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The Neighbourhood Newspaper for T. Nagar & Mambalam

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An Emotional Will

A client approached me a few years back introducing himself as a retired Major from the Indian Army. He had opted to retire after 25 years of service. He was living in Kilpauk and wanted to write his will.

He told me that he was living with his wife and three sons. Then came the shock. He said that the third boy was not really born to him. I was taken aback about what he said next: He knew who the culprit was.

When he said this he became very emotional and added that it was for the first time that he was telling this fact to anyone. It was to maintain the pretence for society's sake that he was continuing to live with his wife, he said.

According to him, the time had come to intimate to his wife that he knew everything and the mode he chose was through his will.

"I wish to stipulate in my will that my properties must go to only my first two sons. My wife will then realise that I knew that the third boy was not my son. That is the punishment that I want to give to her. So please draft the will as I desire", he said.

He was so emotional that I realised that he was not in a fit mood to take any advice to the contrary. I told him, "Major, please come after two days. We can prepare the will on Saturday".

The Major returned promptly on Saturday.

I asked him, "Major, what do you think of your third son?"

"A very smart boy, and a good sportsman too. But he does not know the fact that he is not really my son because I have brought him up just like my other two sons. In fact even my wife does not know that I am aware of that fact. It is for keeping the family intact that I have kept my anger buried in my mind so far. I want my wife to realise my anger at least after my death when she reads the will", he said and asked for my advice.

I thought over his query and responded: "Major, you are a gem of a person in bringing up the boy just like your other sons. I can understand your legitimate anger against your wife but why should you punish the boy for no fault of his? By excluding him from your will he will also come to know the truth after your death. Have you imagined how he would feel when he knows that you, whom he had all along considered his father, were not his real father? How would the society look at him? How would his friends look at him? You have been so large-hearted in keeping the secret to yourself so far. Why don't you maintain it even after you pass away? Leave it to God to punish your wife in His own way. Please do not commit the sin of punishing the innocent boy".

I added, "Please forget the past, forgive your wife and lead the same happy life with your family. That is my advice".

The Major rested both his hands and his head on my table for about ten minutes. He then raised his head and said, "In my anger against my wife I did not think of how my action would affect the innocent boy. Your advice has opened my eyes. I will abide by your advice for the sake of the boy's future and divide my properties equally for all 3 of them. Thank you PBR".

I was happy at having guided the Major to arrive at the right decision.

Business vs Charity

Valliappan hailed from Karaikudi and, after finishing MBA, was employed in a good job in USA.

He had come home on leave in December, 2021.

His mother was cooking in the kitchen when a woman selling vegetables came at the door.

The woman was pregnant and quoted the price of brinjals at 50 rupees per kilo.

Valliappan's mother bargained with her and bought the brinjals at 40 rupees per kilo.

Valliappan felt ashamed at his mother's behaviour and thought that she exhibited meanness in bargaining for 10 rupees with the poor woman when, in any bigger shop, she would pay the marked price without demur.

The woman tripped and fell down while trying to put the basket over her head.

His mother ran towards her, helped her to get up and chided her saying, 'ஏண்டி, வாயும் வயிறுமாய்

இருக்கே, ஒத்தாசைக்கு ஒரு ஆளை வைச்சுக்காம ஏன் இப்படி அலையறே? கொஞ்சம் இரு' என்று சொல்லிவிட்டு உள்ளே சென்று 4 இட்லியும், 1 டம்ளர் காப்பியும் கொண்டு வந்து அவளை சாப்பிடச் சொன்னாள்.

Valliappan was surprised and asked his mother why she had earlier bargained for a mere 10 rupees while she was now

giving the woman food worth at least 50 rupees free of cost.

His mother replied, 'வியாபாரத்துலே பேரம் பண்ணிக் கணக்குப் பார்க்கலாம். தர்மம் பண்ணும்போது கணக்குப் பார்க்கக் கூடாது.'

Valliappan was impressed with his mother's life philosophy.

(To be continued) pbrassociates@yahoo.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. 800) and 4 cm. x 2 column (costing Rs. 1600)

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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, Nov. 23 in the Ashram's premises.

All are welcome.

More details can be had in 2814 3896 and 2814 3514.

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Street lights not functioning in Kanniah Street



The street lights have not been functioning for the past several days on Kanniah Street (near Usman Road junction, T. Nagar).

It is both a security and safety concern for the residents who are finding it difficult to walk on the road at night. They appeal to TNEB to replace the fused bulbs.



மருத்துவர் நோயாளியாகும் நேரம்

பொதுவாகவே மருத்துவர்கள் எழுத்தாளர்களாக மாறும்போது மனித வாழ்க்கை குறித்த தத்துவார்த்த விவரங்கள் இயல்பாகவே வெளிப்படுகின்றன. அதுவும் அவர்களே நோயின் பிடியில் சிக்கும்போது பிறப்பு, இறப்பு பற்றிய பார்வை புதிய பரிமாணம் பெறுகிறது.

சமீபத்தில் நான் வாசித்த 'When Breath Becomes Air' என்ற புத்தகம் இந்த வகையில் ஒரு வித்தியாசமான அனுபவத்தைத் தந்தது. எழுதியவர் டாக்டர் பால் கலாநிதி (Dr. Paul Kalanithi). நரம்பியல் அறுவை சிகிச்சை மருத்துவர். ஸ்டான்ஃபோர்டு பல்கலைக்கழகத்தில் ஆங்கில இலக்கியம் படித்துவிட்டு, யேல் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தில் இளநிலை மருத்துவமும், ஸ்டான்ஃபோர்டில் நியூரோ சர்ஜிகல் ரெசிடென்ட் மருத்துவப் பணியும், நியூரோ ஸயன்ஸில் மேற்படிப்பும் படித்து மருத்துவர் ஆனவர். 'அமெரிக்கன் அகாடமி ஆஃப் நியூரோசர்ஜி'யின் நரம்பியல் அறுவை சிகிச்சை ஆராய்ச்சிக்கான உயரிய விருதினைப் பெற்றவர். இதெல்லாம் அவரது 36 வயதுக்குள் சாதித்தவை!

