

## **Progress of Sculpturing Work of the Vighrahas and Pillars and Their Transportation to Delhi**

As had been said earlier, the workshop established at Walajabad (between Arkonam and Katpadi), for sculpturing the stones was making good progress. It was possible because the stone quarry at Pattumalai Kuppam was only four kilometers away from Walajabad. By the end of 1969, about 900 fully and semi sculptured and carved items were ready for despatch to Delhi. They were brought in a goods train, very safely without any transportation loss or damage. 52 sculptors commenced working on the semi sculptured stones on daily wage basis at the courtyard of the temple itself. The Samaj, at that time faced a serious shortage of funds even to disburse the daily wages to the workmen. The founder members had no option, except to appeal to Their Holinesses of the Kanchi Mutt who were then camping at Hyderabad. Prompt was their response that they advised the representatives to approach the then Chief Minister Shri C. Brahmananda Reddy and Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao Minister of Religious Endowments of Hyderabad State (before the formation of Andhra Pradesh) on their behalf to help from the Common Good Fund maintained by the State Government. The Honourable Ministers were graciously enough to respond to the request. Before leaving Hyderabad, Their Holinesses observed "The river is dry at present. When it starts flowing, none can stop it. It will be flowing." Those were prophetic words, since from that time onwards, the Samaj never felt any crunch of funds.