

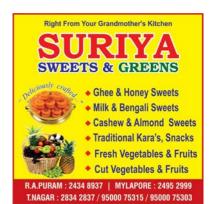
MYLAPORE TIMES

YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWSPAPER

Vol. 29, No. 31

November 2 - 8, 2024

8 pages Free Circulation



Fireworks light up the sky over the Adyar river in the R. A. Puram zone on Deepavali night

PHONE: 4766 2029 / 2498 2244

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OUR STUDENTS

SPECIAL

All issues of Mylapore Times in November will carry reports and photos of students. This is part of the annual Children's Day project.

For Students who want to report and write for the newspaper, go to page 2 for the details

kauvery hospital











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ON JESUIT Fr. BESCHI / VEERAMAMUNIVAR. TALKS ON NOV.8

To mark the birth anniversary of Constantine Joseph Beschi, also known as Veeramamunivar, a Jesuit missionary, scholar and litterateur, a Jesuit community is holding a meet on Nov.8, 6 pm onwards at Dhyana Ashram, 25, Madha Church Road, Mandaveli.

The programme includes a book launch where Fr. Rajasekaran, editor of 'Nam Vazhvu' will preside and release the following books: 1. Veeramamunivar:

A Scholar or a Saint. By Anand Amaladass SJ (book is in Tamil)

2. A Short Catechism by Robert De Nobili. (Gnanopadecak Kurippitam) - Translated into



English by Anand Amaladass

Then follows lecture one themed - Beschi's Innovation in writing Dictionary in Tamil (Caturagarati) - by Dr. Margherita Trento, French Institute, Pondicherry.

The second lecture is themed on Beschi's poem, Annai Alunkal Antati. (Lamentation of Mother Mary) talk by Prof. Casimir Tamildasan

of San Thome Hr. Sec. School.

This will be followed by a discussion moderated by Fr. Arockia Doss, SJ. Open to all.

RAMACHANDRA GUHA SPEAKS ABOUT HIS **NEW BOOK. NOV.2**

History and environment buffs can check this Nov.2 evening event in Alwarpet where renowned author and historian Ramachandra Guha is in conversation with Prof. A. R. Venkatachalapathy about his new book, SPEAKING WITH NATURE: THE ORIGINS OF INDIAN ENVIRONMENTALISM.

Guha writes on how in India, environment issues and actions happened far before the West began to talk about it.

This Harper Collins book is priced Rs.799 and will be on sale here; perhaps, you can get a copy signed by the author. This is a Madras Book Club event.

Non-members must pay a donation of Rs.100 On Saturday, November 2, 7 pm onwards at C. P. Arts Centre, Eldams Road. Refreshments at 6.30 p.m.

MUSIC FEST. NOV.2 TO 10

The Bharat Sangeet Utsav is back, as it does at this time of the year. At Narada Gana Sanha, Alwarpet, from Nov.2 to 10. The big artistes are there - Abhishekh Raghuram, Sriranjani Santhanagopalan, Vijay Siva and Ramana Balachandra.

Besides theme concerts, there are concerts of classicalfolk mix, a play and some jugalbandhis too.

Ticketed. Online and at venue - sale of tickets. Presented by Carnatica Global and Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha.

■ Have info to share here? Mail - mytimesedit@gmail.com

O. S. ARUN'S MUSIC, DANCE FEST

Senior music artiste Dr O. S. Arun's Alapana presents the 25th anniversary music and dance festival at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Mylapore. The concerts will take place over three days, from November 8 to 10.

Concerts on Nov.9 and 10 are from 9 am to 9 pm, featuring both emerging and senior artistes. All are welcome.

CONCERTS AT ARKAY

Some concerts at Arkay Centre, Luz.

On 2nd Nov 2024 6.15pm Madhuradhwani presents M. L. Vasanthakumari's Remembrance Concert by Dr Baby Sriram - vocal V V Ravi - violin; Trichur C Narendran - mridangam:

Trichy Dr Murali - ghatam On 3rd Nov., 4.30 to

Madhuradhwani presents Deepika-Nandhika - violin duet 6.30pm

Mylai Karthikeyan -Nagaswaram: M R Gopinath -violin: Karukurichi Mohanram - mridangam: B Shree Sundar Kumar - kanjira





Report local community events / share pictures -

mytimesedit@gmail.com

MYLAPORE TIMES invites School Students to Contribute to the Newspaper's Children's Day Season

All the 5 issues of the newspaper in November vill publish local new stories, features and local theme illustrations / photos. These will be the ones chosen by the Editor.

