

**ADDRESS BY THIRU. BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR
OF TAMIL NADU AT THE REPUBLIC DAY RECEPTION "AT HOME" AT
RAJ BHAVAN, CHENNAI ON 26.01.2020 AT 5.00 P.M.**

Anaivarukkum Maalai Vanakkam

Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami,
Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Hon'ble Thiru Justice Amreshwar Pratap Sahi,
Chief Justice, Madras High Court

Thiru. O. Paneerselvam,
Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Thiru. P. Dhanapal.
Speaker, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly

Thiru. M.K. Stalin,
Hon'ble Leader of Opposition,
Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly

Distinguished invitees,

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a privilege and an honour to be addressing all of you on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of our Republic Day. The Republic Day is a day of formal celebration by the nation when, we recall to ourselves the supreme contribution of our freedom fighters and law-makers who gave us our Constitution.

India gave unto itself a Constitution which enshrined the values of justice, liberty and equality so as to promote fraternity among the people of India. The nation rejoiced together to welcome the arrival of an era of opportunity and growth. The Constituent Assembly had in its ranks redoubtable personalities such as Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Chakravarti Rajagopalachari, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Kannaiyalal Munshi, Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, Balwant Rai Mehta and H. V. Kamath. It was chaired by Dr. Rajendra

Prasad and the Chairman of the Drafting Committee was Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. 'Babasaheb' Ambedkar.

Our Constitution which was created by gleaning the best features from the U.S., the Canadian, the British, the German, the French and Australian Constitutions and laid emphasis on liberty, equality and fraternity through Fundamental Rights which form a part of its basic structure.

Social democracy, as a way of life recognises liberty, equality and fraternity as core principles of life. These principles are not to be treated as separate items but need to be considered in a trinity.

India is a nation with a glorious past. Inspired by the dynamic leadership of our Honourable Prime Minister, the nation is asserting itself vigorously in the present considering the huge wealth of talent that the nation is endowed with. Future promises to be even rosier. It is in our hands to make that happen. Imagine the strength when a nation of 125 crore people starts moving forward in one whole mass. Not only will it dominate the world but will also leave every other nation behind. That, in my view, is the concept of the emerging New India. Great people have moulded the nation and its people. Great books continue to guide us in our daily lives. Great ideals beckon us to greater heights.

Even as we celebrate our Constitution, we must remind ourselves that it is a dynamic, living document of our religion of willing accommodation and harmonious togetherness. This is certainly easy to talk about but not so easy to implement. Despite this reality, as a nation, India has proved to be a land of wondrous unity, collective sanity coupled with individual dignity that comes of equitable distribution of our common resources. Our record of fight against poverty has been phenomenally good in the past some years. Our current fight against graft, too, has its own merit that the world has not

missed to notice. Our surge in the sciences has been a matter of amazement for the world. And all this become possible because we stand on the foundation of our Constitution. Today we must remind ourselves of all these.

Let us make a resolve on this Republic Day to contribute all our might for the sake of the nation. That would be nationalism with a sense of service. That would be growth without pain since all of us will grow together. That would lead to greatness which is beckoning us from all directions.

I extend my heartfelt greetings and best wishes to you and through you to the people of Tamil Nadu for a glorious future. May the spirit of our Constitution fill the air and devotion to the nation be the life breath that sustains and inspires us.

Nandri Vanakkam....

Jai Hind.....

Jai Tamil Nadu....