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# MAMBALAM TIMES

The Neighbourhood Newspaper for T. Nagar & Mambalam

www.mambalamtimes.in

Vol. 31, No. 44

March 15 - 21, 2026

FREE

Ohm Sree Gurubhyo Namah

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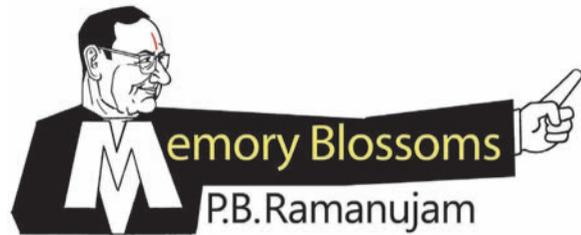
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### Sense of Tobacco Stronger Than Sense of Law

I was engaged to file a Writ Petition questioning the order of the Kancheepuram Collector in not giving a liquor license to my client. I lost the case before the Single Judge. A Writ Appeal had to be filed and it was decided to engage a senior advocate.

My client met the senior at his office and the senior was very particular that the Lower Court Counsel should meet him and give instructions. So I met him and gave instructions for filing the writ appeal. Unfortunately, the appeal was also lost.

Thereupon we filed an appeal in the Supreme Court. I went to Delhi more than 20 times in connection with this appeal and got various experiences. I am not narrating all of them except the one which had pained my heart.

When the case came up at around 12 noon on a particular day, the Senior Advocate engaged by me started:

Senior : This is a case from Tamil Nadu about arrack, My Lord!

Judge : What is arrack?

Counsel : Cheap liquor in Tamil Nadu, My Lord! Anyhow my learned friend (the opposite counsel) knows about liquor better than me, My Lord, because he had succeeded in the Madras High Court.

The other side Counsel, who had appeared in sensational election cases, stood up and explained that what was known as arrack in Tamilnadu was known as matka in U.P. He then gave a lecture lasting over 15 minutes about the different names for the liquor in different States from Kanyakumari to Kashmir. He added that some people liked cheap liquor just like some smokers preferring cheap cigarettes such as Char Minar, Wills Filter etc.

The Hon'ble Justice then started narrating an incident.

Justice: I went to a party last evening. One of my brother Judges who was sitting next to me said that someone was smoking Wills Filter. I said 'No' and we agreed on a bet of one rupee. We then got up from our chairs to walk around and verify. Surely, on the third table, an advocate was smoking Wills cigarette. I lost the bet of one rupee".

At that time, senior advocate Mr. S. S stood up and quipped: "Probably His Lordship's sense of tobacco is stronger than his sense of law, My Lord!".

There was a burst of laughter in the court and even His Lordship enjoyed the quip about his Brother Judge.

The proceedings then resumed:

Justice : How long would you take to finish?

Senior : 45 minutes, My Lord!

Justice : We have no time today. Adjourned to next hearing - on the 7th of next month.

Everyone had enjoyed the lighter moments and the Court adjourned for the day.

During the flight back home, I was thinking about the plight of the litigant. My client had paid me a fee, bought my return air ticket to Delhi and back and arranged decent hotel accommodation for me there, in addition to paying the day's fee to the Senior Advocate and his junior. He would be anxiously waiting for me at Chennai Airport to pick me up hoping to get a favourable answer from me regarding his case. But how could I justify to him what had happened in the Supreme Court? Would he not ask, "Jokes at whose cost, sir?"

I agree that humour has its place for a minute or two in the court, but a prolonged diversion like this should have been avoided in the interests of the litigant. Unfortunately our court system often cares very little for the interest of the litigants and the cost to them because of unnecessary adjournments. Supreme Court Judges particularly should be aware that every adjournment costs each litigant over Rs. 2 lakhs towards cost of travel and stay in Delhi, in addition to the fees to the lawyers.

### Justice Rathnavel Pandian – Presence of Mind

One day I was in the Supreme Court along with my colleague A.T.M. Sampath. From the cause list for the day I learnt that Justice Rathnavel Pandian was the Presiding Officer in the court. I was a familiar figure to him in Chennai because of my association with the activities of Madras High Court Advocates Association, especially on its annual days conducting sports. For the tug of war event, Justice Rathnavel Pandian used to ask me to include his name in my team. He would lend his entire weight as the anchor, tying the rope on his hip and standing like a rock. Whenever he took part in the event, his team would invariably win.

When I entered the Court hall, Justice Rathnavel Pandian recognised me and smiled at me. It was not a very big hall. I do not recollect the number of the Court at this distance of time. Normally being dull, I could not readily follow the proceeding that was going on.

I gestured to ATM. Sampath to know about the case, and this was noticed by Justice Pandian. He looked at me and said to me in Tamil, 'மருமகளை எரிச்சுட்டாங்க பாவிங்க. எப்படியானும் வெளியே வரணும்னு பார்க்கறாங்க. நான்விடப் போறதில்லை.'

Note his choice of words. Not a single word in English.

Immediately, the Counsel who was arguing the case got alerted and asked, "What is it that your Lordship said in Tamil?"

Justice: Do you know Tamil ?

Counsel: No, My Lord. I do not know Tamil

Justice: Then how do you say that I spoke in Tamil. Just proceed with the case... Don't worry.

Any other person would not have said what Justice Pandian said to me in Tamil and quickly come out of it. It was his presence of mind that saved him from embarrassment that morning.

