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MAMBALAM TIMES

The Neighbourhood Newspaper for T. Nagar & Mambalam
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Vol. 29, No. 42

March 3 - 9, 2024

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கவர் ஸ்டோரி

'வாஷிங் மெஷினைப் பார்த்தீங்களா?' என்று கேட்டான் வசுமதி.

'இவ்வளவு நாள் என்னோட கண்ணாடியைப் பார்த்தீங்க ளன்னு தான் கேட்பாய். இப்போ வாஷிங் மெஷின் எங்கேன்னு கேட்க ஆரம்பிச்சுட்டியா? வயசானா வாஷிங் மெஷின் கூடவா மறந்து போகும்?' என்றார் கணவர் கோவிந்தன்.

'வாஷிங் மெஷின் குத்துக் கல்லாட்டம் உட்கார்ந்துகிட்டு தான் இருக்கு. அதன் மேலே கறை இருக்கு பார்த்தீங்களா?'

'அப்படியா?'

'நீங்க என்னைக்காவது வாஷிங் மெஷின் பக்கம் வந்தால் தானே தெரியும்? நாள் வாஷிங் மெஷின்லே துணி போடறப்ப வேணும்னே வாக்கிங் புறப்பட்டுப் போயிடுவீங்க.'

'இப்போ நாள் என்ன செய்யணும்?'

'வாஷிங் மெஷினுக்கு ஒரு கவர் போட்டிருந்தா இந்த மாதிரி அழுக்காக இருக்குமா?'

'யூ மீன் உறை?'

'ஆமாம், உறை நல்லதுங்க'. விளம்பர வாசகம் மாதிரி ஏதோ சொன்னான்.

'இன்னக்கே நீங்க போய் ஒரு உறை வாங்கிண்டு வரணும். வாஷிங் மெஷின் கவர் வாங்கினா அயர்ன் பாக்ஸ் கவர் ஸ்பிரியாம்.'

'அயர்ன் பாக்ஸுக்குக் கவரா? தீஞ்சது போ.'

'இப்போ தேவைக் கரண்டிக்குக் கூட கவர் வந்துடுச்சு. மசமசன்னு நிக்காம கடைக்குப் போய் வாஷிங் மெஷின் கவர் வாங்கிட்டு வாங்க. அப்படியே அந்த இலவச அயர்ன் பாக்ஸ் கவரையும் வாங்கிட்டு வாங்க.'

'நம்ம வீட்டிலே அயர்ன் பாக்ஸே இல்லையே!'

'வாங்கிட்டு வாங்க, வடாம் பிழியற அச்சுக்குக் கவரா போட் டுக்கலாம்.'

'அச்சுக்குக் கவர் போடறதுக்கு பதிலா வடாம் காய வைக்கறப்ப வர காக்காவுக்குக் கவர் போடலாம். காவல் காக்கற வேலை எனக்கு மிச்சமாகும்.'

'வினஸ் வாஷிங் மெஷின் சர்வீஸ் கடைக்குப் போங்க. அங்கே தான் அயர்ன் பாக்ஸ் கவர் இலவசமா கொடுக்கறாங்க.'

கோவிந்தன் சட்டையை மாட்டிக் கொண்டு கிளம்பினார். இரண்டு தெரு தள்ளி அந்த வினஸ் வாஷிங் மெஷின் சர்வீஸ் கடை இருந்தது.

'வாஷிங் மெஷினுக்குத் தேவையான அனைத்து உதிரி பாகங்களும் கிடைக்கும். All oregonal spare parts' என்று ஒரு போர்டு கடை வாசலில் இருந்தது.

'ஓரிஜினல் ஸ்பெல்லிங்கே தப்பா இருக்கே. உன்கிட்டே ஓரிஜினல் ஸ்பேர் பார்ட்ஸ் எப்படிக் கிடைக்கும்?' என்று கேட்டார் கோவிந்தன்.

'ஸ்பெல்லிங் எப்படி இருந்தா என்ன ஸாரே! ஷேக்ஸ்பியரா வந்து வாங்கப் போறாரு? எவ்வளவு சோணங்கி தானே வந்து வாங்கப் போறான். உங்களுக்கு என்ன ஸ்பேர் வேணும்?'

'ம்ம்ம்' தயங்கினார் கோவிந்தன்.

'டிர்ம்மா?'

'எனக்கு வாஷிங் மெஷின் கவர் வேணும்.'

'வாஷிங் மெஷின் எவ்வளவு கிலோ?'

'முப்பது, நாப்பது கிலோ இருக்கும். மூணு பேர் சேர்ந்து தூக்கிட்டு வந்தாங்க.'

'ஸார், வாஷிங் மெஷின் கொபாசிட்டி கேட்டேன். அஞ்சு கிலோ வா? இல்லை, ஆறு கிலோவா?'

'புரியலை.'

'ஓரே நேரத்துலே எவ்வளவு கிலோ துணி உள்ளே போடலாம்னு கேட்டேன்.'

'ஒரு வேட்டி எவ்வளவு கிலோ ஸார்?'

'சாதா வேட்டி அரை கிலோ. அழுக்கு வேட்டினா முக்கால் கிலோ.'

'பனியன், ஐட்டி?'

