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RAPRA Kids Club based in R A Puram held a ‘Make Your own Eco-friendly seed Ganesha’ workshop for children last weekend at the GCC park on 7th Main Road. The session was led by sustainable art and design specialist Vidya Madhivannan. Bhuvana, Deepa, Lalitha Iyer, Lalitha, Shobhana and Ganga were at hand to guide the children. Each child embedded a seed of his/her choice inside their handcrafted idol, which could be planted in the ground after the festival.



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CHECK THIS

POROMBOKKIYAL 2026: ARTISTES, ACTIVISTS, PROFESSIONALS DEBATE

The annual Porombokkiyal meet is to be held on Sept.19 at 'Trace the Space' studio located off Dr. Radhakrishnan Salai, Mylapore. This unique event focuses on issues related to the 'commons' (poromboke) – issues that cover community, education, music and development.



Bindumalini; Yuvan Aves (right)

Here is the schedule –

■ 10:00 a.m.

onwards | The Many Lives of a Road

How do different people share the road? The vendor, pedestrian, wheelchair user, auto . . . This session features Dr. Aiswarya Rao, disability rights activist; Mohana Sundari, president, Veera Pengal Munnetra Sangam; Mullai, fish vendor, Marina Loop Road; and Yuvan Aves, nature educator, Palluyir Trust – session moderated by musician Monali Bala.

■ 12:15 p.m. onwards | Commons of Care

What does it take to build a shared space and keep it shared? Features G. Sarathkumar, founder, Vyasa Thozhargal, and Archana Mohan, founder, Pagir – session moderated by wetland researcher and campaigner Prashanth.

■ 2:30 p.m. onwards | Sharing Fairly – Music, Internet & the Ethics of the Commons

When a melody can belong to everyone and be owned by someone at the same time, what does fair sharing mean? Bindhumalini, singer-composer; Ofro, founder, Atti Culture; and Swaroop Mami, lawyer & IP specialist examine music, the Internet, ownership and access – session moderated by author and music artiste T. M. Krishna.

■ 4:00 p.m. onwards | Naa Porombokku! Nee Porombok-kaa?

The day concludes with a moderated Open House.

Venue: No.54, Dr Radhakrishnan Salai, Jagadambal Colony, Mylapore (diagonally opposite CitiCentre mall). Phone: 6379616253.

EVENTS FOR SENIORS



Programmes for seniors by Dignity Foundation. Free and open to all. Venue: Srinivasa Gandhi Nilayam, Alwarpet.

Sept. 21 - Zumba & Art and Craft sessions - 11 a.m.

Sept. 23 - Indoor games (carrom, chess and Pallanguli) - 11 a.m. Sept. 24 - Yoga - 11 a.m. For registration: 8610386212, 9176887495

SARASWATHI PURASKARAM AWARD: SEPT.19



The C. P. Ramaswamy Aiyar Foundation will present the Saraswathi Puraskaram for 2026 to Aravinth Kumarasamy, the artistic director, Apsaras Dance Company, Singapore. The annual award recognises a person who has made a significant contribution to the performing arts.

This function will be held on Saturday, September 19 at 4 p.m. at the Foundation's campus on Eldams Road, Alwarpet.

The award will be presented by eminent dancer-guru Dr. Padma Subrahmanyam. Hari Shankar, secretary, Nara-da Gana Sabha, will preside.

Later, Apsaras Dance Company artistes. will present a dance production titled 'Amara': The Enchanted Citadel. The event is open to all.

MEDITATION MEET; SEPT. 20

To mark International Peace Day (Sept.21) the Brahma Kumaris' branch in Mylapore has arranged for a special meditation programme on Sept 20 (Sunday), 6 p.m. onwards for 90 minutes.

Venue: The Kalyana Nagar Association hall, No.29, T.M.S Road, Mandavelipakkam. Open to all

MYLAPORE TIMES

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Union minister unveils Sanskrit Heritage Model at Madras Sanskrit College

By Our Edit Team

Photo courtesy: Nirmala Sitharaman FB page

Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman unveiled what is called the Sanskrit Heritage Model and Platform at the Madras Sanskrit College premises, Mylapore on Sept.15.

This project is the result of a partnership between Madras Sanskrit College (MSC) and Articul8 AI, a USA based company. It is an Artificial Intelligence (AI) system built to work with Sanskrit language and texts while giving users ways to explore knowledge and trace responses back to their sources.