My respect for Justice Rathnavel Pandian went up even higher that day.

(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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## Free 4-week yoga course from March 22

By Our Staff Reporter

Sannyasi Krishnayogam (Founder of Satyananda Yoga Centre) will conduct a 4-week free yoga course as per the tradition of Bihar School of Yoga for men and women in Sri Ayyappan and Sri Goshala Krishnan Temple (Sri Sastha Sangam, 89, Ponnambalam Salai, K.K. Nagar).

The classes will begin on Sunday, March 22 and will be conducted daily on weekdays (Monday to Saturday) from 5.30 a.m to 7 a.m.

The classes, aimed at physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing, will include asanas, pranayama, pratyahara (senses withdrawal techniques), concentration, meditation, mantra, value education, food habits, shat kriyas and cleansing of internal pathways for managing diseases.

On successful completion, students can join Advanced Pranayama course leading to Kundalini Yoga, Prana Vidya and Kriya Yoga Course.

Even old students who have discontinued their practice can join and reap the benefits.

Corporate classes for Stress Management are also being conducted by the Center.

To register, call 63830 08358 or 94450 51015 or send email to [syc@satyamyogatrust.net](mailto:syc@satyamyogatrust.net).

For more details, visit <https://www.satyamyoga.trust.com>.

## Metrowater to upgrade sewer networks

Metrowater has floated tenders to upgrade the underground sewer network in Adyar, Teynampet and Kodambakkam zones at a cost of Rs. 800 crores.

Officials said that the initiative will help replace old pipelines, reduce sewer blockages and prevent road cave-ins that often occur due to damaged underground lines.

As part of the project, new cast iron (CI) and ductile iron (DI) pipelines will be installed to strengthen the sewer network.

In addition, sewage pumping stations will be upgraded, and odour control systems along with real-time monitoring facilities will be set up to improve the overall functioning of the sewer system.

The project will be funded by the Asian Development Bank and will initially begin in the Nesapakkam Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) catchment area.

The entire project will be completed within two years.

## Aarthi Scans offers free anaemia, thyroid tests for women

By Our Staff Reporter

Aarthi Scans and Labs offers free anaemia and thyroid testing for women till March 31 across all its branches in the city including West Mambalam and Vadapalani to mark International Women's Day.

The campaign aims to address the high prevalence of these often-silent health conditions among women.

Women can avail of the free Iron (anaemia) and Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH) tests from 6 a.m to 6 p.m, with no prior appointment.

AarthiScans is located at 67, Brindavan Street, Ramakrishnapuram, West Mambalam, Ph: 63812 92823 and at 60, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Vadapalani, Ph: 75500 75500.

## Matrimonial meet for Telugu Brahmins today

Telugu Brahmana Mahasabha (33, Easwaran Koil Street, West Mambalam) is conducting 'Naveena Swamyamvaram' exclusively for Telugu Brahmins from 8 a.m to 3 p.m on Sunday, March 15 at Infosys Hall (Sri Ramkrishna Mission Matriculation School, Bazullah Road, T. Nagar). Prospective brides and grooms attending the program should carry their horoscope and two photographs.

A nominal fee will be collected for the Trust's activities.

For more details, call 99529 68780, 98400 48941.



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### டாக்டர் சாந்தா என்னும் ஆலவிருட்சம்!

டாக்டர் சாந்தா அவர்கள் இறந்தநாள். காலை கேன்சர் இன்ஸ்டிடியூட்டிற்கு நான் சென்றபோது அமைதியாக ஓ.பி. இயங்கிக் கொண்டிருந்தது. நோயாளிகள் அமர்ந்து கொண்டிருந்தார்கள். தான் மறைந்தாலும் நோயாளிகள் கவனிக்கப்பட வேண்டும் என்று சொல்லியிருப்பாரோ?

நாற்பது வருஷங்களுக்குமுன் மேடம் அவர்களுடன் நடந்து சென்ற அந்தக் கார்டோர் இன்று கூட்டமாய் இருந்தாலும், வெறுமையாய்த் தோன்றியது.

1981-1983ல் கேன்சர் இன்ஸ்டிடியூட் என்னும் ஆலமரத்தின் நிழலில் உதவி மருத்துவனாக 'மெடிகல் ஆங்கலாஜி' பிரிவில் (புற்று நோய்க்கு மருந்துகளால் சிகிச்சை; இரத்தப் புற்று நோய், லிம்போமாமா, மற்றைய கேன்சர்களின் கிமோதெரபி செய்யும் சிறப்புப் பிரிவு) சேர்ந்தேன். சேர்த்துக் கொண்டவர் டாக்டர் சாந்தா அவர்கள். புற்றுநோய் சிகிச்சைகளிலேயே கடினமானதும், அதிக அனுபவமும் வேண்டிய இந்தப் பிரிவில் என்னை சேர்த்துக் கொண்டதும் அல்லாமல், சிகிச்சையில் அன்றைய நாளில் வழக்கத்தில் இருந்த அத்தனை நுணுக்கங்களையும் மிக நேர்த்தியாகவும், அழகாகவும் எனக்குக் கற்றுக் கொடுத்த அன்பான குரு அவர்கள்!