'யோவ், உன் துணி வெயிட் எல்லாம் எனக்கு எப்படித் தெரியும்? வாஷிங் மெஷின் மேலே எவ்வளவு கிலோன்னு போட்டிருக்கும். வீட்டுக்கு ஃபோன் செஞ்சு கேளுங்க ஸார்.'

கோவிந்தன் மனைவிக்கு ஃபோன் செய்தார்.

'எவ்வளவு கிலோன்னு கடைக்காரர் கேட்கறாரு.'

'அவன் காலை உடைச்சு அடுப்பிலே வைக்க. நாள் எவ்வளவு கிலோ இருந்தா அவனுக்கென்ன?'

'உன்னோட கிலோவைக் கேட்கலே. வாஷிங் மெஷின் மேலே Digital 5, இல்லைன்னா Digital 6 அப்படின்னு போட்டிருக்கும்.'

'அந்த எழுத்து மேலேதான் கறை ஆகியிருக்கு. எதுவும் தெரியலை. கோவிந்தன் கடைக்காரர் பக்கம் திரும்பினார்.'

'அந்த எழுத்தின் மேலேதான் கறை இருக்காம். சரியா தெரியலையாம்.'

'மெஷின்லே கறையா? நீங்க வாஷிங் மெஷினை அடிக்கடி துவைக்கணும் ஸார்.'

'சரி, ஏதாவது ஒரு கவர் கொடுங்க.'

'அட்லீஸ்ட் வாஷிங் மெஷினின் நீளம், அகலம், உயரத்தை அளந்து சொல்லுங்க.'

கோவிந்தன் மனைவிக்கு ஃபோன் செய்தார்.

'வாஷிங் மெஷினின் படம் வரைந்து நீளம், அகலம், உயரம் ஆகியவைகளைக் குறிக்கவும்.'

சற்று நேரத்தில் மனைவியிடமிருந்து ஃபோன் வந்தது.

'நீங்க வாஷிங் மெஷின் கவர் வாங்க வேண்டாம். எதிர்வீட்டு மல்லிகாகிட்டே ரெண்டு இருக்காம். ஒண்ணைக் கொடுத்துட்டா. அயர்ன் பாக்ஸ் கவரும் கொடுத்துட்டா.'

'அப்போ நாள் உடனே வீட்டுக்கு வரேன்.'

'வராதீங்க, மல்லிகாவுக்கு இதுக்கு பதிலா கிரைண்டர் கவர் வேணுமாம். கிருபா கிரைண்டர் ஷாப்னு ஒண்ணு இருக்கு. அங்கே போய் வாங்கிட்டு வாங்க.'

கிருபா கிரைண்டர் கடையில் போய் நின்றார் கோவிந்தன்.

'கிரைண்டர் கவர் வேணும்.'

கடைக்காரர் கேட்டார்: 'எத்தனை லிட்டர்?' nandaafi@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. 700) and 4 cm. x 2 column (costing Rs. 1400)

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Blocks in sewer chambers removed



By Our Staff Reporter

Due to frequent complaints of sewage water overflow, Chennai Corporation workers removed blocks in all the sewer chambers in Corporation Colony 2nd Street (T. Nagar).

Two jet rodding machines were deployed to remove the blocks.

Photo taken on Feb. 26 shows six Corporation workers engaged in the work.

Startup TN Chennai Hub inaugurated

StartupTN Chennai Hub was inaugurated by Udhayanidhi Stalin (Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development) at Chennai Metro Headquarters, Nandanam on Feb. 24. The facility, which has come up on the 10th floor of the building, will offer on-demand seating options tailored for startups, allowing them to use the facilities as a workspace, alongside accommodating StartupTN officials.

The office has 15 cabins.

This arrangement aims to address the challenges that startups from outside Chennai encounter when seeking workspace during their visits to the city.

Additionally, designated office areas will be provided for venture capitalists and mentors.

A meeting hall will also be accessible for both startups and investors to utilise for collaborative discussions.

MSME Secretary, Archana Patnaik, and Mission Director and CEO of StartupTN Sivarajah Ramanathan were present at the event.

2-day exhibition from today in Thakkar Bapa School

By Our Staff Reporter

On the occasion of International Science Day, students of LKG to Std. 5 of Thakkar Bapa Nursery and Primary School will conduct an exhibition on March 3 and 4 with the theme 'Tamil Nadu and Tamil Culture'.

One of the exhibits will be the spade used by Gandhiji to lay the foundation for the school in 1946

For more details call 091766 24283. All are welcome.

Corroded panels replaced in pillar box



By Our Staff Reporter

Following complaints of voltage fluctuation and outage of power, TNEB workers replaced the corroded panels in the EB pillar box on Habibullah Road (T. Nagar).

A service engineer monitoring the work told Mambalam Times that with the advent of summer and increase in power demand, they have taken up the work of maintenance of pillar boxes and other EB equipment in T. Nagar.

Pulse polio vaccination today

By Our Staff Reporter

Oral polio vaccine for 2024 will be administered to children below 5 years from 7 a.m to 5 p.m on Sunday, March 3 under the Pulse polio immunization program.

Children under 5 should be immunized irrespective of their previous immunization status.

Sick children, including those affected by diarrhea, can also be given the polio drops.

The campaign will be conducted in booths established in all PHCs/Government Hospitals/ ICDS Centers, Noon Meal Centers, Corporation Schools and other important places.

