

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF
TAMIL NADU AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE CONFERENCE ON NON-
DESTRUCTIVE EVALUATION-NDE 2017 AT CHENNAI TRADE CENTRE,
NANDAMBAKKAM, CHENNAI ON 14.12.2017 AT 09.30 A.M.**

ANNAIVARUKUM KAALAI VANAKKAM

Thiru D.J. Varde

President Indian Society for Non-Destructive Testing (ISNT)

Thiru Rajul R. Parikh

Honorary General Secretary, ISNT

Thiru S. Subramanian

Convener, NDE-2017

Thiru Krishnan Balasubramaniam

Chairman, NDE-2017

Thiru Umakanth Anand

Thiru T.S.G. Narayanan

Participating Delegates

Distinguished Invitees

Friends from Media

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a pleasure to inaugurate the Conference on Non- Destructive Evaluation, present awards to eminent persons for their remarkable contribution and address this distinguished gathering.

We have made rapid strides in various fields since Independence. Yet we have a long way to go to reach Global heights. Thanks to the initiatives taken by our Hon'ble Prime Minister Thiru Narendra Modi Ji. India is destined to become a global leader through flagship Projects like Digital India, Startup India, and Make in India. The industries are set for a sea change due to new innovations like Industry 4.0, Automation, Big Data, Internet of Things. The developments in Science are really transformational. Electric mobility has replaced conventional engines; cell phones have become an important one; it is really amazing that 20 years before, Internet was a new phenomenon, and Facebook, Twitter, and WhatsApp were unheard off.

Technologies such as Non-destructive Evaluation is of great importance to the growth of the India's prominence as a technology leader in the world. I commend Non- Destructive Evaluation for playing a participatory role in a wide range of industries such as transportation, energy, space, and infrastructure.

The theme of this conference "Safety, Reliability, and Sustainability" is an apt one.

Human Safety and well-being of every citizen is a high priority. Today we have an aging infrastructure and a high cost is attached for its replacement. The challenge of the day is to maintain and extend the design life of components of our infrastructure. I congratulate NDE for playing a pivotal role by evaluating the state of the material and providing valuable information so as to prevent catastrophic failures and to ensure safety. The key applications in India include nuclear power plants, railway tracks, boilers and pressure vessels, dams and bridges, etc.,

Every country depends on its manufacturing industries to improve its GDP and to provide economic independence. The 'MAKE IN INDIA' programme depends on the Reliability of our assets such as power plants, strategic establishments, and the continuous availability of critical manufacturing facilities. The stellar role played by Non-destructive Evaluation in improving the reliability and efficiency and reducing operational costs deserve a special mention. Industries such as petrochemical plants, thermal power and aerospace industries immensely benefit from NDE tools.

Our nation is blessed with abundant natural resources. We should treasure our natural resources and our environment and its sustainability is very important not only for us but also for the future generations. Leaking oil & gas pipelines and containers and similar incidents are increasing and are alarming. They pollute our water, soil, and air. I would like you to remind you about the BP oil-spill incidents that led to widespread damage to the health eco-system in US waters. It is high time we develop new and novel NDE technologies to avoid and prevent more damage to our eco system.

I am sure that the Indian Society for Non-Destructive Testing and similar organizations present worldwide are training and certifying engineers and technicians to carry out inspections under difficult field conditions. I am confident that these certified engineers would play a key role in enhancing Safety, Reliability and Sustainability.

I convey my warm felicitations to the participating Delegates and wish the NDE 2017 Conference all success.

JAI HIND. JAI TAMIL NADU
NANDRI VANAKKAM.