'பளிச்சென்று கோட், நேர்த்தியான வெளிர் நிறத்தில் காட்டன் சாரி, கையில் கைக் குட்டையுடன் ஒரு பேனா, முகத்தில் புன்னகை. காலையில் மாடிப் படிகளில் இறங்கி வரும் அதே வேகம் அன்றைய நாளின் அலுவல்கள் முடிந்து இரவு மீண்டும் படிகளில் திரும்பி ஏறிச் செல்லும்போதும் கொஞ்சமும் குறையாமல் இருக்கும். முகத்தில் ஒரு திருப்தியும், மகிழ்ச்சியும் தெரியும். கூடவே மறுநாள் காத்திருக்கும் அலுவல் குறித்த சிந்தனையும் எட்டிப் பார்க்கும்.

பிளட் கேன்சர் (Leukemias & Lymphomas) குழந்தைகளுக்கெனத் தனியான வார்டு ஒன்று உண்டு. முழுமையாக குணமடைந்து ஐந்து ஆண்டுகளுக்கும் மேல் வாழும் குழந்தைகளுக்கென்று வருடத்தில் ஒரு நாள் எல்லா பெற்றோர்களுடன் ஒரு மகிழ்ச்சியான சந்திப்பு நடைபெறும். டாக்டர் சாந்தா அவர்களின் முகத்தில் அவ்வளவு மகிழ்ச்சியை வேறெந்த நாளிலும் பார்க்க முடியாது.

Bone marrow ட்ரான்ஸ்பிளாண்ட், அதி நவீன ரேடியோதெரபி, ரேடியம் இம்ப்ளாண்டேஷன், புதிய அறுவை சிகிச்சை முறைகள் என்று இன்ஸ்டிடியூட் வளர, தன் வாழ்க்கையையே ஒரு வேள்வியாக மாற்றிக் கொண்டவர் சாந்தா அவர்கள்.

தனிப்பட்ட முறையில் என் மீது அன்பும், கரிசனமும் கொண்டவர். ஒருமுறை கூட அவர் என்னைக் கடிந்து ஒரு வார்த்தை சொல்லியதில்லை. புதன்கிழமைகளில் அனைத்து மருத்துவர்கள், செவிலியர்களுடனும் காலை 7 மணிக்கெல்லாம் 'Grand rounds'. ஒவ்வொரு நோயாளியின் பெயர், நோய், என்ன சிகிச்சை முறை என்பதைத் தன் நினைவில் வைத்து அவர் கொடுக்கும் வழிமுறைகளும், வழிகாட்டுதலும் வியப்புட்டுப்பவை. இளம் மருத்துவர்கள் கற்றுக்கொள்ள வேண்டிய பல மருத்துவ, மனிதநேய வாழ்க்கைப் பாடங்கள் எனக்குக் கிடைத்தது என் பெரும் பேரென்றே நினைக்கிறேன்!

வருடத்தில் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளும் விடுமுறையை இரண்டு வாரங்கள் தொடர்ச்சியாக எடுத்துக் கொள்ளலாம். முன்னதாகவே அனுமதி வாங்கியிருந்தேன். மாலை வேலை முடிந்து அவரை அவருடைய அலுவலகத்தில் சந்தித்தபோது முகத்தில் அவ்வளவு மலர்ச்சி, மகிழ்ச்சி. எதிரே இருந்த டாக்டர் கிருஷ்ணமூர்த்தியிடம் 'Bhaskar is taking leave. He is going for his 'தலை தீபாவளி' to Madurai' என்றாரே பார்க்கலாம். எனக்கு வியப்புத் தாங்க வில்லை. அவரது நினைவாற்றல் என்னை விழ்த்தியது. தன்னிடம் வேலை செய்யும் எல்லோரிடமும் தனிப்பட்ட அன்பும், அக்கறையும் காட்டுவதுதான் அவரது சிறப்பு.

அவருடைய தந்தை மூப்பின் காரணமாக நினைவின்றி அட்டமிட் ஆகியிருந்தார். இரண்டு மூன்று நாட்களாக அலுவல்களுக்கிடையே அவரையும் பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருந்தார் டாக்டர் சாந்தா. சரியான தூக்கம் இல்லை. நான்காம் நாள் இரவு நான் யூட்டியில் இருந்தேன். என்னை கவனிக்காத மேடம், 'இன்று இரவு யார் யூட்டிடி?' என்று நர்சிங் கேட்க 'டாக்டர் பாஸ்கர்' என்கிறார். 'அப்போ சரி, இன்னைக்குக் கொஞ்சம் தூங்கலாம்' என்றார். நான் வெளியே வந்து 'நான் பார்த்துக் கொள்கிறேன், மேடம்' என்றபோதும் அதே புன்னகை. கொஞ்சம் சோகம் கலந்த புன்னகை.

32 மாதங்கள் இடைவிடாத வேலை. கற்றுக் கொண்டதும் ஏராளம். ஆனாலும் சொந்தக் காரணங்களுக்காக நான் வேலையிலிருந்து விலக முடிவு செய்து (சரியான முடிவுதானா? என்பதில் எனக்கு இன்னும் சந்தேகம் இருக்கிறது) ஒரு மாத நோட்டீஸ் கொடுத்தபோது என்னை விலகுவதற்கு அனுமதிக்கவில்லை. எனக்குக் கேன்சர் சிகிச்சையில் நல்லதொரு எதிர்காலம் இருப்பதாயும், பாபா அடாமிக் ரிஸர்ச் சென்டரில் மேற்படிப்புக்கு அனுப்புவதாகவும் கூறினார். என்னால் முடியவில்லை. ஒரு மாதம் முடியும் நாள் மாலை 4.30 மணி வரை என் ரிஸர்ச் ஆர்டரில் அவர் கையொப்பம் இடவில்லை. பின்னர் பல சமயங்களில் நான் அவரைச் சந்தித்திருக்கிறேன். அதே அன்பு, அதே புன்னகை. ஒரு முறை கூட இதைப் பற்றிப் பேசியதே இல்லை.