In simple terms, this project translates complex, ancient text into content that can be easily understood, it uses perfect grammar so there is no scope for wrongly translated content and it helps scholars dig deep into ancient Indian texts to learn about medicine, astronomy, math and more.

IIT-Madras is also a collaborator in this project.



Drinking water is polluted off and on, says residents of R. A. Puram areas

By Our Edit Team

Residents from three areas of Mylapore zone said this past week that they have been getting dirty, green-coloured and foul-smelling drinking water in their Metrowater pipelines.

One resident of R. K. Nagar in R A Puram shared photos on Sept.15 of buckets of dirty, black-coloured water he has been getting off and on for the past two months.

He says the water is clean and good for some days and then, polluted water flows into their sumps. He says this is the same experience of others in this nagar.



Residents from R. A. Puram have also complained of this problem.

Residents of Jeth Nagar in Mandaveli showed photos of dirty green water in their sumps. One of them said that this could be because the chlorination has not been done properly.

Engineers of Metrowater visited some houses in R. K. Nagar after the issue was escalated on social media.

■ SHARE here your experience of your Metrowater supply - if it is polluted the past weeks. Mention the street and the problem in 2/3 lines. WhatsApp your story: 7305630727

Eco Kodai Contest: Update

Prizes and gifts for participants in *Mylapore Times* 'Create a Eco Kodai for lord Vinayaka' contest are being delivered this Friday and Saturday This job will be completed by Saturday noon (Sept.17). If you participated in the contest and our team has not reached your place, please call MT office at 2498 2244 and talk to Shanthi.

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VINCENT's JOTTINGS

By VINCENT D' SOUZA

How did the boatmen on the Buckingham Canal navigate the waters in the 1950s and 60s?

Researcher D. Hemchandra Rao, now no more, was perhaps the only man who hit the ground to study this unique Canal over many years. From the Ongole zone in Andhra land to Marakkanam off the East Coast Road (ECR).

While touring the Canal between Kelambakkam and Mamallapuram, Rao managed to coax a fisherman to row us in the waters of the Canal, south of Mamallapuram; he wanted to experience the sailing though the original boats which sailed up and down with produce for our city, were large ones.

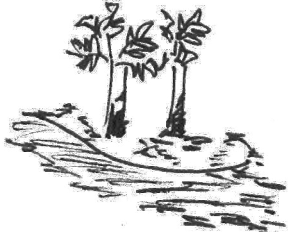
The experience also allowed us to understand the role of man-made locks that were built in the colonial times, to regulate the flow of water, from the small and large lakes and from in and out of the sea.

Memories of those interesting field trips have been floating in me ever since I read about the state's Mamallan reservoir project. Which you should also know about. Initiated by the previous DMK government, the project seeks to tap floodwaters from the many lakes in the Kovalam sub-basin zone to source drinking water supplies for our city. Create one more big source; instead of letting the waters flow into the sea. A good idea for a city that often suffers water shortages, especially when the Rain Gods do not smile on us.

But there are other issues that this project affects. Environment issues - its effect on animal, sea, plant and bird life. Its effects on inland fisherfolk. These are not evident to the thousands who drive up and down the East Coast Road, to take a break in Mamallapuram or in Pondicherry. So we do not give much thought to the pros and cons of large projects like this one, content with what profits us.

I often ask people who work for the environment to sensitise school and college youths to issues around us with one engaging act - take groups on Nature Walks/Tours to the 'hot spots'. Let them have an experience - observe the fishing practices, watch the birds that flock here in the November - January season, know what mud flats are and use online maps to locate the lakes, water bodies and canals.

The Kovalam basin is a living laboratory. It is an hour's drive from the city centre. And a Nature Walk in this zone also makes for a nice picnic young people will enjoy. We need informed communities to make informed choices on issues that affect us all.



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.



Festival scene at Saraswathi Venkataramani's residence

Why are we not making neivedhyam at home?

● Refer to *Mylapore Times* report on Mami Mess, Mylapore making and selling kozhukattai for Vinayaka Chaturthi. Why has neivedhyam got outsourced nowadays? Are we so busy or lacking the energy to prepare the neivedhyam at home?

- Sankar K.

● I made kozhukattai at home. Both sweet and karam variety. What is the use of celebrating a festival if you do not offer the gods, *prasadam* made at home?

