Annabhishekam is being performed for the past 31 years without interruption.

The cooked rice after Annabhishekam will be distributed to poor people of the neighbouring villages, in large numbers as instructed by Sri Maha Swami. As per the directions of Their Holinesses of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam, the Annabhishekam is performed by the devotees of Sri Kanchi Mutt as Ubayadhars through the Annabhishekam Committee specifically formed by Their Holiness is to make the necessary arrangements and carryout Annabhishekam properly with devotion.

Philanthropic minded devotees of Sri Kanchi Mutt are requested to contribute towards the sacred cause. It is our prayer that devotees from far and near may be pleased to witness the Annabhishekam that will be performed on 3rd November, 2017 and Mahabhishekam on 2nd November, 2017 (11-00 a.m.)

The annabhishekam Committee appeals to devotees of Sri Kanchi Mutt all over to render all possible assistance towards the sacred purpose and thereby attain the grace of Sri Brahadeeswara and the blessings of the Acharyas of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetha.

The Annabhishekam on 3rd November, 2017 will commence from about 10-00 a.m. and the Maha Arathi by 6-00 p.m.

Annabhishekam Committee or Sri Kanchi Mutt in the Service of the Lord contributions in the name of Annabhishekam Committee may be sent to any of the following addresses and obtain receipt:

1. Annabhishekam Committee, 2. Annabhishekam Committee,
   Sri Kanchi Sankara Mutt, The Manager, Sri Sankara Mutt
   No. 1, Salai Street, 92, Mutt Street, Kumbakonam.
   Kancheepuram - 631 502.

3. Annabhishekam Committee (Head Office)
   1-A Raja Annamalai Building, Second Floor,
   19, Rukmani Lakshmipathy Salai (Marshallis Road)
   Chennai-600 008. Ph: (044) 2855 4090 Mobile : 93810 56343, 98402 38474

Note:
1. Rice Bags or Abhishekam Material in kind may kindly be sent by lorry
and way bill paid sent to the Manager, Sri Sankara Mutt, Mutt Street,
Kumbakonam who will send receipt.

2. Location Of Gangaikonda Cholapuram is 75 kms from Thanjavur,
   40 kms from Kumbakonam 10 kms from Jayamkondam
   110 kms from Trichy 50 kms from Chidambaram
   250 kms from Chennai 45 kms from Vridhadalai

Nearest Railway Station : Thanjavur, Kumbakonam, Chidambaram,
Aryalur, Vridhadalai

Office : ANNABHISHEKAM COMMITTEE
1-A Raja Annamalai Building, Second Floor,
19, Rukmani Lakshmipathy Salai (Marshallis Road) Chennai - 600 008.
Tel. No. : 2855 4090, After office hours : 2815 1146,
Cell : 93810 56343, 98402 38474

SREE HEVILAMBI TULA (AIPPAASI) 17TH
POORNIMA
FRIDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER - 2017

Sponsored by Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam
As per their directions Annabhishekam is performed by
the Devotees of Sri Kanchi Mutt as Ubayadars.
(For Private Circulation among the Ubayadar Devotees of Sri Kanchi Mutt only)
ANNABHISHEKAM TO SRI BRAHADEESVARA
SWAMI AT GANGAIKONDA CHOLAPURAM

ANNABHISHEKAM:

Sri Chandramoulishvara Sphatika in the Shrine of Sri Nataraja at Chidambaram, one of the holiest of shrines to devotees of Siva, is worshipped six times a day. Every time Annabhishekam, i.e. pouring of pure cooked raw rice, is performed to Sphatika Linga. Though such is not the case in other Siva shrines, Annabhishekam is done to Siva Lingas. From time immemorial, in almost all Siva temples of South India, in the evening of the Poornima day in the Tula Month, Annabhishekam to Siva on this particular day is deemed as very auspicious and sacred. The fruits of Annabhishekam to Siva Lingas are ample rainfall and abundance of crops, with the resultant prosperity for the people and for sub-humans as well. It may be noted that the harvest of the first paddy crop comes off at about the time prescribed for Annabhishekam.

Sri Kashyapa Muni, famous as the Gauda Poet, with the gift of the muse, in his work Perur Puranam (the Legend of the Great City) has sung about the importance and the fruits of performing annabhisheka to Siva on the full-moon day of the Tula month.

The Tenth verse of the 36th part of the Perur Puranam states that on the full-moon night of the Tula month (Tamil month of Aipasi), when the whole Siva Linga is covered with cooked rice, every particle of the cooked rice with which Annabhishekam is performed, becomes miniature Linga by itself. Those who are engaged in the virtuous Annabhishekam, participants and devotees who have a glance at the Linga with annam get blessed with goodness, happiness and prosperity and are eventually freed from the bondage of births and deaths.

