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Control center to monitor cameras in MTC buses opened

Udhayanidhi Stalin (Youth Welfare and Sports Development Minister) on Jan. 10 inaugurated the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) building at MTC headquarters constructed at a cost of Rs 4.72 crores and CCTV cameras fixed in buses, depots



and bus terminus. To ensure the safety of women and child passengers, under the union government-sponsored Nirbhaya Fund, Rs 72.25 crores was allocated to MTC to install cameras and panic buttons on 2500 buses, at depots and bus terminii besides the construction of an integrated command and control centre. As part of the project, CCTV cameras, mobile network video record-ers, panic buttons and loudspeakers were

installed in the 2330 buses, and cameras were installed in 63 depots and bus terminii in the second phase. The two-storey 5000 sq.ft. ICCC building has a 40X7 feet video wall to be monitored and manned by 16 computer operators. It would act as the nerve centre for responding to any calls triggered when the panic buttons in the buses are pressed.

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நச்சரி ரைம்ஸ்

கூடத்தில் இருந்த டி.வியிலிருந்து நர்ஸரி ரைம்ஸ் கேட்டுக் கொண்டிருந்தது.

'கார்த்தாலே ஒன்பது மணிகூட ஆகலே. Wheels on the bus go round... round போட்டாச்சு' என்று அலுத்துக் கொண்டாள் அபிராமி.

'ஆமாம், ரைம்ஸ் போடு போடுன்னு ஒரே நச்சரிப்பு வேறே' என்று ஆமோதித்தான் ஜானகிராம்.

'இந்த வீல்ஸ் ஆன் தி பஸ் பாட்டு ரொம்ப நீளம். எப்போ முடியுமோ?'

'நல்ல வேளை. வீல்ஸ் ஆன் தி ட்ரெயின்னு இருந்திருந்தா என்ன ஆறது?'

'சாப்பிட்டச்சான்னு போய்ப் பாருங்க.'

ஜானகிராம் போய்ப் பார்த்தான்.

'தட்டுலே ஒரு இட்லி இன்னமும் அப்படியே இருக்கு. டி.வி ஸ்க்ரீனையே பார்த்துக்கிட்டிருந்தா எப்போ சாப்பிடறது?' என்றான் மனைவியிடம்.

'என்ன செய்யலாம்? இதைப் பக்குவமாதான் டீல் பண்ணணும்' என்றான் அபிராமி.

'சாப்பிடறப்ப மட்டும் ரைம்ஸ் பார்த்தா பரவாயில்லே. எப்போ பார்த்தாலும் பெப்பா பிக் (Peppa pig) ஓடுது. அந்த பிக் கெக்கே பிக்கேன்னு என்னவோ பேசுது. ஒண்ணும் புரியலே.'

அரை மணி நேரத்தில் டி.வி அணைக்கப்பட்டது. அடுத்த நாள் வீட்டுக்கு விருந்தினர்கள் வந்திருந்தபோதும் கூடத்தில் டி.வியில் நர்ஸரி ரைம்ஸ் ஓடிக் கொண்டிருந்தது.

ஜானகிராம் கோபப்பட்டான்.

'எதுவுமே இன்டிஸ்ட் இருக்கோ அதை செய்யட்டுமே. இதுவே என்ன தப்பிருக்கு?' என்றார் வீட்டுக்கு வந்திருந்த மாமா.

'இல்லை, இதை இப்படியே விட்டா ஒரு போதை மாதிரி ஆயிடும்' என்றான் ஜானகிராம்.

ஒரு வாரம் போனது. மூவரும் ஒரு உறவினர் வீட்டுக்குப் போயிருந்தார்கள். உறவினர் வீட்டில் இரண்டு குழந்தைகள் டி.வியில் ரைம்ஸ் பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருந்தார்கள்.

'போச்சு, அந்தக் குழந்தைக்கூட இதுவும் போய் உட்கார்ந்தாச்சுன்னா விடிஞ்சிடும்.'

பாப்பிட்ட மாதிரியே தான் நடந்தது. கையைப் பிடித்து இழுத்து வீட்டுக்குத் திரும்பவும் அழைத்துச் சென்றான் ஜானகிராம்.

அடுத்த நாள் மதியம் ஒரு மணி. டி.வி யில் குழந்தைகள் நிகழ்ச்சி ஓடிக் கொண்டிருந்தது. முக்கோணம், சதுரம் போன்ற வடிவங்களுக்கு விதவிதமான வண்ணம் பூசுவது.

'நான் சமையல் ப்ரோக்ராம் பார்க்கணும். ரிமோட் எங்கே?' என்று கேட்டாள் அபிராமி.

'இன்னும் அஞ்ச நிமிஷம் அம்மா. ரவுண்டுக்கு ப்ளே கவர் பாக்கி இருக்கு.'

'ஒண்ணு வீல்ஸ் ஆன் தி பஸ். இல்லேன்னா ரவுண்டுக்குக் கவர் பண்ணுது. கிரவுண்டுன்னு ஒண்ணு இருக்கு தெரியுமா? எல்லாரும் ஈவினிங் அஞ்ச மணியானா கிரவுண்டுக்குப் போறாங்க இல்லை. Why are you not going?'

பதில் வரவில்லை.

மாலை கணவன் ஜானகிராமைப் பிடித்துக் கொண்டான்.

