## Hon'ble of Tamil Nadu & Punjab and Administrator U.T., Chandigarh <u>Thiru.Banwarilal Purohit participated at inauguration of SRM Institute of</u> <u>Science and Technology, Tiruchirapalli campus through virtual mode at Raj</u> <u>Bhavan</u>

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu & Punjab and Administrator U.T., Chandigarh Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit participated at inauguration of SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Tiruchirapalli campus through virtual mode at Raj Bhavan today (09.09.2021) and addressed in which Hon'ble Vice President of India, Thiru. M. Venkaiah Naidu participated as Chief Guest.

Hon'ble Governor said, "It is my pleasure to be a part of the inaugural function of SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Tiruchirappalli. It is indeed a moment of pleasure to be among the igniting minds who are always idealistic and intelligent paving the way for the progress of the country in a holistic style.

Southern India was the cradle of the most ancient civilization in India. The classical or Sangam period was the golden age of Tamil Nadu. The great culture and civilization of Tamils was unique in the cultural history of India. The centuries old civilization can better be explored in the form of temple architectures, victorious empires and art & culture patronized by the various Emperors across time. Their grandeur is still visible despite the vagaries of time. It was also a period of great literary activity and every line of the classical poems reflects this great civilization.

Tamil Nadu has a glorious history with regard to education. Recent excavations at a place called Keezhadi in Tamil Nadu firmly reveal that as early as the sixth century B.C. the Tamils gave prominence to literacy. And the trend still continues. Thus, the state has evolved into one of the most literate and educationally progressive states in India.

India is believed to have had a wonderfully functioning system of higher education as early as 1000 B.C. We have one of the largest networks of higher education institutions in the world with 993 universities and 39,931 colleges. Tamil Nadu enjoys a covetous reputation for higher education in the country. The State has a gross enrolment ratio of 51.4% compared to the national average of 27.1%. The

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State of Tamil Nadu has 59 Universities and about 8.64 lakh students passing out every year.

Moreover, Tamil Nadu is home to very old, renowned, reputed institutions like the College of Engineering, Chennai, IIT Madras, the Pachiappas College and Loyola College, Chennai, the St. Joseph's College, Trichy, The American College, Madurai, Fatima College, Madurai, St. Xavier's College, Palayamkotai ...the list is endless. Thus the state has been contributing a huge talent-pool of educationists, engineers and other stalwarts to the national receptacle, by establishing best in class institutions as centres of excellence in various fields.

Education is an important tool to make history and foster positive social change. Nelson Mandela said, and I quote, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world". Education isn't simply about achieving a "higher state of knowledge"; it's about equipping our students with the tools they need to go out into the world and shape it for themselves. In the words of Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore, "The highest education is that which does not merely give us information but makes our life in harmony with all existence". Keeping this fact in mind, our educational institutions, through collaborations, should promote more engagement with our communities, industries, governments.

Higher education Institutions impart education that motivates our students to become more open, thoughtful, and responsible citizens, who are prepared to put these skills into action in our society. Here, I would like to make a special mention about SRM Group of Institutions offering a commendable contribution towards the educational spectrum for the past few decades.

Another milestone in the historic journey of SRM Group of Institutions is the SRM Institute of Science and Technology, offering courses in Engineering, Humanities & Sciences, Allied Health Sciences, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy, being inaugurated today.

Dear students,

Remember, the words of Late President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, and I quote, "Learning gives creativity, creativity leads to thinking, thinking provides knowledge, and knowledge makes you great". So, you, the young minds, should take up this opportunity and shape your career in a successful manner with a keen focus on the technological advancement of the country besides, uplifting the economically and socially needy sections of the society with education, knowledge, skills and values imbibed, thus making the world a better place for all.

You are the future of this country. You have the power and resilience. The nation looks up to you. We need to emerge stronger, fitter and faster. So arise, awake and stop not till the goal of Atma Nirbhar Bharat is realised.

Let all success and glory be yours in the years to come."

On this occasion, Thiru. T. R. Pachamuthu, Member of Parliament, Founder & Chancellor, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Dr. R. Shivakumar, Chairman, SRM Groups Trichy and Ramapuram Campus, Thiru. Niranjan, President, SRM Institute of Science and Technology and other dignitaries participated.

Raj Bhavan, Chennai – 78	Sd/-
Date : 09.09.2021	Addl. Director (PR)