More than 650 government vehicles are deployed for the campaign.

Transit booths will function in major bus stands, railway stations, toll plazas, checkpoints and airport to cover the children travelling.

The following are some of the venues in this neighbourhood:

T. NAGAR

Corporation Middle School, New Boag Road.

Raja Pillai Thottam, Kollapuri Amman Koil Street.

Round Table Night School, 4th Block, Kamaraj Colony.

Corporation AE Office, 89, Usman Road (near Siva-Vishnu Temple).

4, Sivagnanam Road.

Sarada Madam, 7, Raghavaiah Road.

Corporation Dispensary, R. K. Puram.

Corporation Middle School, Dharamapuram Main Road, Sathyamurthy Nagar.

17, Thukkaram 3rd Street.

Health Post, 73, Giriappa Road.

Amman Koil, 92, Giriappa Road.

28th Block, Dr. Thomas Road.

O Block, Dr. Thomas Road.

Corporation Division Office, 20, South Boag Road.

ICDS 16th Block, South Boag Road.

Corporation AE office, Bazullah Road and Usman Road junction.

Corporation Office, 20, S. S. G. Street.

Balamandir School, 13, Prakasam Road.

Valmiki Apartments, 9/5, Valmiki Street.

S. M. Nagar Health Post, 73, Giriappa Road.

92, Amman Koil Street.

Sarada Madam, 14, Raghavaiah Road.

Corporation Middle School, Dharamapuram.

5, Parthasarathypuram Extn.

Mobile centers: Mambalam Railway Station, T. Nagar bus terminus, Pothys junction, Pandy Bazaar, New Saravana Stores, Saravana Selvarathinam Stores.

WEST MAMBALAM

Kamaraj Nagar Health Post, 1, Brindavan Street.

ICDS, 22/17, Housing Board, Brindavan Street.

Kali Bari Temple, Umapathy Street.

18, Vinayagam Street.

Muthala Amman Temple, Muthal Amman Koil Street.

Women & Children Foundation, 41 & 42, Porur Somasundaram Street.

Kalamandir Matriculation School, Chakrapani Street.

Public Health Center, 114, Lake View Road.

Corporation Division Office, 123/21, Ram Colony.

Corporation Division Office, 125, Thambiah Road.

Corporation Primary School, Easwaran Koil Street.

Corporation Middle School, Rangarajapuram Main Road (off Lake View Road).

ASHOK NAGAR

Health Post 34, 35th Street.

Health Post, 26, 5th Avenue.

ICDS, 371, 45th Street.

ICDS, 369, 77th Street.

ICDS, 87th Street.

Government Girls Higher Secondary School, 53rd Street.

Corporation Gymnastic Center, 22nd Street.

Corporation School, 83rd Street, Kanniappa Nagar.

Guild of Service, 13th Street, Pudur.

Corporation Dispensary, 62nd Street, Nallan Kuppam.

LAB 22, 8th Street

Mobile centers: Udayam Bus-stop, St. Mathias Church (Kamarajar Salai), CSI Church (100 Feet Road).

K. K. NAGAR

Lions Club School, P. V. Rajamannar Salai.

Corporation Division Office, 10th Sector.

Ayyappan Temple, Ponnambalam Salai.

38, East Vanniar Street, West K. K. Nagar.

ICDS, 361, 13, Vivekanandar Street, West K. K. Nagar.

N. N. Nagar Health Post, Lake View Road, Nesapakkam.

Pillayar Koil Street, Khan Nagar, Nesapakkam.

Corporation Middle School, Erikkarai Street, Nesapakkam.

K. K. Nagar Health Post, 56th Street, Vijayaraghavapuram.

Pharmacies in metro rail stations

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Metro has partnered with SIMS Hospital to launch pharmacy outlets in each of the 40 metro stations in the city.

The first pharmacy was inaugurated at Vadapalani metro station on Feb.27.

The pharmacy will use AI-driven technology for home delivery services, personalized care and automated prescription management.

These pharmacies will provide free vital assessment tests like BP and sugar the tests. Doctor consultation via video call will be free for first one month.

It will offer 20% discount on pharmacy bills exceeding Rs. 1,000.

The hospital will soon launch the 'Doctor on Wheels' scheme for home visits.



Local boy excels in international chess tourney

By Our Staff Reporter

V. Raghav (resident of T. Nagar) and Std.8 student in Shrine Vailankanni Senior Secondary School won the silver medal in the Under-14 category in the Commonwealth Chess Championship held in Malaysia last month.

More than 200 players from 11 countries participated in the tournament.

Last December, he had represented Tamilnadu and won the 3rd place in the National-level Under-13 tournament held in Telangana.

He started learning chess at the age of 5 in 64 Squares Chess Academy (T. Nagar). He is currently training under V. Raghav of HATSUN Chess Academy.



The Grove School's 10-year record

By Our Staff Reporter

The Grove School (1, Eldams Road, Alwarpet), affiliated to CISCE Board, prepares students for ICSE and ISC examinations. The school has been securing cent percent first class with distinction results in classes 10 and 12 for ten consecutive years.

Classes have a limited number of students. The school has a single section in each class to ensure personal care of each student and ensure effective learning.

The school is an integrated school giving equal emphasis to non-academic and extra-curricular activities apart from sports and athletics to provide holistic development.

