



March 22 to April 8 - 2018

March 22 Thursday	6.15 pm	Festival Inauguration Followed by ஸ்ரீ கிருஷ்ண பரிவாரம் - கல்யாண கிருஷ்ணன் "Sri Krishna Parivaram-Kalyana Krishnan" Upanyasam By Ramanuja Seva Shree U. Ve. Sri. VELUKKUDI KRISHNAN SWAMI
March 23 Friday	6.30 pm	ஸ்ரீ கிருஷ்ண பரிவாரம் - இல்லற கிருஷ்ணன் "Sri Krishna Parivaram-Illara Krishnan" Upanyasam By Upanyasa Kanteervara U. Ve. Sri. VELUKKUDI KRISHNAN SWAMI
March 24 Saturday	6.30 pm	ஸ்ரீ கிருஷ்ண பரிவாரம் - நரகாந்தக கிருஷ்ணன் "Sri Krishna Parivaram-Naraganthaka Krishnan" Upanyasam By Rahasyartha Vivruti Vicakshana U. Ve. Sri. VELUKKUDI KRISHNAN SWAMI
March 25 Sunday	8.30 am	SRI RAMA NAVAMI DAY "Rama Janana Patanam"
	5.00 pm	"Ramam Bhaje Shyamalam" Thematic Carnatic Music programme by Yuva Kalanidhi Karaikal Sri. R. J AISANKAR Smt. Radhika Srinivasan—Violin Sri. T. P. Balasubramanian-- Mridangam

57th SRI RAMA NAVAMI CULTURAL FESTIVAL

	6.30 pm	ஸ்ரீ கிருஷ்ண பரிவாரம் - வள்ளல் கிருஷ்ணன் "Sri Krishna Parivaram - Vallal Krishnan" Upanyasam By Pravachana Sangeetha Bhushana U. Ve. Sri. VELUKKUDI KRISHNAN SWAMI
March 26 Monday	5.15 PM	"Raamaamrutham" BY Students of Smt. SREEVIDYA JANAKIRAMAN
	6.30 pm	ஸ்ரீ கிருஷ்ண பரிவாரம் - வைகுந்த கிருஷ்ணன் "Sri Krishna Parivaram - Vaikundha Krishnan" Upanyasam By Sollin Selvar U. Ve. Sri. VELUKKUDI KRISHNAN SWAMI
March 27 Tuesday	6.30 pm	கான ராமாயணம் "Gaana Ramayanam" Katha Kutcheri by Smt. SUCHITRA & Smt. SAINDHAVI Sri Pappu Gyandev-Violin, Sri Guru Raghavendra-Mridangam.
March 28 Wednesday	6.30 pm	கான ராமாயணம் "Gaana Ramayanam" Katha Kutcheri by Smt. SUCHITRA & Smt. SAINDHAVI
March 29 Thursday	6.30 pm	கான ராமாயணம் "Gaana Ramayanam" Katha Kutcheri by Smt. SUCHITRA & Smt. SAINDHAVI
March 30 Friday	5.00 pm 5.00 pm	Ladies Day - Manjal Kum-kum Pranams to the lotus feet of Lord Shri Ram By Child prodigy, Seven year old Flutist ANIRBAN ROY, Kolkata. Sri Tuhin Karmakar - Tabla Additional bonus performance by Baby Maitrayee Roy, 13 year old sister.
	6.30 pm	Yuva Bharatha Simha Garjanai: Kamban Suzhar Sollarangam. Naduvar Arul Neri Navalur Dr. R. MADHU, MA. Ph.D. (S/o. Prof. Radhakrishnan, Trichy. Considered Father of Kamban Pattimanram) கம்பனில் கற்பவரின் சிந்தனையை தூண்டுவது? Kambanil Karpavarin Sindhanaiyai Thoonduvadhu? பக்தியே Bhakthiye: Ms. Pa. GANGADEVI விரமே Veerame: Sri. Tha. THIRUMARAN பாசமே Paasame: Sri. Ko. SARAVANAN ஒருமைப்பாடே Orumaipaade: Sri. Aa. Ka. RAJARAMAN.
March 31 Saturday	6.00 pm 6.15 pm 6.30 pm	Veda Parayanam Felicitations to Agama, Veda, Sastra, Shilpa pundits. கிருஷ்ணன் தூது "Krishnan Thoothu" Tamil Literary discourse by Kalaimamani, Nagaichuvai Chakravarthi Dr. Ku. GNANASAMBANDAN, MA. M.Phil, Ph.D. Madurai
April 1 Sunday	8.00 am to 6.00 pm	Non-stop chanting of Hanuman Chalisa.

