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Vol. 32, No. 16

August 30 - September 5, 2026

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மூட பக்தி

(மகாகவி சுப்ரமண்ய பாரதியார் 1920ல் எழுதிய கட்டுரை)

நம்முடைய ஜனங்களுக்கிடையே இந்த நிமிஷம் வரை நடைபெறும் மூட பக்திகளுக்கு கணக்கு வழக்கே கிடையாது. இதனால் நம்மவர்களின் காரியங்களுக்கும், விவகாரங்களுக்கும் ஏற்படும் விக்கினங்களுக்கு எல்லையில்லை.

இந்த மூட பக்திகளிலே மிகவும் தொல்லையான அம்சம் யாதெனில் எல்லாச் செய்கைகளுக்கும் நாள், நட்சத்திரம், லக்ஷம் முதலியன பார்த்தல். கூுவரம் பண்ணிக் கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்றால்கூட நம்மவர் மாசப் பொருத்தம், பக்ஷப் பொருத்தம், திதிப்பொருத்தம், நாள் பொருத்தம், நட்சத்திரப் பொருத்தம் இத்தனையும் பார்த்தாக வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. கூுவரத்துக்குக்கூட இப்படியென்றால் இனி கல்யாணங்கள், சடங்குகள், வியாபாரங்கள், யாத்திரைகள், விவசாய ஆரம்பங்கள் முதலிய முக்கிய காரியங்கள் பல்லாயிரத்தின் விஷயத்திலே நம்மவர்கள் மேற்படி பொருத்தங்கள் பார்ப்பதில் செலவிடும் கால விரயத்துக்கும், பொருள் விரயத்துக்கும் வரம்பே கிடையாது.

சகுனம் பார்க்கும் வழக்கமும் காரியங்களுக்குப் பெரும் தடையாக வந்து மூண்டிருக்கிறது. இதில் நேரும் அழிவுகளும், அவற்றால் பொருள் அழிவுகளும் எவ்வளவு உண்டாகின்றன என்பதை நம்மவர் கணிப்பதே கிடையாது. சகுனம் பார்ப்பதினால் காரிய நஷ்டம் மாத்திரம் உண்டாகிறது. நாள் பொருத்தம், லக்ஷப் பொருத்தம் முதலியன பார்க்குமிடத்தே காரிய நஷ்டம் மட்டுமன்றி மேற்படி லக்ஷம் முதலியன பார்த்துச் சொல்லும் ஹோதிடருக்கு வேறு பணம் செலவாகிறது.

‘காலம் பணவிலை உடையது’ என்ற குறிப்புடைய ஆங்கிலப் பழமொழி ஒன்றிருக்கிறது. இந்த சமாசாரம் நம்மவருக்குத் தெரிவதே கிடையாது. பொழுது வீணே கழிக்கப் படுமாயின் அதனால் பணலாபம் கிடைகாமல் போகும். இன்று செய்யக்கூடிய காரியத்தை நாளைக்குச் செய்யலாமென்று தாமதப்படுத்தி வைப்பதனால் அந்தக் காரியம் பலமான சேதமடைந்து போகும். எதையும் தோன்றிய மாத்திரத்திலே சூட்டோடு செய்யும்போது அதில் வெற்றி பெரும்பாலும் நிச்சயமாகக் கிடைக்கும். அதைத் தூங்கப் போட்டுவிட்ட பிறகு செய்யப்போனால் அதில் ஆரம்பத்திலிருந்த ரஸம் குறைந்து போகும். அதற்குத் தக்கபடி பயனும் குறையும்.

‘இத்தகைய மூட பக்திகள் எல்லாம் படிப்பில்லாமையால் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றன’ என்றும் ‘ஜனங்களுக்குப் படிப்புக் கற்றுக் கொடுத்தால் இவை அழிந்து போய்விடும்’ என்றும் ஆங்கிலப் படிப்பாளிகள் சொல்லக் கேள்விப்பட்டிருக்கிறேன். நானும் ஒரு வாறு அது மெய்யென்றே நம்புகிறேன். ஆனால் அதற்குத் தற்காலத்தில் நமது தேசத் துப் பாடசாலைகளில் பயிற்றுவிக்கப்படும் ஆங்கிலப் படிப்பு சுத்தமாகப் பிரயோஜனமில்லை என்பது ஸ்பஷ்டமாக விளங்குகிறது. சென்ற நூறு வருஷங்களாக இந்த நாட்டில் ஆங்கிலப் படிப்பு நடந்து வருகிறது. ஆயிரக்கணக்கான பாடசாலைகள் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. இவற்றுள் லட்சக்கணக்கான, கோடிக்கணக்கான ஜனங்கள் படித்துத் தேறியிருக்கிறார்கள். இவர்கள் மூட பக்திகளை எல்லாம் விட்டு விலகி நிற்கிறார்களா? இல்லை. நமது தேசத்தில் முப்பத்து மூன்று கோடி ஜனங்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். இத்தனை ஜனங்களுக்கும் ஒருவர் மிச்சமில்லாமல் உயர்தரக் கல்வி கற்றுக்கொடுத்த பின்புதான் மேற்கூறிய சாமான்ய மூட பக்திகள் விலக வேண்டுமென்பது அவசியமில்லை. ஏற்கெனவே ஆங்கிலப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் படித்துத் தேறியவர்கள் இந்த விஷயத்தில் தமது மனச்சாட்சிப்படி யோக்கியமாக நடந்து வந்திருப்பார்களானால் மற்றவர்களிலும் பெரும்பாலோர் நடைதிருந்தியிருப்பார்கள். பின்னும் எத்தனையோ விஷயங்களில் நம்மவர் ஆங்கில படித்தவரின் நடையைப் பின்பற்றித் தங்கள் புராதன வழக்கங்களை மாற்றிக் கொண்டிருக்கக் காண்கிறோம். அதுபோலவே இந்த விஷயத்திலும் நடந்திருக்கும்.

