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Overflowing sewage a major impediment



Overflowing sewage and contamination of drinking water is posing a health hazard to residents of Vanniyar Street, Virugambakkam. Most of the residents say lack of proper drainage system is the main cause for the problem. It is very common to see sewage stagnating on the road, which is because of poor construction of sewage chambers and frequent blockage in the pipeline, says Shanmuga Sundaram a long time resident. The stagnated sewage serves as a breeding ground for the mosquitoes. As mosquito menace has increased to alarming proportions, most of us keep our windows and doors closed, he added.

Residents in the locality are forced to endure stagnant pools and a very few complain about sewage mixing with drinking water stored in sumps. Residents lament that during monsoon, sewage gets mixed with rainwater due to overflowing drainage channels. They say that repeated complaints to Metrowater and Chennai Corporation to clear the overflowing sewage have fallen on deaf ears.

We have made repeated representations asking the Chennai Corporation and Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board officials to restore the clogged drain. No action has been taken till date, the residents allege. Action must be taken to prevent sewage water from leakage at regular intervals of time. Steps must be taken to improve the drainage system in the street, laments residents.

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Voice of GOD



Karpaganathar Temple, Kadikulam

This is the 226th Thevaram Paadal Petra Shiva Sthalam and the 109th Shiva temple on the south side of the river Kaveri in Chozha Nadu. This place was called Kadikulam during the Thevaram period and is now called in the name of Lord Shiva of this temple "Karpaganatharkulam".

In Periyapuranam, Sekkizhar records that Thirugnanasambandar came to this temple after worshiping Lord Shiva of Kodi Kuzhakar. Thirugnanasambandar and Vallalar have sung hymns in praise of Lord Shiva of this temple.

Moolavar : Sri Karpaganathar, Sri Karpakeswarar.
Consort : Sri Soundara Nayaki, Sri Bala Soundari
Some of the salient features of this temple are….
The temple faces east with a 3-tier Rajagopuram. A pradosha Nandhi/Rishabam is in front of the Rajagopuram. Balipeedam, Dwajasthambam, and Rishabam are after the Rajagopuram. In the sanctum, the Moolavar baanam is of eight faces; Dhara Lingam looks beautiful. In the koshtam, Vinayagar, Dakshinamurthy, Lingothbavar, Brahma, and Durgai.

In the praharam, Nalvar, Sthala Vinayagar, Murugaperuman, Gajalakshmi, Shaniswararn, Bhairavar, Suriyan, Chandran, Navagrahas, and Kala Bairavar. Ambal sannadhi is in the mandapam facing south.

There is a separate temple for Avvaiyar at Thulasiyam Pattina, which is about 2 km from this place. This was built by the Thanjavur King Saraboji's father, Thulaja Maharaja. It is believed that the legend of "Sutta Pazham and Sudatha Pazham", between Murugan and Avvaiyar, happened at this place.

ARCHITECTURE

The main temple consists of the Sanctum Sanctorum, antarala, and ardha mandapam. The adhistanam is of simple pada bandha adhistanam with three patta Kumudam. The Bhitti starts with Vedhika. The Koshtas are patra koshtas- a little protruding outside. The prastaram consists of valapi, kapoytam with nasi koodus and viyyalavari. A Three-tier brick Nagara Vimanam is on the sanctum sanctorum. The Sanctum Sanctorum from adhistanam to Parastaram was built with stone.

HISTORY AND INSCRIPTIONS

Since Thirugnanasambandar has sung hymns in praise of Lord Shiva of this temple, the original temple might have existed before the 7th Century. Later, the same was reconstructed as a stone temple during the Chozha period and further extended/maintained by Nayakas, Marathas, and Nattukottai Nagarathars.
A village called Karayangadu was gifted to this temple by the Thanjavur King, and the temple has lands in many villages. The Maratha period inscriptions record many endowments that were established by the Maratha Kings.

LEGENDS

The temple tank's name is Kadikulam. Hence, it is believed that this place obtained the temple tank's name "Kadikulam".

