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MAMBALAM TIMES

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Anomalies in voter list deletions

K. S. Ramakrishnan

Tamilnadu's population had increased from 6.24 crores in 2003 to 8.53 crores in 2025 - by as much as 2.29 crores or nearly 37%.

Is it not an anomaly that, between the Special Intensive Revisions of 2003 and 2025 (after adjustments during the voluntary Annual Summary Revisions), the number of eligible voters in the State had decreased by as many as 97.30 lakhs or by 15.9%?

The anomaly is even more glaring in the case of Chennai city constituencies where the total number in the voter lists has decreased from the pre-SIR 40 lakhs to 25.7 lakhs, or by nearly 36%.

The anomaly arises from the fact that the SIR exercise was limited to the door-to-door verification of the continued presence, booth-wise, of the voters in the 2003 list in the same addresses in which they had been living in 2003 (or at the time of the subsequent annual summary revisions).

While this exercise resulted in the mandatory deletion from the 2003-based voter list of the names of those who had either died (26.9 lakhs) or had moved out of the earlier addresses (66.4 lakhs), there was no corresponding mandatory addition to the list of the names of those who had either attained the voting age of 18, or those who had moved into the same addresses in the interim period.

If the latter had also been done simultaneously, the number of voters who had shifted out of a booth area in Chennai constituencies would perhaps have been more than offset by the number of those who had shifted into the same booth area. Also, the number of voters who had died would probably have been more than offset by the numbers of those who had attained the voting age of 18 during the interim years. And these should have resulted in a substantial increase the number of eligible voters in the city constituencies, and not a reduction of 36%.

For instance, it is common knowledge that, within T.Nagar constituency, a large number of independent bungalows which were housing just one family each, have been converted during this period into multistoreyed apartments accommodating 6 to 8 families each.

Assuming that the average number of eligible adult voters in a family is 2, the

number of eligible adult voters in each of those street door numbers must have increased from a mere 2 in 2003 to as many as 12 or 16 now.

In an ideal situation, the exclusion of names from their former residences in Tamilnadu and their simultaneous inclusion in their new residences in Tamilnadu would have been equal, and there would be no net change in the number of voters.

The SIR exercise, on the contrary, has recorded only the outward migration of the 2 voters from a street door number, ignoring the inward migration of 12 or 16 of eligible voters into the same street door number. The simultaneous deletion of the 12 or 16 names of these migrants from the voter lists relating to their earlier residences has contributed to the overall reduction of 66.4 lakhs voters in the whole State, and 85,744 in T. Nagar constituency attributable to the shifting of residences.

The Election Commission has clarified that what has been published now are only the draft voter list for each booth, and eligible voters can still get their names added to the list by following the prescribed procedures.

If you are an excluded person who had attained the age of 18 or more on January 1, 2026 and if this is the first time you seek to enrol in the voter list, you must fill and submit Form 6 together with the prescribed supporting documents to the Corporation authorities.

If your name had earlier been included in a voter visit either in the same constituency or in a different constituency but had been deleted because you had shifted your place of residence, you must fill and submit Form 8.

These forms can either be downloaded from www.elections.tn.gov.in, or can be got at the special centers organised by the Corporation during weekends in the respective polling booths.

If you are computer-savvy you can even fill and submit the form online.

The supporting documents required are, basically, your passport photo and your Aadhar card, or any other documents to prove your age and address.

The time limit prescribed for the submission of these forms is Feb. 10, 2026 after which the final electoral roll will be published.

The Corporation is conducting special camps during weekends to help you in submitting these forms. The Booth Level Agents of political parties should also actively assist the left-out voters in this exercise.

If all eligible voters in T. Nagar constituency follow these steps, the final electoral roll for the constituency will show a sizeable increase from the earlier number of 2.32 lakhs and not a decrease of 96,000 (including deaths and shifts).

If a substantial number of eligible voters are still left out of the final roll, it would be due to the flawed design of the SIR exercise in which deletions were made compulsory while additions were

made optional.

(In Bihar, because of a similar flawed exercise, the final electoral roll (even after the submission of Form 6 and Form 8) had registered a decrease of 65 lakhs even though the State's population had increased by 3.6 crores from 9.5 crores in 2005 to 13.1 crores in 2025.)

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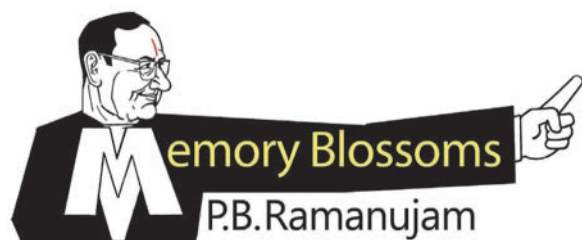
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A Super Power Above Us

Dr. Krishnan was introduced to me by N. R. Chandran, former Advocate General of Tamilnadu, with a request to help him in a property matter.

During my interactions with him in the subsequent months, Dr. Krishnan shared a number of stories about himself which I still remember. Here is his story in his own words.

"I was a popular student of Pachaiyappa's College and had been elected as leader of the Students' Union. I was an atheist and was attracted by the Communist ideology. I had even been a member of the Communist Party for some time.

I have a daughter who had been married and settled down in UK. Five years back she had to undergo a major surgery there. A few days before the surgery she telephoned me and requested me to make a trip to Thirupathi and pray to Balaji for her safe and successful surgery.

Her request put me in a dilemma because going to a temple and praying to God were against my principles. But, because of my affection for my daughter, I decided to forego my principles and therefore went to Thirupathi.

After standing in the queue for nearly 4 hours I reached near the main sannadhi when I witnessed a loud quarrel between the TTD volunteers and the devotees, in which both sides indulged in vulgar swear words against each other. I got disgusted at the scene and decided that, if really Balaji was a God present in the premises, he would not have allowed such despicable behaviour within his own precincts. The atheist in me resurfaced and, in sheer disgust, I left the scene without the darshan of Balaji and returned to Chennai.

