CHAPTER – VII
WELFARE SCHEMES AND PROJECTS MAINTAINED BY T T DEVASTHANAMS
INTRODUCTION

The abode of Lord Venkateswara, the temple town of Tirupati, is one of the busiest pilgrimage centres in the world. The brightest jewel in the crown of Andhra Pradesh, Tirupati is located in the erstwhile Chandragiri Taluk of Chittoor district. The most striking feature of this town is the unique grace of both Goddess Lakshmi and Saraswathi. The Tirumala temple, the abode of Lord Venkateswara on top of Seshachalam, the seven hills, is the second richest temple in the world, while the town of Tirupati is a haven of learning.

Sri Venkateswara Swamy on top of the Tirumala Hills also called Venkateschala is the all-pervading Lord to devotees all over the world. Several temples were built in and around Tirupati by many kings of Pallava, Chola, Yadavas, and Vijayanagara dynasties. A large number of devotees daily 40,000 on an average visit the sacred shrine of Lord Venkateswara to pay their homage to him. Because of large funds being offered by the devotees, the management of the Tirupati Tirumala Devasthanams has launched a programme to lend support to several temples for maintenance as well as renovation. Thus the temple of Lord Venkateswara at Tirumala and those of Sri Govindaraja Swamy, Sri Kodandarama Swamy, and Kapileswara Swamy at Tirupati, and of Sri Padmapathi Devi at Tirucherur, Sri Kalyana Venkateswara Swamy at Narayana Kottam, Sri Venkateswara Swamy at Srinivasa Mangapuram, Sri Venugopala Swamy at Valipadu, Sri Vedanarayana Swamy at Appalayagunta, Sri Svaravanaraja Swamy temple at Nagaipuran, Sri Chandramouleshwara Swamy and
Sri Venkateswara Swami at Rishikesh are under Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams.
The TTD is also maintaining a number of educational and health institutions
Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences (a Deemed University) was started
and nurtured by the TTD.

The infrastructure, sanitation and housing facilities at Tirupati are being
provided by the TTD, Municipality and the Tirupati Urban Development
Authority (TUDA) conjointly. Most of the roads in Tirupati leading to
Tirumala, Tiruchanur, Srinivasa Mangapuram are maintained by the TTD. A
beautiful park has been created by the Tirupati Municipality on the Alipiri bypass
road. Tirupati also has a Regional Science Centre located on the Salava
Narasimharaya Road (Alipiri to Chittoor bypass road) to inculcate scientific
temer and create awareness about the concept of science and technology among
the youth. The Department of Forest, Government of Andhra Pradesh has established the
Sri Venkateswara Zoological park on the same road to protect the flora and fauna
in and around Tirupati. A safe home has been created for a number of
endangered and threatened animals.

Tirupati is the second largest educational centre in the state. The presence
of four Universities - Sri Venkateswara University, Sri Padmavathi Mahila
University (an exclusive women's University), Rastriyaa Sanskrit VidyaPeeth, and
Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences, lends a holy aura to this town.
The town also boasts a Medical Colleges, Sri Padmavathi Women's Junior,
Degree and Polytechnic Colleges, SGS and SV Arts Colleges and a number of
other private institutions of learning. Table 7.7 presents the list of Educational
Table - 77
Educational Institutions Run by the TTD

I  SANSKRIT EDUCATION

a) S V Vedapatasala Kalyandam
b) S V O High School, Tirupati
c) S V O College, Tirupati
d) S V V S College, Hyderabad

II  SCHOOL EDUCATION

a) S V II S School, Vellore
b) S V High School, Tirupati
c) S P G II School, Tirupati
d) S V High School, Tirumala
e) S V Elementary School, Tirumala
f) S G S High School, Tirupati
g) S V Elementary School, Tirupati
h) S K R S High School, Tirupati
i) S K S Elementary School, Tirupati
j) S V Elementary School (EM), Tirumala

III  COLLEGE EDUCATION

a) S P W College, Tirupati
b) S V College, New Delhi
c) S V Arts College, Tirupati
d) S G S Arts College, Tirupati
e) S V College for Music & Dance, Tirupati
f) S V Junior College, Tirupati
g) S P W Junior College, Tirupati
h) S V Ayurvedic College, Tirupati

IV  TECHNICAL EDUCATION

a) S P W Polytechnic, Tirupati
b) Yoga Adyayana Kendram, Tirupati

V  CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS

a) S V Balamandu, Tirupati
b) S V Poor Home, Akkarampalle
c) S V School for Deaf and Blind, Tirupati
d) S V School for Deaf and Blind, Bhimavaram
e) S V School for Deaf and Blind, Wanagal
Institutions run by the TTD and Table 7.8 presents the details of receipts and payments on educational institutions in selected years i.e. 1987-97. Such is the pre-eminence of this temple town founded by the Vaishnavite Saint Ramanuja.