'நான் டி.வியிலே ஒரு ப்ரோக்ராம்கூடப் பார்க்க முடியற தில்லே. எனக்கு ஒரு தனி டி.வி வாங்கிக் கொடுங்க. என் ரும்லே வைச்சுக்கறேன்.'

'தனி டி.வியா? எதுக்கு செலவு?' என்றான் ஜானகிராம்.

'அப்போ ரைம்ஸ் பார்க்க ஒரு ஐ பேட் வாங்கிக் கொடுத்துடுங்க.'

'இந்த வயசுலே ஐ பேட் கொடுக்கறது தப்பு. கண்ணுக்குக் கெடுதல். விரல் வலிக்கும்.'

அன்று வீட்டுக்கு ஒரு உறவினர் வந்திருந்தார். அவர் ஒரு டாக்டர். திடீரென அபிராமிக்கு ஒரு எண்ணம் உதித்தது.

'என்னங்க, அவர் டாக்டர்தானே? அவருக்கு சைக்காலஜி தெரிஞ்சிருக்குமில்லே?'

'அப்படி சொல்ல முடியாது.'

'கீழ்ப்பாக்கம் மெடிகல் காலேஜ்ல படிச்சிருக்காரு, தெரிஞ்சிருக்கும். இப்படி நர்ஸரி ரைம்ஸ்க்கு அடிமையா இருக்கிறதைப் பத்திக் கேட்டுப் பாருங்களேன்.'

ஜானகிராம் அவரிடம் கேட்டுவிட்டான்.

'எப்போ பார்த்தாலும் டி.வியிலே ரைம்ஸ் பார்க்கிற பழக்கத்தை நிறுத்தணும்.'

'அம்மா அம்மானு கெஞ்சறப்ப என்னாலேயும் மறுக்க முடியலே' என்றான் அபிராமி.

'சரி, நான் தனியா பேசிப் பார்க்கறேன். நீங்க ரெண்டு பேரும் உங்க ரும்லே இருங்க' என்றார் டாக்டர்.

இருவரும் போனார்கள்.

'சொல்லுங்க, நீங்க எப்போ பார்த்தாலும் டி.வியிலே நர்ஸரி ரைம்ஸ் பார்க்கறதா உங்க மகனும், மருமகனும் ஆதங்கப் படறாங்க. ஏன் இப்படி செய்யறீங்க? உங்களுக்கும் எழுபது வயசு ஆகுதில்லே?'

'முணு மாசம் முன்னாலே எங்க வீட்டுக்கு ஒரு உறவுக்காரக் குழந்தை வந்திருந்தது. அதுகூட உட்கார்ந்து நானும் ரைம்ஸ் பார்க்க ஆரம்பிச்சேன். எனக்குப் பிடிச்சுப் போயிடுச்சு. அதுவே யிருந்து பார்க்க ஆரம்பிச்சுட்டேன்' என்றார் மாமனார்.

'அப்படியா?'

'ஆமாம், சின்ன வயசுல நான் ஏழையா வாழ்ந்தவன். 'நிலா நிலா ஓடி வா' ரைம் தவிர வேற எதுவும் தெரியாது. இந்த மாதிரி கவர் கலரா ரைம்ஸ் பார்க்க வாய்ப்பு இல்லை. இப்போ பார்த்தா எனக்கு மனசுக்குப் பிடிச்சிருக்கு. ரிலாக்ஸா இருக்கு, பார்க்கறேன். இது தப்பா?'

'தப்பே இல்லை. டி.வியிலே கண்டதையும் பார்க்கறதைவிட இது நல்லதுதான். ஆனால் கொஞ்சம் குறைச்சுக்கறங்க. வீல்ஸ் ஆன் தி பஸ்ஸை வீக்லி ஒன்ஸ் பாருங்க போதும்.'

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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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TNEB to start installing smart meters

By Our Staff Reporter

In the initial phase, Tamilnadu Electricity Board (TNEB) installed around 1.14 lakh smart meters in households in T. Nagar and Kodambakkam.

After successful implementation and resolving several issues, TNEB has now embarked on a plan to implement a smart meter program across Tamilnadu.

With TNEB inviting technical consultants to aid the smart metering exercise, it will soon replace the existing meters in all low-tension (LT) categories with smart meters under the Revamped Reforms-Linked Results-Based Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS).

A senior official confirmed that the documentation to invite bids for installation and maintenance of smart meters is in the final stage and added that the tenders will be floated soon.

"The winning bidder will procure, install and maintain the smart meters. TNEB will make payment in 100 monthly installments, beginning after installation, if the meters work well," the official said.

Smart meters will reduce the burden to make physical reading of the meters through assessors and the bills will be automatically generated after the due cycle.

Smart meters will also facilitate automatic disconnection and reconnection of power to consumers in case of defaults or other issues.

Local boy dies during celebration of new movie release

By Our Staff Reporter

19-year-old Bharath Kumar (resident of Jafferkhapet), who came to Rohini Theater in Koyambedu around midnight on Jan. 10 for the release of actor Ajith Kumar starrer 'Thunivu', died after he fell from the top of a tanker lorry onto which fans had climbed as part of the celebrations.

The movie had shows starting from 1 a.m on Jan. 11 across the State.

Fans of the actor, who thronged the theater from midnight, caused a ruckus.

As part of the celebrations, a group of youths stopped a water tanker and climbed on top of it and were dancing when Bharath Kumar allegedly lost balance and fell down.