	6.30 pm.	கடல் தாண்டிய கதாநாயகன் - ஹனுமான் "Kadal Thaandiya Kadhanayagan - Hanuman" Tamil Literary discourse by Uvagai Pulavar Dr. Ku. GNANASAMBANDAN, MA. M.Phil, Ph.D. Madurai
April 2 Monday	6.30 pm	Vedanta Desika - 750 Humble tribute by Sri Rama Navami Cultural Festival to Swami Desikan, Commemorating his 750 th year of birth. நாலாயிரமும் அடியோன்கள் வாழவே "Nalayiramum Adiyongal Vaazhve" Upanyasam by Bhagavata Bhaswan U. Ve. Sri. DUSHYANTH SRIDHAR Programme commences with release of book "Vedanta Desika" authored by Sri Dushyanth Swami.
April 3 Tuesday	6.30 pm to 9.15 pm	Chief Guest Sri. V. Ramasubramanian, Hon. Justice High Court Hyderabad. Will address on நடையில் நின்றுயர் நாயகன் "Nadayil Nindrugar Nayagan" Followed by Vedanta Desika - 750 தோளாட தனி விரன் "Tolada Tani Veeran" Upanyasam by Sollin Selvan U. Ve. Sri. DUSHYANTH SRIDHAR
April 4 Wednesday	6.30 pm	Vedanta Desika - 750 Release of App "DesikaDaya" created by Sri. Dushyanth Swami with 1000 hours of free Content. திருமகனும் திருவருளும் "Tirumagalum Tiruvarulum" Upanyasam by Harikatha Bharathi U. Ve. Sri. DUSHYANTH SRIDHAR
April 5 Thursday	5.00 pm 6.30 pm	Carnatic Music Concert by Smt. SEETHA CHANDRASHEKAR Disciple of "Sangeeta Kalanidhi" Chitraveena N. Ravikiran Vedanta Desika - 750 பஞ்சவரை காத்தார் வந்தார் "Panchavarai Kaathaar Vandaar" Upanyasam by Bhagavata Bhaswan U. Ve. Sri. DUSHYANTH SRIDHAR
April 6 Friday	6.30 pm	Vedanta Desika-750 உகந்து அருளின நிலங்கள் "Uhandu Arulina Nilangal" Upanyasam by Sollin Selvan U. Ve. Sri. DUSHYANTH SRIDHAR
April 7 Saturday	6.30 pm	Natya Nataka Utsav ஸ்ரீ கிருஷ்ண ஜனனம் - கம்ச வதம் "Sri Krishna Jananam - Kamsa Vadham" By world renowned Melattur Bhagavata Mela Group The institution with nearly 80 years of commitment to stage art. In chaste Telugu. And men donning women role as in the days of yore. Led by Kalaimamani Sampradhaya Natya Sikhamani SRI. S. NATARAJAN.
April 8 Sunday	10.00 am 6.30 pm	ANNADHANAM Natya Nataka Utsav. சீதா பரிணயம் "Seetha Parinayam". By world renowned Melattur Bhagavata Mela Group.

