



**Maharaja Of Vijayanagaram – Sri PVG Raju Garu**

# Sri P.V.G. Raju

One of the prominent disciples of Swamiji among the householders was the Maharaja Rajasri Rajah Saheb Pusapati Vijayarama Gajapathi Raju. The Maharaja was the minister for health in the Andhra Pradesh government . The following is an excerpt from an article he wrote in the first issue of the magazine *Andhra Jyoti*.

# Sri P.V.G. Raju

"In January of this year 1958, I started practicing Yoga under the guidance of Swami Jnanananda. My practice went very well in many ways. The results of this *Sadhana* have been increasing experience of Joy for which sometimes there is no limit. What is the goal of this *Yoga sadhana*? It is to gain the inner strength to face and overcome the many obstacles in the journey of life. It is to lead a life that is more joyful, more productive and useful as the regular practice of *Sadhana* increases the coordination between mind and heart, and mind and body."

# Sri P.V.G. Raju

"By the October of 1958, I became convinced of Swami's teachings. I decided to improve the facilities at the existing Maharaja College at Vijayanagaram and establish more of its kind for public education. So I established this MANSAS and gave quite a bit of my personal property to it. This happened because of the kind blessings of Swami. I am slowly recognizing the importance of these valuable decisions now."

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The Maharaja is well known for his generosity, goodness and for his full support to public good. With the added influence of Swami's teachings and on his own zeal to do good to the society, the Maharaja established "Maharaja Alak Narayana Society of Arts and Science" (MANSAS) in Vijayanagaram. It is an educational trust named after his father and was registered on November 12, 1958. He gave away to that Trust his palace, his innumerable land holdings and buildings. The Raja Sahib appointed Swami, after getting his approval, as a lifelong member of the trust and as the president and secretary of its organizing committee. From that day on MANSAS began growing day by day and became an important organization serving the public.

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The educational institutions being run by MANSAS as of 1970 are listed below:

- Maharaja College, Vijayanagaram.
- Maharaja B.Ed. training college.
- Maharaja Womens College.

(This college was opened by Swami on June 27, 1962 at the Moti Mahal in Vijayanagaram. Moti Mahal was built long time ago with white marble and Sri P.V.G.Raju gave it away to MANSAS to establish this college.)

- Maharaja's multipurpose school.
- Maharaja's night college.

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Other gifts that the Raja Sahib gave through MANSAS were the following:

- He gave his palace at Visakhapatnam to the municipality to establish and run girls high school bearing the name of Maharani Vidyavatidevi.
- He gave the fort and all the land at Korukonda to the central government to establish Sainik School for boys to "enter Indian Army Officer Corps".



**Swamiji and Sri PVG Raju Garu  
MANSAS establishment - 1958**



**Goraganamudi in 1960 – Sri P V G Raju Garu visiting on his way to Hyderabad before assuming the ministry for health. Swamiji in the center with Sri PVG Raju Garu on his right and Swami Prajnananda Garu on his left.**



Swamiji with Sri PVG Raju Garu and other followers



**Sri Brahmanada Reddy (Chief Minister), Srimathi Durgabai Deshmukh, Sri Bhimasen Sachar (Governor), Sri PVG Raju garu (Minister of Education) sitting in the back and Srimathi Indira Gandhi at the podium – Andhra University (Convocation – 1962) – Waltair**



**1962 – Maharaja Sri P V G Raju garu with Swamiji  
in the Viziayanagaram (Waltair) Palace**



**Andhra University Vice Chancellor Dr. A. L. Narayana speaking  
Sitting: Sri PVG Raju, Homi J. Bhabha, Swamiji  
(Occasion: Homi J. Bhabha was chairman of Atomic Energy Commission  
and he visited Nuclear Physics Department laboratories headed by  
Swamiji in 1964)**



1965 – Airport Vizag – Indhira Gandhi being received by Sri PVG Raju.



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