

Press Release No.

Date : 11.09.2021

**Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu & Punjab and Administrator U.T., Chandigarh,
Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit participated as Guest of Honour on the occasion of
Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of Hindustan Chamber of Commerce**

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu & Punjab and Administrator U.T., Chandigarh, Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit participated as Guests of Honour on the occasion of Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of Hindustan Chamber of Commerce at ITC Grand Chola, Chennai today (11.09.2021) and addressed the gathering in which Hon'ble Vice President of India, Thiru. M. Venkaiah Naidu participated as Chief Guest.

Hon'ble Governor said, "It's my pleasure to participate in the prestigious event of Hindustan Chamber of Commerce. We are meeting again and it's my pleasure to see you all at this celebration.

"The best way to predict the future is to create it", said Mr. Peter Drucker, one of the most celebrated management gurus in the world. Therefore, for any growth story in an economy, the entrepreneurs have always been playing a pivotal role in boosting growth and economic upliftment of the society and the country.

Chambers of Commerce are the main link between the Policy Makers and Business establishments. Chambers of Commerce play a vital role in implementing the policies of the Government and this economic growth of country. Hindustan Chamber of Commerce was established in 1945 and it is affiliated to all the major Apex Bodies in the country, namely FICCI, CII and ASSOCHAM & is playing a pivotal role in India's growth-story with all other Chambers.

It is amazing to note that Hindustan Chamber of Commerce has huge member-base from various segments of Trade, Commerce, Businesses and Professionals with the composition of Corporates, Manufacturers, MSMEs, Traders etc. I am happy that the Souvenir being released by the Hon'ble Vice President of India on its Platinum Jubilee celebrations highlights important activities of the Chamber in the last 75 years.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that the personalities behind this outstanding performance of the Chamber have been felicitated today. Through their valuable

contributions, they have kept the banner of the Hindustan Chamber of Commerce flying high all these years. I wish to place on record my appreciation for their work and extend my congratulations on their achievement. I am sure that the present office-bearers will match the old masters in performance, dedication and carry forward the mission.

The Government has taken all possible steps to contain COVID-19 and appealed to the citizens to follow all precautionary measures in the first wave. All offices remained closed; many Governments and companies made successful arrangements for WORK FROM HOME. People started using technology and video conference became a very popular mode of meetings instead of physical gatherings. Awareness was created by the State and Centre for vaccination as well.

For the second wave also, the Government announced lock-down in different phases and the seriousness of getting vaccinated could be noticed among the people of India. In Tamil Nadu, 3.31 crore people got the single jab or two up to 6th September. Because of the efforts of Doctors, Hospitals and vaccination drive, we are able to save many lives. However, due to this COVID pandemic world economy suffered and Indian economy also was affected. Many businesses had to face the brunt of heavy losses. In addition, many workers/ staff/ people also suffered a lot.

Despite all odds, the Government announced series of initiatives for the struggling people, businesses and MSMEs for their revival and sustenance. The Government also gave certain relaxations and extension of dates to help the Business & Trade for filing of returns, payment of statutory charges etc. Delayed payments were accepted without imposing any fines.

Tamil Nadu has a diversified manufacturing sector and features among the leaders in several industries like automobiles and auto components, engineering, pharmaceuticals, garments, textiles, leather, chemicals, plastics, etc. Tamil Nadu ranks first among the States in terms of number of factories and industrial workers.

Tamil Nadu is the second largest State economy with a 9.84% share of India's GDP in Financial Year 2020-21. Amidst the disruption brought on by the COVID pandemic, Tamil Nadu's economy grew by a healthy 5.28% in Financial Year 2020-21. The State's growth is more remarkable as overall GDP has come down during this

period. The secondary sector accounts for 29.5% of the State GDP with manufacturing contributing 18.2%.

In December 2019, we had Vice-Chancellors' Conference at Raj Bhavan, Ooty, on 'Chancellor's Vision 2030: Innovating Education in the Era of Industry Four Point Zero'. Shri Ramkumar Ramamoorthy, Former CMD, Cognizant India, also participated. I think there is big need of close co-ordination and cooperation between the Universities and Industry bodies. May I request you to take initiatives and have more MoUs with our Government Universities in Tamil Nadu. It is the need of the hour. You need skilled and well-trained people and if the Universities modify their curriculum accordingly, the effort will enhance the employability of students and accelerate Industrial growth. It will help Indian economy. I always believed that great things are done by bringing a series of small things together. Please take proactive steps and create a new model to be followed by other States in India.

I find it my moral duty and responsibility to recall what Mahatma Gandhi said in the list of seven sins that we must avoid. One of those sins he talked of was, "Commerce without ethics". There is no need for a big elaboration on this; it is our fundamental duty.

With these words, I extend my best wishes and greetings to the office-bearers of the Hindustan Chamber of Commerce who have taken painstaking efforts to organise this function. May the efforts of Hindustan Chamber of Commerce swell in size, multiply in magnitude and fill the Earth with goodness and humanity coupled with success."

On this occasion, Thiru. La. Ganesan, Hon'ble Governor of Manipur, Thiru. K.K.S.S.R. Ramachandran, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Disaster Management, Thiru. Sathyanarayan R. Dave, President, Hindustan Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Prathap C. Reddy, Founder Chairman of Apollo Group, Thiru. Ashok R. Thakkar, Chairman, Platinum Jubilee Celebrations Committee and other dignitaries participated.

Raj Bhavan, Chennai – 22

Date : 10.09.2021

Sd/-

Addl. Director (PR)