U. Ve. Sri. VELUKKUDI KRISHNAN SWAMI March 22 to 26, 2018.

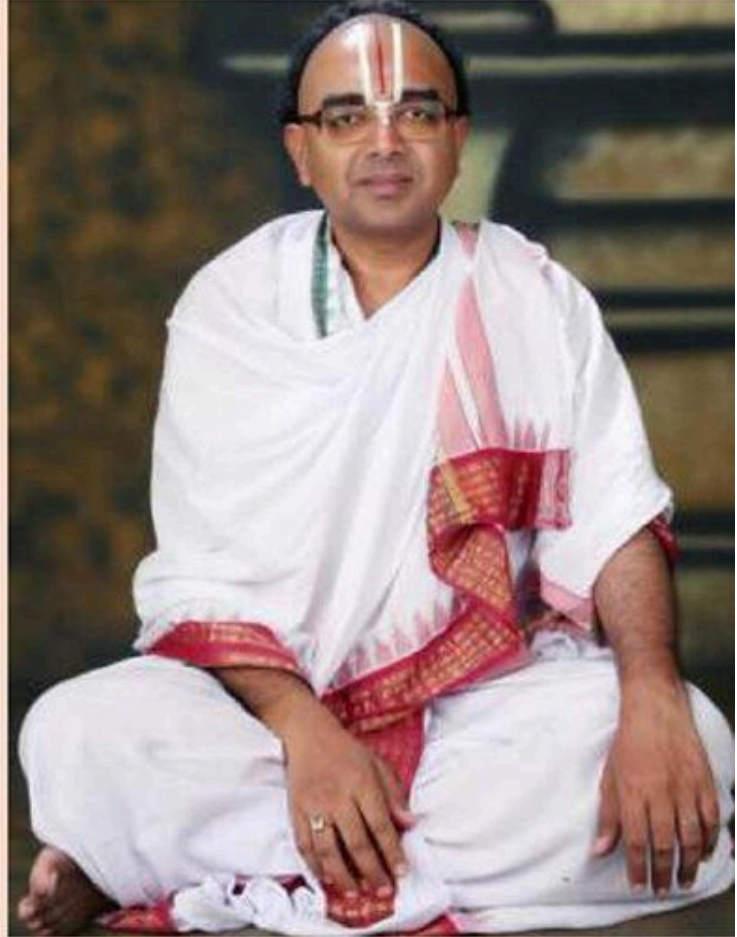
Srimath Bhagavatham is possibly the earliest available vedic history book, detailing the stories of Sriman Narayana in His various incarnations. The book is spread over nearly 18000 verses 335 chapters and 12 divisions called as Cantoes. Originally written by Sage Veda Vyasa and narrated to Parikshitu Maharaja by Sage Sukar over a period of 7 days.

Srimath Bhagavatham, thus enjoys a special status in every Hindu family.

Dasama Skandha represents the key portion of Bhagavatam relating to the complete story of Krishna from his birth to the pinnacle. It is the story of Krishnavatara. This is also a relatively smaller period of time compared to Lord's Rama Avatharam.

Swami Nammalwar says in his Thiruvirutham, that Lord Krishna came down, did all Leela and went back before the Doobam is completed in Sivaikundam (slogam 21 of Thiruvirutham). Yet Krishna Avatharam is more vocal about the Lord and His activities, than any other Avatharam. Uttarardham celebrates the older Lord Krishna, his life, lessons and philosophy. We are delighted, privileged and honoured, that we have U. Ve. Sri. Velukkudi Krishnan Swami amidst us for five days, taking us through the many facets of Lord Krishna. Complex subject, yet simplified in Swami's inimitable style. Asthikas will benefit from the broad-band view of the Lord, as Kalyana, Illara, Naraganthaka, Vallal and Vaikuntha Krishnan.

Come enjoy the rare opportunity provided by Sri Rama Navami Festival of Experiencing Lord Krishna, through Krishnan Swami.



Karaikal Sri. R. JAISANKAR

March 25, 2018.

Yuvakalanidhi Karaikal Sri. R. Jaisankar is a carnatic music vocalist, performer and teacher. Visually challenged from birth. Masters in music. Pursuing Ph.D. in Music. Has enthralled audience all over the world. He is a disciple of two legends: late Kalaimamani Sangeetha Acharya Vairamangalam Sri. S. Lakshminarayanan and late Thiruvengadu Sri. A. Jayaraman and continues to hold their pure classical style and legacy. Now tutelage under Sri. N. Vijay Siva. Presently Music faculty at Kalakshetra. Enjoys interactively coaching students of all levels and mentoring students across the world. He owes his accomplishments to his parents Smt. R. Hemalatha and Sri. G. Ramamoorthy.

Come enjoy the thematic concert
"Ramam Bhaje Shyamalam" on Sri Rama Navami Day.



Smt. SUCHITRA & Smt. SAINDHAVI

March 27 to 29, 2018.

Smt. Suchitra and Smt. Saindhavi, the super music combination, are serving 450 minutes of blissful delight. Rendering the entire Ramayana story through a continuum of musical krithis. To achieve depth, they borrow the best from multiple composers. Spice it up in multiple languages. And the foundation is laid through research from multiple Ramayana-Valmiki, Kamban, Tulasi etc. Serve the wholesome amrutham interspersed with slokas. Smt. Suchitra and Smt. Saindhavi will present a unique never so far attempted --- three day "Musical voyage through Ramayana". An innovative initiative, debuting on Rama Navami stage.



