CHAPTER IV

TEMPLE ORGANISATION AND ITS MAJOR ACTIVITIES
IV. TEMPLE ORGANISATION AND ITS MAJOR ACTIVITIES

Mahants of Tirumala-Tirupati:

In the year 1843, the East India Company divested itself of direct control and management of Hindu places of worship, and the control of Lord Venkateswara's temple at Tirumala. Several villages came under the control of Sri Sevadasji, the then Head of Hathiramji Mutt at Tirumala Hills. When the management of the temples passed into the hands of Mahanths of Sri Hathiramji Mutt, they were Vicharana Karta, who undertook the additions of the temples and other ancient structures. A renovation of Swami Pushkarini,

believed to contain nine theerthas in it, was done by maharaja Raja Sri Sevadasu, Mahant of Hathiramji Mutt. In the year 1865, Sri Mahant Dharma Dasuji had renovated the Pushkarini, known as Kapila Theertham and the surrounding Mandapams. He had also constructed the outer gopuram of the temple at Tirumala hills. Approximately an area of 10½ square miles having the Lord's temple in the middle and the roads leading to Tirupati town, Chandragiri, Balapalli and the waterfalls with the land of 50 yards in each side of the
road and around those water falls, was granted to Tirumala-
Tirupati Devasthanams by the then Government of Madras
Presidency. The total extent of about 6,273 acres of land
was used by the T.T.D. Trust for several of their various
institutions in Tirupati and Tirumala.

British and French Administration

The British and French who came to India as
dealers grew powerful and raised armies of their own. To
meet their ends, they supported one local ruler against
another to extract territorial profits for themselves. From
1746 to 1761, Tirumala was under the management of the
French Government, and in 1767, it passed to the control of
the British. The rulers of Mysore, including Hyder Ali,
wholeheartedly extended their patronage to Lord
Venkateswara. The English collected an annual rent of Rs.2½
lakhs from Tirumala temple. Finally, in the year 1801, the
British East India Company assumed the direct control and
management of the Karnatic and the temples of Tirumala-
Tirupati passed under the authorities of the then District
Collector. In the year 1841, the East India Company's Court
of Directors resolved to withdraw from all religious
institutions. In 1843 A.D., the East India Company divested
itself direct administration and control of the shrine of
Lord Venkateswara, and a number of several estates was
transferred to Sri Sevadasjee, the then Head of Mutt Hathiramjee at Tirumala. The administrative control of the Tirumala temple remained with Mahants till 1933.

In the same year, i.e. 1933, a special Act was passed by the Madras Legislature under which the Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanams Management was vested in a Committee, with powers of administration of the T.T.D. temples, through an administrator/Commissioner, appointed by the then Government of Madras, the first Chair to be occupied by Sri C.Anna Rao. Later, by the Enactment of the Madras H.R. of C.E. Act of 1951, the T.T.D. administration was entrusted to the Board of Trustees and the Executive Officer appointed by the State Government. The temple administration is now governed by the Andhra Pradesh Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions and Endowment Act of 1966, replacing the previous Act of 1951. The new Act (Act No.17 of 1956) called the Andhra Pradesh Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions and Endowment Act came into force. Chapter 14 (Sections 85-91) relates to provisions governing the T.T.Devasthanams, as detailed hereunder:

The administration of the temple should be by a Board of Trustees consisting of not more than 11 persons to be appointed by the Government, three of whom are to be members of the State
Legislature, one person to belong to the Scheduled Castes and another to be a woman (Subject to certain provisions made in Section 86). The Members of the Board of Trustees hold office for a term of three years. Presently the term office for the members of the board of trustees is reduced to two years by a recent government order. Section 87 directs the Government to appoint an Executive Officer and where necessary, a Deputy Executive Officer and where necessary, a Deputy Executive Officer for the temple. Under 87 (2), the Executive Officer is empowered to delegate statutory duties to his Deputy Executive Officer. Sections 88 and 89 lay down division of punitive powers on the employees of the Devasthanams between the Executive Officer and the Board of Trustees.