7.2 VARIOUS SCHEMES IMPLEMENTED

The Andhra Pradesh Charitable & Hindu Religious Insurances & Endowments Act, 1967 (Act No.30 of 1967). The statutory body of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has grown into a multi-governmental body to the unlimited scope of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment Act 30 of 1967 governing it. The TTD, the premier Hindu religious body has practically all the wings of a modern government set-up including law and order. Hence, a systematic study of the finances of the TTD as public finance is not only pertinent but scientifically proper. Despite being a religious body at its roots, the TTD has been rendering public service which is essentially secular. Thus its activities are of a complex nature.

The income and the expenditure of the TTD, over the last 20 years had undergone prodigious changes in terms of growth and composition. The growth of revenue is steep. The annual receipts of the TTD have increased from Rs 0.33 crores in 1951-52 to Rs 218 crores in 1996-97. The steep growth is due to the multiplying income of the main temple at Tirumala of Sri Venkateswara. Around 99 percent of the total income of the TTD comes from this temple alone. People from all walks of life and every part of this country and to speak of the Hindus from abroad, throng this temple, day in and day out. Hardly a few hours of cessation of activity in the wee hours, differentiates one day from
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>RECEIPTS</th>
<th>PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990-91</td>
<td>2.95</td>
<td>6.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991-92</td>
<td>3.10</td>
<td>7.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992-93</td>
<td>4.12</td>
<td>9.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>3.52</td>
<td>10.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>4.43</td>
<td>12.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>5.41</td>
<td>15.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-97</td>
<td>5.51</td>
<td>16.84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: TTD Budget
Fig. II Receipts and payments of educational institutions in selected years

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

([Graph showing Receipts and Payments over years])
the next. On festival and special occasions, more than a hundred thousand people visit the temple. Even foreigners and non-Hindus are allowed to visit the temple after ascertaining their devout intent. With such a influx of pilgrims, the TTD has the onerous responsibility of providing darshan (seeing the Lord), food, shelter, transport, water and medical facilities, adequate sanitation, safety and security to the pilgrims.

That being the case, the unique and growing organization has diversified its activities in such a fashion that it has become a composite one. The growth of expenditure has been in direct proportion to the growth of income. The annual expenditure of the TTD has gone up from Rs 0.41 crores in 1951-52 to Rs 1.95 crores in 1995-96. The Wagner's Law of Increasing State Activity appears to hold good in respect of TTD finances. The TTD, besides performing age-old religious services more intensively and extensively, has been constantly embarking upon newer welfare and social economic activities to serve the pilgrims and the general public. The TTD is running 25 educational institutions which include not only gurukulas (residential schools) or patasales for instruction in the Vedas, the Agamas and the Sastras but also secular institutions of higher education. The TTD is maintaining 5 charitable institutions for the orphaned, the deaf, the blind and the leprous. The TTD is responsible for the establishment of the Sri Venkateswara University and the Sri Padmarajini Women's University and is providing annual grants to both of them. The TTD is responsible for the establishment of a number of affiliated professional institutions at Tirupati like the engineering, the medical, the agricultural, and the
In addition to the Rastriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetham, a deemed university for the promotion of Sanskrit, the TTD is running a number of hospitals and dispensaries for the pilgrims and its employees, besides supporting public hospitals. The TTD is responsible for the establishment of the Sri Venkateswara Rama Narayan Ram Medical College Hospital. To serve the disabled, the TTD has started the Balaji Institute for Research and Rehabilitation of the Disabled (BIRRD). The TTD is responsible for the establishment and maintenance of a super-speciality hospital called Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences (SVIMS).