- Saraswathi Venkataramani

On closure of Viveks stores . . .

● Viveks lost business due to big shift in retail business dynamics - it failed to adapt and get into aggressive expansion and it could not compete with large-format multi-brand retailers like Vasanth & Co who captured much of the market.

- Satish

● Sad to note Viveks has shut down its stores. I recall the long queue of shoppers every January 1st for the Viveks sale in Luz. People used to be in the queue as early as 6 a.m. to buy their product. The queue would stretch as far as the gates of Vidya Mandir. Sumeet mixies was the star attraction of shoppers. If the shop could not supply the mixie that day, they gave us coupons so that people could buy for that price subsequently.

- Murali

Residential Flats used as Guest Houses

Four guesthouses are being run at Land Marvel flats at No.169, Eldams Road in violation of apartment rules. All of them were registered as residential flats but are being used for commercial purposes. Their functioning is causing problems for other permanent residents. Complaints to Chennai Corporation have not got us any relief.

- Writer wishes to be anonymous

Suggestion: LPG companies can introduce nomination facility

LPG companies can introduce a nomination facility for its consumers. As they have made KYC is compulsory, it may be difficult for the people to get gas supplied after the demise of the consumer. From our experience we have seen that if the spouse or children ask for a name change in the records, the companies insist on proof of a succession certificate.

- K. R. Jambunathan



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MYLAPORE REWIND

This column carries excerpts from Mylapore Times 1997 onwards. This week, we focus on May 1997.

Alwarpet siblings dominate table-tennis tournaments (May 24, 1997)

N. Ravichandran of Bava Road in Alwarpet won the second state-ranking table-tennis tournament held in mid-May.

His sister, Arul Selvi, won the women's title just ahead of Ravichandran's first title for this season. Ravichandran represented India at the 1994 Commonwealth Games. V. Ramachandran was his coach. Ravi has played both singles and doubles at the state and national levels. He is currently among the top sixteen players in India. He is an alumnus of San Thome High School.

Arul Selvi works for Indian Bank. The siblings' father, Narayanan, is a physical instructor at a school in Alwarpet. The duo is now focusing their training for the national championships to be held later this year.

Sankara Gurukulam in Abirampuram: golden jubilee (May 10, 1997)

Sri Sankara Gurukulam in Abirampuram is celebrating its golden jubilee and the 78th San-



Arul Selvi



Ravichandran

The music fest will get underway on May 11, with Semmangudi Srinivasa Iyer inaugurating it. To be held from May 11 to 23, it has a star-studded line-up including artistes like Lalgudi G. J. R. Krishnan, Sikkil Neela and Kunjamani, Suguna Purushottaman, Bombay Sisters, Mani Krishnaswamy and Ranganayaki Rajagopalan.

Brhaddhvani launches Art Circle (May 24, 1997)

The R A Puram-based research and training centre for classical music, Brhaddhvani, has

geeta Mahotsavam this year. The temple is dedicated to jagadguru Sri Sankacharya. It was built by Thethiyur Subrahmanya sattrigal, a Vedanta scholar, and was consecrated in April 1947. It regularly hosts lectures on Sri Sankara's works, Upanishad classes and religious discourses.

The 50th year celebrations began on May 4.

started Art Circle, which will be a platform for lec-dems and interactive sessions with famous artistes. Recently, there was a five-day, face-to-face meet with maestros like Lalgudi Jayaraman. The chief guest at the event was the well-known artist Manohar Devadass, who is partially blind. His stunning sketches were on display at Brhaddhvani's Art Centre - this centre is located in R A Puram's 4th Main Road.

'Flask Hospital' on Kutchery Road (May 10, 1997)

By A. Mangala Bhavani

This Mylapore shop helps people to get their flasks repaired. Owned by Balasubramaniam, it is called Flask Hospital and is located at 125B, Kutchery Road. It also sells hot cases and mixies. It was started 37 years ago, when Balasubramaniam's father Meenakshisundaram used to sell refills for all types of flasks. He used to work for Bengal Lamps, which also manufactured refills for flasks. The father later began to sell flask cases and lids. Balasubramaniam's brothers help him run the shop now. It is open on all days of the week.

● This column is curated by Kanaka Cadambi.