Smt. Suchitra and Smt. Saindhavi are not new to Rama Navami stage. A rare combination of young academic achievers, both post grads in Management and Psychology, who have taken the musical world by storm. Smt. Suchitra, the grand daughter of the famous harikatha exponent Smt. Kamala Murthy, had her musical gurus in Sri. Seshagopalan, Srimushnam Raja Rao etc, took centre stage through her prolific harikatha narration. Smt. Saindhavi, a Masters in Music, won appreciation with over 1000 stage concerts and 200 albums, including with international groups. Together they blend high quality music, youthful energy and modern presentation.

Come enjoy the Musical voyage through Ramayana, a soulful mix of spirituality and music.

Child Prodigy ANIRBAN ROY

March 30, 2018.

Only seven. Carries a Flute almost as tall as him. And when he starts playing the flute, the audience stand mesmerised.

Started learning flute from his father Sri. Lokenath Roy at the age of four. Now he is having talim under the world famous sarodist Pt. Tajendranarayan Mazumder. At the age of five and half Anirban performed in the KAL KE KALAKAR programme of Pt Tanmoy Bose. He was invited to perform at the Birth Centenary programme of M.S.Subbulaksmi in Chennai. Selected by

Sri. Naveen Kumar, the renowned flute player of A.R Rahaman to perform in the World Wind Festival. On our stage he is supported by Sri. Tuhin Karmakar on the Tabla.



Additional bonus performance by Baby Maitrayee Roy, 13 year old sister of Anirban, who is an extraordinary singer of classicals and Bhajans. She started learning from her mother S mt. Chaitali Roy at the age of two and now talim from Pt. Shantanu Bhattacharya.

Sri Rama Navami delighted to introduce another rare gem on stage.

Kamban Suzhar Sollarangam. Naduvar Dr. R. Madhu, M.A. Ph.D.

March 30, 2018.



Dr. R. Madhu



Ms. Pa. Gangadevi



Sri. Tho. Thirumaran



Sri. Ko. Saravanan



Sri. Aa. Ka. Rajaraman

Sri Rama Navami, has always been in the forefront of encouraging and nurturing fresh talent. We had seen youngsters make waves in Kamban Vizha, Chennai and Karaikudi and felt our twin city audience must experience, enjoy and cheer the budding talent. Thus was born the "Y uva Bharatha Simha Garjana".

Many of us are familiar with Prof. Radhakrishnan, Trichy, who is considered the "Father of modern Kamba Ramayana Patti Manrams". We had the privilege of having him on our Sri Rama Navami stage as "Naduvar" decades back. In carrying the tradition forward, this year we have "Kamban Suzhar Sollarangam" with Dr. Madhu, the illustrious son of Prof Radhakrishnan as Naduvar. Dr. Madhu has his Doctorate in "Kamba Ramayanathil Orumaipadu". Also edited a book "Ullam Kavar Kamban". Travelled all over the world presenting religious speeches, participating in pattimanrams etc.

Ms. Gangadevi, 21, a post graduate in Tamil Literature, loves to collect Kamban Kazhaga trophies year after year. Apart from Kamban, thunders in Silapathigaram, Periyapuram etc. Sri. Thirumaran, 22, active in tamil debates from class III. In 2009-10, for one year, spoke continuously in "Tamil Engal Moochu" programme of Vijai TV and was rated top ten young speakers. Chennai Kamban Kazhagam awarded him "Kamban Adippodi Sa. Ganesan Award". An MA literature in Tamil, pursuing M. Phil. Sri. Ko. Saravanan, 23, is post grad in Bio-technology. Written two books, "Kamban Kaviyil Kaathiruppu" researching characters "waiting" in Kamba Ramayanam. Yet another book is "Kappiyangal Anindha Kaalanigal" a nuanced research on Kamba Ramayana Paadhugai and silambu of Silapathigaram. Those interested in a preview, ask Youtube for Ko. Saravanan speech - and enjoy. Sri. Rajaram, 34, is a lawyer specialised in Intellectual Property Rights and practices in Madras High Court. A regular fiery speaker in Kamban Vizha. Sri Rajaram has also been conferred "Tamil Sandror" award by Uravu Surangam.

Come enjoy Kamban at his youngest best.

Dr. Ku. GNANASAMBANDAN. MA, M.Phil, Ph.D.