He was moved to a hospital nearby, where he succumbed to his injuries.

Illegal sewage connections plugged, offenders fined



By Our Staff Reporter

In 2022, 1300 illegal sewage lines connected to storm water drains were plugged by Chennai Corporation and a total fine of Rs. 3.12lakhs was collected from the violators.

The highest of 203 violations was in Kodambakkam Zone followed by 181 in Thiru Vi Ka Nagar Zone.

They included many commercial establishments and roadside eateries that were also dumping kitchen waste into the drains.

The shops have been warned of strict action including cancellation of license if the offence is repeated.

Assistant Engineers of each zone have been asked to conduct regular inspection.

Thangavel (resident of Police Quarters Road, West Mambalam) told this reporter that sewage overflow is a frequent problem on their road as several shops on Madley Road (near Police Quarters Road junction, adjacent to T. Nagar bus terminus) let sewage into storm water drains. It is a health hazard to the residents, he said.

'Istri Project': Iron box powered by LPG

By Our Staff Reporter

Many ironers across the city struggle to keep efficient work going with external issues like climate, the cost of coal, heating time for coal and wearing out of the iron box.

To help ironers circumvent the problems, Chennai-based non-profit Udhyam surveyed and came up with a sustainable solution under its 'Istri Project' by providing them iron boxes powered by LPG gas.

Cyril Joseph (a member of the initiative) said that during the survey, they noticed that coal took somewhere between 2 to 3 hours to heat, the ashes from the iron box ruined clothes and was unhealthy for the ironers and there was increased wear and tear of the iron box.

On an average, ironers spend Rs 2,500 to Rs 3,000 on coal per month.

The LPG iron box is pollution free, lighter in weight and heats up quickly. It reduces fuel cost by Rs. 1500 per month and increases work efficiency, Cyril said.

Since launch a year back, more than 50% ironers have switched to LPG-based iron boxes in the city.

Spiritual programs in Sukaalayam from Jan. 14 to 20

By Our Staff Reporter

Spiritual programs will be held from Jan. 14 to 20 in Sukaalayam (70/44, Burkit Road, T. Nagar) as part of Sri Saphtha Gnana Yagnam program.

The following is the daily program:

Paaraayanam from 5.30 a.m to 10.30 a.m by Suresh Goundlien and Sundaram Baghavatar.

Discourses by Sri Chandrasekar Sarma from 11 a.m to 12.30 p.m and from 6.30 p.m to 8 p.m on various topics. Vishnu Sahasranaama paaraayanam and maha mandira japam from 5.30 p.m to 6.30 p.m. All are welcome. More details can be had in 94443 58882.

Bullock-cart model outside shop



The model of a bullock-cart has been installed outside a textile shop in T. Nagar as part of Pongal celebrations.

Prison Dept. sets up stall at book fair to collect books

Tamilnadu Prison Department has set up a stall (Stall no.286) in the ongoing 46th Chennai Book Fair at YMCA (Nandanam) to collect books from donors, which will be added to prison libraries across the State. Prison Department officials said that they have received over 300 books and invited the public to donate more books in the coming days.

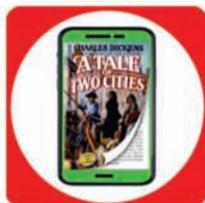
Visitors can register at the stall for donation and the officials will arrange for doorstep collection of the books.

The donated books will be distributed across the nine major central prisons.

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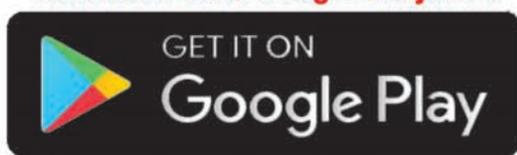
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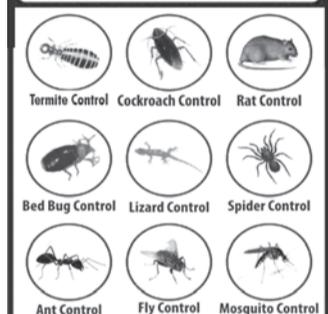
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Pongal freebies distributed



By Our Staff Reporter

Tamilnadu Government started distributing Pongal gift hampers among ration card holders on Jan. 9.

The contents include 1 kg raw rice, 1 kg sugar, a sugarcane and cash gift of Rs. 1,000.

Photo shows a ration card holder collecting her gift hamper from a shop on Muthukrishnan Street (T. Nagar).

Pongal gift hamper with indigenous rice varieties



By Our Staff Reporter

Sempulam Sustainable Solutions (1st Floor, 23/2/2, Kannadasan Salai, T. Nagar) offers a special Pongal gift hamper containing rice varieties from 38 districts in Tamilnadu.

Priced Rs. 999, it has rice varieties like Aruvatham Kuruvai from Ariyalur, Neelan Samba from Chennai, Navara from Coimbatore and Kallurundaikar from Dharmapuri.

According to K. Vijayalakshmi (Founder and CEO), the organisation has always worked towards helping farmers market their traditional rice varieties under their campaign Namma Nellu. She said the farmers are paid a premium price at the point of purchase itself.

She said the gift hamper can be gifted throughout the year and is not limited to Pongal. The hampers can be purchased online in <https://www.sempulam.com/gifting>.

Axed tree remains dumped on Arya Gowda Road



The remains of an axed tree with its roots has been dumped on Arya Gowda Road (opposite Postal Colony Bus Stop, West Mambalam).

