New England Hindu Temple Inc. 117 Waverly Street, Ashland, MA 01721 Tel: 508-881-5775; Fax : 508-881-6401 www.srilakshmi.org



Ranjini Ramaswamy, Chairperson Shanmugam Bavanantham, President Hariharan S Murthy, Secretary Manju Nathan, Treasurer

Dear Devotees,

New England Hindu Temple is in the midst of a transformation into a major center for Hindu life and culture in our region. The Temple has served to sustain the spiritual and ritual needs of the community in the area since the early 1980s.

The founding leaders of the New England Hindu Temple were the first generation of Hindus whose vision of a Temple, resulted in our current campus. At a meeting held on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 1978 it was decided to dedicate the temple to Goddess Sri Lakshmi as the presiding deity. The Opening ceremony of the Sri Lakshmi Temple was celebrated with the receipt of the occupancy permit on September 6, 1986. Since then, it has progressed well and surely has become a prominent place of worship and solace to its devotees.

To meet the growing needs of our devotees in the region, the temple has embarked on an ambitious project of constructing an annex building which will host a multi functional hall and a dining hall with modern kitchen. The realization of this project will keep the Temple at the center of Hindu life for several decades to come and help our future generations in staying connected with their roots and heritage.

Recent visitors to the Temple would have noticed the state and pace of the building activity first hand. The details of the project underway are as follows:

- a) Auditorium for cultural events, celebrating major life events and important family rituals
- b) Dining hall with Modern Kitchen

The Temple has committed a significant portion of its financial corpus for this project, and needs more funds urgently to stay financially strong for future projects and initiatives.

Accordingly, the Temple has initiated a fund appeal to the community it serves and to also other well wishers to raise \$5 Million to help underwrite the project.

We request you to support this appeal by making a pledge for any amount of your comfort, to the NEHTI Temple Construction Fund account. Any and all contribution will be gratefully received and acknowledged. You can make a pledge for a one time contribution (Pledge Forms are available at the Temple Front Desk) or for a regular monthly contribution for any amount of your choice.

Please visit our website srilakshmi.org to directly register your contributions via Credit Card, or the Front Desk of the Temple for contributions by Cash, Check or Credit Card.

All contributions to the Temple are tax deductible under Section 501c.

## Ranjini Ramaswamy NEHTI Chairperson

May the blessings of Sri Lakshmi be always with you and your loved ones!