Students are taught Bharatanatyam, Carnatic music, Arts and Crafts, Drama and Yoga.

The school is committed to teaching students to be environmentally aware and socially responsible.

Sewer chamber being constructed



By Our Staff Reporter

To increase the carrying capacity and prevent frequent blocks, an additional underground sewer chamber is being constructed in Corporation Colony 1st Street (T. Nagar).

It will be linked to the main sewer line.

Photo shows an excavator digging a ditch to build the chamber.

The contractor entrusted with the work told this reporter that the work will be completed within a week.

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Students perform paadha pooja



By Our Staff Reporter

Kritagyata Diwas was celebrated in Mangichand Bhandari Jain School (T. Nagar) on Feb. 26.

In view of board exams approaching, students performed paadha pooja for their parents to invoke their blessings.

Hall tickets were distributed among the students.

Portion of crematorium compound wall collapses



By Our Staff Reporter

A 6-foot-wide portion of the compound wall of Kannammampet Crematorium (on Muthu Rangan Salai side, T. Nagar) has collapsed.

A nearby resident told this reporter that antisocial elements gain access to the crematorium at night and pursue activities like drinking. He said that it is a security concern for the residents in the vicinity.

He appealed to Chennai Corporation to rebuild the damaged portion of the wall.

Program conducted on women empowerment



By Our Staff Reporter

Cloudnine Hospital (54, Vijayaraghava Road, T. Nagar) hosted a transformative women's wellness event on Feb. 22, bringing together over 100 women for an insightful discussion on achieving harmony in health by balancing mind and body amidst the challenges of modern life.

Actress Shrutika Arjun, who was the Chief Guest, spoke on the occasion about women empowerment.

Other speakers included Dr. D. Kavitha and Dr. R. Rijaphin (Senior Consultants of Obstetrics and Gynecology in Cloudnine Hospital).

Portion of new film shot in Ashok Nagar



By Our Staff Reporter

A portion of an upcoming Tamil movie featuring actor Sivakarthikeyan was shot the whole day at the junction of 9th Avenue and 10th Avenue (Ashok Nagar) last week. The yet to be named movie is directed by A. R. Murugadoss.



Upgradation work at Mambalam Station



By Our Staff Reporter

Under the Amrit Bharath Station Scheme, Mambalam Station is being upgraded.

On Feb. 26, the foundation stone was laid for the redevelopment work.

Thamizhachi Thangapanidhi (South Chennai MP) was the Chief Guest.

J. Karunanidhi (T. Nagar MLA) and Uma Anandhan (Councillor Ward 134)

participated in the function. A building to house a new booking office, lift for passengers and a permanent roof will be constructed. Due to the ongoing work, the newly constructed entrance has been temporarily closed since Jan. 27 and passengers have been advised to use the old entrance that is 100 meters away.



Chennai Metro rewards passengers using travel card

By Our Staff Reporter

During the felicitation function held on Feb. 24 in its headquarters at Nandanam, Chennai Metro gifted suitcases and other such items to 40 of its passengers who made optimum use of Singara Chennai travel card between Jan. 15 and Feb. 14.

They had made the maximum number of trips using the card during the 30-day period.

Chennai Metro, along with SBI and Namma Yatri, had come up with the initiative to encourage more passengers to opt for Singara Chennai card and this is the second month passengers have been rewarded.

The 3-month initiative is scheduled to end next month.

The event was followed by a cine music concert by a local band. Officials of Chennai Metro and SBI were present at the event.



FAIRPRO 2024 exhibition from March 8 to 10

By Our Staff Reporter

Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI) will conduct the 16th edition of its flagship exhibition FAIRPRO 2024 from March 8 to 10 in Chennai Trade Centre, Nandambakkam. On offer will be residential apartments, commercial complexes and plots, a press release said.

S. Sivagurunathan (President, CREDAI Chennai) said, "This year, FAIRPRO will showcase homes with prices ranging from Rs. 15 lakhs to Rs. 15 crores from 75+ CREDAI Developers. Also, eight banks will offer home loans."

Cop on duty snatches chain at metro station, held

Rajadurai (26) (resident of Police Quarters, KK Nagar), assigned for guard duty at Arumbakkam Metro station, was arrested by Arumbakkam police on Feb. 25 on the charge of snatching a 6-sovereign chain from a woman passenger.

According to police, he was caught by members of the public when he tried to flee after grabbing the chain from the woman as she was exiting the station. He was attached to Tamil Nadu Special Battalion (TSP) in Avadi.

Police said the victim Vijayalakshmi, an EB official, and her husband Kamalakannan, were headed for a relative's marriage in Aminjikarai.

As they were walking towards the exit, Rajadurai snatched the woman's chain and tried to flee, but was caught by passers-by as she raised an alarm.

He was thrashed by members of the the public and handed over to the police.

Police said the accused was posted in Arumbakkam station for the past three months.

MTC to procure 500 e-buses

Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC) has floated tenders to procure 500 low-floor electric buses (400 non-AC and 100 AC) on Gross Cost Contract (GCC) basis.

The 500 e-buses will be procured under the World Bank-funded Chennai City Partnership: the Chennai Sustainable Urban Services Program in the first phase and the remaining in the next phase.