It is blocking a third of the carriageway causing obstruction to motorists and pedestrians.

Playground readied for Sangamam festival

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Sangamam, the Tamil cultural extravaganza, which started on Jan. 14 in Natesan Park (Venkatanarayana Road, Parthasarathi Puram, T. Nagar) will go on till Tuesday, Jan. 17.

On Jan. 12, Corration workers used an excavator to dump sand and level the playground and put up a huge pandal and stage for hosting the festival.

Named 'Namma Ooru Thiruvizha', it is being held in 16 locations across the city.

The events include folk music and dance forms like mangala isai, melams, mayil attam, poikkal kuthirai attam and karagam.



Cables block pavement

By Our Staff Reporter

A bunch of cables belonging to TNEB and a big bunch of damaged broadband cables have been dumped on the pavement of Dhandapani Street (T. Nagar).

According to nearby residents, the cables have been lying at the spot for the past 2 months.

They have appealed to officials of TNEB to remove the cables from the spot.



Lakes near full, Krishna water inflow to be stopped

By Our Staff Reporter

The total storage in the city's reservoirs on the morning of Jan. 11 was 10902 million cubic feet (mcf) which is almost 93% of their total capacity of 11757 mcf. The total storage on the same date last year was 10983 mcf.

As on Jan. 11, Poondi had a storage of 3187 mcf as against its full capacity of 3231 mcf; Cholavaram 831 mcf as against the full capacity (881 mcf); Red Hills 3014 mcf (3300 mcf); Chembarambakkam 3389 mcf (3645 mcf) and Kannankottai Thervoy-kandigai 481 mcf (500 mcf.)

As the reservoirs are nearing full capacity, thanks to the copious inflow of Krishna water, the Water Resources Department (WRD) has requested the Andhra Pradesh government to suspend the supply to Chennai.

According to Metrowater officials, the city will enjoy a comfortable water supply position during the next 12 months.

Footpath border painted to caution motorists

A Chennai Corporation worker was seen painting alternate shades of white and yellow along the border of the footpath on Govindan Road (West Mambalam).

It is being done to caution motorists at night about the presence of the elevated footpath on the road margin.

Sugarcane leaves dumped outside ration shop



By Our Staff Reporter

After collecting pongal freebies including a sugarcane, some consumers cut the dried leaves of the sugarcane and dumped them outside the shop on Muthurangan Salai (T. Nagar).

Rally held to raise awareness on drug and child abuse

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai City Police, in association with Rotary Club of Chennai Mambalam, organised a vintage bike rally on Jan. 8 to create awareness on the need to stop drug and child abuse.

It was flagged off by Police Commissioner Shankar Jiwal. More than 1,000 two-wheelers of the Vintage Rider from various parts of the State participated in the rally.

The 10-km rally started at Elliots Beach off Besant Nagar proceeded via Rajiv Gandhi Salai and ended in Thoraipakkam. The participants were felicitated at the end of the rally.

Rotary District 3232 Governor N. Nandakumar and senior police officials including Sibi Chakravarthy, Joint commissioner of police (South zone), R.V. Ramya Bharati, Joint Commissioner of police (north zone), and Adyar Deputy Commissioner P. Mahendran participated.

Veteran racer dies after crash at Madras International Circuit

By Our Staff Reporter

Veteran car racer K. E. Kumar (resident of Teynampet) died on Jan. 8, following a crash in the second round of the MRF MMSI FMSCI Indian National Car Racing Championship at the Madras International Circuit in Irungattukottai, Chennai.

He was 59.

The incident occurred when Kumar's car came in contact with that of a competitor during the saloon cars event.

The car slid across the track and landed on the roof after slamming into a fence.

The race was stopped, and within minutes, Kumar was extricated from the wreckage and transferred to an ambulance before being shifted to a nearby hospital after a preliminary examination at the track's medical centre. He succumbed in the hospital to his injuries the same day.

Local runner-up in interclub TT tourney

By Our Staff Reporter

C. N. Sridhar (resident of 24, 9th Avenue, Ashok Nagar) was runner-up in the open singles event in the Interclub Table Tennis Tournament conducted by Madras Cricket Club in its premises on Jan. 6, 7 and 8.

He lost to former State Champion K. R. Sharad 4-11, 6-11.

A heathy Nagalingam tree on Pinjala Subramainam Street



By Our Staff Reporter

A decades old tall Nagalingam tree (also called Shiva Linga tree) stands on the pavement of Pinjala Subramainam Street (T. Nagar).

The tree is in good health with a number of its cannon ball like fruits hanging from its branches.

A small temple has been constructed near the base of the tree where a number of nearby residents offer prayers.

The fruit is edible and is commonly fed to cattle and livestock. It has many medicinal benefits. The extracts of the tree are used to treat hypertension, tumours, pain and inflammation.

Vivekananda's birthday celebrated

By Our Staff Reporter

Students of Shri Tarachand Galada Jain High School (T. Nagar) celebrated Swami Vivekananda's birthday on Jan.12 by reciting his quotes and taking a pledge.



Felicitated for completing 50 years in catering business

By Our Staff Reporter

S. Varadharajan (resident of Ettayapuram) was felicitated with the title 'Narchuvai Vendhan' for completing 50 years in the catering business by Sri Sabarimala Bhakta Educational and Social Trust (16/15, Thambiah Road Extn., West Mambalam, Ph: 98412 35502) during its 12th annual function held in Vasantham Kalyana Mandapam (Arya Gowda Road, West Mambalam) last week.