என் மீது டாக்டர் சாந்தா அவர்கள் கொண்டிருந்த நம்பிக்கையும், அன்பும் இறைவன் கொடுத்த வரம் என்றே நினைக்கத் தோன்றுகிறது.

என் பெரிய பெண்ணின் திருமணத்திற்கு அழைத்திருந்தேன். அதே நாளில் டாக்டர் சாகரின் (இப்போதைய டைரக்டர்) பெண்ணுக்கும் திருமணம். மேலும் முப்பது கி.மீ தள்ளி இருந்தது என் வீட்டுத் திருமண மண்டபம். காலை எட்டு மணிக்கு சாந்தா மேடம் வந்த போது நான் அடைந்த மகிழ்ச்சிக்கு எல்லையே இல்லை. பதினென்று நிமிடங்கள் இருந்து மணமக்களை வாழ்த்திய பின், 'சாகர் வீட்டுத் திருமணத்திற்குப் போக வேண்டும்' என்று விடை பெற்றார்கள்!

திருமணத்திற்கு ஒரு வாரம் முன்பு மதியம் ஒரு ஃபோன் வந்தது. அந்தப் பக்கத்தில், 'பாஸ்கர், சாந்தா பேசினேன். உன் மகள் சாரி கட்டுவாளா, சூடிதார் போடுவாளா? நான் 'இண்டியா சில்ஸ்'லேயிருந்து பேசினேன்' என்றார்கள். நான், 'மேடம் அதெல்லாம் ஒன்றும் வேண்டாம். நீங்க வந்து ஆசீர்வாதம் செய்தாலே போதும்' என்றேன். 'சரி, சரி... அவளுக்கு என்ன கலர் பிடிக்கும்? லைட் கலரா, டார்க் கலரா?' என் கண்களில் கசியும் நீர் என்னைப் பேச விடவில்லை. 'சரி, நான் பார்த்துக்கிறேன்' என்ற ஃபோனைக் கட்ட செய்தார். நினைத்தால் இப்போதும் மனது மரியாதையிலும், அன்பிலும் கசிந்து வழிகிறது.

உறவினரோ, தெரிந்தவர்களோ நான் அனுப்பும் நோயாளிகளைப் பார்த்து அன்று மாலையே ஒரு ஃபோன் செய்துவிடுவார். அவருக்குப் ஃபோன் செய்தால் எந்த நிலையிலும் தானே லைனில் வந்து பேசுவார்.

'டாக்டர்ஸ் டே' விழாவிற்கு அவரை அழைத்திருந்தேன். அப்போதுதான் ஒரு சிறிய சுகவினத்திலிருந்து தெரியிருந்தார். இருந்தாலும் ஒத்துக் கொண்டார். விழாவிற்கு வந்து பிறகுதான் எனக்கு உறைத்தது. இரண்டாவது மாடியில் விழா. லிப்ட் கிடைப்பது, வருந்தினேன். அதே புன்னகை, என் கையைப் பிடித்து ஒவ்வொரு படியாக ஏறி வந்தார். இரண்டு மணி நேரம் இருந்து சிறப்பானதொரு உரையாற்றினார். 'தேவை இல்லாத பரிசோதனைகளைத் தவிர்க்க வேண்டும். இயந்திரம் இருப்பதற்காக டெஸ்ட்டுகள் எடுக்கக் கூடாது. நோய் குறித்த தெளிவான நோயாளிக் குறப்படுத்த வேண்டும். டெஸ்ட்டுகளை விட நோயாளியுடன் சிறிது கூடுதல் நேரம் பேசுவது விரிவான கிளினிகல் பரிசோதனையும், நோயையும், நோயாளியையும் அறிய மிகவும் உதவும்'. அனைத்து மருத்துவர்களும் கடைபிடிக்க வேண்டிய அறிவுரை!

இரண்டரை வருஷங்களில் இரண்டு ஜென்மத்திற்கான நல்லவைகளைக் அவரிடம் கற்றுக் கொண்டேன்.

'உடல் நலிந்து, உள்ளம் சோர்ந்து, அச்ச உணர்வுடன் நோயாளி ஒருவர் இந்த மருத்துவ மனையில் வாயிலை அடையும்போது அவர்களின் ஒரு பாகமாக நாம் ஆகிவிடுவதுதான் அவர்களுக்கு நாம் காட்டக்கூடிய சரியான ஆதரவாக அமையும்'. டாக்டர் சாந்தா.

'மேடம் என் வாழ்க்கைப் பயணத்தில் சிறிது தூரம் உங்கள் கையிடித்து நடந்து வந்தேன். சரியான பாதையில் நடக்கக் கற்றுக் கொண்டேன் என்பது எனது வரம்.