'பால் தனது பேனாவிலிருந்து வார்த்தைகளைத் தங்க இழைகளாகப் பின்னியிருக்கிறார்' என்கிறார் எழுத்தாள மருத்துவர் ஆபிரகாம் வர்கீஸ் தனது அணிந்துரையில்! தந்தை தமிழ் கனிஸ்துவர். இதய நோய் மருத்துவர், தாய் இந்து. தென்னிந்தியாவில் பல எதிர்ப்புகளுக்கு இடையே திருமணம் செய்துகொண்டு அமெரிக்கா வந்துவிடுகிறார்கள் பாலின் பெற்றோர்கள். அரிலோனா பாலைவனம் அருகில் ஒரு சிறு ஊரில் தன் இளமைக் கால நாட்களையும், அம்மா வாங்கிக் கொடுத்த புத்தகங்களையும், லாஸ் வெகாஸில் படிப்புக்காக அம்மா எடுத்துக்கொண்ட முயற்சிகளையும் சுவையாக விவரிக்கிறார் பால். புத்தகம் படிப்பதும், இலக்கியத்தில் ஈடுபாடும் அம்மாவின்வலே வந்தது என்று நெகிழ்ச்சியுடன் எழுதுகிறார். பல புத்தகங்களைப் படித்து, மனித மனங்கள் எப்படி மூளையின் செயல்பாடுகளால் மாற்றங்கள் அடைகின்றன என வியந்து, இலக்கியம் மற்றும் நரம்பியல் துறைகளில் விருப்பம் கொள்கிறார். 'இலக்கியங்கள் மனித மனங்களை விவரிக்கின்றன. மூளையின் செயல்பாடுகளையும், கூறுகளையும் சொல்வது நரம்பியல். இரண்டுக்கும் இடையே உள்ள தொடர்பு சுவையானது. எலியட்ஸின் உருவகங்கள், என் எழுத்துக்களில் வழிவதை நான் உணர்ந்தேன்' என்கிறார் பால்.

மலை உச்சியில் ஒரு காலைப்பொழுதின் கிழக்கே வெளுப்பையும், மேற்கே முந்தைய இரவின் கருப்பையும் விவரிக்கும்போது பால் என்னும் இலக்கியவாதி தெரிகிறார். இரண்டு வருஷ இலக்கிய, தத்துவம் சார்ந்த படிப்பு வாழ்வின் அர்த்தத்தை விளக்கினாலும், மருத்துவம் அவரை ஈர்க்கிறது. நரம்பியல் அறுவை சிகிச்சை மருத்துவம் அவரை அரவணைத்துக் கொள்கிறது. கலை, இலக்கியம் எல்லாவற்றையும் மருத்துவர்களால்தான் நன்கு புரிந்து கொள்ளமுடியும் என்று நரம்பியல் படிக்க முடிவெடுக்கிறார் பால்!

இடையில் ஒரு வருஷம் விஞ்ஞானம், மருத்துவத்தின் வரலாறு மற்றும் தத்துவங்களைப் படிக்கிறார். பிறப்பு, இறப்பு, வாழ்க்கை இவற்றின் சூட்சுமம் இவரது மருத்துவ வாழ்க்கையில் நோய்களையும், நோயாளிகளையும், உடனிருந்து கவனித்துக் கொள்கின்றவர்களையும் அவர்களுடைய பார்வையிலே உணர்ந்து கொள்ள உதவியது என்று எழுதுகிறார்.

மருத்துவ மாணவனாக அவரது அனுபவங்களை மிகவும் மனித நேயத்துடனும், சுவாரஸ்யத்துடனும் எழுதிச் செல்கிறார்! அனாடமி பயில் உதவும் உயிரற்ற 'கேடாவர்' (Cadaver)களை 'பிணமல்ல, கொடையாளர்கள்' என்கிறார். மூளையில் காயம்பட்டு தன் சுய நினைவுகளை இழந்து வாழும் நோயாளிகளைப் புறக்கணிக்கும் சொந்தங்களை சாடுகிறார். 'இவர்கள் இப்படி வாழ்வதைவிட இறப்பதே மேல்' என்று சொல்லும் சீனியர் மருத்துவரைப் பார்த்து வருந்துகிறார்.

பல நோயாளிகளின் வினோதமான அனுபவங்கள், நரம்பியல் ரெசிடென்சியில் மிரண்டு ஓடும் மருத்துவர்கள் இவரது எழுத்தில் நம்மை வசீகரிக்கின்றன.

மருத்துவத் துறையில் எல்லாம் சுற்று, நரம்பியல் அறுவை சிகிச்சையில் சிறப்பாக செயல்படத் துவங்கும்போது வாழ்வின் துயரமான செய்தியை அவரை விரும்பாத ஒன்றை அறிகிறார். அவருக்கே நுரையீல் புற்றுநோய் வந்திருப்பதை மிகுந்த சோகத்துடன் ஏற்றுக்கொள்கிறார். அதுவரையிலும் மருத்துவராக இயங்கி வந்தவர் தானே ஒரு பேஷன்டாக மாறிவிடும் போது அந்த அறைகள், வியாதி குறித்த விவாதங்கள், நர்சுகள், சீனியர், ஜூனியர் மருத்துவர்கள், எதிர்பார்ப்புகள் எல்லாமே மாறிவிடுவதை விவரிக்கிறார்.