In Chennai I was running a clinic in Alwarpet. My son, who is an eye specialist having his clinic in Mylapore, would usually drop me at 5.30 p.m in my clinic before proceeding to Mylapore. I would close my clinic at 8.30 p.m and return home by cycle rickshaw. I was a regular customer of Mani who would pedal the rickshaw.

I had closed my clinic for 3 days because of my Thirupathi trip. On the fourth day I was dropped by my son at my clinic as usual. After attending to my patients I closed my clinic at 8.30 and came outside where Mani was waiting for me.

He asked me whether I had a good darshan of Balaji. I told him what had happened near the sannadhi and why I returned in disgust without the darshan because of the unruly behaviour of the devotees and the Devasthanam staff.

Mani told me, "You did a mistake Ayya. Your purpose in going to Thirupathi was to have darshan and pray to Balaji for the successful surgery of your daughter. Why did you bother about anything else happening there? Suppose I fall ill and come to your clinic and wait to see you sitting on the bench outside your room. Suppose I see a ill-reputed woman too waiting like me to consult you. Should I come away thinking that I would not see a doctor who treats even such a ill-reputed woman? If I do so, who is the loser, you or me?"

I was convinced by the native wisdom of the rickshaw driver and realised my grave mistake. I gave him that evening's entire collection of Rs. 600 for having opened my eyes.

Next day one of my friends advised me to go to Guruvayoor, do angapradakshanam and pray to the deity there for my daughter's successful surgery, and I decided to do so.

I visited my friend Dr. R. S. Rajagopalan, well-known cardiologist, before leaving for Guruvayoor.

Dr. RSR tried to discourage me from making the trip saying that my heart was functioning with just 30% efficiency and it was risky to go to Guruvayoor and do angapradakshanam there. As I insisted on going, he said, "Ok, you go this time but take care. Today is 25th of this month. You come and meet me on the 25th of next month", adding jocularly, "if you are still alive", and added, "I will teach you some exercises which will improve your heart's health. I myself do these exercises regularly".

I took leave of him and left for Guruvayoor. I was much impressed by the discipline in that temple where, in spite of the big crowd, everyone could have darshan of the deity in the same manner irrespective of one's status and without distinction between the rich and the poor. I also did angapradakshanam around the sannadhi and returned to Chennai.

My daughter underwent a successful surgery in London in the following week.

On the 25th of the succeeding month I recalled what Dr. RSR had told me and went to his clinic at 10 o'clock in the morning. There, to my shock, I was told that Dr. RSR had died the previous day, the 24th, of cardiac arrest.

I realised the irony in his statement "You meet me on next 25th if you are still alive".

Dr. Krishnan concluded, "This event convinced me that there is a super power above us that determines what happens to us".

(To be continued) pbrassociates@yahoo.com



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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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Special poojas for New Year in Madley Road temple

By Our Staff Reporter

In connection with New Year, special poojas will be performed from 7 a.m to 9 p.m on Thursday, Jan.1 in Korikkai Sai Baba Temple (Madley Road, T. Nagar).

The following are details:

7.30 a.m: Aarathi; 8.30 a.m: Special poojai; 10.30 a.m: Vishnu Sahasranaamam chanting; 12 noon: Aarathi; 12.30 p.m; Annadhaanam; 4 p.m: Abhishekam and padha poojai; 5 p.m: Bhajans; 8 p.m: Aarathi.

All are welcome.

One held, 3 absconding in college seat scam

By Our Staff Reporter

A 41-year-old woman was arrested for cheating a man (resident of K.K. Nagar) of Rs. 42 lakhs by promising to get his son admission in a veterinary college.

Three others accused in the case are absconding.

Police said that A. Anthony Amirtharaj (51) of Ashok Nagar was introduced to Chinnathurai, Lakshmi Priya, Arun, and Manjunatha through a common friend.

They claimed that they could arrange a seat for his son in a veterinary college. Believing them, Amirtharaj paid them Rs. 42 lakhs in three instalments.

When they failed to get his son admission and he demanded his money back, the accused refused to pay and threatened him of dire consequences,

Based on Anthony's complaint, K.K. Nagar police conducted investigation and arrested Lakshmi Priya (45).

Efforts are underway to trace the remaining accused.

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Five held for selling meth

K.K. Nagar police arrested five persons on Dec. 23 in K.K. Nagar on charge of selling methamphetamine tablets.

7.04 gms of methamphetamine, five mobile phones, and two 2-wheelers were seized from them.

Based on a tip-off, a police team conducted surveillance on Dec. 23 near the RTO Ground on Munusamy Road (K.K. Nagar) and arrested the accused.

They were identified as Aravind (21) of Saligramam, Mugilan (2) of Kodambakkam, Christopher (19) of Ashok Nagar, Gunachandran (21) of Kodambakkam, and Manoj (19) of Ashok Nagar.



மயக்கமா.... கலக்கமா.... இது Vertigoவா?

'ஒரே மயக்கமா இருக்குதுங்க' என்றபடி எதிரில் அமர்ந்த ஐம்பது வயது மதிக்கத்தக்க பெண்மணியைப் பார்த்தேன்.

'தலை சுத்துதா, இல்லே சுற்றி உள்ள எல்லாம் சுற்றுவதைப் போலத் தோன்றுகிறதா?' இது நான்.

'சுத்தி ஒண்ணும் சுத்தலை. தலைதான் சுத்துது'. (முதுகு தெரியுமா?) என்று என்.எஸ். கிருஷ்ணன் மதுரத்தை ஒரு படத்தில் கேட்பார். நான் கேட்கவில்லை.)

வழக்கமான பி.பி செக் அப், காது, தொண்டை, கண்கள், இதயம் என்று கிளினிகல் சோதனைகளுக்குப் பிறகு சில டெஸ்டுகள் எழுதிக்கொடுத்து அனுப்பினேன்.

