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Voice of GOD



Mangalanathar temple, Sirukudi

This is the 177th Thevara Paadal Petra Shiva sthalam and 60th sthalam on the south side of river Cauvery in Chozha Nadu. The original name of Sirupidi was corrupted to the present name of Serugudi. This is a Chevvai dosham parihara sthalam. The temple is at the centre of 4 Paadal Petra Shiva temples, on the east – Thirupampuram, on South Thiruveezhimizhalai, on West – Anniyur and on North – Therazhundur.

In Periyapuram Sekkizhar records, Thirugnanasambandar came to this temple after worshipping Lord Shiva of Thirunallam. Sekkizhar records that Thirugnanasambandar reached Therazhundur after visiting the Shiva Temples on the way, and this Sirugudi is one of the temples, but it wasn't mentioned in particular.

Moolavar : Sri Sukshma Pureeswarar, Sri Mangalanathar, Sri Sirukudiesar, Consort : Sri Mangala Nayagi, Sri Mangalambigai. Some of the salient features of this temple are.....

The temple faces east with a 3-tier Rajagopuram. The balipeedam and Rishabam are after the Rajagopuram. Moolavar is of swayambhu, and there is no abhishekam, & only sambrani thailam is applied, always covered with kuvalai. In koshtam Vinayagar, Dakshinamurthy, Brahma, Durgai, Rishabanthikar, etc., In praharam Mangala Vinayagar, Sri Valli Devasena Murugan, Suriyan, Bhairavar, Navagrahas Angarakan and Chandikeswarar. Angarakan is in a separate sannadhi. Urchavar is Santhosa Aalingana Moorthy.

He was happy to see the pooja of Ambigai and kept his hand on Ambal. Ambal is in a separate temple like sannathi. Ambal is in a standing posture with abhaya varada hastham. Thirugnanasambandar's big image is in the mandapam.

ARCHITECTURE

The main temple consists of sanctum sanctorum, antarala, artha mandapam and a mukka mandapam. The adhithana is of prati bandha adhithana with yazhi vari above kumudam. The Bhatti starts with vedikai. The pilasters are of Vishnu kantha pilasters with square base, kalasam, kudam, mandi, palakai and Vettu pothyal. The prastaram consists of valapi, kapotam with nasi kudus, and yazhi vari. The Brick Vimanam is with one Tala, greevam, and Vesara Sigaram.

HISTORY AND INSCRIPTIONS

Since Thirugnanasambandar has sung hymns in praise of Shiva of this temple, the original temple might have existed before the 6th to 7th Century. Later, the same was reconstructed as a stone temple during the Chozha period and further extended during the Vijayanagaras / Marathas period.

A 13th-century inscription with out start and end records the endowment of a land gifted to this temple by KoRRurudayar Nalloorirunthar alias Villavarayar established Thyagaraja Peruman shrine and land was gifted. In that, half of the land was for Arthanareeswarar and the half for his consort Nachiyar, Azhagiya mangayar. The land periphery limits are given in detail.

Kulothunga Chozha-III's 17th reign-year inscription records that the Villages sold land measuring 3 ma to the Agastheeswaramudayar temple of the same village as Irayili. The complete inscription is not available.

Your Stars This Year

Aries : Finds your love life blossoming when you let your heart speak with honesty. Your true feelings will help bring your relationship. Do refrain from hiding your emotions; open up and listen intently. Singles may find themselves attracting a soul who is an honest one, so think no more about being yourself.

Taurus: Assume intriguing forms this week. So do keep your heart open. An unexpected person may enter your life, bringing excitement and hope. Do not think twice about exploring new relationships, for the possibility of becoming something great. If you're currently paired, get creative with a new date to nurture.

Gemini: Speaks of love that asks for patience and understanding. Misunderstandings should be accepted as they are. Rush into things; calmly listen and respond kindly, as your partner will appreciate your gentle attitude. It is patience that will draw the right connection.