Further, Section 91, lays down the purposes which Devasthanam funds may be used as given below:

Propagation of the religious tenets of the Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanams and the maintenance, management and administration of the temples and endowments and the properties of the Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanams including the
educational and other institutions specified in the First Schedule and the endowments and properties thereof, provided that the Government may, on a resolution passed by both Houses of the State Legislature by notification in the Andhra Pradesh Gazett, alter, and to, or omit any of the items in the said Schedule:

Establishment and maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries for the relief of the pilgrims and worshippers visiting the temple;

Construction and maintenance of choultries and rest-houses for the use of accommodation of the pilgrims;

Provision of water-supply and other sanitary arrangements to the pilgrims and worshippers;

Establishment and maintenance of the Dairy Farm and veterinary hospital for the animals of the Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanams;

Acquisition of any land and other immovable property for the purpose of the Tirupati-Tirumala Devasthanams, if such acquisition is authorised by the Government;
Construction and maintenance of roads and communication and the lighting thereof for the convenience of the pilgrims and worshippers;

Training of archakas to perform the religious worship and ceremonies in the Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanams, and the training of adhyapakas and vedaparayanikas;

Promoting the study of Indian languages including Sanskrit;

Any work or undertaking for the purpose of the Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanams, authorised by the Government; and

Any other religious, charitable, social or educational purposes connected with or incidental to the Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanams, authorised by the Government.

The Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanams shall, every year, out of their funds set apart a sum of not less than two and a half lakh of rupees towards the maintenance of Sri Venkateswara University.

It shall be lawful for the Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanams to establish an institution to be called the
HINDU DHARMA PRATHISTHANAM, to make a foundation grant of such sum as the said Devasthanams may think fit for the said purpose and to set apart every year out of their funds, a sum of not less than one lakh for the maintenance of the said HINDU DHARMA PRATHISHTHANAM, whose objects are stated below:

Promotion and propagation of the Hindu Dharmas and the training of dharma-chayas, dharma-pracharaks and such other personnel as may be required therefor;

Preparation, publication and dissemination of literature relating to the Hindu Dharma;

The establishment and maintenance of institutions for imparting instructions in the Hindu Dharma, and

Any other purpose connected with or incidental to the aforesaid objectives.

Subject to such rules as may be made by the Government in this behalf, the Board of Trustees of Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanams may make regulations for the purpose of carrying out the provisions contained in this sub-section.
The provisions of the Act have been used for good purpose by the Devasthanams Committee, and several improvements are made to the temple.

The 1966 Act placed the Tirumala temple on par with all other-religious institutions and charitable endowments in the State, and placed it completely under the control of Endowment Department of the State Government. Though such an arrangement would have been quite good in the case of smaller temples that cater to a limited number of devotees, obviously equating Tirumala temple which is probably one of the largest and the most venerable religious institutions in the country.

The State Government of Andhra Pradesh fully realised the significant nature and in 1979 passed the new T.T.D. Act of 1979. Under this Act, the real administration of the temple is vested in a small Committee of Management, consisting of a Chairman to be nominated by the Government, and two other members also to be nominated by the Commissioner of Endowment Department and the Executive Officer of the Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanams. The Executive Officer holds a post not inferior to the District Collector. The new Act for the first time provided for a Financial Adviser and Chief Accounts Officer to advise on financial matters relating to the temple. The new Act also provided
for the continuation of the Hindu Dharma Pratisthnam under a new name and has envisaged the establishment of 'Sri Venkateswara Sishtachava Vidya Samsha' to be in complete charge of Vedic learning, Vedic Schools, Vedic research, etc. The Act defines for the first time, the purposes for which the temple funds could be spent in furtherance of the propagation of Hindu Religion and Culture.

Important Achievement of T.T.D. in Three Decades

(1) Information Centres and Enquiry Offices to help the pilgrims;

(2) Accommodations by way of cottages, choultries and guest houses added;

(3) Sanitation and protected water supply improved, malaris wiped out, and drainage scheme introduced;

(4) Transport to Tirumala run by the Road Transport Corporation of the State;

(5) T.T.D. maintains educational institutions such as Oriental College, high schools, colleges for men and women, elementary schools, Veda Patasala and Nadaswaram Patasala, training school for sculpture, and Arts College at Delhi, including Gosala and Dairy with several lakhs annual contributions;

(6) T.T.D. and Publicity Department run a printing Press for printing religious literature. The publicity
department conducts religious discourses. The thousand-pillared mantapam at Tirumala has been converted to Sadas and religious discourses, Harikathas and Bhajana, held every day, and learned Pandits and prominent musicians invited;

(7) Entire Ghat route illuminated by electric lights. Free accommodation and medical aid provided to pilgrims at Tirumala;

(8) The Oriental Institute started in 1938 continue to do valuable research work in Sanskrit, Telugu, and Tamil, and collected valuable manuscripts;

(9) Leprosy House started in 1939, is now in charge of a Medical Officer of T.T.D. An orphanage is run by Devasthanam;

(10) The Ananda Nilaya Vimanam for the Lord's temple, was renovated and reguilded at a cost of Rs.18,00,000.