Electric buses proposed to be procured will be operated and maintained under a public-private partnership model wherein the drivers will be provided by the company and the conductors by MTC.

The technically qualified company will be selected based on the cost per km quoted by them. The company will operate the electric buses from one point to another at a tariff based on a per km basis. According to the tender, the e-buses will be deployed in the six depots in the city including KK Nagar.

MTC currently operates a fleet of 3436 diesel buses on 659 routes and caters to more than 33.60 lakh passengers daily handling operations through 32 depots.

Mambalam Times can be accessed in
www.mambalamtimes.in

Election awareness campaign vehicles flagged off



By Our Staff Reporter

Ahead of Lok Sabha election in 2024, TN Chief Election Officer Satyabrata Sahoo and Chennai Corporation Commissioner J. Radhakrishnan, on Feb. 26 flagged off three awareness campaign vehicles (SVEEP Activities Vehicles) to sensitize people about the need for voting and the functioning of electronic voting machines.

Speaking to reporters, Sahoo said, "As the voting percentage in Chennai city has come down, we intend creating awareness among people in three regions."

"The purpose of the campaign is to ensure that eligible voters cast their votes especially youngsters and first-time voters in the city," he said.

As per the instructions of the Election Commission of India, in 944 polling centers in 16 constituencies in Chennai district voting machines have been installed.

With around 33 lakh voters in the city, the campaign vehicles will create awareness in colleges and focus on low voting areas such as south Chennai.

Radhakrishnan appealed to residents to perform their democratic duty by exercising their franchise.

2-wheelers in 'no parking' zone impounded



By Our Staff Reporter

Following complaints by residents, 2-wheelers parked in the 'No parking zones' on North Usman Road and its adjoining streets in T. Nagar were seized by traffic police.

Photo shows 2-wheelers being loaded onto the recovery vehicle. The vehicles will be released to the owners after payment of fine.

Pavement relaid

By Our Staff Reporter

After complaints by residents, the damaged pavement of Arumbal Street (T. Nagar) is being relaid.

Photo shows Corporation workers laying the pavement with concrete after raising the level of the manhole chambers.



Award for Radhatri Nethralaya Directors

By Our Staff Reporter

Dr. Praveen Krishna and Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham (Medical Directors, Radhatri Nethralaya, T. Nagar) were conferred the Prof. Syed Modassar Ali Endowment Indo-Bangladesh Friendship International Award for their excellence in the field of cataract and retina respectively at the Indo-Bangladesh Friendship Conclave in Sheikh Fazilatunessa Mujib Eye Hospital, Gopalganj, Bangladesh on Feb. 17.

The award was presented by Prof. Nahid, Dr. Tariq and Prof. Enayet of Bangladesh Ophthalmic Society.



Dr. Vasumathy and Dr. Praveen Krishna receiving the award from Dr. Tariq, Prof. Nahid and Prof. Enayet of Bangladesh Ophthalmic Society.

Car rally for visually impaired today forenoon

By Our Staff Reporter

The National Association for the Blind (NAB) and Madras Motor Sports Club (MMSC) have jointly organised a unique car rally called 'Thryve Digital Brailles on Wheels' on Sunday, March 3 in which a visually impaired persons will act as the navigator.

Aimed at raising awareness and building

community sensitivity for the visually challenged, the rally will commence at 9 a.m from Saveria Hotel (RK Salai, Mylapore). 'Thryve Digital Brailles on Wheels' features a unique format where each participating car will have a team of three: a driver, two passengers, and a visually impaired navigator. Equipped with a Braille map outlining the course, the navigator will guide the driver throughout the rally.

With visually impaired navigators guiding sighted drivers through a 35-km circuit, the event highlights the importance of trust and understanding between individuals of different abilities. This marks the 33rd edition of the car rally.

Balasubramanian Sankaranarayanan (CEO and President of Thryve Digital Health LLP) said that the primary objective of the event is to raise awareness about visual impairment.

He said, "Increased awareness in our society can foster greater inclusiveness, spur initiatives for employment opportunities, and enhance the self-reliance of visually challenged individuals."

He said around 150 cars will be participating in this rally this year.



Aavin milk packets sold at prices higher than MRP

By Our Staff Reporter

There have been many complaints that city-based grocery stores and supermarkets have been selling Aavin milk packets at prices higher than MRP.

The MRP of 500 ml packet of 'Nice' variant of Aavin milk is Rs 20, Delite is Rs 22 and Premium Rs 30.

A roadside tea shop owner on Arya Gowda Road said that depending on the supply, milk packets are often sold at a premium of Rs. 2 to Rs. 3.

Often, consumers are unaware that the sellers should not charge anything higher than the MRP.

"When I informed Aavin officers, they said that they had no control over intermediaries charging higher and they could only ensure that it does not happen in a franchise or agency," said a member of T. Nagar Residents Welfare Association.

S.A. Ponnusamy (State President, Milk Dealers Employees Welfare Association) said that Aavin has kept a margin of Rs 2/litre of milk, which includes transportation cost and other expenses.

The flow of the products in Aavin begins from wholesaler/distributor to dealer and then to retailer.

So, the retailer gets the product for the MRP and including their expenses, a minimum of Rs 1 extra should be added to the MRP to benefit the retailer, he said.