ஆனால் ஆங்கிலப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களுக்குப் போய்த் தேறினவர்களிடம் மனச்சாட்சிப்படியும், தன் அறிவுப் பயிற்சியின் விசாலத்திற்குத் தகுந்தபடியும் நடக்கும் யோகியதை மிகமிகக் குறைவாக இருக்கிறது. ஆங்கிலப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் எத்தனையோ சாஸ்திரங்கள் - நிஜ சாஸ்திரங்கள், பொய் சாஸ்திரங்கள் இரண்டும் கலந்தது. எத்தனையோ வித சாஸ்திரங்கள் பயிற்றுகிறார்கள்.

ஆனால் சுதந்திரம், ஆண்மை, நேர்மை, உண்மை, வீரியம் இவை அத்தனை ஜாக்கிரதையாக கற்றுக் கொடுப்பதில்லை. அதிலும் ஒருவன் தன் மனமறிந்த உண்மையின்படி ஒழுக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் அங்ஙனம் கற்றுக்கொடுக்கும் வழக்கமேயில்லை. இந்த விஷயத்தைக் கூட வாய்ப்பாடமாகப் படிப்பித்துக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் ஒழுக்கப் பயிற்சியில்லை. புத்தகத்துக்கும், வாய்ப்பேச்சுக்கும், செய்கைக்கும் இடையே லட்ச யோசனை தூரமாக நடப்பவர்களுக்குத் த்ருஷ்டாந்தம் காட்டப் புகுமிடத்தே நமது நாட்டில் ஆங்கிலப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் தேறிவரும் மனிதரைப்போல இத்தனை சிறந்தத் த்ருஷ்டாந்தம் வேறெங்கும் கிடைப்பது மிகவும் துர்லபமென்று தோன்றுகிறது.

பி.ஏ., எம்.ஏ பரீட்சைகள் தேறி வக்கீல்களாகவும், உபாத்தியாயராகவும், என்ஜினியர் களாகவும், பிற உத்தியோகஸ்தராகவும் வாழும் கணக்கில்லாத ஐயர், அய்யங்கார், பிள்ளை முதலியவர்களில் எவராவது ஒருவர் தன் வீட்டுக் கல்யாணத்துக்கு லக்ஷம் பார்க்க வேண்டிய அவசியமில்லை என்று நிறுத்தியிருப்பாரா?

‘பெண் பிள்ளைகளின் உபத்திரவத்தால் இவ்விதமான மூட பக்திகளுக்குக் கட்டுப் பட்டு வாழும்படி நேரிடுகிறது’ என்பது நொண்டிச் சமாதானம். மரியாதை கொடுக்க வேண்டிய இடத்தில் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். மூடத்தனமான, புத்திமான்கள் கண்டு நகைக்கும்படியான செய்கைகள் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று ஸ்திரீகள் பலனின்றிப் பதற்றமிடத்தே அவர்களுடைய சொல்படி நடப்பது முற்றிலும் தவறு. மேலும் அது உண்மையான காரணமன்று. போலிக் காரணம். நம்மவர் இத்தகைய சாதாரண மூட பக்திகளை விட்டு விலகத் துணியாமலிருப்பதின் உண்மையான காரணம் ‘வைதிகரும், பாமரரும் நம்மை ஒரு வேளை பந்தி போஜனத்துக்கு அழைக்காமல் விலக்கி விடு வார்கள்’ என்பதுதான்.

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Corporation begins desilting of storm water drains

**By Our
Staff
Reporter**

As part of pre-monsoon works, Chennai Corporation has started desilting storm water drains in T. Nagar, West

Mambalam and nearby areas.

The work is being supervised by local Corporation officials.

Photo taken on Postal Colony 2nd Street (West Mambalam) on Aug. 27 shows Corporation workers cleaning the storm water drain.



Special poojas for Janmashtami on Friday

ISKCON (T. Nagar) has organised Krishna Janmash-tami mahotsavam from 7.30 a.m on Friday, Sept. 4 in Krish naswamy Kalyanam Manda pam (62, Chevaliar Shivaji Ganesan Road. T. Nagar.

The following are the program details:

7.30 a.m: Darshan and Arathi
8 a.m: Bhajans by Murali
Baghavatar; 10 a.m: Spiritual
drama titled 'Gopikas Love and
Devotion'; 12 noon: Bhajans by
Varshini Mathaji; 1 p.m.:
Keerthanai mahotsavam; 2
p.m: Special abhishekam; 10
p.m: Maha deepa aradhanai and
prasadam distribution
All are welcome.

All are welcome.

ஆங்கிலம் படித்த மேற்குலத்து ஹிந்துக்கள் கணக் கில்லாத மூட பக்திகளைக் கை விலங்குகளாகவும், கால் விலங்குகளாகவும், கழுத்து விலங்குகளாகவும் பூட்டிக் கொண்டு தத்தளிப்பதின் தலைமைக் காரணம் பந்தி போஜனத்தைப் பற்றிய பயம்தான். அதைத் தவிர வேறொன்றுமில்லை. அந்த மெய்யான காரணத்தை மறைத்துவிட்டு ஸ்திரீகளின் மீது வீண்பழி சுமத்தும் இந்த வீரர்கள் மற்றும் எத்தனையோ விவகாரங்களின் தம்மினத்து மாதரை விலையடிமைகள் போலவும், விலங்குகள் போலவும் நடத்தும் விஷயம் நாம் அறியாததன்று. எண்ணில்லாத பொருள் நஷ்டமும், கால நஷ்டமும் அந்தக் காரணத்தின் இகழ்ச்சியும் உலகத்து அறிஞரின் நகையாடலும் சத்திய தெய்வத்தின் பகைமையும் சிறிதென்று கொண்டீர்! பந்தி போஜன ஸ்வதந்திரம் பெரியதென்று உணர்ந்தபடி நடவுங்கள். பந்திபோஜனம் சிறிது காலத்துக்குத்தான் உங்களுக்குக் கிடைக்காதிருக்கும். பிறகு உங்கள் கூட்டத் தொகை அதிகமாகும். சத்திய பலம் முதலிய பல பல காரணங்களால் மேற்படி பந்தி போஜனமும் உங்களுக்கு சித்தியாய்விடும். தைரியமாக வேலை செய்யுங்கள்.

