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LOK BHAVAN, TAMIL NADU - PRESS RELEASE
THIRU. RAJENDRA VISHWANATH ARLEKAR, HON'BLE GOVERNOR
OF TAMIL NADU, PARTICIPATED AS CHIEF GUEST AND ADDRESSED
THE GATHERING IN THE SPECIAL DISCOURSE ON THE THEME
“BUILDING A VIKSIT TAMIL NADU: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS IN
EDUCATION SYSTEM” AT HINDUSTAN COLLEGE OF ARTS AND
SCIENCE, COIMBATORE , TODAY (05.04.2026).

Thiru. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, participated as chief guest and addressed the gathering in the special discourse on the theme “Building a Viksit Tamil Nadu: Challenges and Solutions in Education System” at Hindustan College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore, today (05.04.2026).

Governor his address, highlighted that the vision of a “Viksit Bharat” can be realized only when every State, including Tamil Nadu, achieves holistic progress. He underlined that true development must be inclusive, encompassing all sections of society and covering all dimensions such as education, economy, and social advancement.

The Governor noted that before aspiring to become a developed nation, it is essential to assess our present condition honestly. He observed that remnants of a colonial mindset

continue to persist in our thinking and attitudes, and identified this as a major challenge in the path of national progress.

Highlighting the historical context, the Governor referred to the education policies introduced during British rule, particularly those associated with Thomas Babington Macaulay, which aimed at reshaping the mindset of Indians. He stated that such policies were intended to create individuals who, while Indian in appearance, would adopt British ways of thinking and values.

Governor further pointed out that colonial powers systematically attempted to erode India's cultural roots, traditions, and indigenous systems of knowledge. This weakening of cultural identity, he noted, continues to influence society even today, often unconsciously.

The Governor stressed that overcoming this colonial mindset and reconnecting with Bharath's civilizational roots are essential steps towards building a truly developed nation. He highlighted the pivotal role of education in this process, calling for an education system that nurtures critical thinking, self-confidence, and innovation among students.

Referring to the work of Dharampal, particularly his book "The Beautiful Tree: Indigenous Indian Education in the Eighteenth Century", the Governor noted that India had a widespread and vibrant indigenous education system prior to British rule. He cited observations indicating significant levels of educational participation, including among women, especially in regions such

as the erstwhile Madras Presidency. He contrasted this with the decline in literacy levels during the later colonial period.

Governor underscored the importance of rediscovering and preserving India's traditional knowledge systems and passing them on to future generations. He called upon educators and institutions to inspire students by highlighting the country's rich heritage and guiding them towards a progressive and self-reliant future.

Governor concluded by stating that only through sustained and collective efforts across all sections of society can the goal of a truly developed and progressive India be achieved.

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Lok Bhavan, Chennai - 22.

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