



For uniting Hindus & establishing the 'Hindu Nation'

## HINDU JANAAGRUTI SAMITI

Reg. No. 1540 / I-634, 12.11.2002, Ponda, Goa.

**Mobile**

9326103278

**E-mail**

contact@HinduJagruti.org

**Website**

www.HinduJagruti.org

Reg. Off. : 'Madhu Smruti', H.No. 457, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Conference Hall, Near Satyanarayan Temple, Dhavali, Ponda, Goa 403 401 (INDIA)

|| Jayatu Jayatu Hindurashtram ||

To

Date : 22.1.2015

The Editor/Chief Reporter,

**Press Note**

**Financial scam worth crores of Rs. In  
'Pashchim Maharashtra Devasthan vyavasthapan Samiti; State-wide agitation**

**Establish CBI inquiry into the scam and hang the corrupt;  
free temples from Government shackles and hand them over to  
devotees – Demand by Hindu Janajagruti Samiti**

Mumbai – Shri Mahalakshmi temple, one of the three and a half Shakti-peeths; Shri Jyotiba temple, the seat of faith for crores of devotees and 3067 temples in 3 districts of Kolhapur, Sangli and Sindhudurg are under the control of 'Pashchim Maharashtra Devasthan Samiti (PMDS)'. Today, the Hindu Vidhidnya Parishad has exposed with proofs heavy financial scams in the management and working of temples by PMDS. The information sought under Right to Information Act by Mr Virendra Ichalkaranjkar, Chairman of Hindu Didhidnya Parishad and practicing advocate in the Bombay High Court has been made public. The scams and corruption in the temples are very serious. The PMDS should immediately be freed from the clutches of the Government and stringent action be taken against the corrupt. Hindu Janajagruti Samiti has launched state-wide agitation on the issue from 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015 by praying to Devi for fending off the adversity on behalf of all Hindus, devotees and the curious individuals in Shri Mahalakshmi Temple.

The state-wide agitation known as National Hindu Movement will be launched together with all Hindu organizations in various districts such as Mumbai, Thane, Raigad, Pune, Satara, Sangli, Solapur, Jalgaon, Dhule, Yawatmal, Wardha etc. A grand agitation is proposed to be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015 in Kolhapur. In the press conference, Mr Arvind Pansare, spokesperson (Maharashtra), Hindu Janajagruti Samiti has appealed all like-minded organisations and devotees of Goddess to participate in the agitation. Present on the occasion were Mr Sandeep Shinde, spokesperson, Sanatan Sanstha and Mr Vijay Jangam (Swami) of Akhil Bharatiya Veershaiv Lingayat Mahasangh.

No audit in respect of accounts for the past 35 years, that is, from the year 1969 to 2004 was carried out. After the year 2004, a simultaneous audit was carried out. On the similar lines, simultaneous audit was carried out for years 2005 to 2007. From the year 2008, complete audit has not been taken up till today. There is no record or register with the Devasthan Samiti mentioning, no. of ornaments, their market value, etc. in respect of each temple except those of Shri Mahalakshmi and Kedar Ling. Such register was available before the establishment of the Devasthan Samiti; however, no detailed record is available with the Devasthan Samiti

as to how much is the addition in the ornaments, how they are disposed off, etc. This goes to show that the Devasthan Samiti has purposefully neglected this aspect. Many a times, the devotees also deposit ornaments along with cash in donation boxes placed in the temples. It is a binding on the Devasthan Samiti to take such ornaments on record. Even the auditors and District Collector took a serious view of this issue in their inspection note. The Devasthan Samiti threw the audit objection in the dustbin without taking any cognizance of the same.

### **Mismanagement also in the lands belonging to the temples**

Even though, the 'PMDS' owned 23,000 to 25,000 acres of land according to the records as on 2009-10, the area became 6777 Hectare 10 R (Meaning nearly 16,961 acres) in the year 2013. What happened to the land admeasuring 7,000 acres ? Most of the land bears buildings, trees. This land has been given on rent: however, there is no record of rent received from the above property.

### **Some more serious flaws**

Mining activities are carried out on some of the land belonging to 'PMDS', but royalty is not received by the temples. As per the estimates arrived at by the auditors, the amount of royalty due just for the year 2007 comes to about Rs. 2 to 3 crores. Temples do not receive the royalty although the mining activities are going on from the year 1885. The Government is not aware as to who has given permission to these mining activities. Perhaps, these mining activities have been going on without any permission from the government. The possibility of this scam running into crores of rupees cannot be ruled out. Many agents of political parties and leaders were accommodated in the 'Pashchim Maharashtra Devasthan Samiti'. As a result, the corruption in the Devasthan Samiti went on increasing. Despite the knowledge of the corrupt practices going on in the Devasthan Samiti, the Congress Front government deceived the people by protecting the corrupt. In order to ensure that such scams are not repeated, separate Acts should be legislated, and management of the temples should be handed over to the devotees. It is rightly expected that the BJP-Shiv Sena Government would take above steps so that the temples would become centres of inspiration of Hindu Dharma in a true sense. **In this matter, we will be soon meeting Mr. Anna Hazare, the beginner of the anti-corruption movement and would request him to participate in the agitation.**

### **Our main demands are.....**

1. CBI inquiry should be instituted in the scams worth crores of rupees, in the 'PMDS'.
2. Immediately dismiss the 'PMDS' and impose stringent punishment on the corrupt.

### **Public appeal**

1. All devout Hindus, devotees and curious individuals are requested to muster strength in thousands for the state-wide agitation.
2. If anyone has the information either on the corrupt practices or any mismanagement in Devasthan Samiti, the same should be intimated to Hindu Janajagruti Samiti

Yours truly,



**Arvind Pansare**

**Spokesperson, Maharashtra,**

**Hindu Janajagruti Samiti, Contact:8451006014**