

## WHAT SHOULD WE ASK FOR?

Pujya Gurudev was invited by Sri Srinivasa rao of Jnanasri Arsha Vidya Gurukulam, Hyderabad for a satsang at his residence in Panjagutta on Wednesday. Mahamahopadhyaya Sri Pallela Sriramachandrudu (Rashtrapathi Awardee and an eminent sanskrit scholar who translated the entire Valmiki Ramayanam, Sri Sankara's Geeta Bhashyam, Sareeraka Bhashyam on Brahma sutras into telugu) and Sri Aravinda Rao IPS(Director General, Anti Corruption Bureau) were the dignitaries invited.

The programme commenced with the welcome address of Sri Srinivasa Rao. Pujya Gurudev gave a talk on Vedic religion and what is to be sought from religion.

*"Religious practice can bestow upon us any one of the two benefits that it gives. One is called Preyas, in the form of ordering a perfect set up outside to enjoy a quality life and the second is called Preyas which is to bring about the culturing of the mind for a quality life. Seeker of the Preyas is called Religious Materialist and the other Religious Spiritualist. Here in our country it is very difficult to find a materialist without some trace of religion in him. We have only Religious materialists. Though majority of us belong to this category, this was censured by Bhagavan Sri Krishna in Bhagavadgeeta in 42 to 44 verses of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chap. Sri Krishna also advises Arjuna to seek for balanced, cheerful, non-complaining and confident mind through all religious practices.*

*If we don't pay heed to the enlightening words of Geeta, we will miserably fail in our pursuit of Preyas as controlling the set up which includes events, things, people....is just impossible in this Prarabdha commanded life of ours. One, who dreams of being happy when all is favorable here, is never going to be happy! It's wise to change the set up of the mind instead of changing anything else. This Sreyas or Mano Jaya is the real purpose of religion, as this alone can guide us to clarity regarding the real goal of life. This idea is echoed in a stanza of Bhikshu geeta from Bhagavatham-*

**DAANAM SWADHARMO NIYAMO YAMASCHA, SHRUTAM CHA KARMANI CHA SADVRATAANI;**

**SARVE MANONIGRAHA LAKSHANAANTAAN, PARO HI YOGO MANASAH SAMADHI.**

*(Charity, adherence to one's duty, all do's & don'ts, austerities and disciplines are all meant for Mano Jaya. This is highest form growth)*

*So while doing all religious activities we should only ask for Shreyas. In this seeking all Purusharthas are accomplished", said Gurudev in his discourse.*

Pujya Gurudev gave consent to the request of Sri Srinivasa Rao to conduct programmes in the premises of Jnanasri Arsha Vidya Gurukulam's new building that is going to be inaugurated in January 2010.

The programme concluded with Shanti Mantras followed by prasadam.