TEMPLE ORGANISATION AND SERVICE

Considering the magnitude of the temple complex, a specific element of social organisation is discussed, bringing out the social basis of temple organisation and its related services. Occupation is one kind of differentiation of the people among social perspectives.
The Indian social structure, with its unique social orientation, reflects the principles of hierarchy and the division of the individuals based on their respective occupations. As long as these descriptive occupations render the traditional services in a limited non-market oriented economy, the recruitment to the occupations in temples remained caste and family-based. When there is a transition from this simple traditional and non-market oriented occupational services to a complex and modern occupation, the social organisation of occupations get transformed.

In this context, the present study is taken up for analysis with a specific focus on occupation based social organisation. The occupations structure of the Tirumala temple may broadly be classified into occupations relating to temple services and administrative services, including services to pilgrims, under the Management of Tirupati Tirumala Devasthanams.

Occupational side of temple services

Archakars come under the hereditary system. They render traditional service to the temple, and their recruitment still remains caste and family-based, and handed down from one generation to the next. There are several mirasidars who render various kinds of services to T.T.D. temples mentioned hereunder:
(1) ARCHAKATVAM MIRASI
(2) GAMEKHAR MIRASI
(3) GOLLA MIRASI
(4) TALLAPAKAM MIRASI
(5) TARIGODDA VENKAMAMBA MIRASI
(6) ACHARA PURUSHAS
(7) PUROHIT MIRASI
(8) YAMONOTTORAI MIRASI

All the Mirasidars cited are hereditary. Besides the above classification of persons performing specific designated jobs, there is the institution of 'Jeeyangar' who is the religious Head of Sri Vaishnavites, rendering "Oodiyaam" services in Tirumala-Tirupati temples, and also functioning as 'Dharmakartha'. There are about 40 temples in Tirumala-Tirupati, including Tiruchanur. There are also stand-by 'Archakar' known as 'circar Archakar'. His duty is to make himself available for temple services at all times, and to render Archakaras service, if for any reason, the 'Vanthu-Archakar' is unable to perform his duties under any circumstances.

The temple administration under T.T.D.

The temple administrative services are followed as per statutory rules and regulations. They are purely
impersonal, non-hereditary and non-traditional. There is a Trust Board with a Chairman, 10 members of the Board, with administrative responsibilities vested in the Commissioner and the Executive Officer, the Deputy Executive Officer, various Departments and the personnel staff, on down the line of administrative hierarchy as already mentioned. The total number of staff employed by the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams as at present is 10,925 approximately.

The T.T.D. Trust board was first constituted in the year 1933. Since then 139 members have been nominated (some more than 1 term) to date.

In return for huge contributions of the visiting pilgrims to Tirumala Hundi, the T.T.D. administration extends various valuable advice to the pilgrims and also provides free services during their visits.

TEMPLES UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF T.T.D.

Sri Govindarajaswamy Temple - Tirupati

This temple consecrated by the well known Vaishnava preceptor, Sri Ramanuja, is situated very near to the Tirupati East Railway station. This temple with a magnificent and imposing tower contains Sri Govindarajaswamy in a reclining pose with Sri Devi and Bhudevi, Sri Parthasarathi with Rukmini and Satyabhama Sri
Venkateswara, Sri Andal, and several other deities. The annual Brahmothsavam is celebrated in the Temple during the month of Vaisakha (May - June).

Sri Kodanda Ramaswamy Temple-Tirupati:

It is in the midst of the town, within a distance of about a kilometre from the Railway station. This temple is said to commemorate the visit of Sri Rama, Sita and Laxmanam while returning from Lanka. Originally this was built in the period 1480-81. The worship in this temple is according vaikanasa agama. The Annual Brahmothsavam is held in the March-April and is a local attraction.

Sri Kapileswaraswamy Temple-Tirupati:

This is only temple dedicated to Siva at Tirupati, situated at about three kilometres from the town, this place offers an enchanting view of the hills with a picturesque waterfall as back drop. The worship and rituals in this temple are carried on in accordance with (Saiva Agama).

Sri Kalyana Venkateswara Swamy Temple, Srinivasamangapuram:

It is situated at mangapuram on the western foot of Tirumala Hills at about 12 km distance from Tirupati. This temple was taken over by TTD along with its five sub temples in the year 1967. Legends go to say that Lord
Srinivasa after His marriage with Sri Padmavathi, stayed here for some time before proceeding to Tirumala.

