

## ಶ್ರೀ ಗಾಯತ್ರಿ ಪೀಠ ಮಹಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥಾನ

ಹೇಮಕೂಟ, ಹಂಪಿ - 583 239

ಕಛೇರಿ : ದೇವಾಂಗ ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್ ಕಟ್ಟಡ, ದೇವಾಂಗ ಸಂಘ ರಸ್ತೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು - 560 027, ೨ 080 - 2240708

## SRI GAYATHRI PEETHA MAHA SAMSTHANA

## HEMAKUTA, HAMPI - 583 239

Office: Devanga Hostel Building, Devanga Sangha Road Bangalore - 560 027, Ø 080 - 2240708

Ref. No. :

Date 28.08-24.

To:

Respected Madam Kamala Harris, Hon'ble Vice President of United States of America, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania, Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500.

Respected Madam,

Namaskar.

At the outset we submit our hearty congratulations to you on your selection as the Democratic Party's Presidential Nominee for the 2024 United States of America Elections. This achievement is a testament to your leadership and vision and we wish you the very best in the upcoming campaign.

I request for your kind permission to introduce myself that I am Sri Dayanandapuri Swamiji, Jagadguru and spiritual leader of 40 million Devanga Community people around the world. It is with immense pride that I share our ancestry as pioneers of handloom weaving. According to Hindu Puranas and heritage scriptures, thousands of years ago, the Art of Weaving was initiated by Sri Devala Maharshi to provide clothing to Gods and Humans, underscoring the spiritual and historical significance of our craft. Since then, generation after generation, we have diligently preserved the art of handloom weaving, sharing our sacred creations with numerous benefactors worldwide.

In the year 1990, I was bestowed as the Jagadguru of Sri Gayatri Peetha Mahasamsthanam, Hampi and for the past 34 years, I have tirelessly travelled the length and breadth of my country and the world, encouraging Devanga Community members to retain and grow the handloom weaving skill, which I fear may become extinct in the coming years if not preserved. Our religious congregation center, Sri Gayatri Peetha Mahasamsthanam established at Hampi in the year 1371 during the glorious period of the Vijayanagar Empire,

stands as a testament to our rich cultural heritage. The members of my Devanga Community are renowned for their skilled traditional silk and cotton handloom weaving. Historically, silk fabric woven by Devanga Community members was highly valued with Europeans exchanging it for equivalent weight of gold until the mid 19th century. Despite many challenges posed by industrialization, I and my community members have made every effort to retain and develop this unique skill of handloom silk weaving. This art form continues to meet the ever-growing demand for popular silk products worldwide, such as Kanchipuram, Ilkal, Dharmavaram, Pochampalli, Arani, Banaras and other brands which are exported from India globally.

Respected Madam Harris, the glory of our Nation, we extend our gratitude to you for championing the cause of the deprived and being the voice of the less privileged on the global stage. We are truly blessed to have a heroic leader like you, who not only guide and guard the people of America but also countless individuals in need worldwide. With over 40 million Devanga Community members in different parts of India and around the globe including the United States of America, our community represents a significant cultural I would submit before you that several families of the Devanga Community, part of the 3.4 million Hindu Community members in USA, are spread across multiple States. Many of them are distinguished doctors, Corporate Executives and business leaders relentlessly serving the people of America and making notable contributions to the community. Despite their accomplishments in varied fields, my community brethren continue our spiritual sanctity by offering prayers to Goddess Vedamatha Sri Gayatri and spreading the love of weaving by offering handloom garments to our near and dear.

Respected Madam, I am reaching out to you with a humble request for your kind support in our endeavor to establish a Hindu Community Center along with a Silk Weaving Experience Center preferably along the East Coast of the United States of America. This Center would serve as a Sanctuary for our Community members, providing a space for cultural exchange, education and economic empowerment. Furthermore, the Silk Weaving Experience Center would not only preserve our ancient craft but also offer educational and economic opportunities to Americans interested in learning and supporting traditional silk and handloom weaving practices. By promoting awareness and appreciation for our cultural heritage, we hope to foster greater understanding and collaboration among diverse communities. Additionally, I propose to include a computer center as part of this new abode of art and culture to serve as a modern Gurukul for the youth and children. We promise to abide by all the rules and regulations of the Government of United States of America in this pursuit and welcome all the noble souls who support us in the celebration of handloom weaving art.

I submit my sincere thanks and look forward to the possibility of a meeting with your goodselves to discuss about this proposal and we seek your

valuable insights and support in realizing this vision of cultural preservation and community empowerment. I and the following representatives are available anytime to have a word from your goodselves.

I pray for your long life and roaring victory in all your contests for the service of the people for which I and my community members will be a pillar of support.

With reverence and warm regards,

Jagadguru Sri Sri Dayanandapuri MahaSwamiji,

Sri Gayatri Peetha Mahasamsthanam,

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