

RAJ BHAVAN, TAMIL NADU - PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

**HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU CHAIRED CONCLAVE OF
EXCELLENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND FELICITATED
NIRF-2023 TOP RANKING INSTITUTIONS OF TAMIL NADU AT
RAJ BHAVAN, CHENNAI, TODAY (26.07.2023)**

In order to improve the quality of Higher Education in Tamil Nadu, Raj Bhavan held the second conclave of Higher Education institutions on NIRF-2023 today (26.07.2023) at Raj Bhavan, Chennai. The Hon'ble Governor Thiru. R. N. Ravi felicitated the representatives from those Institutions for their exceptional performances in the NIRF-2023 Ranking in 13 categories. The Vice-Chancellors, and Registrars (if there is no Vice Chancellors) of all the State Universities participated in the conclave.

All the 20 institutions that came in the Top 20 also made PowerPoint presentations explaining and sharing their ways of functioning in gaining higher ranking.

The Hon'ble Governor advised Thiru. V. Kamakoti, Director, IIT Madras, to help the State Universities and do the necessary handholding for them to do better. Governor Ravi advised the Vice-Chancellors of Tamil University to help the institutions to create Scopus-indexed Tamil journals for the publication of research work being done by our scholars. He said we are proud of Tamil, the oldest surviving language, and its rich literature. He said European languages are not capable enough to comprehend the richness of Tamil and Sanskrit. The Hon'ble Prime Minister Modi talks about creating our own standards.

The Hon'ble Governor stressed greater emphasis on STEM without undermining the importance of Social Science. He said the humanities are important and crucial, but as per contemporary needs and demands, more emphasis should be placed on STEM disciplines. While talking about phobias for Mathematics, he said a common perception has been created that Mathematics is difficult. He mentioned "A Mathematician's Apology" an essay written by mathematician G. H. Hardy, and said mathematics is like a language, and it depends on the faculties how they are delivering it to their students.

The Hon'ble Governor praised the education institutions for their exemplary performances in the NIRF 2023, particularly those who secured the top 20. This event, apart from honouring and felicitating, is to meet and share experiences. He said when he came to this state as Governor, he found the universities, particularly the State universities, in silos with hardly any interaction or sharing of knowledge. While elaborating on the purpose of such a meeting, he quoted "Aano Bhadra Kritvo Yantu Vishwatah" which means let noble thoughts come to us from all directions. Our universities and institutions have so much to offer.

Governor Ravi expressed serious concern over the quality of education. Governor Ravi mentioned the guest faculty working at Rs. 20,000 per month as a sheer disappointment. The governor said the spread of education in our state is good but has to be made relevant and capable of meeting the needs and demands of the times.

Governor Ravi expressed satisfaction with the pace of NEP-2020 implementation in the State. He said that our Nation is on the cusp of revolutionary transformation, and the resurgence of the new India must

take a quantum leap. We cannot afford to move at the old pace; otherwise, we will continue to remain in the mode of catching up. He mentioned the National Education Policy 2020 as a visionary document that has the capacity to build India to fulfil its destiny of Vishwaguru by 2047.

Governor Ravi emphasised the need for greater involvement of industry with academia. He shared the concerns of the industries with the Vice-Chancellors and said that the students must be engaged with the industries for one semester and soil their hands. Calling alumni, a great asset, he emphasised the deeper and more meaningful role of the alumni association.

The Governor reminded the education fraternity that they are the custodians and guardians of our youth and their future. The way we shape them will reflect our performances. He assured for more such interactive and cohesive meetings for the creation of the best education ecosystem in Tamil Nadu and restoring its glory as the intellectual capital of our country.

The Principal Secretary to Governor, Thiru. V. Kamakoti, Director, IIT Madras, Director, NIT Trichy, Vice-Chancellors of various State and Private Universities, educationalists, academicians, faculties, representatives and officials participated in this conclave and felicitation. About 200 faculty members and representatives attended the event.

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Raj Bhavan Chennai-22

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