Concerts, naamasankeerthanam in Obul Reddy Hall this week

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Jayanthi Music Festival, in memory of P. Obul Reddy and P. Gnanambal, is going on in Sri Thyaga Brahma Gana Sabha (108, G.N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar) since Aug. 30.

It will conclude on Sept. 13.

Naamasankeerthanam and concerts will be held daily at 4.30 p.m and 6.30 pm.

Following are the details till Saturday, Sept 5:

Monday, Aug.31:

4.30 p.m: Naamasankeerthanam by students of Sankara School (Urapakkam)

6.30 p.m: Vocal concert by Srirangam V. Venkatana-garajan, accompanied by Madurai M. Vijayaganesh (violin), J. Vaidyanathan (mridangam) and Nerikunam S. Sankar (kanjira)

Tuesday, Sept. 1:

4.30 pm: Naamasankeerthanam by Manishankar Bhagavathar

6.30 p.m: Vocal concert by Mohan Santhanam, accompanied by V. Srikanth (violin), S. Subramanian (mridangam) and V. Sai Subramaniam (morsing)

Wednesday, Sept.2:

4.30 p.m: Naamasankeerthanam by students of The Hindu School (Adyar)

6.30 p.m: Vocal concert by Bhavya Hari, accompanied by Bombay R. Madhavan (violin), B. Guru Raghavendra (mridangam) and H. Sivaramakrishnan (ghatam)

Thursday, Sept.3:

4.30 p.m: Naamasankeerthanam by students of PSBB School (K.K. Nagar)

6.30 p.m: Vocal concert by A.S. Murali, accompanied by V.V. Srinivasa Rao (violin), Palladam R. Ravi (mridangam) and A.S. Krishnan (morsing)

Friday, Sept.4:

4.30 p.m: Naamasankeerthanam by the students of PSBB School (Nungambakkam)

6.30 p.m: Vocal concert by Uma and Radhika, accompanied by Mysore V. Srikanth (violin), J. Vaidyanathan (mridangam) and G. Ravichandran (ghatam)

Saturday, Sept.5:

4.30 p.m: Naamasankeerthanam by Sri Vidyavani Sangeetha Vidyalaya (West Mambalam)

6.30 p.m: Vocal concert by R. Suryaprakash, accompanied by R. Raghul (violin), Praveen Sparsh (mridangam) and Trichy K. Murali (ghatam).

Entrance is free. All are welcome.

Surprise gift for new born at PHC on Independence Day



By Our Staff Reporter

In connection with Independence Day on Aug. 15, a child born on that day in Public Health Centre (Lake View Road, West Mambalam) was given a special gift.

A National Saving Scheme certificate for Rs. 5,000 was awarded to the infant's parents to celebrate the occasion.

Also, children born in the general ward of the hospital are given free immunisation for the 1st year, which otherwise costs Rs. 15,000.

Carnatic music competition on Sept. 19

By Our Staff Reporter

The Indian Fine Arts Society will conduct its annual music competition from 8.30 a.m to 5.30 p.m on Saturday, Sept. 19 in Ethiraja Marriage Hall (867, TTK Road, Alwarpet, near Kaveri Hospital).

Upcoming musicians between 10 and 20 years can compete in Carnatic vocals, violin, mridangam and veena competitions.

To register, send an email to ifas75@rediffmail.com or visit the website <https://theindianfineartsociety1932.com>

The last date to register is Monday, Aug. 31.

Sangu abhishekam in temple on Friday

By Our Staff Reporter

In connection with Krishna Jayanthi, Venugopalaswamy Temple Baktha Jana Sabha (Ellaiaimman Koil Street, West Mambalam) has organised special programs from 7 a.m on Friday, Sept.4 in Ellaiaimman Temple (West Mambalam).

The following are the details:

7 a.m: Navakalasa abhishekam.

6 p.m: Sangu abhishekam with 1008 conches and Aaradhanai

7 p.m: Procession of presiding deity on Garuda vahanam through nearby streets

For more details, call 98849 19400.

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என்னுடைய சிநேகிதி ஒருவர் பஞ்சாபைச் சேர்ந்தவர். அவர் உடம்பு அசௌகரியமாகப் படுக்கையில் இருந்தால் கூடத் தையல் வேலை செய்துகொண்டே இருப்பார். அதனால் கூலி மிச்சமாவதுடன் துணிகளும் லாபகரமாகிறதென்று சொல்லுவார். தைக்காமல் இருந்தால் தம்முடைய கடமைகளை விட்டுவிட்டதாகத் தோன்றுமாம்.

மற்றொரு சகோதரி தம்முடைய வீட்டைக் கலைக்கடமாக வைத்திருப்பார். அவரை எப்பொழுது சந்தித்தாலும் கையில் ஊதியுடனும், நூலுடனும் தான் இருப்பார்.

வளரும் குழந்தைகளுக்கு விலை உயர்ந்த துணிகளை வாங்கி அதில் விதவிதமான சரிகைப்பூ வேலை செய்து போடுவது அவசியமா? உஷ்ணம் மிகுந்த நம் நாட்டில் அவர்கள் இறுக்கம் தாங்காமல் சொக்காயைப் பிய்த்துக் கொண்டு அழுகிறார்கள். தம்முடைய ஆசைக்காகக் குழந்தைகளைத் துன்புறுத்துவானேன்?