Sri Padmavathi Devi Temple, Tiruchanoor:

This temple, situated at Tiruchanur (three miles away from Tirupati) is dedicated to Goddess Padmavathi: Consort of Lord Venkateswara. The legend goes that the Goddess revealed Herself on a lotus in a big tank nearby called Padmasarovar. The birthday of the Goddess is celebrated on the 9th day of Brahmotsavam in November-December.

Sri Kalyana Venkateswara Swamy Temple, Narayanavanam:

Legend says that Lord Venkateswara married Goddess Padmavathi at Narayanavanam. This temple is an ancient one. Narayanavanam is located in the main road from Tirupati to Madras via Nagalapuram at a distance of about 30 kms from Tirupati.

Sri Veda Narayanaswamy Temple, Nagalapuram:

Lord Vishnu after saving the vedas is incorinatd as Vedanarayana and the speciality of the deity is the possession of prayoga chakra. Surya Pooja which generally falls in March-April is the important festival and worth seeing. When Sun's race directly falls on the deity inside
Gabhala. Nagalapuram is located in the Tirupati-Madras route at a distance of about 45 kms from Tirupati.

Prasanna Venkateswaraswamy Temple, Appalayagunta:

This is an old temple, recently attached to the TTD by the Endowments Department. Appalayagunta is located at about 8 kms from Tirupati on Rayalacheruvu route. Here Lord Venkateswara is stated to have taken rest along with Goddess Padmavathi immediately after marriage, while going to Tirumala and the deity presents Himself in a pious and happy mood.

Sri Venugopalaswamy Temple, Karvetinagaram:

Karvetinagaram is located on the main road of Puttur to Chittoor and is connected to Tirupati in two routes. (1) Puttur to karvetinagar via Rayalacheruvu and Tirupati to Puttur there from to Karvetinagaram. Lord Venugopalaswamy temple is said to be Royal temple constructed by the old Maharajas of karvetinagar samasthanam. This temple is recently transferred to the administration of TTDs by the Endowments department. The main deity is presented himself in a Sammohana Rupa.
TEMPLES IN ABROAD

The activities of the Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanam has been all these years only combined to Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh and later through out the country. In order to impart and propagate the Hindu Dharma and Hindu Religion in abroad the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams would here to expand its activities out side the country. For the same a society has been arranged and is called Hindu Temple society.

The spiritual awakening that the Indians residing abroad got, proves the greater importance of the mother and mother land. In a way, one should generally say that western culture is undergoing a renaissance, under the powerful impact of Indian culture. The inception of Yogic Research centres in several important places, abroad and also the introduction of Sanskrit in the universities in abroad speak of this. Besides this, temple construction is also on its way mainly in United States.

In western countries, the Hindu temple society compraising certain Indians as well as some philanthropists has under taken the construction of certain temple in New York and Pittsberg. For instance the Hindu temple society in North America whose members are mostly Americans with a few Indians living in America proposed to locate a temple in the
name of Lord Sri Venkateswara at Pittsberg and intimated the same to the authorities of the TTD. The TTD decided to give articles like slabs and pillars costing Rs.11 lakhs to construct the temple of Lord Venkateswara and also the Subramanya Swamy temple in exchange for laboratory equipment, medicines etc., as the authorities of the TTD cannot donate anything free, for places outside the state of Andhra Pradesh. The site in Pittsberg where the Lord's temple is proposed to be constructed is a seven acres of hillock, which fully resembles the seven hills of Lord Venkateswara of Tirumala Hills. There will be no sannidhi in the temple at Pittsberg whereas in the Subramanya Swamy temple there will be three other sannidhi's dedicated to Vigneswara and also other deities. The Hindu temple society wanted to handedover the temples after construction to the TTD and if they were handedover the temples, the T.T.D. will conduct the rituals and other festivals there with its staff.

The sculpture for the construction of the temples is progressing in Hyderabad the state capital of Andhra Pradesh and after completion of all the received material for the construction. Finally the materials would be shipped along with the concerned silpis for being set up there. The TTD also proposes to open information centres at Pittsberg, New York and also in London.
TABLE 4.1
TYPES OF ACCOMMODATION AT TIRUMALA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Types of Accommodation</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Free choultries</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Cottages &amp; Guest houses</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Corridors</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Stay with friends/relatives</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Return home on the same day</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>250</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Based on Researcher's Survey.
**TABLE 4.2**

**PILGRIMS' PERIOD OF STAY AT TIRUMALA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Pilgrims' Period of Stay</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>One day</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Two days</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Three days</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Four days</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>More than four days</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>250</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: T.T.D.*
### TABLE 4.3