The TTD has funded the underground drainage scheme of the Tirupati town and has been contributing vastly towards making Tirupati a model town. The Telugu Ganga water supply scheme to Tirupati is another project that the TTD has taken up to mitigate the water scarcity in the growing Tirupati town. The TTD generously and regularly contributes to funds raised from time to time to ameliorate the sufferings of the victims of natural calamities like floods and earthquakes. More recently, the TTD has been supporting road development projects in the Chittoor district. A good number of public works including drinking water projects are being financed by the TTD on the direction of the State Government. In one word, the hand of the TTD is behind every secular institute or project that the Chittoor district in general and the Tirupati town, in particular, have come to have. Without the TTD, the urban development of the Tirupati town would be impossible.
The TTD is the biggest employer outside the government. It has been providing employment to over 16000 persons in and outside the State. The service conditions of these employees are entirely adopted from the State Government. The final sanctioning authority for all positions in the TTD is the State Government's department of Religious Endowments. The system of accounting and auditing followed in the TTD are essentially a replication of what is followed in the government. The government determines the purpose for which most of the TTD funds can be utilised.

Thus, the TTD is a unique institution in the sense that it is performing not only the primary functions of a religious institution viz., temple worship, facilities and conveniences for the pilgrims and visitors but has undertaken such activities as under the purview of the government. There cannot be a shadow of doubt that the TTD has been playing a supplementary role to the State Government in its efforts to provide infrastructure and social services. The TTD is able to undertake a plethora of charitable and social economic activities because of the opulent income of the temple of Sri Venkateswara at Tirumala. The very finances of the TTD depend mainly on the income of the Tirumala temple. The income of any temple largely hinges on the influx of pilgrims and visitors and the Tirumala is no exception.

The TTD is incurring a huge expenditure in providing free facilities and conveniences viz., darshan, food, medical facilities, accommodation, transport to all the pilgrims. All this certainly helps the poor pilgrims to a considerable
extent. But the ever-increasing number of pilgrims is posing a threat to the quality and the quantity of services. On the other hand, the rich or the people who have the means, have no such problems in paying for the daishan, accommodation, food, etc. This would therefore call for better targeting of its expenditure on the one hand and appropriate pricing of its services on the other.

By way of grants and contribution to non-religious activities like SVIMS, BIRRD, etc., the TTD has spent more than 73 crores during 1992-93 and 1996-97. The expenditure on other committed payments is presented in Table 7.9.

In more recent years, as a result of the steep increase in the cost of medical equipment, maintenance charges as well as salaries of medical, para-medical and other staff, the TTD is required to make a larger contribution to the hospital. There is, therefore, an urgent need to reduce the dependence of the super-speciality hospital on TTD funds. This would call for two steps. First, the TTD should mobilise public donations to strengthen the corpus fund of the super-speciality hospital. Second, the State government should make grants to the hospital on par with the super-speciality hospitals in the state such as Nizam Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS) at Hyderabad. Besides, the TTD should not treat the hospital as one of its own wings. The free treatment extended to all TTD employees must not be dispensed with. The pricing policy of the hospital must be made totally autonomous.

The other super-speciality hospital funded entirely by the TTD is an advanced hospital meant exclusively for orthopaedically handicapped. Unlike the SVIMS, the Balaji Institute of Rehabilitation and Research Development (BIRRD)
### Expenditure on Other Committed Payments Selected Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Common Good Fund</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Endowment Administration Fund</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1 I D Shriyasa Mission</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>Dharma Prachara Parishad</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>SVIMS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>BIRRD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>Under-Ground Drainage Scheme, Tirupati</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>Telugu Ganga Water Supply Scheme</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.62</td>
<td>1.76</td>
<td>1.46</td>
<td>11.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>2.87</td>
<td>4.29</td>
<td>40.53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes**

1. Other grants and contributions include those to other non TTD temples, mutts, religious studies and works etc.

2. (-) indicates that no grants and contributions were made for the year.

**Source**

TTD Budgets (Various Years)
is an integral part of the TTD. The hospital has been conceived as a centre for rendering free services for orthopedically handicapped persons from all over the country. The hospital meets all expenses on surgical corrections, artificial limbs and aids, and rehabilitation services. During the year 1996-97, the TTD had made an annual grant of Rs 2.5 crores to this modern hospital. This modern hospital provides medical services to hundreds of handicapped persons every year. Even in respect of this hospital, the TTD can mobilise substantial funds through public donations. The TTD would, however, be required to devise innovative schemes to appeal to the religious sentiments of the people and mobilise a good deal of funds. The TTD has already launched one such scheme called the Sri Balaji Institute of Survey Research and Rehabilitation for the Disabled to solicit donations from philanthropists and voluntary organisations throughout the world.

