

NEWS

GRAND PROGRAMMES-VARIJA

HH Sri Swamiji's Thirunakshathram was celebrated grandly on 26th of October. Turning upside down the expectations of the organisers, thousands of devotees thronged into the campus inspite of all the difficulties of transportation they needed to face in reaching the place. People came from different parts of the country have Darsan of HH on the auspicious occasion of His Thirunakshathram. The whole Asramam was filled with devotees and more than 10,000 devotees participated in the programme to greet HH Sri Swamiji with the birthday wishes and take his Mangalasanams on the auspicious occasion.

In the morning after Aradhana, Thiruvarttam took about 4 hours and HH directly came onto the dias along with the award recipient Sriman Valayapettai Navalpakkam Krishna Ramanuja Thathacharya Swami. The prestigious Jeeyar Award instituted to honour a great Vedic Scholar who dedicated his life in preserving and propagating the Vedic tradition, was presented by HH Sri Swamiji to him which consists of a citation and a cash award of Rs.50,000/-. So far 7 scholars were conferred with this award and this is the 8th year since its inception. Sriman Thathacharya Swami gave a wonderful message as revealed by Vedas. HH Sri Rangaramanuja Jeeyar Swamiji graced the occasion with his presence and blessed the gathering with the glory of HH Sri Chinna Jeeyar Swamiji's wonderful programmes and His Mission. Many other dignitaries also participated in the programme.

Jeeyar Educational Trust has published 3 rare books for the first time ever on Vedas viz., Sukla Yajus Ka:nva



Krama Pa:ttam, Thaitthiri:ya A:ranyakam, Maithrayani Samhitha Book-1, and they were released on this occasion. All are blessed with the Mangalasanams of HH Sri Swamiji. HH gave a clarion call to all to actively participate in the Githa Jyothi Programme which is aimed at the welfare of the society and to improve the standards of living. HH wanted everybody to respond immediately against the atrocities faced by the downtrodden; not only to stop them but also to educate the downtrodden to follow their own Sampradaya: ie., the tradition passed on to them by their ancestors.

The Thadiya:ra:dhana was conducted to all the devotees. In the evening, crackers of different varieties brought specially by the devotees to be lighted up on the occasion were lit and it was enjoyed by the students as well as the participants. Students and devotees conducted Pada Puja to HH Sri Swamiji and were blessed. Competitions in sports, games, Yoga and some intellectual exercises were conducted to the students. The high performers were awarded special prizes by HH Sri Swamiji and also to all the students for their exemplary performance.

Sahasra kalasa:bhishe:kam (Divine bath with 1008 Kalasas) to Lord Sri Ramachandra is celebrated on 30th of October. This is another grand event that is performed every year on the next Panchami after Thirunakshathram, the day on which Lord Sri Rama along with his parivara came back to HH Sri Swamiji after being stolen (during 1993). Sriman Koteswara Rao, who is responsible for bringing Perumal back is honoured on this occasion by HH Sri Swamiji. **To mark this occasion, a rebirth, Sahasra kalasa:bhishe:kam will be conducted every year by HH Sri Swamiji.**

JET New Jersey

JET New Jersey celebrated Sri Sri Sri Pedda Jeeyar Swamiji's Thirunakshathram at Prajna Center in Plainsboro on a Grand Scale. Prajna students, their parents and devotees collectively performed HH Sri Sri Sri Chinnajeeyar Swamiji's Pa:dukapuja followed by chanting of Sri Sri Sri Pedda Jeeyar Swamiji's Ashtoththara nama and concluded with chanting of Sri Vishnu Sahasranama sthothram.

Vikasatarangini On Sep 14, 2003

Vikasatarangini, New Jersey Team participated and helped the HELP Foundation (Health and Education for Less Privileged) Walkathon at Manasquan Reservoir Park, Howell NJ. Wearing Vikasatarangini badges with pride, our volunteers minded both watering stations and helped in the food distribution. More than 200 people participated. Our Prajna students raised funds and walked for 6 miles.

Many people inquired about Vikasatarangini and its objectives. They showed lot of interest and wanted to participate in the future activities.

Prajna, JET Learning Center is gaining popularity. Now, we have three sessions for Music and Telugu, and one session for Yoga on Saturdays. There are more music sessions on weekdays. At this stage, parents are learning about Prajna by word of mouth. We have introduced the Sloka learning along with Telugu language sessions. We started with Pra:thas smarani:yam. The need for a resident Acharya is increasing. Prajna music students gave a recital on Vijaya Dasami day on Oct 5th.

JET, Houston

Vikasa Tarangini, a Houston chapter of JET (Jeeyar Educational Trust) USA Inc., is planning Ashta Lakshmi Temple in the Houston Area with the blessings of His Holiness Tridandi Srimannarayana Ramanuja Chinna Jeeyar Swamiji.

There are about fifty families as active

members. Vikasa Tarangini members meet once a month to chant Sri Vishnu Shasra Na:ma sthothram and for the Satsang. Every year Deepawali Lakshmi Puja and Sita Rama Kalyanam are celebrated on a grand scale. Vikasa Tarangini has been active since 1996, following the Second visit of HH Jeeyar Swamiji to Houston area. A land of Six (6) acre is acquired in the Southwest part of Houston. The proposed project will be in two (2) phases. The first phase will be consisting of the development of Conference Center and second phase will be the construction of Ashta Lakshmi Temple.

Conference Center:

The proposed Conference Center will accommodate about 600 people. The center will have a Deity for worship. The conferece center will include administration offices, class rooms and computer facilities. The center will also be utilized as a center for Vedic and sciptural learning.

Ashta Lakshmi Temple:

There is a tremendous amount of enthusiasm from Houston community for the Ashta Lakshmi Temple. Ashta Lakshmi Temple is for the worship for our devotees and general public. The temple will be unique for the splendid architecture and spiritual serenity. Facilities will include parking area, garden, resident quarters for the Acharya, Priest and the Administrator.

JET California

As part of Vikasatarangini, a new discussion class has been commenced in addition to the current activities. Currently the group is discussing *Gi:tha:rdha Sangraha* in an attempt to understand and contemplate on the contents of the great text by Yamunacharya. Also, a new VishnuSahasranamam chanting class commences on October 12 in Livermore temple. Intent is to teach devotees chanting of Sri VishnuSahasranama Sthothram and discuss the meaning of that particular week's Githa Jyothi Sloka. For detailed activities in California, visit www.jetcalifornia.org

