

RAJ BHAVAN, TAMIL NADU – PRESS HIGHLIGHTS
THIRU. R.N.RAVI, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU
PRESIDED OVER THE PARTITION HORRORS REMEMBRANCE
DAY FUNCTION AT RESEARCH PARK AUDITORIUM, IIT
MADRAS, CHENNAI TODAY (14.08.2025)

Thiru. R.N.Ravi, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu presided over the Partition Horrors Remembrance Day organised by Raj Bhavan, Chennai and Indian Institute of Technology, Madras today (14.08.2025). On this function Hon'ble Governor and other participants observed one minute silence for the victims of the Partition of India. Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu felicitated the eminent guest speakers and cultural troupe.

Governor in his presidential address said that, " At the outset, I'd like to thank the three speakers who gave detailed account of various facets of partition horrors. The history of it, what led up to partition, in the run-up to partition, and even post-partition after that. What all has been happening. Friends, at the very outset, I would like to thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister for thinking of it and starting a remembrance day. About an event that was so shattering. Never in the history of Bharat, over 5,000 year history of Bharat, such a thing had happened. More than 20 to 30 lakhs of people were massacred.

Several crores people were uprooted from their homes. Where their ancestors for generations, generations, for hundreds and thousands of years they lived there. It was their land. But overnight, they became unacceptable and they had to leave in the most

traumatic situations. Over 100,000 young girls and women were abducted, forcibly converted. Now what could be more significant to remember than such an event?

You know, friends, the country or society, those who do not remember their tragedies, they will be condemned to repeat it again and again. Look at China. When the British annexed, Hong Kong for trading opium in 1839, 1840. And when the Japanese sacked Nanking, Chinese continued teaching even till today, the century of humiliation. They call about Sacking of Nanking; they call Rape of Nanking. This is a chapter in the Chinese school and college history.

If you do not remember what happened to you, how we were humiliated, how we were tortured, how we were traumatized, it is shameful. And it took 74 years after independence for the prime minister to start this day. And there are people who question it, "Why are we talking about it?"

Friends, there are several questions. Why did the partition happen? Of course we have blamed the British, rightly so. But did they create the partition or they exploited the situation that was created by our people? Is partition a thing of the past, that it is over? Have the wounds of partition been healed, or they're still bleeding? And can we say there will not be any partition hereafter with confidence?

Now, these are very relevant questions. Why did the partition happen? It's very easy to say, "Okay, British did it." Yes. They exploited the situation. But we had a set of people here who called that Muslim in a nation which cannot co-exist with others. They had a concept of

kafir. And Kafir, with Kafir they cannot exist. Kafir's are hated. Kafir's have to be kept at a distance now? What happened? How tragic it was, we saw this, this small clipping. We also heard the living witnesses and those who were descendants of the victims. Friends, while it is important to remember such a tragic incident in our history, nation's history, which never happened in our 5,000 year of civilization.

Because, Bharat was built on a philosophy that we are all members of a family. We are all members of one family. Individual, society, the world, creation, all are manifestation of the same divine.

Diversity is celebrated, more the merrier. A flower has numerous color petals is beautiful. Imagine a flower, a mono color flower. And imagine a flower with multiple color petals. This is Bharat. This is the organizing principle of Bharat, which we built it, sustained it for over 5,000 years. And when somebody comes, a set of people comes with a notion of others, that are Kafirs and non-Kafirs, this is a poison, poison in the body politics or body social of Bharat, or body culture of Bharat.

Question is, is the partition thing of the past? We have heard our eminent day speaker, Sanjeev Sanyal, mention about how it is continuing. What happened to those who at the time, those who were uprooted and they somehow managed to escape? At the time, at that time, they came, they had, they suffered a lot for generations, for decades. But at least they were accepted as Indian citizens. But what happened thereafter?

Time and again, both from the east and the west, waves after waves, when persecution happens of non-Muslims, they all came in hoards ,1865, 1871, 1992. Even last year. At the time when Pakistan was created in East Pakistan, there were 4 crores 20 lakhs population. Of the 4 crore 20 lakhs population, 33% were non-Muslims. Today, they are 8%. Where did this 24 % to 25% gone? Majority of them were massacred, they were converted. Several thousands of them, they escaped. Escaped seeking refuge in this land. And they remained stateless till the other day. They were not treated as Indian citizens.

What was their fault? It was their land. For hundreds and thousands of years, their hundreds of generations had lived there. And suddenly they were told that, "No, you are Kafir and they will not. you just can't live with them." And they had to leave, leaving behind everything. And here, Bharat, which organizing principle of which is all inclusive, we are all members of a family, we refuse to give them citizenship.

