in teakwood, morish and modern walnut colours/finish are termite proof, weather resistant and long lasting.

The available sizes in millimetres are 900 x 2100, 1000 x 2100, 1200 x 2100 and 750 x 2100. The cost of a standard size door (750 mm x 2100 mm) with hardware fittings, accessories and fixing charges starts from Rs.18,000.

The shop's contact number is 99620 46000.



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Local girl excels in squash



By Our Staff Reporter

14-year-old Ananya Narayanan, a resident of T. Nagar and Std. 9 student in GRT Mahalakshmi Vidyalaya (Ashok Nagar) won the Under-15 crown in the ISTA Junior Squash Open Tournament organised by Squash Racket Federation of India in Indian Squash and Triathlon Academy (Chennai) last month. Players from all over India competed in the tournament.

"I did not allow the 2 years of Covid lockdown to impact either my studies or interest in squash. My passion and self-belief kept me going through that period," Ananya said.

Post Covid, once the sports bodies started conducting tournaments, she grabbed the opportunity with both hands and has not looked back.

"Even during lockdown, Indian Squash Academy (where I undergo coaching) ensured that we followed all the regular fitness drills. I used to send daily fitness workout videos to my coach Deepak and fitness trainer Dimple. I am very passionate about squash, so there was no thought of giving up the sport. I was also strongly backed by my parents and coaches," the youngster said.

With such a major win in her bag, she is now looking forward to doing well in the upcoming Junior National Tournament.

She represented India in ASIAN Junior Squash Championship conducted in Thailand this year. In 2019 she was a member of the Tamilnadu team which participated in the SGFI Schools Games, and won bronze in a team event.

Her role model is the well-known international player Nour El Sherbini of Egypt. She trains from 6 a.m to 8.30 a.m and 4p.m to 6.30 p.m daily, except Sundays.

Man held for duping ATM users

MKB Nagar police arrested K. Prabhu (55) (resident of K.K. Nagar) on the charge of swindling money from people by stealing and using their ATM cards.

Police recovered 271 ATM cards and Rs. 6,500 in cash from him. He is a Central government employee and works in Heavy Vehicles Factory (Avadi).

The issue came to light on Sept.8 when Jacqueline tried to activate her ATM card at an ATM near Ambattur.

She sought help from Prabhu, who was waiting in line posing as an ATM user. After telling her that the card was not working, he managed to switch cards before handing over one to her. Later, Jacqueline received a message saying Rs. 29,500 had been debited from her account. She then checked her card and found it was not hers.

Based on Jacqueline's complaint, police identified Prabhu from CCTV footage at the ATM and arrested him.

Investigation revealed that Prabhu stationed himself outside ATM centers and stole ATM cards of persons who struggled to use the machine and replaced them with the defunct cards in his possession.

"He mostly targeted elderly people," a police officer said.

OBITUARY

V. MEENAKSHI AMMAL

V. Meenakshi Ammal (resident of 7/4, Burkit Road, T. Nagar) passed away on Sept. 2.

She was 105, and had been a resident of T. Nagar for 70 years.

She was the wife of late Venkatraman.

She is survived by her son V. Balasubramanian who is President of Siva-Vishnu Temple, T. Nagar), He had been the MLA of Mylapore from 1994 to 1996.

His contact number is 98408 24960.



T. S. SANJEEVI RAO

T. S. Sanjeevi Rao (resident of 10, Kasi Viswanathar Koil Street, West Mambalam) passed away on Aug. 31.

He was 96, and had been a resident of West Mambalam for 70 years.

He had retired from Southern Railway.

He is survived by three sons, three daughters and grandchildren.

His family can be contacted in 89392 58405.



S. ALAMELU AMMAL

S. Alamelu Ammal (resident of 1A, Kasi Viswanathar Koil Street, West Mambalam) passed away on Sept. 14.

She was 86 and had been a resident of West Mambalam for more than 5 decades.