Despite the growing deficits on revenue account, the TTD has been able to save on the capital account. The overall budget surplus resulting largely on account of the votive offerings of the pilgrims or the Hindi collections constitutes the main source of investment for the TTD. Besides, the TTD has been receiving donations for the following schemes:

* The Sri Venkateswara Nithya Annadana Scheme
* The Sri Venkateswara Nithya Laddu Scheme
* The Sri Venkateswara Nithya Prasada Dana Scheme
* The Udayasthammana Sarvaseva Scheme
* The Balaji Archana Scheme
* The Sri Balaji BIRRD Scheme
The Cottage Donation Scheme

The Sri Venkateswara Vaishnaviutchi Scheme

a) The Vrksaka Sannavardhnam Scheme

b) The Smaraka Vanaji Scheme

c) The Vana Smaraksha Bhangoramvam Scheme

The Sri Venkateswara Nithya Annadana Scheme which was opened by Honourable Chief Minister Late Shri N T Rama Rao garu in 1985 (6-4-1985) has been evoking an overwhelming response as devised to provide free meals to 13000 pilgrims every day. From a minimum of Rs. 1000/- to a maximum of Rs. 10 lakhs, one may donate to this Scheme. The total amount of donations received for this Scheme and invested in 1986-87 is Rs. 32.65 crores fetching as interest a little over Rs. 5 crore per annum. The interest is spent on providing free meals to the pilgrims.

The Sri Venkateswara Nithya Laddu Scheme which was started in 1985 (6-4-1981) invites a donation of Rs. 1 lakh from each donor. The amount is invested and with the interest that accrues from it, 25000 small laddus are distributed to the pilgrims inside the temple on a day of the donor's choice every year.

The Sri Venkateswara Nithya Prasada Dana Scheme which was inaugurated on Telugu Ugadi Day (29-3-1980) catering to humbler donors accepts Rs. 500/- as minimum donation. Its objective is to distribute 10 laddus or vadas to pilgrims on a day of the donor's choice every year.

The Udayasthamana Sarva Seva Scheme which was started on 10-3-1981
accepts a donation of Rs 3 lakhs for a Friday or Rs 1 lakh for any other day of the week and the donor is allowed to participate in every service performed from dawn to dusk in the temple on a day of his choice every year.

The Balaji Aarti Scheme, which was started on 5-3-1982 for a donation of Rs 5000- permits the performance of Aarti in the name of the donor on the day of his choice every year.

The Srim Balaji IRIRD Scheme accepts donations from philanthropists and voluntary organisations throughout the world to support the super-speciality and research hospital which the TTD has founded for the treatment and rehabilitation of the disabled.

The Cottage Donation Scheme has the objective of providing accommodation to the ever-growing number of pilgrims. A minimum of Rs 1.5 lakhs is the donation accepted for constructing a cottage in the name of the donor. Richer donors may donate Rs 2.25 to Rs 3 lakhs for larger cottages. It has been discussed in Chapter III that the TTD would better accept smaller donations and build dormitories and chalets which occupy less space than the cottages and accommodate more pilgrims.

Under the Srim Venkateswara Yanabhiswadhi Scheme which is an offshoot of the TTD's large-scale afforestation programme to maintain Tirumala's unique but delicate ecological condition, there are four different sub-schemes aimed at four grades of donors.

The Vriksha Samvardhanam Scheme accepts a donation of Rs 25,000 and raises in the name of the donor or a person of his choice a plantation of 500
plants at Tirumala. The plants will be maintained for 5 years by the TTD.

The Vruksha Prasadam Scheme, for a donation of Rs 15,000 raises a hundred fruit bearing or flowering seedlings to be distributed to the pilgrims in the name of donor every year for 10 years.

The Smaraka Vanalu Scheme will raise a grove of 100 saplings of selected species on Tirumala hills for a donation of Rs 5000/- and name the grove after the donor and maintain it for 5 years.

The Vana Samrakshana Bhagyaswamyau Scheme, for a sum of Rs 2000/- displays the donor's name as a fortunate participant in the conservation of the sacred forest cover on the Seven Hills.

After the Hundri collections and the endowments for various sevas and schemes come the funds that accrue from pension, gratuity etc., belonging to the employees of the TTD, in respect of which the TTD acts as a trustee and a banker. The pension, gratuity and other payments are made to the employee on their retirement.