Those who get at least 3 contributions published will be awarded a certificate of appreciation.

In order to contribute, you need to register. Then the Editor will call and brief you and then you start work on

assignments in the field.

Open to school students residing in Mylapore zone (San Thome, Mandaveli, R A Puram, Alwarpet included) in Classes 6 to 12.

WhatsApp the Editor at 9841049155; mention your name and interest and he will revert.

Email IDs: mylaporetimes@gmail.com (Adverts) mytimesedit@gmail.com (Edit) Editor & Publisher - Vincent D'Souza

MYLAPORE

TIMES

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Mylapore Times is published every Saturday is given free in the Mylapore area and has a circulation of 25,000 copies

- S. Neelaveni

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Sringeri Sharada Peetham Jagadguru in Mylapore. Info for devotees for sevas, visits. He will be in Mandaveli on Nov.9

By Rajagopalan Venkatraman & Edit Team

The Vijaya Yatra of His Holiness Jagadguru Sri Vidhushekhara Bharati Sannidhanam of Sri Sringeri Sharada Peetham to Chennai which commenced on the evening of Oct 29 with his stay at 'Sudharma' bungalow on Dr. Radhakrishnan Salai, Mylapore will end at this venue on Nov.6.

The jagadguru will attend other city based events after Nov.6. The past week, he visited Sri Kapaleeswarar Temple and spoke to devotees there (seen in photo)

A note from the PR team of the jagadguru's unit has shared the following details for people -

Dharshan and pada pooja begins at 10:30 am onwards daily at Shrimad Acharyal's Vijaya Yathra camp at 'Sudharma', Mylapore.

Ticket counters are set up at this venue for purchase of tickets for various sevas here. Payment for sevas may be made through cash, Gpay or card

The jagadguru will arrive at Sringeri Pravachana Mandiram, Mandaveli at 10 am on Nov.9. Dharshan and pada pooja has been arranged in Sringeri Mutt in Mandaveli that day. At this venue, at 11 pm, Sri Chandramoulishwarar puja will be performed by the acharya.

CORRECTION

In the report on Theme Kolus in the *Mylapore Times* contest, there was an error. One of the winners is Loga Bhagyalakshmi of R. A. Puram. and not as printed.



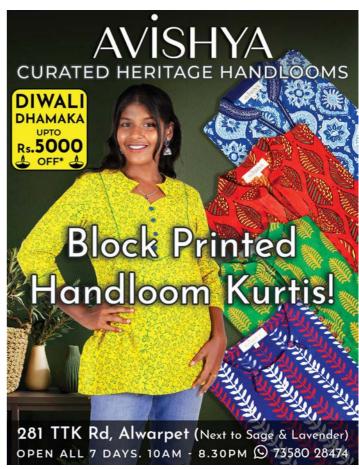


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VINCENT's JOTTINGS

By VINCENT D' SOUZA

A recent Sunday evening had me at two events. Both in Mylapore. Both at sabha halls. Back to back.

One was a play; the other a felicitation and a dance concert. I was checking out these performances, as I do across the city; this helps me choose some for the annual Mylapore Festival we hold every January in the precincts of Sri Kapali Temple.

The first call was at the MFAC sabha hall. Dummies Drama, which has some successful plays to its credit, was staging two

plays, back to back. Both plays had had a good run and the Sunday shows, I gathered were for some fund-raising effort.

Five minutes to the curtain raise, there were some 260 odd people. It was a 5 p.m. show. I noticed lots of senior couples streaming in. Ten minutes into the

play, 'Payanam', and the hall had some 500 plus people. And more people kept coming in.

The play, about a decade old, and yet relevant to the day. Journeys of some seven people, all with an American connect, their delayed flights putting them all in the lounge room of a Dubai airport; their lives and outlook unfolding.

The anecdotes resonated with the audience. Many laughed, some clapped lightly, some guffawed too. The stage was reflecting their lives, or of lives they knew too well.

Since Mylapore is the hub of concerts and drama, most theatre artistes tune their scripts to be Mylaporean. 'Payanam' too was just that. But did rasikas have a good time, laugh at all the slips and hiccups and go home to talk about it over tiffin or did some lines make them rethink the real life? Impact their outlook, their attitude?

