

ADDRESS BY THIRU CH.VIDYASAGAR RAO, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU AT THE INAUGURATION OF EXHIBITION 'INDIA AT 70' AND RELEASE OF BOOK "NURTURING GLOBAL LEADERS OF TOMORROW: AN INCLUSIVE LEARNING MODEL (SKMSVM) SHOWS THE WAY" AT SRI KANCHI MAHASWAMI VIDYA MANDIR CAMPUS, RAJAKILPAKKAM, TAMBARAM (EAST), CHENNAI ON 10/09/2017 AT 11.00 AM

Dr.V.Shankar, Chairman, Sri Kanchi Mahaswami Vidya Mandir, Dr.K.Kasturi Rangan, Former Chairman, Indian Space Research Organization, Thiru R.A.Sankara Narayanan, Managing Director and CEO, Vijaya Bank, Thiru T.R.Rajagopalan, Member, Governing Council, Dr.D.V.R.Seshadri, Indian School of Business, Hyderabad, Tmt Lalitha Mahadevan, Principal, Sri Kanchi Mahaswami Vidya Mandir, Teachers, Staff, Students, Distinguished Invitees, Friends from Media, Ladies & Gentlemen

It is a pleasure to inaugurate the Exhibition, 'India at 70', release the book "Nurturing Global Leaders of Tomorrow: An inclusive learning model (SKMSVM) shows the way" authored by Shri. D.V.R. Seshadri and Prof. Swati Sisodia and address this distinguished gathering and students here today.

I am happy to be in this beautiful campus which has been built in honour and memory of Pujyasri Chandrasekarendra Saraswati Swamigal. I am amazed by the divinity and vibrancy present in this campus. I saw the statues of Subramania Bharati, Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, Swami Vivekananda, Saint Thiruvalluvar, Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and that of Hanuman who is the embodiment of strength and devotion. Statues are not mere works of art: not just stones or granite but every statue has a message. The life and times of noble souls are captured in these statues and they remain a perennial source of inspiration for young minds. In that sense, every statue in this campus brings home the relevance of teachings beyond the classroom. I deeply appreciate the efforts of the Sri Kanchi Mahaswami Vidya Mandir to integrate the experiences of great men into the educational system by subtle worship and understanding through these statues.

The higher education imparted should teach one a meaningful philosophy of life and enrich the character. In adopting westernized system of education, we should not lose our age old traditions. The importance of Vedas and their message are now spreading across the globe. I congratulate this temple of learning for its pioneering initiative to combine mainstream education with Vedas.

I am pleased to learn that the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad one of the foremost Business Schools of India has deeply studied through its faculty this Vidya Mandir and the dual education system as practised in this campus. It is nice that it has come out with the book "Nurturing Global Leaders of Tomorrow: An inclusive learning model (SKMSVM) shows the way". This dwells about dual education and on the need for combining any form of art and culture with mainstream education. I am sure this will provide food for thought for policy makers, academic planners and educationists.

Albert Einstein said, I quote "We owe a lot to the Indians, who taught us how to count, without which no worthwhile scientific discovery could have been made."

The Indian civilization has a strong tradition of science and technology. Ancient India has shown to the world: making of the best steel and taught how to count. India has actively contributed to the development of science and technology, especially in the field of medical science. The theories and techniques discovered by the ancient Indians have laid the foundation for modern science and technology. It is a matter of pride that the world's first University was established in Takshila. Indian Nobel Laureates have made great contributions in the field of Literature, Physics, Economics and Chemistry. It is high time educationists and members of the teaching fraternity join hands to revive this spirit in the younger generation which will create confidence in them.

Independent India's growth has been steady and it has crossed important milestone of 70 years achieving a distinct place on the global map. I had inaugurated the Exhibition "India at 70". I am happy to see the exhibition which contains five parts-

- The world acknowledges Ancient India, (tributes and testimonials),
- the 70 things India has given to the world,
- 70 things India has to do to become a developed nation,
- the 70 least known facts about India and
- the 70 makers of independent India.

I am pleased to learn that several interesting and lesser known facts are the highlight of the exhibition. It is really an interesting one. School children must visit this Exhibition and know our nation's rich history.

I am happy to note that the exhibition is on LED Screens and would travel to several schools and colleges across the country during the 71st year of our independence.

On the occasion of the 75th year of Quit India Movement, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji has appealed to "Work to create new India by 2022". Giving the slogan of "Sankalp se siddhi" – 'pledge to achieve', Shri Modi ji has urged the people to work shoulder to shoulder to create the India that our freedom fighters would be proud of.

Let each one of us draw inspiration from our great leaders and the historic movement of our Nation's Freedom Struggle and join hands to take our nation to greater heights by 2022 on the 75th year of India's Independence.

I convey my warm felicitations to Dr.V.Shankar, Chairman, Sri Kanchi Mahaswami Vidya Mandir, the Trustees, Management, Principal, Teachers, Staff, Students and to all those who were associated with organizing this programme in a wonderful manner exhibiting our nation's rich heritage and culture.

Jai Hind; Jai Tamil Nadu
