

## दक्षिण रेलवे/SOUTHERN RAILWAY चेत्रै मंडल/CHENNAI DIVISION

No. PUB/MAS/2023/12/12

## प्रेसविज्ञप्ति /PRESS RELEASE

Date: 22.12.2023

## FIRST BATCH OF 216 DELEGATES OF KASHI TAMIL SANGAMAM RETURNED FROM VARANASI TODAY, 22.12.2023.

The first batch of 216 delegates of Kashi Tamil Sangamam returned today 22.12.2023 by train No. 06102- Varanasi –Chennai Central Express. The delegates shared their experiences enthusiastically offering a glimpse of cultural, Intellectual and spiritual exchanges.

The first contingent of 216 delegates had left for Varanasi on 15.12.2023. The maiden journey was flagged off by Shri R.N.Ravi, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu and eminent members of Kashi Tamil Sangamam Committee participated in the event.

Southern Railway is operating 7 pair of special trains to facilitate delegates from Tamil Nadu for the Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2.O, a cultural festivity being held at Varanasi from 17<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> December 2023. The trains are being operated from Dr MGR Chennai Central (3 services), Kanniyakumari (2 services) and Coimbatore Jn. (2 services).

The second batch of 216 delegates left for Varanasi on 16.12.2023. The 03<sup>rd</sup> and 04<sup>th</sup> batch of 216 delegates each took their cultural journey on 19.12.2023 and 20.12.2023 respectively. The delegates were accorded warm welcome and were facilitated through help desks for boarding the Kashi Tamil Sangamam special train.

The fifth batch of 216 delegates for Varanasi will commence their journey tomorrow - 23.12.2023, from Dr.MGR Central Railway Station at 10.45 hrs.

The event is a testament of shared cultural bonding between Tamil Nadu and Kashi offering an opportunity for exchange of intellectual and spiritual thoughts. IIT Madras and Banaras Hindu University (BHU) are the implementing agencies for the program. The delegates are chosen from different walks of life such as students, Teachers, farmers, professionals, artisans, entrepreneurs, scholars, among others.

Sd/-ए .एलुमलै / (A.Elumalai) जनसंपर्कअधिकारी / Public Relations Officer चेन्नैमंडल/ Chennai Division

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