And as I surveyed the packed hall as the curtains came down on Play One that evening, I just felt all over again that people must pay for music and theatre and all the rest today. Even one hundred rupees for a package by the Dummies that evening. Though a fair price would be 250 or 300.

My second stop was at Narada Gana Sabha's hall. Feted artiste Sudha Raghunathan's Foundation was 25 and was decorating two people and awarding support to some NGOs that evening. I wanted to catch the dance production - Kallazhagar.

Inside, it was a slow-roll event. Delayed to start with, it went on and on; this should have been a 45-minutes crisp first section. The dance started at 8.10 pm. Very delayed. Imagine the state of the artistes who had been at the venue since noon.

Why do artistes dampen the spirits of artistes?

I am told Sudha Raghunathan apologised to the dancers. Appreciate this.

But can organisers, sabha heads and guest speakers be snappy at the mike. And make way for the artistes. The stage is theirs

LETTERS FROM READERS

E-MAIL your letters to - mytimesedit@gmail.com.

Provide full name and short address.

This column also contains comments posted on our social media pages.

Jaded Luz Circle

Chennai Metro work has robbed Luz of its festival buzz. Even the street hawker stalls looked jaded and poor people who enjoy lastminute shopping here are making best of what is on.

- R. Amudha



Parking woes at TANGEDCO office

The TANGEDCO bill counter on Dr. R K Salai is in utter chaos. People are not able to park their two-wheelers in the campus and are forced to park on the road. The road is always facing traffic jams. Will the authorities make necessary arrangements for parking?

- K. R. Jambunathan

Miss Ambika Appalam's veg puff

Jambu's video on Ambika Appalam triggered my memory. This corner store was very popular. They have been able to maintain the taste of their trademark ribbon pakoda, over the last 40 years.

Their veg puffs were a huge hit and people used to travel to Mylapore just to enjoy the hot veg puff served there. I am not sure why Ambika Appalam discontinued their veg puff.

- Ramesh K.

Pranams to Sushila

I have had the opportunity to listen to Sushila Achutharaman's discourse when I lived in Mylapore.

May her soul rest in peace. Respects from Pennsylvania.

- Ranganathan

Fence Marina Loop Road

The Marina Loop Road should be fenced so that buyers can't buy from the roadside hawkers. Fines must be levied on people who do not follow the rule. This will address the issue of fish hawking.

- Narasimhan V. Parthasarathy

On fish hawkers

Fishermen are not the owners of the sea and land and so they have to follow rules. They enjoy tax payers' money disproportionately while all other unemployed suffer.

- Venkat Raja

MY STORY



Memories of Rosary Matric. Class of 1984

By PRIYA MURLE

 $Blue\ and\ White\ on\ Victory's\ Flight.$

On October 18, 50 of us from the Class of 1984 of Rosary Matric Girls School, San Thome gathered at our beloved Alma Mater after four decades apart. Our vibrant class was a wonderful blend of nerds and average students, where holistic learning encompassed academics, sports, dance, and music—each an integral part of our curriculum.

Having spent 14 years at this institution, including Kindergarten, our time in higher secondary was particularly joyful, filled with singing, dancing, and study.

I'm incredibly proud of my peers, who have excelled in diverse fields—doctors, engineers, science journalists, chartered accountants, entrepreneurs, educators, dancers, singers, and dedicated homemakers form an impressive list.

Dressed in our school colours of blue and white, this October 18, we attended a heartwarming Assembly, undeterred by the rain. Sister Principal and our beloved teachers welcomed us warmly, and the current students put on an impressive show. Some of us spoke during the Assembly, and we took our customary class photo at Sathyam Studios, just as we had done for 14 years.

The Class of 1984 organized this Reunion with the school management, and we proudly donated two Smart Boards to support our Alma Mater's ongoing growth. After the Assembly, we headed to Marudham Eco Resort for a grand reunion celebration.

A few memories remain fresh.

Our favourite hangouts were Orient Stores (their grape kuchi ice cream was yummy !!!). There was a small 'potti kadai' in the front of the school gate where a lady used to sell maps, sheets and kamarkat!

In high school, we were enthusiastic participants in school culturals. Once, we went to San Thome High School for a festival and it looked like the Principal had declared a holiday for us! The next day, our Principal was so angry and upset with us for going to that festival, she told us we would get a zero in our exams. After that, our gang called ourselves the Zero Gang, we had our own lingo and the gang still is close - as the Zero Gang.

