

LOK BHAVAN, TAMIL NADU - PRESS RELEASE

Thiru. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, participated as the Chief Guest at the award distribution function of the INA "Vergalai Thedi" Essay and Short Film Competition, at Sourashtra College, Madurai, today (02.07.2026).

Thiru. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, participated as the Chief Guest and addressed the gathering at the award distribution function of the INA "Vergalai Thedi" Essay and Short Film Competition, held at Sourashtra College, Madurai, today (02.07.2026).

In his address, the Hon'ble Governor felicitated the award winners and appreciated their creativity, dedication, and efforts in bringing out historical awareness through essays and short films. He commended the initiative for encouraging young minds to explore and understand the rich legacy of India's freedom struggle.

During the event, the Hon'ble Governor felicitated L/Nk. A. Meenatchi Sundram, Kirti Chakra Awardee, and highlighted his exceptional valour and distinguished service in the Indian Army. He lauded the courage, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment of Armed Forces personnel in safeguarding the nation.

The Hon'ble Governor emphasized that society and the general public should come forward to recognise and felicitate Kirti Chakra awardees and Armed Forces veterans in their respective localities, acknowledging their valour and service to the nation.

Recalling the immense contributions of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, he described him as a great leader who stood at the forefront of India's freedom struggle. He highlighted the pivotal role of the Indian National Army (INA) and stated that its significance in India's independence movement is widely acknowledged across the country.

The Hon'ble Governor underscored the need for in-depth study and greater awareness of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's contributions, urging that this rich legacy be passed on to the younger generations. He further noted that Tamil Nadu has a proud and rich tradition of freedom fighters who made invaluable contributions to the nation's independence.

Governor called for nationwide celebration of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's legacy and greater recognition of the contributions of the Indian National Army. Stressing the ideals of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" and "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat," the Hon'ble Governor highlighted the importance of unity, harmony, and national integration.

The Hon'ble Governor also emphasized that patriotism must be instilled in the minds of all citizens, particularly the

youth, to build a strong and progressive nation. He appreciated the role of the Centre of South Indian Studies in promoting historical and cultural awareness. Further, he urged the younger generation to actively participate in environmental conservation efforts, particularly the rejuvenation and restoration of the Vaigai River, highlighting its cultural and ecological significance.

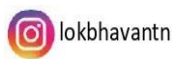
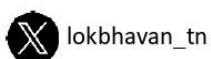
On this occasion, Thiru. Sajjansingh R.Chavan, I.A.S., Secretary to Governor, L/Nk.A.Meenatchi Sundaram, Kirti Chakra Awardee, Dr. D.R.Kumaresh, Secretary & Correspondent, Sourashtra College, Thiru. M.Kumaresan, Convenor, Centre for South Indian Studies, Thiru.P.J.Bansidhar, President, Sourashtra College, Dr. Sandeep Kumar, Director, Centre for South Indian Studies, Thiru. R.R.Baskar, Treasurer, Sourashtra College, Dr. A.Mathavan, MD, Dr. Madhavan's Heart Centre, Thiru. K.A.Venkateshwaran, MC Member, Sourashtra College, academicians, students, and distinguished guests were present.

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Lok Bhavan, Chennai - 22.

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