

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF
TAMIL NADU AT "BHARATHEEYA SHASTHREEYA VAADYOTHSAV 2019" –
ALL INDIA CLASSICAL INSTRUMENTAL FESTIVAL BEING ORGANISED BY
SOUTH ZONE CULTURAL CENTRE AT YOUTH HOSTEL AUDITORIUM,
CHENNAI ON 22.12.2019 AT 6.00 P.M**

Anaivarukkum Maalai Vanakkam

Prof. M. Balasubramoniam,
Director,
South Zone Cultural Centre

Padma Vibhushan Dr. Umayalpuram K.Sivaraman

Padma Bhushan Prof. T.N. Krishnan,

Padmashri Tmt. Chitra Visweswaran

Distinguished Invitees

Ladies and gentlemen

It gives me immense pleasure to be here today at the "Bharateeya Shasthreeya Vaadyothsav 2019" – All India Classical Instrumental Festival being organised by South Zone Cultural Centre.

It is a matter of double delight that the function is being held in Chennai. The month of Marghazhi brings with it festivity and joy to the residents of the city in the form of festivals of classical music and dance conducted by different organizations. It is, therefore, no wonder that music lovers come flocking back to renew their roots with the city, from all parts of the globe.

The South Zone Cultural Centre is making very sincere efforts in organising Vedic Conferences, Visual Arts Exhibitions, Tirumurai Festivals, Folk Festivals, Classical Music and Naatya Festival in various parts of South India. This is for the first time such a noble cultural initiative is being taken up by the South Zone Cultural Centre to organise the Bharatheeya Shasthreeya Vaadyothsav in Chennai.

This country has great Cultural Heritage. Take the example of the Bhimbetka rock shelters - UNESCO heritage site at Madhya Pradesh - you will find Music instruments

and dance part of the paintings. These paintings are Paleolithic and Neolithic cave paintings. So old and so rich is our tradition of Music and Dance.

We need to preserve this great cultural heritage of our civilisation. And only youth can carry forward this rich legacy. This Vaadyothsav will help to further this goal and make our youth experience and understand the traditional cultural treasures of this great Nation. Programmes and cultural festivals of this kind will promote and rekindle in our youth an interest in our rich art forms. This will facilitate the continued transmission of our art forms to future generations. And will also provide a platform for budding artistes to exhibit their talent.

I really appreciate the manner in which the city of Chennai has promoted Art and Music for a long time. Many Sabhas, many artists and many individuals contributed to bring Chennai on UNESCO's Map as Heritage Centre which have creatively contributed for Music. Other two cities of India in this list are Varanasi and Jaipur. Hats off to people of Chennai.

I am happy to note that this festival of instruments is dedicated to the memory of the Doyen of Saxophone Padmashri Dr. Kadri Gopalnath who attained eternal bliss very recently.

Youth empowerment through cultural initiative is the need of the hour. The launch of "Ek Bharat, Shreshta Bharat" by our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji to celebrate the Unity in Diversity of our Nation and to maintain and strengthen the fabric of traditionally-existing emotional bonds among the people of our country has been a great success. It has helped to foster the spirit of national integration through a deep and structured engagement among all Indian States.

I am pleased to learn that more artistes have participated in this festival than ever before and they have come from across the country. I understand that more than 100 eminent and top-ranking classical instrumentalists from Southern and Northern parts of India will be performing in this prestigious festival aimed at strengthening the cultural bondage of India.

I hope the Centre will redouble its efforts and organise more and more festivals and enrich the aesthetic awareness of the people of our country.

I appeal to the artistes, the people and particularly the youth to carry forward the rich legacy, culture and tradition of our great Nation. I extend my best wishes and greetings to all of you.

Being the President of the South Zone Cultural Centre, I take this opportunity to thank all the artistes for coming here to perform and wish them best. God bless all.

Nandri Vanakkam....

Jai Hind....

Jai Tamil Nadu.....