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# MAMBALAM TIMES

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Vol. 29, No. 41

February 25 - March 2, 2024

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## Street closed for laying Metrowater pipeline



Mahalakshmi Street (T. Nagar) has been closed to traffic as Metrowater has taken up the work of laying a pipeline. The street connects North Usman Road with Dhandapani Street. A board saying that the street is temporarily closed for pipeline work has been fixed on a barricade kept in the middle of the street at Dhandapani Street junction. Motorists can go via Burkit Road or Motilal Street which run parallel to Mahalakshmi Street.

எவராலும் கொடுக்க முடியாத பணத்திற்கு உங்கள் கிழிந்த பட்டுப்புடவை (டிஷ்யூ, தகிடி ஊசிவானா, வைர ஊசி கொடி பனாரஸ், வெள்ளை பனாரஸ்) அனைத்தும் வாங்கப்படும்

நல்ல நிலையில் உள்ள புடவை மற்றும் வேஷ்டி வாங்கப்படும்

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63, சுப்ரமணியன் தெரு, ஆரிய கௌடா ரோடு, மேற்கு மாம்பலம்

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### பாத்திரம் அறிந்து...

டைனிங் டேபிளின் முன்னால் அமர்ந்த தாமு அதன் மேல் தாளம் போட ஆரம்பித்தான்.

‘டேபிளிலே தாளம் போடக் கூடாதுன்னு எங்கம்மா சொல்லியிருக்காங்க’ என்றான் மனைவி கிர்த்தனா.

‘உங்கம்மா டேபிளிலே சாதமே போட மாட்டாங்க. இதிலே தாளம் போடக் கூடாதுன்னு அட்வைஸ் வேற. டிபனுக்கு என்ன இருக்கு?’

‘இட்லி, தொட்டுக்க சாம்பார்.’

ஒரு குண்டாவில் இட்லிகளையும் இன்னொரு பெரிய அடுக்கில் சாம்பாரையும் கொண்டு வந்து வைத்தான்.

‘என்ன இது? அடுக்கு நிறைய சாம்பாரை டேபிளிலே வைக்கறே?’

‘அடுப்புலேயிருந்து இறக்கினது. நேரே இங்கே கொண்டு வந்து வைச்சுட்டேன்.’

‘இந்தப் பரங்கிக்காய் சாம்பாரிலே பதினாறுலே ஒரு பங்குதானே எனக்கு ஊத்தப்போறே?’

‘ஆமாம்.’

‘அப்பறம் எதுக்கு ஒரு அடுக்கு சாம்பாரை டேபிளிலே வைச்சிருக்கே? என்னாவது பார்க்குறான் என்ன நினைப்பான்? ஒரு அடுக்கு சாம்பாரையும் நான் ஊத்திக்கப் போறதா நினைப்பான் இல்லே? கண்ணு வைச்சுடுவான்.’

‘இட்லி வைக்கட்டுமா, வேண்டாமா?’

என் கண்ணு இல்லே, வை. சாம்பாரை ஒரு சின்ன சம்பட்டத்துக்கு டிரான்ஸ்ஃபர் செஞ்சுரு.’

‘அப்படி செஞ்சா பாத்திரம் தேய்க்கறப்போ ரெண்டு பாத்திரம் ஆகிடும். இந்த அடுக்குலேயிருந்து டைரக்டா ஊத்திகிட்டா அடுக்கை மட்டும் வர வெள்ளிக்கிழமை துலக்கினால் போதும்.’

‘பாத்திரம் துலக்குறதுக்குக் கணக்குப் பார்க்கறியே! பாத்திரத்தை வேலைக்காரி பரிமளாதானே தேய்க்கிறா?’

‘ஆமாம், ஆனா பரிமளாவின் வேலைலே பாரம் ஏத்தக் கூடாது.’

‘பரிமளாவுக்கு பீலிபெய் சாகாடு ஆயிடக்கூடாது?’

‘ஆமாம்.’

‘இவ்வளவு பாத்திரம்தான் தேய்க்கணும்னு பரிமளாகூட ஏதாவது அக்ரிமென்ட் போட்டிருக்கியா?’

‘அக்ரிமென்ட் இல்லே. ஒரு புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தம் மனசளவுலே போட்டிருக்கு. ரெண்டு பேருக்கான பாத்திரம் தான் தேய்க்கணும்னு அண்டர்ஸ்டாண்டிங்.’

‘இப்பவும் ரெண்டு பேருக்கான பாத்திரம்தானே போடப் போறோம்?’

‘அந்த சம்பட்டம் மூணாவது ஆள் கணக்குங்க.’

‘அடப்பாவி, எவ்வளவு பாத்திரம் யூஸ் செய்யலாம்னு பரிமளா தான் டிஸைட் பண்ணுவாளா?’

‘கிட்டத்தட்ட அப்படித்தான்.’

‘அதுதான் காபி கொடுக்கறப்போ டவரா டம்பளர்லே செட்டா கொடுக்காம வெறும் டம்பளர்லே கொடுக்கறியா? டவரா எல்லாம் எங்கே போச்சு?’

