

Art of giving; Amma donates Rs 100 crore to Centre

Rajiv G,TNN | Sep 11, 2015, 06.52 PM IST

AMRITAPURI, KOLLAM: Mata Amritanandamayi Math has announced a Rs 100 crore project for constructing toilets in all houses of rural Kerala. The announcement was made by Mata Amritanandamayi while handing over Rs. 100 crore for the Namami Gange and Swachh Bharat campaign initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The demand draft for the amount was given to union finance minister Arun Jaitley at a function organised at Amritapuri this morning.

"This Rs 100 crore has more than a material relevance. Rs 100 crore is a substantial amount when it comes from a single institution. But it gains more importance when a saint of eminence as Amma takes the first step then it sends a message across the country and across the globe," said Arun Jaitley while accepting the amount.

It is a memorable day for all of us and I must confess for me in particular since its memories will carry on indefinitely with me. Amma has come to symbolise spiritualism, philanthropy, service, the art of giving and spreading the message of love and affection. This powerful message has made the devotees of Amma to contribute for the society and its development, said the union minister.

Jaitley said that the Centre has taken up the project for cleaning up the Ganga since it is not just the symbol of a religion but it is the symbol of our culture, symbol of our heritage and more importantly it is one of the most powerful instrument of our economy. It influences the life of the 40% of the Indians spread across five states.

We have spent thousands of crores for cleaning up the Ganga but the results have not come. The industrial pollutants and household pollutants have damaged the Ganga over the years. With this project we intend to have a major impact on Ganga within two or three years.

Mata Amritanandamayi said that the Math authorities had conducted a survey in the five states through which Ganga is following and have collected the beneficiaries who needs toilets. Hence the math authorities have taken the sanction from the Centre to monitor the utilisation of this Rs 100 crore.

She also said that the Rs 100 crore project of Kerala will be declared on Amma's birthday and it has been decided to complete the project within two years. A survey by the Math will be carried out to find out the toilet less houses in the state and the Math will contribute materials and construction cost to set up the toilets. The project will be strictly under the monitoring of the Math authorities.