பொதுவாக 'தலை சுற்றுகிறது, மயக்கமாக இருக்கிறது, கண்கள் இருட்டிக் கொண்டு வருகிறது, உடம்பு 'ஸ்டெடி' யாக இல்லாமல் ஆடுவது போல் உள்ளது, தரை கீழே போவதுபோல் உள்ளது, கண்களைத் திறந்தால் கட்டடமே சுழல்வதைப் போல உள்ளது' இவற்றில் ஏதாவது ஒரு குறைபாட்டுடன் - நோய் அறிகுறியுடன் - சுமார் 20% புற நோயாளிகள் பிரிவில் அன்றாடம் வருகிறார்கள் என்கிறது ஒரு மருத்துவக் குறிப்பு. இந்த மயக்கம் என்பதும், Vertigo என்பதும் ஒன்றுதானா அல்லது வேறு வேறானவையாக இருக்கலாம்.

சாதாரணமாக வரும் மயக்கம், கண்களை இருட்டிக்கொண்டு வருதல் (Dizziness) போன்றவை 'வெர்டிகோ' அல்ல. பசி மயக்கம் முதல், மன இறுக்கம் வரை இதற்குப் பல காரணங்கள் உள்ளன.

வெர்டிகோ என்பது சுற்றி இருக்கும் கட்டடங்கள், பொருட்கள் எல்லாம் சுற்றுவதைப் போலத் தோன்றும் ஒரு மனநிலை. தலையோ, உடம்போ ஆடாதபோதும் அவை முன்னும், பின்னும் அசைவதைப் போன்ற பிரமை என்ற உணர்வுதான் வெர்டிகோ எனப்படுகிறது. அது ஒரு வியாதியின் அறிகுறியான தவிர வெர்டிகோ என்பதே வியாதியல்ல. சில சமயங்களில் வெர்டிகோவுடன் வாந்தி, காதிஸ் இரைச்சல், காது கேளாமை போன்றவையும் உடன் இருக்கலாம்.

மூளைக்கு வெளியே ஏற்படும் காரணங்களால் வரும் வெர்டிகோ, மூளையில் (முகுளம் எனப்படும் 'Brainstem') ஏற்படும் காரணங்களால் வரும் வெர்டிகோ என இரண்டு வகை வெர்டிகோ சொல்லப்படுகின்றன. உட்செவியில் உள்ள 'லேபிரிந்த்' (Labyrinth) நமது சம நிலைக்கும், நமது கேட்கும் திறனுக்கும் அவசியமானவை. இவை உட்செவியிலிருந்து மூளையின் கீழ்ப் பகுதியான முகுளத்தின் மூலம், மூளையுடன் இணைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. உட்செவியிலோ அல்லது முகுளத்திலோ (சில சமயங்களில் சிறுமூளை பாதிப்பும்) ஏற்படும் குறைபாடுகள்: அழற்சி, நோய்த் தொற்று, இரத்த ஓட்டக் குறைபாடு போன்றவை நமது சமநிலையையும், கேட்கும் திறனையும் பாதிக்கக்கூடும். அதன் அறிகுறியாக வருவதுதான் 'வெர்டிகோ'.

மிகவும் அச்சத்தை ஏற்படுத்தக்கூடியது வெர்டிகோ! ஆனாலும் நமது மூளை, கண் பார்வை மற்றும் இணைப்புகள் மூலம் தானாகவே கட்டுக்குள் வரக்கூடியதுதான் வெர்டிகோ என்பதாலும், காரணத்தை அறிந்து அவற்றுக்கு சிகிச்சை அளிப்பதால் தீர்க்கப்படக் கூடியதுதான் என்பதாலும், அச்சப்படத் தேவையில்லை என்பது நல்ல செய்தி! பொதுவாக 80% வெர்டிகோ, உட்செவியின் குறைபாடுகளாலும், சில மருந்துகளினாலும் வரக்கூடியது. மற்ற 20% முகுளத்தின் இரத்த ஓட்டக் குறைபாடுகள், முகுளத்தை அழுத்தும் வகைக் கட்டிகள் போன்றவற்றால் வரக்கூடியவை. இவை தவிர ஒற்றைத் தலைவலி (migraine), சில வகை வலிப்பு நோய்களால் வெர்டிகோ வரக்கூடும்!

பொதுவாகவே தலை அசைவு, சுழுத்தசைவு, படுக்கையில் புரண்டு படுத்தல். கைகளைத் தலைக்குமேல் உயர்த்துதல், தலையைப் பின்பக்கமாக சாய்த்தல் (கொடியில் துணிகளை உலர்த்த, அலமாரியின் மேல் தட்டிலிருந்து பொருட்களை எடுத்தல்) போன்றவற்றால் வெர்டிகோ வரக்கூடும். இவை வெர்டிகோவின் Triggers 'தூண்டும் காரணிகள்'.

சிலருக்குப் படுத்த நிலையிலிருந்து அல்லது உட்கார்ந்த நிலையிலிருந்து, எழுந்து நிற்கும் போதுகூட வெர்டிகோ (Postural vertigo) வரக்கூடும்.

சில இதய நோய்களாலும் இந்த மாதிரியான மயக்கங்கள், வெர்டிகோ வரக்கூடும். கவனம் தேவை.

அதிகமாக உணவில் உப்பு சேர்த்துக் கொள்ளுதல் (மீனியர்ஸ் நோய்), மன இறுக்கம், தூக்கமின்மை, சில உணவுப் பொருட்கள், மது அருந்துதல், நீண்ட நேரம் நின்றுகொண்டிருப்பது, கப்பல், விமானப் பயணங்கள் (சிலருக்கு) போன்றவைகளாலும் வெர்டிகோ தூண்டப்படலாம்.

வெர்டிகோ உள்ளவர்களின் சர்க்கரை அளவு, கொழுப்பு (கொலஸ்ட்ரால்) அளவு மற்றும் தைராய்டு ஹார்மோன் அளவு ஆகியவற்றைப் பரிசோதனைகள் மூலம் தெரிந்து கொள்வது அவசியம். காது, தொண்டை, மூக்கு சிறப்பு மருத்துவரின் ஆலோசனையின் பேரில் 'கலோரிக்' டெஸ்ட், Bera என்கிற முகுளம் சார்ந்த மின் அலை டெஸ்ட், ஆடியோ கிராம் மற்றும் உட்செவிக்கான ஸ்கேன் போன்றவை தேவைப்படலாம். மூளை, முகுளம் சம்பந்தமான வெர்டிகோவிற்கு சி.டி ஸ்கேன், எம்.ஆர்.ஐ ஸ்கேன் போன்றவை; சில கட்டிகள் (C.P Angle tumours) ஸ்ட்ரோக், மல்டிபிள் ஸ்க்ளிரோசிஸ் போன்ற வியாதிகளைக் கண்டறிய உதவும்.