ஏர்போர்ட்டில் வலியில் கருண்டு படுக்கும்போது ஒரு சிப்பந்தி வந்து 'இங்கே படுக்கக் கூடாது' என்று சொல்லும்போது பதில் ஏதும் சொல்லாமல் சிரமத்துடன் எழுந்து வெளியேறுவதைப் படிக்கும் எவருக்கும் மனம் கலங்கும். மருத்துவமனையில் கீமோதெரபி மருந்துகளினால் உபாதைகள், சக மருத்துவர்கள் தவறு செய்யும்போது தான் ஏதும் செய்ய முடியாத இயலாமை எல்லாம் இதயத்தை கனமாக்கும். 'ஒவ்வொருமுறை கீமோதெரபி முடிந்த பிறகும் வாயில் போட்ட எல்லா உணவும் கடல்நீரைப்போல் உப்புக் கரிக்கும். சாப் பாடு பிடிக்காது. எழுத வேண்டியவை, படிக்க வேண்டியவை இருந்தாலும் மனதில் பிடிப்பின்றி ஏதும் செய்ய முடியாது' என்கிறார்.

மனைவி லூசி (அவரும் ஒரு டாக்டர்) அளிக்கும் சப்போர்ட், தைரியம், அன்பு, கரிசனம் ஒவ்வொரு நிலையிலும் அவரது எழுத்தில் பிரதிபலிக்கிறது. நோயைக் கண்டுபிடித்தது முதல் ஒவ்வொரு முறை கீமோதெரபி கொடுக்கும்போதும், எப்போதும் முடிவு வந்து விடக்கூடும் என்னும் நிலையிலும் லூசியின் பங்களிப்பு அனுமனாக முடியாதது. கையில் எட்டு மாதக் குழந்தை யுடனும், உயிருக்குப் போராடும் அன்புக் கணவனுடனும் லூசியின் வாழ்க்கை புனைகதைகளை விடவும் சோகம் நிறைந்தது.

தன் இறப்பை அறிந்தும், எதிர்பார்த்தும் இருப்பதற்கு ஓர் மனஉறுதி வேண்டும். உயிருடன் இருக்கப் போகும் நாட்களை எப்படி உபயோகமாகவும், அர்த்தமுடனும் கழிப்பது என்று திட்டமிட்டு வாழ்வது முடியுமா? இவரால் முடிந்திருக்கிறது. தன் சுயசரிதையை எழுதுவதற்கும் தன் மறைவுக்குப் பிறகாகவது அது புத்தகமாக வரவேண்டும், அதனால் பிற்காலத்தில் தன் அன்பு மகள் தன்னைப் பற்றி அறிந்து கொள்ளவும், தன் வாசகர்கள் தன் எழுத்தைப் படிப்பதற்கும் அது உதவும் என்பதற்காக அவர் காட்டிய முனைப்பு வியக்க வைக்கிறது.

மற்றவர்கள் வாழ்க்கையை அனுபவிக்க ஆரம்பிக்கும் வேளையில் அவரது போராட்டம் முடிவுக்கு வருகிறது. மார்ச் 2015ல் பால் இறந்து விடுகிறார். யாரும் எதிர்பார்க்காத ஒரு நொடியில் மூச்சை நிறுத்தி அமைதியாகிறார்.

அவருடைய இறுதி நாட்களையும், அவர் இறந்த பிறகு நடந்த நிகழ்ச்சிகளையும் டாக்டர் பாலின் விருப்பப்படியே அவருடைய மனைவி லூசி எழுதி, புத்தகத்தை நிறைவு செய்து வெளியிட்டிருக்கிறார். அதன் முடிவில் 'எழுத்தாளர் என்பவர் யார்', 'ஏன் எழுதுகிறார்கள்' என்பதைத் தான் உணர்ந்து கொண்டதாகக் குறிப்பிடுகிறார் லூசி.

வாழ்க்கையின் நிரந்தரின்மையை, இறப்பை எதிர்கொள்ள வேண்டிய வகையை இப்புத்தகம் தெளிவாகச் சொல்கிறது. எல்லோரும், குறிப்பாக மருத்துவர்கள் இப்புத்தகத்தை வாசிக்க வேண்டும்.



Van donated to Radhathri Nethralaya



By Our Staff Reporter

Mahaveer Jain International Mission (Chennai) donated a van to Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation (the charitable arm of Radhatri Nethralaya, T. Nagar) on Nov. 15. Rajasthan Ratna Subash Chand Ranka, along with trustees Kishan Srisimal Jain, Gireesh Bhandari, Nirmal Nahar and Niranjan Solanki, flagged off the vehicle.

Praveen Krishna (Medical Director, Radhatri Nethralaya) said that the van will be used for its Vision on Wheels project to transport preterm babies from underprivileged families, affected by Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP), from rural areas to the hospital for free treatment.

947 helpdesks setup to clarify voters' doubts

By Our Staff Reporter

With complaints pouring in and confusion reigning over the special intensive revision of the electoral rolls, the Election Commission has set up 947 Electors Helpdesks in as many booths since November 18 that function from 10 a.m to 6 p.m. Personnel at these helpdesks aid voters to fill the forms, find out their names and those of their relatives, and verify the details in the electoral roll.