Cancer: The true expression of emotions will bring sweetness to your love life. Do not hide your feelings; do so even if it means that you will feel vulnerable. Partner will value your honest expression, building a strong backbone for closeness. If you are single and sincere feelings for someone new will close the bond.

Leo: The emphasis is on self-love that nurtures giving and receiving of affection. Take some me-time. Your heart with love. The more confident and joyful you feel inside yourself, the brighter your relationships will shine. Single would mean that your positive aura will attract someone who cherishes you deeply.

Virgo: The shared experiences will bring you and your beloved closer this week. Plan activities together: small outings, cooking together, or simply enjoying a pleasant conversation. These precious moments will become sweet memories that last forever. Spent with friends or meeting strangers sharing similar.



Libra: Heal wounds and open the heart for new love. Holding onto past wounds only blocks new happiness. Just breathe and forgive, to let love flow freely. The single ones should know that letting go and releasing old pains is the very thing that will open the door for someone with honest intentions to likely walk.

Scorpio: It is the little gestures—those cute messages, massaging surprises, or the big-hug-like sweet accomplishments—that ensure intimacy. Loving relationship, your full effort should be on showering your partner deeply, whereas for singles, kindness toward others might be the key to opening romance avenues.

Sagittarius: Trust your gut feeling. You will be able to gently manoeuvre through sensitive moments with your inner voice if in a relationship. For singles, their inner feelings could be leading them towards someone significant, so keep an eye out for the signs. Avoid overthinking and trust your intuition.

Capricorn: Inject spontaneity into your love life this week. Have moments when your partner would not expect you to set up something for him/her, and go ahead to say yes to spontaneous adventures together. The freshness these moments lend to your union only brings thrill.

Aquarius : When you practice forgiveness so that greater healing and enhancements may be given to the relationship. Holding a grudge just builds distance; setting it down just creates space for love. For those with a mate, letting go of old mistakes will be a fresh start, something that can increase bonding.

Pisces: Focus on spending quality time with family members to deepen bonds of love and respect. Establish moments of true connection free from distractions. Spending quality time together strengthens their bond. Conversely, heartfelt conversations with a friend or a new acquaintance may lead to romance for singles. It could be taking a walk or just sitting down.

PREDICTION FOR THIS WEEK
24.08.2025 TO 30.08.2025

Satisfaction: A pearl of great price

In the world today, happiness, peace and contentment are decreasing a lot in the souls. Many of such things keep happening in life, where we lose satisfaction. Don't nurture any more desires for future. All these desires are the desires that lead you to a graveyard. Therefore, you should have a lot of contentment within yourself. Where there is contentment, there is nothing unattained. You experience increase in the physical wealth too on the basis of contentment. Even two rupee of a content person is equal to 200 thousand.

If someone is a millionaire but doesn't have contentment, his millions aren't millions. For this, it is also said, if there isn't satisfaction, all the wealth is like dust. If you attain the wealth of contentment, all material wealth is like dust. No matter if you get all the wealth of the world, even if you get the wealth of cows, elephants, horses, gems or bundles of currency notes, if you aren't contented, all the wealth is dust. No matter how much you receive, you will certainly receive in abundance but because of not being a satisfied soul, you will always be dissatisfied. You will always have dissatisfaction. Royal people are satisfied with little. The indication of royal souls is: they will be satisfied with one roti as well as with 36 kinds of delicacies. And those who are dissatisfied won't be satisfied even after having 36 kinds of delicacies. This is why be content with whatever you have. Where there is contentment, there are all virtues and powers there. So, contentment is a mine. It is an inexhaustible mine; it isn't going to exhaust. The more you give it, the more it will continue to increase. The very meaning of satisfaction is 'every kind of attainment'. Satisfaction means the heart and the mind will always be at rest. They will be in the stage of happiness and peace. They won't be restless.