It is believed that a demon called Karthikasuran worshiped Lord Shiva of this temple and got the boons like "Karpaga Vruksham"; hence, Lord Shiva is praised as "Karpaganathar". As per the Purana, any wishes under the Karpaga Vruksham tree will be fulfilled.

As per the Purana, Rama, Sita, Lakshmanan, and Hanuman came to this temple and offered prayers for constructing the Sethu bridge. Hence, it is believed that it will be auspicious to offer butter to Lord Shiva of this temple. To support this Legend, there is a Kothanda Ramar Temple in the same village.

Your Stars This Year

Aries : Your health will be good this week. During this time you will be full of energy and will make every effort to complete your work with efficiency. In such a situation, you have to stop paying attention to unproductive things. Visiting any close relatives this week can negatively impact your financial situation.

Taurus: This week, a significant increase will be seen in the expenses related to the treatment of households or family. Face mental stress and anxiety due to the feeling of financial crisis. So try to keep yourself calm, otherwise along with the poor health of others, you will also have to spend your money on your own poor health.

Gemini: You will get rid of the problem of weakness. It would be better for that instead of ordering food from outside, eat home-made food and walk for about 30 minutes daily. Use your creative talent in the right way, it will prove to be beneficial and you will be able to improve.



Cancer: Remain tense both physically and mentally. Will keep bothering you all the time, due to which you will also be unable to sleep properly. This week will definitely improve your adverse financial situation. But during this time, you will also be able to make the expenses you were unable to in the past.

Leo: You can make a trip to a beautiful place with your friends and close friends. Avoid overeating on any trip, otherwise your stomach may get upset. You have to understand that, if you use your creative talent in the right way, it will prove to be beneficial and you will be able to improve your financial condition with the same.

Virgo: You will realize that if your health is good, then you can enjoy every aspect of life. Most of the people of you will follow this tag line and will try to improve upon your bad habits. It is possible that your salary might increase during this week and this might lead to an unexpected increase in your expenses. You can control them and think about your financial benefits.

Libra: The beginning of this week cannot be said to be favourable for your health. You will see improvement during the weekend. It would be better to be more vigilant about health. Improvement in your financial decisions can have a positive effect in your life and it will also help you to emerge from the loss in the past.

Scorpio: Bring many big changes in your life, for which you were not ready. Your attitude towards life will look somewhat sad and you will feel yourself surrounded by negativity even if you do not want to. May be good for you on financial issues, end of the week your money may get spent due to some reason or the other.

Sagittarius: Bring many big changes in your life, for which you were not ready. Your attitude towards life will look somewhat sad and you will feel yourself surrounded by negativity. Do not understand the importance of money in life, you can understand the importance of money very well.

Capricorn: Suffering from a major illness, and proper care of your family will improve your health. Because of this you will be able to get rid of the disease forever. Expected to go very well in terms of finances. Planets seem to be in a favourable position for you at this time.

Aquarius : You can make exercise a part of your life during this period. Will encourage you to pay special attention to your health. Therefore, take good and appropriate advantage of it. You will be full of energy and it is possible that you will suddenly incur some profit about which you had no expectations yet.

Pisces: Many monetary issues can also cause problems in your health. Due to stress conditions taking over your mind, you will be unable to eat a healthy diet, which will lead to a decline in health. Put a break on your financial increment, but you will also have to suffer from financial loss. May be disturbed by asking for their unique demands and expecting more.

PREDICTION FOR THIS WEEK
26.09.2026 TO 02.10.2026

Reflect divine royalty in your personality

You should act very royally. There should be royalty in everything. What is meant by royalty? Royalty itself means a pure mind, a pure speech and pure actions.

Lifestyle of the royal souls

A royal soul will not ask for anything, whether physical or subtle. A royal soul is always complete, always full. It is one thing to be full externally, full of physical things, and another thing to be full in the mind. One who is full in the mind will never feel himself to be lacking in anything, even if he is not full with physical things. Even if something is not there, he will experience it to be there. But no matter how full a soul may be with physical things, if his mind is not full, he will never consider himself to be full. Both the face, and the manners, of a royal soul, will give the experience of the manners of truth. In any case royal souls are known as the goddesses of manners - their speaking, walking, eating and drinking, sitting and standing, their every action will automatically reveal manners and truth. It should not be that you prove the truth and yet do not have any manners. The royalty and reality of purity means that both the heart and the face will be cheerful eternally.