வெர்டிகோவிற்கான காரணத்தைக் கண்டறிந்து சிகிச்சை அளிப்பது மிகவும் அவசியம். உடனடி நிவாரணத்திற்கு சில மருந்துகள் (Antihistamines, Benzodiazepines, Antiemetics) மருத்துவ ஆலோசனையின் பேரில் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளலாம். மருத்துவ ஆலோசனை இல்லாமல் நீண்ட காலத்திற்கு இந்த மருந்துகளை எடுத்துக் கொள்வது பார்க்கின்றசோனிடம் போன்ற பக்க விளைவுகளை ஏற்படுத்தும். மிக்க கவனம் தேவை. சிலருக்கு உட்செவி சம்பந்தமான அறுவை சிகிச்சை தேவைப்படலாம். மூளை சம்பந்தமான வெர்டிகோவிற்கு அதன் காரணத்தை அறிந்து அதற்கேற்றாற்போல் சிகிச்சை எடுத்துக் கொள்ள வேண்டும்.

நீண்ட கால வெர்டிகோவிற்கு சில இயன்முறைப் பயிற்சிகள் செய்யலாம். (Vestibular Rehabilitation Therapy) உட்செவி புனரமைப்புப் பயிற்சிகள் வெர்டிகோவிலிருந்து விடு தலை பெற உதவக்கூடும். இவையும் மருத்துவ ஆலோசனையின் பேரிலேயே எடுத்துக் கொள்ள வேண்டும். வேறு சில காரணங்களுடன் கூடிய வெர்டிகோ இந்த பயிற்சிகளுக்கு அடங்குவதில்லை!

மேலே குறிப்பிட்ட பெண்மணிக்கு வந்தது கழுத்தில் எலும்புகளின் தேய்மானத்தால் வந்த மயக்கம் (Dizziness)தான். கொஞ்சம் பிளியோதெரபி, சில மருந்துகளால் சரியாகிவிட்ட சின்ன பிரச்சனைதான். அது வெர்டிகோ அல்ல.

எப்படியிருந்தாலும் வெர்டிகோ தானாகவே சரியாகிவிடக் கூடிய வாய்ப்புகள் இருப்பதாலும், அதற்கு உரிய சிகிச்சைகள் உள்ளதாலும், வெர்டிகோ குறிந்த அச்சமும், மயக்கமும், கலக்கமும் தேவையில்லை!



Anjaneya Utsavam in Sripadaraja Mutt today evening

In connection with marghazi, the Bhajanai Mahotsavam organised by Mambalam Seva Trust in Sri Sripadaraja Mutt (9, Vivekanandapuram Street, West Mambalam) from Dec.24, concludes on Sunday, Dec.28.

Sastha Kalyana will be performed by Nagai Sundararajan Bhagavathar at 8 a.m and Anjaneya utsavam by Varagur Ravi Bhagavathar Bhajana Mandali at 6 p.m.

All are welcome. For more details, call 98419 70775, 99628 84355, 86376 05100.

Special poojas in Srimath Ramanujas on Tuesday

On account of Vaikunda Ekadasi, Garudapuram Srimath Ramanujas (Giri Street, West Mambalam, Ph: 98415 02313) has organised special poojas and alangaaram to deities Hanuman and Sri Ramar on Tuesday, Dec.30.

All are welcome.

The Editor & staff of Mambalam Times wish you a Happy New Year!

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Renovated Victoria Hall opened to public



By Our Staff Reporter

The renovated Victoria Public Hall has been opened to the public from Dec. 26.

One can visit between 8.30 a.m to 6.30 p.m after registering in advance at the Chennai Corporation website <https://chennaicorporation.gov.in/gcc/>.

A maximum of 60 persons are allowed during each 90-minute interval.

Built in 1887 to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee, the iconic hall has been transformed into a public cultural space featuring a museum and an art gallery.

The ground-floor exhibition chronicles the hall's benefactors, architects, and contractors, as well as the prominent leaders who spoke there. It also features a visual depiction of the rise of the Justice Party, the evolution of theatre and cinema, and the city's sporting history.

The outdoor area includes a tram and an archaeological display.

Visitors can also enjoy 'Old Chennai' themed selfie points, featuring a rickshaw, an old scooter, and a boat on the Buckingham Canal.

Portion of Sambasivam Street caves in



By Our Staff Reporter

A 20-foot stretch of Sambasivam Street (T. Nagar) caved in on Dec. 24.

To caution road users and to prevent any untoward incident, the stretch has been barricaded.

The crater has been temporarily covered by debris.

A Corporation official told *Mambalam Times* that the damaged stretch will be repaired soon.

This photo was taken on Dec.25.

Parking project takes shape in T. Nagar



By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Corporation on Dec. 23 called for tenders to appoint a contractor to create 2,954 marked parking bays across a 35.43km road network in T. Nagar.

Of these, 1,890 slots will be demarcated on avenue roads and the remaining on the main roads in T. Nagar and West Mambalam.

The paid parking system will operate for 14 hours a day, starting from 6 a.m.

Corporation also plans to give a push to the multi-level parking lot near Pondy Bazaar that can accommodate 222 cars and more than 450 bikes. The facility is being underutilized since its launch 5 years back.

A new contractor will also be appointed to run the multi-level parking facility.

Christmas cribs installed in neighbourhood churches



By Our Staff Reporter

Big Christmas cribs have been installed in neighbourhood churches including Holy Cross Church (South Boag Road, T. Nagar), Arputhanathar Church (Govindan Road, West Mambalam) and St. Mathias Church (Kamarajar Salai, Ashok Nagar)

They will be on display till Jan. 1.