A satisfied soul will always experience himself to be flying in the plane of blessings. You should be content and make the others content too. It is not only the question of being content, but all those who come in contact, connection and relationship, should also experience contentment. The sign of contentment is – he will be content with his mind, heart, everyone. The waves of joy will always be visible in his mind and body. The one who satisfies others becomes very happy because the waves of satisfaction arise from everybody's heart. Satisfaction is the greatest food of happiness. Many say it is easy to stay satisfied but it is a little difficult to satisfy others. If you want to satisfy every soul, its method is very easy.

If someone is dissatisfied with you or stays dissatisfied, he is dissatisfied anyway but you are also definitely influenced by his dissatisfaction to some extent. You do generate waste thoughts. If you stabilize yourself in the awareness of good feelings and good wishes, you won't have waste thoughts. Therefore, no matter what the situation is, whatever problem comes up, don't let go of contentment. It is because if you lose contentment, you lose everything. Situations will be created as well as resolved but don't let go of contentment; this is the imperishable treasure, the treasure of contentment, which will keep making you experience fulfilment forever. The author is solely responsible for this article. The publisher or editor are not responsible.

For further details contact : 9445520108, 9891370007.

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8 PAGES

24-08-2025 - 30-08-2025

Rain turns road into bed of slush



The Friday night rain brings roads more slushy in many parts of Kodambakkam and Choolaimedu. After the rain water continues to stagnate on the interior roads of Sivan Koil Street, Puliyur Second Lane Junction, Kodambakkam shown in the picture.

The ongoing underground drainage work have added to woes making pot-holed roads slushy and commute for pedestrians and motorists a nightmare. To make matters worse, the waterlogged roads are now hotbeds for mosquito breeding.

Motorists have to be careful so they don't slip and fall. A crucial road that links Kodambakkam and Choolaimedu is particularly bad. The road is dug and covered every now and then. It has been bad for a year now', says resident of Trustpuram. The poorly maintained roads and leakage of sewage from the manholes have become a common sight in the area.

The Chennai Metro Water Supply and Sewage Board (CMWSSB) officials have been digging up the roads across the city. Sewer pipeline replacement works are under way in the vicinity of Kodambakkam and Choolaimedu.

The residents noted that nearly a month ago, Metro Water officials dug up multiple places on Sivan Koil and South Sivan Street in Kodambakkam to replace the old sewer lines. Two weeks ago, the replacement of the sewage pipeline work was completed in several places in the stretch.

A resident of South Sivan Koil Street said that 'for the past few months, officials have been digging up the road, and laying and relaying manholes continuously for months.

The movement of heavy vehicles in the street has made the road unusable for commuters. Similarly, pedestrians complain they are unable to walk along the road, and the road has turned into an accident-prone place. Swift action is needed to ease the commuters' inconvenience'.

Another resident of Trustpuram 6th cross

street, Aadhi said, 'Accidents are becoming common on the Sivan Koil Street in Kodambakkam. The road becomes slippery and slushy in rainy weather.



GREETINGS

Kodambakkam Times wishes its readers, advertisers and well-wishers a happy Vinayaka Chaturthi (Wednesday 27/08/25)

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Canara Retail Carnival 2025



The Canara Retail Carnival, organized by Canara Bank – Circle Office, Chennai, was inaugurated today at Express Avenue Mall, Royapettah, with much grandeur and enthusiasm. The event was presided over by Smt. K. A. Sindhu, Chief General Manager, Circle Office Chennai. The inauguration ceremony was graced by distinguished chief guests, Shri. B. K. Venkatesh Prasad, General Manager, Canara Bank & Former Indian Cricketer, Shri. Sunil Joshi, Deputy General Manager, Canara Bank & Former Indian Cricketer, and Shri. Gajendar Singh Negi, Deputy General Manager, Canara Bank. The carnival brings together top builders and leading automobile dealers, offering exclusive deals and financial support options to customers. More than 500+ SARFAESI properties were also showcased at the event, providing excellent opportunities for prospective buyers.