Exnora honours TANSIDCO

By Our Staff Reporter

ExNoRa International Foundation (EIF) (Vijayaraghava Road, T. Nagar) honoured Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation Limited (TANSIDCO) for its 'Remarkable commitment and efforts to negate climate change' in

a function recently organised by EIF in Spencer Plaza. S. Senthur Pari (President) presented the award to Nandakumar (TANSIDCO Regional Manager).



Reserved ticket enough for suburban train ride

By Our Staff Reporter

The Chennai division of Southern Railway has issued strict directions to Travelling Ticket Examiners (TTEs), clarifying that passengers with reserved tickets up to Chennai Egmore should not be fined for travelling on suburban trains from Tambaram to Egmore. The clarification follows a recent complaint that a TTE had fined a passenger who travelled in a reserved class compartment at T. Nagar.

A number of reserved class passengers travelling on express trains from Madurai and other southern districts to Chennai Egmore mostly get down at Tambaram to travel to St. Thomas Mount, Guindy, T. Nagar, and other stations.

Despite repeated clarifications from the railway's commercial department, TTEs have been imposing fines on such passengers. An order issued by the Chennai division on Feb. 21 stated, "All passengers with higher class tickets, including reserved ones, are permitted to travel on suburban trains, provided the destination mentioned on the higher class ticket is beyond the destination of the suburban journey."

R Pandiaraja, a member of the Zonal Rail Users Consultative Committee (ZRUCC) for SR, said, "Taking advantage of the passengers' ignorance, TTEs continue to penalise those with valid tickets."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Stray dog survives electric shock

Sir, A number of EB pillar boxes installed on pavements and road margins are lying open as their doors are either missing or damaged.

One such pillar box near my house on South West Boag Road (T. Nagar) has been lying open for more than five months.

On Feb. 27 at around 3 p.m., I rushed out of my house after hearing a dog crying incessantly.

I saw a fully grown stray dog lying very close to the junction box and struggling to get up. Its front legs were shaking in an odd manner.

After a few minutes, it stopped crying and slowly but unsteadily got up and walked off. My guess is that the dog must have suffered an electric shock.

I appeal to the officials concerned to take immediate action to close the doors. **P. Padmanabhan, South West Boag Road (T. Nagar), Ph: 98803 25877.**



Metro work affects traffic flow

Sir, Traffic diversions in the city due to the Chennai Metro and other major civic works like laying of storm water drains are creating a lot of issues for motorists. Prime locations in T. Nagar, Nungambakkam and Chetpet will have more traffic diversions soon as phase 2 work of Chennai Metro is picking pace. At Sterling Road and Chetpet, the initial work of constructing metro stations has started and soon full-fledged traffic diversions will come into effect.

Previously, travelling between Chetpet and T. Nagar used to take just 10 minutes but now with the traffic diversions travelling between these two places takes about half an hour, especially during peak hours. Often, diversions are made without prior announcement, leading to traffic snarls.

I appeal to traffic officials to communicate well in advance about new traffic diversions and deploy additional traffic policemen at important junctions and locations of possible traffic problems due to the diversions. **R. Muthukrishnan, G.N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar**

Opening in storm water drain poses danger



By Our Staff Reporter

As a portion of the slab has caved-in, a 2-foot-wide opening has formed in the 4-foot-deep storm water drain on the pavement of 6th Avenue (Ashok Nagar).

Iron rods have been inserted into the opening with reflective tapes to caution pedestrians.

As the opening is close to the road margin, it also poses grave danger to motorists.

Nearby residents have appealed to Chennai Corporation to close the opening.

Vidyodaya Schools complete 100 years

By Our Staff Reporter

Vidyodaya Schools celebrated its centenary on Feb. 24 in T. Nagar.

M K Narayan (Former Governor of West Bengal) and R.N. Manjula (Judge, Madras High Court) were the Chief Guests.

They spoke about the numerous opportunities in governance, policy making, and law and order.

More than 1000 students, parents, teachers and other staff members attended the program.

The campus has three schools in T. Nagar namely Vidyodaya Girls School, Vidyodaya Matriculation Academy and Vidyodaya Pre-Primary.

It came into being on Feb. 24, 1924, the fruition of the visionary Elizabeth Sornam Appasamy's efforts.

What started in a bungalow in Pallavaram with six students, is now a 13.5-acre campus in Thirumalai Nagar, T. Nagar with more than 2,000 students.

The schools are administered by the Vidyodaya Schools Society comprising 15 members, three from the founder's family," said Sharadha Balasubramanian (Correspondent and Alumna of the class of 1972).

It was Kamala Sathianathan, its first principal, who named the school Vidyodaya.

By 1926, the school moved to Santhome and then in 1938, to its present location in Thirumalai Nagar, T. Nagar.



The first permanent block at the T. Nagar campus of Vidyodaya



One of the earliest pictures of teachers at Vidyodaya



The school library

'Run-Ride-Donate' with Aalam Deepam bicycle Duathlon

By Our Staff Reporter

'We are Chennai Cycling Group' (WCCG) is all set to conduct its fifth edition of Aalam Deepam Duathlon on Sunday, March 10, an annual event which has been conducted since 2019.

With its signature tagline 'Run-Ride-Donate', this unique fundraiser utilises its funds collected through the event registration, for a specific philanthropic cause each year.