The TTD has to act with great caution while investing the surplus funds. Most of the surplus funds are the votive offerings made by the pilgrims. The pilgrims make them to the temple with the belief that these funds would be used to perpetuate the temple rituals. Besides, the pilgrims also expect the temple to use these funds for promoting the pilgrims facilities and conveniences such as choultries, cottages, roads, drinking water, sanitary facilities and basic health services. Yet another probable intention behind the offerings could be the protection of the temple rituals and pilgrim services during times of financial
difficulties. Therefore, the surplus funds of the TTD should be so invested as to promote the objectives with which the voluntary offerings are made. The funds should therefore be invested to maximise the returns and minimise the risk associated with the investments. This calls for an appropriate policy of investment portfolio on the part of the TTD.

TTD has undertaken many projects for propagation, promotion, popularisation and preservation of vedic studies and Hindu religious philosophy besides preparation and dissemination of literature by way of publication. Section 132 of A.P. Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions and Endowments Act 1987 lays down the establishment of Dharma Prachara Parishad. The following are some of the important projects run by TTD spending Rs 3 crores annually by way of publication. The following are some of the important projects run by TTD.

1. Sri Venkateswara Vidya Samstha
2. SV Institute of Higher Vedic Studies
3. Alwar Divya Prabhandha Project
4. Bhagavatham Project
5. Annamacharya Project
6. Dharma Prachara Parishad
7. Data Sahitya Project
8. SV Recording Project
9. Central Library
10. Radio and Broad Casting
xi  Tape Recording of Vedas
xii Distribution of Seshavastram
xiii Distribution of Mike Sets
xiv Distribution of Umbrellas
xv SV Institute of Yoga
xvi Distribution of Dwajasthambhas

The above projects are working for popularisation of study of Vedas, Hindu religion, philosophy, sastras, Indian languages including Sanskrit, puranas and classical music and dance very effectively and efficiently attracting thousands of devotees from all over the country.

In addition to the above the TTD has introduced various schemes imparting training to students to render their services in all temples with regard to rituals are conceived as noted elow

1  Vedaparayana Scheme
2  Kumara Adyapaka Scheme
3  Veda Vedanga Niyama Adyapaka
4  Vidyarthi Rakshana Scheme
5  Bharathiya Dharmna Rakshana Scheme
6  Melam staff to other temples scheme

The TTD has also been running many charitable institutions contributing to social progress.

As Leonard Suchanect - a totally and partially deaf judge in USA says - To over come the handicap one has got to work until death and learn to
73 OTHER CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS

The following are orphanage centres run by the TTD serving the
necessity of sheltering the orphans at the feet of God

1. SV School for Deaf and Dumb, Tirupati
2. SV School for Deaf, Warangal
3. SV School for Deaf and Blind, Bhamavaram
4. SV Training cum-Production Centre for Handicapped
   Tirupati
5. The Artificial Limb Fitting Centre, Tirupati
6. SV Poor Home
7. SV Balanandha, etc.

One of the bases of modern society is the estate. Unless this is blotted
out the society cannot hold its head up to the world. Another is the orphan
Institutions intended to ameliorate the condition of these must be counted among
the foremost social service institutions and the maintenance of these out of the
 temple funds is eminently justified as contributing to social progress. The
orphans and disabled persons are burden on society. Temples which were the
centres of diffusion of all-round progress of society in old days, can claim to
have discharged the functions in these modern days only if they serve the
modern needs of the society. If social progress depended on temples in ancient
days temple funds in these modern days should be utilised for social progress.
Money got from the people is best spent for the benefit of the people. Kailas
BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SUB-TEMPLES MAINTAINED BY T T DEVASTHANAMS

The T T D comprises of nine main temples and 32 sub-temples situated at Tirumala Tirupati Tiruchanroor and other parts of the State as well as country. To administer so many temples with huge revenue and to exercise efficient control over the heavy expenditure involved, the administrative machinery had necessarily to expand to maximise the realization of the prescribed goals. The Apex body of administrative hierarchy is represented by the Government under which a Board is constituted to run the management of the temples. The Board functions through the Management Committee under whose supervision the entire administration headed by the Executive Officers is carried on.

