

**Address by Thiru BANWARILAL PUROHIT, Hon'ble Governor of
Tamil Nadu at International Womens Day to honour the MOTHERS OF
INDIA AT Raj Bhavan, Chennai on 8th March 2018 at 11:30 A.M.**

Anaivarukkum Kalai Vanakkam

Madam Governor

Thiru P. Dhanapal,
Hon'ble Speaker of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly

Hon'ble Thiru D. Jayakumar
Minister for Fisheries and Personnel Administration Reforms Department.

Hon'ble Dr. V. Saroja
Minister for Social Welfare and Nutritious Noon Meal Programme

Thiru R. Rajagopal I.A.S
Additional Chief Secretary to Governor

Distinguished Invitees

Friends from the Media

Ladies and Gentlemen

Today is International Womens Day. We are celebrating the occasion for the first time in Raj Bhavan and that too in a novel way. We have there with us 'Women achievers' who have beaten disease, poverty and mortality to cross the age 100 years. We are indeed honoured by their presence here. These 'Mothers of India' have brought glory to Tamil Nadu and India by their dignified existence and demeanour.

When we speak of the greatness of the Indian way of living we always recognise the fact that at the core of the structure of Indian society lies the family. The family has its foundations in the mother. It is the mother who nurtures, nourishes and guides the family members with patience and maturity. She provides solace in time of difficulty and injects courage into you in times of defeat she is a protector, a friend, a guide and a role model all in one.

Therefore we have resolved to honour these 'Mothers of India' on the occasion of the International Women's Day. These are all women of Steel and Mettle who have brought up and nurtured their families with love and care and have also successfully crossed the 100 years of age milestone. They deserve our admiration, respect and praise. Privileged and honoured to be having the opportunity to greet and honour them. This function is going to set the trend for bigger celebrations in the coming months and years to honour these 'Mothers of India'. We have here with us more than 100 women who have responded to our invitation to come to Raj Bhavan. I am extremely thankful to them and pray for their long life and prosperity. May God give them many more years of life so that they can continue to guide society on the path of righteousness and civilizational greatness.

Nandri.

Vanakkam