



SRI PURANDARA DASA MEMORIAL TRUST

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(16th Anniversary Celebrations)

SRI PURANDARA DASA MEMORIAL TRUST (SPDMT) celebrated its 16th anniversary on 18th June, 2023. It was yet another occasion to remember all those who contributed to make PURANDARA MANTAPA what it is today & was celebrated with the usual grandeur at TRUST's Sabhangana, near ISRO Layout, Bengaluru. It was sponsored by Karnataka Gana Kala Parishat and its president Ganakalabhushana Dr. R.K. Padmanabha happened to be CHIEF GUEST. Other eminent artistes who made it to the occasion were Vid. R.K. Sharma, Vid. M.B. Hariharan, Vid. Ashok and Vid. Shanta Narasimha Swamy among others. It was a packed auditorium with over 200 participants!

It began with a welcome address by Trust's founder Sri S. Varadarajan who gave a brief account of the 16 year journey, from a small beginning in 1994 (prior to formal registration of TRUST in 2007) at his former residence in Banashankari II stage to its inaugural function in 2013, and subsequently to its present status. He narrated how divine personalities like HH Vishvesha teertha Swamiji had blessed the TRUST! He also recalled how leading artistes like Dr.R.K. Padmanabha had made an indelible impression by their performances at the Mantapa on several occasions.

After address by Chief Guest the TRUST honoured eminent percussion artiste Vid. C. Cheluvvaraju with "Purandara Laya Shiromani" award. Award carried a citation, shawl & turban apart from cash prize of Rs.10000/-

It was also an occasion to distribute SPDMT scholarships to 10 select students (from economically backward families) to help them pursue their studies, Rs.10,000/- to each scholar. After the above ceremonies, the audience were treated to an excellent classical music concert on "dasara kritis" by senior musician Vidushi Dr. R.N. Sreelatha with Vid. Prema Vivek playing the Violin, Vid. Cheluvvaraju on Mridanga & Vid. Gurumurthy on Ghata.

The rendering was well interspaced with a few Ugabhogas and some rare compositions of Purandara dasaru, much to the appreciation of Dr. RKP.

The 3 hour program concluded by vote of thanks to all participants with a humble request by Varadarajan to all to take part in programs of the trust & encourage.

JAI PURANDARA DASARU!