‘பெட்டியிலே போட்டுப் பூட்டி வைச்சிட்டேன்.’

‘சாவியைக் கொடு.’

‘சாவி பரிமளாகிட்டே இருக்கு.’

தாமுவுக்கு பயங்கரக் கோபம் வந்தது.

‘நீ ஐமானி, அவ வேலைக் காரி. நீ சொல்றதை அவ கேட்கணும்.’

‘எனக்கு பயமா இருக்கு.’

‘விரு, இனிமே நான் எஜமானி யா இருக்கேன். இனிமே என் முன்னாலே அவ கைகட்டி நிக்கப் போறா. பரிமளா எத்தனை மணிக்கு வேலைக்கு வருவா?’

‘பதினோரு மணிக்கு.’

‘அதுக்குள்ளே நாற்பது பாத்திரம் போடறேன் பாரு. ஒரு தட்டுலே ரெண்டு இட்லியைப் போட்டு அதன் மேலே சாம்பார் ஊத்திக் கொண்டு வா. இது இட்லி சாம்பார்.’

‘சரிங்க.’

‘அடுத்தது இன்னொரு தட்டுலே சாம்பாரை ஊத்தி அதுலே ரெண்டு இட்லியை போட்டுக் கொண்டு வா. இது சாம்பார் இட்லி.’

‘நாலு இட்லிக்கு ரெண்டு தட்டா?’

‘இன்னும் இருக்கு. ரெண்டு கிண்ணத்துலே சாம்பாரை ஊத்திப் பக்கத்துலே கொண்டு வந்து வை.’

‘இது எதுக்கு?’

‘ஸ்பேர் சாம்பார். தேவையில்லேன்னா அப்பறமா அடுக்குலேயே ஊத்திடலாம். ரெண்டு சாம்பார் கரண்டி கொண்டு வா.’

‘ரெண்டு எதுக்கு?’

‘சாம்பாருக்கு ஒரு கரண்டி. பரங்கிக்காய்க்கு ஒரு கரண்டி.’

இப்படியாகக் கண்டபடி கரண்டிகளை எடுத்து சாம்பாரில் போட்டான் தாமு.

‘குழி ஸ்பூன் எடுத்து நெய் ஊத்து.’

‘நங்க நெய் ஊத்திக்க மாட்டங்களே?’

‘இது பரிமள நெய்.’

‘நெய் ஸ்பூனைக் கழுவறது கஷ்டமாச்சே’. கலவரப்பட்டாள் கிர்த்தனா.

‘இதென்ன?’

‘இருக்கி.’

‘தேய்க்கப் போடு.’

‘இருக்கி பாத்திரக் கணக்குலே வராது.’

‘பின்னே அது டீல்ஸ் கணக்குலே வருமா? அதைத் தேய்க்கப் பரிமளாவுக்கு பதிலா ப்ளம்பர் வருவானா? இந்தப் பெரிய கரண்டியைத் தேய்க்கப் போடு.’

‘அது லட்டு செய்யற பூந்தி கரண்டி.’

‘அதனாலே என்ன? நேத்தைய வத்தக் குழம்புலே முக்கி எடுத்துப் போடு. அப்படியே இந்த மிக்கி ஜாரிலே மிளகாய்த் தூளை அறைச் சுட்டுப் போடு.’

எல்லா பாத்திரங்களையும் போட்டதில் சிங்க் தேர்க் கோபுரம் மாதிரி ஆனது.

‘பரிமளா வரப்போ என்னைக் கூப்பிடு’ என்று தன் அறைக்குப் போனான் தாமு.

பதினோரு மணி ஆனது. தாமுவின் அறைக்கு வந்தாள் கிர்த்தனா.

‘பரிமளா...’

‘வந்தாச்சா? நான் வந்து ஏதாவது பேசணுமா?’

‘பரிமளா ஃபோன் செஞ்சா. மாரியாத்தா கோவிலுக்குக் கூழ் ஊத்தப் போறாளாம். அதனாலே...’

‘அதனாலே?’

‘இன்னைக்கு வேலைக்கு வர மாட்டாளாம்.’

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## Low-lying tree branches removed



By Our Staff Reporter

Partly broken and low-lying branches of avenue trees were removed by Chennai Corporation worker on Feb. 21 and 22.

Photo shows an excavator used to cut the branches of a tree on Thambiah Road (West Mambalam) where Chennai Corporation is relaying the storm water drains.

## Dead tree trunk blocks carriageway



The branches of a dried tree were cut 6 months back leaving behind the main trunk.

As it is blocking the carriageway and no new shoots have sprouted from the dried-up tree, nearby residents request Chennai Corporation to cut and remove the tree trunk and its roots.

## Damaged EB cable repaired

By Our Staff Reporter

Following power cut for more than 6 hours, TNEB workers were seen digging a pit to repair a damaged underground cable on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street (Bharati Nagar, T. Nagar).



## OBITUARY

K. KESAVAN

K. Kesavan (resident of Mahadevan Street, West Mambalam) passed away on Feb.16.

He was 74, and had been a resident of West Mambalam and Ashok Nagar for more than 40 years.

