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Facilitation of Pilgrims travel from Northern Sri Lanka to participate in Aarudraa Dharshana Festival in Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu

December 21, 2017

Government was approached on behalf of Lord Shiva devotees in northern Sri Lanka, who had expressed a desire to visit the Thillai Nataraja Temple in Chidambaram to participate in the "Maarkazhi Thiruvaathirai" (Aarudraa Dharshana Festival), which will be held next week (24 December 2017 – 3 January 2018). This is a major festival at a particularly sacred temple for both Indians and Sri Lankans.

In response to the request, Government of India has agreed to facilitate the travel of pilgrims through a ferry from Kankasanturai (near Jaffna) to Chennai. We expect this will permit a large number of Sri Lankan Tamil pilgrims to undertake this important and auspicious pilgrimage.

New Delhi

December 21, 2017



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Visitors: 135544624 , Page last updated on: 21/12/2017

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