துணிகள் வாங்குவதில் சிக்கன முறை தேவையதான். சுத்தமாக, எளிமையாக இருப்பதுடன் அதைக் கடைசி வரையில் உபயோகிக்கக் கற்றுக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். கௌரவம் வாய்ந்த ஒரு குடும்பத்தில் வயது சென்ற ஓர் அம்மாள் தம்முடைய பேத்தி, பேரக் குழந்தைகளுக்குத் தம் கையாலேயே பழைய துணிகளைத் தைத்து அடுக்குவார். அவர்களுக்குப் புதிதாக வாங்கிக் குவிக்க வசதி இருக்கிறது; ஆனாலும் வீணாகச் செய்யக்கூடாதென்ற அந்தப் பழக்கம் எல்லோரும் கற்றுக்கொள்ள வேண்டியதுதான்.

மிகவும் சுறுசுறுப்பும் தகுதியுமுள்ள ஒரு சகோதரி சந்தர்ப்பத்துக்குத் தகுந்தபடி புடவையை உடுத்துவார். அது பிறருக்கும் திருப்தியைக் கொடுக்கிறது.

புதிய புதிய உடைகள் உடுத்துவது பெரியவர்களுக்கும் நினைவு தெரிந்த குழந்தைகளுக்கும் சந்தோஷத்தைக் கொடுக்கத்தான் செய்கிறது. பிறர் பார்த்து நன்றாக இருப்பதாகச் சொன்னால்தான் இன்னும் பெருமை. இதைப் பற்றி ஒரு பழைய நகைச்சுவை உண்டு. ஒரு பெண் புதுப் புடவையை உடுத்திக்கொண்டு பக்கத்து வீட்டு அம்மாள் பார்ச்சு வேண்டுமென்று நின்றாளாம். அந்த அம்மாள் கவனிக்கவே இல்லை. பொறுக்க முடியாமல் பக்கத்து வீட்டுக்குப் போய், 'புதுப் புடவை உடுத்திக் கொண்டால் இப்படி தாகம் எடுக்குமா?' என்று கேட்டு வைத்தாள்.

இன்றைய உலகில் பெண்கள் மட்டும் துணிகளில் மோகமடைகிறார்கள் என்று சொல்ல முடியாது. ஆண்களும் விதவிதமான நிறங்களிலும், பூக்களிலும் சொக்காய்கள், கோட்டுகள் அணிகின்றனர்.

பெண்கள் பிறர் மனதைக் கவரும் உடையை அணிய வேண்டாமென்று வற்புறுத்திச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். சமீபத்தில் வெளிநாட்டுக்குச் சென்றிருந்தாள் என் சகோதரி. அந்த நாடுகளில் அவருடைய உத்தரவைக் கேட்டும், கேட்காமலும் படம் பிடித்துக்கொண்டே இருந்தார்களாம். மரியாதை செய்யும் முறையில் உடைகள் அணியும் நம் நாட்டு சகோதரிகளிடம் அவர்களுக்கு அளவற்ற மதிப்பு என்று அறிகிறோம். அத்தகைய நம் நாட்டின் சிறந்த பண்பாட்டை சிறிதும் இழக்க வேண்டாம்.

Anti-drug awareness drives held at auto stands



By Our Staff Reporter

Anti-drug awareness programmes were held at 62 autorickshaw stands across the city including T. Nagar and West Mambalam on Aug. 26, with more than 2,000 autorickshaw drivers. Police interacted with the auto drivers and explained the risks associated with drug use, including its impact on health and families.

The auto drivers pledged their support for the police campaign and took an oath to work towards preventing drug abuse.

Nutrition kits gifted to underprivileged women



By Our Staff Reporter

The Lions International District 3241F distributed health kits to expectant and lactating mothers from underprivileged families last week in K.K. Nagar.

The nutrition kit worth Rs. 850 contained dry fruits, health mix powder, provisions, sanitary napkins and other essentials. Uma Anilkumar (Lions District Governor) and other members of the Club were present.

She said that pregnant women from poor families can contact. Udayakumar (Secretary of the Club) in 93810 20068 to obtain the kit.

Onam celebrated in Narayana Mission School



By Our Staff Reporter

Onam was celebrated with fervour in Narayana Mission School (Easwaran Koil Street, West Mambalam) on Aug. 26.

The senior girl students and staff wore traditional Onam attire.

They made a decorative pookalam and performed Thiruvathirakali (group dance).

Sriram Parasuram's concert on Saturday

Under the auspices of Sri Sadguru Sangeetha Vidhyalayam (16, Thambiah Road, West Mambalam) Sriram Parsuram will present a Carnatic vocal concert at 6.30 p.m on Saturday, Sept 6. He will be accompanied by Shertalai R. Ananthakrishnan on the mridangam and Sivani on the violin. All are welcome.

For more details call, 94446 22111.

Art exhibition themed on birds concludes today

By Our Staff Reporter

Winged Echoes, an exhibition of artworks by S. Jayaraj (resident of T. Nagar) and R. Dhiyaneshwaran featuring birds, has been going on since Aug. 23 in Cube Gallery (Plot 13, 2nd Street, Elango Nagar, Virugambakkam).

It will conclude on Sunday, Aug. 30.

It is open from 10 a.m to 6 p.m, and the entry is free.

The exhibition explores the beauty, diversity and ecological significance of birdlife through water colour, collage and acrylic works.

Jayaraj's paintings feature birds including Common Chaffinch, Blue Tit, Great Indian Bustard, Grey Heron, House Sparrow Magpie and Robin, and Dhiyaneshwaran's paintings feature Oriental White-eye, Racket-tailed Drongo, Purple Swamphen, Blue Flycatcher, White-bellied Treepie, Eurasian Coot and more.

For more details, call 87545 55769.

Chanting of Thiruvasagam today forenoon

By Our Staff Reporter

Appar Arutpani Mandram has organised chanting of Thiruvasagam from 8.30 a.m to 2 p.m on Sunday, Aug.30 in Vinai Theertha Vinayagar Temple (Chetti Street, Saidapet).