He had worked in a private firm for 35 years. He was closely associated with Ayodhya Mandapam.

He is survived by his wife and son.

His family can be contacted in 99410 09181 or 99410 09151.





## Sruuthi's play enters India Book of Records

Sruuthi Shivpprasadh's eight-language play "Immortal Martyrs" on India's freedom fighters set a record to enter the India Book of Records recently.

The Freedom Fighters were Thirupur Kumaran, Velu Nachiyar and Sri Aurobindo in Tamil, Alluri Seetharama Raju in Telugu, Sangoli Rayanna in Kannada, Ali Musiliyar in Malayalam, Sardar Udham Singh in Hindi, Lokamaanya Bala Gangadhar Tilak in Marathi, UK-based Indian Freedom Fighter Charles Freer Andrews in English and Subramanya Bharathiyar in Sanskrit.

Sruuthi, apart from being the co-Director of the play along with her father S. Shivpprasadh, essayed the role of Velu Nachiyar who led a battle against the British,



India's World Records Foundation has presented a Record certificate and a trophy and a medal to Sruuthi and Shivpprasadh.

crossing the Sivaganga border.

Shivpprasadh, apart from producing the play and co-directing it, portrayed the lives of Thirupur Kumaran in Tamil, Ali Musiliyar in Malayalam and Charles Freer Andrews in English.

More details can be had from Shivpprasadh in 28344876/7358696613.

## Traffic affected as work on elevated corridor begins



By Our Staff Reporter

Traffic flow on Anna Salai, between Nandanam and Saidapet is affected as the State Highways Department has started work on the construction of the 3.2-km long elevated corridor. Though traffic police have introduced many U-turns in mid-sections to ease congestion, there is traffic pile-up during peak hours. A portion of Anna Salai near Saidapet metro station has been barricaded to facilitate the work.

In a few weeks police will soon have to close the U-turns as the work is expected to take place along the median throughout the 3-km stretch.

A motorist who regularly uses the road said that Anna Salai was in a mess for almost five years during the phase 1 Chennai Metro construction. Now with the work on the elevated corridor begun, it is likely to be another two years of tough commuting for motorists, he said.

The Rs. 621-crore elevated corridor, designed to carry 2.5 lakh vehicles every day, is aimed at reducing pile-ups at the Eldams Road, SIET Women's College, Cenotaph Road, Nandanam and CIT Road intersections.

## Traffic snarls during peak hours at Vadapalani junction

Despite the presence of a bi-directional flyover, frequent traffic jam can be seen at the Vadapalani junction during peak hours (both in the morning and evening).

Residents and owners of commercial establishments said this is predominantly owing to the ongoing Metro Rail project on the Vadapalani stretch and Arcot Road. Traffic problems also arise during festivals and other auspicious days, as many devotees come to the famous Murugan Temple located near the junction.

Many also complained of frequent sewage water stagnation due to leakage from clogged underground sewer chambers near R8 Vadapalani police station close to the junction.

But the situation has improved at other times of the day after the construction of the flyover, a resident said. With the new bus terminus inaugurated at Kila-mbakkam, the situation is set to improve further, he said.



## Naamasankeerthana Vaibhavam in Vani Mahal till March 3

Sree Naamasankeerthana Vaibhavam began on Feb. 22, will conclude on Sunday, March 3 in Vani Mahal (Thyaga Brahma Gana Sabha, GN Chetty Road, T. Nagar).

Udaiyalur Kalyanaraman Bhagavathar will perform Radha Kalyanam from 8 a.m. on Sunday, March 3.

It has been organised jointly by Brahma Gana Sabha and Kanchi Mahaswami Vidya Mandir (Chennai).

On the inaugural day, the Kanchi Mahaswami Nama Sudha Vani birudhu will be conferred on 'Jalra' Ramamurthy Bhagavathar.

The following is the program from Sunday, Feb. 25

Sunday, Feb. 25:

4.30 p.m: Ashtapathi (8-14) by Ashwin Kumar Bhagavathar

6.30 p.m: Ashtapathi (15-18) jointly by Harihara Subramaniam Bhagavathar and V. Raja Rao.

Monday, Feb. 26

4.30 p.m: Ashtapathi (19-21) by Sri Gnanananda Nama-

sankeerthana Mandali

6.30 p.m: Ashtapathi (22-24) by R. Ganesh Bhagavathar Tuesday, Feb. 27

4.30 p.m: Tharagams by a group of Bhagavathars

6.30 p.m: Tharagam and Naamasankeerthanam by Thiruvialur Ramakrishnan

Wednesday, Feb. 28

4.30 p.m: Ramadasar, Kabeeradasar and Meera bhajans by Karthick Gnaneshwar

6.30 p.m: Naamasankeerthanam by Muthukrishnan Bhagavathar

Thursday, Feb. 29

4.30 p.m: Panjapathy by Covai Gautham Kannan

6.30 p.m: Abhangs by Saveetha Sriram

Friday, March 1

4.30 p.m: Naamasankeerthanam by Mumbai Sunderaraman

6.30 p.m: Devatha Dhyanaams by Sivasri Skandaprasad

Saturday, March 2

4.30 p.m: Special abhinayam by Adithya Ramesh Bhagavathar

6.30 p.m: Divyanaama Sank-eerthanam by Muralidharan Bhagavathar

Sunday, March 3: From 8 a.m onwards

Unjavrithi led by Pichumani Bhagavathar, followed by Radha Kalyanam by Udaiyalur Kalyanaraman Bhagavathar.

