

**Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit participated as
Chief Guest at the inauguration of Meditation Centre organised by
Adhiparasakthi Charitable Medical Educational and Cultural Trust and
Melmaruvathur Adhiparasakthi Spiritual Movement**

Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu participated as Chief Guest at the inauguration of Meditation Centre organised by Adhiparasakthi Charitable Medical Educational and Cultural Trust and Melmaruvathur Adhiparasakthi Spiritual Movement at Meditation Centre Complex, Melmaruvathur today (12.09.2019) and addressed the gathering.

Hon'ble Governor said, "I am happy to be here in today for the inauguration of the Meditation Centre a creation of the Adhiparasakthi Charitable Medical Educational and Cultural Trust and Adhiparasakthi Spiritual Movement led by the spiritual guidance of Arulthiru. Bangaru Adigalar.

The Arulmigu Adhiparasakthi Siddhar Peetam is an unique spiritual destination in Tamil Nadu. I am informed that at the place where the sanctum sanctorum stands today, there was only a neem tree in the 1960s. Unlike every other neem tree, this tree secreted a sweet nectar which many passers-by reported as having the magical power of curing their illness and diseases. The word spread swiftly to the entire village and it became customary for the villagers to take a drop of this nectar to ailing friends and relatives. They treated this as a medicinal tree and protected it from grazing cattle and wood cutters.

In 1966, a severe storm uprooted the neem tree, and thus stood exposed the Swayambu underneath to the villagers for the first time. The villagers built a small hut on top of this Swayambu and starting conducting poojas.

The Swayambu alone was worshipped for many years. The idol of Mother Adhi para sakthi was installed at the sanctum sanctorum in 1977. The idol is three feet tall, with the Goddess seated on a thousand-petal lotus seat, with her right leg folded and the left leg resting on the lotus petals. She holds the bud of a lotus in her right hand, the mudhra of knowledge in her left hand with her hair plaited and knotted upwards like a crown. The worship of Goddess Shakti, the presiding deity at the temple is of special significance in that she is the personification of strength, power, ability, energy and bliss.

The worship of the Mother Goddess is unique and of special significance in India. Geographically, the northernmost state of India is Jammu & Kashmir and this has the famous shrine of Vaishno Devi. The southern most State of India is Tamil Nadu and this has the great temple of Kanyakumari at the confluence of the Indian Ocean the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

The concept of Durga as the protector of the human race is embodied in the celebrations of Navarathri, on which day we narrate hymns on her victory over the evil forces. Navarathri is celebrated all over India and in Nagpur from where I hail, the celebrations of Vijayadasami the tenth day of victory, are organized on a grand scale.

This Sakthi Peedam here is in existence for over 4 decades. The uniqueness of the Peedam is that even women and children are permitted to enter the sanctum sanctorum irrespective of their caste, community or religion to perform prayers.

The addition of a Meditation Centre to benefit the devotees at the Sakthi Peetam is a praiseworthy and noble initiative. The earliest clear references to meditation in Hindu literature are in the middle Upanishads and the Mahabharata (including the Bhagavad Gita). The earlier Brihadaranyaka Upanishad described meditation in the following manner "having become calm and concentrated, one perceives the self (atman) within oneself".

The Dhyana Mandapam which is being inaugurated today will enable the attainment of higher levels of spiritual realization. Such spiritual realization enables the individual to rise above the self, involve himself in selfless service and channelize his thoughts and energies for the betterment of society.

The Meditation Centre complex which can accommodate about 750 people is built over 3 acres of land and houses two floors of 18000 sqft each.

I am informed that about 80,000 devotees will visit the dhyana mandapam annually. The serene quiet interiors of this Dhyana Mandapam, located near the Adhiparasakthi Temple are certain to provide just the right environment for a devotee to meditate on the divine.

I congratulate the Adhiparasakthi Spiritual Movement for the manner that they have been addressing the needs of the devotees and the local population. Their growth has indeed been phenomenal. Today, the trust, under its umbrella, has several educational institutions which include colleges of engineering, nursing and medicine. Over 6000 weekly worshipping centres are located in various parts of the

country and overseas. A recent addition has been a thousand bedded Multi Speciality Hospital for the benefit of the local population.

India is known as the spiritual capital of the world. Yoga and Meditation are the Gifts of India to the world. The spiritual greatness of India is evidenced by the sustainability of its civilization. Tolerance, mutual respect, acceptance and assimilation of all that is good have dictated our spiritual orientation.

I feel proud that spiritual orientation has been the guiding spirit behind the activities of the Adhiparasakthi Spiritual Movement.

I extend my best wishes and greetings to Arulthiru. Bangaru Adigalar. I am sure that his noble initiatives will continue to show the path for several succeeding generations. May the devotees of the Adhiparasakthi Spiritual Movement swell in the coming years and may the dazzling power and energy of the Goddess be showered on all of us in abundant measure.”

On this occasion, Thiru. R.Rajagopal, I.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary to Governor, Arulthiru. Bangaru Adigalar, Founder, Melmaruvathur Adhiparasakthi Spiritual Movement, Thirumathi Lakshmi Bangaru Adigalar, President, Melmaruvathur Adhiparasakthi Spiritual Movement, Thiru. A.K. Venkatasamy, Trustee, Melmaruvathur Adhiparasakthi Spiritual Movement and other dignitaries participated.

Raj Bhavan, Chennai -22

Sd/-

Date : 12.09.2019

Joint Director (PR)