



has already seen two Nava Kalebaras. The deities have accordingly been reborn. The next Navakalebara is hardly two years from now. The entire Govt. machinery is gearing up since a couple of years to meet the event. Crores of Rupees in each front are budgeted to meet the festival need, be it Road, Rail, Residence, Hotel, Hospital everything.

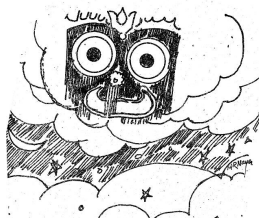
Yes, at every front there is a preparation. Ahead is the challenge. At this point of time the issue that comes to my mind is media, more particularly Television. The channels, their huge gadgets, hundreds of cameras, vans, satellite disc antennae, above all the manpower involvement. It is expected to form a parallel crowd. Even now this visual media is performing in a chaos. Through passage of time they have increased and also with a promise that they will swell up in years next to come. Nobody has presumably given a thought to coordinate this aspect. Of course; this

chaos can be regulated if a thoughtful effort is made.

Today while walking on the Grand road pre-festival all these are coming to mind in flash back. How come the visitors are not getting minimized in spite of so many Live Telecast ? Who could be the motivator ? To me the answer comes – Television, the visual medium. It is TV and its Telecast which has persuaded, motivated to have a glimpse of the festival in person.

The mass media as a whole is preparing for the Great Grand event. My prayer to Lord Jagannath is that let there not be more cacophony than symphony in the name of TV coverage.

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The Omnipresent

Shyam Prakash Senapati
Trans. : Dr. Bhagaban Jayasingh

O Lord !
You manifest
in the lilting tunes of
flutes playing out
to the rhythm of waves
dancing against the beach.

You manifest
among the virtues and sins,
in the lush-green meadows,
or in the boundless intensity
of the deep forests,
or in the sonorous music
of the morning sea.

You manifest in
hate and envy
joy or bliss
in the inconsolable cry
of a hapless child,
or in the glittering warmth
of a mother's lap.



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