Ayyappa sahasranaama archana, kolattam and special pujas were performed. 15 meritorious students including 2 special children were given scholarships. Uma Anandan (Councillor, Ward 134) was the Chief Guest. Kalpathy V. Sivakumar (Founder and President) and A. Sridhar (Managing Trustee) were present.

Contest for kids held in Explore Play School

By Our Staff Reporter

In view of Margazhi, a talent contest was conducted for children in Explore Play School (7th Avenue, Ashok Nagar). More than 50 children participated and prizes, certificates and copies of Bhagavad Gita were given to the winners.

It was followed by a spiritual lecture by Acharya of Arsha Bodhini and bhajans by Bharathe.

Explore Play School follows holistic method of early childhood education.



Grills installed on walls along subway



By Our Staff Reporter

A piped grill was installed recently on the walls along both sides of Madley subway. The subway was renovated a few months after work on the Skywalk (connecting T. Nagar bus stand and Mambalam railway station) was completed.

Photo was taken on Jan. 13.

A broom stand!

By Our Staff Reporter

An old model car in dilapidated condition has been abandoned on the margin in Neelakanta Mehta Street (Parthasarathi Puram, T. Nagar).

A broom used by conservancy workers to clean streets is seen resting on it.

A nearby resident told this reporter that the car has been lying at the spot for more than 2 years.



Lions Club members celebrate Pongal in school



Members of Lions Club (VGP Complex, 1st Avenue, Ashok Nagar) celebrated Pongal with the students of Guindy Labour Colony School on Jan. 11 by distributing new clothes and conducting traditional games.

K. R. Jayakumar (School Correspondent), M.

Praveenlal (Second District (Past District Governor) and Vice Governor), Dr. G. Manilal others were present.

Run on Jan. 22 for polio awareness

Rotary Club of Chennai Lake City and Chennai Sportena Academy (Mogappair) have jointly organised a run to spread awareness about polio on Sunday, Jan. 22 from Decathlon (Plot 115/1, Nolambur Service Road, Mogappair).

It is open to all. Participants can take part in 2.5km or 5km runs.

Free T-shirt will be given to all participants.

The top three finishers will get a trophy and certificate.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Appeal to relay Sambasivam Street

Sir, Sambasivam Street (Parthasarathiapuram, T. Nagar) has been in bad condition for more than 6 months.

Following the rains in the last two months, the condition has deteriorated further as the bitumen surface has got washed away leaving behind a battered surface with loose gravel.

On some stretches there are wide potholes and barricades have been placed to caution motorists, thereby reducing the usable road width.

The loose gravel throws up a dust cloud everytime a vehicle passes, leading to air pollution. I appeal to Chennai Corporation to inspect and relay the road at the earliest. **S. Kandan, Sambasivam Street, T. Nagar**



Milk delivery person absconds with cash collected from customers

Sir, A person named Mahesh had been supplying Aavin milk packets with the help of 4 boys to around 600 residents including me in Postal Colony (West Mambalam) for many years. Every month, Mahesh collected money in advance from his customers for buying monthly milk cards.

He collected the monthly this month, but stopped delivering milk from Jan. 6. His mobile is switched off and the owner of the house where he was living informed that Mahesh had vacated the house and left. A complaint against Mahesh has been filed in Mambalam police station.

Aavin officials have told the affected residents to apply for new milk cards. **Subiksha Dev, Postal Colony, West Mambalam**

Widening of storm water drain in Arya Gowda Road



Widening of storm water drain is in progress in Arya Gowda Road (West Mambalam).

A Corporation official told *Mambalam Times* that the work will be completed by the end of the month. The widening work has been completed and work is in progress to close the drain after pumping out the stagnant rain water, an official said.

Holding hands!



Two school girls on bicycles were seen holding hands while riding on Jubilee Road (West Mambalam) at around 4 p.m on Jan. 11.

Traditional games contest held in Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya



In connection with Pongal, a traditional games contest was conducted for students in Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya Samithi (Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar). The students competed in Silambam and Uriyadi. Umadevi (Additional Commissioner of Labour) was the Chief Guest. She gave away prizes to the winners.

Overflowing garbage

By Our Staff Reporter
Garbage is overflowing from the two bins kept on the service lane of Madley Subway (below skywalk and opposite Saravana Stores, T. Nagar).

Garbage is also seen strewn around the bin.

Oblivious of the health hazard, a garbage collector is seen segregating the garbage with his bare hands.

A nearby resident told *Mambalam Times* the unhygienic condition is hazardous to their health. As the bins are located at a commercial location, it leads to frequent accumulation of garbage. So Chennai Corporation must clear the bins twice daily (once in the morning and again late evening) to prevent accumulation, he said



Green wonders in glass jars

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.

TerraForm (15/9, Pasumarthy Street, KG NTR Heritage, Viswanatha Puram, Kodambakkam) 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 last February after year-long research. Besides offering a vibrant range of fast-moving and custom-made terrariums, they set up planned aquariums and paludariums in homes based on orders.

"Terrariums may not be a new concept but is still in the 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 with all ideas," Sai said. 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 at Rs. 1,000.

For details, visit Instagram @terraformterrariums or call 93809 75597/93605 71814.

