

# ‘Turning Adversity To One’s Advantage’

Pujya Swamiji’s Talks in Chennai



From the 20th to 27<sup>th</sup> of June, 2009, Chennai witnessed a week-long session of public talks delivered by Pujya Sri Swami Dayananda Saraswati at the Kamaraj Memorial Hall, Teynampet. The topic ‘Turning Adversity To One’s Advantage’, is germane to the changing economic global scenario. Pujya Swamiji’s talks have helped one and all to handle these changes to one’s advantage.

The morning guided meditation classes and the evening lectures drew record number of people, listening in rapt attention.

Pujya Swamiji addressed a gathering of CEs in Chennai on June 20th, morning, 2009. He introduced AIM for Seva and the vision behind the movement. In his talk, he spoke on the importance of ‘giving’ and ‘seva’.

Smt. Sheela Balaji Secretary & Managing Trustee, AIM for Seva, gave a presentation of the various projects of AIM for Seva. The audience was very appreciative of the work and some of them spontaneously came forward to sponsor students.

There was a press meet on the evening of the 20th of June addressed by Pujya Swamiji. Smt. Sheela Balaji, Secretary & Managing Trustee, AIM for Seva, Mr. Srinivasan K. Swamy, Trustee, AIM for Seva were also present. A number of members from both English and local language press attended. The rapid growth of the projects to 100 in 100 months caught the interest of the Press. The questions asked ranged from what a Student Home is, who were the beneficiaries, to what was the proposed expenditure envisaged by AIM for Seva and



the plan of action chalked out for the future. The details of the meet and the series of talks by Pujya Swamiji appeared in many news papers.

On the 22nd of June, the documentary film "Expanding Horizons", on AIM for Seva's activities was shown at the auditorium. There was tremendous response from the public, by way of donations, child sponsorship. Many people offered their services such as teaching, counseling, etc.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 2009, to commemorate the opening of the 75<sup>th</sup> Student Home of AIM for Seva at Palani, Tamil Nadu, a 'special postal cover', was released by Sri S. K. Chakrabarti, the Chief Post Master



General, Tamil Nadu Circle, Chennai. In his presidential address, Sri Chakrabarti said that philately is the medium through which the history of a country could be traced. Stamps and postal covers were cultural ambassadors for the world. 'Service is the best form of worship and it will bring about a phenomenal change in society', he said.

The Special postal cover album was received by Pujya Swamiji, Mr. M. P. Narayanan, President, AIM for Seva, and Smt. Sheela Balaji, Secretary & Managing Trustee, AIM for Seva. Pujya Swamiji termed it as a "great moment" in the annals of AIM for Seva, and



congratulated the volunteer services of the organization.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of June, the film "Narmada", based on AIM for Seva's, student Homes in Indore, Madhya Pradesh was screened.

As Pujya Swamiji mentioned every human being needs to transform from being a simple survivor to becoming a contributor. This is the real measure of growth of a human being.

Books of Pujya Swamiji were well received at the Arsha Vidya Research & Publications Trust counter at the venue.