In a statement, Corporation Commissioner and District Election Officer J. Kumaragurubaran has advised voters in the respective areas to approach these counters to obtain guidance in completing and submitting applications.



level amid continuous rainfall, taking necessary precautions to manage the surplus water release and minimize the risk of flooding in nearby low-lying areas.

Water inflow rises sharply in Chembarambakkam reservoir

By Our Staff Reporter

With the northeast monsoon intensifying, water inflow into Chembarambakkam Lake, a key drinking water source for Chennai, has risen sharply.

Official reports indicate the inflow has been increasing rapidly in the past week, with the water level steadily rising to 20.84 feet, against the lake's full capacity of 24 feet.

To prevent overflow and ensure safety, authorities have started releasing 100 cusecs of surplus water per second from the lake.

This reservoir supplies drinking water to several key areas in southern and central Chennai including Teynampet and Kodambakkam zones.

Officials are closely monitoring the inflow and water

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Water stagnates in Pavalavannar Subway



By Our Staff Reporter

The CP Pavalavannar Subway in Saidapet continues to be plagued by persistent water stagnation every monsoon, prompting repeated complaints from commuters who say the issue has remained unresolved for years.

The subway, one of the 22 maintained by Chennai Corporation, was originally designed with a system to pump rainwater into the Karneeswarar Koil temple tank, a feature that once kept it free from flooding.

The stretch serves as a vital connector for motorists from Ashok Nagar and Saidapet towards Anna Salai, with thousands of vehicles passing through daily. Residents lamented that the drainage mechanism has not functioned effectively in recent years.

Though the Corporation undertook beautification works last year, including mural painting along the walls, the underlying problem persists.

Responding to the complaints, Zone 10 Committee Chairman Krishnamoorthi said that the water has been leaking from an adjoining railway water pipeline and flowing into the subway.

He said that Railway officials have assured that they will repair the leak soon.

Concerned about the recurring stagnation, residents have urged authorities to complete the repairs before the monsoon intensifies further.

Phase 2 metro track beneath existing tunnel at Nandanam



By Our Staff Reporter

For the first time in the Phase II network, Chennai Metro will build an underground network from Panagal Park to Boat Club, via Nandanam, at a depth of around 29.8 meters under the existing Nandanam station in Phase I network without affecting train operations.

Nandanam will now have two stations, the existing one of the Phase I network (from Wimco Nagar to Chennai Airport) and one to be constructed for the Phase II network (as part of Corridor 4 from Poonamallee to Light House).

The Phase II tunnel linking Panagal Park-Nandanam-Boat Club will be built in a way that it will perpendicularly cross underneath the Phase I tunnel at Nandanam.

An official said that boring for the tunnel spanning a distance of 1.9 kms will begin next month.

He said that at Nandanam, the depth of the existing tunnel is 16.5 metres, and the Phase II tunnel will be at 29.8 metres (nearly 98 feet) from the ground.

"To ensure the safety of the Nandanam station and the existing tunnel during boring for the new tunnel, a high precision robotic equipment will be used to collect real-time data about the structure, settlements and other deformations.

At Panagal Park, when the TBM starts its journey, it will bore at a depth of 17.3 metres below the ground, but by the time the machine reaches Nandanam, the depth will be 29.8 metres", he said.

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20 rescued as fire breaks out in apartment complex, none hurt

By Our Staff Reporter

A major fire broke out in a locked 2nd floor apartment of Mangala Villa (Ramachandra Street, T. Nagar) late at night on Nov. 15, with plumes of smoke spreading through the three-storey building.

Upon alert, the Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services (TNFRS) personnel acted swiftly.

Six fire engines and skylift were deployed, and the fire was put out completely after a three-hour operation.

20 residents, including a child, were rescued and shifted to safety. No casualties were reported.

The fire, which is suspected to be the result of a short circuit, spread quickly through the rear block, darkening corridors and stairways.

The grilled balconies, installed as a safety measure, turned into obstacles during the emergency, preventing

trapped residents from escaping their homes.

Residents recalled how the fire intensified in minutes, with thick smoke filling corridors and staircases, as the blaze spread through the windows and reached the third floor.

Manimaran, a resident said that panic set in as we could not see the steps to get down and out of the building as thick smoke had shrouded the hallways. It forced many like me and my family to remain indoors initially, hoping the smoke would clear out. But as the suffocation intensified and smoke began seeping into each apartment, the residents were forced to retreat to the terrace using the light from the mobile phones.

Neighbours, a passing medical representative, and a food-delivery worker guided the panicked occupants towards safer sections of the building.

The medical representative, Vimalraj of Padi, climbed up a drainage pipe to reach the terrace to rescue a 5-year-old child.



Bharathidasan Colony Main Road relaid



By Our Staff Reporter

Following complaints by residents, Bharathidasan Colony Main Road (K.K. Nagar) was relaid on Nov. 13. The road had been milled, but not relaid for over 3 months.

The dusty and uneven gravel surface has made commuting difficult, especially for two-wheeler riders and school students. The road serves as a key route connecting MGR Nagar, Ramapuram, Nesapakkam, and nearby areas.

Techie leaps into Adyar river, rescued by fire personnel

A 29-year-old software engineer, who tried to end life by jumping into the Adyar river from Kotturpuram bridge at night on Nov. 16, was rescued by fire personnel. The victim, a resident of Saidapet, works in a software firm.

Probe revealed that the techie was under immense stress after a departmental change at his workplace.

At around 9 p.m on Nov. 16, he parked his two-wheeler adjoining the pavement on Kotturpuram Bridge and jumped off the bridge into the river. Motorists who witnessed the incident alerted the police control room. The police personnel, along with fire personnel, arrived at the scene and launched a search operation. They rescued the injured techie who was caught in the sludge. He was moved to the Government Royapettah Hospital, where he is undergoing treatment.