Debris removed

Following complaints by residents, Chennai Corporation workers removed the construction debris dumped near the compound wall of a house on 2nd Street, KV Colony, West Mambalam on Jan. 12.

Musical discourses from Jan. 21

By Our Staff Reporter

Om Fine Arts has organised a series of musical discourses on the Thirumurai (திருமுறைத் தலங்கள் பாடல் பெற்ற தலங்கள்) by Suchithra Balasubramanian from Jan. 21 in TAG-PS Dakshinamurthy Auditorium, PS Higher Secondary School, opposite Ramakrishna Mutt, Mylapore.

The inaugural event will be from 5 p.m to 8 p.m on Saturday, Jan. 21.

K. Annamalai (TN BJP President) will inaugurate the program which will begin with Nadhaswaram by Mylai Karthikeyan and party.

S. Nalli Kuppuswami Chetti will be honoured with 'Lifetime Achievement Award' for his services to arts and culture.

This will be followed by Suchithra Balasubramanian's musical discourse on Chidambaram (தில்லை).

All are welcome.

There will be a quiz for children. For registration visit www.swatantrafoundation.in

For more details call 80560 02464 or 044-29515016.

3-day slapstick comedy play on Dracula from Jan 20

As a part of the 26th edition of their Christmas Pantomime, The Little Theatre (39/46, Rams Square, Valluvar Kottam High Road, Nungam/bakkam) is staging the play Dracula: Love at First Bite from Jan. 20 to 22 in Anna Centenary Library (Gandhi Mandapam Road, Surya Nagar, Kotturpuram). Aysha Rau (Producer) said the play is directed by KK and Rohini Rau.

She said the play is a spin on the original Bram Stoker's Dracula and aims at humanising him by making him relevant to today's popular culture.

"It is really tricky to make something like Dracula child-friendly, especially when the character itself is associated with blood and gore. We have made it a slapstick comedy that sensitises the character of Dracula where he interacts with not just everyday characters but also superheroes from pop culture", she said. She has encouraged parents to bring their children to the show.

For tickets and other details, visit <https://thelittletheatre.explara.com/events>.

Appeal to re-erect name board of Sadhasivam Street

The foundation of Dr. Sadhasivam Street name board (near Sarangapani Street junction, T. Nagar) was damaged when the storm water drain was widened two months back.

It toppled over and fell across the road last month. It was lifted and tied to a street light post at the junction temporarily. It is now bending to one side.

Rubble from the demolished storm water drain has been dumped at the junction.

The residents of the street have requested Chennai Corporation to remove the rubble and reinstall the name board.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Sampangi Street, near Kittu Park, 2 bedrooms, 900 sq.ft, UDS 550 sq.ft, ground floor, East facing, 15 years old. Price Rs. 1.10 crores, negotiable, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: 98414 26114.

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T. NAGAR, Ramachandra Apartment, 16, Soundararajan Street, near TTD Temple, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1000 sq.ft, 25 years old, 2nd floor, basement car park, no lift, total 10 flats, no water shortage, 3 phase EB, price Rs. 1.25 crores. Contact: Sivaraman, Ph: 97911 62338.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Brindavan Street Extension, near Axis Bank, 750 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 2 bathrooms (one attached), 2nd floor, lift, total 3 floors, Brahmins/vegetarians preferred, newly renovated, open car park, no brokers. Ph: 95000 24784.

WEST MAMBALAM, Ramakrishnapuram 3rd Street, 675 sq.ft, office space, car park, preference to Doctors, CA's, Engineers or any professional consultation only, no brokers. Ph: 99406 50031.

T. NAGAR, 11/15, Porur Somasundaram Street, 2 bedrooms, independent house, 1st floor, 1000 sq.ft, 2-wheeler parking only, for vegetarian family only, rent Rs. 25000, no maintenance. S. Viswanathan, Ph: 76672 19616.

K.K. NAGAR, 96th Street, 15th Sector, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 850 sq.ft, ground floor, wood work, furnished, 2-wheeler parking, Brahmins only, rent Rs. 13000. Ph: 99404 50340, 044-2372 8272.

WEST MAMBALAM, Thambiah Road, near Ration Shop, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 880 sq.ft, 2nd floor, without lift, semi-furnished, inverter, rent Rs. 23000, maintenance Rs. 800. Ph: 98842 76012, 98848 92522.

WEST MAMBALAM, Dhanasekaran Street, near Kali Bari Temple, 1500 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, 2 A/c's, covered car park, preference for Bank/MNC/Govt., ground floor, rent Rs. 35000, negotiable, advance Rs. 2 lakhs. Ph: 98847 81912.

T. NAGAR, 6, Mannar Street, near T. Nagar Bus Stand, semi-furnished ground floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2-wheeler parking only, for small vegetarian family or working individual, rent Rs. 17000. Ph: 98195 40380.

ASHOK NAGAR, Flat 23, Venkateswara Apartment, 6/13, Nagathamman Koil Street Extension, near 11th Avenue, 1st floor, 2 bedrooms, about 1000 sq.ft, spacious kitchen, geyser, A/c's, water, security, open car park, rent Rs. 21000. Owner, Ph: 98415 69629.

T. NAGAR, Off G.N. Chetty Road, Panagal Park, Jeeva Park 5 minutes walk, super commercial accommodation 3 spacious rooms, big hall, 2 bathrooms, 3 side balconies, storeroom, rent Rs. 48000. Car-scooter parking, 4 sides open, ready for occupation. Ph: 98400 08109, 98801 37819.

