

Amrita Mutt plans legal aid for poor

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KOLLAM: A major legal aid scheme for the poor with voluntary service of 1008 lawyers from different parts of the Country has been planned by the Mata Amritananda Mutt as part of the 50th birth anniversary of the Mata next year.

This was among the welfare schemes announced on the occasion of the 49th birth anniversary of Mata Amritanandamayi Devi at the Vallikkavu Ashrman on Thursday

Union law Minister Jana Krishnamurthy was the chief guest at the function.

Under the 'Amritakutiram' scheme, one lakh houses would be built and given to the poor, apart from 25,000 houses already completed since the scheme came into effect in 1996, the Mutt authorities said. A 'Yuva Maha Sangamam' marking convergence of one lakh youth from around the world and an international convention with delegates representing different walks of life from as many 125 countries have also been planned on the occasion of the 50th birth anniversary of the Mata next year.

Krishnamurthy presented the 'Amrithakeerthi Puraskaram' instituted by the Mutt to RSS ideologue and 'Bharatiya Vicharakendram' Director P Parameswaran.

Revenue Minister K M Mani handed keys of housing units build under the Amritakutiram scheme to a few beneficiaries.

Union Minister of state for urban development O Rajagopal was also present on the occasion

Mata Amrithanandamayi calls for spiritual revolution

KOLLAM: Mata Amrithanandamayi has called for a spiritual revolution to solve the problems facing the humanity.

Delivering the benedictory address at the Mata Amrithanandamayi Mutt in Vallikkavu on the occasion of her 49th birthday celebrations on Thursday. Mata Amrithanandamayi said that though the world had achieved a lot from the science and technology revolution the problems were mounting up.

“Unless and until we give due consideration to the spiritual affairs, war, crimes or mental tensions would remain unsolved,” she said.

“Ours is a society in which one gets a feeling of isolation and alienation instead of mutual love and help,” she said.

According to Mata, spiritualism means paying maximum attention to one’s own words and deeds. If one cultivates this habit, he or she could achieve peace, tranquillity and happiness in life. Many of the problems in the world today were due to the inept handling of things.

“Owing to prejudices and preconceived notions we are losing our sanity,” she said. Mata concluded her speech with a call for a spiritual awareness campaign.

The celebrations started with the pada pooja of Amma performed by her chief disciple Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri. Hundreds of devotees, including many dignitaries from various parts of the State, had arrived at the Ashram to seek the blessings of the Mata despite the hartal.

Union Ministers Jana Krishnamoorthy and O Rajagopal, Revenue Minister K M Mani and his wife and Karunagappally MLA A N Rajan Babu were among those who sought the blessings of the Mata.

Annadanam and Vasthradanam were also held as part of the programme.

As many as 75 students of the Amrita Institute of Computer Technology at Kochi took a pledge in the presence of the Mata to donate their eyes.

MEGA EVENT: Mutt vice-chairman Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri said that the 50th birthday of Amma next year would be made an international event. Devotees from over 125 countries will attend the celebrations. A Yuva Maha Sangamam will also be held. The mutt is also planning to constitute a legal advisory body, comprising 1008 lawyers from all over the country, for rendering legal counselling free of cost to the poor.

Amritha Keerti Puraskar presented to P Parameswaran

KOLLAM: Union Law Minister Jana Krishnamoorthy presented the Amritha Keerti Puraskar instituted by the Mata Amrithanandamayi Mutt to Bharathiya Vichara Kendram director P Parameswaran on the occasion of Mata Amrithanandamayi’s 49th birthday celebrations on Thursday.

Parameswaran was selected for the award by considering his relentless service in spreading the message of sanathana dharma in society.

The award carries an idol of Saraswathi Devi, a cash prize of Rs 1,25,453 and a citation.

Presenting the award, Jana Krishnamoorthy said that spiritual

personalities like Mata Amrithanandamayi Devi would lead society to proper path.

The glorious ancient cultural civilisation of the country makes society vibrant and Mata can be described as an embodiment of that culture.

Describing his old associate in the RSS as a man devoted to noble causes throughout his life, the Minister said that Parameswaran had refused to contest when the party offered him a Rajya Sabha seat. Rejecting the offer, Parameswaran had suggested O Rajagopal's name for the post, he revealed.

Parameswaran said that the award was a recognition to the RSS by Amma since he owed everything for his personality development to the organisation.

Parameswaran described Mata as Amma, Bharathamba (Mother of India) and Jagadamba (Mother of the Universe) combined in one.

AMRITHAKUTEERAM PROJECT: Revenue Minister K M Mani distributed the keys of the houses built under the Amrithakuteeram project to the beneficiaries.

A total of 25,000 houses have been built in various parts of the country under this project aimed at helping the homeless people.

The project came into existence in 1998.

Describing Amma as an embodiment of universal love, Mani said that the Amrithakuteeram project was an inspiration for the State Government which found it difficult to provide loans to more than 20 lakhs homeless people in the State.

It was announced at the function that the Mutt will construct one lakh houses more within the next 10 years under the Amrithakuteeram project.