There are special exhibits of art objects in the cribs representing the birth of Jesus.



50 women take part in 'Pickleball in Saree' event



In view of 'World Saree Day', a free 'Pickleball in Saree' event was organised on Dec. 21 in Pickleball Point (Ashok Nagar).

Around 50 women of all age groups, attired in attractive sarees, participated in the event. It was hosted by Poornima Kumar and her husband Surendra Kumar at their residence in 19, 54th Street, Ashok Nagar, where they have converted a portion of their garden into a pickleball court.

Women arrived draped in saris, paddles in hand, and the overwhelming turnout took us by surprise. Surendra said.

For more details, call or send WhatsApp message to 99410 18210.

Vishnu Sahasranaama mahotsavam concludes today

By Our Staff Reporter

Vishnu Sahasranaama mahotsavam going on since Dec. 21 in Krishnaswamy Kalyana Mandapam (62, South Boag Road, T. Nagar), will conclude on Sunday, Dec. 28.

It has been organised by Visva Vishnu Sahasranaama Samasthan (VIS VAS).

Following are the details:

Vishnu Sahasranaamam chanting from 6.30 a.m to 9.30 a.m, and from 6 p.m to 8.15 p.m.

Naamasankeerthanam from 10 a.m to 1 p.m and from 1.30 p.m to 5 p.m.

1 p.m to 1.30 p.m: Debates and quiz. All are welcome.

For more details, call 97909 25804.

Vishnu Sahasranaama paaraayanam held daily

By Our Staff Reporter

In connection with Marghazhi, Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal Vishnu Sahasranaama Mandali (West Mambalam) is conducting Vishnu Sahasranaama paaraayanam at 6.30 p.m daily in Venkatesa Perumal Devasthanam (School Road, Mettupalayam, West Mambalam).

It will conclude on Jan. 15.

All are welcome.

For more details, call 98412 94449.

25 women attend chocolate making workshop

By Our Staff Reporter

25 women participated in the free Chocolate Making workshop organised on Dec. 20 in Jothi Madhar Sangam (Sukalayam, 70/44, Burkit Road, T. Nagar)

L. C. Manju and her daughter Rithika conducted the workshop and demonstrated simple and practical methods of making chocolates.

Jothi Madhar Sangam has been organising free job-oriented vocational programs for women for the past several years. Its contact number is 98411 58018.

Free bhajan, naama sankeerthanam classes

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam conducts free Bhajan and Naamasankeerthanam classes daily in Dr. Dorairaj Sadan, 12, Thanikachalam Road, T. Nagar.

It is open to all age groups.

For more details, call 98400 15908, 80561 96410.

Tree stump blocks carriageway



By Our Staff Reporter

The stump of a dead tree with its roots is seen lying on the road margin of Dr. B. Narasimhan 2nd Street (North Boag Road, T. Nagar near Kanthimathi Kalyana Mandapam).

A nearby resident said that the stump has been lying at the spot for the past several months.

He appeals to Chennai Corporation to remove it from the spot. This photo was taken on Dec.24.

Nithyashree's concert today evening in Hindu Vidyalaya

By Our Staff Reporter

Rasika Fine Arts has organised its 22nd Annual Carnatic Music Festival in J.G. Hindu Vidyalaya (83, Lake View Road, West Mambalam).

It will conclude on Thursday, Jan. 1.

On the inaugural day on Jan. 21, the Rasika Kala Nipuna birudhu was conferred on mridangam vidwan T.K. Murthy and the Rasika Kala Bharathi birudhu will be conferred on violinist Avasarala Kanyakumari.

Leading musicians will present concerts daily at 6.30 p.m.

Upcoming musicians will present concerts at 4 p.m.

Following are the details of the concerts at 6.30 p.m:

Sunday, Dec. 28: Vocal concert by Nithyashree Mahadevan, accompanied by M.A. Krishnaswamy (violin), Tanjavur Murugabhupathi (mridangam) and A.S. Krishnan (morsing)

Monday, Dec. 29: Vocal duet by Vijayalakshmi & Geeta (Mambalam Sisters), accompanied by Hemalatha (violin), Ganapathyraman (mridangam) and D. Rajagopal (kanjira).

Tuesday, Dec. 30: Violin duet by Lalgudi GJR Krishnan and Lalgudi Vijayalakshmi, accompanied by Raja Rao (mridangam) and Radhakrishnan (ghatam).

Wednesday, Dec. 31: Vocal concert by Prince Rama Varma, accompanied by S.R. Vinu (violin), B. Harikumar (mridangam), S. Karthick (ghatam) and Payyanur Govindprasad (morsing).

Thursday, Jan. 1: Tamil drama on the life of Saint Thyagaraja by TV Varadharajan and Group.

Entrance is free. All are welcome.

Devotional programs in Samiyar Garden temple till Jan. 3

By Our Staff Reporter

In connection with Marghazhi, there will be special poojas and concerts daily at 6.30 p.m till Saturday, Jan. 3 in Karumari Thiripurasundari Temple (Samiyar Garden, 7th Avenue, Ashok Nagar).

The following are the program details:

Sunday, Dec.28: Devotional concert by V.R Music Troupe

Monday, Dec.29: Devotional songs by Sabareeswari and Niranjana

Tuesday, Dec.30: Devaram by Sadhasivam Sathsangam

Wednesday, Dec.31: Mukha Pancha Sathi by Sarvapriya

Women's Group

Thursday, Jan.1: Maha Periyavaa sathsangam

Friday, Jan.2: Keyboard concert by Sri Varun

Saturday, Jan.3: Devi Mahatyam by Gurucharan group.

All are welcome.

Satyanarayana poojai in Sai Seva Samaj on Friday

By Our Staff Reporter

Satyanarayana poojai will be performed at 6.30 p.m on Friday, Jan.2 in Shri Shirdi Sai Seva Samaj (21, Jai Shankar Street, West Mambalam).

All are welcome.

For more details, call 84282 42842 or 93428 50974 or 72004 33455.