Remembering Kaaraikkudi R. Mani

Artistes and Carnatic music rasikas got together on September 11 to remember mridan-gam maestro Kaaraikkudi R. Mani on his 81st birth anniversary.

At an event held at Narada Gana Sabha auditorium that evening, the Guru Kaaraikkudi Mani Award for Excellence in Percussion was conferred on renowned chenda maestro Matta-nur Sankarankutty Marar. A memento and a cash award of Rs.50,000, was presented to the awardee by chief guest ‘Cleveland’ V. V. Sundaram. Trustees of Sruthi Laya Kendra, the host — Dr. Rajeswari Sainath, K. Usha, and S. K. Srinivasan — were present.

Sandeep Narayan’s vocal music concert followed.

Mylapore Fund Depositors Assn. members to meet on Sept.21. Ask govt. to set up fast track court

By Our Edit Team

Members of the Mylapore Fund Aggrieved Depositors Association are to hold a meeting at Rajarathinam Sta-dium in Egmore on Sept.21, 3 p.m. onwards to urge the

state government to set up a fast track court and hear the long drawn cases against the promoter of the Mylapore Hindu Permanent Fund Nidhi Ltd.

They say the cases are dragging on and hundreds of depositors are suffering. “To our knowledge, some 40 people have died and many are suffering,” said K. Bhas-kar, a core member of this association.

He said that the Fund’s MD, Devanathan Yadav who was arrested and has been in jail, has been undergoing treatment at a T. Nagar hospital and keeps seeking more time for treatment.

Depositors say that a Court directive that Yadav deposit Rs.100 crores has been bypassed and not spo-ken about at all. “Instead, Yadav says he is ready to

offer some properties for sale to raise funds but those are worth only Rs.40 crores. He is trying to hood-wink us,” says Bhaskar.

Contacts of Assn: V. Harisudha; 9444154536 / K. Bhaskar ; 9566047517



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By Madhan Kumar

On Wednesday (Sept. 16), people walked down to the Marina shoreline, carrying small images of lord Vinayaka they had celebrated at home, to immerse them in the sea. To signal the end of their Vinayaka Chathurthi festival.

They came through the day – some in the morning, some in the evening. Most images were simple, clay ones. After the immersion, many stood in the waters, prayed and went back home.

Urbaser Sumeet workers were assigned work on the shoreline to clear waste that would wash up on the shore.

Lawrence & Mayo eyewear store in Alwarpet gets makeover



The Lawrence & Mayo eyewear store in Alwarpet recently got a new look and enhanced services.

The showroom has a swank interior and it displays a curated collection of spectacles suited for budget, premium and luxury clients. Its eye-check section, manned by a full-time optometrist, has also been upgraded.

Included in the range of spectacles are a selection made from acetate – these spectacle sare premium. plant-based eyewear frames made from cellulose acetate (from natural cotton fibre and wood pulp).

Unlike ordinary injection-moulded plastic glasses, acetate frames are hypoallergenic (do not affect the skin) and very durable.

Marketing executive Elumalai said that the in-house optometrist offers comprehensive tests for adults; they advise children to have eye checks done at a hospital.

The store is open all seven days of the week, 10.30 am to 8.30 p.m.

The store is at Oxford Centre, 64, C. P. Ramaswamy Road, Alwarpet. Phoned 2467 2596 / +91 99415 31040

A donation to celebrate a veteran teacher

By Our Edit Team

K. Arulvel of Alwarpet donated Rs. 25000 to Mylapore Times Charitable Trust, to mark the birth centenary of his mother, late Navaneetham Kolandai, a resident of Abhiramapuram for six decades and a senior teacher who also worked at the Chennai School in Alwarpet for many years.

The Trust funds small projects in local schools throughout the year. It donates over Rs.5 / 6 lakhs as student scholarships in June/July every year.

To donate, call Shanthi at Mylapore Times - 2498 2244.

Fiddle Art Academy celebrates Annual Day

By Our Staff Reporter

Fiddle Art Academy, Mylapore, run by violinist Madurai T. Kishore, celebrated its Annual Day on September 7 at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's mini hall, Mylapore. The chief guests were artistes Anaiyampatti Venkata Subramaniam and Ramani.

Students of Kishore took turns to perform on stage.

Kishore is a professional Carnatic violinist and has been teaching children to play Carnatic music on the violin for the past eight years.