All are welcome.

For more details, call 99417 55111.

Cultural show by special children of Madhuram Narayanan Centre

The Bala Mandir Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children (T. Nagar) conducted a special program titled Namma Kondattam last week that

brought together children with developmental disabilities, their families, special educators and care givers for a fun-filled day of games, creative activities, music and cultural programs.

Dr. Darez Ahamed (Secretary to Tamilnadu Government, Health and Family Welfare Department) and Meera Jagdish (President, Inner Wheel Club of Madras) were the special guests.

N. Balasubramaniam (Media Contact) said that the children underwent special training in preparation for the program.

His contact number is 98403 10502.

The Center provides Early Intervention Services for children up to 6 years with intellectual disability and associated conditions and the Skill Development Program 'Jivikam' for children above 6 years.

With profound grief and deep sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved
MANANEYYA SRI. S. VEDANDAM JI



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His illustrious life, noble thoughts and selfless services will forever remain an inspiration to generations.

Date of Birth: 05.03.1933 Date of Demise: 29.08.2026

The final rites will be performed on 30.08.2026 (Sunday) at 3.00 p.m. with family and relatives.

VENUE:

Jaigopal Garodia Hindu Vidyalaya Matric.Hr.Sec.School,
Postal Colony 4th Street,
West Mambalam, Chennai – 600 033.

130 new EV buses added to MTC fleet

Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay on Aug. 25 flagged off 250 new buses procured at Rs 290.08 crores for the State Transport Corporation, including 130 electric AC buses for Metropolitan Transport Corporation.

The 130 low-floor AC e-buses are among the first batch of phase two of the World Bank-supported procurement of 750 AC e-buses.

The MTC procured them for Rs 1,337 crores under the Gross Cost Contract model. Of the 130 buses, 80 will be operated from MTC's Alandur depot and 50 from its Central depot.

The new services will connect key destinations including Chennai airport, Kilambakkam bus terminus, Siruseri IT Park, OMR, Tambaram, Chengalpattu, Mamallapuram, Guindy, Anna

Nagar, Pattabiram, Kundrathur and Poona-mallee, and ply from Alandur and Central depots.

80 buses from Alandur depot will operate on 15 routes including the 9M route from T. Nagar bus terminus to AGS Officer's Colony).

50 buses from Central depot will operate on 10 routes including route 72 from T. Nagar Bus Terminus to Tiruverkadu.

Talk on Indian Knowledge Systems today

In connection with Sanskrit Week, Samskrita Bharati has organised Bharatiya Jnana Pradeepa (a program on Indian Knowledge Systems) at 5 p.m on Sunday, Aug. 30 in The Nest School (Arcot Road, Kodambakkam).

Language experts will talk on India's rich heritage, scientific contributions, and philosophical wisdom of ancient traditions.

The program is being held with an aim to propagate India's rich cultural legacy and traditional wisdom.

It will benefit all including students, academicians and professionals. Entrance is free. All are welcome.

For more details, call 91760 13925.

300 women participate in paal kudam procession



By Our Staff Reporter

More than 300 women devotees of Chelliamman temple (10th Avenue, Ashok Nagar) took out a paal kudam procession on Aug. 28.

Many were attired as Goddess Kali.

It was followed by maha milk abhishekam to the presiding deity and annadhaanam.



T. Nagar resident leads ensemble in USA



On the occasion of India's 80th Independence Day, Gopal Venkatraman (a resident of Raghaviah Road, T. Nagar for over 50 years) in association with Friends of India (Las Vegas), organised a programme of patriotic songs on Aug. 16 at Clark County Library Auditorium (Las Vegas, USA). Hundreds of Indians participated in the programme.

An ensemble of 28 men, women and children presented a number of patriotic songs conducted by Gopal.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Appeal to replace damaged fibreglass speed breakers



Sir, The fibreglass speed breakers installed some years back in Rangarajapuram 2-wheeler subway (T. Nagar) are damaged. As the bolts used to fix the speed breakers are exposed, they pose grave danger to bikers.

I appeal to Chennai Corporation to replace the damaged speed breakers or remove the exposed bolts. This photo was taken by me on Aug.28. **R. Sundaresan, Rangarajapuram Main Road, West Mambalam, Ph: 98400 70062.**

Special programs in Annai Arul Maiyam on Tuesday

Sri Aravindar Annai Arul Maiyam (9, Mahadevan Street, West Mambalam) has organised special program on Tuesday, Sept.1 as part of Prosperity Day celebrations.

The following are the program details:

6 a.m: Balcony darshan and pushpanjali.

6 p.m: Spiritual talk by A V. Ramesh

7 p.m to 7.15 p.m: Prayer and meditation.

All are welcome. For more details, call 97899 71571.

Dog is distress rescued by firemen



By Our Staff Reporter

A dog that fell into a metro water sump and was struggling to get out on Mahadevan Street (West Mambalam), was rescued by the personnel of T. Nagar Fire and Rescue Department at around 5 a.m on Aug. 25.

One hearing the sound of a dog wailing in the early hours of the day, a resident of the house noticed that a dog had fallen into the 8-foot-deep metro water sump in his house.

After he alerted the fire department, its personnel arrived within 30 minutes and pulled it out of the sump without causing it any injury.

Abandoned car blocks carriageway on Sivaprakasam Street



A car with deflated tyres is abandoned on the road margin on Sivaprakasam Street (T. Nagar).

A nearby resident said that the car has been parked at the spot for the past several months.

As it blocks usable width of the carriageway, he requests traffic police to remove the vehicle from the spot.

This photo was taken on Aug.27.

Water leaking from drain pipes on flyover

Rain water is leaking from the damaged overhead drain pipes installed below the flyover on Usman Road (T. Nagar). It is causing hindrance to motorists passing along the service lane.