March 31 & April 1



His first book is titled "Vaanga Sirikkalam". More books followed. "Valviyal Nagaichuvai", "Sirithukonde Jeypom". His audio are "Sirikkalam Vaanga", "Ilakiyamum Nagaichuvayum", "Sirippum Sinthanayum". Even his email ID is "humour underscore sambandan". Has the rare distinction of inaugurating Nagaichuvai Mandrams in more than 15 districts from Chennai to Nagercoil. Welcoming in our midst, the original Humour King of Tamil Nadu, who likes to call himself a simple "Tamil Asiriyar" and whom the world celebrates as "Professor Emeritus Thiagarajar College" Madurai.

The humble Tamil Aasiriyar has guided 65 students who went on to complete their M.Phil. and 16 of them completed their Doctorates. Currently four students are pursuing their doctorate guided by him.

Tamilnadu govt has recognised and honoured him with a "Kalaimamani", "Tamil Illakkaiyathin Sitrarasu" and the "Mahakavi Bharathi award".

A familiar face on TV. Naduvar in all Jaya TV pattimanrams and also presents programmes like "Indraya Sinthanai" and "Sinthikka Sila Nimidangal". Moderator in "Yaavarum Keleer" in PudhuYugam TV. Dons an important character in Saravanan Meenakshi in Vijai TV and has also acted in about 20 films.

Sri Rama Navami is very happy to present Dr. Ku. Gnanasambandan, for the first time in the twin cities, to deliver two Tamil Literary discourses on "Kannan Thoothu" and "Kadal Thandiya Kadhanayagan - Hanuman".

U. Ve. Sri. DUSHYANTH SRIDHAR

April 2 to 6, 2018.



The year 2017 heralded the 1000th birth anniversary of Sri Rāmānuja the philosopher and reformer. (1017-1137 A.D). In the succession line of this saint, came another philosopher-logician-poet-drama

artist-preceptor par excellence called Sri Vedānta Desika (1268-1369 A.D) whose 750th birth anniversary will be celebrated in 2018. He was a polymath and polyglot, to say the least. He has given the world over 120 works in Sanskrit, Tamil, Prakrit and Manipravala. His works are immense, deep and exquisite. Among them, the poem of over thousand verses on the holy sandals of Sri Ranganātha, called 'Sri Pādukā Sahasram' is a colossal work. All his works are revered and recited with utmost devotion till date. Among establishments that follow the Rāmānuja and Desika tradition are Sri Parakāla Mutt, Sri Ahobila Mutt and Srimad Andavan Ashram who cumulatively have over a million followers worldwide. Last year, we had five different topics under the umbrella of Sri Rāmānuja and this was rendered by five speakers. This year, we will have five topics on Sri Vedānta Desika's life and works rendered by U. Ve. Sri. Dushyanth Sridhar.



Apr 2 (Mon) - Nalayiramum Adiyongal Vaazhve, will unravel the experiences of Desika with the mystic saint-poets of the Tamizh tradition called Azhwars, their verses and his views on Swami Ramanujar.

Apr 3 (Tue) - Tolada Tani Veeran, will elucidate the unswerving love that Desika had for the eternal warrior - Sri Rama. Will be covering works of Desika on Lord Sri Rama that includes Raghuveera Gadyam, Abhaya Pradana Saram, Paduka Sahasram and Hamsa Sandesham.

Apr 4 (Wed) - Tirumagalum Tiruvarulum, will passionately take us through the importance that Desika attached for Sri - the mother of the universe. Sri Devi - Bhu Devi - Nila Devi & Andal.

Apr 5 (Thu) - Panchavarai Kaathaar Vandaar, will help us understand Desika's devotion to Sri Krishna - the universal preceptor. Will be covering work of Desika on Lord Sri Krishna called Yadavabhyudayam.

Apr 6 (Fri) - Uhandu Arulina Nilangal. This will be a journey with Desika through the holy shrines of our country. From Mukthinath in the north to Pandarpur in the west till as far as Tirupullani in the south.

Sri Dushyanth Sridhar, is a multi-dimensional personality. Under 30. Techie turned Upanyasakar. Penned story screenplay and dialogue for the movie "Vedanta Desika" where he has also donned the role of Swami Desikan. Teaches thousands of students over the net.

Humble tribute from Sri Rama Navami Cultural Festival to Swami Desikan, commemorating his 750th year of birth. Another first for Sri Rama Navami and the first by Swami Dushyanth - A five day Swami Desikan tour.

MELATTUR BHAGAVATA MELA

April 7 & 8, 2018.