Those interested in participating, can buy donor tickets from the website <https://www.cct.chennaicyclists.com/event-details/aalam-deepam-duathlon-march-2024>. The duathlon, which will be held from 5 a.m to 9 a.m, will start from Mayajal (Kanathur, ECR Road, Kanathur, 34/1, East Coast Road, Chennai 112).

"Aalam is our philanthropic wing, through which we work towards various welfare activities," Anil Jain (Senior member of WCCG) said.

The last edition of the Aalam Deepam Duathlon, held in April 2023, was to support the Humans of Cycling initiative, where bicycles were presented to 35 candidates, and to 94 students of Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharathiyar Higher Secondary School (Pakkam village).



Vidyodaya Schools to open study centre for CSE

By Our Staff Reporter

As Vidyodaya Schools celebrate a century of educating and empowering young women, the institution plans to open a study centre in the upcoming academic year to train students of Stds. 6 to 12 for civil service examinations.

According to Headmistress V. Shanthi, the study centre aims to create a space for students and teachers to understand policy making, governance, history, and socio-political issues. Located on the campus in Thirumalai Nagar, the study centre will have a library stocked with reference material and study guides.

"It will be a space for coaching sessions, workshops and seminars conducted by experienced instructors and subject matter experts. Primary school students can participate in quiz and competitions. This will help generate an interest in such topics," Shanthi said.

Teachers will also participate in workshops in May.

"Through these, they can provide support and personalised advice for students throughout their preparation period," she added.

Three youths held for snatching mobile phones

By Our Staff Reporter

Gaja alias Gajendran (20) of Ramapuram, Vicky alias Vigneshkumar (20) of Kolapakkam and Mani alias Manikandan (18) of Ramapuram were arrested for allegedly snatching mobile phones.

They were arrested based on a complaint from R. Ravichandran (52) (resident of Burkit Road, T. Nagar).

The gang had robbed his iPhone when he was walking along the road near his house at night on Feb. 22.

Based on his complaint, police scanned footage of CCTV cameras on the road to identify the culprits.

During investigation, police found that they were habitual criminals and cases against them were pending in several police stations for chain and mobile snatching.

The trio, during questioning, revealed that they indulged in snatching mobile phones in various areas including T. Nagar, Ashok Nagar, K.K. Nagar, St. Thomas Mount, Mangadu, Koyambedu, Vadapalani and other areas.

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

Youth held for abusing woman

By Our Staff Reporter

A 21-year-old man who groped a woman on the road and then fled, was tracked down and arrested near Vadapalani on Feb. 24.

The incident occurred on Bajanai Koil Street in Vadapalani on Feb. 21.

The complaint was lodged by a 23-year-old woman, who said that while she was walking with her sister, the accused who was trailing them on a two-wheeler, made inappropriate gestures and remarks. He also groped her and fled when the women raised an alarm.

After scanning CCTV footage police identified R. Vignesh (21) of T. Nagar as the culprit and him. He was remanded to judicial custody.

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K.K. NAGAR, independent house, 30 feet road, north facing, 1200 sq.ft, G+1, size: 30x40. Ph: 98849 49275.

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T. NAGAR, Arcot Street, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 1100 sq.ft, UDS 674 sq.ft, car park, 30 years old, semi furnished, 1 balcony, carpet area 940 sq.ft, north facing. Ph: 98847 11521.

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ASHOK NAGAR, 10th Avenue, near Grace Super Market, new flat for sale, 1400 sq.ft, UDS 530 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, good residency area. Ph: 94446 96622, 89408 19667.

RENTAL

WEST MAMBALAM, Baroda Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1200 sq.ft, 2nd floor, car park, rent Rs. 23000, vegetarians only. Ph: 90801 64510.

WEST MAMBALAM, Thambiah Road, near Railway Station, 2 bedrooms apartment, hall, kitchen, ground floor, 750 sq.ft, 2 bath attached, car park, rent Rs. 18000, plus maintenance. Ph: 99626 42881.

WEST MAMBALAM, 21, Station Road, near Thambiah Road, near HDFC ATM, 2 bedrooms apartment, hall, kitchen, balcony, 1st floor, bath attached, rent Rs. 12000, 6 months advance, Ph: 90425 52842, 98411 93685.

WEST MAMBALAM, 10/22, Srinivasa Pillai Street, opp. Satya Narayana Temple, 1st floor, road facing, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 3 phase, sufficient water, pets not allowed, 2-wheeler parking only, no lift, geyser, fan, Brahmins only, no brokers, immediate occupation. Ph: 89393 20142, 99406 60313.

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T. NAGAR, Rameswaram Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, rent Rs. 20000 + maintenance, vegetarians only. Ph: 95000 93523.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Danasekaran Cross Street, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, independent house, rent Rs. 15000 (negotiable), 2 wheeler parking only. Contact: Balaji, Ph: 73387 83950, 73389 65792.

T. NAGAR, Sadullah Street, 2nd floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 700 sq.ft, no lift, car park, rent Rs. 17000, maintenance Rs. 1700. Contact: Agent Ph: 99419 91008.

T. NAGAR, Arulambal Street, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, 2nd floor, lift, car park, 1600 sq.ft, rent Rs. 38000. Ph: 98841 37904.