Royalty of the vision

A royal soul will never be attracted towards any limited, perishable thing or person. His words are sweet and invaluable i.e. very few and people feel elated in his connection. Souls who stay in such royalty can never eye each other's evil traits or shortcomings. The physically royal souls never engage their intellect and time in petty and trivial things, they don't see even while seeing it and don't hear even while hearing it; similarly a spiritually royal soul won't engage its intellect and time in the trivial things of any soul which aren't royal. Royalty means your vision shouldn't be drawn towards anything insignificant.

Royalty of speech

Speaking little is called royalty of speech. Waste or ordinary words will never come out from the mouth of the spiritually royal souls; every word of theirs will be appropriate. Appropriate means to be beyond waste intentions and have good intentions and good feelings. This is called royalty. The words of the souls with spiritual royalty are great sentences. These sentences are golden versions. Each and every word is as valuable as a gem. They aren't the words which give sorrow, which make others fall or which are like stones; they aren't ordinary or waste either. They are the words of power and affection. The sign or specialty of those with royalty is that they should use ten words of essence instead of fifty words of detail. The sentences, the words that we speak should be full of the vibrations of purity.

Royalty of actions

Whatever actions we perform, those who experience it should feel happiness. They shouldn't feel sorrow. And they shouldn't feel happiness for a short period either; whenever they remember the happiness of those organs in the mind, whenever they recollect it, happiness should arise in them at that very moment. That is called the Divine royalty. Royalty of the mind. There is the royalty of the thoughts of the mind as well. We shouldn't have any such thought through which our soul becomes sorrowful within and the people who come near us also become sorrowful.

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AROUND CHENNAI CITY

Brother of IAS officer found dead under mysterious circumstances

John Kingsley IAS officer his brother lives in Natesan Nagar, Virugambakkam was found dead under mysterious circumstances.

His brother Subhash Kingsley, 51, is a real estate businessman from Vandalikode area near Kalkulam in Kanyakumari district.

In this situation, Subhash Kingsley's driver Karthik, who went to his house, rang the doorbell several times. But the door did not open.

Following this, Karthik informed the residence management. When the management broke down the door, it was found that Subhash Kingsley was lying dead in the bathroom.

Virugambakkam police recovered the body and sent it to the K K Nagar Government Hospital. The police, who have registered a case of mysterious death, said that the cause of his death will be known only after the autopsy.

Man tried to molest 65 year old

Kattammal, 65, lives on the sidewalk near the Puthur Government School bus stop, 4th Avenue, Ashok Nagar. After her husband passed away, she has been running a shoe-stitching shop on the platform in the same locality for the past 15 years and has been living there.

At that time, Anand, 29, from Rajapillai Garden area of T. Nagar, who was coming on a two-wheeler, tried to misbehave with Kattammal.

Shocked by the act of the man she screamed. At that time locals caught him and thrashed the man who tried to flee.

The locals caught Anand and handed him over to the Ashok Nagar police station.

During the police investigation, it was found that Anand was under the influence of alcohol.

3 youths arrested for harassing woman

A 22-year-old beauty therapists was walking around Ashok Nagar intersection 2nd Avenue was harassed by three youths.

It is said that on the night of the 20th, after finishing her work in a beauty salon, she was walking near the intersection of 15th Street and 2nd Avenue in Ashok Nagar.

At that time, three men standing there blocked the woman's path, teased her, and sexually harassed her.

The shocked woman screamed. Hearing the noise, her friends who work with her came there and stopped the three.

They then attacked the friends with their hands. Meanwhile, the three people fled from there as the locals gathered there.

Based on the complaint filed by the victim, the Ashok Nagar police registered a case and investigated.