மனது வெறுமையாயிருக்கிறது. மிக அதிகமாக உழைத்துவிட்டீர்கள். மானுடம் உள்ளவரை உங்கள் சேவை நினைவு கூறப்படும்.'

bhaskaran\_jayaraman@yahoo.com

## Panic buying at petrol bunks on March 11



By Our Staff Reporter

Petrol bunks in the city have been overwhelmed by panic-stricken crowds since March 11, triggered by rumours of a fuel shortage.

The rush comes close on the heels of a severe shortage of commercial LPG cylinders.

Large crowds began thronging petrol stations across the city, with regular office-goers and other commuters lining up for considerable amounts of time to refuel their vehicles.

R. Gunasekaran, a resident of West Mambalam, who was refuelling his bike at the bunk on G.N. Chetty Roaf (T. Nagar) said that he was taken aback by the unusually long queue. "Usually, I wait less than two minutes at the fuel station. Today, it took 15 minutes to fill up," he said.

The Manager at the bunk said that the sales nearly doubled on March 11 as rumours of shortage spread on the social media. He said that the panic subsided by the next evening though the crowds were more than the usual.

This photo was taken on March 12 at the Indian Oil Petrol Bunk on Govindan Road (West Mambalam).

## Restaurants switch to leaner menus, wood stoves due to LPG shortage



By Our Staff Reporter

The ripple effect of the acute shortage of commercial gas cylinders, I have

been forced to close shops since March 10,

And I don't know what to do," Rajesh (a tea stall owner on Lake View Road, West Mambalam) said.

Sapthagiri Tiffin Centre (Sivaganan Street, Pondy Bazaar, T. Nagar) also closed on March 11 and 12. Its owner Umesh said that we serve

over a thousand customers daily and need Rs. 1 lakh to cover salaries and operating costs.

A good number of well-known eateries have reduced their menu options, with some serving only lunch.

The crisis also forced a popular tiffin centre in T. Nagar to close, while many roadside vendors have shut shop due to shortage of commercial LPG.

"I run my family on earnings from the roadside shop. Due to the shortage of com-

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over a thousand customers daily and need Rs. 1 lakh to cover salaries and operating costs.

## Free acupuncture treatment on Fridays in TTD Temple

J. Anuradha Devi (Acupuncturist and resident of Periyar Ramasamy Street, West Mambalam) offers free acupuncture and acupressure treatment from 10.30 a.m to 2 p.m on Fridays at TTD Temple (Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar).

She told *Mambalam Times* that those suffering from migraine, back, knee and joint pains, frozen shoulder, varicose vein, rheumatoid arthritis, renal problems, wheezing and other chronic ailments can benefit from the treatment.

For more details call, 90430 11501.

## Sathru Samhara homam held daily in Sankara Mutt

By Our Staff Reporter

Kamatchi Mandali Trust (West Mambalam) is conducting Sathru Samhara Sri Subramanya Trishati Homam daily till June 24 in Sankara Mutt (Easwaran Koil Street, West Mambalam).

Narayana Sasthigal is performing the homam daily from 5.30 p.m to 8.30 p.m.

For more details call, 95516 97770.

## Laptops gifted to students of Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya



By Our Staff Reporter

Free laptops provided by Tamilnadu Government were gifted to the junior ITI students of Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya (T. Nagar) on March 13.

Raja Anbazhagan (Councillor, Ward 141) was the Chief Guest.

Divya Dharani (Computer Science Teacher) will be conducting the classes.

## Eye care scheme launched for women autorickshaw drivers



By Our Staff Reporter

Rajan Eye Care (T. Nagar) distributed free lifetime eye care cards to women autorickshaw drivers to mark International Women's Day.

Actor Jayachitra presented the cards to 15 drivers at an event held in the presence of Mohan Rajan (Chairman and Medical Director of Rajan Eye Care), Shanti Selvam (Chairperson of Project Pink Auto of Rotary District 3232) and Nita Mehra (Chief Medical Officer, Rajan Eye Care).

Dr. Rajan said that good eyesight was essential for autorickshaw drivers, as they were responsible for their own safety and that of their passengers.

The initiative would provide comprehensive eye care, including regular vision check-ups, free spectacles, medicines, eye drops, treatments such as laser procedures, and surgeries for cataract, glaucoma and retinal conditions.

Their family members are also eligible to avail themselves of the services throughout their lifetime at any Rajan Eye Care hospital in the city, he said.

In the coming days, the cards will be distributed to all the 300 drivers associated with the Pink Auto project.

## Chennai Metro seeks CCRS approval to relax curbs on Poonamallee-Vadapalani stretch

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Metro has requested the Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety (CCRS) (New Delhi) to relax the restrictions imposed on frequency and speed on the upcoming phase II section from Poonamallee to Vadapalani stretch which is to be opened shortly.

According to officials, CCRS inspected this stretch for the third time a few days back and held discussions with them.

The two important conditions imposed were: trains were to run only with a 15-minute gap between Poonamallee and Porur and the speed of trains cannot cross 25 kmph between Porur and Vadapalani (which would limit frequency to 20 minutes).

The metro officials said that as they are taking efforts to improve the frequency from Poonamallee to Porur, they sought to remove the speed restriction between Porur and Vadapalani.

Similarly, they have also requested that the speed of trains be increased from 25 kmph to 40 kmph between Porur and Vadapalani, which too will enhance frequency after completion of the deck slab work.

