

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF  
TAMIL NADU AT THE LAUNCH & DEDICATION OF D4E CLUB  
08/05/2018 AT 05.00 PM**

Anaivarukkum Maalai Vanakkam

Thiru. M.M. Rajendran,  
Former Governor of Odisha

Thiru. K.E. Raghunathan,

Thiru. Ram Mohan Mishra,

Thiru. Anil Sahasrabudhe,

Thiru. M.K. Surappa,

Tmt. S. Malarvizhi,

Distinguished Invitees

Ladies & Gentlemen

I am delighted to be here amongst all of you for the launch of the D4E Mobile App which aims to connect engineers digitally thus enabling better connectivity and coordination among them. The Application will enable the sharing of ideas, the accessing of employment opportunities, the transmission of technological design and most importantly develop a sense of camaraderie among the members of the engineering fraternity.

Engineering education brought in by the British has come a long way here from the times when the first Engineering institutions such as the Guindy Engineering College and Roorkee Engineering College were set up in the country. Today we have more than 10,000 Educational institutions dedicated to Engineering education and Tamil Nadu accounts for a substantial chunk of the engineers passing out every year. These engineers represent various fields of specialization such as Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science, Metallurgical Engineering, etc. The technological demands of industry often require engineers of different

disciplines to coordinate quickly and purposefully to develop solutions resulting in innovations that serve the needs of mankind.

At this juncture I am reminded of the famous quotation from 'Antony and Cleopatra' a classic written by William Shakespeare where he says 'Age does not wither her nor custom stale her infinite variety'. There cannot be a better symbol to reflect this famous statement than the field of engineering. Those who have visited Thanjavur will bear testimony to the antiquity and robustness of the 'Kallanai' built by the Chola king Karikalan nearly 2000 years back. The Brihadeeswara temple built by the great Chola king Raja Raja is another architectural feat and so are the Shore temples of Mamallapuram built by Pallava kings. As time went by engineering branched off into various streams covering military warfare, machines for manufacturing and the production and transmission of electricity to sustain human life. The second half of the twentieth century saw Information Technology and Computer Sciences taking centre stage. With the widespread use of the internet mobile phone applications have gained prominence. We need to be therefore clear in our minds that technology has changed our world considerably in the past and it will continue to do so in the future. Resisting technological change will be futile and meaningless.

Digital connectivity underpins almost every aspect of modern living and the spread of internet access has made digital technology available to millions of people in the country particularly engineers. With fast reliable connectivity becoming available it has become easier for people to go online for accessing public services and harnessing, emerging developments in digital technology to work out innovative solutions that show the way forward. Hence display of creativity in the use of the internet is the need of the hour.

Every nation attempts to further its economy by becoming competitive and by encouraging the growth of industry by promoting entrepreneurship which in turn gives employment to its people.

I am happy to see that many of the Universities for which I am the Chancellor, are reaching out to the Indian diaspora all over the world and

working out partnerships. In all these ventures, we must remember that the interest of our Nation should be paramount and that we should be given the dignity and status of being torchbearers who lead other peoples of the world from darkness to light. “*Thamasoma Jyothirgamaya*” is the saying in our spiritual texts. I am only echoing those words of wisdom.

It is also a matter of great satisfaction for me to be here to encourage entrepreneurs who have shown remarkable skill in developing an application which will have far reaching implications. I congratulate them for their success and I am sure that there will be many more of such resourceful people whose initiatives will create history in the times to come.

That this initiative is being supported by an **expert Panel of Advisors** headed by Shri. M.M. Rajendran, former Governor of Odisha, Dr. Anandakrishnan, former Vice Chancellor of Anna University and many other well known personalities adds eminence and stature to the mobile application.

A dynamic and robust entrepreneurial eco-system is an asset to every economy; specifically innovation-led entrepreneurship has significant potential to stimulate industrial growth. Entrepreneurs, as the key drivers of industry and business and bring together the factors of production including labour and capital, channelize economic activity, and generate employment. In India, we have a large eco-system of start-ups – the third largest in the world. And these start-ups depend on a strong network of medium and small enterprises for their sustenance.

Tamil Nadu accounts for the largest number of (15.07 percentage) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the country and produces over 8,000 varieties of products. The State accounts for 11.10 lakhs registered MSMEs, with a total investment of more than Rs.91,480 crores providing employment to about 63.18 lakh persons.

The challenge before us is about how to go from the present condition where small and informal enterprises are not adequately resourced and fully productive, to a condition where they are better equipped and more dynamic.

The development of mobile applications like the D4E initiative will help substantially in overcoming this challenge.

It is important to have a positive attitude and constantly strive to give your best in every venture. This is the secret of overcoming challenges. Challenges are a part of life and will keep coming again again. It is through strong determination, hard work and the strength of one's character that adversities can be overcome and success achieved. The day of success is indeed a day of exhilaration. Today we are all rejoicing at the success achieved in connectivity having been established among the Members of the Engineering fraternity. I thank the organizers for providing us all with this joy and exhilaration. I wish them well and greet them with all my heart so that they may achieve success at every step along the way. May the Nation, State and society benefit by the contributions of the Engineering fraternity.

Nandri      Vanakkam

Jai Hind