After examining the surveillance camera footage installed at the scene, three people, Robin Nelson, 22, Vishnu Kumar, 25, and Manokarthik, 19, from Ashok Nagar, were arrested.

During the investigation, it was revealed that Robin Nelson was studying in a private college, Vishnu Kumar was working as a painter, and Manokarthik was working as a mechanic.

Valuables worth 72,000 recovered by RPF

Kamatchi (34) of Velayutham Street in St Thomas Mount was returning home after shopping for jewels and clothes in T Nagar. She boarded an EMU at Mambalam and reached her locality around 11.30 pm.

The Railway Protection Force personnel safely recovered and returned a woman's handbag containing valuables worth Rs 72,000 within an hour after she accidentally left it on an EMU at the St Thomas Mount railway station on Sunday night.

Carrying other bags in her hand, she realized she had left her handbag behind and alerted the RPF personnel, who alerted the Railway police.

By then, the train was approaching Pallavaram railway station, where personnel were informed and searched the coach that Kamatchi had travelled in.

The handbag was found safely on the seat where Kamatchi had been sitting. It contained a gold bracelet valued at Rs 57,000, a wristwatch worth Rs 3,000 and Rs 12,000 in cash. The RPF personnel brought the recovered handbag back to the RPF station at St Thomas Mount railway station.

Minor girl sexually assaulted, one arrested

A 10 year old girl was going for a grocery shop at the neighbourhood the night time. Jayachandran, 50, a resident of Topikana area of Saidapet, is accused of sexually assaulting that minor girl. She raised her voice, the neighbours in the area alerted and caught hold of Jayachandran and beat him up and handed him over to the police. Saidapet women police registered a case under the POCSO Act.

Woman attacked with knife in Choolaimedu

A 33-year-old woman was walking on Amman Kovil Street in Samayapuram, Choolaimedu that night. Deenadayalan, 33, from the same area, stopped the woman and threatened her with knife. As she told that she did not have any money, enraged he attacked her with a knife and escaped. The injured woman was admitted to the hospital. Based on the complaint, the Arumbakkam police investigated and arrested Deenadayalan.

Man arrested for stealing auto

Muthukumaran, 42, a resident of Sivan Kovil Street, Koyambedu, drives a heavy auto. As he was not feeling well, he parked the auto near his house and went to Tindivanam. When he returned, the auto was stolen.

During the police investigation, it was revealed that Zakir Hussain, 26, from Injambakkam, had stolen a loaded auto, sold it elsewhere and used the money to buy a passenger auto and drive it in Chennai. He already has two criminal cases against him. He was arrested and sent to jail as per the court order.

Rowdy stabs man who is serving annadanam

Karthik, 40, hails from Netaji Nagar, Tirumalai Nagar, Ramapuram. He works in the film industry. On the afternoon of the 14th, an annadanam was held in front of the Varashakthi Vinayagar temple near his house; Karthik was doing annadanam.

At that time, three people who had come in an autorickshaw were arguing with the people standing in line and were causing a ruckus. Dinesh, who was serving food, overheard this. This led to an argument. Karthik tried to pacify both sides. But the three men together abused Karthik, and one of them stabbed him with a knife. Nitish, who tried to stop him, was also cut. The three then fled in an auto.

Ramapuram police investigated the case and arrested Thangarasa of Iyyappanthangal.

He has 14 cases against him, including attempt to murder, robbery, and theft. The police are searching for two absconding accused.

Lions international presents best teacher award

In the event held on behalf of Lions Clubs International, District 3241F in Chennai Koyambedu, Former Judge of Madras High Court, Justice T. N. Vallinayagam, presented the "Best Teacher Award" to Smt. Jayalakshmi Krishnan, retired teacher from Chennai Corporation Government Middle School and a resident of K. K. Nagar, in appreciating her dedication in imparting education to the students with utmost commitment, for over forty years.