Alamelu Ammal was the wife of late V. Subramania Iyer.

She is survived by her sons S.V. Ramani Iyer, M.P.S. Srinivasa Iyer, S. Jayaraman Iyer, S. Nataraja Iyer, daughters Banumathi Radhakrishnan and Lakshmi Subburaman, and grandchildren.

Her family can be contacted in 99623 31999.



Teachers, non-teaching staff honoured



By Our Staff Reporter

40 teachers and non-teaching staff of C. D. Nayagam T. Nagar Higher Secondary School (Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar) were honoured by the school's Alumni Association and Lions Club of Chennai Golden Park on Sept.10 in connection with Teachers Day. R. Ravichandran (Past District Governor), Dr. S. Varadharajan (Former Director of Technical Education), K. Jeganathan (Vice Chairman, PMC), Subha Deivanayagam (Committee member, CD Nayagam School), A. Rajasekaran (Secretary, Alumni Association), C. B. Vijaya Kumar (President, Lions Club of Chennai Golden Park) and Rajeswari Umopathy (Headmistress) were present.

Students presented bicycles



By Our Staff Reporter

Fiftyone Std. 12 students of Shri Mangichand Bhandari Jain Higher Secondary School (Madley Road, T. Nagar) were presented bicycles under the Tamilnadu Government's free bicycle scheme. T. Nagar MLA J. Karunanidhi, Kishan Srisrimal (School Correspondent), Sathagiri (Headmistress), Nirmal Nahar (Secretary, Sri S S Jain Society) and Kailashchand Chordia (Joint Secretary) were present.

Mambalam Canal to be desilted by month-end

By Our Staff Reporter

The Mambalam Canal restoration project has shifted focus to increasing the canal's carrying capacity instead of beautification.

A senior official said that the Corporation will construct flood-protection walls along the canal's boundary.

Beautification projects, including a concrete slab over the canal, a cycle track, landscaping, and seating areas that were planned as part of the 'Blue Connect' project in 2020, have been dropped, and the Corporation has undertaken intensive desilting including clearing up silt in the 11 major culverts along the canal.

Desilting and other works will be completed by the end of this month.

"We have been desilting the canal with two robotic excavators and one recycler machine. The work will be completed before the onset of the monsoon. A recycler machine is used to separate water from silt and use the water to clear up choked passages," he said.

Mambalam Canal, which is 5,700 meters long, starts from Vidodaya Main Road near Valluvar Kottam and connects to Adyar River. It collects water from G.N. Chetty Road, Thyagaraya Road, CIT Nagar, Saidapet and Mount Road, Todhunter Nagar, and Golfground.

In spite of nearly Rs. 80 crores spent on canal restoration; many parts of T. Nagar were inundated last November.



Drunken driver asked to distribute pamphlets against the habit

The Madras High Court has directed a man who was arrested for drunken driving to distribute pamphlets against the habit for two weeks at Adyar L.B. Road junction. Justice A.D. Jagadish Chandira laid down this condition while granting him conditional bail.

The petitioner, who was arrested for causing injuries to three pedestrians, was directed to be released on bail on his executing a bond for Rs. 25,000.

The prosecution, which opposed the bail, said the petitioner, who was arrested and remanded in judicial custody on Aug. 23, had driven his vehicle in a rash and negligent manner and hit three pedestrians near Nandanam junction on Venkatanarayana Road (T. Nagar). He had also fled the spot.

However, considering the facts and circumstances of the case, including the one that he had a family to take care of and the three injured persons had recovered and were back home, the court granted him conditional bail.

L&T gets Rs. 340-crore Chennai Metro contract

By Our Staff Reporter

The contract for the construction of track works of standard gauge in the elevated section between CMBT and Sholinganallur in Corridor 5 and Sholinganallur to Sipcot in Corridor 3 as part of phase II Metro rail construction has been awarded to Larsen & Toubro Limited at a cost of Rs. 340.63 crores.

