

LOK BHAVAN, TAMIL NADU - PRESS RELEASE

**THIRU. RAJENDRA VISHWANATH ARLEKAR, HON'BLE
GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU PRESIDED OVER THE
"KASHI TAMIL SANGAMAM 4.0 – 2025 FELICITATION
CEREMONY", AT BHARATHIAR MANDAPAM, LOK
BHAVAN, CHENNAI TODAY (10.07.2026)**

Thiru. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu presided over the **Kashi Tamil Sangamam 4.0 - 2025 Felicitation Ceremony** and felicitated the Prize winners, jury members of the competition and organisers of Kashi Tamil Sangamam 4.0 - 2025 at the function held at Bharathiar Mandapam, Lok Bhavan, Chennai today (10.07.2026).

Addressing the gathering, Governor remarked that he felt deeply moved by the heartfelt experiences shared by the participants and speakers. He acknowledged that the Kashi Tamil Sangamam is a reflection of the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of national integration and cultural unity. He extended his sincere appreciation and gratitude to former Governor Thiru. R. N. Ravi for his proactive efforts in implementing the initiative effectively in Tamil Nadu.

The Governor noted that more than 7,000 participants have, through this programme, visited Kashi and personally experienced the profound spiritual and cultural connection between Kashi Vishwanath and Rameswaram.

Emphasizing the importance of linguistic harmony, the Governor stated that for strengthening national unity, it is essential for people across regions to learn each other's languages. He suggested that people in North India should learn at least one South Indian language, such as Tamil, while people in South India should learn a North Indian language. He questioned what difficulty could arise from such learning and underscored that language serves as a vital bridge in deepening cultural bonds.

Drawing from his own experiences, he recalled his tenure as Governor of Himachal Pradesh, where he visited Kashi and met Tamil families who had been residing there for generations. Their ability to fluently speak Hindi while preserving their Tamil identity reflected the deep-rooted cultural integration between regions.

Highlighting the civilizational unity of India, the Governor referred to ancient cultural practices such as the worship at the Rajarajeshwara Temple in Kannur, Kerala, where devotees traditionally pray facing the direction of Kashi Vishwanath, illustrating spiritual connections that transcend geographical distances.

In his concluding remarks, Governor emphasized that India is not merely a collection of multiple, disconnected cultures. Rather, it is one unified civilization expressed through diverse traditions, much like the different colours of a rainbow. He stressed that whenever India has remained united, it has achieved greatness, and history clearly shows that division has led to fragmentation.

Governor concluded by stating that the event was not just a felicitation ceremony or an occasion to honour participants, but a grand celebration of India's unity, reflecting the enduring spirit of oneness that binds the nation together.

In this function, Thiru. Sajjansingh R.Chavan, I.A.S., Secretary to Governor, Prof. V.Kamakoti, Director, IIT-Madras, Dr.Sudha Seshayyan, Vice Chairperson, Central Institute of Classical Tamil, Lok Bhavan officials, staff of Lok Bhavan and other dignitaries were present.

Lok Bhavan, Chennai - 22.

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