Walkathon held to spread awareness on diabetic retinopathy



By Our Staff Reporter

Radhatri Nethralaya (12, Hindi Prachar Sabha Street, T. Nagar) launched its annual Project RADAR (Radhatri Nethralaya Diabetic Retinopathy Project) in association with Rotary Club of Chennai Towers on Dec.21.

A walkathon to spread awareness about diabetic retinopathy was organised at Besant Nagar beach in which more than 400 persons including students, doctors, Rotarians and women auto drivers participated.

For more details about diabetic retinopathy, contact Radhatri Nethralaya in 94454 38681.

Street music entertains shoppers



By Our Staff Reporter

To mark the festive season and enthrall shoppers, cine music performances are being held in the evenings on Pedestrian Plaza (Thyagaraya Road, Pondy Bazaar, T. Nagar).

This photo taken on Dec. 25 shows a number of shoppers watching a performance by a music troupe opposite Palam Silks in Pondy Bazaar.

Offers free Vishnu Sahasranaamam classes



By Our Staff Reporter

Visva Vishnu Sahasranaamam Samasthan (VISVAS) conducts free online and offline sahasranaamam classes.

It will start the next batch soon at different venues in the city including T. Nagar.

Last week, 50 students completed a 6-day course held in Kanthimathi Kalyana Mandapam (T. Nagar).

To enrol in the next batch, contact VISVAS in 89460 51082 or visit www.visvasvsn.org.

Elevated board outside construction site poses danger



A project name board fixed outside a construction site on Chakrapani Street (near Railway Border Road, West Mambalam) poses danger as it can fall at any time.

The name board, fastened to two 20-foot-long Casuarinas poles, is tied to a branch of the tree on one end and overhead broadband cables on the other end.

This photo was taken on Dec.25.

Special offers on holiday packages by Thomas Cook

By Our Staff Reporter

The 'Grand Holiday Carnival' by Thomas Cook India (Arihant VTN Square, 58, G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar, opposite Hotel Accord Metropolitan, near Vani Mahal junction) concludes on Sunday, Dec. 28.

During the carnival from 10 a.m to 6 p.m, special discounts will be offered for holiday tours to destinations in Asia, Europe and Australia, and customers can avail special benefits like HDFC Bank's promotional discount, American Tourister's travel trolley, and reward points that can be redeemed in the next travel.

For more details, contact Jitendra (Manager) in 90032 21111.

Thirukalyanam in Gandhimadhi Marriage Hall today

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Agri Kannan Guruswamy, special poojas and Sastha Thirukalyanam will be performed by V.S. Sivasubramanian Bhagavathar from 8 a.m to 3 p.m on Sunday, Dec.28 in Gandhimadhi Marriage Hall (11B, 2nd Street, North Boag Road, T. Nagar).

All are welcome.

For more details, call 98403 05141 or 97898 25596.

Interactive session held in Shiva Yoga Center

By Our Staff Reporter

Yoga master Walter Ruta from Italy (disciple of Sachidananda Swamy) and his students visited Shiva Yoga Center (4th Avenue, Ashok Nagar) last week.

They held an interactive session with the students and yoga masters of Shiva Yoga Center fostering cross-cultural exchange and global connection through yoga.

For more details, call 95000 26998.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Appeal to remove cable drum

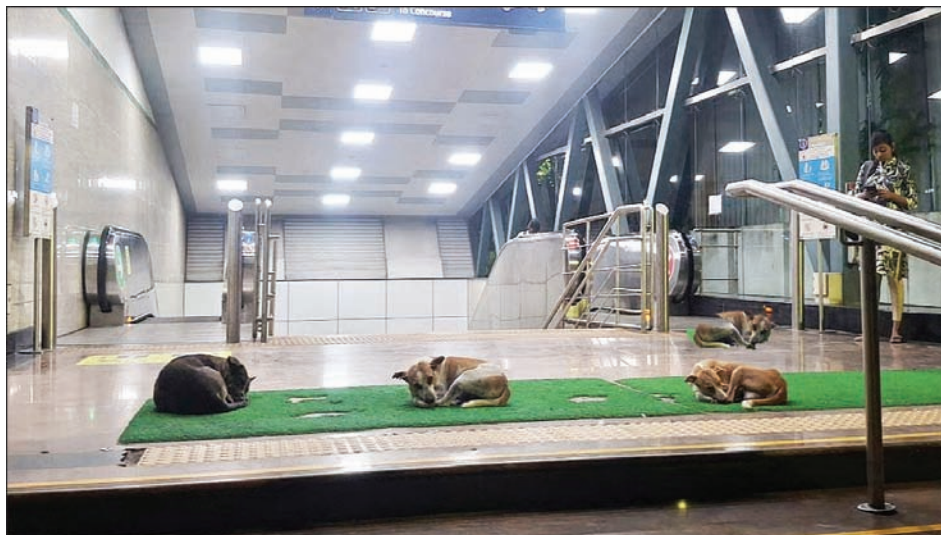
Sir, A heap of debris and an empty cable drum are lying abandoned next to the overhead EB transformer on Habibullah Road (near Kodambakkam Station, T. Nagar) for the past several months.

The spot has been converted into an open urinal by passersby.

I appeal to Tamilnadu Electricity Board to remove the cable drum and debris from the spot. **Muralidaran, Habibullah Road, T. Nagar.**



Stray dog problem in metro stations



Sir, I am a resident of K.K. Nagar and commute daily by metro train to my office near Central Railway Station.

I regularly find a number of stray dogs resting on the stairways and also on the concourse of Ashok Nagar metro station. I have also observed the same at other metro stations.

They often block the staircases causing hindrance to commuters.

In spite of complaints, the metro officials at the station are not taking any action.

Last month, I read a report in a daily that a stray dog was rescued from the tracks near Ashok Nagar metro station.

I appeal to Chennai Metro officials to take the necessary steps to prevent stray dogs from entering or loitering near metro stations. **R. Raghupathy, K.K. Nagar.**

Open sewer chamber poses danger



Sir, Cover is missing from the underground sewer chamber on Giri Road (T. Nagar).

It poses grave danger to motorists, especially 2-wheeler riders and pedestrians.