According to a Chennai Metro press note, the construction work involves supply of head hardened rails, turnouts, fastenings and installation of ballastless tracks in elevated sections, including 35 Metro stations, pocket tracks and stabling lines.

Runner-up in National-level chess tourney

V. S. Shashank (Std. 7 student in Velammal Main School, Mogappair) came 2nd in the Under-12 category in the 13th Modern School National-level FIDE Rated Chess Tournament conducted in Modern School (Chennai) last week. He scored 5 out of 7 points.

More than 80 students participated in his category in the tournament.

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T. NAGAR, near T. Nagar Bus Stand, 900 sq.ft, UDS 593 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1 open car park, residential flat, resale. Hanu Reddy Realty, 99400 77883, 78248 68459.

WEST MAMBALAM, Godavari Apartment, Lake View Road, opp. Public Health Centre, for sale, spacious 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 1323 sq.ft, built-up area, usable area inside flat 917 sq.ft, UDS 560 sq.ft, 1st floor with lift, with open car parking. In addition grill covered passage of about 400 sq.ft for exclusive usage. Year of construction 1999. Price expected about Rs. 1.25 crores. Ph: 77386 94780. No brokers.

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 near Kodambakkam Railway Station, Habibullah Road Post Office, Devar Kalyana Mandapam, 600 sq.ft, UDS 274.90, with built in, A/c, Quiet location, away from main road. Ample water.
Contact: Suresh 94446 26949 90803 39078

WEST MAMBALAM, Subba Reddy Street, 750 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor. Contact: Hanu Reddy Realty Ph: 98406 66267, 76049 19999.

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WEST MAMBALAM, 23, Vasudevapuram Street, 990 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, pooja room, semi-furnished, all electrical fittings, 2 A/c's, 24 hours water, no pets, one 2-wheeler parking, small Brahmin family preferred, no brokers. Ph: 94458 62886, 044-2481 7447.

WEST MAMBALAM, Postal Colony, 1200 sq.ft, 1st floor flat, 2 big bedrooms, big hall, kitchen, lift, semi-furnished, covered car park, rent Rs. 25000, plus maintenance Rs. 500. Ph: 98847 81912.

T. NAGAR, 17, New Boag Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 750 sq.ft, 1st floor apartment, fully wood work, 2 wheeler parking, road side balcony, vegetarians only, rent Rs. 16000. Contact: Sarathy Ph: 81489 59362.

T. NAGAR, 16, Venkataraman Street, near Pandy Bazaar, Holy Angel's School & Bus Stop, 2 bedrooms apartment, hall, kitchen, balcony, bath attached, 3rd floor, lift, car park, wood work, cupboards, rent Rs. 20000, 6 months advance. Ph: 91764 95473, 98411 93685.

WEST MAMBALAM, 5/2, Kanakadhara Flat, Rajaji Street, ground floor, 4 feet above road level, 800 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, rent Rs. 17000 + maintenance, 6 months advance, Brahmins only, inspection on appointment. Ph: 94442 64161.

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Metrowater starts desilting of sewer chambers

Metrowater has initiated desilting of sewer lines and maintenance holes in nearly 1,998 streets in various parts of the city before the onset of monsoon. A total of 11,395 maintenance holes will be covered during the desilting exercise.

282 desilting machines, 161 jet-rodding machines and 57 super suckers have been deployed to carry out the work.

Residents may present their complaints on choked sewer lines or sewage overflow in the local Metrowater offices.

Idly batter too from Vijayalakshmi

S. Vijayalakshmi (resident of LIG flats, 7th Avenue, Ashok Nagar), who has been selling millet health mix for 5 years, has introduced idly/dosa batter.