Before our 12th final exams, we had to meet in school, attend the Assembly and then head to St Raphaels School (next door) for our exams. I recall the math exam - there were rumours that the question paper was supposedly leaked .. toughest paper .. everybody panicked and were trying to solve the problems .., our Zero Gang decided that there was no need for last-minute scramble! We sang songs (to the chagrin of others) . We prayed and went to the exam hall to find it to be the easiest paper!

School had a great impact on our lives: our friendships are lasting. We learnt a lot in this school - always in gratitude

Priya Murle is a senior Bharatanatyam artiste and teacher.

DEEPAVALI SNAPSHOTS

COMMUNITY SPIRIT IN MANDAVELI

By Ganga Sridhar

Residents of Mandaveli's Raja Street got together on Deepavali day to share sweets and burst sparklers. And they collected the crackers waste so that civic workers could dispose it quickly.

There was a small and symbolic celebration at the street corner to spread the message of friendship.

During the day, a team of residents did the rounds of the area to discipline some people who were bursting crackers recklessly and

inconveniencing passers-by.

An advisory was circulated on the RWA group to celebrate the festival safely and to handover cracker waste separately to the con-



servancy staff, as requested by the GCC CI of the ward. The RWA used this opportunity to thank all the officials and workers who have been working for the upkeep of their street and a small token of gratitude was given

ILLUMINATED HOUSES



By Baskar Seshadri

Deepavali celebrations across Mylapore on Oct.31 saw non-stop bursting of crackers, in the morning and in the evening. Since the rain had stayed away, the festival mood did not get damnened

A few houses were lit up with serial lights illumination but we saw less of this in local stores.

The photo here shows a well lit Sri Ranga Apartments on Dr Ranga Road, Mylapore.

STUDENTS KEEP A TRADITION

There is a tradition that is kept at the Ramakrishna Mission Students Home, Mylapore on Deepavali day - the boys who board and study here, get up early, have a bath, wear fresh clothes and after a prayer, burst a set of fire crackers.

The monks at the Home are at hand to join the celebrations.

Generations of boys who have been at the Home recall their Deepavali here with warmth.

So this October 31 morning at this campus off P. S. Sivaswamy Salai was no different.

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K. R. Jambunathan takes us through nooks and corners of the Mylapore he knows best in this video series. This is a weekly series. WATCH VIDEOS at www.youtube.com/mylaporetv

Dhadi Vadyar School

Dhadi Vadyar School was probably the most famous school of Mylapore. I called it the Oxford of Mylapore.

On Chengalneer Vinayaka Street, Mylapore, off North Mada Street.

Dharmaraja founded this school; since he had a flowing beard, people began to call this place Dhadi vadyar school. It was run like a gurukulam. And people say many students who studied here were good at math.

It was co-education but girls and boys sat in different

In my days, Dhadi vadyar had two small schools on Chengalneer Vinayaka Street and one in Mangolai. But the first was on North Mada Street, say oldtimers.

The Mangolai school had just three classrooms in thatched forms. Class 3, 4 and 5. That s it.

There were two big trees; we had lunch under the

Sri Karpagavalli Baliga Bala Patashala was the formal name of all these schools.

Now, we have Karpagavalli Vidyalaya located in Mangolai.

The daily routine was this - we left footwear outside, and after the Assembly prayer, we had to recite the math fractions; those who failed, got hit on the knuckles.

Most students who studied here went on to P. S. School and then to Vivekananda College.

They became lawyers and chartered accountants, business heads and professors.

DO YOU HAVE A **DHADI VADYAR STORY?**







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- 1800 SQ.FT., first floor, rental 3 BHK, south facing, Third Main Road. R. A. Puram, lift, security, open car park, Rs. 50K, including maintenance, advance 6 months. Ph: Consultant 9600097902
- MYLAPORE, Nageswara Park, near 2000 sq.ft., 3 BHK, 86K, lift, full backup security, swimming pool, gym, 2 car parkings. Ph: 9384351931
- ALWARPET, 2800 sq.ft., 3 BHK, Rate 1.50 lakh, 3 + balconies, lift, 2 CCP. R A Puram, 2300 sq.ft., 3 BHK, Rs. 1.25 lakh, 2 flats available, lift, 2 CCP, backup security. Ph: 9498053092
- ROYAPETTAH, near Balaji Nagar, 1 BHK, 4 th floor, lift, two wheeler parking, Rs. 20K rent. Contact: 9840 398626
- 3 BHK, with car park @ Mandaveli Lane, Rent 35000. Ph: Agent 9499917299 • MYLAPORE, near Nageshwara Park, new flat, 2000 sq.ft., 3 BHK, lift, CCP, power
- backup, veg only, Rs. 65K. Ph: 9790283414 MYLAPORE, near Rosary Matric School, brand new apartment, 900 sq.ft., 2 BHK, 2 nd floor, lift, CCP, Rent 30K, 750 sq.ft., ground floor, 2 BHK, Rs.23K. Contact: 8939225395