There is no participation fee. All are welcome to attend the namasankeerthanam.

## Property, car and overseas education fair ends today

By Our Staff Reporter

The ongoing retail expo titled Retailathon 2024 organised by Union Bank of India in Vijaya Mahal (Pondy Bazaar, T. Nagar) will conclude on Sunday, Feb. 25.

More than 30 leading builders, car dealers and overseas educational consultants are participating in the expo.

A bank official told *Mambalam Times* that visitors can avail of

reasonable interest rates for their bookings at the expo.

He said the visitors have a wide choice of residential housing projects to choose from depending on their budget and location.

Lucky draw is conducted every hour with attractive prizes.

The expo is open from 10 a.m to 7 p.m.

All are welcome.

For more details, call 1800 425 1515 or 1800 208 2244.

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## A rising star in table tennis

By Our Staff Reporter

13-year-old R. Akash Rajavelu (resident of CIT Nagar) is creating waves in table-tennis.

Having started playing the game just five years back, he is already the top ranked player in Tamilnadu in the Under-13 boys' category and ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in Under-15 category. He competes in higher-age-



group tournaments to get good exposure.

Last month, he led the Tamilnadu Under-14 Boys team that won the overall championship trophy. He also won the singles title for which he was presented a gold medal.

Last December, he won the gold medal in the Under-13 boys' singles category in the UTT National Ranking Tournament conducted in Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh).

His father M. Rajavelu was a university-level player.

He is being coached by V.S. Rajan and N.R. Bharath.

He is a Std. 8 student in Justice Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Memorial School (Teynampet).

Akash recently had a coaching stint with the famed Rao brothers, Srinivasa (father of Sharath Kamal) and Muralidhara.

"I practise for an hour each in the morning and evening. I am training hard to become the Under-15 National champion", Akash said. Sharath Kamal is his TT icon and he wishes to emulate his exploits at the international level.

## Metro work cuts pedestrian space



By Our Staff Reporter

Pedestrians are having a tough time on narrow stretches of roads where Chennai Metro work is in progress.

On Arcot Road and various roads in the commercial hub of T. Nagar, where construction is underway, there is no exclusive pedestrian path near the blue barricades occupying most of the space on the road.

In T. Nagar, railings have been placed near the worksites on Venkatanarayana Road, but there is no such arrangement near the busy Nandanam junction.

On Arcot Road, where motorists have only a narrow lane to drive through, pedestrians hardly have space. The pavements are also not in good shape.

Officials said pathways and railings could not be installed because the work is taking place on narrow roads. The location of the barricades on the road, too, keeps changing as the work progresses.

According to T. Archunan (Director, Projects), traffic marshals have been deployed around several worksites to regulate traffic.

"We have repaired and improved damaged roads along which traffic has been diverted. After the construction is completed, you will notice that the roads are better with fewer encroachments and fewer parked vehicles," he said.

## Migrant worker dies as slab falls on him

By Our Staff Reporter

A migrant worker from West Bengal died on Feb. 14 when a slab collapsed on him when he was working at a house in Vadapalani.

The police identified the victim as Sameem Seikh, 23, from West Bengal.

He was among the migrant workers employed by Abishek, a building contractor, to renovate the house of P. Sriram, 40, of Anna Nagar, on Valliammai Street in Vadapalani.

The migrant workers had been working on the house for the last three months.

At around 2 p.m., a slab collapsed on Sameem.

He was critically injured and rushed to a nearby hospital, where he died without responding to treatment.

The Vadapalani police have registered a case for causing death due to negligence.

## Residents suffer as 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue is closed for laying sewer line



By Our Staff Reporter

6th Avenue (Ashok Nagar) is in battered condition as it has been dug up to widen the sewer line by Metrowater.

It links 4th Main Road and 7th Avenue that has several commercial establishments, a private school, and multi-storey apartments.

As the road is closed for the work, for more than a month, residents are severely inconvenienced.

Presently, motorists are forced to proceed to Samiar Garden Street and go via 9th Avenue to reach 4th Avenue.

Residents are demanding that Metrowater speed up the work as it is causing inconvenience.

They said Chennai Corporation must repave the road as soon as Metrowater completes the work.

A senior Metrowater official said that the sewage pumping station serving the residents of Ashok Nagar is located on 6th Avenue.

The road has been dug up for laying a pipeline for the sewage collection improvement system linking Ashok Nagar pumping station to the Nesapakkam pumping station through Anna Main Road.

He has promised that the construction and installation of the pipeline will be completed by 1<sup>st</sup> week of March.

## Cleanliness drive held in Nandanam Arts College



By Our Staff Reporter

Students of Government Arts College (Nandanam) joined hands with Exnora International Foundation (Vijayaraghava Road, T. Nagar) for a cleanliness drive on the college premises.