**FREQUENCY OF PILGRIMS VISIT TO TIRUMALA IN A YEAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>No. of Visits</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>One</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Two</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Three</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Four</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Five</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>More than five</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>250</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Based on Researcher's Survey.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Walk</th>
<th>Automobile</th>
<th>Bus</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>2900</td>
<td>21,000</td>
<td>24,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>2100</td>
<td>21,462</td>
<td>24,262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>2200</td>
<td>25,231</td>
<td>28,731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>2400</td>
<td>2340</td>
<td>28,715</td>
<td>33,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>2600</td>
<td>3600</td>
<td>37,854</td>
<td>44,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>4200</td>
<td>45,154</td>
<td>52,354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td>4800</td>
<td>47,977</td>
<td>55,227</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total no. of pilgrims per week: 2,64,983

Note: (1) By walk per day: 1500-2500 on ordinary days (i.e. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and holidays - 2500-5000 pilgrims.

(2) By Automobiles - 3000 - 5000 (i.e. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays) (per day) Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays - 5000-9000 pilgrims (per day).

(3) By State Bus on Ordinary days (i.e.) Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursday (per day) Friday, Saturday, Sunday, & Holidays & Special Festival Days - 5000-7000 pilgrims.

Source: T.T.D.
FREE SERVICE OFFERINGS TO PILGRIMS

We are working round the clock to cater to the needs of pilgrims.

KALYANAKATTA: (tonsuring place) caters to the needs of the pilgrims in fulfilling their vows of 'head tonsuring' - free of cost.

T.T.D.CANTEENS: Provide hygienic food to the pilgrims at reasonable rates; and we reach them even when they are at site seeing, they are in Vaikunta, 'Q' complex while going for Sreevari dharsan.

NITHYA ANNADANA SCHEME: An endowment offered by philonthrophic public joining hands with our management - provides free offering of Meals (full) both the sessions of the day. In all we offer food to 15,000 pilgrims every session.

FREE BUSES: are run almost round the clock, at Tirumala to facilitate the pilgrims both for conveyance and transport.
We are also lifting the luggage being carried by the pedestrian-pilgrims, free of charges from Alipiri to Tirumala.

**ARTIFICIAL LIMBS/AIDS SUPPLY SCHEME**

T.T.Devasthanams has envisaged a scheme for supply of artificial limbs to the physically handicapped people. Under this scheme, devotees can donate liberally for purchase and fitting of artificial limbs and other aids at the Artificial limb centre, TTD administrative buildings, Tirupati.

**PUROHIT SANGHAM:**

In order to enable pilgrims to conduct Vedic rituals at Tirumala, the TTDs have organised a Purohit sangam comprised of Purohits with necessary learning and experience to perform these rituals. Charges have also been fixed to avoid any harassment of pilgrims. Those devotees desirous of performing sankalpam, namakarans, kalyanam, upanayanam marriage, pinda prasadam and other vedic rituals may approach the Purohit sangham with the assistance of any of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams Enquiry offices.

**SALE OF PUBLICATIONS:**

All religious books published by the TTD are
available in the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam publications stalls.

RAILWAY BOOKING OFFICE:

This booking office located at the Central Reception office, will issue tickets including reservation tickets for bus cum train journey to various places.

AUTOMOBILE CLINIC:

A mobile van with Mechanics and Spares is available to attend to the repairs of the vehicles stranded on the Ghat roads. The toll gates either at Tirupati or at Tirumala may be contacted for such assistance.

FACILITIES TO PILGRIMS

WALKING UP AND DOWN THE HILLS

Many pilgrims walk up the Hills as a part of their vow to the Lord. The TTD have provided the following facilities to them.

Transportation of luggage free of charge to Tirumala. The pilgrims can deposit their luggage at the toll-gate at Alipiri, against a token and take delivery of the luggage at the Central Reception Office Counter at Tirumala.
Provision for cooking at Galigopuram, Chittyekkudu, Mamanduru Mitta, Narasimhaswami temple, Mokallamitta and other places.

Availability of drinking water all along the footpath.

Facility canteen run under hygienic conditions at Mamanduru Mitta (seventh mile)

Availability of toilets

Provision of sun shade

Arrangements for patrol (watch and ward) by Security guards, Gurkhas and Police all along the road throughout day and night to prevent unwary pilgrims from being cheated or robbed by unscrupulous elements.

Relay of religious programmes through local broadcasting system.