Speaking at the event, the dignitaries highlighted Canara Bank's commitment to providing innovative retail banking solutions and supporting customers in fulfilling their lifestyle aspirations.

The carnival held for two days and the public explored the attractive retail finance schemes, property deals, and exciting offers under one roof.

The Canara Retail Carnival 2025 is part of the bank's initiative to strengthen customer engagement while promoting its wide portfolio of retail products, including home loans, vehicle loans, personal loans, and more.



Gold at Sub-Junior State tournament

Young basketball prodigies of Velammal Vidyalaya, Alapakkam had scripted history by emerging as Champions with Gold medal in the Under-13 Boys Basketball Sub-Junior State Tournament held at Trichy. The talented squad comprising Prajin K.H, Kiruthvick Balaji H, Pierson P, Vithun Kaushik Y, Ashwanth S, Dheeraj Kiran R, and Vinnay Karthik Y. showcased exceptional skill, teamwork, and determination throughout the tournament to secure the top position.

This victory stands as a testament to the students' dedication, rigorous training, and unyielding spirit.



Abandoned vehicle

Abandoned vehicles give a damaged glimpse of the area and also become dangerous when the

components such as oil, battery acid etc., deteriorate and leaks thereby polluting the air and land and also cause health hazards to the neighborhood. Abandoned vehicles will also become rent less house for rats and other creatures.

One such vehicle is abandoned at Manickam Street, West Mambalam as detailed in the picture. Will the concern authorities remove the abandon vehicle as soon as possible.

International Spelling Bee competition

Velammal Vidyalaya Karambakkam Sai Aarav of Grade V made the school proud by winning the International Spelling Bee Competition 2025.

Competing against participants from across the globe, He showcased exceptional spelling skills and emerged as the champion, bringing honour and inspiration to fellow students. Our management congratulates and appreciates him for the achievements.



Free Silambam classes

The silambam students of Mambalam Youth Club) actively participated and won the prizes in Youth Games Silambam Federation National Championship in New Delhi.

P.Jaypal (Founder of Mambalam Youth Club) led the students to the event.

He is conducting free silambam classes for all age groups at 7.30 p.m on all days at Corporation Playground, Bakthavachalam Street, West Mambalam. For further more details contact : 90926 44144

AROUND CHENNAI CITY

Three officials attacked for removing encroachments

Corporation Employees, went to remove encroachments in the Patrikarai area on the Kodambakkam highway on Thursday. Officials removed the unused water pandals of all parties and flagpoles and when officials tried to remove the BJP flagpole, few people in the resisted and got into an argument with the corporation officials. At one point, they became enraged and attacked Assistant Engineer Soundaraj.

Following the attack on an assistant engineer who went to remove encroachments on the Kodambakkam highway, the police have arrested and interrogated three people based on a complaint filed by the corporation officials.

Priest robbed of gold jewellery, one arrested

Anilkumar, 61, a priest, lives alone in a house Seethalai Sathanar in MGR Nagar. David Ilavarasan, 23, a 'bike taxi' driver who is familiar with him, went to Anilkumar's house with his friends the day before Thursday.

They threatened Anilkumar with a knife and snatched away a 10 gram gold chain and 3.75 gram rings he was wearing. The police, investigated and arrested David Ilavarasan and recovered the robbed jewellery and arrested the accused.

Dog bites a man in Jafferkanpet dies

A pitbull dog bite a chief cook in VSM Garden, Jafferkanpet, Karunakaran, 48, a chef by profession. Six months ago, he suffered a fracture in his right thigh and underwent treatment. He used to go to work from time to time.

In this situation, he had gone to work cooking with a friend on Wednesday afternoon and was sitting at the door of the house at around 3:00 pm.

At that time, a pitbull breed dog, which was chained at the house of Poongodi, 48, from the same area, broke free from the chain and came out. It suddenly bit Karunakaran on his right thigh and bit him.