Several dignitaries, including P. Jyothimani (Retired Judge), participated in the drive in which more than 30 tonne of waste was removed.

The waste included biodegradable waste like grass cuttings, fallen tree leaves and non-biodegradable waste like plastic covers and food wrappers. The waste was transferred to a recycling centre, K. Gopinath (PRO, ExNoRa International Foundation) said.

Besides this, students cleaned the playground, which was partly covered with bushes, and painted walls with sports-related artwork.

The drive is expected to continue for the next few weeks in other city colleges.

## Car in broken down condition dumped on Rajamannar Street

By Our Staff Reporter

A car in broken down condition has been lying on Rajamannar Street (T. Nagar) for more than a year.

The location stinks as the surroundings have been converted into an open urinal by passersby.

Will traffic police remove the vehicle from the spot?



**Women Helpline 1091**

## Medical facilities to be augmented

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Corporation has announced a slew of proposals to offer better medical facilities to the public.

To address maternal complications and reduce deaths, a new maternal call centre will be established.

The high-risk mothers call centre will collect information of women with maternal complications and continuously monitor and help them.

The civic body has also proposed to institute early intervention centres in all the 15 zones to better address medical issues faced by children.

The early intervention centres will aid in early detection of diseases, nutritional deficiency, birth complications and stunted growth and provide medical support and guidance. The centre will also provide speech and hearing training for children.

The corporation has also proposed to build separate gyms for women in all the 200 wards.

All public health centres are set to get generators and electric inverters for uninterrupted power supply.

The Emergency Care Unit in Saidapet will be upgraded at a cost of Rs. 7 crores. New facilities include 70 additional beds and upgraded lab and operation theatre.

## MRF car racing championship concludes today

By Our Staff Reporter

The 2024 season of the 2-day MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Car Racing Championship kicked off with the Madras International Circuit hosting the opening round on February 17.

There are 50 entries spread across five categories and 11 races — the MRF Formula 2000, MRF Formula 1600, Formula LGB 1300, the Touring Cars and MRF Saloons (Toyota Etios).

The ever-popular Touring Cars category comprises three races — the premium Indian Touring Cars (ITC), Indian Junior Touring Cars (IJTC) and the Super Stock.

Leading international racers are competing.

## Discourse on Bhagavad Gita today

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Sri Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama (3, Maharajapuram Santhanam Salai, T. Nagar), Swami Guruvananandawill deliver a discourse in Tamil on Bhagavad Gita at 5.30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 25 in the Ashram's premises.

All are welcome.

More details can be had in 28143896 and 28143514.



## Unchavriti Bhajans today morning

Residents of Thorappadi, a small village about 15 km. from Tiruvannamalai, have been celebrating Rama Navami Janana Mahotsavam and Sita Kalyana Vaibavams for hundreds of years with the blessings of Sri Kanchi Paramacharyas.

As advised by Sri Kanchi Paramacharya, Sri Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi Swamigal, to enable devotees to participate, Jayadeva Bala Baktha Bajan Mandali, Youth w\ Wing of Sri Rama Navami Mahotsava Kainkary Sabha (Flat 12, Prashanth Enclave. 15, Rukmani Street, West Mambalam) will conduct Unchavriti Bhajans from 7.30 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 25 on streets including Mahadevan Street, Samiyar Garden Street and streets in K.V. Colony, Postal Colony etc. to collect rice, dhal and jaggery, and to mobilise funds for the conduct of Rama Navami Janana Mahotsavam and Sita Kalyana Vaibavam from April 17 to 22.

All are welcome to participate.

For more details call S. Krishnan in 94444 41840.

## Debris dumped on Mannar Street



*By Our Staff Reporter*

Debris has been dumped in two places on Mannar Street (T. Nagar). They are blocking the carriageway causing obstruction to motorists and pedestrians.

In spite of requests by residents, Chennai Corporation, builders continue to dump debris on the road and not in the designated locations. Chennai Corporation must take strict action against the offenders.

## 35 to undergo free cataract surgery in Sankara Nethralaya



125 residents attended the free eye screening camp organised by Vivekanandapuram 1st Street Residents' Welfare Association (West Mambalam) in its locality.

Doctors from Sankara Nethralaya examined the participants. 35 persons diagnosed with cataract will undergo free surgery in Sankara Nethralaya.

## Nadha Vibhushan birudhu presented to violinist Chandrasekaran

*By Our Staff Reporter*

Thyaga Brahma Nadha Vibhushan Birudhu was conferred on violin vidwan M. Chandrasekaran (77) by N. Gopalaswami (former Chief Election Commissioner) on Feb. 16.

He was felicitated by vocal-ist Suguna Varadachari.

The Birudhu, instituted by P. Obul Reddy and P. Gnanamba Trust, is presented every year to leading Carnatic musicians by Sri Thyaga Brahma Gana Sabha (T. Nagar).

Speaking on the occasion, Gopalaswami said that despite losing his eyesight at the age of two, Chandrasekaran, through strenuous effort and practice, has gone on to attain great heights in the music field.