Assistance for those experiencing suicidal thoughts is available through government health helpline -104 and Sneha's suicide prevention helpline 044-24640050.

New primary health centre near Natesan Park nearing completion

By Our Staff Reporter

The construction of a new Urban Primary Health Centre (UPHC) on Radhakrishnan Street (near Natesan Park, T. Nagar) is nearing completion.

According to officials, it will be opened next month.

The centre, built at a cost of Rs. 2.4 crores, replaces the old, dilapidated UPHC that was demolished in August last year. The UPHC has a built-up area of 2,700sqm across two floors.

It will have rooms for the medical officer, a lab technician, a pharmacist, and a dedicated emergency treatment room. The health centre will also include a separate consultation room for TB patients, a head nurse room, waiting area, lift, and other basic amenities.

The UHPC will benefit residents of Sivagnanam Street, Burkit Road, G.N. Chetty Road, Venkatnarayana Road, and neighbouring areas.

Damaged manhole cover replaced after report



By Our Staff Reporter

Following the Letter to the Editor published in *Mambalam Times* (Nov. 16-22 issue) complaining about a sunken manhole at the junction of Ramakrishnapuram 3rd Street and Thambiah Road (West Mambalam), the damaged cover was replaced by workers of Chennai Corporation on Nov. 18.

Public toilet installed outside Jeeva Park



A public toilet, designed with corrugated sheets, has been installed on the pavement outside Jeeva Park (G.N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar).

It has three toilets, one for men, one for women and one for exclusive use of disabled persons.

A ramp has been provided for wheelchair bound users.

Dog trapped in elevated metro track rescued

By Our Staff Reporter

A stray dog that got trapped in the elevated metro track was rescued near Alandur metro station by a team from Blue Cross of India, accompanied by metro rail workers, on Nov. 19. For over a month, metro rail drivers and several passengers had reported sighting a brown colour stray dog alongside the tracks between Ekattuthangal and Alandur stations.

An earlier attempt by a metro rail team to trace and rescue the dog had failed.

At around 11 a.m on Nov. 19, after a driver reported that a brown colour dog was lying next to the tracks near Alandur station, the power was switched off and the dog was rescued by a team from Blue Cross. It suffered injuries in its legs and is undergoing treatment in Blue Cross.

Walls of flyover beautified with murals



By Our Staff Reporter

The walls of G.N. Chetty Road flyover (T. Nagar) are being beautified with colourful murals depicting various patterns, nature and village scenes. This photo was taken on Nov. 20.

Laughter Club celebrates 1st anniversary



By Our Staff Reporter

The Laughter Club (Jeeva Park, T. Nagar) celebrated its 1st anniversary in the morning on Nov. 20 with special programs including a walkathon, health talks and laughter sessions.

Meets are held daily in Jeeva Park from 7 a.m to 8 a.m.

All are welcome to join.

For more details, call 94440 61166.

New building under construction for Circle Library

By Our Staff Reporter

The Ashok Nagar Circle Library (11th Avenue, Ashok Nagar) is being rebuilt by Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority.

A senior official said that the library comes under the 'Muthalvar Padaipagam' scheme, and will include several improvements with modern facilities.

He said that it will have dedicated reading rooms for the general public, child-friendly zones, and separate section for students preparing for competitive exams.



Man imprisoned for 10 years for hurling petrol bombs at Raj Bhavan

Two years after history-sheeter Vinoth (39) (resident of K.K. Nagar) hurled petrol-filled bottles at the Raj Bhavan gate, a special court found him guilty and imposed 10 years rigorous imprisonment and fine of Rs 5,000 on him on Nov. 11. The incident occurred on Oct. 25, 2023.

The NIA had charged Vinoth with hurling two petrol-filled bottles on the Raj Bhavan premises, causing an explosion and damaging government property.

Following a special report filed by the Guindy police, a case was initially registered under the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Explosive Substances Act, and the Tamil Nadu Property (Prevention of Damages and Loss) Act.

Owing to the gravity of the crime, the case was transferred to National Investigation Agency on Nov 10, 2023.

The investigation revealed that Vinoth stole petrol from a motorcycle in SM Nagar in Teynampet, filled it into empty liquor bottles, and walked from Teynampet to Raj Bhavan, and threw the petrol bombs at the gate.

He was caught by the police personnel on duty at Raj Bhawan.

Special kirtans in G.N. Chetty Road Gurdwara today

By Our Staff Reporter

In connection with the 350th death anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib on Sunday, Nov. 23, special kirtans will be held throughout the day at Gurdwara Sahib Shri Guru Nanak Sat Sangh Sabha (127A, G.N. Chetty Road, Gangai Karai Puram, T. Nagar).

Ragi Jatha Bhai Jasbir Singh from Paonta Sahib (Punjab) will perform Gurbani Shahad Kirtan from the Sri Guru Granth Sahib (the holy scriptures of the Sikhs).

Food will be served to all the devotees visiting the Gurudwara.

Nurse steals gold chain from co-worker

Nancy Nisha (Nurse in Government Children's Hospital, Egmore) was arrested for spiking her co-worker's juice and stealing her 4.75 sovereign chain while escorting her back home in an auto rickshaw. The victim, E. Than-gammal (38) (resident of TNHB Quarters, Saidapet), also works as a nurse at the hospital.

On Nov. 15, while at work, Thangammal complained of dizziness and collapsed at work.

Nancy, who lives in the same TNHB Quarters, offered to take her home.

