

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF
TAMIL NADU AT SATTAKADIR SILVER JUBILEE CONFERENCE ON LAW AND
JUSTICE, AWARD CEREMONY AT HOTEL LE ROYAL MERIDIAN, GUINDY,
CHENNAI ON 19.01.2019 AT 10.00 A.M**

ANAIVARUKKUM KAALAI VANAKKAM

Hon'ble Justice Dr. AR Lakshmanan,
Former Judge, Supreme Court of India

Dr. V.R.S. Sampath,
Editor, Sattakadir

Hon'ble Justice Thiru. R. Mahadevan,
Judge, Madras High Court

Hon'ble Justice Thiru. C.T. Selvam,
Judge Madras High Court

Thiru. R. Gandhi,
Senior Advocate

Dr. Vijay G Prabhakar
7th Congressional District Multi Ethnic Advisory Task Force

Distinguished Invitees

Ladies & Gentlemen

I am delighted to be present at the function being organized on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee celebrations for the Law Journal “Satta Kadir”.

Satta Kadir is a Registered Law Journal which publishes in Tamil, High Court judgements, Supreme Court judgements, Subordinate court judgements, tribunal judgements, commentaries, reports, book reviews, etc. Apart from this, articles on legal issues by experts are also published in Tamil on a monthly basis for the benefit of lawyers, judges and common public.

It was in 1975 that the Government decided to introduce Tamil as court language for proceedings in the subordinate courts of the state. Tamil also

came to be adopted as the language for writing judgements in the subordinate courts. Subsequent to this, the Government of Tamil Nadu took the policy decision to approach the Central Government for the use of Tamil as a court language in the High Court of Madras. It was in these circumstances that it was felt, that a law journal in Tamil was necessary to make lawyers, law students and the common public familiar with legal terminology in Tamil. To answer this need “Satta Kadir” was started in 1992. Subsequently in 2003, a website has also been launched for easy access in the electronic medium.

The support that the publication of this journal has been receiving is indeed encouraging. The

Department of Education and the Department of Public Libraries of Government of Tamil Nadu approved the Satta Kadir Law Journal in the month of November 1992 for circulation to all the public libraries. Subsequently, various departments of the Government such as School Education, Collegiate Education, Industries and Commerce, Agriculture, Hindu Religious Endowments, Rural Development have become its subscribers since it keeps them abreast with the latest developments in the interpretation of the Constitution, the Acts and the Laws.

Satta Kadir has also been publishing books from time to time on various topics. The Judicial History of Tamilnadu, Sattamum Samuthayamum,

are some of the books brought out by Satta Kadir in Tamil.

Having been a journalist for almost 40 years, I am aware of the challenges faced when publishing a journal. Collecting the information, relaying the information in time, compiling the information after checking its correctness and then projecting the information so as to benefit the common man are not easy to achieve. I should compliment Satta Kadir for having played its role in an informative and non partisan manner for so many years.

By convention, tradition and law, as spelt out under Article 348 of the Constitution of India, only English can be used for arguments and proceedings in High Courts and in the Supreme

Court unless a specific relaxation is granted. Translating these from English to Tamil and capturing their essence without committing any mistake is no easy task. To make the judgements, the legal proceedings and the arguments intelligible to the common people it is necessary for journals like 'Satta Kadir' to be widely circulated.

My experience as a Parliamentarian, as an entrepreneur and as a journalist, tells me that every successful venture should have a guiding principle and a goal. Commitment to the cause guided by the intention to promote public welfare are very important in public life. This coupled with honesty, talent and hard work is bound to lead to

success and the highest level of societal recognition.

I hail from the place where the 'Deeksha Bhoomi' of Dr. Ambedkar is located. Every year millions of people throng to Nagpur to pay homage to this great son of India. His message to his followers remains an inspiration for all of us. It is through social activism and charitable initiatives that transformation in the social order can be brought about.

It must be remembered however that societal change can be brought about only through endeavour following the path of non-violence and ahimsa. That is the way shown to us by great leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Ambedkar.

In an address to the Constituent Assembly Dr. Ambedkar declared, “We should not be content with mere political democracy. We must make our political democracy a social democracy as well. Political democracy cannot last unless there lies at the base of it, social democracy.”

To clarify this further let me mention here, some points from the speech of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in the Constituent Assembly on November 25, 1949, just before the Constitution of India was adopted. In this speech he explained social democracy, as a way of life which recognises liberty, equality and fraternity as the principles of life. These principles of liberty, equality and fraternity are not to be treated as

separate items in a trinity. They form a union of trinity in the sense that to divorce one from the other is to defeat the very purpose of democracy.

Without equality, liberty would produce the supremacy of the few over the many. Equality without liberty would kill individual initiative. Without fraternity, liberty and equality could not become a natural course of things. It would require a constable to enforce them. He therefore stressed the need for safeguarding liberty while ensuring equality and promoting fraternity at the same time.

The guiding principle behind 'Satta Kadir' is indeed a laudable and praiseworthy one. In today's function, during the course of the day, I

notice that there will be discussions on 3 important topics

1. State Official Language as an additional language for Indian High Courts,

2. Judicial Administration and Judicial Activism and

3. Centre-State Relations on Concurrent List.

I am sure that the deliberations of the eminent panelists on these three topics will produce far reaching conclusions.

I wish to conclude by saying that journalists constitute one of the important pillars on which society rests. A journalist's job is full of variety and gives him the satisfaction of a good job done when the mission is completed. Our mission should

always be national in character and people friendly in expression. We should all be the torch bearers on the onward march for development.

I wish you all well and desire to see you attain the highest levels of success. The zenith should be your goal and public welfare the guiding spirit. May we all together contribute for enhancing the greatness of Tamil, Tamil Nadu and Tamil society.

Nandri Vanakkam....

Jai Hind.....