ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU AT THE NSS VOLUNTEERS MEET AT RAJ BHAVAN, CHENNAI ON 02.02.2021 AT 5.00 P.M

Thiru. Anandrao V.Patil, I.A.S., Secretary to Governor

Thiru. K. Vivekanandan, I.A.S., Director of Collegiate Education and State Coordinator, NSS

Dr.C.Samuel Chelliah, Regional Director, Regional Directorate of NSS, Government of India

Programme Co-ordinators

Dear Student-Members of the NSS

I am happy to be in the midst of volunteers of the National Service Scheme (NSS) here at Raj Bhavan today.

The NSS, an organization dedicated to community services was launched in the Mahatma Gandhi birth centenary year in 1969 in 37 Universities with forty thousand (40,000) volunteers. As on 31.12.2020, NSS had about thirty six lakh and fifty eight thousand (36.58 lakh) volunteers enrolled in thirty nine thousand six hundred and ninety five (39,695) NSS units spread over three hundred and ninety one (391) Universities.

Mahatma Gandhi said and I quote, "The simplest acts of kindness are by far more powerful than a thousand heads bowing in prayer".

The sole aim of the NSS is to provide hands-on experience to young students in delivering community service. The Motto of NSS "NOT ME BUT YOU" reflects the essence of democratic living and upholds the need for self-less service. Never forget it. Always keep it in mind and follow it. For, it is adopting the message in actual life that we will sow seeds of collective happiness.

The young members of the contingent of the NSS who participated in the Republic Day Parade at Delhi have brought glory to our State. By attending the Republic Day Camp the volunteers become able to adopt a healthy life style and learn group living, attain leadership qualities, improve communication skills, undertake any responsibilities and fulfil them. The camp experience instils a spirit of patriotism, national integration, solidarity, brotherhood, communal harmony among the student volunteers. Therefore, NSS Republic Day Parade Camp experience provides you ample opportunities to develop your integrated personality. Your selection for the Republic Day Parade is recognition of your talent and devotion to the organization and to good causes.

You have all come forward to devote your time for the benefit of the community, the State and the Nation. I appreciate

your sense of service and applaud the excellent work that the organization has been doing in the country.

I am sure that your love for the nation, which has brought you into the NSS will lead you to greater heights of success in your academic and professional careers.

I wish to conclude by recalling the words of our former President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam "Where there is righteousness in the heart, there is beauty in the character. When there is beauty in the character, there is harmony in the home. When there is harmony in the home, there is the order in the nation. When there is the order in the nation, there is peace in the world."

I extend my best wishes and greetings to all of you. A bright future awaits you.

Nandri Vanakkam....

Jai Hind....

Jai Tamil Nadu...