

RAJ BHAVAN, TAMIL NADU - PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU PARTICIPATED AS CHIEF GUEST "MERI MATTI MERA DESH (MMMD)", STATE LEVEL PROGRAMME ORGANISED BY DEPARTMENT OF POST, TAMIL NADU CIRCLE AT BHARATHIAR MANDAPAM, RAJ BHAVAN, CHENNAI ON 26.10.2023 (TODAY)

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.R.N.Ravi, today (26.10.2023) participated as Chief Guest at the 'Meri Matti Mera Desh' state level programme organised by Department of Post, Tamil Nadu Circle at Raj Bhavan, Chennai.

Hon'ble Governor, in his chief guest address, highlighted the idea and spirit behind celebrating MERI MATTI MERA DESH and AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV. He hailed the immense contributions and unfathomable sufferings and sacrifices of our freedom fighters, such as the Marudhu Brothers, Kamarajar, and millions of those unsung heroes who fought the British for the freedom of our Nation. Because of their efforts and sacrifices, we are enjoying freedom. Unfortunately, we have forgotten them. After independence, an impression was created as if the British were our great friends, so much so that the first head of independent India was Mountbatten, a British, even after independence. Even our textbooks were highlighting the benefits of British rule, we were taught that they gave us

rules of law and institutions as if we were barbarians. If that is the case, if freedom came so lightly, then why did the great freedom fighters give their lives? Unless we remember them and the sacrifices made by our heroes, we will never be able to appreciate who we are and what we should do. He cited that when the British partitioned Bengal in 1905, on a communal line, the whole country revolted; even great people such as VO Chidambaram Pillai and Mahakavi Bharathiar from this land revolted. When the Jallianwala Bagh massacre happened, the young Kamarajar joined the freedom struggle. That spirit of oneness—that we are all one family—brought us together. Today, we are divided on different lines, such as religion and caste. We are fighting with each other. For this India, our great freedom fighters gave their lives? Hon'ble Governor mentioned that one of the fundamental duties mentioned in Article 51 (A) is to cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom. Hon'ble Governor quoted Mahatma Gandhi, who, on the day of the independence of India, mentioned that the British have left us physically; our National Freedom Movement is not yet over; they are still in our minds. That is why the Hon'ble Prime Minister launched Panch Pran, and one of the Prans is to erase the last wastages of mental slavery. We have so many great people and philosophers, but we will quote western scholars and consider it pride. It is sad to see when even the educated people cite Abraham Lincoln's lines 'for the people, by the people, and of the people' when it

comes to democracy. We have a long history and culture of democracy in our own land. Stone inscriptions of Uthiramerur, Kanchipuram District, and Gramam Village, Villupuram District are a timeless testament to the democracy we had. Unless we are out of mental slavery, Nation will not grow. That is why, even after 75 years of independence, we are not developed. We have to take pride in our heritage, which is another Pran. Our heritage is in our ancient literature, such as Thirukkural and Thirumandiram. We cannot afford to be ungrateful; otherwise, the curse of ingratitude will be on us, as mentioned in Thirukkural "Ennandri Kondraarkkum Uyvuntaam Uyvillai Seynnandri Kondra Makarku (Kural 110)," which says those who kill gratitude have no salvation. This Kalash Yatra may get over, but we have to continue remembering our freedom fighters and reminding our children about their sacrifices.

Today, the world is looking at our country with hope that we will provide leadership to the world, as we are growing with our values, which are deeply rooted in the ethos of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam".

Tmt.B.P.Sridevi, Postmaster General, Mails & Business Development, Thiru. Karthikeyan, Commandant, CISF, Thiru. G.Natarajan, Postmaster General, Chennai City Region, Thiru. Kunhammed, State Director, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, Thiru.K.Somasundaram, Director Postal Service, Chennai City Region, dignitaries, special invitees, staff and members of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, CISF Personnel, Members of

Postal fraternity, functionaries, officials and staff of Raj Bhavan, Chennai were present during the function.

Raj Bhavan, Chennai-22

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