

DOWNTOWN

YOUR LOCAL WEEKLY TABLOID ALWARPET • R.A.PURAM • LUZ • SANTHOME • ROYAPETTAH • TEYNAMPET • MOUNT ROAD • TRIPPLICANE



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2015

MYLAPORE

‘In a rain-fed city, tanks are essential’

Temple tanks are extremely important and serve several purposes. Firstly, they harvest rainwater and make it available throughout the year. Secondly, they maintain groundwater levels. In the hot summer months, they cool the land.

In a rain-fed city like Chennai, they are essential for our survival.

Also, if they are well-maintained and de-silted, rainwater can flow into the tanks, prevent flooding on the streets and make the water useful too. We must not waste this important resource by letting it flow into

sewage lines and into the sea. The best design to follow for a tank is either square or rectangular, as this allows maximum space for storing water.

Also, putting concrete or clay bed in a temple tank is never advisable. The whole idea is to permit the water to percolate and thereby increase the ground water level. If the base is concrete, it becomes a pool and the water will slowly stagnate and become stale, unless there is a water filtration unit.

(Nanditha Krishna, director, C.P. Ramaswami Aiyar Foundation)

