

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU
AT THE INAUGURATION OF BHARAT SANGEET UTSAV 2017 FESTIVAL AT NARADA
GANA SABHA HALL, ALWARPET CHENNAI ON 01/11/2017 AT 04.30 P.M.**

Dr.Nalli Kuppuswami Chetti

President, Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha

Tmt. Aruna Sairam

Vice President, Sangeet Natak Akademy, New Delhi

Dr. K.N.Shashikiran

Managing Trustee, Carnatica

Thiru M.Krishnamurthy

Honorary Secretary, Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha

Distinguished invitees, Musicians, Performing Artists, Office Bearers and Members of Carnatica and Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha, Students, Rasikas, Friends from Media, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It gives me immense pleasure to inaugurate the "Bharat Sangeet Utsav 2017", a Pan Indian Music Festival organized by Carnatica in association with Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha showcasing the richness of the different musical forms present in India.

Music is divine. It is universal. The roots of classical music of India are found in the Vedic Literature. Our's is a land of art and beauty. It is a land of Yogis, great and devoted artists. Lord Shiva is Himself a Cosmic Dancer and Goddess Saraswathi is the Goddess of Music and Knowledge. The ancient Sanskrit text Natya Shastra identifies and discusses Twenty Two Srutis and Seven Swaras. The Swara studies in the ancient Sanskrit text state the categories of melodic models, the raga compositions etc., Music is the complete expression of the soul of India reflecting its inner life. It is the essence of civilization. Hindustani and Carnatic musics are a class by themselves.

Dr. Rukmini Devi Arundale said, "For me music is beyond sound and words. Just as the voice or an instrument is the vehicle of music, so is a musician the vehicle through whom this divine influence pours".

The great artists and masters of the past did not have all the modern facilities like audio-visual instruments, the recording theatres that are available today. The trinity of carnatic music, Thyagaraja, Muthuswami-Dikshitar and Syama Sastri are known for shaping and influencing Carnatic Music in an unparalleled way. They are still remembered and respected by all because of their pursuit of this Divine Art. The discipline, devotion and dedication shown by the great musicians of yesteryears should be imbibed in the young budding artists and they should draw inspiration from them. I congratulate Carnatica and Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha for encouraging the young and emerging artists by featuring their performances in junior slots prior to main events every day. I am sure this will not only provide them an opportunity to showcase their talents but will also help to identify, motivate, nurture and explore the talents in the young budding artists.

The initiative taken by Carnatica to conduct Pan-Indian Music Festival encompassing Indian Classical Music-Carnatic and Hindustani as well as our pristine

dance forms globally, is laudable. It is heartening to witness the inaugural concert featured by Tmt. Aruna Sairam- Vande Matram “A Music salutation to Mother India” performed by more than 200 children and about 50 Special Care Children. It is really amazing. I congratulate Tmt. Aruna Sairam and Dr. Sudha Raja and all the participating students for their wonderful performance. The Vande Matram rendered by them has left this hall filled with vibrations rekindling in us the patriotic fervour and our devotion to Bharat Mata.

I am happy to learn that this Utsav also features fusion concerts, “Sing along concert” by Dr. Sudha Ragunathan and there are Music concerts by other leading artists.

More and More young children should be motivated to learn Carnatic and Hindustani Music, dances like Bharatanatyam, Kathakali, Folk arts, Painting etc. The richness of our art forms should be passed on to our younger generation without losing its pristine form.

Simplicity and divinity is the essence of art. Every home should become a centre for art and culture. Let us revive this spirit to make our rich art and culture known to the whole world.

I congratulate Carnatica Archival Centre for its innovative ways to promote and propagate Indian Music. I am pleased to learn that this year Bharat Sangeet Utsav is dedicated to raising awareness about the challenges faced by intellectually challenged individuals.

Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha is one of the Oldest Cultural Institutions in Tamil Nadu which is associated with “Bharat Sangeet Utsav 2017”. I commend the services rendered by Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha for hosting the performances of musicians all over India and for serving the cause of promotion of our art and culture. “Vidya Sagar”, a non-profit organization deserves commendation for delivering quality services to intellectually challenged and differently abled children focusing on early intervention, special education, physiotherapy, speech and communication therapy etc., and for training of resource persons to work in the field of disability.

I am sure renowned Musicians from all over India will make the Bharat Sangeet Utsav 2017 which is a prelude to the Chennai December Music Festival special and memorable one. Chennai is the hub of Carnatic Music. I am confident that such festivals will strengthen our National Integration and promote our art and culture.

I convey my warm felicitations to Dr. Nalli Kuppaswami Chetti, President, Office Bearers and Members of Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha, Dr. K.N. Shashikiran, Managing Trustee, Office Bearers and Members of Carnatica, to all the performing artists, young talented emerging artists, Members of Vidya Sagar, students, Rasikas and to all those who are associated with Bharat Sangeet Utsav 2017.

I wish Bharat Sangeet Utsav 2017 all success.

My Greetings to you all. Jai Hind. Jai Tamil Nadu.
