

ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAR PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU AT THE UNVEILING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE OF SCHOOL CLASSROOMS CEREMONY IN SIVANANDA SARASWATHI SEVASHRAM, S.V. IYER AUDITORIUM, KATTANKULOTHUR, ON 24.02.2018 AT 12.30 P.M.

AnaivarukkumVanakkam.

Thiru. Padmashree Dr. Rajaram,Chairman.

Thiru. Kishore,President.

Thirumathi Lakshmi, Executive Secretary.

ThirumathiUsha,Joint Secretary.

Thiru. Bandhu,

Thiru. Mani,

Committee Members.

Heads of all Schools,

Children and Elders,

Staff,

Distinguished Invitees

Friends from the Media

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very happy to be here as the Chief Guest for the unveiling of School Classrooms ceremony in the Sivananda Saraswathi Sevashram.

It is a matter of satisfaction to learn that this is a national awardee organization that has more than 70 years of recorded services to thousands of poor orphans. The institution has been consistently providing them not just food, education and shelter, but has also been instilling morals to help children grow, learn and eventually become independent.

India, as a civilization, has flourished under the shade of saints and sages, who have blessed it with eternal values. At the heart of the growth of Sivananda Saraswathi Sevashram is the blessings of Swami Sivananda of Rishikesh.

The story of how he initiated into selfless public service, a prominent couple of Chennai is as inspiring as it touching.

Shri S.V.Iyer, a leading lawyer of Chengalpattu and Dr. V.Mangalam, Superintendent of Royapettah Government hospital, had been childless but the towering sage Swami Sivananda asked them to become the parents of kids who were themselves parent-less. It is an easy solution if people approached life logically, but it took a sage to see the truth!

The seed that the Sage cast in the minds of the great couple flowered and the fruits of their selfless life is there for all of us to see.

Today I am able to see first-hand how the organization is providing the hygienic environment, balanced nutritious food, clothing, shelter, education, morals, basic family values, culture and above all the true value of love and affection to everyone. We live in a day and age where social service is increasingly challenging to many so to see such a selfless organization serving the needy year after year for more than seven decades is truly inspiring.

By merely visiting this campus, one can clearly articulate that in addition to taking care of the physical health by having Doctors, Nurses and Ayas to support thousands of human beings within the premises, the organization also takes care of mental health

needs such as counseling, outdoor activities, keeping the environment clean with greenery and so on thereby resulting in an upbeat perspective of life for everyone.

Sivananda Saraswathi Sevashram is also providing High Quality Education through a variety of accredited Primary and High Schools that benefit the orphans and thousands of rural down-trodden children in about 50 villages in this area.

Looking at the history of this Sivananda Sevashram one wonders at the miracle that has seen a small seed grow into a huge Banyan tree that gives shade and succor to so many people, particularly to so many children.

It is the duty of society at large to stand by people like Dr. Rajaram who have elected to serve those who cannot serve themselves. On my part, I assure him of my good offices in promoting the greater welfare of all his wards, young or old.

You know Raj Bhavan campus has been opened for visitors on all days. I welcome all of you here to Raj Bhavan for the kids who are under the special care of your 'Anna', I extend a special welcome.

I would like to thank you for inviting me to your organization. It was such a pleasure for me to learn about your activities and visit your facilities. It is also no surprise as to why numerous social cause oriented individuals from the likes of Shri. V. V. Giri, Shri. Morarji Desai, Shri. Atal Bihari Vajpayee to Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam have blessed this place by their visits as well.

I admire Dr. Rajaram and all those who back him in work both directly and indirectly for the service rendered with love and dedication. I give my special wishes to the inmates of his home.

May all of you have the physical and mental strength to serve and love.

Nandri Vanakkam
Jai Hind Jai Tamil Nadu