7.4.1 SRI GOVINDARAJASWAMI TEMPLE, TIRUPATI

This is an important temple consecrated by Sri Ramakrishna. Its imposing tower can be seen even from a distance. The daily rituals in the temple are performed according to Vaikhanasa Agama. The festivals and functions in this temple are conducted more or less on the same lines as in Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple.
7.4.2 SRI KODANDARAMASWAMI TEMPLE, TIRUPATI

Sri Kodandaramaswami temple Tirupati is situated in the heart of Tirupati town. The main Deities are Sri Rama, Sita and Lakshmana. According to legends, this temple commemorates the visit of Sri Rama in Tirupati. The worship in the temple is regulated according to Vaikhanasa Agama. The Ugadi festival and Sri Rama Navami are conducted on a grand scale.

7.4.3 SRI KAPILESWARA SWAMI TEMPLE, TIRUPATI

This temple enshrines Sri Kapileswara swami - the one Siva temple in the pantheon of Vaishnava temples at Tirupati. The legend relating to this temple is intertwined with that of the Padmavati Surya Swam Kalyanam. It is situated about 5 kms to the north of Tirupati at the feet of Thirumala Hills, where we have a sacred and beautiful waterfall known as "Kapiliirtham" or Alwarthurtham. The worship and rituals in this temple are carried out in accordance with Saiva Agama.

7.4.4 SRI SURYANARAYANA SWAMI TEMPLE, NAGALAPURAM

This temple dedicated to Sri Suryanarayana swami is about 60 kms from Tirupati and on the way to Madras. The temple was taken over by the Devasthanams in 1967. One peculiar feature of the idol is that Sudarshana Chakra (Disc) is in Pushya (ready for releasing) position. The most important festival in this temple is the annual Surya Puja which is usually conducted in the last week of March. The Sun's rays fall on the deity at about 5 PM denoting worship by Surya Bhagavan. The Surya Puja is followed by Flower Festival for three days.
7.4.5 SRI PADMAVATHI DEVI TEMPLE, TIRUCHANOOR

The temple of Sri Padmavathi Amman, the consort of Lord Sri Venkateswaraswamy is situated at about 3 kms from Tirupati. According to the legends, the Goddess Sri Lakshmi revealed herself in a golden lotus in the Pushkarani town known as Padma Sarovaram, which was said to have been dug by the Lord with His Gadayudha in search of Sri Lakshmi. This temple was consecrated by the great saint Sri Ramanuja in the 12th century. The worship in the temple is according to Panchatattva Agama. Among all the festivals conducted here, Panchami Hrudham during Kathika Brahamotsavam is famous attracting large numbers of devotees. On that day Pusupu Kumkum Pattu Satee Flower garland with Laddu Pachali are brought from Sri Tirumala temple with temple honours. The Abhishekam to Sri Ammanavali is performed every Friday. Kumkum Archana to Sri Ammanavali is performed on request from pilgrims.

7.4.6 SRI KALYANA VENKATESWARASWAMY TEMPLE, NARAYANAVANAM

This temple about 50 kms from Tirupati was taken over by the Devasthanams in 1967 along with the five sub-temples attached to it, namely, Sri Parasateswaraswami temple, Sri Virabhadraswami temple, Sri Agastheswaraswami temple, Sri Sakti Vinayagar temple and Sri Avanashis Amman temple. This is the only temple where one can find both Lord Srivari and His consort Padmavati on the pedestal. The legend says that Sri Aksara was in charge Narayanavaram and performed the wedding of Sri Venkateswaraswamivaralu and Sri Padmavathi ammavaru. Daily ritual in the temple is according to Panchatattva Agama.
performance of Kalyana Utsavam to Utsava deities has been introduced with a
meagre amount. The T T Devasthanams has constructed a Kalyanamandapam here
for the performance of weddings.

7.4.7 SRI VENKATESWARASWAMI TEMPLE,
SRENIVASA MANGAPURAM

This temple situated at about 10 kms from Tirupati, has Lord
Venkateswara as the presiding Deity. According to the legend, this temple was
built by the Mahatma of Chandragiri. The temple which is a protected monument
was taken over by the Devasthanams in 1967. Sakshadbhakatavachanam', the day
on which the Lord revealed Himself and blessed the priest namely Sri Sundara
Ramanujacharyula is an important festival in the temple which is celebrated on
Uttara Phalguni Nakshatra day in Sukla-Paksha of Ashada. Besides, all other
festivals of the Tirumala Temple are celebrated here. The performance of
Kalyana Utsavams to Utsava deities is also introduced in the temple. One
prakaranam has been recently formed outside the temple and all processions are
being performed on the new Prakaranam.