The dog's owner, who came to catch it, also bit Poongodi, causing injuries to Poongodi's leg and arm. Karunakaran died on the spot. A police case was registered.



Elderly man arrested for stealing tricycle

Locals caught an elderly man who stole a tricycle parked at the entrance of a women's hostel and handed him over to the police.

Thirugnanasampandham, 50, from Nandanam, West CIT Nagar, runs a women's hostel. He has a tricycle to transport food to the hostel.

Early Wednesday morning, an elderly man was stealing a bicycle by breaking the lock. Hearing the noise, the locals caught him and handed him over to the Saidapet police.

During the investigation, it was found that the suspect was Haridas, 66, from Thiruvanniyur. The police arrested him and seized a cutting blade and a broken lock.

Brothers arrested for attempting to attack police

Police arrested brothers who tried to attack a traffic police chief who had issued a fine to a drunk driver. Valasaravakkam Traffic Police Station Head Constable Rajesh, 35, was involved in a vehicle inspection along with Traffic Special Sub-Inspector Kannan near Porur Garden, next to Vanagaram, the Tuesday night.

Meanwhile, when the person driving the goods vehicle was checked, it was revealed that he had been drinking alcohol. Tamilselvan was fined for driving under the

influence of alcohol.

Immediately, Tamilselvan informed his friends. Following this, two people who arrived at the scene had an argument with Head Constable Rajesh. When he recorded the video, they tried to attack him.

The Valasaravakkam police, who went there after receiving the information, took both of them to the police station for questioning.

During the investigation, it was revealed that they were brothers, Balaraman, 35, and Vishnu, 32, from Balamurugan Street, Alapakkam.

A case has been registered under sections including preventing a government employee from working, and the police are arresting and interrogating both of them.

Young man arrested for smuggling and supplying cannabis

A youth was arrested in Mangadu for smuggling and selling cannabis. Already 27 people, including three Africans, have already been arrested for selling drugs including cocaine, methamphetamine, and cannabis in the Arumbakkam and Choolaimedu areas. It was said that the smuggled goods were from Thailand.

Nearly 65 grams of cocaine, 20 grams of original cannabis, 6 grams of cannabis oil, three kilograms of regular cannabis and 27 mobile phones were seized from them.

Original ganja worth Rs 50,000 and his mobile phone were seized from him. The police are examining their mobile phones and conducting an investigation. According to the police's initial investigation, Dinesh, a graduate, was eager for more money and had frequently traveled to Thailand to smuggle ganja and distribute it in Chennai. In that regard, he has gone to Thailand eight times and earned lakhs by smuggling drugs including ganja. The police have prepared a list of people who spoke to Dinesh on his mobile phone and are intensifying the investigation.

Case filed against soldier who attacked worker

Selvadurai, 38, is a resident of Annai Anjugam Nagar. He was engaged in the work of gluing tiles in a newly constructed house on Seventh Street, Velan Nagar, Valasaravakkam. Srinivasan, 42, an army soldier who lives behind this house, went to the house where he was

working the night before yesterday and said, "The noise is getting louder because of work." He argued with Selvadurai and electrician Karthik, 43, from Paraniputhur, saying, "I can't hang myself."

He also picked up the shovel lying there and attacked Selvadurai. The two then grabbed the shovel from Srinivasan's hand and attacked him.

Both parties have filed a complaint at the Valasaravakkam police station in this regard. The police have registered a case against Army personnel Srinivasan and are investigating.

Van carrying cash overturns, causing accident

A van was traveling near the Namachivayapuram bridge carrying cash of Rs.1.5 crore to refill ATM machine in Choolaimedu. The driver lost control after climbing over a large rock, hitting the road median and the van overturned. At that time, Shobana, 48, who was riding a two-wheeler behind the van, stumbled and fell. She suffered a fracture in her right leg. The van driver, Kishore, was also injured in the accident.

Anna Nagar Traffic Police rushed to the spot and recovered the cash. The van was guarded with the protection of a paramilitary soldier armed with a gun. An investigation into the accident is ongoing.