## Aadhaar enrolment camp conducted for children



*By Our Staff Reporter*

West Mambalam post-office conducted a camp for Aadhaar enrolment for children on Feb. 22 at the junction of Arya Gowda Road and Umapathi Street, West Mambalam.

## Heavy vehicles violate traffic rules



*By Our Staff Reporter*

Heavy vehicles are prohibited on Burkit Road between North Usman Road junction and Dhandapani Street in T. Nagar.

A board saying 'No Entry for Heavy Vehicles' has been installed at the junction.

In spite of the cautionary board, trucks and other heavy vehicles continue to ply on the road. Photo taken on Feb. 23 shows two trucks on the road.

## Two held for extortion

On Feb. 18, Teynampet police arrested history-sheets M. Subramanian alias Bottle Mani (30), of Velachery and Rafeek (34) of Besant Nagar for ransacking a biryani joint owned by R. Sathish (resident of CIT Nagar) on TTK Road in Alwarpet and robbing him of Rs. 27,000 cash at night on Feb. 14. Sathish had recorded a video of the incident and had shared it on social media. He later filed a police complaint.

The gang had ransacked the joint in retaliation for the police complaint filed by the victim against them for eating food in his hotel on Feb. 10 and refusing to pay for it.

The victim told the police that the gang members flashed knives and threatened him when he asked for payment for the food.

Police said several cases are pending against Mani and he is out on bail.

Police are on the lookout for two more accomplices of Mani, involved in the extortion.

## Admission open in APJ Academy

*By Our Staff Reporter*

Admission is open in APJ Academy for Stds. 9 to 12 (CBSE/SB) for Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Accounts and Science.

Classes begin in mid-March.

The Academy also has classes from Grade 3 to 8 (CBSE and Samacheer).

It also conducts Vedic mathematics (a quick calculation technique) and handwriting classes.

After-school activities include Robotics, Rubix cube, Chess, Drawing and Dance.

For more details, call Devaki Balaji in 9884051654

## DRI seizes cocaine worth Rs. 27 crores

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) (T. Nagar) seized cocaine worth Rs. 27 crores from an Indonesian passenger who had arrived from Lomas in the city airport on Feb. 21.

The DRI received information that a huge quantity of drugs was being smuggled from Lomas via Singapore in the Scoot Airlines flight.

Following the alert, DRI officials visited the city airport at midnight and checked passengers who had alighted from the flight.

Upon suspicion, they intercepted Ahamed Idris of Indonesia, who was nervous and gave evasive replies when they questioned him.

During a personal search, they found small packs of drugs weighing 2,970 gm hidden inside his clothes.

After testing it, they found the drugs were a purest form of cocaine worth Rs. 27 crores.

Ahamed was arrested and taken to DRI office in T. Nagar.

Further inquiries are on to nab the smugglers behind the drug racket.

## Part of Adyar river to be restored in 15 months

*By Our Staff Reporter*

Finance Minister Thangam Thennarasu, in his budget, announced that Adyar River (from Thiru Vi Ka bridge near the estuary to Saidapet) will be restored in 15 months.

He said Rs. 1,500 crores has been allotted to restore Cooum, Buckingham Canal and Adyar rivers.

In this first phase, Adyar River will be taken up.

To prevent sewage entry into the river, Sewage Treatment Plants are being set up with a total capacity of 110 MLD in 14 locations including Old Jothiammal Nagar (Saidapet).

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Appeal for speed breakers

Sir, Motorists coming from T. Nagar are going via Veeraswamy Street and Raju Street (West Mambalam) to go towards Ashok Nagar and K. K. Nagar.

As these streets are narrow and have residential apartments complexes, pedestrians are put to risk due to the heavy flow of vehicles.

I appeal to traffic police to install speedbreakers at vantage spots on both the streets to slow down the vehicles.

Similarly, speed breakers must be installed on Duraiswamy Road, between the subway and Brindavan Street Extension (R3 Police Station).

Additionally, traffic signals must be installed at the junctions of Arya Gowda Road and Brindavan Street and Thambiah Road and Brindavan Street in West Mambalam. **S. Murali, 10/28, Vivekanandapuram 1<sup>st</sup> Street, West Mambalam, Ph: 99405 20195**

### Battery car drivers fleece passengers

Sir, I am 65 years old and travel frequently to my home town near Nellore by train from Central Station.

The battery-operated car service at the station for the benefit of senior citizens and disabled persons was offered free of cost till 2019 and later Rs. 10 per person was fixed by the railways.

But the drivers often demand a lot higher and give preference only to those who are willing to pay their demanded amount.

In fact, last week, a driver demanded Rs. 80 from me. When I said Railways have fixed it as Rs. 10, he drove off, and I was forced to take the long walk with my baggage to the exit.

I filed a written complaint in the Railways complaint cell in the main office and I hope action will be taken. **N. Sivaraman, Parag Apartments, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ashok Nagar**

## Suburban services hit, MTC operates 150 special buses



*By Our Staff Reporter*

In the wake of Southern Railway cancelling the suburban train services between Chennai Beach and Tambaram on Feb. 18, MTC operated 150 special buses including 23 special buses from T. Nagar terminus.