## Shortage of LPG may affect crematoriums

By Our Staff Reporter

Workers at gasifier crematoria including in the city said that the functioning the crematorium could be affected as they are running short of LPG.

Of the 203 crematoriums in the city, 55 are LPG-powered.

A senior Corporation official said that there is adequate stock to supply to crematoria for two weeks at the current supply rate, and in case of continued shortage, we will resort to firewood to burn the bodies.

## Exim Bank donates imaging equipment to Radhatri Nethralaya

By Our Staff Reporter

Exim Bank gifted a retinal camera and 3 Nethra Neo (a compact digital imaging system) to Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation (GVRF) (the charitable wing of Radhatri Nethralaya (T. Nagar) on



March 13. The equipment will be used under the Project Vision on Wheels project of GVRF to screen preterm babies in villages and rural areas in Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh for blinding condition called Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP).

Dharmendra Sachan (General Manager, Exim Bank) handed over the equipment to Dr. Praveen Krishna (Trustee, GVRF).

Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham (Managing Trustee, GVRF) said that till date more than 1.50 lakhs babies have been screened for ROP and more than 5000 babies suffering from ROP have been given free treatment in Radhatri Nethralaya.

## Roadsid eateries impacted by shortage of LPG



By Our Staff Reporter

A number of roadside eateries shut down temporarily due to non-availability of commercial LPG cylinders. Photo taken on March 13 shows eateries closed on Usman Road and G.N. Chetty Road (T. Nagar).

## Failed burglary attempt at bank in West Mambalam

By Our Staff Reporter

Ashok Nagar police are on the lookout for an unidentified person who attempted to burgle Bank of India (Postal Colony branch, West Mambalam) at night on March 6.

As he was unable to open the safe, he tore up forms and fled.

The CCTV footage showed that the burglar, who was wearing a mask to hide his identity, had spent around 4 hours inside the bank, attempting to break open the locker door.

Police said that Saraswathi, a cleaner at the bank, noticed that the shutter lock had been broken when

she arrived for work the next morning.

On entering the premises, she found several forms scattered and torn. She alerted the bank's administrative manager, Tamilmathi, who inspected the branch and confirmed that no cash or valuables had been stolen.

She filed a complaint in Ashok Nagar police station.

## Telugu New Year to be celebrated in TTD

Telugu New Year Day will be celebrated with special poojas and alangaaram on Wednesday, March 19 in Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (Venkatnarayana Road, T. Nagar).

In view of thousands of devotees expected to visit the temple on the day, elaborate security arrangements will be made to manage the crowd.

## OBITUARY

C VISALAKSHI

C. Visalakshi (resident of 1<sup>st</sup> floor, 82, Lake View Road, West Mambalam. Ph: 98406 70445) passed away on March 7.

She was 90, and had been a resident of West Mambalam for more than 40 years.

She is survived by her daughter C. Uma, son-in-law G. Venkataraman, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



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## Foliage dumped outside hospital removed after report



Before



Now

Following the report 'Foliage dumped on pavement outside hospital' published in *Mambalam Times* (February 22 – 28 issue), the big heap of broken tree branches and foliage dumped on the pavement outside Bharathiraja Hospital (Giri Road, T. Nagar) was removed by Chennai Corporation on March 3.

## World Kidney Day celebrated



By Our Staff Reporter

In connection with World Kidney Day, Sri Sumati Vishal Jain Dialysis Centre (Mahalingapuram) managed by Sri Sumathi Vishal Jain Educational Trust (T. Nagar) conducted an awareness program on March 11.

Dialysis patients, staff and care givers participated in the program led by Dr. Padmapriya.

The centre offers dialysis at subsidized rates of Rs. 1,200 to the needy.

It is open from 8 a.m to 4 pm.

Patients under the Chief Minister Health Insurance Scheme can avail free dialysis.

For more details call, 99629 93400 or 98840 96930.

## LPG shortage triggers sale of electric cooking appliances

The recent shortage of LPG cylinders, compounded by the uncertainty in the gulf region, has led to a sharp rise in the sale of electric cooking appliances in the city.

Manager of a appliances showroom on Arya Gowda Road (West Mambalam) said that the demand for induction cooktops has increased significantly over the past week, with many purchasing them as a backup option.

Apart from induction stoves, other appliances such as electric kettles, microwave ovens and electric rice cookers are also witnessing higher demand, he said.

## Queue outside gas agencies



phone.

Some had come with empty cylinders to collect new cylinders due to delay in home delivery.

By Our Staff Reporter

Consumers were seen queuing outside the HP Gas Agency on Lake View Road (West Mambalam) on March 13 to place orders for refill of domestic LPG cylinders.

A consumer told *Mambalam Times* that they had to come to the agency to place orders for refill in person as they are unable to place orders over

## 24x7 water supply to be expanded to Kodambakkam zone

After successful implementation in Valasaravakkam Zone, Metrowater has commenced work to bring Adyar and Kodambakkam zones under the project to implement round-the-clock water supply.

An official said that a detailed project report (DPR) will be prepared to increase the capacity of the Pallipattu water distribution station (WDS) to facilitate 24x7 distribution to both the zones.

He said that Kodambakkam Zone has five WDS systems and following the implementation of the 24X7 water supply project, the number of WDS systems will be reduced to three. The official said that once the 24x7 water supply scheme is implemented, control boxes will be installed on every street of the locality to get an alert in the event of any street not receiving water due to pipeline issues.