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Pensioners grievance meet

Chennai District Collector Rashmi Siddharth Jagade has announced that a grievance redressal meeting for pensioners who have retired from various Tamil Nadu government departments in Chennai district will be held on September 12 (Friday) at 10:30 a.m. at the 8th floor meeting hall of the Chennai District Collectorate.

Pensioners who have retired from state government offices in Chennai district, those receiving pensions from government treasuries and salary accounts offices, as well as family pension beneficiaries, are eligible to participate.

Eligible pensioners must submit a summary of their grievances in duplicate, in the prescribed form, to the District Collector, Chennai District Collectorate, 62, Rajaji Salai, on or before August 25.



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Councilors request at Kodambakkam Zonal meeting

'Steps should be taken to stop dumping sewage into canals and to get underground sewer connections to homes. The councilors said at the Kodambakkam Zonal Committee meeting that the posters that have increased throughout the zone should be torn down and removed. The Kodambakkam Zonal Committee meeting was held at the Zonal Office, under the chairmanship of its chairman Krishnamurthy.

Virugambakkam DMK MLA Prabhakararaja, Zonal Assistant Commissioner Murugesan, Executive Engineers Inian and Ranganathan and other officials participated in the meeting. 19 resolutions were passed in the meeting.

The councilors spoke as follows:

Ezhumalai, DMK, 133rd Ward: Necessary precautionary measures should be taken before the North East Monsoon. Contracts are being awarded at the Ripon Building for many works. They carry out their work without properly informing the authorities here. This causes many disruptions.

Kannan, DMK, 138th Ward: A retaining wall is being constructed on the MGR Nagar canal. In this, the sewage from the residences on Pachaiyappan Street in MGR Nagar is being discharged into the canal.

Due to this, the construction of the retaining wall in the

canal is being affected. The Water Supply Board should provide them with an underground sewer connection.

Dhanasekar, DMK, 137th Ward: Advertisement posters should not be pasted on walls in Chennai Corporation. Even if a homeowner wants to paste an advertisement poster on the perimeter wall of his house, he must obtain permission from the Corporation. A fine should be imposed for putting up advertising posters without permission. Posters pasted on walls should be torn down and removed.

Ravi Shankar, DMK, 129th Ward: 15 roads in my ward that are in bad condition should be repaired before the monsoon. There are nine children's playgrounds. Only one person has been appointed to maintain them.

How can one maintain nine parks spread over several kilometers? Similarly, urgent steps should be taken to clear the stormwater drains.

Regional Committee Chairman Murugesan: One employee has been fixed for each square foot of park maintenance. Since nine parks fall within that square foot, one person has been appointed.

A modern machine has been provided to each zone to clear stormwater drains. In addition, Rs. 95 lakh has been allocated.

Bhaskar, DMK, 130th Ward: A water pipe under the

100-foot road overpass in Vadapalani was damaged a year ago. Work was done to repair it. However, water is still leaking and the road is full of potholes.

Ratna Lokeshwaran, DMK, 128th Ward: While constructing a tar road in Virugambakkam, the road should be constructed in consultation with them as the metro rail work is underway. When the Corporation constructs a road, the Metro Rail Administration diverts traffic at the same location. This makes it impossible to construct the road properly.

Nilavarasi Durairaj, DMK, 136th Ward: Mattresses, sofas and other items collected from houses have been piled up in the Virugambakkam AVM area. They should be disposed of properly. Thus they spoke.

Uma Anandan, BJP, Ward 134: In my ward, potholes are being dug on the road for project work without proper permission and notification. After the work is completed, the road is not properly repaired.

The Electricity Board has carried out pothole digging work on Kamakoti Road. Although the work has been completed, the road has not yet been repaired. Hostels are increasing without proper permission from the corporation. They need to be regularized.

Subramani, MDMK, Ward 139: For five months, no work has come up in my ward regarding the Zonal Committee meeting. There are issues regarding the work of other wards. Is my ward being marginalized?

