

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF  
TAMIL NADU AT THE INDEPENDENCE DAY RECEPTION AT  
RAJ BHAVAN, CHENNAI ON 15.08.2018 AT 5.30 PM**

**Anaivarukkum Maalai Vanakkam**

**Honourable invitees and distinguished guests**

**Ladies & Gentlemen**

It is a matter of great privilege for me to be addressing you on the occasion of our 72<sup>nd</sup> Independence Day. The India of today is on a proud forward march in the comity of nations. It is the fastest growing emerging economy of the world. It is on the cusp of reaping the benefits of the demographic dividend. It is self-reliant and is respected all over the world not only for its political and economic stability but also for its deep cultural roots and social cohesion. We owe all this in substantial measure to the freedom fighters of yesteryears who silently underwent suffering in the long struggle that involved enormous sacrifice and hardship.

It is important to recall with gratitude their contribution to the nation.

The road ahead is well lit and illuminated. We need to move fast and become the Jagat Guru of the world. I have been speaking at a number of functions since I took over as the Governor, harping on the themes of honesty, transparency and efficiency. These are not empty words. Honesty encompasses within itself intellectual and monetary honesty. We must be true to ourselves and to the nation. The nation is me large family and we are all its trustees. Anyone who works against the nation is actually doing disservice not only to the rest of the population but is also ruining the future of succeeding generations. It is therefore important that patriotism should reside in our thoughts and care and concern for the people of India should dominate our hearts.

We are a large nation with diverse cultures and a huge population. It is therefore very important that procedures policies and plans for implementation are kept simple and

transparent so that they can be easily comprehended by the common man.

There can be no progress without efficiency and efficient working will only be possible through diligent hard work coupled with knowledge based application.

We have among us here a number of patriots, intellectual giants, cultural greats and other outstanding personalities. This day is the time when we in unison resolve to perform at our best for the nation and its people. To the young let me say that they should learn discipline, knowledge and serve the nation. To the middle aged let me say that they should be men and women of character and work for wealth welfare and prosperity and thus serve the nation. To the elderly let me say that they should endeavour to give back to the nation more than what they have received. Only then will the nation grow as a whole, without disparity tension and dissension.

India is a nation with a glorious past. Inspired by the dynamic leadership of our Honourable Prime Minister the nation is asserting itself vigorously in the present Considering the

huge wealth of talent that the nation is endowed with the future promises to be even rosier. It is in our hands to make that happen. Imagine the strength when a nation of 125 crore people starts moving forward in one whole mass. It will not only dominate the world but will also leave everybody behind. That in my view is the concept of the New India that is emerging. Great people have moulded the nation and its people. Great books continue to guide us in our daily lives. Great ideals beckon us to greater heights. Let us resolve unto ourselves, on this Independence Day, to contribute all our mite for the sake of the nation. That would be nationalism with a sense of service. That would be growth without pain since all of us will grow together. That would lead to greatness which is beckoning us from all directions.

Nandri Vanakkam

Jai Hind