## 700 participate in walkathon



By Our Staff Reporter

700 persons participated in the walkathon organised on March 1 in Elliot's Beach by Optometric Association of Tamil Nanbargal (Saidapet) to celebrate World Optometry Day. It was coordinated by Preetha Ramprasad (resident of T. Nagar and President of Optometric Association of Tamil Nanbargal).

The walkathon was flagged off by Dr. R. Krishnakumar (President, Ophthalmic Sciences Professional Council).

Actor Yogi Babu and his wife Manju Bhargavi participated in it. Participants held placards to spread messages on eye care. For more details, call 98414 03425.

## Local boy excels in gymnastics



By Our Staff Reporter

Arjun Trilok (resident of 3rd Street, K.V. Colony, West Mambalam) won a silver medal in gymnastics in the under-6 age category in the inter-school gymnastic competition conducted by Tamilnadu Amateur Gymnastics Association last week. He is learning gymnastics in The Little Gym (Alwarpet) for the past 3 years. He is a UKG student in Grove School (Alwarpet).

## PHC staff treated to picnic for Women's Day



In connection with the International Women's Day, Public Health Centre (Lake View Road, West Mambalam) organised a picnic for all its staff members to VGP Universal Kingdom (ECR) on March 8.

## Local residents win prizes in cookery contest

By Our Staff Reporter

In connection with International Women's Day, Uma Anandhan (Councillor, Ward 134) conducted a cookery contest for women in K.V. Colony (West Mambalam) on March 1.

25 women participated in the contest.

The top three winners were Sudha Shivkumar, Bhuvaneshwari Gopalakrishnan and M. Vijayalakshmi, all residents of West Mambalam. Consolation prizes were presented to all the other participants. Uma's contact number is 94445 43373.



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**Naamasankeerthana Vaibhavam in Vani Mahal till March 22**

Thyaga Brahma Gana Sabha (108, G.N. Chetry Road, T. Nagar) is conducting its annual Naamasankeerthana Vaibhavam in association with Kanchi Mahaswami Vidya Mandir (Rajakilpakkam, Chennai) and Integrated Enterprises in its premises.

**Thursday, March 19:** 4.30 p.m.: Panjapadi by Adithya Ramesh; 6.30 p.m.: Naamasankeerthanam by Ramananda Saraswathi Maha Swamigal (Sri Chakra Rajarajeswari Peedam, Madurai)

**Friday, March 20:** 4.30 p.m.: Keerthans by Karthik Gnaneshwar Bhagavathar; 6.30 p.m.: Keerthans and special poojai by Srivani Muralidharan Bhagavathar

**Saturday, March 21:** 4.30 p.m.: Naamasankeerthanam by T. Ramgopal Bhagavathar; 6.30 p.m.: Divyanaama Sankeerthanam by Rajamani Bhagavathar

**Sunday, March 22:** 8 a.m.: Unjavrithi and Radha Kalyanam by Pichumani Bhagavathar, followed by Mangala Harathi and Anjaneya Utsavam by Udaiyalur K. Kalyanaraman All are welcome. For more details call, 9381001357.

It will conclude on Sunday, March 22.

On the inaugural day on March 13, Thinniam N. Mahadevan Bhagavathar and Karthik Gnaneshwar Bhagavathar were honoured with the birudhu 'Kanchi Mahaswami Nama Sudha Vani' and 'Jayendra Saraswathi Swami Nama Sudha Vani' respectively.

The following are the program details from Sunday, March 15:

**Sunday, March 15:** 4.30 p.m.: Ashtapathi 9 to 12 by Delhi Shankar; 6.30 p.m.: Ashtapathi 13 to 18 by a team from SASTRA University

Monday, March 16: 4.30 p.m.: Ashtapathi 19 to 24 by Gayathri Magesh; 6.30 p.m.: Abhanga Divyanaamam by Rajagopala Das Bhagavathar.

Tuesday, March 17: 4.30 p.m.: Tharangam by Mumbai Sundararaman; 6.30 p.m.: Naamasankeerthanam by Thiruvisanallur Ramakrishnan Bhagavathar

**Wednesday, March 18:** 4.30 p.m.: Meera bhajans by O.S. Mukundan and O.S. Mohan; 6.30 p.m.: Abhang by Savita Sreeram.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Postal Colony 2nd Street, near Arya Gowda Road, 2 bedrooms apartment, hall, kitchen, ground floor, bath attached, rent Rs. 21500, 6 months advance, car park. Ph: 90425 52842, 98411 93685.

WEST MAMBALAM, 12/54, Kuppiyah Street, near Mambalam Station, 2nd floor, no lift, 600 sq.ft, 1.5 bedrooms, hall, kitchen in corrugated sheets with tiled floors, western toilet, open terrace, rent Rs. 13000 + maintenance Rs. 500, advance Rs. 50000, ready for occupation, bachelors, strictly Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: 044 7966 8122, 94447 87533.

WEST MAMBALAM, Lake View Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, lift, 840 sq.ft, open car parking, Brahmins only, rent Rs. 23000. Ph: 94954 09395.

WEST MAMBALAM, 13, Postal Colony 2nd Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 900 sq.ft, 2nd floor, no lift, south facing, rent Rs. 25000 (negotiable), no car park, vegetarians only. Ph: 88382 14964.