Lions district governor Uma Anilkumar, Past District Governors Praveenlal, Sundaram, First Vice District Governor Mohammed, District Chairperson for the welfare of Persons with Disabilities Ln. Dr. Aavin K. Gopinath, Cabinet Secretaty Udayakumar, Cabinet Treasurer Sivakumar, Presiding officer Chandrasekar, Lions District Cabinet officials Rajeshwararao, Vijay Anand, Rajeshkumar, Bala Krishnan, Janarthanan, Rajaram, Sindaivasan and other dignitaries participated in the event.



Bin it right

The corporation launched the "Segregate Waste–Save Tomorrow" campaign, conducting door-to-door awareness drives. In the first phase, 1,000 households in each of the five zones in the southern part of the city were provided with bags for collecting non-biodegradable waste separately, with the programme planned to be expanded to 50,000 households.

According to the civic body, source segregation would enable better recycling and composting and reduce the quantity of waste sent to landfills.

Under the latest directive, every waste generator, including households, commercial establishments, institutions, government offices, apartments and bulk waste generators, must segregate waste into four categories before handing it over to the corporation's cleanliness workers.

Failure to segregate waste at source or violation of the 2026 rules may attract penalties and other action under the applicable rules and municipal laws, it warned.

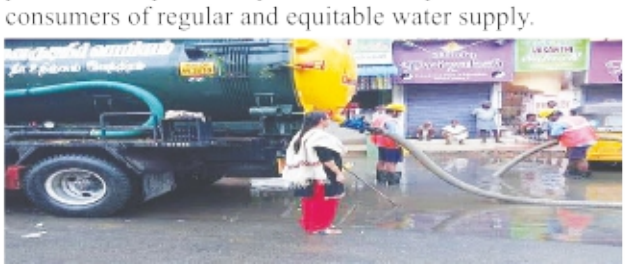


Fine challans issued to illegal pumps during special drive

The Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (Metro Water) on Monday seized 34 illegally installed water-suction motors from residential areas and hostels across seven zones in the city during a special inspection. The motors were seized from Kodambakkam and other zones.

According to Metro Water, the board has formed special monitoring teams across all 15 zones to prevent the illegal use of electric motors on water connections and public pipelines. Such motors reduce water pressure and affect equitable distribution to other consumers, the officials said. During the inspection, the teams found illegal motors in several localities, including Choolaimedu, Valluvarkottam and Trustpuram.

The 34 motors were immediately seized and notices were issued to the owners. The board warned strict action under relevant legal provisions would be taken against those found illegally installing or using motors to draw water from pipelines. Metro Water said the special monitoring drives would continue across the city and urged residents not to use illegal motors, stating the practice disrupts water pressure and deprives other consumers of regular and equitable water supply.





LPG aadhaar authentication required for subsidised refills from Oct 1

Domestic LPG consumers will need to complete biometric Aadhaar authentication (BAA) to book refills at the regulated retail price with the applicable subsidy from October 1, the government said on Saturday. The move is aimed at ensuring that subsidised cooking gas reaches only eligible households.

Consumers who have already completed the authentication process do not need to take any further action.

The government said the measure is intended to prevent the diversion of subsidised domestic LPG cylinders for commercial and industrial use and to identify duplicate or ineligible connections.

How to Complete Aadhaar Authentication

Consumers can complete biometric Aadhaar authentication through several channels:

During LPG delivery

At their LPG distributor`s showroom

Through IndianOil ONE for Indane customers

Through HelloBPCL for Bharatgas customers

Through HP PAY for HP Gas customers

Consumers who are unwilling or unable to complete biometric authentication will still be able to purchase LPG, but at the applicable market price without subsidy.

They can register their preference through the oil marketing companies` digital platforms, including websites, mobile applications, WhatsApp chatbots and IVRS. Depending on local availability, such consumers can receive 5-kg or 10-kg cylinders.

