

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE**  
**GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU AT THE INDEPENDENCE DAY**  
**RECEPTION "AT HOME" AT RAJ BHAVAN, CHENNAI**  
**ON 15.08.2019 AT 5.30 PM**

**Anaivarukkum Maalai Vanakkam**

**Honourable invitees and distinguished guests**

**Ladies & Gentlemen**

It is a matter of great privilege for me to address you on the occasion of our 73<sup>rd</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 yester years who silently underwent suffering in the long struggle that involved enormous sacrifice and hardship.

The Imperial Government was merciless even against non-violent agitators and firing and merciless lathi-charging on the assembled public were common. Indians were treated as inferior people and there was no system of having a say in the policy making process.

Freedom has changed all this. It is important that we utilize the hard fought freedom for the benefit of our people. Poverty should be eliminated. Employment opportunities must be available to all. Educational opportunities should be expanded liberally. The health and nutrition of our people status should be safeguarded. There should be justice and fairness in Society and eradication of corruption. The true essence of

democracy should be understood in the sense that the common people are the masters of 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 a 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.

The ambition of the greatest man of our generation Mahatma Gandhi was to wipe every

tear from every eye. 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.

We are citizens of a great country. And hence to India, our much-loved motherland, we pay our reverent homage as we bind ourselves afresh to her service. Let us resolve unto ourselves, on this Independence Day, to contribute all our might for the sake of the nation. That would be nationalism with a sense of service.

Nandri Vanakkam....

Jai Tamil Nadu....

Jai Hind.....