Fiddle Art Academy is based at Ananti Apartments, Salai Street, Mylapore. Phone: 94441 64926

Declutter your house. Drop off used goods for recycling



By Our Edit Team

This may be the time to declutter your house or apartment - of goods that are of no use to you. And do so via a channel that tries to recycle these goods. This is a periodic campaign by EcoConnectors and Spreco and the 'Declutter Day' is Sept. 27.

These items are accepted -

Clothes in good condition (torn clothes must be washed and packed separately.), electronic items, stationery, glass bottles, books, toys, hard plastic items, cardboard and papers and bags/luggage goods.

These are the collection points - where you may drop off your old goods (10 am to 4 pm)

1) R K Nagarra Assn - Tiruveedhiamman Koil St., Ramakrishna Nagar, R. A. Puram. Contact Bala - 7010848668

2) Karpagam Avenue park - 4th Street, next to Pillayar temple, Karpagam Avenue. Contact Bindu Veerabahu - 9176776767

3) Poonga View RWA and Mandaveli Raja Street RWA - gate of Aishwarya Apartments, 29 Raja Street Extension, Mandaveli. Contact Ravi Subramanian / 94440 76428

Teenager Tarika Ram to exhibit hand-woven tapestries



By Our Edit Team

Abiramapuram teenager Tarika Ram will showcase a dozen hand-woven tapestries in a two-day exhibition at the Taneira store in Gandhi Nagar, Adyar.

Over the last year, this 19-year-old has been focusing on honing her weaving skills at Shuttles & Needles and says that the forthcoming show is "an artistic celebration of India's rich handloom tradition."

The 12 works have been inspired by South Indian saree patterns and colours. For over ten years, she has been mentored on art by her guru Diana.

In August last year, she presented 30 of her works on the theme 'Art of Happiness', in Chennai.

Tarika is the daughter of Srivats Ram, CMD, Wheels India.

10-year-old Adhrush, a student at Shiv Nadar School, who has learned weaving on various looms including saori will also be exhibiting his works at the same venue on these two days.

The show opens at 11 a.m. on September 25 and the exhibition will be open till 7pm on both days.

Taneira (a TATA store for ethnic wear and sarees) is located in Gandhinagar 1st Main Road, Adyar.



Closure of this food space in Alwarpet disappoints scores of Mylaporeans

By Kanaka Cadambi

Hundreds of Mylaporeans are disappointed with the closing down of one of their favourite places for good, home-made-like food. Sri Krishnaarpanam, the popular eatery on D' Silva Road, Alwarpet.

So why are people disappointed? Because this small place offered tiffin, lunch and snacks which were traditional and Sattvic (without onion and garlic in the preparations) and the prices were affordable.

The eatery has shifted to Kalpakkam.

K. Seshadri, the owner, told *Mylapore Times* that he moved out because he wanted a place close to Mahabali-puram, where he currently resides. Besides, the owner of the D'Silva Road space was contemplating renting space to a big name and he did not want to stand in his way.

"The premises' owner, Shankar, and his late wife, Vidya Shankar, have always been extremely helpful and supportive of me. My relationship with them goes way beyond the business. In fact, the credit for the success of this project goes to Vidya Shankar," said Seshadri.

Located right outside HDFC Bank, Sri Krishnaarpanam could not be missed. At first glance, it appeared to be a *kutti tiffin kadai* but when you stepped in and enjoyed the food or took parcels home, you became a fan of the place. Especially the elderly people residing in this Alwarpet zone and from across Mylapore, as word spread.

On the menu here was wheat rava upma, alongside idli, vada and dosa, lunch-time meals and later, samosa, bonda, and at dusk, an array

of parathas, chapattis and gravies for dinner. A hot favourite here was the samosa, which the cooks learnt to make during their jobs at ISKCON, in keeping with the no-onion-no-garlic ethos. The same care



Popular breakfast plate at Sri Krishnaarpanam



K. Seshadri

went into the parathas and the gravies, with special touches added to make them unique such as adding a clove to the samosa.

Seshadri has fascinating stories to share - of his food business experiences.

Sri Krishnaarpanam was set up in 2018.

He was then running the mobile food network called 'Sathvik on Wheels' at a few places. One was inside R R Sabha in Mylapore.