Deer park for an eye feast.

QUEUE COMPLEX AT TIRUMALA:

Everyday about 30,000 pilgrims visit the Holy Hills, the number going up to 60,000 or more on peak days. The queue complex offers to the pilgrims all essential
amenities like cafeteria, medical aid, toilet, publication stalls etc., Closed circuit TV provided in each compartment, will enable the pilgrims to watch the temple programmes and religious transmissions. Facilities for public address systems are also made here.

In the interest of the pilgrims thronging for darshan of the Lord at Tirumala, all admissions through the Mahadwaram except along the queue lines from the queue complex are banned. Even the special entrance ticket holders have to join the queue line at the Complex.

KALYANAKATTA:

Many of the pilgrims to Tirupati consider head tonsuring as the most sacred act of offering to the Lord as it symbolises complete surrendering of one's ego before the Lord. At present, there are two Kalyanakattas at Tirumala to help the pilgrims to fulfill this vow. The existing Kalyanakattas, has a combined capacity to accommodate about 500 pilgrims at a time. Tonsuring is done free.

RELIGIOUS PROPOGATION:

The Dharma Prachara Parishad is the successor to the erstwhile Hindu Dharma Rakshana Samatha. The Dharma Prachara Parishad came into being under the Endowments New Act 30 of 1987. It addresses itself to the propogation of
Sanathana Dharma by organising bhajas, religious discourses, competitions for school-going, in recitation of stotras, publication of small booklets and distribution of bhajana, music instruments etc. The Dharma Prachara Parishad has for its objects, organising purana pravachanam, Harikathas etc at Tirupathi, Tirumala and at TTD Kalyanamandapams elsewhere, conducting epic study examinations, Bhagavata saptahahas and Geetha Jayanthi every year. Summer schools for School Teachers on the basic tents of Hinduism are also conducted every year. It is also implementing various schemes under Veda Rakshana. Steps are being taken for the setting up of Dharmacharya Peetam at Tirumala.

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE:

The TTD has successfully implemented various schemes to disseminate the tenets of the Sanathana Dharma and to make it popular among the masses. These schemes, primarily intended to encourage religious publications have helped several scholars to make a substantial contribution for the spread of the glory of Lord Srinivasa.

With a view to helping the authors who are unable to publish their books themselves, the scheme "aid to authors" is being implemented. The manuscripts after selection by the Experts Committee will be given financial assistance not exceeding Rupees ten thousand in each case.
The TTD has also embarked on an ambitious project to publish outstanding works in English, Telugu, Hindi, Tamil and Kannada. About 300 books have so far been brought out. Besides, various schemes like critical edition of Bhagavatham, Potana Bhagavatam and Nannayya Bharatam in Telugu are under implementation.

Another significant effort being made by the Devasthanams is the publication of children’s books in Telugu.

A number of books published by the TTDs under 'Srinivasa Balabharati series' have enabled children to imbibe the spiritual wisdom enshrined in epics and puranas. These books are priced very low. As they are attractively printed and easily readable, they have become very popular.

SAPTHAGIRI:

Apart from these religious publications which truly reflect the spiritual glory of Hinduism the TTD also brings out a monthly magazine, Sapthagiri in five languages viz., Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, hindi and English. It contains a rich variety of articles on ethics, Hindu Philosophy, rituals, art and architecture, and is sold at subsidized rate.
VEDIC PROPAGATION:

The TTD is running S.V. Vedapatasala at Kalyani Dam as part of its scheme for encouraging Vedic learning. The TTD has also started a tape recording studio. Eminent Vedic pandits belonging to different sakhas are invited and their authentic recitation is recorded. The TTD intends to prepare cassettes of Vedas with suitable introduction in different languages, so that the common people also can understand the greatness of the Vedas.

Veda Sastra Agama Sadas (conferences) are conducted periodically to acquaint the public with various aspects of Vedic knowledge.

VEDAPARAYANA SCHEME:

The TTD is implementing Vedaparayananam scheme since 1978. The main objectives of the scheme are:

To preserve and propagate the Vedas.

To see that the Vedaparayana is rendered daily in every temple employing the vedapandits in the said temple.

To support the aged or disabled Vedapandits by giving them due sambavana in their old age whether they are able to chant the Vedas at their age or not. According to
this scheme the Ghanapati and Kramapati pandits shall render parayanam at the allotted 6(b) temples and the old pandits should render Parayanam at their respective houses only.