When Thangammal woke up after resting, she realised her gold chain was missing, and she enquired with Nisha and the auto driver.

As both of them claimed innocence, Thangammal filed a complaint at the Saidapet police station.

Following investigation and questioning, Nancy agreed to spiking the victim's drink and stealing her gold chain. She had been remanded in judicial custody.



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Students participate in road safety awareness program

By Our Staff Reporter

Over 100 students and two teachers from Sri Rama-krishna Mission Sarada Vidyalaya School (Burkit Road, T. Nagar) and police personnel participated in a cycle rally held on Nov. 19 to create awareness on road safety and pollution.

It was organised by the traffic wing of R1 Mambalam Police Station in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Chennai Port City.

K. Rama (School Head-mistress), Sub-Inspector Jayan, C. Muthusamy (Chartered President) and other senior members of Rotary Club were present. Jayan spoke on road safety like the importance of wearing helmets and following traffic rules.



Guindy Eco Park offers affordable, quality plants

By Our Staff Reporter

Tamilnadu Horticulture Development Agency (TANHODA) has upgraded the nursery in Guindy Eco Park, offering everything from ornamental saplings and medicinal plants to indigenous species, indoor plants, vegetable seedlings, and other rare varieties.

The centre also sells affordable organic fertilisers, soil mixtures, bio-inputs, seeds and essential gardening tools, making it a one-stop destination for home gardeners.

Officials said that the initiative aims to encourage city dwellers to embrace gardening, promote urban greening, and provide reliable and reasonably priced plant varieties directly to the public. Visitors also receive hands-on guidance from horticulture experts on plant care, home gardening and balcony farming.

To further expand public engagement, the department is planning to launch awareness drives, live demonstrations and special outreach events that can help more households adopt eco-friendly gardening practices.

Its contact numbers are 98400 72385 or 99402 45997.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Appeal for traffic signal at the junction of 4th and 6th Avenue



Sir, There is no traffic signal to regulate motorists at the junction of 4th Avenue and 6th Avenue (Ashok Nagar, near the mosque).

Thousands of students cross the junction daily as there are 5 schools in the vicinity.

Frequent accidents are taking place near the junction as speeding vehicles do not stop for pedestrians waiting to cross the road. Many students who commute by bicycles are also put to risk.

I appeal to traffic police to install signals at both sides of the junction for the safety of pedestrians. **A. S. Thirumalai, 5, Vinayagam Street, West Mambalam Ph: 94442 55509.**

Free Vishnu Sahasranaamam classes for children

By Our Staff Reporter

SRM Nightingale Higher Secondary School (32, Veerasamy Street, West Mambalam) conducts free Vishnu Sahasranaamam classes for students from 5 to 12 years, from 10 a.m to 11 a.m on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays and Sundays of the month.

For registration, call 97908 91850.

Library Week celebrated in PSBB School



By Our Staff Reporter

Padma Seshadri Bala Bhavan School (T. Nagar), celebrated Library Week on Nov. 14. Std. 1 to 8 students participated in activities like book cover designing, storyboards, comic strips, mood boards, mystery story writing, and exploring characters from mythology, quiz and a character parade of popular comical figures from children's literature.

Anita Benett (Writer and motivational speaker) was the Chief Guest.

Heavy duty pumps installed near subways



By Our Staff Reporter

To prevent water inundation in subways after heavy rains, heavy duty diesel pumps have been installed near subways to pump out stagnant water.

Photos shows a pump installed on the service road of Madley Subway (West Mambalam) on Nov. 18.

LPG cylinders kept near transformer



By Our Staff Reporter

10 LPG cylinders are seen stored on the road margin near an overhead EB transformer on Rajamannar Street (near Gopalakrishnan Street junction, T. Nagar).

It is dangerous as a short circuit can lead to a major explosion. This photo was taken on Nov. 20.

Transformer post in Lakshmi Street damaged



By Our Staff Reporter

One of the concrete pillars of the overhead transformer post on Lakshmi Street (opposite Mahalakshmi Flats, West Mambalam) is in a dilapidated condition.

It is cracked in several places and the steel rods have rusted due to exposure.

Nearby residents appeal to Tamilnadu Electricity Board to replace the damaged post early to prevent any untoward incident.

Vedanga Jothidam offers online course on Vedia Astrology

Vedanga Jothidam Saptarishi Centre for Study and Research is conducting an 8-month online course in Vedic Astrology.

Registrations are open till the end of this month.

The classes will be held on Zoom application once a week for 32 weeks on Sundays from 4p.m to 6p.m.

Narayanan Srinivasa Sharma (M.A. in Astrology) with over 22 years of experience in the field will conduct the classes. He has so far trained over 1000 students.

He told *Mambalam Times* that the syllabus is based on old texts. For registration, call 7904588509.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Classified Advertisements under the heads *Accommodation Required, Automotive, Catering, Educational, Home Service, Packers & Movers, Situations Vacant, Etc...* will be published on this page. Each advertisement of Real Estate and Rental must relate to only one premises and its address must be given clearly. **The charges are Rs. 1000 upto 30 words. Display Rs. 320 per col. cm**

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WEST MAMBALAM, Jai Shankar Street, near Ayodhya Mandapam, built-up area 535 sq.ft, UDS 250 sq.ft, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 3rd floor, no lift, pooja room, balcony, 30 years old, price Rs. 37 lakhs. Ph: 98400 55767, 7010560733.

NUNGAMBAKKAM, Mahalingapuram, independent house, land area 40X60, G+1 building, south facing, 30 feet road. Ph: 98849 58743.

