ADDRESS OF HON'BLE GOVERNOR AT THE REPUBLIC DAY CONTINGENT OF TAMIL NADU NCC CADETS : 2020 MEET AT RAJ BHAVAN, CHENNAI ON 03.02.2020 AT 10.15 A.M.

Commodore Malay K. Kukroti, Deputy Director General, NCC,

Officers of NCC, and Dear Student-Cadets

I am happy to be here in the midst of these young girls and boys of National Cadet Corps (NCC) from the Directorate, who had participated in Republic Day Camp on 26th January 2020 at New Delhi. I am told that the Contingent comprising 116 Cadets was accompanied by Permanent Instructor Staff, Associate NCC Officers and Contingent Commander. NCC Directorate of Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andaman & Nicobar and this contingent has been performing well consistently for the past five years.

NCC was started in 1948 with the intention to provide military training youngsters so that the needs of the Armed Forces could be met in the form of supplementary fighting groups and supporting field personnel. From a force of just 20 thousand in 1948, the strength of the NCC has swelled to nearly 13.5 lakh today. In 130 crore population still this is not enough, and we need more youth to join the NCC.

No matter this, the NCC has served its purpose very well, having supplied to the Armed Forces countless numbers of soldiers and officers in the past 50-60 years. It has given the Armed Forces some of the most decorated officers and leaders who proved their merit during times of war and also some peace-time emergency duties such as helping people fight epidemics, floods, earth-quakes and the like. The products of the NCC, thus, serve in many more fields than common people can imagine. I congratulate the NCC through generations for attaining high standards of training.

The aim of NCC is to develop discipline, character, a sense of brotherhood, spirit of adventure and ideals of selfless service amongst young citizens. Not only these, it also aims to enlighten leadership qualities among the youth who will serve the nation regardless of which career they choose. Never forget it. Always keep it in mind and follow it.

Swami Vivekananda, said and I quote "Give me a hundred youth and I shall transform India". In this NCC contingent, you are more than 100. You are the future of India. Be responsible, Be disciplined and be winners in life.

I am glad to learn that at the Republic Day Camp – 2020 in New Delhi last week, **the Directorate contingent has again come out with flying colours and has secured the third position in all India ranking.** The contingent has won five gold medals, two silver medals and two bronze medals by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India in various categories and events.

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I am glad to see that you won

- 1. "All India Best Cadet" Award
- 2. "Best Cadet Senior Division Army" Award
- 3. "Best Cadet Senior Wing Air Force" Award
- 4. "Best Cadet Senior Division Air" Award

5. Your "Ballet" dance bagged Best Cultural Programme Award.

It is a very commendable performance. Heartiest Congratulations to all award winners and whole group.

It is significant to mention that majority of the award winners are Girl Cadets, which speaks volumes of the commitment shown by Commanding Officers, Permanent Instructor Staff and Associate NCC Officers, in implementing the concept "*Empowering the Girl Child*". I am really impressed.

NCC is an Organization designed for overall improvement of the students and build on the basic concept of "**Unity and Discipline**". I wish all the NCC Cadets, Instructors, Teaching faculty and all other supporting staff who had put in untiring efforts in helping the Directorate to attain high standards of training.

Recently, a statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Boseon his 123rd Birth Anniversary is unveiled by Hon'ble Vice President of India in Raj Bhavan. Subhas Chandra Bose was a charismatic influencer of the youth and earned the epithet **'Netaji'** by leading the Indian National Army during India's struggle for Independence. In a letter to his brother Sarat Chandra Bose, Netaji wrote, and I quote, "Only on the Soil of Sacrifice and Suffering Can We Raise Our National Edifice."

I congratulate the Cadets for their outstanding achievement and exhort them to strive further for their all-round development in academics, extra circular activities, sports and other fields. You should keep this discipline and hard work in long run and bring laurels to our great country on all international fora. You have brought pride to the State of Tamil Nadu by your selection and performance at the Republic Day parade in New Delhi. We are proud of you. Never forget your **motto "Unity & Discipline"** My best wishes to all the Cadets here. A bright future awaits you in the coming years.

> Nandri Vanakkam..... Jai Hind..... Jai Tamil Nadu.....