7.4.8 SRI VENUGOPALASWAMY TEMPLE, KARPETINAGARAM

This temple is also a famous one attracting many devotees/worshippers
from all corners of the State.

7.4.9 ANDHRA ASHRAM, RISHIKESHT

The management of the Andhra Asharam, Rishikesh along with the
property worth about Rs 20 lakhs situated on the route to Badrinath in Uttar
Pradesh was taken by the Devasthanams in November 1969 from its founder sir.
Sri Chandananda Saraswathi Swamy: The management has been entrusted to an officer of the cadre of Peshkar. The Devasthanams has constructed the temples of Sri Venkateswara and Sri Chandamouleswaraswamy at Rishikesh and the celebrations of yearly Brahmothsavams have been introduced since 1982.

In addition to the above temples the TTD is maintaining three main temples in around the country viz. 1) Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple, Rishikesh; 2) Sri Chandamouleswaraswamy Swamy Temple, Rishikesh and 3) Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple, Pittsburgh.

75 TTD KALYANAMANDAPAMS

As the efforts of the Devasthanams in the dissemination of the tenets of Hinduism increase, the public response has been so overwhelming that it is felt necessary to create some link stations between the Headquarters and the significant places of public interest. The information outlets initially started, expanding into Information centres have ultimately emerged as Kalyanamandapams with multifarious objects viz; dissemination of literature, religious discourses, celebration of religious festivals as well as domestic functions of the local public.

These Kalyanamandapam-cultural centres are constructed in all State Capitals, all District and Taluk Headquarters and other important places in Andhra Pradesh on proportionate public contribution. An infirm on Centres with a library facility is also being provided in the District headquarters as well as in the State Capitals for which the particulars are presented vide Appendix A.
The total number of Kalyanamandapams constructed in India is shown vide Appendix-B

A T T D Kalyanamandapam about Rs 25 lakhs can be constructed in any State Capital if the sponsor provides a suitable site of not less than one acre of land at free of cost. Any District headquarters of Andhra Pradesh can have the T T D Kalyanamandapam of Rs 15 lakhs, if a suitable site of not less than two acres is offered to the Devasthanams. A Kalyanamandapam at the cost of Rs 7.5 lakhs can be got ready in a Taluk headquarters or any important place in Andhra Pradesh, if the sponsor provides a suitable site of not less than one acre of land and 50% of the cost of construction got by public donation.

T T D is thus dedicated to the service of the Lord believing in the dictum: - "Service to humanity is service to the Lord." The divine grace and blessings shall make TTD take up more philanthropic activities in the coming years.
References

1. Eenadu, (Telugu Daily), September 23, 1998, p 1

2. "Golden Jubilee Souvenir" - 1933-83 published by TTD

3. p 36, "Administration of Temples" by Dr C. Anna Rao - published by TTD Devasthanams-1995
1 IN TIRUPATI

1. Sri Govinda Raja Swamy Temple
2. Sri Kodandarama Swamy Temple
3. Sri Kapila Swamy Temple (Kapila Theertham)
4. Sri Venkateswara Zoo Park
5. New Municipal Park

2 EASTERN SIDE

1. Sri Kalahasti (Famous SIVA Temple) 35 Km
2. Sri Halai Kota (Rocket launching centre) 85 Km
3. Pulicat Lake (Bird sanctuary) 75 Km

3 WESTERN SIDE

1. Thondawada (Agasteswara Temple) 8 Km
2. Chandragiri (Historical Fort) 11 Km
3. Sriyvasa Mangapuram (Kalyana Venkateswara Swamy Temple) 3 Km
4. Kalyani Dam 15 Km
5. Thalakona (Siva Temple & Water Falls) 55 Km
6. Gadaniki (MST Radar Centre) 35 Km

4 NORTHERN SIDE

1. Trumala Hills 20 Km
2. Akasa Ganga
3. Papa Vinasanam Theertham
4. Japali Theertham
5. Darimagi (Veda Viswavidyalayam)
6. Sila Thoranam
7. Sri Vani Paada Darshanan
8. Main Temple

5 SOUTHERN SIDE

1. Tiruchanoot (Padmavathi Temple) 5 Km
2. Kailasakona (Water Falls) 30 Km
3. Thiruuttani (Subramanya Swamy Temple) 50 Km
4. Kanchi (Kamakshi Temple) 69 Km
5. Karvetinagaram (Lord Venugopala Swami Temple) 35 Km