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T. NAGAR, new flat, 3 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 1550 sq.ft, 5th floor, lift, north facing, 30 feet road, 1 covered car park, price Rs. 2.80 crores. Ph: 98406 53809.

WEST MAMBALAM, Jaishankar Street, ground floor flat, 500 sq.ft, UDS 320 sq.ft, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 27 years old. Ph: 89396 64405.

WEST MAMBALAM, Thambiah Road, north facing, new flat, 2nd floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 840 sq.ft, UDS 429 sq.ft, covered car park, CCTV, lift. Ph: 94443 80973.

WEST MAMBALAM, Thambiah Road, new flat, 2nd floor, 1.5 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 625 sq.ft, UDS 367 sq.ft, covered car park, CCTV, lift. Ph: 80560 03584.

T. NAGAR, near Bus Stand, 900 sq.ft, well maintained flat, for sale, 1st floor, big hall, dining, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, balcony (facing street), 24 hours water, semi-furnished. Ph: 96771 73262.

T. NAGAR, off. Thanikachalam Road, 2nd floor, no lift, 3 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 1350 sq.ft, UDS 750 sq.ft, price Rs. 1.70 crores (negotiable), open car park. Ph: 80560 65997, 90946 57719.

WEST MAMBALAM, Srinivasa Street, near Ayodhya Mandapam/ Sathya Narayana Temple, ground, 1st floor, 4 bedrooms, 1 big hall, kitchen, balcony, pooja, land area 2436 sq.ft, building area 2200 sq.ft, car park. Ph: 93810 30933.

T. NAGAR, G.N. Chetty Road, near Murugan Idli Kadai, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, car park, 1400 sq.ft, UDS 650 sq.ft, lift, for sale. Ph: 80562 48571.

K.K. NAGAR WEST (Nesapakkam), 1283 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, dining, 2 bathrooms, balcony, 2nd floor, no lift, covered car park, security, south facing, UDS 818 sq.ft, 30 feet road, total 4 flats, price Rs. 87 lakhs. Contact: SV Reality Ph: 98404 42500.

RAMAPURAM (next to K.K. NAGAR), Rayala Nagar 1st Main Road, near SRM/EB Office Road, behind Koil Pillai School, Sai Ram Apartment, 1st floor, newly renovated / painted, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, balcony, 1000 sq.ft, UDS 500 sq.ft, complete wood work, approved patta. Ph: 99419 99191, 98419 27338.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Adikesava Perumal Koil Street, 1015 sq.ft, UDS 671 sq.ft, ground floor, 2.5 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, covered car park, 8 units only, 13 years old, tiles flooring. Ph: 94447 13117.

RENTAL

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 1- B, Kasi Viswanathar Koil Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, bike parking, 800 sq.ft, Brahmins only, rent Rs. 25000, advance 6 months, ready to occupy. After 12th December. Ph: 98848 04760.

T. NAGAR, Lalith Apartment, Mangesh Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2 balconies, 1st floor, 860 sq.ft, vegetarian family only, no lift, no car parking. Ph: 94444 94660.

T. NAGAR, Mannar Street, opp. Bus Terminus, 1st floor, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, dining hall, balcony, 2-wheeler parking, pure vegetarians, rent Rs. 32000. Ph: 97909 83105.

T. NAGAR, Habibullah Road, opp. Karnataka High School, 1300 sq.ft, 3rd floor, lift, covered car park, complete wood work, 5 A/cs, false ceiling. Rent Rs. 40000, Contact: Asokan Ph: 94449 16819.

ASHOK NAGAR, 9th Avenue, 55th Street, near Anjaneyar Temple/ Ashok Pillar/Metro Station & Bus Stand, 2 bedrooms apartment, hall, kitchen, ground floor, bath attached, lift, car park, rent Rs. 27000, 6 months advance. Ph: 90425 52842, 98411 93685.

T. NAGAR, Madley 2nd Street, near Bus Terminus, ground floor flat, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, car & 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 27000 (negotiable). Ph: 98400 89831.

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WEST MAMBALAM, D3, 36, Anand Square, Govindan Road, 475 sq.ft, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, ground floor, rent Rs. 13000, advance Rs. 50000. Ph: 95662 80581.

WEST MAMBALAM, Thambiah Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 3rd floor, no lift, no car park, rent Rs. 19000, Brahmins only. 63809 97622.

WEST MAMBALAM, K.V. Colony 1st Street, Srinath Flats, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, ground floor, 2 wheeler parking, rent Rs. 11500, immediate occupation. Ph: 94455 66188, inspection on Sunday (10 a.m. to 11 a.m.).

WEST MAMBALAM, Thambiah Road, 900 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, car park, rent Rs. 28000, Brahmins only. Ph: 98848 50304.

VADAPALANI, near Metro Station, 1200 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 3 bathrooms, balcony, lift, covered car park, 3rd floor, east facing, open terrace, rent Rs. 30000, advance Rs. 2 lakhs. Contact: S.V. Reality Ph: 98404 42500.

T. NAGAR, Bagirathiammal Street, near PSBB School, 1500 sq.ft, spacious 2 bedrooms, 3 balconies, hall, dining, kitchen, pooja, work area, semi furnished, covered car park, rent Rs. 50000, vegetarians only. Ph: 93603 90145.

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Traffic sign board topples



By Our Staff Reporter

The speed breaker sign board installed on Brindavan Street (near Duraisamy Subway, West Mambalam) has toppled. It has been temporarily rested against the wall of a building.

This photo was taken on Nov. 20.

Tree trunk blocks pavement



By Our Staff Reporter

The main trunk and branches of an axed tree are seen dumped on the pavement on Brindavan Street (West Mambalam, near Housing Board Quarters).