- MYLAPORE, immediate possession, Shanthi Flats, Appu Street, 3 BHK, modular kitchen, wardrobes, 1st floor, scooter parking, Rent 33000, only veg, brokers excuse. Contact: 9962855875
- 2 BHK, 1st floor, OCP, lift at TMS Salai, Mandavelipakkam, vegetarian, brokers excuse, Rent 45000. Contact: 9444493639 /9940307323
- MRC Nagar, RMT Mylapore, LUZ, Amor, Appasamy, Adyar, Gandhi Nagar, Shastri Nagar, available 2 BHK / 3 BHK. Ph: RK Real estate 9841901877 / 9840770388
- MYLAPORE, near Vidya Mandir School 1400 sq.ft., 2 BHK, Independent house 1st floor, 30000/- Abhiramapuram, 3 BHK, 2nd floor, cover car parking, Rent 35k. Ph: 8667066894/9382323877

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- MYLAPORE, Kutchery Road, Devadi Street, opposite Hotel Ruchi, second floor, hall type, 500 sq.ft., Ideal for cloud kitchen, tuition center, Rs.12000. Ph: 9444656188
- MANDAVELI, road facing, 200 sq.ft., shop / office space rent on R.K Mutt Road, near Mandaveli market, 18000. Contact:

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• MYLAPORE, lease, 2 bedroom house, 1st floor, 1000 sq.ft., Rs. 20 lakhs. Ph: 9444846358

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• MYLAPORE, Mandaveli, Abiramapuram, R.A.Puram, flat/house, Rs. 20000, Rs.25000, Rs.35000, Rs.40000, Rs.50000, Rs.60000, veg only. Contact: 8248729596, 9884429720.

- 9841702442

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St. Marys Rd cemetery cleaned ahead of All Souls Day

By Juliana Sridhar

Civic workers were employed to clean the Chennai Corporation cemetery on Saint Mary's Road ahead of All Souls Day on November 2.

This was arranged by Our Lady of Guidance Church in R.A. Puram, which has for long, maintained the cemetery.

Christians observe All Souls Day on November 2 every year when they remember and pray for the departed members of their families.

They visit their graves, place flowers and light candles and offer prayers.

Fr. T. Anthony Raj, parish priest of the church in R A Puram said that on All Souls Day, many priests will go around the cemetery, blessing all the graves and holy Mass will be said at 4 pm at the cemetery.

At Our Lady of Guidance church there will be two Masses on November 2 – at 6am and at 7 am.

59 children enjoyed colouring and writing post cards for Deepavali

By Our Edit Team

59 children of Mylapore created a theme Deepavali greeting card, wrote a message for their family or friend and helped Mylapore Times post those cards on Tuesday.

This was part of a Post Card Making Contest organised by the newspaper.

The beautifully coloured cards were posted at Mylapore Post Office and will reach the addressee anytime today or latest by Saturday.

This is the first time that the newspaper has combined the idea of art and the waning practice of post card writing for an event. And of the 95 cards that were asked for, 59 people responded.

Ten children will get prizes for their well-designed cards. Prizes will be sent to





them on the weekend.

Mylapore Post Office staff helped process the posting. Artist Priya Natraj created the colouring outlines for the card and Deepam Sweets, Inch Fit, JFA and Sai Supermarket were the gifts sponsors.

Waste collection drive: community-driven

By V. A. Amithaneyan

A waste collection drive happened in R. K. Nagar on the weekend of Oct. 26 and 27. Of the waste given here were clothes, plastics and broken glass.

"Our aim is to not create more landfills," said volunteer Swetha.

STUDENTS REPORT

They give the used clothes to needy people. And fresh clothes are put into the laundry and sold at the Thrift store, in T.Nagar.

Tetra packs are made into chairs, tables and pencil stands. Another project, called Malar, is to recycle used flowers into incense sticks, candle perfumes.