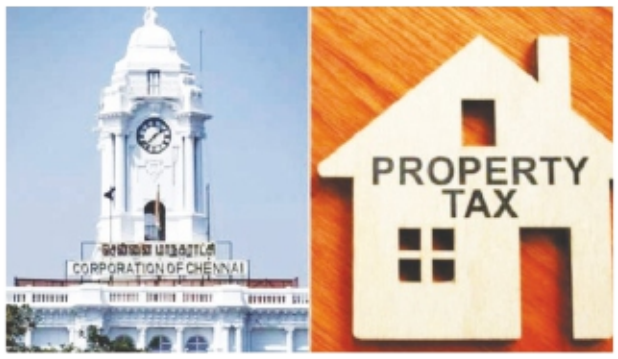
The nationwide authentication drive has been underway since October 2023. Oil marketing companies have sent more than 12 crore SMS and WhatsApp messages and conducted awareness campaigns through distributors, delivery personnel, special camps, IVRS prompts and other channels.

What consumers need to know

From October 1, the authentication requirement will effectively create a distinction between subsidised LPG and market-priced LPG. Eligible households that want to continue accessing the regulated subsidised price should complete biometric Aadhaar authentication before booking their next refill.

The government said the objective is to make LPG subsidy delivery more targeted and reduce leakage by ensuring that subsidised connections are linked to Aadhaar-authenticated consumers.

The government has urged consumers who have not yet completed the process to do so before October 1 through the available online, distributor or delivery-based channels. LPG Services Helpline: 1800 2333 555



Special counters to open for property tax collection

The Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) has announced special property tax collection counters at its zonal offices and the Revenue Department at Ripon Buildings on selected weekends in September 2026.

The special counters will remain open on September 19, 20, 26 and 27 to help property owners and commercial establishments clear their pending tax dues before the deadline.

GCC Property Tax Payment Deadline

The GCC has asked property owners to pay their outstanding property tax dues on or before September 30, 2026. Taxpayers who fail to clear their dues after the deadline will be liable to pay simple interest as applicable under Rule 268(3) of the Tamil Nadu Urban Local Bodies Rules, 2023.

Taxes and Fees Accepted at Special Counters

The weekend counters will accept payments for:

- Property tax
- Professional tax
- Company tax
- Various non-tax fees

The initiative is expected to make it easier for residents and businesses who may not be able to visit GCC offices on regular working days.

Where Can Chennai Residents Pay Property Tax?

Tax payers can visit their respective GCC zonal offices or the Revenue Department at Ripon Buildings during the special weekend counter dates to make their payments and settle pending dues.

For assistance and further information, residents can contact the GCC helpline at 044-25619305.



Bus stop shelters dumped on footpath causing inconvenience to pedestrians

The Bus stop shelters, which were dumped on the 80 Feet Road, Saligramam corridor, causing inconvenience to commuters, especially pedestrians. Pedestrians have no other options but to use the roads in peak traffic hours to reach their destination.

According to the locals, shelters are being dumped on the roadside causing problems for pedestrians.

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Is officials are serious in there work

Locals are worried and dissatisfied that a rainwater drain is being built over a buried power cable without removing the old one. The stretch between Ramapuram Junction to Porur road the Corporation is constructing rainwater drainage works on both sides of the Arcot Road . This negligence work by the authorities could lead to problems in repairing the power cable if it is damaged in the future.

This road is a important connectivity for public. Arcot Road connects important areas including Porur, Kundrathur, Ramapuram, Guindy and Anna Salai.

Of this, the road from Porur to Valasaravakkam and then Alwarthirunagar is under the maintenance of the Highways Department, while the road from Alwarthirunagar to Kodambakkam is under the maintenance of the Corporation.

To avoid such problems, the Corporation, Highways Department and Electricity Board officials should monitor properly.

However, due to the lack of proper supervision by the officials, rainwater drainage has been constructed over the buried power cable for several meters.

There is an underground power cable near a office, but instead of replacing it, a drain is being built over it.

As a result, if there is a repair to the power cable in the future, the drain will have to be completely torn down. In this regard no official communication held.

Beware of fake links warns cyber crime

The police have taken initiative to prevent cyber frauds where mysterious people send 'fake links' to 'pay fines'. Fines are being imposed directly on motorists for road violations and through surveillance camera recordings.