He recalls from his present seat in Kalpakkam, "Vidya Shankar got to hear about me and approached me with the offer to start this restaurant on D'Silva Road. I couldn't dream of running a place at a premium location. But she said I could decide the rent and deposit. That's how I came to D'Silva Road. I owe her a lot," Seshadri reminisced.

Having worked in the hotel industry in the Middle East, he was prepared for the project in Alwarpet.

The Covid period was his biggest challenge as shutdown was the rule. But Seshadri's customers stood by him; sourcing their daily food from

his kitchen.

But the past year has been difficult - due to work on the Chennai Metro Rail project - with Luz Church Road being a key rail-line and a station located here. The traffic diversions and the traffic jams frustrated many clients and their visits dropped.

Downing the shutters in Alwarpet did not mean saying goodbye to the men who worked for Seshadri. "I have known them for 15 years now, right from the time I joined ISKCON. They have all been shifted to a two-storied place in Kalpakkam. The ground floor houses the restaurant, and my boys stay on the upper floor," he said.

A deeply spiritual man, Seshadri says he used to seek the blessings and guidance of Srimad Srimushnam Andavar and now visits the Azhagiya Singar at Ahobilam.

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- ABIRAMAPURAM, 1700 sq.ft., 3 BHK, CCP, lift, power backup, Rs. 60K. 850 sq.ft., 2 BHK, CP, lift, Rs. 30K. 700 sq.ft., 2 BHK, Rs. 20K. Mandaveli, 1500 sq.ft., 3 BHK, CCP, lift, north facing, Rs. 45K. 1300 sq.ft., 3 BHK, two wheeler parking, Rs. 28K. Ph: 9841983231
- 900 SQ.FT., 1 BHK for rent in Mandaveli, rent Rs. 22K, maintenance Rs. 1500, deposit Rs. 1.5 lakh, vegetarian tenants preferred. Contact: 9176197219
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- ABIRAMAPURAM, Subramaniyam Street, 1800 sq.ft., 3 bedroom, CCP, AC, Rs. 60K. Mandaveli, St. Mary's Road, 1200 sq.ft., 2 bedroom, CCP, Rs. 35K, 900 sq.ft., 2 bedroom, Rs. 35K. Ph: 9840736132 / 9003621068
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- RENTAL for commercial shops, Prashanth Apartments, No: 43, Kapaleeswarar South Mada Street, BM 4 301 sq.ft., & BM 5 200 sq.ft., in basement, next to Karpagam Hotels. Contact: 8056049291 / 9600067757
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- MANDAVELI near Chaitanya School, 800 sq.ft., 2 BHK, 2nd floor, two wheeler parking, vegetarians only. Ph: 9884958743
- T NAGAR, North Usman Road, near Tanishq, Reliance trends, three bedrooms, new construction, third floor flat, lift, balcony, modular kitchen, woodwork, covered parking, Rs. 55K. Ph: 8939635971 / 8939635973

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- EXPERT Lady Tutor offers result-oriented online coaching for CBSE Maths. Classes 6th to 10th grade. Contact: 9962972110
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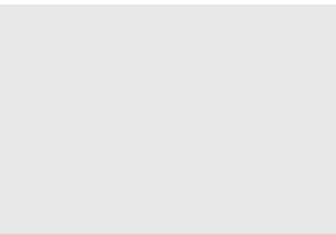
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- **WANTED** Accountant, Min 5 years experience required, Location: Anna Nagar. Ph: 9790805737 / 9841635522
- **SWAMY Associates**, Investment Consultant, Mandaveli branch, recruiting tele callers for selling Life Insurance Policies. Ph: 9444143758 / 9080216697
- **WANTED** female part time, 3pm - 8:30pm, dental clinic chair side assistant @ Eldams Road. Contact: 9952500600
- **FEMALE** Academic support teacher required, Subjects: Biology 9-10, Chemistry 11, Science 8 & English 8-10, good English and computer skills required. Location: Near Sai Baba Temple, Mylapore. Contact: 9034989429

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- **FEMALE** Location Manager required, must also teach Tamil for classes 8-10, good English and computer skills required. Location: Near Sai Baba Temple, Mylapore. Contact: 9034989429

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21-23 September 2026
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- **WANTED** Female, Male for office, 10 or +2 pass. Ph: 8754999999
- **LOOKING** for 10th / 12th completed delivery executives for the stationery office at Mylapore. Age 30, two wheeler must. Contact: 9791097030
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Prayer, fun and food: Thanksgiving Day at St Thomas Eng. Church

By Fabiola Jacob

Sunday, September 6 dawned bright and early as the congregation of CSI St. Thomas English Church, San Thome, gathered for the Thanksgiving Service at 7.30 a.m.