Why? It took the present government, the government of Prime Minister Modi, to come up with Citizenship Permitment Act, and ensure that these citizens, those are our people, those who have come, not they have come on their own. They have escaped, saved their life, leaving everything behind. Partition is an ongoing phenomenon. What is happening in Jammu and Kashmir?

For last 78 years, Pakistan is fighting Jammu and Kashmir to take it, simply because they say that, "No, Muslim majority pro- area cannot be with Bharat." You, you heard the other day, the general who

says that Pakistan was created on the basis of Kalma. And the Kalma mandates that we must take the Kashmir back.

What happened when Pakistan captured, and they were allowed to capture and retain POK?. 15 lakhs Hindus and Sikhs, those who were there in POK. What happened to them? Mirpur, another area was completely massacred. Nearly one lakh of them, they came somehow, escaped to Jammu. When they escaped to Jammu, till the other day, they remained homeless, they couldn't buy a piece of land. They were members of Jammu and Kashmir, undivided Jammu and Kashmir. Their only fault was that they were not Muslims. Their children were not allowed to, to get a job in Jammu and Kashmir state government. They had no Russian card. They couldn't buy land. They lived in the most terrible conditions. Why? What was their fault? And what the governments were doing just for the sake of vote through appeasement, governments after governments have been denying the reality which has brought this whole situation to a pass where our people have difficulty in even remembering why should I'm the head. Audacity to ask, "Why are we talking about it?" Pakistan created a wing of their own military, what is called Jihadi wing.

Our people were made to believe by our own people that, "No, they are all terrorists, Jihadists. They are not entirely, They are part. My friends, they are part of Pakistan military establishment. They have created this Jihadi force to fight and take the Kashmir, Jammu and Kashmir to Pakistan. And there were people in Jammu and Kashmir, Jamaat-e-Islami, which was patronized by this government sitting in Delhi at that time. Instead of taking harsh action against them, they

were patronized and pampered. And they prospered. They kept inflicting wounds after wound. The latest is Pahalgam. But you know, things and times have changed. With Pahalgam, they did. They got the taste of it, went through Operations Sindoor. And I don't think they will ever be in the same mind doing. But that's not all. I mean, that's not all. In the eastern front, East Bengal, East Pakistan and Bangladesh, they have always looked upon entire eastern part of Bharat as their as their natural living space. And that demographic innovation that was happening in the Northeast Assam, Bengal and Simanchal of Bihar. All this Kisan Ganj, Punia, Katihar, Araria, this demographic invasion is like a time bomb. Western Assam, there is a movement that it, which should go to Bangladesh. There is a movement, they say, "Because we are large in number and we cannot live with Kafirs, we must go to our people." And we are thinking as if partition is over. No, it is not over. Attempts to partition India, Bharat is a work in progress. And it is important that we must be aware of it. And so, what is the way forward? What do we do about it?

We just cannot just remember it and be at it, leave it at that. We have to take certain steps. And the first step is talk about it, discuss about it. Let there be awareness about it because our people have not been told. Three generations have not been told the horror of partition. And the fact that partition wounds are still bleeding. They are bleeding in Jammu and Kashmir. They are bleeding in west. in, in the eastern part of Bharat. Even now, the people those of our people, those who are in Bangladesh every anything that happens, any turmoil that

happens, they are the first victim. Why? Because they are not Muslims and so they are victims.

Reality has to be accepted. So, we must talk about partition and the fact that threat of partition. What happened? What trauma, what tragedy it caused and how it is an ongoing phenomenon. We must reject the very notion of anyone who talks the concept of Kafir. Bharat does not believe in Kafir.

If anyone talks about Kafir and hatred and distance from Kafir, they have no place in Bharat. We must reject it. We cannot allow that to happen. When the textbooks are teaching. But today our teaching here in, in our neighboring state matter went to Kerala High Court, Cochin High Court. Somebody, some enlightened citizens took the matter that look here is, here are schools where the textbooks are being taught, how to keep distance from others. These things must be rejected.

Must voice and issue must be raised, democratic and constitutional manner. It has no place in Bharat. Those who say that Shariyat is above the Constitution of India, they have no place in Bharat. There is no question of any such idea or any such ideology. Constitution of Bharat is the supreme. There cannot be any, any other act above it, but there are people who have the, the audacity to say that, "No, Shariyat is above. We will not accept it." And whole society remains quiet. Why?

