

SSIFIEDS

MART

Page 6

Regional Advertisements: Page 5&6

Nellore Yesterday



33/25

Chittoor Yesterday



33/25

Tirupati Yesterday



33/25



Tirupati Today

Light southerly breeze makes the morning enjoyable. A partly cloudy sky on a hot afternoon. Light rain and thunderstorm may occur in some areas. High 33°C low 24°C RH max 92%.

Read RH as Relative Humidity

Tirupati Tomorrow

A cheerful morning with haze and light northeasterly breeze. A warm and cloudy afternoon. Rainfall may intensify over the region. High 34°C low 25°C RH max 90%

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REG

"The Lord's jewels are authentic, safe"

Experts verify 346 diamond, gem-studded ornaments; submit report to TTD

Staff Reporter

TIRUMALA: A team of experts from the Gemmology Institute of Mumbai and Jaipur who have been engaged in the task of ascertaining the quality, weight and other profiles of all the gold and diamond studded ornaments in the custody of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) for the past nine months certified that all the precious ornaments are absolutely genuine and authentic.

Disclosing the details to the

media persons here on Tuesday after submitting a report to TTD Executive officer I.Y.R. Krishna Rao at his camp office at Tirumala, chairman of Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council of India Rajiv Jain said that for the first time in the country the experts used the Portable Raman Spectrometer in ascertaining the jewellery of the Lord Venkateswara. A Gemmology laboratory was set up inside the main temple complex at the inner most sanctum encir-

• The committee comprised experts from Gemmology Institute of Mumbai and Jaipur

• It took over eight weeks to ascertain the size, colour, quality and purity of the ornaments

cling the sanctum sanctorum of the presiding deity for carrying out the verification process.

The setting up of a laboratory by the TTD is a sequel to the High Court's direction which had asked the TTD to submit a detailed profile of

the ornaments, diamonds, gems and other precious ornaments in its possession.

Mr. Jain said that the experts team comprising chief gemmologist GII Mumbai, K.T.Ramachandran, scientist Shastri, chairman Gem testing laboratory, Mehul Dur-

labh, former committee member and convenor of Col-our stones Nitin Pachigar, Chief gemologist GTL Jaipur Gagan Chowdary and JTAC member Sameer Mehta toiled from 7.00 a.m., till midnight everyday for over eight weeks in ascertaining the size, colour, quality and purity of the diamonds and other gem studded precious articles and in the process has verified over 346 ornaments of the Lord.

Later talking to the media persons Mr. Krishna Rao said

that of the 1,100 jewels recorded in the 'Thiruvabharam' and 'Jadthi' registers being maintained by the temple, the committee verified 346 articles which are exclusively of diamond and precious Gem studded ornaments in nature.

Rao said that a gemmology laboratory would soon come up in the treasury department at the TTDs administrative building at Tirupati and the jewellery of other TTD maintained temples will also be verified.