The church was filled to capacity, with student-boarders from the CSI School for the Deaf in San Thome also in attendance. Their teacher, Reuben, interpreted the service in sign language. The service was led by presbyter Rev. Anitha Christian.

As part of the celebration, hand-painted gratitude cards were distributed to people who were present for this special service - they were invited to write down their blessings and tie the cards to a Gratitude Tree placed at the church entrance.

The Festival Sale was launched after the church service - it was inaugurated by a senior doctor couple, Dr Prasanna and Dr Isaac Jebaraj.

The menus at stalls included idli, idiyappam, dosai and vadai, chicken and mutton kurma, prawn curry and pork dishes. Traditional specials like *viveekam* (sweet idlis), drew eager customers at the Leela Moses family stall.

Newlyweds Anderson Wesley and Joyceline drew people to their stall which sold Brownies and Tiramisu. Seven-year-old Rio won many hearts with his stall which sold bookmarks, charm bracelets and bags.

Visitors also enjoyed fresh sugarcane juice in three natural flavours, home-made mojitos and rose milk. Hand-made Christmas decorations and homemade snacks such as murukku, rose cookies and diamond cuts, popular treats in the Christian community, were among the attractions.

Henry Balachandran and Shailaja offered an assortment of cakes that left customers spoilt for choice.

The event provided boarders of the CSI School for the Deaf to enjoy the fun and tuck in some yummy snacks. Entertainment throughout the day included Tambola conducted by Sushil Venglet, raffle draws and a lively treasure hunt.

The Day concluded with the distribution of pre-booked biryani packets and the traditional tug-of-war.

The 35th edition of Ford-supported 'Braille On Wheels' car rally saw about 100 cars taking part in it on August 30 morning; all of them were flagged off from Hotel Savera campus in Mylapore.

This unique rally encourages visually impaired people to take part in it as navigators - they use Braille route maps to guide the driver in a car which also has other team members in it.

The rally takes each team to various areas and landmarks in the city. It follows a Time, Speed and Distance format. Organised by National Association for the Blind - Tamil Nadu Chapter, in association with Madras Motor Sports Club and FMSCI, the rally is an annual event and Hotel Savera is a key supporter of it.



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VIDYA MANDIR'S ANNUAL DAY

Concerts, dance and theatre.

Students showcase talent

By Our Edit Team

Any school's Annual Day generates lots of excitement among students. For many, it is an opportunity to present their music skills or acting talent on stage before a packed audience.

The excitement was palpable when groups of students, all dressed in costumes and in colourful attire lined up for Vidya Mandir's 71st Annual Day, held at Narada Gana Sabha auditorium on August 20, in Alwarpet.

Once the formal launch of the event was done with, it was a seamless medley

of shows - a concert by the school's orchestra, a rousing dance medley to Hindi songs and a snappy dance-drama.

Then, followed a series of dramatic performances - in multiple languages. Students of the middle school went on stage first, then the troupe of high school students put out their act. This was followed by a play



in Sanskrit.

The finale was a dramatised story of Idaikad-anar, a famous ancient Tamil poet of the Sangam period and a revered Siddhar from a place called Idaikaadu. This play was presented in Tamil.

Seamless compèring, beautiful props and lovely LED visuals highlighted the stage shows.

Said school principal S. H. Kanchana Mala, "This Annual Day was a stage for our students to exhibit their talent and the whole show was made possible due to the tireless efforts of our teachers."

For the first time, the

A-Day event was live-streamed, drawing over 6,200 online viewers from across the globe. The streaming evoked lots of warm feedback from parents and grandparents of students, from the alumni and former teachers.





