

Reconstructing a Heritage Trial run of the mammoth chariot of Sri Mahalingaswami Temple, Thiruvidadamaruthur

The temple chariots made of wood are expressions of our expertise in wood-carving and architecture. Thanks to highly endowed temples, these chariots have been a source of inspiration for millions of people in India, especially in Tamil Nadu.

Like the chariot in Tiruvarur which is famous for its size, striking architecture and intricate carving, another mammoth chariot was at Thiruvidadamaruthur attached to Sri Mahalingaswami Temple along with four smaller chariots. Due to ravages of time, these 'Pancha Rathas' were no more usable.

With the blessings and kind consent of Sri Guru Mahasannidhanam of Thiruvavaduthurai Adeenam, Sri Mahalingaswami Seva Trust founded by Pujya Sri Swami Dayananda Saraswati started the project of constructing the huge main chariot along with four smaller chariots and also the ratha mantapas in the year 2008.

By the Grace of Almighty and Blessings of our Gurus, the Trial - Run of the newly constructed Maha-Ratha (Big Wooden Chariot) at Thiruvidadamaruthur, was conducted on the 25th of November 2010.

Dignitaries who graced the function with their presence were:

The Guru Maha-Sannidhanam of Thiruvavaduthurai Adheenam,



Pujyasri Swamiji, Revered Sri Swami Omkaranandaji,
Padmabhushan, Arutselvar
Dr.N.Mahalingam, Chairman, Sakthi Group,
Sri. Babaji Raja Bhonsle, the Senior Prince and Hereditary Trustee of
Palace Devasthanams, Thanjavur,
Dr. Raya R. Govindarajan, Chairman, Raya Group, Kumbakonam,
Dr. R. Ramasubbu, Editor, Dinamalar, Thiruchirappalli,
Sri. R.Kannan, Managing Director, SriRam City Union Finance Ltd.,

In spite of heavy downpour during this sacred event, thousands of people participated in this grand function, in which the new mammoth Chariot was drawn after 77 years, by people from all walks of life.

This New Ratha would be used by Sri Mahalingaswami Devasthanam during their annual Brahmotsavam in the month of January, 2011.