Amidst the controversy over police spending interest on fines imposed on vehicles violating traffic rules instead of paying them to the treasury, the Chennai Metropolitan Police Department has opened direct collection centers at 15 locations in Chennai it includes Mambalam. Other centres are as follows : Maduravoyal, Madhavaram Traffic, Yanakavuni, Puduvannarpet, Sembiyam, and Adyar.

The text messages also contain links to pay fines. However, there have been incidents of cybercriminals sending fake website links and getting people to click on them, thereby stealing money from bank accounts.

As a result, motorists are reluctant to use links that come with real fine information.

To avoid this, call centers called 'call centers' have been started at 15 locations in Chennai so that the public can know the details of the pending fines for their vehicles in person. These will also function as fine collection centers.

Vehicle owners can visit these centers and know the fine details and also pay the pending fines.
These centers will operate from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM until the 30th of this month. Motorists can use this time to pay their outstanding fines.



Radhakalyana Mahotsavam

Bhakthaswaraa Bhajan Mandali (19, Venkatesan Street, T Nagar) 41st year Radhakalyana Mahotsavam on three days Dates : 25, 26 & 27 Sept. Venu : Sri Krishnaswamy Kalyana Mandapam, Hindi Prachara Sabha Street (Opp) South Boag Road, T Nagar. All are welcome.



Chennai has reported a rise in fever cases

In recent weeks, with 140 dengue infections detected among more than 2,000 fever cases reported during the first 10 days of September, prompting health authorities to intensify surveillance and vector-control measures across the city.

The figures assume significance as the city enters a period of intermittent rainfall, which can create conditions favourable for mosquito breeding. In August, around 4,500 fever cases were reported, including 160 dengue infections. Three areas Valasaravakkam, Anna Nagar and Adyar have reported a relatively higher number of dengue cases, according to the surveillance data. Health teams have consequently stepped up house-to-house visits, fever surveillance and source-reduction activities to identify and eliminate mosquito-breeding sites.

The Greater Chennai Corporation has deployed about 3,700 mosquito-control workers across its 15 zones. Field teams have been instructed to inspect residential areas and other potential breeding sites, including vacant plots, construction sites and public institutions. Private hospitals have also been asked to share daily information on fever cases to strengthen surveillance.

Health authorities have stressed that the rise in fever cases should not be equated with a dengue outbreak, as several other viral infections are also circulating in the city.

Doctors have reported cases of influenza A, rhinovirus and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), among other respiratory infections.







A huge tree was slanding in support of bolster in Erikarai Salai, Nesapakkam, K K Nagar. After publishing in Kodambakkam Times the slanding tree was cut down seen in the picture. GCC took fast action and saved many lives.

SWD works in finishing stage, says GCC



The projects taken by GCC is in finishing stage. The SWD work happening in bits and pieces along Kodambakkam and Valasaravakkam stretches. The situation in PT Rajan Salai, K K Nagar is similar. Nearly 1,314 km of the 1,385 km network taken up since 2022 completed so far.

With the northeast monsoon approaching, the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) is racing to complete the last leg of its storm water drain (SWD) works. The projects, taken up under various schemes, have cost Rs 6,066.80 crore.

However, the Arcot Road project has emerged as a major bottleneck, with only 7.20 km of the planned 18 km completed.

GCC Commissioner GS Sameeran said, "The police have restricted construction work on Arcot Road to between midnight and 4am because of traffic congestion."

The 18-km stretch has been divided into 18 packages. The drainage system is designed to divert water partly into the Virugambakkam canal and then the Cooum, and partly through Porur into the Adyar.

As a contingency measure, GCC has planned to deploy 100-HP pumps to transfer water into nearby SWDs around Porur and along the stretch near 6 Metro Rail stations between Porur and Nandambakkam.



CMRL allows transfer of unused balance from old Metro smart cards

Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) has enabled passengers holding discontinued Contactless Smart Cards (CSC) with unused balances to transfer the remaining amount to newer travel options, including the QR Stored Value Pass (SVP) and National Common Mobility Card (NCMC).

Under the facility, passengers can transfer the balance available on their old CMRL smart cards to a QR-based Stored Value Pass purchased through the CMRL mobile application. The amount can also be transferred to an eligible NCMC card, including the Singara Chennai Card.