K.K. NAGAR, 6, P.T. Rajan Salai, near S.M. Hospital Road/PSBB School, newly painted, 30 feet Road, corner east facing, 1st floor, 1200 sq.ft, 2 master bedrooms, hall, kitchen, pooja, 2 balconies, rent Rs. 25000, advance 1 lakh, lease Rs. 8 lakhs, fully furnished Rs. 30000, unfurnished Rs. 16000. Ph: 99419 99191, 98419 27338.

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Science Day celebrated



By Our Staff Reporter

Science Day was celebrated in PSBB School, T. Nagar on Feb. 27.

This year's theme was 'International Year of Camelids' and 'Science for Sustainable future'. The Chief Guest was Vinod Ramanarayanan (Entrepreneur and Consultant, Climate Impact & Carbon Management, Bengaluru).

The program included onstage events like a musical skit on saving water, dance drama on camelids and quiz related to the theme. The winning project "Young Scientists" by Deshna and Gayatri Punetha of Std 6 D was given the A. K. Samban Award for creativity in science.

Appeal for donations to celebrate Mahasivarathri

By Our Staff Reporter

Manav Seva Trust (Flat 4, 1st floor, Sakthi Devi Apartments, 20, Mannar Reddy Street, opposite T. Nagar Bus Terminus. Ph. 99406 96828, 97899 60556, 98409 27127) has appealed for donations to temples being supported by the Trust to celebrate Mahasivarathri on Friday, March 8.

As earlier, the Trust has nominated Anugraha Mitra to raise funds and collect oil (deepa nallennai) in kind.

The following are the rates: 1. Oru mugham: Rs. 2,501 (10 ltrs), 2. Moondru mugham: Rs. 7,503 (30 ltrs); 3. Anju mugham: Rs. 12,505 (50 ltrs).

The last date for receiving donations is Monday, March 4.

Details of bank account of Anugraha Mitra:

Bank: Union Bank of India, Thiruverkadu Branch

Current account no. 300411010000017 IFSC: ubino830046

Gpay no. 99601 73504 (savithri.jayaraman) after remittance details may be sent to anugrahamitra49@gmail.com

For more details call Savithri Jayaraman (99601 73504), Vijayasree (73973 24627), Jio Rama Mitra (93443 62503) or Admn office (97899 60556).

Unused puchcart blocks street margin

By Our Staff Reporter

A pushcart used for vending food has been lying on the margin of Abdul Aziz Street (CIT Nagar East, CIT Nagar) for over six months.

As it is an eyesore and is blocking the carriageway, residents have appealed to Chennai Corporation to remove the pushcart from the spot.



Shivaratri mahotsavam on March 7 and 8

The 75th Maha Shivaratri mahotsavam will be conducted on Thursday, March 7 and Friday, March 8 in Siva-Vishnu Temple (Usman Road, T. Nagar). The following are details:

March 7:

9 a.m to 12 noon: Maha Ganapathi pooja followed by Purusha Sukta homam.

March 8:

8 a.m to 11.30 a.m: Goh pooja, Maha Ganapathi homam.

5 p.m: 1st Kala abhishekam

9 p.m: 2nd Kala abhishekam

Midnight: 3rd Kala abhishekam,

March 9:

3 a.m: 4th Kala abhishekam

The fee for participating in all the 4 abhishekams is Rs. 1,000. For more details, call 044-2434 6031. All are welcome.

Brahmotsavam in Padmavathy Temple till March 7

Brahmotsavam, which is being celebrated in Sri Padmavathy Thayar Temple (GN Chetty Road, T. Nagar) since Feb. 24, will conclude on March 7.

To create awareness about Gaja Vahanam of Padmavathy Thayar, there will be Nagara Sankheerthanam of Vishnusahasranamam at 6.15 a.m on Sunday, March 3.

The Nagarasankheerthanam will start from the temple and proceed towards Accord Hotel, AGS Cinema, turn into Boag Road, Vijayraghvarhari Road, Dr. Nair Road, Hotel Residency, GN Chetty Road and return to Sri Padmavathy Temple.

The Gaja Vahanam will also follow the same route.

Free 10-day spoken Sanskrit classes

By Our Staff Reporter

Bamskrita Bharati will conduct 10-day free spoken Sanskrit classes in T. Nagar. No previous knowledge of Sanskrit required. Classes will be conducted from 4.30 p.m to 6.30 p.m from March 9 to 18 in Anjenayar Temple, 53rd Street, Ashok Nagar. For more details call 94453 78471 / 98409 11802.

All are welcome.

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Discourse on Bhagavad Gita today

Under the auspices of Sri Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama (3, Maharajapuram Santhanam Salai, T. Nagar), Swami Guruvanananda will deliver a discourse in Tamil on Bhagavad Gita at 5.30 p.m on Sunday, March 3 in the Ashram's premises. All are welcome. More details can be had in 2814 3896 and 28143514.

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Seven injured as van hits median

Seven workers of a private firm were injured when the van they were travelling in hit the median on Anna Salai, near Nandanam junction, Teynampet on Feb. 24.

Police said 10 employees of an information technology firm were travelling from Taramani in the van.

When the van neared the junction, the driver lost control and hit the median.

Seven of the 10 passengers were injured.

Passersby rescued them, and they were taken to Government Royapettah Hospital for treatment. The Traffic Investigation Police, Pondy Bazaar, have registered a case and are investigating.

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