

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF  
TAMIL NADU AT THE FUNCTION ORGANISED BY PEHCHANN CHARITABLE  
TRUST FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOLARSHIPS AT KALAIVANAR  
ARANGAM, TRIPLICANE, CHENNAI ON 29.06.2019 AT 6.00 P.M**

**Anaivarukkum Maalai Vanakkam**

**Thiru. Gyanchand Chordia,**  
President, Pehchaan Charitable Trust

**Thiru. Hitesh Kawad,**  
Managing Director, SPR High living

**Thiru. Vimal Kankaliya,**  
Secretary, Pehchaan Charitable Trust

**Thiru. Deepchand Luniya**  
Managing Trustee,  
Shri Hiradevi Kishanlal Luniya Charitable Trust

**Thiru. J. Mayur Davey,**  
Vice President, Pehchaan Charitable Trust

**Thiru. Shantilal Lalwani,**  
Managing Trustee, Pehchaan Charitable Trust

**Distinguished Invitees**

**Ladies & Gentlemen**

I am happy to be here today to participate in the national level educational conclave being organised by the Pehchaan Charitable Trust with the aim of opening up avenues for education for the under privileged sections of our society by providing scholarships and grants under various programmes.

Selfless service for society is held up as the highest virtue in our Country. The principle of placing service above self lies at the core of India's psyche. Viewing the humanity of the world as one family is fundamental to our way of thinking and Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is the driving force behind India's spirituality.

This has also been the message of all religions.  
The Rig Veda says and I quote,

“Assemble, speak among yourselves as one,  
be united in your minds, partake together of  
common benefits, may your aims be one and true,  
may your assembly be synthesized and  
harmonious: A common purpose do I lay before  
you;

May you be of one mind that all may gain true  
happiness”.

Swami Vivekananda who interpreted the  
essence of India’s spirituality, more than a 100  
years back said and I quote,

“It is a privilege to serve mankind, for this is the worship of God. God is here, in all these human souls. He is the soul of man.”

The Bible says “Know thou, that in the service of thy fellowmen, do thou serveth me.”

Prophet Muhammed said, “Charity is a duty unto every Muslim; He who hath the means there to, let him do a good act and abstain from an evil one. That is his charity.”

That social service has always been a part of our way of thinking is evidenced by our literature. Ancient Tamil classics have particularly eulogized the lives of great kings who have considered the welfare of their subjects as more important than their comforts. We are all aware of the legendary

greatness of King Pari who provided his chariot to a creeper plant that needed support to spread out and grow. The munificence and generosity of kings like Karna are legendary and find place in our epics. All this goes to show that a complete life is experienced only when an individual goes beyond the intellectual and analytical level and ascends upwards to the feeling of oneness and compassion which can spring only from an altruistic heart.

The twenty first century is characterized by the emergence of multiculturalism due to industrialization, urbanization and globalisation. Since education is an instrument for 'societal change' it should develop cognitive capabilities,

tolerance to withstand multicultural impulses and understanding of diversity. It should also prepare the younger generation to face the complex realities of globalisation. That is why Swami Vivekananda said "Education is not being but becoming".

Swamiji also pointed out, and I quote, "We need education through which character is formed, strength of mind is increased and the intellect is expanded by which one can stand on his own feet".

India is on the threshold of realizing the full benefits of the Demographic Dividend. The average age of the population of about 125 crores is 29 years and more than half the population is

below the age of 25 years. This augurs well for both short term and long term growth.

The benefits of the demographic dividend will be realised fully when this large workforce is properly educated and trained for gainful employment.

The nation requires lakhs of young men and women who can contribute in various fields – be it technology, be it medicine, be it armed forces, be it the teaching profession and so on.

At an individual level also, education illuminates the path to prosperity. It is the basic requirement for a person to make himself economically and socially useful to society. Education brings out the best skills available within a person, hones them

and enables him to achieve perfection in the field of his aptitude. It moulds his personality and gives him an identity.

I am informed that the Pehchaan Youth Association, a society registered under the Societies Act was formed in the year 1994 by 54 dedicated responsible citizens with an objective of giving a platform for leadership and cultural oriented programs and also to extend a helping hand to the less fortunate members of the society.

Later, the Pehchaan Charitable Trust was registered through which economically weaker sections are assisted with charitable initiatives.

Today, scholarships worth thirty lakhs of rupees have been distributed to various students of

schools and colleges under the auspices of Pehchaan Charitable Trust. I wish them well and I am sure that a glorious future awaits them.

Before I conclude, I wish to emphasise that a nation can become great only when its citizens are willing to serve the nation with sense of selflessness. Men and women of character can alone successfully lead society towards peace and prosperity. All of you assembled here have the ability to change society. Therefore plan carefully before you act. Once you have decided to act, please do not look back. Your actions should be free from attachment and be only guided by the benefits they will confer on your society, the state and the nation.

It is also important to inculcate this spirit among the youth so that they develop a passion for selfless service and the urge to dedicate themselves for social good.

I convey my warm felicitations to the office bearers and members of the Pehchaan Charitable Trust and to all those who have been engaged in promoting the cause of the organization. You have won a place as one among the noble souls of society. This is amply elaborated in couplet 953, of the Thirukural where Thiruvalluvar says,

“Smile, Charity, pleasant words and civility-  
These four are marks of true nobility.”

May these noble features find greater expression in the coming years, in the activities of the Pehchaan Charitable Trust.

May welfare oriented movements like the Pehchaan Charitable Trust swell in size, multiply in magnitude and fill the earth with goodness and humanity.

Nandri Vanakkam.....

Jai Tamil Nadu....

Jai Hind....