

HON'BLE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS AT THE
NSS VOLUNTEERS MEET AT RAJ BHAVAN
ON 02.02.2018 AT 11.00 HRS.

State Coordinator, National Service Scheme,

Dear Student-Members of the NSS,

I am extremely happy to be in the midst of volunteers of National Service Scheme here at Raj Bhavan today. The NSS, being an organization dedicated to community services, is close to my heart. In a world where people are vigorously involved in material pursuits, you have all come forward to devote your time for the benefit of the community, the State and the Nation. I appreciate your sense of service and applaud the excellent work that the organization has been performing in the country.

You are all young members of the contingent of the NSS who have participated in the Republic Day Parade at Delhi. The NSS is a vast organization with 32 lakh volunteers drawn from nearly 300 Universities and other institutions across the country. Your selection for the Republic Day Parade is a recognition of your talent and devotion to the organization. You have brought pride to the State of Tamil Nadu by your display of excellence in community service and through your discipline and performance at Parades and functions, the culmination of which was your performance at the Republic Day Parade in Delhi on 26th January 2018.

You may all be aware that the NSS was started nearly 48 years ago when there were only 40,000 volunteers. Today nearly 4 crore NSS volunteers have performed community services through this mammoth organization in the last few decades.

You are all engaged in various community service activities, such as Sramdhan, Disaster Management, Blood Donation Camps, Planting of Tree Saplings, Health Immunization Programmes and camps designed to promote National Integration.

India has a population of more than 120 crores and the 32 lakh volunteers of the NSS is still a small number in comparison. I call upon the State Coordinator of the National Service Scheme, who is here with us today to propagate the message of NSS far and wide among the colleges and universities of Tamil Nadu so that more volunteers are interested in community service. Apart from the activities being performed already there are so many other programmes in which NSS can play a stellar role. The problems that limit the expansion of the NSS should be identified and promptly resolved and Tamil Nadu should figure at the top of the list with regard to the number of volunteers enrolled in the NSS in the country.

I thank you all for having come to Raj Bhavan after the Republic Day Parade and I am sure that you are all inspired by the great leaders whose statues you have seen here. I would like to specifically draw your attention to the statue of Dr. Abdul Kalam here in the lawns of Raj Bhavan. A man who rose from humble beginnings to the highest position in the country, - he was a scientist, a teacher, a musician, a patriot, a leader and above all a person filled with compassion and love, specifically for children.

I am sure that your love for the nation, which has brought you into NSS will lead you to greater heights of success in your academic and professional careers. A bright future awaits you in the coming years.

Nandri, Vanakkam,

Jai Hind.