ASHOK NAGAR, near 12th Avenue, 1175 sq.ft, 2.5 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, wood work, lift, covered car park, 7 years, vegetarians only, prime area, rent Rs. 32000 (negotiable). Ph: 94442 15263.

ASHOK NAGAR, 12th Avenue, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, attached bath, fitted A/c, independent house, 1st floor, separate access, East facing, 800 sq.ft, rent Rs. 35000 (negotiable). Strictly vegetarians. No brokers. Enquiry from Monday, Ph: 92834 50923.

WEST MAMBALAM, Old No. 3/1, New No. 14, Venkatramam Street, near Govindan Road, ground floor, small portion with kitchen and room, good water facility, rent Rs. 6500, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: +91-98405 13200, +91-96771 85056.

K.K. NAGAR, Hari Apartment, 6, Rajamannar Salai, near PSBB School, 30 Feet Road, new, ready to move, 1200 sq.ft, 1 big hall, 2 master bedrooms, full wood work, camera, car parking, 2 balconies, metro water, family rent Rs.25000, advance 6 months, lease Rs. 20 lakhs, office & bachelor Rs. 27000, prime location. Ph: 99419 99191, 98419 27338.

T. NAGAR, North Boag Road, flat for rent, spacious 2 bedrooms house, hall, kitchen, split A/c, 950 sq.ft, 2nd floor, no lift, covered car park, lift, vegetarians only. Ph: 94447 13117.

ASHOK NAGAR, 12th Avenue, RR Colony, 2200 sq.ft, 1st floor, east facing, 5 bedrooms, hall, modular kitchen, 5 western toilets, 4 balconies, full wood work, covered car park. Satish, Ph: 95661 79922, 93805 66667.

T. NAGAR, Gandhi Street, ground floor, north facing, rent Rs. 27000, vegetarians only. Ph: 89393 88824.

T. NAGAR, Car Track Street, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, ground floor, north facing, 850 sq.ft, no car park, rent Rs. 25000 + maintenance Rs. 500, Brahmins only. Agent, Ph: 99621 07304.

WEST MAMBALAM, 11/6, Rajaji Street, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 24 hours water, EB as per card. Ph: 92831 80834, 90427 63415.

WEST MAMBALAM, Postal Colony 3rd Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 630 sq.ft, ground floor, car park, 24 hours metro water. Ph: 88103 89784, 63793 30041.

T. NAGAR, Vysar Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, independent house, ground floor, 1100 sq.ft, 2 bathrooms, south facing, car park, rent Rs. 37000, 6 months advance, Brahmins only. Agent, Ph: 99621 07304.

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## AAVIN Women Welfare Society donates Rs. 2.39 lakhs to needy organisations



By Our Staff Reporter

Members of AAVIN Women Welfare Society celebrated International Women's Day in Pasumpon Devar Mandapam (Habibullah Road, T. Nagar) on March 9.

Rs. 2.39 lakhs worth aid was gifted to Visharanti Old Age Home (Home for Visually Challenged) and Salvation Trust.

R. Sivagami Sundari (President, Aavin Women Welfare Association), John Louis (Managing Director, Aavin), S. Kavitha (Joint Managing Director), Rajiv Kumar (Chief Vigilance Officer), S. Amudha and R. Govindarajalu (General Managers, Aavin) and Thiripoorasudamani (Assistant Professor, Hindu College) were present.

## Medical equipment worth Rs. 5.50 lakhs donated to PHC

By Our Staff Reporter

Benline Agencies Pvt.Ltd. donated one 7-Para Patient Monitor and four 5-Para Patient Monitor worth Rs. 5.50 lakhs to Public Health Centre (Lake View Road, West Mambalam) on March 9.



It was organised by Bhuvana Kumar and Jeevananthan of Help Foundation India.

## Lions Club gifts essentials to Dignity Foundation

By Our Staff Reporter

The members of Lions Club of Balaji Avenue (1st Street, Balaji Avenue, T. Nagar) and Padmavathi Club visited Dignity Foundation (Home for senior citizens and dementia patients in Anna Nagar) on March 3.

During the visit the members gifted a tricycle, wheelchair, bedsheets, pillows, physiotherapy equipment and clothes to the inmates,



and also sponsored lunch for them.

G. Chandrasekar (Lions District Governor 3241E), G. Dorai Raj and R. Rajan (Vice District Governors) and Ammu Venkatesh (President of Lions Club of Balaji Avenue) were present.

## Brahmotsavam in Govindan Road temple till March 19

Brahmotsavam festival is taking place in Sengamalavalli Thayar Samedha Ananda Srinivasa Perumal Temple (Govindan Road, West Mambalam). It will conclude on Thursday, March 19.

Special poojas, followed by abhishekam and alangaaram are performed daily to the presiding deity in the morning and evening.

There will procession of the deity on temple chariot in the morning on the concluding day. All are welcome

## SPM Infra offers luxurious 2/3 bedrooms flats in Kodambakkam

SPM Infra has launched its new high-end and luxurious residential project Krish Kutir in the heart of Kodambakkam at Rathinammal Street

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completed several real estate projects at prominent locations in the city. We emphasize on quality construction, luxury and utmost customer satisfaction, he said. For site visit and more details, contact Voora Ventures in 72000 09414.

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