The facility enables commuters to continue using the money already loaded on their discontinued cards following the withdrawal of the earlier smart card system.

The Singara Chennai Card is a contactless prepaid NCMC that can be used for public transportation and, depending on the applicable facilities, for retail transactions and other payments. The NCMC was introduced in April 2023 as part of efforts to provide an integrated payment system for public transport users. CMRL has advised passengers to keep their travel cards and NCMC cards safely. According to the policy, balances on lost travel cards or NCMC cards cannot be transferred or refunded.

Passengers who still possess discontinued CMRL smart cards with unused balances can therefore use the migration facility to transfer the amount to the newer ticketing options.

Councilors alleged no funding to carry out basic works in the Kodambakkam zone

Kodambakkam councilors alleged at the Zonal Committee meeting that there is a lack of funds to properly carry out basic works, including the construction of stormwater drainage channels in the Kodambakkam zone.

The Kodambakkam Zonal Committee meeting at the Zonal Office under the chairmanship of Krishnamoorthy. In this, the councilors from various wards spoke about the problems prevailing in their wards.

The councilors spoke as follows:

For the past four and a half years, officials have been carrying out work based on the complaints made by councilors. But for the past three months, there has been no funding to even fix the bumps and potholes on the road?

Many students and teachers at Virugambakkam Jayagopal Garodia School have been affected by 'dengue' and mysterious fever. A monsoon precautionary meeting was held with the residents' welfare association administrators in my ward. In it, the ward officials have been instructed to call the councilor. "Who decided not to call the councilors?" he questioned.

The rent for the 127th ward office building has not been paid for nine months. Since the corporation officials have not been paid their salaries for 10 months, it is not known where they are working.

No information is given to the councilors about whether the work of laying stormwater drainage channels in the ward is being carried out; where it is being carried out; and who is carrying out the work.

We have seen the rains in the past; the newly arrived officials do not know where the rainwater is accumulating. Buildings are being constructed illegally in the ward. The officials do not notice that either.

A person has set up a shop on the footpath, 100 feet away from the 134th ward office. When asked to remove the shop, he said that he had given Rs. 1.50 lakh to set up a shop there. It is not known to whom he gave it.

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Road side dumping of sand a threat

Indiscriminate dumping of solid waste like sand mound along the roadside on AP Patro Salai, K K Nagar is a concern for local people and motorists as the perennial issue remains unchecked. The sand dumped not in one place but seven places in AP Patro Salai.

Heaps of sand mound are dumped not in one place but in three places in the same street. Environmental activists have urged to stop the practice of dumping of waste. The civic agency has already introduced door-to-door garbage collection in all wards to make the neighbourhood clean and green. The drive is launched to collect biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste from every household. Biodegradable waste was to be converted into fertiliser at micro-composting centres and non-biodegradable waste recycled.

However, civic workers allegedly ignore dug up sand and end up dumping sand on the roads. Many a time, civic workers dump sand, laments Raghu, a longtime resident. Residents say several complaints filed with the corporation officials.

The detriment of roadside litter is not limited to aesthetic problems. From a general perspective, litter is associated with social, economic and environmental issues, laments Suresh, an environmentalist. It even poses health hazards

Interior roads damaged

The poor condition of many of the roads in the neighbourhood, seems to hold ominous forebodings for road users. Potholes have cropped up on roads maintained by the Corporation. Even roads which were re-laid a few months ago have suffered damages, exposing the quality of work. South Sivan Kovil Street, 100 Feet Road, Vadapalani had developed extensive damage during recent rains. It is one of the major link roads laid to good standards, that had suffered damages.

The top layer of the roads have been eroded leaving blue metal strewn around. This often results in skidding of vehicles, especially two wheelers, at the spots, says Rajamani, a longtime resident. At times potholes are filled up temporarily with gravel, but that too had come off, Ramachandran another resident said. The absence of a proper system for draining rain water is apparently causing the damages to the bitumen surfaces, he lamented. Residents had been crying hoarse over the pathetic condition of interior roads.



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