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'Distinguished Ophthalmology Couple of India' award for Dr. Praveen, Dr. Vasumathy

Dr. Praveen Krishna and Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham, (Medical Directors, Radhatri Nethralaya, 12, Hindi Prachara Sabha Street, T. Nagar) were presented the 'Distinguished Ophthalmology Couple of India' award at the 12th Annual Conference of Association of Community Ophthalmologists of India (ACOIN 2022) in Pahalgam Convention Centre (Kashmir) on Sept. 10.

They were awarded the title for their decades of contribution in the field of ophthalmology and for their charitable



medical services to the Praveen said Radhatri Nethralaya, through its charitable community. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. wing Gurupriya Vision

Research Foundation, has performed scores of free cataract and other eye surgeries for the poor across the country. Dr. Vasumathy explained that its 'Vision on Wheels' project focuses on early detection and treatment of retinopathy (a blindness condition in infants) in villages and slum areas. She said that till now, 30,000 babies have been screened in rural Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh. 2000 diagnosed with retinopathy were cured free using laser surgery. For more details, visit www.radhatrinethralaya.com.

Carnatic music contests next month

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Thyaga Brahma Gana Sabha has organised a music competition on Saint Thyagaraja Kritis and Sri Shyama Sastrikritis on Sunday, Oct. 9 in Vani Mahal (G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar).

There will be competitions on Muthuswami Dikshitar Kritis and veena on Saturday, Oct. 15 and rendition of Sri Papanasam Sivan kritis on Sunday, Oct. 16.

The competition is aimed at encouraging upcoming musicians. Those below 25 years of age are eligible to participate.

For more details and registration, call 28152166 (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) or send WhatsApp message to 88384 78673.

Pothole in Brindavan Street Extension

By Our Staff Reporter

A deep pothole has formed in the middle of Brindavan Street Extension (near Shyamala Vadhana Street, West Mambalam) near a sewer manhole chamber.

After filling the crater with debris, a barricade has been placed over the damaged surface to caution motorists.

As the barricade is causing hindrance and is unsafe to motorists, nearby residents have appealed to Chennai Corporation to repair and blacktop the damaged portion.



Blood donation camp on Oct. 1

By Our Staff Reporter

Tamilnadu Photo Videographers' Trade Union and Chennai Samuga Vizhipunarchi Trust have jointly organized a blood donation camp from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 1 in MR Mahal, Lake View Road, West Mambalam on the occasion of National Volunteers Blood Donors Day.

The blood units will be collected by Rajiv Gandhi Government Hospital Blood Bank.

There will also be a talent search program for children in the 8-14 years age group.

All are welcome.

More details can be had from Video Ramesh (Organizer) in 9841811020.

67-km. 'walkathon' on Oct. 5

By Our Staff Reporter

T.N. Shanmugam (Secretary, C. D. Nayagam T. Nagar Higher Secondary School (Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar) has organized a 'walkathon' on Oct. 5 to create awareness about the free education offered by the school.

He said that the 67-km 'walkathon' will start at 3.15 a.m. from Alandur Metro Station and proceed via B.S. Adbur Rahman Crescent Institute of Science and Technology (Kelambakkam Road, Vandalur), Navalur, Madhya Kailash and Teynampet, and end at the school.

The last date for registration is Sept. 20 and the entry fee is Rs. 500.

More details can be had in 9952046730.

Free Naaraayaneeyam, Bhagavadham classes

By Our Staff Reporter

Jayabai Srinivasan of Narayaneeyam Mahila Mandali will conduct free Naaraayaneeyam and Srimad Bhagavadham (Dasama Skandam) classes exclusively for women from Oct. 5 in 5/9, Srinivasan Street, West Mambalam.

For registration, call 90030 16160 or 9551295996.

World Ozone Day observed

By Our Staff Reporter

The students of Sri RKM Sarada Vidyalaya Girls Higher Secondary School (Usman Road, T. Nagar), Exnora Greater Chennai and Lions Club of Central Madras jointly observed World Ozone Day by organizing a rally around Panagal Park in T. Nagar on Sept. 16.

The students distributed pamphlets among members of the public and planted saplings in the campus.





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