Srimad Abhinava Vageesha Brahmatantra Swatantra Parakala Mahadeshikayana Namah

Mysore
22 October 2011

Srimukham

Sri Brahmatantra Swatantra Parakalaswamy Matham is the oldest Srivaishnava Institution dating back to the 14th century. It was started at Kanjeevaram (Tooppul) by Swami Deshikan himself, with his disciple Sri Brahmatantra Swatantra Parakalaswamy as the first plThAdhipati. Several great scholars have decorated this plTham since then. The previous plThAdhipati, Srimad Abhinava Ramanuja Mahadeshikan, whose birth centenary was celebrated very recently, was the thirty fifth in this illustrious line. The Mutt saw glorious days in the past. In particular, it was supported with generous endowments by the succession of the members of the Mysore Royal family. This sustained support allowed the plThAdhipatis of the Mutt to play a dominant role in catering to the spiritual needs of the shiShyas and abhimAnis, through sanchArams, writing of scholarly works, starting of branches, administration of samAshrayNams and bharanyAsams, conduct of discourses and vidvat sadases, etc.

Over the last sixty years, the endowments that provided sustained support for the Mutt have more or less disappeared due to changing political and social circumstances. This has now been replaced by the much smaller and sporadic support through contributions from shiShyas and other devotees, and money raised from the various functions and celebrations at the Mutt. Nevertheless, the Mutt has been pursuing its basic and essential role in meeting the spiritual needs of its shiShya community. However, the uncertain level of financial support, combined with the escalating costs of operation of the Mutt and the maintenance of its ageing building has made our work increasingly challenging. The staff size and salaries have woefully fallen behind, the administrative set up of the Mutt is outmoded and the building badly needs major renovation and reconstruction. It is very essential for the Mutt to have an assured and sustained level of support year after year in order to improve this situation.
Some of the shishyas and abhimAnis of the Mutt have come forward recently to volunteer their help to raise the necessary funds for stopping and reversing this undesirable trend. They wish to modernize the administration of the Mutt, employ adequate staff at contemporary salaries and revamp our annadAnam program and spiritual outreach activities. They have estimated that this requires an infusion of around Rs 60 lakh of sustained and assured funds each year.

In order to raise the above funds, it has been proposed that the Mutt should urge individual shishyas and abhimAnis to contribute in one or more units of Rs. 12,000 (or US $300) per year with a pledge to make this contribution every year. For each unit of contribution, they can select one day during the year which will be designated as their “kainkaryam day” and all the Mutt activities during that day will be performed in their name (or in whoever’s name they wish to sponsor). An aShTottarashatanAma archanam will be performed in the sponsor’s name and prasAdam mantraKShatai will be sent to them.

His Holiness supports this proposal and through this Srimukham urges all shishyas and abhimAnis of the Mutt to come forth with a generous contribution. May Sri Lakshmi HayagrIva extend His grace to all of them and their families.

By order His Holiness Srimad Abhinava Vageesha Brahmatantra Swatantra Parakala Mahadeshikan

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