An official release said that the train service between Kodambakkam and Tambaram has been cancelled from 10 a.m. to 3.15 p.m. on Feb. 18 for maintenance activity.

Also, due to cancellation of night-time suburban trains till Feb. 22, twenty additional night service buses are being operated during the period.

## Chennai Metro operates additional services on Feb. 18

*By Our Staff Reporter*

In the wake of Southern Railway cancelling suburban train services between Chennai Beach and Tambaram on Feb. 18, Chennai Metro operated additional services on both the green line (Chennai Central to St. Thomas Mount which includes Ashok Nagar) and blue line (Wimco Nagar to Airport which includes Teynampet, Saidapet and Nandanam) to help travellers.

Deviating from the usual Sunday schedule, the Metro trains were operated every seven minutes from 10 a.m. till 8 p.m.

## South Usman Road flyover to be ready by September



*By Our Staff Reporter*

The city will get its first steel flyover on South Usman Road (T. Nagar) by September 2024. The 1.2km-long flyover, costing Rs. 131 crores, will cover South Usman Road-Burkit Road and Madley Road junction; South Usman Road-South West Boag Road and New Boag Road junction; and CIT Nagar North Road T-junction.

It will help motorists from Anna Salai cross Panagal Park junction in a few minutes.

It will have a width of 8.4 m, encompassing two lanes with an up-ramp at CIT Nagar Main Road stretching 140m, an up-ramp at Usman Road for 120m, and a down-ramp for 100m. Both sides will have 4m wide service roads, and 1.5m wide footpaths.

The up-ramp and down-ramp from the existing Usman Road flyover at the Burkit Road junction have been completed. Currently, 108 out of 177 concrete piles, 30 out of 53 concrete pile caps with pedestals, 23 out of 53 steel piers and pier caps, and 80m of the 107m retaining wall with crash barriers have been completed.

"Currently, to enter T. Nagar from Anna Salai, motorists have to go via CIT 1st Main Road or take Venkatanarayana Road at Nandanam junction, or take Sir Thyagaraya Road or Vijayaraghava Road from Teynampet.

This new flyover will be connected to the North Usman Road flyover, which will help motorists from Anna Salai cross Panagal Park in a few minutes.

## Pavement damaged



*By Our Staff Reporter*

The pavement of 1<sup>st</sup> Main Road (Nandanam) near its junction with Turnbolls Road is in very bad condition. The slabs are either dislodged or missing.

As the stretch is uneven, it is unsafe for pedestrians, especially senior citizens as they can trip and fall. It poses additional danger at night due to poor visibility. Most pedestrians are forced to walk on the road at the junction. As it is a blind turn, the pedestrians taking the road are put to high risk of accidents. Nearby residents request Chennai Corporation to relay the damaged portion of the pavement at the earliest.

## Debris blocks carriageway

*By Our Staff Reporter*

Earth, dug out from a pit by Metrowater workers, has been dumped on Mahadevan Street (West Mambalam).

There are no barricades or other cautionary signboards to warn motorists and pedestrians.

As the mound of earth is not visible at night, it poses danger to motorists especially 2-wheeler riders.



## Boy threatens another with knife

*By Our Staff Reporter*

A school student landed in trouble on Feb. 17 after he was detained by police for threatening another student with a knife in full public view in Pondy Bazaar, T. Nagar.

A search is on for two other teenagers who were found to be involved in the incident.

Police said that the detained boy, a Std. 9 student, had called a Std. 11 student of another school to meet him at a particular spot in Pondy Bazaar.

When the Std. 11 student reached the spot, the Std. 9 student pulled out a knife and threatened him.

Two other boys with him started verbally abusing and threatening the boy who had been summoned. When a passerby intervened, the two boys fled the scene.

But the suspect was caught and handed over to Pondy Bazaar police.

Police summoned his parents for further inquiry.

The boy was let off with a warning.

## 5cm tumour removed from 4-year-old

*By Our Staff Reporter*

A private hospital in Vadapalani recently removed a 5cm malignant tumour in the liver of a four-year-old girl.

The child was admitted to Kauvery Hospital (Vadapalani) for treatment of fever and abdominal pain. Tests revealed a left hepatoblastoma cancer with tumour in the liver.

The girl then underwent laparoscopic left hepatectomy where the tumour was removed from the liver tissues followed by chemotherapy.

Doctors said that childhood cancers in 0-14 years age group contribute to 4% of all cancers.

The patient is undergoing follow-up chemotherapy and is on the way to recovery, the doctors said.

## Migrant worker dies as slab falls on him

*By Our Staff Reporter*

A migrant worker from West Bengal died on Feb. 14 when a slab collapsed on him when he was working at a house in Vadapalani.

The police identified the victim as Sameem Seikh, 23, from West Bengal.

He was among the migrant workers employed by Abishek, a building contractor, to renovate the house of P. Sriram, 40, of Anna Nagar, on Valliammai Street in Vadapalani.

The migrant workers had been working on the house for the last three months.

At around 2 p.m., a slab collapsed on Sameem.

He was critically injured and rushed to a nearby hospital, where he died without responding to treatment.

