

**Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit preside over the
87th Jayathi Celebration of His Holiness Jagadguru Pujya Sri Jayendra
Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal at Manimandapam, Orikkai,
Kanchipuram**

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit preside over the 87th Jayathi Celebration of His Holiness Jagadguru Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal at Manimandapam, Orikkai, Kanchipuram today (26.07.2021) and addressed the gathering in which Hon'ble Vice President of India, Thiru. M.Venkaiah Naidu participated as chief guest through video conferencing.

Hon'ble Governor said, "I feel privileged to be in the holy town of Kanchipuram to pay my respectful homage to His Holiness, Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal on the occasion of 87th Jayanthi Celebration of His Holiness Jagadguru Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal.

Our Country India has been a spiritual beacon light to the entire World. While the Western world was and is in a race to achieve only materialistic progress, our Country and Culture imbibe in us the spirit of achieving spiritual progress.

India is a land of divinity replete with temples and the benign presence of Sages and Saints. The State of Tamil Nadu stands tall with its unique and great culture of devotion and bhakti, and the beautiful temples across the State stand testimony to this. Kanchipuram is the spiritual capital of this State being home to majestic temples and the seat of Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya. It was a poignant moment when I offered my prayers at the Brundavanams of Kanchi Mahaswamy & Pujya Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal a while ago.

Today, I feel extremely blessed to be in this holy place – the Manimantapam on the banks of river Palar– an offering set in stone, to the great Saint Chandrasekharendra Saraswathi Mahaswamiji who lived for a 100 years among us,

and undertook padayatra across our country and blessed the people with his spiritual guidance.

Today is also the Jayanti Mahotsav of His Holiness Jayendra Saraswathi Swamiji – the 69th Shankaracharya of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam. It is indeed my good fortune to have been blessed by him during my visit here three years back. While we miss his physical presence, his divine presence is there for one and all to feel – His Holiness was a unique saint who on one hand offered heights of spiritual bliss to the devout, and on the other delved into the needs of society right from good educational institutions to medical centres and hospitals. He travelled across our country conducting the Nitya pujas even in extreme weather conditions, blessing the devotees, inspiring doctors, engineers, students, farmers, members of our Armed Forces, and all segments of society to have both desha bhakti – devotion to our Motherland and deiva bhakti – devotion to the Almighty. His contribution to our Nation is well-known.

His entire life was devoted to the service of humanity, dharma, and goodness, transcending divisions such as religion, race, money, caste etc. Indeed His Holiness Pujyasri Jayendra Saraswathi Sankarachariya Swamigal will always be remembered as the great soul who brought relief, happiness, and most importantly spirituality to crore of lives.

An epitome of modesty and simplicity, his calmness and silence attracted millions to him. The tallest intellectuals, the mightiest leaders and the most respected men and women from all walks of life queued up for his darshan and to hear his profound words. Even his detractors were silenced by the power of his intellect and the radiance of his divinity. It will not be incorrect to say that the Math attained great heights under his stewardship.

It is indeed an auspicious occasion – the Guru Pournima was celebrated the day before yesterday marking the commencement of the Chaturmasya Vrata – a period when our revered saints and sanyasis observe special penance and pujas, camping at one place and avoiding travel. Such is the spirit of sacrifice, spirit of discipline and spirit of devotion exhibited by them taking the sankalpa for the welfare

of the entire society. Our Pujya Shankaracharya Shankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamiji adopted the path of Sanyas when he was a young lad of 13 years, in the year 1983. He has observed several such Chaturmasyas along with his gurus in various parts of our country, and I am told that the three Acharyas had performed a similar chaturmasya vrat at this very place Orikkai in the year 1988. I recently visited Thandalam, the village where Swamiji was born – I was happy to visit and see the Veda Pathshala there, and to inaugurate a health centre that was established recently. Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam with the guidance and blessings of the Shankaracharya Swamiji has been rendering great and kind services to the society in the two important areas of education & healthcare, in addition to its spiritual activities and contribution to the preservation of our culture and heritage.

The Kamakoti Peetam has been extending a helping hand to all segments of society and what better occasion than the Jayanti Mahotsavam of Pujya Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal to provide various instruments and welfare items to help the downtrodden who need our support. This will spur them to establish their own enterprises and be economically independent.

As a homage to his enormous sacrifice, let us all take a pledge to carry forward his visionary projects, which were aimed at uplifting India and Indian culture.

On this auspicious day, I am happy to inform you all that from Governor's discretionary fund, we are contributing rupees one crore (Rs.1 crore) to Shri Sankara Kripa Educational and Medical Trust, towards establishment of Cath Lab in Kanchipuram.

I seek the blessings of His Holiness and thank the organizers for inviting me to this auspicious occasion.”

On this occasion, Pujya Sri Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal, Thiru. Nalagampalli Venkateshwara Choudary, Author and other dignitaries participated.

Raj Bhavan, Chennai – 22

Date : 26.07.2021

Sd/-

Addl. Director (PR)