

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF
TAMIL NADU AT THE "PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS" AND "LAYING
OF FOUNDATION STONE FOR NEW BUILDING" OF KESARI HIGHER
SECONDARY SCHOOL AT T. NAGAR, CHENNAI ON 23.04.2019 AT 6.00 P.M**

Anaivarukkum Maalai Vanakkam

**Hon'ble Vice President of India,
Shri. Venkaiah Naidu Ji**

Pujyasri Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal

Dr. K. Radhakrishnan

**Thiru. K. Narasa Reddy,
Chairman, KENCES Group of Companies**

**Thiru. K.S.V. Prasad,
Secretary, Kesari Education Society**

**Thiru. S.B.P. Pattabhi Rama Rao,
Joint Secretary,
Members of Governing Body,
Kesari Education Society**

Distinguished Invitees

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a matter of great pleasure for me to be here today at the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of the Kesari Higher Secondary School for which we are privileged to have the Hon'ble Vice President of India as the Chief Guest. It is a matter of double delight that the function is being held in the presence of His Holiness Pujyasri Vijayendra Saraswathi Swamigal and that the foundation stone for a new building has been laid today.

The school is named after Dr. K.N Kesari who with a desire to make available the benefit of school education for the underprivileged

sections of the population first started a school in Mylapore in 1942 and then the second school here at T.Nagar in 1950. Dr.K.N.Kesari was a man of great philanthropy and foresight. A successful Ayurvedic doctor by profession, he wanted the benefit of his wealth to be made available for the benefit of society. To ensure that the students hailing from neighbouring Andhra Pradesh are not distanced from their culture, he ensured that the schools provided the facility of learning Telugu as a second language.

I had the opportunity to go through the auto biography of Dr. K.N.Kesari handed over to me by the school management and I am able to discern the great attachment that Dr. Kesari had for the city of Madras. In the book, he poignantly recalls how he was forced to leave the city and settle down in Trichur in Kerala for some years because the German Navy had almost come up to the shores of Madras during the First World War and was threatening to destroy large parts of the city using its superior fire power.

I am happy to see that both the schools, started by Dr. Kesari are rendering yeoman service, even after many decades. The results recorded this year have been outstanding. This school in particular has recorded a 100% pass percentage. This has been possible thanks to the guidance given by the school management and the efforts put in by the teachers and the students.

Good Education is dependent on good teachers. In the Indian ethos, the teacher, rather than textbook, is the fulcrum of the process of education. As Gandhiji said, the true textbook for the pupil is his teacher.

Our ancient spiritual texts explain the relationship between the teacher and student and as to how both have to grow together in the process of learning. It reads as follows and I quote

Saha Naa Vavatu (May the Supreme Lord protect us – the teacher and the student)

Saha Nau Bhunakthu (May the Supreme Lord nourish both of us)

Saha Veeryam Karavaavahai (May we do great deeds together)

Tejaswi Naavadheetham Asthu (May our learning illumine us)...

Maa Vidvishavahai...Let us not quarrel but instead grow together in the process of learning.

An institution is known by the students that it produces and the students are known by the values that they display and the values are borne out of the character building that is undertaken by the teachers and the teachers are guided by the policy set out by the school management. That the two schools named after Dr.Kesari place great emphasis on character building is a matter of pride for the school management.

I wish to conclude by recalling the words of our former President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam which gained great appreciation at the Golden Jubilee event of the European Parliament for the following address.

“When there is righteousness
in the heart, there is beauty;
when there is beauty in
character, there is harmony;
when there is harmony in the
home, there is an order;
when there is an order in the nation
there is peace in the world.”

I convey my appreciation for the efforts of the school management, the teachers and the students of the past who have built up the image of the Kesari schools, so as attain the status of celebrating the Platinum Jubilee today. The students of today who are assembled here will, I am

sure strive to make the school's reputation go up even higher. May success greet you all at every step along the way on the forward march into the future.

Nandri Vanakkam.....

Jai Hind.....