They block the way for pedestrians.

Nearby residents request Chennai Corporation to remove the tree trunk from the pavement.

Four held for possession of narcotic substances

The Anti-Narcotics Intelligence Unit (ANIU) arrested four persons, including a woman, for possessing narcotic substances.

Based on a tip-off, a special ANIU team, in coordination with the police, conducted a surveillance operation on Lakshmanan Street (Nungambakkam) on Nov. 13 and arrested the four suspects identified as Warren Craig Kani (29) of Kelambakkam, Tahira Nihal (26) and Lakshmi Narasimha Rao (27) of Ashok Nagar and Sriram (28) of T. Nagar.

45.5 grams of methamphetamine, 190 grams of OG Ganja and 5 LSD stamps were recovered from them.

They were remanded in judicial custody.

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Secures University 1st Rank in B. Tech



Anand Venkatraman (resident of T. Nagar) was presented gold medal by SRM Institute of Science and Technology (a deemed University) for securing the 1st rank in B. Tech (Biotechnology) in the convocation held on Nov. 15.

He is presently working as a Junior Research Fellow at IIT (Delhi).

He specializes in research projects at IIT for environmental science and ecological development.

Four held for assault

K.K. Nagar police arrested four men on charge of assaulting two individuals following a quarrel that broke out after their two-wheelers collided on the evening on Nov. 8. The accused were identified as Vijay (21) and Dhanush (21) of MGR Nagar, and Bharath (20) and Kasi (21) of Jaffer-khanpet. Police said that Hemachandran (22) of Nesa-pakkam was riding his two-wheeler with his friend on the pillion along R.K. Shanmugam Road (K.K. Nagar), when Dhanush hit their vehicle from behind. This led to an argument, following which Dhanush called his friends and assaulted them with iron rods.

Hemachandran suffered severe injuries and is undergoing treatment in Government Royapettah Hospital.

Library week programs scaled back due to renovation work

By Our Staff Reporter

Due to ongoing renovation of several government libraries, the annual library week celebrations across Chennai held from Nov. 14 to 21 were significantly scaled back across the 18 full-time libraries.

Some of the key institutions that were unable to hold any major events due to space constraints caused by the construction were Ashok Nagar, Anna Nagar, Gandhi Nagar and the recently re-opened Periyar Nagar public libraries.

The week from November 14 to 21 is traditionally marked by a slew of activities including book fairs, reading sessions, membership drives and speeches by prominent figures in honour of the father of library science, S.R. Ranganathan. The costs for these events are borne by the Directorate of



Public Libraries.

Authorities stated that the majority of the renovation work is complete and that about ninety percent of the affected libraries are expected to resume operations by early next year.

Sewage lifting station constructed at road junction



A sewage lifting station has been constructed at the junction of Rajamannar Street and Jagadambal Street (T. Nagar) to address the frequent problem of blockages in the underground sewage network in the area.

It is connected to the pumping station on Dr. Nair Road (T. Nagar).

Jeenis Road encroached by hawkers

Hawkers and unregulated parking of vehicles have made Jeenis Road (Saidapet) too narrow, forcing pedestrians onto the road and making it impossible for vehicles to manoeuvre.

The 800 meters stretch branching from Anna Salai near Panagal Maligai is the access road to a government hospital, a vegetable market, post office, and Saidapet suburban railway station. But hawkers have encroached both sides of the road, leaving little space for vehicle movement. A resident said that the stretch between Alandur Road and Jones Subway is dotted with roadside shops along the railway compound and there is a Tasmac shop on the stretch.

"Visitors to these shops and the Tasmac outlet park their two-wheelers haphazardly, slowing down traffic", he said.

S. Venkatesh (Zonal Officer, Kodambakkam) said that the encroachments have been enumerated and a drive to clear them will begin soon.

Special programs for Disability Day in BVS Murthy Centre

By Our Staff Reporter

BVS Murthy Centre for Special Children (12, Thambiah Road, West Mambalam), a wing of Public Health Centre (Lake View Road, West Mambalam), has been offering free special education and other services to differently abled children for the past four decades.

It will be holding special programs on Dec. 3 to celebrate World Disability Day.

A senior Special Educator told *Mambalam Times* that BVS Murthy Centre has played a vital role in supporting children with intellectual disabilities, autism, down syndrome and other such learning difficulties through a structured special education system designed to enhance the overall development of each child.

He said that the key benefits include Individualised Education Plans (IEP) customised to a child's abilities and needs, enhanced communication, social, and behavioural skills, support

in developing daily living skills such as toileting, self-care, and routine management.

The academic training includes preparation for the NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling) examinations.

Regular parent counselling sessions are conducted to offer guidance on behaviour, learning, and emotional development.

The Centre and extends assistance in availing government benefits and entitlements for children with disabilities.

For more details, contact 044-24850211.

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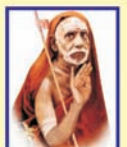
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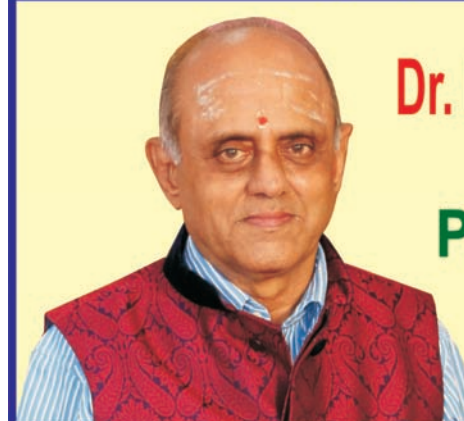
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