Sambhavana per month paid for rendering parayanam
for two hours daily are:
Ghanapatees Rs.700/- p.m.
Kramapatees Rs.600/- p.m.
and Old pandits Rs.300/- p.m.
34 Ghanapatees, 161 Krampatees and 105 Old Pandits are rendering their services.

VEDIC PUBLICATIONS:
Vedic publications is yet another project initiated by the TTD. Original texts of the Rigveda and the Yajurveda alongwith poetic rendering in Telugu are under print and the manuscripts of the Atharvana Veda with Telugu translation are being taken up for printing. The intention of the TTD to bring to the notice of the public the vedas with their meaning deserves the gratitude of all the lovers of the Bharatiya culture.

ANNAMACHARYA PROJECT:
As the Devasthanams consider propogation of Sanathana Dharma to be its foremost duty. Annamacharya Project has been established with a view of reaching the
masses through songs and lectures. The Annamacharya project functions in three major wings. 1. Research and Publication 2. Propogation through music and 3. Recordings. Under the Research and Publication wing the engraved copper plates which are kept in good repairs with chemical treatment are deciphered carefully and the songs are meticulously edited and printed. Music concerts and Harikathas in which mainly the Annamacharya songs are sung by the staff and students of the project are often held both at Tirupathi and other places. Audio Cassettes of Annamacharya Krithies were brought out by the Project.

DASA SAHITYA PROJECT:

Dasa Sahitya Project was established in 1979 with the object of bringing to light, the Sankirtanas of the Karnataka Vaggeyakaras called as Karnataka Haridasas. Purandara Dass considered to be the 'Karanataka Sangita Pitamaha' was a contemporary of Annamacharya. Dasotsavam and exhibitions are being conducted regularly high-lighting songs of the various Haridasas. Cassettes are also produced by the Project.

TTD MUSEUM:

The TTD is having two museums - One at Tirumala and the other at Tirupathi. The Hall of Antiquities located
at the Thousand Pillar Mandapam, Tirumala was intended to collect all antique pieces found at Tirupathi and around. Anthropological antiquities, fauna and flora, arms and weapons of 19th Century, musical instruments, photographs of various temples and beautiful paintings and charts are the collections exhibited here.

The idea of establishing the SV Museum of Temple Art and its lore forms the subject of this Museum. A knowledge of the temple helps a person to understand his mind and his life in terrestrial world. The museum has a textual explanation with regard to Art and Architecture of temples. A new approach to display is applied which is very useful for students of Indian Art and Architecture.

This museum has several sections like origins of Vaishnavism, Architectonics, Iconometry, Iconography, Alvaras, Rituals, Divya Kshetras and Folk and Fine arts. Display in the form of available sculptures, woodcarvings, bronzes, paintings and charts.

The Museum has an exhibition wing displaying the art pieces which were shown in different exhibitions held in Bombay, Guntur, Vijayawada, Hyderabad and New Delhi etc.

The Museum's Objective is the dissemination of Devasthanams activities in the preservations of the unique
and invaluable pieces of sculpture obliterated in the passage of time.

FREE BUS:

There is a facility of free bus for the pilgrims to go round the cottages and other important places in Tirumala.

MEDICAL AID:

The TTD is managing 9 hospitals and dispensaries at Tirupathi, Tirumala, Tiruchanur for the benefit of its employees and visiting pilgrims.

SUPER SPECIALITY HOSPITAL:

The TTD has taken up the construction of the super speciality Hospital at a cost of Rupees 6.25 crores for special treatment to dangerous diseases and to save mankind from cruel diseases.

PAPANASANAM DAM:

To meet the demands of the ever increasing flow of pilgrims to Tirumala, water has to be supplied round the clock. All the available sources are tapped towards the fulfilment of this objective. One among them is the
completed recently. The dam preserves about 9 lakh gallons of water. 4 lakh gallons of water available in the Gogartha dam.

The dam has a storage capacity of 88 MCF. When once the dam is full, the water in it will be sufficient for 1% years, for consumption of Tirumala.