I appeal to Chennai Corporation to fix a new cover to prevent any untoward incident. **Prabhakaran Govindaraj, T. Nagar.**

Woman conned of Rs. 75,000 by cyber fraudsters

A resident of T. Nagar was conned of Rs. 75,000 by cyber fraudsters last week.

The callers identified themselves as Indian High Commissionerate officials in the United Kingdom, and demanded money to release her daughter studying in London who they said was under 'digital arrest'. According to police, Banumathi (a resident of T. Nagar) received a phone call where the callers claimed to be High Commissionerate officials from UK.

They told her that her daughter was detained for robbery and was facing the threat of a 10-year prison sentence.

The callers warned that the daughter's education would be affected and her visa cancelled unless the money was transferred immediately. Believing the claims, Banumathi transferred Rs. 75,000 to a bank account provided by the callers. The fraudsters later contacted her again, demanding an additional Rs. 35,000, following which she became suspicious and informed her husband. Realizing that they had been conned, the couple lodged a complaint with the cybercrime police in T. Nagar.

Officers have registered a case and further investigation is underway.

Upcoming Carnatic musicians felicitated



By Our Staff Reporter

300 young Carnatic musicians and members of bhajan mandalis were felicitated by Visva Vishnu Sahasranaamam Samasthan (VISVAS) at Krishnaswamy Kalyana Mandapam (T. Nagar) last week. They had performed in the week-long sahasranaama mahotsavam organised by VISVAS at the above venue.

VISVAS organises free online and offline sahasranaamam classes, and has trained more than 1.5 lakhs persons, including children, from India and abroad.

For more details, visit www.visvasvsn.org.

Corporation eyes Rs. 75 crore revenue by selling advt. space

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Corporation from January 2026 will rope-in private agencies to display ads in over 1,400 locations to generate revenue of around Rs. 75 crores per year.

It had recently floated tenders for the project.

According to an official, the displays will not be in banner format, and will be similar to the ones fixed on streetlight posts.

He said that over 1,400 sites have been chosen, which includes streetlight poles, parks and bus bays in the city including T. Nagar and West Mambalam (Natesan Park, Nagar Sivan Park, Bharathidasan Colony and Amma Park).

The plan additionally includes to sell advertising space through banners on the Mambalam-T. Nagar skywalk and the new steel bridge in T. Nagar and at Corporation shopping complexes and community locations.

Chennai Sangamam from Jan. 14 to 17



The annual cultural festival 'Chennai Sangamam Namma Ooru Thiruvizha', organised by Tamilnadu Department of Art and Culture, will be held daily from 6 p.m to 9 p.m from Jan. 14 to Jan. 17 at several places in the city including Corporation Playground (Saidapet), Natesan Park (T. Nagar), Sivan Park (K.K. Nagar), Corporation Sports Ground (Ashok Nagar and Jafferkanpet).

It will add to the city's festive as part of Pongal celebrations. Grand musical and dance events will be performed by leading artistes and 200 folk artists at the inaugural event.

1500 folk artistes from across Tamilnadu will participate and perform Naiyyandi Melam, Thappattam, Karagattam, Kaavadiattam, Thevarattam, Sevaiattam, Kolattam, Oyilattam, Silambattam, Paraiyattam, Maanattam, Mayilattam, Periya Melam, Poikaal Kudhirai, Devarattam, Kalari, Villupaatu and Kaaliyattam during the 4-day event.

Sunken silt-catch pits unsafe for motorists

By Our Staff Reporter

While widening and relaying Arcot Road (between Vadapalani bus depot and the Metro station), the height of the existing silt-catch pits was not raised to the new road level.

As the pits, located in the middle of the road, are at a lower level, they pose danger to motorists, especially two-wheeler riders as they can skid and fall while riding over them.

Motorists have urged Chennai Corporation to raise the level of the silt catch pits to prevent accidents.



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

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T.NAGAR, Shivaji Street, near Bus Terminus, 770 sq.ft, UDS 318 sq.ft, newly built flat, (2 years old), 2 bedrooms, attached bath, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor, covered car park, lift, video calling, east facing, for sale, price Rs. 1.12 cores (negotiable), vegetarians preferred. Ph: 94444 22332.

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WEST MAMBALAM, near Kittu Park, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 700 sq.ft, UDS 492 sq.ft, bike parking only, west facing, ground floor apartment, 28 years old. Price Rs. 72 lakhs. Ph: 99412 49719.

ASHOK NAGAR, near Ashok Nagar Police Station, access to the property on two sides from 15th Street on Brindavan Street Lane & 16th Street, 1629 sq.ft land with old building is available for sale. Suitable for commercial & residential. Ph: 90030 75813, 94440 62595.

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ASHOK NAGAR, Anjugam Nagar, opp. Kasi Theatre, 1280 sq.ft, (32X40), G+2, rental income Rs. 80000, 30 feet road, south facing. Ph: 93618 41024.

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T. NAGAR, Muthukrishnan Street, near Pandy Bazaar, 1200 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 4th floor, lift. Contact: Indhirani, Ph: 99402 92191, 80562 47100.

WEST MAMBALAM, Baroda Street, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 3rd floor, rent Rs. 15000 + maintenance, advance Rs. 1 lakh, vegetarians only, car park. Ph: 99624 58308.

T.NAGAR, Abdul Aziz Street, 700 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor flat, 2 bathrooms, balcony, semi furnished, no lift, 2 wheeler parking, rent Rs. 25000 including maintenance. Ph: 80726 79856.

WEST MAMBALAM, Vivekanandapuram 1st Street, near Ayodhya Mandapam, near Jaya Medicals, 2 bedrooms apartment, hall, kitchen, balcony, 1st floor, bath attached, rent Rs. 20000, advance 5 months. Ph: 90425 52842, 98411 93685.

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WEST MAMBALAM, 2/7, Hanumar Koil Street, 600 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms flat, ground floor, small Brahmin family only, no brokers. Ph: 88387 19252, 94452 33244.