The Vadapalani police have registered a case for causing death due to negligence.



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SAIDAPET, Chinnamalai, West Mada Street, Srinagar Colony, behind Sadiapet Court, prime commercial area, 400 sq.ft, ground floor, no brokers. Ph: 94442 17200.

T. NAGAR, Somasundaram Street, 1300 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, open car park, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, vegetarians only, no brokers. Ph: 99401 40290.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Veerasamy Street, near SRM Nightingale School, 500 sq.ft, 1 bedroom flat, hall, kitchen, ground floor, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: 86670 57132.

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## Valet damages customer's car in hotel

The car owned by a resident of T. Nagar was severely damaged due to mishandling by a valet driver in a private hotel in OMR last week.

According to the car owner, the footage of a CCTV camera installed in the hotel showed that his car was misused by a valet to teach driving to another valet who had newly joined the hotel. He has alleged that the footage shows the driver losing control and dashing the car against a power back-up generator of the hotel. The impact was so great that the engine suffered damage and the air bags also got deployed.

He has filed a case in the local police station and further investigation is on.

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## Tarangini Utsavam in Ayodhya Mandapam from today

**By Our Staff Reporter**

Under the auspices of Varagur Punyabhoomi Trust and Bhagavad Nama Prachara Mandal, Krishan Leelai Tarangini Utsavam (Namas-ankeerthanam) will be held in Ayodhya Mandapam (Arya Gowda Road, West Mambalam) from Sunday, Feb. 25 to Tuesday, Feb. 27.

Exponents will present discourses on Lord Krishna from 8 a.m to 10 a.m on Feb. 25 and 27.

Rukmani Thirukalyanam will be performed at 8 a.m on Wednesday, Feb. 27 by Thiruvavur Ramakrishnan Bhagavathar and Srinivasan Bhagavathar. All devotees are welcome.



## 150 nurses detained after bid to take out rally



About 150 nurses, who tried to take out a rally towards the Directorate of Medical and Rural Services (DMS) and stage a protest, were detained at YMCA grounds in Nandanam on Feb. 21. They held the protest under the banner of TN MRB Nurses Empowerment Association (TNMNEA). Noting there were not enough permanent posts in government health facilities across the state, TNMNEA president N. Subin said the state had failed to meet parameters laid down by National Medical Council and Indian Public Health Service. "Almost every government hospital reels under insufficient nurses compared to patient load, leading to nurses being overworked but not being able to give enough care," he said.

Additional Directors from DMS met the protesters at YMCA grounds and promised they would arrange a meeting with the Health Minister soon.

## Youth from Nepal held for serial burglaries

**By Our Staff Reporter**

An 18-year-old youth, who was involved in five burglaries, has been arrested.

Police identified the suspect as Santhosh, from Nepal.

During the past few days, he had burgled five shops including two grocery stores in T. Nagar, the police said.

A police team on patrol spotted him near a private mansion in Vadapalani.

As he was moving in a suspicious manner, he was taken to the police station and questioned.

During questioning, he told the police that he worked in a hotel in Vadapalani and stayed in Manapakkam.

**The publication that is most popular with the residents of West Mambalam & T. Nagar? MAMBALAM TIMES!**

## Stagnant water pumped out from storm water drain



**By Our Staff Reporter**

Water stagnating in the storm water drain on Lakshmi Street (West Mambalam) was pumped out by Corporation workers on Feb. 21.

Work is in progress to deepen the storm water drain on the road.

## Discourses on 'Nirvana Shatkam'

**By Our Staff Reporter**

Under the auspices of Narada Gana Sabha Trust, Pujyasri Ramanacharana Tirtha (Nochur) Swami will give discourses on 'Nirvana Shatkam' at 6.30 p.m from Monday, Feb. 26 to Wednesday, Feb. 28, in Sathguru Gnanananda Hall (314, TTK Road, Teynampet). All are welcome.

## Local team excels in cricket tourney

**By Our Staff Reporter**

In the ongoing TNCA City Schools U-14 tournament, Govt. Higher Secondary School (West Mambalam) beat PSBB School (K.K. Nagar) by 4 wickets.

Bowling first, it bundled out the PSBB team for 57 runs and scored the winning runs in 20 overs by losing 6 wickets. The month-long tournament started on Feb. 12.

This was the first loss in the tournament for the PSBB team.

Other local teams competing in the tourney include Jawahar Vidyalaya (Ashok Nagar), PSBB (KK Nagar) and Vani Vidhyala (T. Nagar).

## Visually impaired students protest

**By Our Staff Reporter**

For five consecutive days till Feb. 18, more than 100 visually impaired students staged a protest in T. Nagar, demanding the fulfilment of 1% employment quota for them in teacher posts.

"We had met Minister for Social Welfare Geetha Jeevan with our demands but nothing has come of it yet as she has to meet the Chief Minister regarding this," Aranga Raja (Member, College Students and Graduates' Association of The Blind) said.

The students were detained in a wedding hall by the police.

Among other demands, the students also urged the government to provide jobs for visually impaired persons un-

der the Teachers' Eligibility Test and the Tamil Nadu Public Service Examination.

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

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