BIO-AESTHETIC PLAN:

This is being implemented in a phased manner. It is aimed at protecting Tirumala from radiation with more colourful and fruit bearing trees; preserving and conserving the forest crop and soil; creating Tapovanams at Tirumala and Tree part at Tirupati and constructing check dams and Mini dams.
# TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS: TIRUPATI

Free Amenities Provided to Pilgrims per Day

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<td>Sarva Darsanam of Srivar</td>
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<td>Free Tonsure</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Annadana Scheme (Free Meals)</td>
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<td>Free Laddu Distribution</td>
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<td>Prasadam Distribution</td>
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<td>Free Accommodation</td>
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<td>Free Medical Aid &amp; Charitable Institutions</td>
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### TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVARAHANAMS : TIRUPATI

#### Free Amenities Provided to Pilgrims per Day

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<td>Accommodation</td>
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<td>Transportation</td>
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<td>Medical Kits</td>
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<td>Wheelchairs</td>
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</table>
Religious and Cultural Activities

Trumala Tirupati Devasthanams - Tirupati

Activities: (For One Year)

1. Prasanthi
2. Prasanthi, Bhajana
3. Prasanthi, Pranahita
4. Music
5. Dance
6. Dances
7. Other Activities

Other Schemes

1. Prasanthi
2. Prasanthi
3. Prasanthi
4. Other Prasanthi

Budget 1981-82

An amount of Rs. 113,000 lakhs has been provided in the Budget.

Dharamma Pracharara Parishad

Objects:

1. Promotion and propagation of Hindu Dharmsha
2. Establishment and maintenance of institutions for imparting
   religious and educational knowledge
3. Dharmshala and religious education
4. Training in various dharmshala and religious education
5. By any other purpose connected with the objectives

Other Projects:

1. Aanandamayya Project - Rs. 21,52 lakhs
2. Desai Sahitya Project - Rs. 4,53 lakhs
3. Tape Recording of Vedas - Rs. 6,00 lakhs
4. Distribution of Udamkthas at subsidised rates - Rs. 2,50 lakhs
CHARITABLE SCHEMES

PERMANENT TRUST FUNDS

Grihasthas can deposit amounts in favour of the Devasthanams and the interest obtained will be spent for the performance of a particular seva or offering as desired, on a day chosen by the party on permanent basis. The deposited amounts, non-refundable, are variable and dependent on the rates for the performance of sevas of which Nitya Archana, Nitya Harathi, Navenitha Harathi, Archana, Kalyanotsavams, Amanthranotsavam and Abhisheka. The party will have the Darsan of Lord and prasadams.

SUBSIDY SCHEMES

With the objective of helping the needy temples, the Devasthanams has formulated certain schemes under which stone idols are prepared and supplied to the temples at 50% subsidy provided they establish the bonafides as laid down in the conditions and acknowledge the Devasthanams' assistance by way of some display. However, the idols of Lord Venkateswara and Goddess Padmavathi would be supplied free of cost. Panchaloha utsava vigrahams are also supplied at 50% subsidised rate.

The Devasthanams also supplied mile sets, Seshavastrams and tape-recorders to the temples registered under Endowments Act.
Umbrellas of the Devasthanams' temples are also given at 50% cost to the needy temples.

ENDOWMENT SCHEMES

These are the recently introduced schemes which provide an opportunity to a donor to participate in all the rituals and regular service to Lord on any day chosen from the opening to the closing of the temple.

SRI VENKATESWARA NITYA PRASADA ANNADANA SCHEME

The Endowment should be in multiples of Rs.500/- and the interest fetched on the deposit will be utilised for distribution of laddu, vada or food packets on the day chosen by the donor whose gotram and name will be read out at 'Srivari Koluvu'. Donors endowing Rs.5,000/- or more will have the privilege of having free darsan of Lord.

UDAYAASTHAMANA SARVA SEVA

The donor has to deposit Rs. one lakh for the performance of pujas on the specified day other than Friday and Rs. three lakhs for such performance on Friday. The amounts received under this scheme are deposited in the State Bank of India under re-investment scheme for 10 years. It is a matter of satisfaction that 24 donors have endowed Rs.30,04,000/- towards the scheme introduced in 1981. The
donor and his party will be provided with comfortable accommodation and admitted to all Arjitha sevas on the notified day and on Fridays. The donor will be admitted for poorabhishekam also. The donor will also be offered three vastrams and one momento for the entire period of ten years.

SRI VENKATESWARA NITYA LADDU DANA ENDOWMENT SCHEME

The interested donor has to endow Rs. one lakh for the purpose of distributing small laddus to the pilgrims. The interest accrued on the deposit will be utilised for the distribution of laddus. Five persons have so far endowed Rs. 5,19,201.35 towards the scheme introduced in 1981.

T.T.D. KALYANAMANDAPAMS

These Kalyanamandapams-cum-cultural centres are constructed in all State Capitals, all District and Taluk Head-quarters and other important places in Andhra Pradesh on proportionate public contribution.

A TTD Kalyanamandapam about Rs. 25 lakhs can be constructed in any State Capital if the sponsorer 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 TTD 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.