WEST MAMBALAM, Postal Colony, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, service area, 600 sq.ft, ground floor flat, above road level, rent Rs. 14000 + maintenance, Brahmins only. Contact: Sridhar.G. Reality, Ph: 98846 96090, after 10.30 a.m.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Srinivasan Iyer Street Extension, new house, 700 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, rent Rs. 20000 + maintenance Rs. 1000. no brokers, no car parking, small family. Ph: 94448 00290.

T.NAGAR, Sadullah Street, 1350 sq.ft, 1st floor, independent house, 3 rooms, modular kitchen, car park, CCTV, ample water, north facing, vegetarians only, rent Rs, 33000. Ph: 98414 35878.

T.NAGAR, Mooparappan Street, near Nandanam Metro, 1450 sq.ft, newly renovated, 2 bedrooms, hall, modular kitchen, dining, wood work, big balcony, 1st floor flat, 2 bathrooms, rent Rs. 35000, residential/commercial. Contact: Vimal Ph: 94441 16320.

WEST MAMBALAM, Thiruvalluvar Street, near Mettupalayam, 1200 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, 3 attached bathrooms, ground floor, Rs. 22000. 73582 36858.

T.NAGAR, Habibullah Road, near Karnataka Sangha School, 1500 sq.ft, ground floor, office/godown, car park, north facing, rent Rs. 45000. Ph: 98401 18780.

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ASHOK NAGAR, 11th Avenue, near Thalapakatti Biryani, 1100 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor flat, lift, covered car park, semi furnished, 24 hours water/security, rent Rs. 25000, plus maintenance, family/office. Ph: 73053 44555.

WEST MAMBALAM, Easwaran Koil Street, 800 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, well maintained house, spacious parking facility available for two/four wheeler, vegetarians only. Ph: 94447 13117.

ASHOK NAGAR, 12th Avenue, 3 bedrooms, hall, modular kitchen, 2000 sq.ft, 2nd floor, lift, covered car park, balcony, full wood work, big tiles, south facing, false ceiling. Contact: Satish Ph: 95661 79922, 93805 66667.

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Pontiff of Kudali Sringeri Mahasamasthanam in city till Dec. 31

Abhinava Sankara Bharati MahaSwamigal (the 72nd pontiff of Kudali Sringeri Maha Samasthanam, Dakshinamnaya Sri Sharada Peetham, Sringeri, Karnataka) will stay until Wednesday, Dec.31 in Valambal Illam, 16/20, Srinivasa Pillai Street, West Mambalam, opposite Om Muruga-sramam.

Devotees can have darshan and seek his blessings.

The Kudali Sringeri Mutt is a renowned seat of Advaita Vedanta established by Adi Shankara. For More details, contact 99403 10620 or 93800 45004.

Bikes seized for rash driving on Christmas Eve

Police seized 24 two-wheelers involved in rash driving on city roads on Christmas Eve, and booked cases against the riders. Six bikers were fined at Nandanam junction at midnight for over speeding and their bikes were seized by traffic police.

To ensure the safety of road users and in view of Christmas Eve, a special drive was conducted across the city at night on Dec. 24 by the traffic police personnel.

A similar drive will be held on New Year eve as well.

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Chennai Book Fair from Jan. 8



By Our Staff Reporter

The 49th edition of the Chennai Book Fair 2026 will be inaugurated by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on January 8, 2026 at YMCA Grounds (Nandanam).

It is being organised by Booksellers' and Publishers' Association of South India (BAPASI). K.S. Shanmugam (President, BAPASI) said that the book fair will be held till January 21, 2026.

It will be open from 11 a.m. till 8.30 p.m. on all days.

He said that there will be over 1,000 stalls with more than 10 lakhs titles, featuring publishers from Tamilnadu, other states and from Malaysia, Japan, Sri Lanka and Singapore. A discount of 10% will be offered on all books.

Shanmugam said that every evening, there will be speeches by scholars and writers.

The Muthamizhaarigna Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi Porkizhi Award for the year will be awarded for poetry, short story, novel, plays and others.

Competitions will be held for school students and reading practice will be given to them during the fair.

Wheelchair service will be available for the elderly and disabled.

The venue has ample 2-wheeler and car parking facility.

A police outpost, fire service, ambulance service and first aid are arranged at the venue.

Christmas celebrated in Jeeva Park



By Our Staff Reporter

Jeeva Park Walkers' Association celebrated Christmas in Jeeva Park (G.N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar) on Dec.25.

K.C. Srinivasan Desikan (Senior Member) dressed as Santa Claus, and entertained the visitors and distributed gifts to them.

Members of the Association and their children participated in the festive.

Unused bunk blocks road margin



By Our Staff Reporter

An unused bunk is lying abandoned on the road margin of Vasan Street (T. Nagar) for the past several months.

It blocks the usable width of the carriageway and is misused for pasting posters.

Nearby residents request Chennai Corporation to remove the bunk from the spot.

This photo was taken on Dec.25.

Discourse on Bhagavad Gita today

By Our Staff Reporter

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, Jan. 4 in the Ashram's premises. All are welcome.

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

Felicitated for free service to temples



By Our Staff Reporter

R. Raja Sakthivel (resident of Velu Street, West Mambalam) and Proprietor of Bagavati Janavasam Car Service was felicitated for his decades of service in the field by Global Human Peace University at a function held last week in Raja Annamalai Mandram.

The business was founded by his father in 1963.

Apart from providing the service for marriages, he also offers the service free for procession of deities during thirukalyanam and other temple functions.

He told *Mambalam Times* that once Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham (Kanchi puram) had travelled in one of his cars for a religious procession organised in the city.

His contact number is 98414 88556.

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By Our Staff Reporter

Sai Enterprises (43/15, 1st Floor, opposite Vallabha Ganapathy Temple, Arya Gowda Road, West Mambalam) specializes in all kinds of civil works including waterproofing, structural repairs, reinforcement works, renovations, reconstruction and new construction.

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We have so far completed 4000 civil works across Tamilnadu and South India, he said. He is a resident of Srinivasa Iyengar 2nd Street (West Mambalam).

His contact numbers are 9381501700, 7667655544 and 944541 5955.

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