Renovated Amma Park yet to be reopened



By Our Staff Reporter

Amma Park, redeveloped by Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) at a cost of Rs 2.91 crores, is yet to be reopened to the public.

Spread over 3,857 sq.ft, it was closed in August last year for redevelopment.

Though the work was completed two months back, the park is being kept closed, waiting for an official inauguration.

A member Amma Park Users' Association said a petition submitted to Saida-pet MLA M Arul Prakasam requesting for immediate opening of the park has yielded no results. So, we have planned to conduct a protest in the coming days, he said.

Before closure, over 800 people used the facility daily.

"Many senior citizens like me have missed chatting with friends in the park. This place is our regular meeting spot and rejuvenates us," a resident said.

With no other park within a 1-km radius, people are forced to go to 5E Park in Ashok Nagar and Sivan Park in K.K. Nagar to walk, he said. The upgraded park features modern play equipment, a renovated skating court and badminton court, seating arrangements, walking and jogging tracks, a refurbished fountain, rest-room facilities, a small science park, and outdoor exercise equipment.

A Corporation official said that they are awaiting clearance from CMDA officials to open the park.

Leaning street light post at road junction

By Our Staff Reporter

As its foundation is damaged, a street light post is leaning precariously towards the road at the junction of Thirumalai Road and Sarangapani Street (T. Nagar).

As it is likely to fall at any time, nearby residents request Tamilnadu Electricity Board to refix the leaning post. This photo was taken on Aug.19.



OBITUARY S. VEDANTAM

S. Vedantam, resident of Ramanujam Street (T. Nagar) passed away on Aug. 29.



He was 93, and a longtime resident of T. Nagar.

He was a senior member of Vishwa Hindu Parishad and had been its Vice President.

He was the Founder of Vishva Hindu Vidya Kendra that runs 15 schools across Tamilnadu including Hindu Vidya School in West Mambalam.

He started the Single Teacher School in 2006 in villages in Tiruvallur and Kancheepuram districts to empower poor students with extra classes after regular school.

Since its inception, such schools have been opened in more than 900 villages in Tamilnadu, educating more than 50,000 students from lower income groups and downtrodden families.

He was a bachelor.

Iron rods removed from road margin after report



Following the report 'Rusted iron rods dumped on road margin' published in *Mambalam Times* (Aug. 23 to 29 issue), the big heap of rusted iron rods dumped on the road margin at the junction of Giri Road and Paul Appasamy Street (T. Nagar) was removed by Chennai Corporation on Aug. 25.

They had been posing danger of severe injury to unwary pedestrians at night due to poor visibility.

Putra Kameshti homam in Sankara Mutt next Sunday

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Korikkai Baba Meditation Centre (9, Madley Road, T. Nagar), Santhana Gopala Putra Kameshti homam will be performed at 9 a.m on Sunday, Sept. 6 in Sri Sankara Mutt (West Mambalam). It will benefit couples seeking parenthood and expectant mothers.

For more details, call 80726 79856 or 73388 80709.

Exhibition of Krishna dolls from Sept. 4 to 6

By Our Staff Reporter

Shree Geeta Bhavan Trust has organised an exhibition of a large collection of Lord Krishna dolls, depicting his divine life and plays, from Friday, Sept. 4 to Sunday, Sept. 6 its premises at 334, Avvai Shanmugam Salai, Gopalapuram.

Entry is free.

All are welcome.

Corporation announces major infra works across the city

Chennai Corporation has announced a Rs.947-crore package of urban infrastructure projects for the city, with focus on improving roads and civic amenities, developing parks and schools, reclaiming land at the city's two major dumpyards and strengthening flood mitigation infrastructure.

The biggest allocation, Rs.300 crore, has been earmarked for re-laying 360 km of roads across the city.

It includes an Integrated Urban Development Project of Rs. 110 crores covering 45 sq km across T. Nagar, Tondiarpet, Royapettah and Adyar.

The project envisages a 35-km pedestrian walkway, 15km of safe school routes and infrastructure improvements at 105 road intersections to improve pedestrian safety and traffic movement.

Rains bring traffic to a standstill

By Our Staff Reporter

Heavy rains lashed many parts of the city including this neighbourhood in the late evening from 6 p.m to 10 p.m on Aug. 23, with intermittent heavy rains continuing in the late evenings till Aug. 26.

According to data from the Meteorological Office, the highest rainfall of 48.3 mm was recorded in Anna Nagar on Aug. 23, followed by Kasimedu (42.4 mm) and Valasaravakkam (41.4mm).

As the heavy rains occurred during peak traffic hours, there was severe congestion along arterial roads including Usman Road, Venkatnarayana Road, G.N. Chetty Road and Anna Salai.

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, Postal Colony 1st Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, flat for sale, ground floor, super built-up area 840 sq.ft, UDS 300 sq.ft, price Rs. 75 lakhs, 25 years old building, no brokers/property consultants. Ph: 76958 11730.

ASHOK NAGAR, Pillar Apartments, 10th Avenue, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, 950 sq.ft, UDS 571 sq.ft, one open car park. Ph: 99164 32200.

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KATTUPAKKAM, Near Metro Station, prime area, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, covered car park, bank loan property. Immediate sale. Rs.45 Lakhs. Ph: 99404 48473.

KODAMBAKKAM, near Raghavendra Kalyana Mandapam, 777 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, calm area, no car park, price Rs. 60 lakhs (negotiable). Contact: Agent Ph: 63835 63425.

T.NAGAR, near Bus Stand, 900 sq.ft, well maintained flat, 1st floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, dining, 2 toilets, balcony, semi furnished, 24 hours water. Ph: 96771 73262.

WEST MAMBALAM, Brindavan Street, on main road, 1800 sq.ft, land with G+1, independent house, for sale. Ph: 94447 13117.

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ASHOK NAGAR, 10th Avenue, near Grace Super Market, 1450 sq.ft, UDS 550 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 3 bathrooms, east facing, covered car park, lift, power back up, price Rs. 2.5 crore (negotiable). Ph: 89408 19667.