Melattur a little village 18 kms from Thanjavur, is considered a cultural cradle of Tamil Nadu. The Bhagavata Mela tradition is believed to be in existence from 11th Century. The natakams, preserved in its pristine purity as a true temple art, dedicated to Lord Vishnu, are performed annually with religious fervour in the sannidhi of Varadaraja Perumal temple at Melattur on the occasion of Nrusimha Jayanti.



The sentiments of the natakams are expressed in classical music of high class Carnatic tradition, the dance and abhinaya in Bharata Natya technique and occasionally with poetic speeches / dialogues. Such a remarkable synchronisation of music, speech, dance and abhinaya produces a high aesthetic appeal leading to rasa realisation according to the conception of natya in the ancient treatises. The tradition to date is male donning female roles.

By the end of 14th century, the Vijayanagar empire annexed Cholamandalam and founded the Nayaks dynasty. When Vijayanagar was defeated by Muslims in 1565 AD, several family of composers, poets, vedic scholars and performing artistes migrated to Thanjavur. The Nayaks gave refuge and for the purpose created Unnathapuram, which popularly later became "Melattur". It is here that the great maestros, "Bharatam" Kasinathayya, who is said to have composed nine alarippus and his disciple Veerabhadrayya were born. Veerabhadrayya was the preceptor of Sri. Ramaswamy Dikshitar, father of Sri. Muthuswamy Dikshitar of Thiruvarur Trinity. Over time, Melattur was producing great composers of music and dance, attracted more migrants from Andhra Pradesh and developed further the culture.

Down the years came Sri Venkatarama Sastry (1743 - 1809), a scholar in Veda, sastras, Puranas and Upanishads. His guru Melattur Lakshmanayya, a disciple of Veerabhadrayya, made him an expert in kavya, nataka and alankaras. With his masterly knowledge of Telugu, Sanskrit, music, dance and drama, Sri. Venkatarama Sastry brought a new era of dance-dramas to Melattur. He composed atleast twelve nriyanatakas - A fine blend of concept of Sanskrit

drama as envisaged by Bharata in his Natya Sastra, the rich Telugu culture and the developments that have taken place in Natya Sastra, during the reign of Nayaka and Maratha kings. Whereas the poetic genius is revealed in his exquisite sahyas, his musical genius is unfolded in the choice of Apurva ragas. It is said that Sri Sastry was an elder contemporary of Saint Thiagaraja. It is said that the Saint Thiagaraja was so inspired after watching the play Pahlada in Melattur, that he was prompted to create "Pahlada Bhaktha Vijayam".

Sri. S. Natarajan, president and Chairman of the Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Jayanti Bhagavata Mela Natya Nataka Sangam Melattur, belongs to a family who dedicated their life, property and finances to the preservation and promotion of the rare theatrical art-form the Bhagavata Mela, a Telugu heritage in Tamil country. Late Ganesha Iyer, grand father of Sri Natarajan, was responsible for resurrection of Bhagavata Mela tradition in 1938, so much so he is called the "Father of Bhagavata Mela". Kalaimamani Sri. Natarajan has made a name portraying every leading heroine roles. He is amidst us today, leading the team.

Melattur Bhagavata Mela is presenting "Sri Krishna Jananam - Kamsa Vadham" on April 7 and "Seetha Parinayam" on April 8, 2018.

When you watch the Bhagavat Mela - you are watching a piece of history of dance & drama.

- ◆ Everyday Laksharchana to Lord Rama at 8.30 am and 7.00 pm.
- ◆ Vishnu Sahasranamam Parayanam, by students of Veda Bhavan- Every evening on stage before commencement of programme.
- ◆ Donations gratefully accepted. Cheques/Drafts to be made favouring "Sri Rama Navami Cultural Festival". Contributions to festival enjoy benefits u/s 80G(5)(vi) of IT Act 1961.

ANNADHANAM

Please participate in Annadhanam being held every Sunday at 9.00 am throughout the year, at Ganesh Temple, near Secunderabad Station. Annadhanam as a part of Festival on Sunday April 8, 2018 at Keyes High school.

SRI RAMA NAVAMI CULTURAL FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

President	Sri. G. Venkataraman, Consultant
Vice- President	Sri. J. Mahalingam, Executive Director Nagarjuna Fertilisers & Chemicals Ltd.
Secretary	Sri. Sridhar Subasri, Management Consultant

ADMISSION FREE - ALL ARE WELCOME

57th SRI RAMA NAVAMI CULTURAL FESTIVAL