WEST MAMBALAM, Jubilee Road, near T.N.S.C Bank, single bedroom, hall, kitchen, ground floor, 24 hours water, EB as per card, 2-wheeler parking only, immediate occupation, rent Rs. 10500. Ph: 98844 85673.

ASHOK NAGAR, 56, Kala Flat, 12th Avenue, near Axis Bank & Anjaneyar Koil, 2 bedrooms apartment, hall, kitchen, balcony, car park, bath attached. Ph: 91764 95473, 98411 93685.

T. NAGAR, 37, Sivaji Street, near Bus Terminus, ground floor, independent house, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, A/c, fan, 24 hours water, 2-wheeler parking, pure vegetarians only. Ph: 98417 48757, 99525 91995.

WEST MAMBALAM, Balakrishna Naicken Street Extension, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2 balconies, semi-furnished, rent Rs. 18000 + Rs. 500 maintenance, 6 months advance, no brokers, Brahmins only. Ph: 99944 42544.

ASHOK NAGAR, 1st Main Road, near Pallava Hospital, 1100 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, modular kitchen, 1st floor, CCTV, semi-furnished, 24 hours metro water, security, rent Rs. 22000, family/bachelors/office. Ph: 73053 44555.

JAFFERKHANPET, Arumugam Street, near Gangai Amman Koil, 800 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 2 attached bathrooms, semi-furnished, 2nd floor, lift, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 15000, lease Rs. 13 lakhs. Ph: 93618 41024.

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MNC offers for posts of Trainers & Leaders for senior citizens. Ph: 98409 28595, 95001 44630.

WANTED cashier, male/female, full time for Jaya Medicals, West Mambalam. Kindly submit your resume at Jaya Medicals.

WANTED Shop Assistant for Diabetic Footwear shop in West Mambalam to work on Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Gents, age: 35-39 years. Ph: 98400 92661.

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Milled roads to be relaid on priority

By Our Staff Reporter
 Chennai Corporation and the Highways Department have asked contractors to speed up re-laying of roads that have been milled.

Stretches on Poonamallee High Road and Anna Salai are being re-laid by scrapping off the top layer. The instruction was given since the contractors had not re-laid a few stretches of the roads for over a week, inconveniencing motorists.

Several motorists had raised complaints by posting photos of milled roads on the Twitter handle of Chennai Corporation that was posing risk and hardship to them.

Gym for women, in neglect, to be revamped

A gym constructed for women next to the Corporation playground in Gopalapuram (Teynampet) in 2010, is in a neglected state.

Built at a cost of Rs. 14 lakhs, it was closed within two years due to lack of maintenance and was never reopened. Now, says Ganesh, a boxing coach from West Mambalam, the place is used by miscreants for gambling and to drink alcohol. "The equipment was repaired but never opened again," he said.

The authorities had also planned a boxing ring, a basketball court and a cricket pitch in the open space outside the gym, but none of these was implemented.

Following an inspection conducted last week, M. A. Nandhini (Councillor, Ward 111) said she would use the councillor fund and the MLA fund to renovate the gym.

A colony in Saidapet that cares for strays

A group of residents from Srinagar Colony in Saidapet has been feeding stray dogs daily since Covid lockdown.

'Dog Lovers Srinagar Colony' was started as a WhatsApp group in the middle of the pandemic when a group of residents saved a severely-injured dog.

Since then, the core aim of the group has been to ensure the safety and well-being of strays.

The group has more than 12 resident volunteers who take turns to feed the dogs, and many others who silently help, each in their own way. Besides ensuring the canines are well fed, the residents have also taken up the responsibility of vaccinating and sterilising the canines.

They have also affixed reflect-



photos of milled roads on the raised complaints by posting Twitter handle of Chennai Corporation that was posing risk and hardship to them. "The depth to which it is scrapped differs from place to place and it depends on the strength of the road. When the top layer wears off, it is re-laid and cold milling is done to ensure that the height of the road does not increase," a Chennai Corporation official said.

The work is being carried out partly due to the fact that stretches of roads are due for surface renewal and since they have been damaged during the monsoon and patched up. The work is done only during night between 11.30 p.m. and 5 a.m., and the equipment covers around 500 m per night since the road is three to four lanes wide.

On Anna Salai, the 1,600-m stretch at Teynampet costs Rs. 2 crores to re-lay, the official said.

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Special meet for Hindu couples next month

R.B.V.S. Manian (Founder, Viveka Bharathi, T. Nagar) has organised Hindu Family Sangam on Sunday, Feb. 12 in Infosys Hall (Sri RKM School, Bazullah Road, T. Nagar).

The meeting is restricted to 150 married Hindu couples.

There will be cultural contests for children and elders.

The last date for registration is Jan. 25. For more details and registration, call 93806 48475.

Drawing contest for school students on Jan. 22

Chennai Sportena Academy (Mogappair) and Rotary Club of Chennai Lake City have jointly organised a drawing competitions for pre-KG to Std. 12 students on Sunday, Jan. 22 in Decathlon (Plot 115/1, Nolambur Service Road, Mogappair). Students from pre-KG to Std. 3 will draw on children themes while Std. 8 to Std. 12 students will draw on themes based on polio eradication. Prizes will be presented to the top three winners in each category.