ASHOK NAGAR, new flat for sale, posh area, 30 feet road, 1500 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, UDS 700 sq.ft, 3rd floor, lift, power back up, covered car park, 24 hours security, rate Rs.14500 per sq.ft. Ph: 94447 13117.

ASHOK NAGAR, new 3 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, lift, car park, genset, CCTV, for sale, ready to occupy, for details contact consultant. Ph: 97101 04967.

RENTAL (WANTED)

WANTED COMMERCIAL semi-furnished, office space of 300 to 400 sq.ft, with attached toilet, in T.Nagar/ Alwarpet area, for a Healthcare Consulting company, clinic type setup preferred, can be part of a house. Ground floor, 1 car park, clean Road access, decent neighborhood, brokers excuse. Ph: 99593 37543.

LEASE WANTED

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for Brahmin family
of 3 members.
Lease upto Rs. 15 lakhs.
Brokers also welcome.

99402 86278
97909 59988

RENTAL

WEST MAMABLAM, 3/2, Lake View Road Extension, near Sri Muthalamman Koil, individual house, 1200 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, interior works, inverter, covered 2 wheeler parking, no car park, no lift, Brahmins only, rent Rs. 28000, no brokers. Ph: 89395 96334.

T.NAGAR, Hindi Prachara Sabha Street, 1000 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms flat, 3rd floor, lift, car park, rent Rs. 35000. Ph: 98401 08071.

T.NAGAR, Thirumurthy Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor flat, 2 bathrooms, suitable for small Brahmin family, no lift, immediate occupation, rent Rs. 25000, brokers excuse. Ph: 98415 99940.

ASHOK NAGAR, Raghava Reddy Colony 2nd Cross Street, 1600 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor, lift, power backup, 2 car parks, semi furnished, rent Rs. 45000, plus maintenance Rs. 4000, Brahmins/vegetarians only. Ph: 95431 83380.

WEST MAMBALAM, 147, Lake View Road, BBC Apartments, 789 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, balcony, 2nd floor, rent Rs. 22000, Brahmins/vegetarians only, brokers excuse. Ph: 86676 76754.

WEST MAMBALAM, near Adhikesava Perumal Temple, independent house, ground floor, east facing, 1400 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 4 bathrooms, pooja, store room, 3 A/c, one car park. Ph: 7904 218252, 98416 07073.

WEST MAMBALAM, near Adhikesava Perumal Temple, 1st floor, north facing, 1400 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 4 bathrooms, pooja, dining room, one car park. Ph: 7904 218252, 98416 07073.

ASHOK NAGAR, 1026 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2 toilets, 1 covered car park, south facing, vegetarians only, rent Rs. 35000, plus maintenance, Ramaniyam Pavithram, Ph: 98412 69156.

T.NAGAR, Habibullah Road, near Croma, 450 sq.ft, one bedroom, hall, kitchen, balcony, bath attached, 1st floor, lift, rent Rs. 18500, 5 months advance, small family, Brahmins/vegetarians. Vimal, Ph: 94441 16320.

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Rent Rs. 30000

97909 05635

WEST MAMBALAM, Bhakthavatchalam Street, near Ayodhya Mandapam Arya Gowda Road, 3 bedrooms apartments, hall, kitchen, dining, bath attached, rent Rs. 30000, advance 5 months. Ph: 90425 52842, 98411 93685.

T NAGAR, Habibullah Road, 1400 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 3 bath, 3rd floor, south facing, A/c, lift, CCTV, security, covered car park, rent Rs. 60000, plus maintenance, vegetarians only. Contact: Straw berries Property Ph: 93676 77787.

KODAMBAKKAM, Nagaarjuna Nagar, near 5 lights, 1300 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, 2nd floor, lift, covered car park, vegetarians only, rent Rs. 40000, advance Rs. 3 lakhs. Ph: 97909 26853.

WEST MAMBALAM

No.11, Gokulam Colony,
For Office.

All Type Classes etc...

Contact:
96772 97222

T.NAGAR, 24A/34, Venkatesan Street, near Chennai Silks, single room, with kitchen, Brahmin bachelors only, no brokers. Ph: 94440 23071.

T.NAGAR, 24A/34, Venkatesan Street, near Chennai Silks, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: 94440 23071.

T.NAGA, Mothilal Street, prime location, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, hall, kitchen, dining, sit out, 900 sq.ft, 1st floor, car park, 24 hours water, Brahmins only, rent Rs. 25000, maintenance Rs. 1000, 4 months advance, brokers excuse. Ph: 99415 70155.

ASHOK NAGAR, near Anjaneyar Temple, 1000 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, flat, hall, kitchen, semi furnished, covered car park, 2nd floor, security, rent Rs. 26000, maintenance Rs. 2500, family/ office. Ph: 73053 44555.

T.NAGAR, Srinivasa Reddy Street, 800 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms apartments, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, no lift, 2 wheeler parking only, east facing. Ph: 94447 13117.

WEST MAMBALAM, behind Ayodhya Mandapam, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, western toilet, north facing, 2 wheeler parking, contact consultant. Ph: 86101 46943.

KODAMBAKKAM, close to Railway Station/Flyover, 1300 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor, (top) floor, lift, open car park, security, south facing. Ph: 94447 13117.

SERVICED APARTMENT

WEST MAMBALAM, Postal Colony, (Ashok Nagar - prime location), near UVEE Rentals/Table Tennis Academy, Shopping /Metro/ full furnished serviced apartment, PG accommodation, car parking, attractive and ideal for short/long stays. Ph: 9840676327

SITUATION VACANT (GENERAL)

WANTED Office assistants at Mambalam, gents only, age: around 40-50 years, minimum degree. Ph: 94456 45201.