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on the occasion of
136th Birthday Celebrations of
Brahmasri Papanasam Sivan

September 26, 2026 - September 30, 2026
at Sathguru Gnanananda Hall, Narada Gana Sabha, T.T.K. Road, Chennai - 18
October 1, 2026
Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Mylapore, Chennai - 4

PROGRAMME

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

3:00 PM : Grand Inaugural Concert
Vid. Raghu Vellal - Vocal
Vid. Siva Teja - Violin
Vid. Kishore Ramesh - Mridangam
Vid. Madipakkam Murali - Ghatam
5:00 PM : Sri Kapaleeswarar Pancharatnam
A Tribute to Sri. Papanasam Sivan
Group Rendition by Vidwans and Vidhushis
6:00 PM : Anugraha Bhashanam
by HH "Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal"
Grand Inauguration & Presentation of Prizes
To the Winners of Papanasam Sivan Competitions
Including Tambura Prize
Instituted in memory of Smt. Narayaniammal Vaidyasubramania Iyer
Chief Guest
Sri. Aneish Rajan, Director, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India,
New Delhi
Guest of Honour
Cleveland Sri. V.V. Sundaram, Co-Founder, Cleveland Thyagaraja
Aradhana Festival
7:15 PM : Andal Charitham
Dance Drama Production composed by Sri Papanasam Sivan
and presented by Kalakshetra Foundation

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

4:00 PM : Thillai Thaandavarayan
Thematic Presentation of Compositions of Sri. Papanasam Sivan on
Thillai by "Hamsanadam Music School" of Dr. Shubha Ganesan
5:00 PM : Sampradhaya Kutcheri
Vid. Ramakrishnan Murthy - Vocal
Vid. L. Ramakrishnan - Violin
Vid. Trivandrum Balaji - Mridangam
7:00 PM : Sivan Vazhiyil Cinema - QFR Live
Presented by Subhasree Thanikachalam
Vid. Santhosh Subramanian - Vocal
Vid. Rishipriya Guruprasath - Vocal
Vid. Vigneshwar V.G. - Keys
Vid. Durai Srinivasan - Violin
Vid. Shri Hari - Tabla & Mridangam
Vid. Harishma - Percussion Support

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

5:00 PM : Melodies of Sri Papanasam Sivan
Vid. Bharath Sundar - Vocal
Vid. Rajeev Mukundan - Violin
Vid. Anirudh Raj - Mridangam
Vid. K.V. Gopalakrishnan - Kanjira
7:00 PM : Film Hits of Sri Papanasam Sivan
Vid. Rajhesh Vaidhya - Veena
Vid. Bharath - Keyboard
Vid. Manikandan - Keyboard
Vid. Sathish - Flute
Vid. Mohanaraman - Mridangam
Vid. Ganapathi - Tabla
Vid. Subramanian - Timing

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2026

5:00 PM : Carnatic Jugalbandi
Vid. Kunnakudi M. Balamuralikrishna - Vocal
Vid. M.A. Sundaresan - Violin
Vid. Mylai Karthikeyan - Nadaswaram
Vid. Mannargudi M.R. Vasudevan &
Vid. Tharapuram V Ganesan - Special Thavil
7:00 PM : Sivanin Paadhayil - Sangeetha Upanyasam
Sri. U.Ve. Dushyanth Sridhar
Vocal Support by Vid. Sakthi Muralidharan

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

5:00 PM : Gems of Sri Papanasam Sivan
Vid. Ashwath Narayanan - Vocal
Vid. S. Varadarajan - Violin
Vid. J. Vaidyanathan - Mridangam
Vid. N. Guruprasad - Ghatam
7:00 PM : Bhakthi Isai Concert
Vid. Gayathri Venkataraghavan
Vid. Mysore V. Srikanth - Violin
Vid. Neyveli R. Narayanan - Mridangam
Vid. K.V. Gopalakrishnan - Kanjira

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2026
at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan,
Mylapore, Chennai - 4

Sri. Papanasam Sivan's 53rd Memorial Day
in association with
Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Chennai
Chief Guest
Thiru. P. Venkataramanan,
Hon'ble Minister For Food and Civil Supplies,
Government of Tamil Nadu
Guests of Honour
Thiru. K.N. Ramaswamy, Director, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan,
Chennai Kendra
Thiru. R.V. Shekar, Managing Director, Lancor Holdings Limited
5:45 PM : "Sivanisai Selvar" Award
to **Vid. Sikkil Gurucharan**
Followed by
Vid. Sikkil Gurucharan - Vocal
Vid. L. Ramakrishnan - Violin
Vid. B. Sivaraman - Mridangam
Vid. S. Krishna - Ghatam

Master of Ceremonies: Smt. Revathy Sankaran
All are Welcome

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