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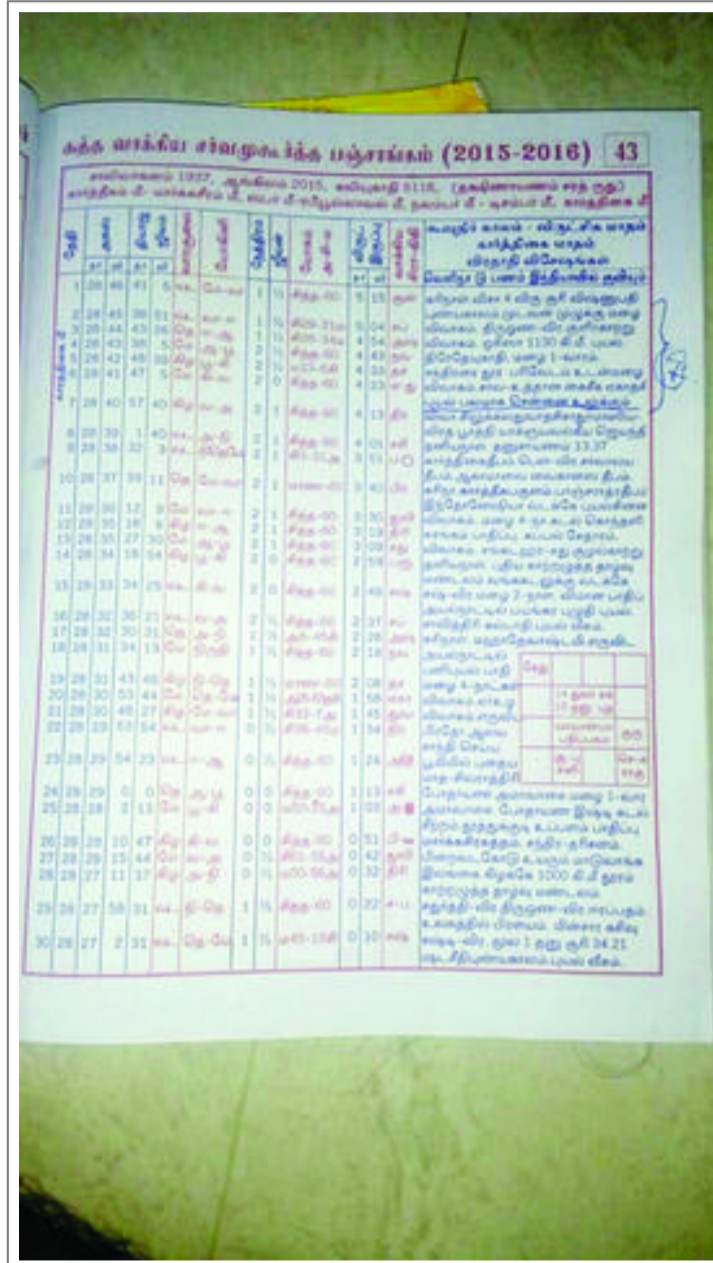
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Almanac got rain predictions right

M P Saravanan

Wednesday, 18 November 2015



Chennai: After the recent spell of rain, a message on WhatsApp went viral. It was a prediction by the Sudha Vakya Sarva Muhurtha Panchangam--- that Chennai would receive heavy rain this month.

As predicted by the almanac (which was published early this year), the city witnessed heavy downpour last week. And what has sent shivers down the spine of people is another 'forecast'--- that a depression would hit Chennai on 21 and 22 November.

Astrologer Balu Saravanan Sarma (pic on right) says, "when two planets come close together, then there is great possibility of calamity, like heavy rain, earthquake. But since it is only a prediction, there is the possibility that it may or may not happen. Two weeks ago, it was detected that planets Jupiter and Venus will come close on 14 November. So, I predicted heavy rain for Chennai and south India. I even wrote about that on my Facebook page. Since it was about astrological prediction, no one took it seriously. But now everybody has started reading my Facebook."



Sarma, who runs the Tambaram Astronomy Club and has telescopes atop his house, says, "our astrology is based on thousands of years of study by rishis and munis who were very good in astronomy, spirituality, environmental science and other fields."



Another popular method of prediction is Krishnamurthi Padhathi (KP) system.

"Using Krishnamurthi Padhathi system, we can accurately predict not only the weather, but also what is going to happen in the next few hours," says KP Stellar Astrological Research Institute course coordinator Vignesh Hariharan (pic on left).

Astrometeorologist S Ramachandran, popular for weather predictions, said he had already predicted the rain on the website tamilmandram.com. About the monsoon, he had said there would be heavy rain and people can expect it to extend up to January.

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Editorial : 22 50 4000, Admin : 2250 0101, Advt : 2250 1200, Circulation : 4202 1111