ANNABHISHEKA TO BRAHADEESVARA

The Brahadeesvara Linga at Gangaiakonda Cholapuram is perhaps the biggest of Siva Lingas in our country. Having the historic greatness of this Linga in mind, His Holiness Sri Maha Periyaval of Sri Sankaracharya of Kanchi, caused the performance of abhishekam with ample water of sacred Ganga brought from Haridvar and also Annabhishekam to Sri Brahadeeswara during the past thirty years. It was the desire of His Holiness that the entire big Lingam at Gangaiakonda Cholapuram should be covered with cooked rice on the Tula Poornima day every year and that thereby devotees should attain the blessings of Lord Siva for plenty and prosperity in the land.

HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE OF GANGAIKONDA CHOLAPURAM

Gangaiakonda Cholapuram, now a large village in the Jayamkondam Taluk, had been the imperial capital of the Chola Rulers of the Vijayalaya Dynasty, during the 11th Century A.D. The Chola Power attained its zenith under the Great Rajarajan I and his still greater son, Rajendra I, who was conspicuous for his expeditions in the North and for his conquests Overseas.

Rajendra carved out a New Capital amidst the jungles of the then Tiruchirapalli District, (now in Ariyalur District) In about 1020 A.D., for reasons of military and administrative strategy in the New Capital he built a magnificent and large temple for Lord Siva. The temple came to be known as “Gangaiakonda Choleesvaram” in commemoration of Rajendra’s conquests extending in the North up to the Gangetic Valley and his bringing the sacred water of holy Gangi, for the consecration of huge Linga enshrined in the new temple, built by him. As a mark of his victorious expedition up to the Gangetic plains, Rajendra assumed the title “Gangaiakonda Chola”.

Gangaiakonda Cholapuram continued to flourish as Capital of the Chola Kings during the reigns of Rajadhiraja, Rajendra II, Veerarajendra and Adhirajendra. The Pandya King devastated the City. The temple alone was spared. The main structure of the Brahadeesvara Temple stands as a historic relic of the one Great Capital.

ARCHITECTURAL BEAUTY AND SUB-SHRINES:

The Temple at Gangaiakonda Cholapuram is a Mahaprasada rising to height of about sixty metres built entirely of solid granite. The vimana (towering the sanctum) is constructed in the form of a sithula Mahalinga being square at the base, octagonal in the middle and cylindrical at the top. Exquisite sculptures adorn the niches, among which those of Sarasvati, Nataraja and Chandeeswara anugrahamahanti are world famous.

To the North of the main shrine, there is the shrine of Sri Brahannayaki; a Sreechakra, installed by the Acharya of Kanchi, many years ago is seen in the sanctum of the Devi. A unique image of Durgha. Enshrined in the Northern Prakara is famous for healing ailments. Dakshina Kailasa is another small shrine in the same prakara.

The mahamandapa of the main shrine houses one of the most beautiful Suryapeetha. This is the form of a full-blown lotus with Surya in the centre, surrounded by the other grahas (heavenly bodies), appearing on the whole as a chariot drawn by seven horses. Thousands of devotees turn up for worshipship of Sani graha (Saturn) on Sanipeyarchi day. (i.e. the day on which Saturn transits from one sign of the Zodiac to the next).

The temple comes under the purview of the Preservation of the Ancient Monument Act of the Government of India.

AN APPEAL TO SRI KANCHI KAMAKOTI MUTT DEVOTEES

The pious desire to perform a full Annabhishekam to Sri Brahadeeswara can be duly fulfilled if only large quantity of raw rice are cooked in time and lifted to the sanctum sanctorum standing high, before dusk, on the day prescribed. This sacred project needs the co-operation of devotees living all over the country and in particular those residing in the four districts of Tiruchirapalli, Thanjavur, Perambalur and South Arcot, in the midst of which Gangaiakonda Cholapuram is situated. Collection of raw rice, the needed funds for attendant expenses and the physical presence of devotees from far and near and the co-operation of youngsters in the successful execution of the holy task are prayed for. Raw rice is required for Annabhishekam, feeding the devotees who visit and the public and for the daily Neivedya, for the whole year.

With the blessings of Their Holinesses, the Acharyas of Kanchi, have formed the Annabhishekam Committee for carrying out this year’s Annabhishekam to Sri Brahadeeswara at Gangaiakonda Cholapuram, This