The plastic is segregated into soft plastic and hard plastic.

Further contact: 97517 55522



The aroma of Deepavali sweets

By V. Shivcharan

There were no weddings happening now at Sri Narayani Kalyana Mandapam in Jeth Nagar, Mandaveli. But when you stepped into this hall the past days, the whole place had a rich aroma of ghee and sweets floating around.

STUDENTS REPORT

Sastha Catering Company hosted a Deepavali sweets and savouries mela here.

All the sweets and savouries were displayed buffet style, on

counters across the large hall; so people could go around and take a look and then order. Far beyond, we could see cooks making the sweets and this is where the aroma came from

The staff were smartly attired; they wore gloves and quickly took orders.

The cash counters one evening were busy, as shoppers made quick buys. Some carried away the goodies in large boxes, the staff here packing them well. We were told packs were

also shipped out.

A banner said Sastha offered a special dinner on Oct.26 that included soups and Pasta and last Sunday, there was vazhai ilai sapad with 29 items on the menu.

The mela closed on Oct.30

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Nov 2 - 8, 2024

Cemetery ready for All Souls Day

By Swathilika

Quibble Island Cemetery in R. A. Puram has been prepared for All Souls' Day which falls on November 2.

Weeds have been cleared, fresh turf grass has been laid, and the gravestones have been cleaned in preparation for the event.

STUDENTS

On Nov.2, Christians remember and pray for the dead. After a special Mass here that evening, a priest will sprinkle holy water on the graves to bless them.

File photo



This old cemetery is designed in two parts - one for Roman Catholics and one for the Protestants.

Currently, there is no space available for new burials in the cemetery, we are told. Families are apportioned sites within the cemetery based on where their loved ones have been previously interred.

One gravestone that catches your eye is that of three children, Edward, Wilfred, and Amelia, who barely made it past the age of three. This is also one of the oldest graves in the cemetery (1882-'85) and resembles a mausoleum. Another notable grave is that of actor and comedian Chandrababu.

Home-made sweets

By S. Sahaana

People love the special sweets and savouries made at home for Deepavali. S. Vanamala of Sri Mundagakanni Amman Koil Street, Mylapore is one person who carried on this tradition.

Vanamala said she makes sweets and savories only

STUDENTS REPORT at home and does not buy them

This Deepavali, she prepared Mysorepak and Maa Ladoo and

Ribbon Pakodas and

Vanamala showed us the sweets, saying that ghee is the main ingredient.

"Sweets and savouries made at home are always good for health," she said. They taste very good and can make us feel



Deepavali Malars

For keen readers, the Deepavali Malars released at festival time by newspapers and magazines are a big draw. Though, their numbers sell less in this age where reading is a limited habit.

The iconic Nehru News Mart in Luz, now in the shadow of work on the Chennsi Metro, offers some six different 'malars', priced Rs.100 upwards. Copies are limited.

Jeth Nagar community gifts civic workers for Deepavali

By Our Edit Team

Deepavali and Pongal are occasions when the Jeth Nagar Residents Association (JERA) in Mandaveli honours civic workers, members of the local Urbaser Sumeet team.

15 staff were honoured last weekend. The men were given shirts and the women, a saree. A sweets box and a squash bottle was also gifted.

The goodies were sponsored by JERA's prime members who contribute to the annual corpus of the association.

Vadasery Textiles located on R. K. Mutt Road has been a supporter for this cause every year, providing the clothes with quality and concessional rates, said Ravi Nandyala of

Uma Shivkumar, secretary of JERA,



Swaminathan, a keen supporter of JERA and Ravi Nandyala, founding member of JERA which is now seven years old, gave away the gift hampers to the staff and the supervisors

REPORT NEWS FROM YOUR COMMU-NITY - mail - mytimesedit@gmail.com

as if we could eat it all This Lions Club gifted 120 civic workers with Deepavali hamper

Lions Club of Arkaynagar members presented Deepavali hampers to the Urbaser Sumeet sanitation staff working in the Mandaveli zone.

The event was held on Oct.26 at the Kalyan Nagar Association hall, which was provided free of cost. The pack had provisions of rice, dhall, sugar, tea and other essentials valued at Rs.1300.

120 workers of Ward 124 were gifted. There was a lucky draw with three surprise gifts to add flavor and fun to the function. The Urbaser staff were welcomed with sweet, karam and coffee.

- Report by K. Venkatakrishnan