Accounts Committee Chairman Dhanasekar: Creation of works in the ward, Assistant Executive Engineer work in the ward.

Officials who responded to this: Various works in Ward 139 are in the process of being evaluated and awarded contracts.



TNPCB issues guidelines for Vinayagar Chathurthi

The Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) has released a set of guidelines for the upcoming Vinayagar Chaturthi festival.

Key Guidelines for Idol Immersion Materials : Idols must be made exclusively from natural, biodegradable and eco-friendly raw materials like clay and mud. The use of Plaster of Paris (PoP), plastic and thermocol is strictly prohibited.

Decorations : Only natural materials such as dried flowers and straw should be used for idol ornaments. Tree resins can be used as a shining material. The use of single-use plastic and thermocol for decorations is not permitted.

Paints and Dyes : Toxic and non-biodegradable chemical dyes and oil paints are strictly prohibited. Only eco-friendly, water-based and natural dyes to be used.

Immersion Locations : Idols must be immersed only in the specific places notified by the District Administration for each district.

The public is also required to follow the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) guidelines.

The TNPCB has stated that these measures are crucial to prevent the pollution of seas, lakes and rivers.

Public can contact the District Collector, Superintendent of Police and the District Environmental Engineer of the TNPCB.

Lions eye camp, free cataract surgery for 21 persons

21 persons were diagnosed for free cataract surgery among 150 persons screened in a free eye screening camp organised by Lions Club of Madras KRS (Thambaiiah Road, West Mambalam) at Cambridge Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Saidapet on Aug. 17.

The team of doctors from Kumaran Eye Speciality Center examined the patients.

The program was inaugurated by S.Bose (District Governor, Lions International 3241 F) in presence of Dr.M.Kumaran (Founder of Kumaran Eye Speciality



Center), R.Sivakumar (Zone Chairperson, Lions Club of Madras KRS), S. Mangayarkkars (President) and S.Y.Narayanan (Secretary)



One of the main roads in Kodambakkam is Dr Suburaya Nagar, 4th Street when ever there is a rain water stagnation is the perennial problem here. Even for a small spell of rain this road is night mare for motorists and pedestrians. This rain water does not drain even for four or five days says a resident of Vengeeswaran Colony. The stagnant water collecting on the streets has made them a nightmare to commuter or walk on and left residents confined to their homes, and also raised serious health and hygiene concerns.

No solution for this road yet?

According to residents this has been a perennial problem over the past year, with no lasting solution in sight.

Despite multiple complaints to civic agencies, residents claim their grievances have been ignored. The stench in the area is unbearable after the rain and residents said they are being forced to live with unhygienic conditions. 'Every other week, there is dirty water at our doorstep making it difficult to step.

The situation poses a serious health risk as the stagnated water provides a perfect ground for mosquito breeding', said a resident.

He added, 'with increased FAR and a surge in commercial activities, the old sewer infrastructure - laid over three decades ago - is no longer adequate. During the monsoon, the problem gets worse as stormwater overwhelms the sewerage system and causes backflow into households'.



Students join school gardening activity

The primary students of Velammal Vidyalaya, Vanagaram actively participated in the School Gardening Club Activity by bringing and planting a variety of vegetable saplings, useful trees, and medicinal plants in the school campus. The little hands, filled with excitement, carefully placed each plant into the soil, marking the beginning of a green and healthy initiative.

The activity not only enhanced the beauty of the school

environment but also created awareness among students about the importance of growing their own food and preserving nature's resources. Through this initiative, children learned the values of responsibility, teamwork, and sustainability.

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Smart water ATMs to be installed in 16 Corporation Schools



Five schools in the Kodambakkam Zone and other corporation schools have been chosen in the first phase. 'We've selected the schools where there are more than 1,000 students', said a senior official in the Corporation. 'The Building department will choose the type of machines and the capacity of storage tanks. A similar model in the Corporation dining hall will be installed in schools'.