The participants will have to bring their own drawing materials. The entry fee per participant in Rs. 149 which can be paid via gpay to the number 87783 94729 at the time of registration.

For more details and registration, call 87783 94729

Traffic diversions on Mambalam High Road till May 2024

Traffic diversions introduced on a trial basis from Dec. 25, 2022 on Mambalam High Road (T. Nagar) to facilitate Chennai Metro work have been made permanent and will continue till May 7, 2024.

The diversions for LMVs and similar vehicles were initially scheduled till Jan. 7 in and around Thyagaraya Gramani Street (Parthasarathiapuram, T. Nagar) and Habibullah Road (T. Nagar) in view of the Chennai Metro work on Mambalam High Road (between Thyagaraya Gramani Street and Habibullah Road). Traffic will remain closed on Mambalam High Road, between Habibullah Road and Thyagaraya Gramani Street junction.

Vehicles coming on Mambalam High Road and going towards Kodambakkam side, have to turn right into



Thyagaraya Gramani Street and go via North Usman Road and Habibullah Road to reach Arcot Road.

Similarly, vehicles coming from Kodambakkam side on Mambalam High Road intending to go towards T. Nagar side have to take a left turn at the junction into Habibullah Road and go further via North Usman Road.

Construction work for the Chennai Metro is in full swing. Two flyovers will be partly demolished in Adyar and Royapettah High Road-Dr Radhakrishnan Salai for the upcoming construction of underground stations under the 118.9 km phase-2 metro project. The cost of the second phase of construction is Rs 61,843 crores.

Fancy dress program

By Our Staff Reporter Jothi Madhar Sangam (T. Nagar) conducted a fancy dress program for the KG students of Sri RKM School (South Branch, Dhandapani Street, T. Nagar) on Jan. 12. as part of Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary celebrations.

The students, dressed like him, recited his quotes



Sivakumar releases books on Nagesh and 'Film News' Anandhan

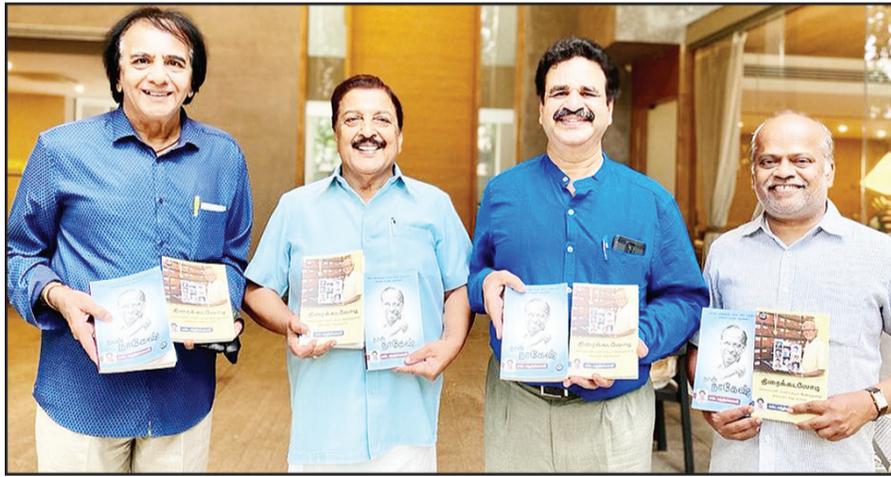
By Our Staff Reporter

Film Actor Sivakumar released two books authored by S Chandramouli (resident of 2A, Hamsa Manor, 27/14, Arcot Street, T. Nagar) recently.

One is on the life of Nagesh, popular film comedian, and the other on 'Film News' Anandhan, considered a walking encyclopedia on Tamil movies.

The above books and two other books by Chandramouli, one on artist Gopulu, a legend in the fields of illustration and advertisement and the other on Kalki Krishnamurthy are available in the ongoing Chennai Book Fair on YMCA Grounds (Nandanam) in the following stalls.

Stall No. 499: Pustaka Publications; Stall No. 405: Kanmani Creative Waves; Stall No. 500: Kalaigan Pathippagam Copies of the books can also be purchased from Chandramouli (Ph: 98401 60441).



Bullock cart ride to celebrate Pongal

By Our Staff Reporter

Global Rabbee Play School (Malony Road, T. Nagar) organised a fun bullock cart ride for its students and their parents as part of Pongal celebrations on Jan. 12.

The cart was decorated and they were taken on a short ride along Malony Road.



PUBLIC NOTICE

Property situated at No. 18 Dr Nair Road, T Nagar, Chennai 600017 is an ancestral HUF property. Owners of the property are 1) Shri S. Badrinath, 2) Smt B. Sudha Anand and 3) Shri B. Sriram .

While so, S. Badrinath has settled the above said property in its entirety, to and in favour of Smt. Sudha Anand by way of two settlement Deeds; 1068/2021 dated 23rd April 2021 and 2) 2001/2022 dated 12th July 2022 depriving Shri B. Sriram, son of Shri S. Badrinath of any share in the property, which is illegal and not binding on the under signed.

Public are warned not to deal with the said property to the exclusion of the undersigned, and not to be a party to any illegality. Under signed is approaching the Courts to set right the illegality.

Sriram. B

Flat C3, Vrisham Apartment, 14-21 Vasanth Street, Tnagar, Ch-17, Mobile: 9840481824.




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