CIVIL ENGINEER with about 5 years experience to supervision of apartment building, required for a 4-storied office construction project coming up at Koyambedu. Candidates must have a two wheeler with a valid licence! Active retired engineers can also apply. Ph: 93400 72281, 9340072282.

WANTED FEMALE, in-charge for Acupuncture Clinic in T.Nagar. 10/ +2 passed, preferred to have basic computer knowledge, salary Rs. 12,000 to 15,000, timings: 9.30 a.m to 5.30 p.m. Clinic working on all days except Fridays. Ph: 98401 21766.

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Pedestrian injured after speeding bike hits him

By Our Staff Reporter

An elderly man suffered severe injuries while crossing the road after a speeding motorcyclist hit him near Navasakthi Vinayagar temple (9th Avenue, at 45th Street junction, Ashok Nagar) at around 7 p.m on Aug. 22. Traffic personnel from R3 Ashok Nagar Police station reached the spot and arranged an ambulance to take the elderly to a hospital.

The motorcyclist was arrested and his bike was seized.

Police said that two of his friends were riding pillion on the bike at the time of the accident.

A nearby resident said that there is heavy traffic on the road during peak hours due to traffic diversions.

He appeals to Chennai Corporation to install a speed breaker at the junction to slow down vehicles.

Scholarships awarded to students of Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya

A special program was held on Aug. 24 for students undergoing various vocational courses in Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya (South West Boag Road, CIT Nagar, T. Nagar).

Scholarships up to Rs. 25,000, sponsored by Blue Star Limited, were awarded to students who had successfully completed their training.

The students presented cultural shows including a Tamil play on Mahabali to highlight the spirit of Onam.

The program concluded with rangoli competition, and prizes were awarded to the winners. For more details, contact P. Maruthi (Secretary) in 91766 24283.

IT officials booked for graft

By Our Staff Reporter

The Central Bureau of Investigation registered a case against two income tax officials, including a resident of K.K. Nagar, for demanding and accepting Rs. 9 lakhs as bribe to evaluate an industrial property in Ambattur.

According to police, Sanjay Bapurao Chinchghare, the then District Valuation Officer (Income Tax Department) and D. Manjunathan (Assistant Engineer, Regional Training Institute, K.K. Nagar), allegedly entered into a criminal conspiracy with Subhash Chander Rana (Partner of AKS Engineering Company, Tiruvallur).

Rana paid them Rs. 9 lakhs at a hotel in Ashok Nagar in return for issuing a favourable valuation report for his company's property in Ambattur.

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Contact: 94450 06904

Parents donate organs of their brain-dead child



By Our Staff Reporter

The noble decision by the parents to donate the organs of their 17-month-old baby, who was declared brain-dead, helped save the life of three children in critical condition on Aug. 24.

The baby, Pugal, was the son of Ajith from Villupuram district.

The baby was undergoing treatment for a severe health condition in Rajiv Gandhi Government Hospital.

After the baby was declared brain-dead early on August 24, despite their grief, the parents decided to donate their child's organs.

The baby's heart was sent to a one-year-old child undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Coimbatore, the liver to a four-year-old child at Rela Hospital (Chromepet), and the kidney to a child receiving treatment at Cauvery Hospital (Vadapalani).

With the donation, the 17-month-old became Tamilnadu's youngest organ donor.

The child's body was given a ceremonial guard of honour before being handed over to the parents.

Hospital staff stood in a line and bid an emotional farewell as the body was placed in an ambulance.

Krishna dolls sold on pavements



By Our Staff Reporter

On the occasion of Krishna Jayanthi on Friday, Sept. 4, roadside vendors are selling colourful Krishna dolls at many locations in the neighbourhood.

This reporter saw Palanisamy (57) selling Krishna dolls on the pavement of Arya Gowda Road (near Balakrishna Street junction, West Mambalam) on Aug. 25.

The colourful dolls are available in various forms and sizes, and are priced between Rs. 80 and Rs. 1,500. His contact number is 93428 03327.

Udavum Karangal appeals for donations to perform weddings

Udavum Karangal (NGO with branch office in Old No. 34, New No.41, Ganesh Flats, Kannadasan Road, T. Nagar) will conduct the marriage of its residents Salekha Vidyaakar and Reema Vidyaakar on Sept. 7 and 17 respectively at its home in Thiruverkadu.

The brides, abandoned at birth, were brought up by Udavum Karangal, and studied in Ramakrishna Vidya Niketan School (Thiruverkadu), run by the NGO.

According to S. Vidyaakar (Founder), till date more than 300 marriages of its residents have been performed, and all of them are well settled in their lives.

He said that it costs Rs. 5 lakhs to conduct each wedding which includes minimum ornaments, food, clothes and basic utensils to set up a family. He said that 7 marriages have been conducted this year, and the expenses were managed with internal resources.

He has appealed to readers of *Mambalam Times* to extend financial support in conducting the marriages. Donations, which are exempted under 80G of Income Tax Act, maybe sent in the name of 'Udavum Karangal' either through cheque or DD to the above address.

Payments can also be done online through the website <https://myhelpinghands.org/donate/>. For clarification, donors can contact Vidyaakar in 99401 88011 or the Administrative Officer in 73587 86894.

Special homams today for brides and grooms

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Aiswarya Thirumana Thagaval Maiyam (55, Kavarai Street, West Mambalam), U.V.K.S. Ravindran (Vedic Astrologer) will perform Swayamvara Kaala Parvathi and Kalyana Ganapathi homams for prospective brides and grooms from 8 a.m to 1 p.m on Sunday, Aug.30 in AMR Kalyana Mandapam (Kavarai Street, West Mambalam).

Special poojas will be performed from 5 p.m to 8 p.m.

Ravindran told *Mambalam Times* that those facing hurdles in the conduct of their marriage will benefit from the homams and poojas.

The fee is Rs. 5,000 per person.

Prospective brides participating in the homam can avail free registration for matrimonial services.

For more details, call 98841 41870 or 98841 47630.

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