Earlier, in the council meeting, Commissioner Kumaragurubaran had pointed out that the existing RO systems were expensive to maintain once defunct. 'The new smart water ATMs will not only address water quality issues but also help us monitor students' water intake', he had stated.

In July, School Education Department reintroduced the 'Watet Ball' initiative across the schools. The scheme mandates a designated water break signalled by a separate bell, during which students will be told to

hydrate without leaving the classroom.

The Headmistress of Girls Higher Secondary School Kodambakkam Zone stated, 'we're following the water bell system. But one RO water plant in the school is enough for 1,400 students in our school. We heard the GCC is going to set up a water ATM in our school, which will help students', she said.

Another official attached to the Buildings department stated, 'the education department has given the school list. The works are in the preliminary stage in choosing the size of smart water ATM. Also, officials are deployed and checking the feasibility of installing it in the respective schools'.

Beneficiaries of the Scheme : Higher Secondary School MGR Nagar (K K Nagar, West Saidapet, Boys HSS on Kodambakkam Salai (Saidapet), Chennai Primary School on Jones Road (Saidapet) and Chennai Middle School at MGR Nagar (T Nagar).

The Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) will soon install 16 smart water ATMs, one in each school run by the local body. It's noteworthy that Corporation Commissioner J Kumaragurubaran had made an announcement about it in the July council meeting.

Sewage overflow irks



Sewage overflow is not a new issue for the residents of Chennai. This has become a recurring problem all over the city. If that was not enough, people in the suburbs also face similar situations, and most of the roads experience the mess caused by the overflow of sewage drains. The situation in Ram colony, West Mambalam is no different. The residents have been complaining about the overflowing sewage on the street. Most of the people living in the area use the street and have been facing the hardship of cross the filth on almost all days.

'This issue has been prevailing for all most a week. Despite raising complaints several times, no action has been taken by the officials concerned. The toll-free number only takes in complaints, but there is no follow-up after that. No major steps are taken to resolve civic concerns', said Kumar, a resident in the area.

The overflowing sewage also poses a health hazard to the people. The residents claim that the area has become very prone to the mosquito menace.

The stench from this wastewater causes difficulty for the pedestrians and the residents, and the sellers nearby. If not attended to, the situation could turn worse during the sudden spell. Sewage mixing with stagnated rainwater will worsen the situation.

New traffic diversions in Chennai test motorists' patience

The new traffic diversions, implemented due to the construction of a flyover at Eldams Road and Thyagaraya Road junction along Anna Salai, caused confusion among motorists and pedestrians on Monday morning, the first working day after the diversions were put in place. Motorists complained of lack of adequate signs regarding the new routes and the narrow roads. A traffic jam which began along Thyagaraya Road caused stagnation till Nandanam, in which ambulances and a fire engine too were caught. Police then moved barricades to allow an ambulance to pass.

Sekar (35) of Saidapet, who was heading to Mount Road, said, "I knew there was a traffic diversion from Sunday. I thought there would be enough banners and other signs to guide motorists but there were only very few. I had to ask the traffic cops deployed there to get clarifications." During peak-hour traffic on Monday morning, Thyagaraya Road was packed to the brim with traffic flowing in from three directions — Nandanam, Eldams Road and a small lane from Anna Salai from the Gemini flyover direction. Even though the traffic was handled using a signal, the slow-moving traffic ended up causing a jam. One of the main reasons for the congestion on Thyagaraya Road was the incomplete removal of the centre median along the road. Stretches where the medians were removed had resulted in uneven ground and in some places, parts of the medians were left untouched resulting in traffic slow-down.

Apart from the two wheelers and cars, MTC buses too faced difficulties navigating the diversions. While turning into the narrow portions at North Boag Road and Vijayaraghava Road, the buses further slowed down traffic along already congested roads. Police sources said that the current flow of vehicles in the new route is being analysed and the next course of action will be decided.



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