Audience, they're like, "We don't know What the heck is going on?" They are scared for their lives. They don't know. Friends, we also must talk more and more about certain aspects of Constitution that talks about Bharat and where the soul of Bharat rests. Directive principles, nobody talks about. Fundamental duties which talks about Nation, Nationalism, freedom movement, values of freedom movement, National song, National Anthem, national flag, nobody talks about the Fundamental rights, everyone talks about. Entire jurisprudence of Bharat, High Court to Supreme Court, almost 75 to 80% is only about fundamental right. Nobody talks about fundamental duties. Nobody talks about directive principles. It is the directive principles that where the soul of Bharat lies. It's the fundamental duties which can protect the soul.

We must talk. We must discuss. Unfortunately, even in law school. I mean in law colleges, I have met many young lawyers. I visited law university as chancellor of law university. I have been visiting the law colleges. They just draw blank about it. There is directive principle. No, I think we cannot let this situation continue. Today, we have problems, we have threats, threats external and internal both. External, we know on both sides. East and the West, there are country. Both the countries, they have the plan and they believe that they must grab the part of Bharat.

Eastern flank wants to take away Assam, Bengal and Simanchal, Bihar. And West, of course, Jammu and Kashmir. They will not succeed. That's a different matter. But we cannot just leave the entire responsibility to our Armed Forces. As a citizen, it's our responsibility

to be conscious, to be aware of it, to be alert about it. So we must talk about partition, must talk about the horror of partition, we must talk about the bleeding wounds of partition, which is bleeding even today. We must talk about the ongoing attempts at partition. We must take pride in who we are. And those advices, those directions are there in the directive principle and fundamental duties of our Constitution.

There are viruses within as well. Those who are dividing us in the name of caste, creed, language, region. You know, they are weakening our immunity. One is saying that, "No, we will have a homeland separate." Other is weakening the unit, the immunity of this, our body. We heard, we read in the newspaper that some senior leaders of neighboring state had been has felt very bad about it. How can you talk about partition and horror of partition? I can understand his pains because he believes in an ideology that doesn't believe in a nation, that Bharat is a nation. For him and his people, there are only two kinds of people in the world, rich and poor. They must continue fighting with each other. That's all. They have no concept of nation. So when you talk about nation and partition of a nation, it's something which is absurd to hear. He would not like people to talk about that. So, I think this day, we must observe .It's a solemn day. It's a day with somber remembrance and taking cognizance of how things are today so that we can be safe tomorrow. And as we know that as our country is rising, till 10 years back, there was no problem.

Now, there is a problem. Till 10 years back, the whole world was condemning us. India were, were, were. Well, no, not actually condemning, but they were pitying us, looking at us as a marginal

people. Bharat, India will not grow economically. India will grow only at Hindu rate of growth. That is how they will grow. Today, for the last five years, when Bharat is the fastest growing large economy. And when we have 11th, 10th, 11th, we have come to the 4th and we are going to be the third-largest economy. When the world is looking at us, especially the global south looks at Bharat as their boss, many people, many countries would not like it to happen.

Now, we have, it is our duty to remain united to ensure that constitution is respected, constitutional values are supreme. Universal brotherhood was... that the principle that we have adopted is our soul. And we must make Bharat a Viksit Bharat, a self-reliant Bharat in the next two decades. That's the only way. That is the pledge and a commitment that we must take on this day. I'm sure our young people will do it. They are already doing it. If the country is rising today, it's rising on the power of the youth, power of the woman. It's their power which is catapulting us from nowhere to somewhere high and mighty in the sky. Next, thank you very much for being a part of it. And I would expect that hereafter, we must do it in all the institutions every year. I will see that universities and colleges, they do it hereafter. They will do it."

In this function, Thiru. Sanjeev Sanyal, Member, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, Thiru. J.K.Arora, I.A.S., (Retd.) Former Additional Chief Secretary & Development Commissioner, Government of Karnataka, Prof. Amarjit Singh Narang, Professor (Retd.) and former Registrar, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, Prof. Dr. V.Kamakoti, Director, IIT Madras Thiru. V.

Palanichamy, I.I.S, Director General, South Zone (i/c), Press Information Bureau, Ministry of I & B, Govt. of India, Thiru. R.Kirlosk Kumar, I.A.S., Principal Secretary to Governor, Eminent Personalities, Research Scholars, Members of Ex-servicemen fraternity, Representatives from various State Associations and Foundations, Veterans, Freedom Fighters and Heirs, Faculty Members from various Educational Institutions, students were present

.....
Raj Bhavan, Chennai-22

Date:14.08.2025

Released by:-
Public Relations Office