



Message of the Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh
Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan
to the people of Andhra Pradesh
on the occasion of completion of one year in office

PRIYA MYNA ANDHRA PRADESH SODARA SODARI MANULU ANDARIKI NAMASKARAM.

Exactly an year ago, I have assumed charge as Governor of Andhra Pradesh. It was really a proud moment for me to get the opportunity for serving the people, as Governor of Andhra Pradesh State, which is a progressive State with rich cultural heritage.

I would like to take this opportunity of completion of one year in office, to share my thoughts and views with you all on this day.

As you all are aware, the country is witnessing a spurt in COVID-19 cases in spite of the best efforts by the administration. However, it should be noted that it is a world-wide phenomena. Even countries with advanced medical and public health facilities are finding it difficult to cope with the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic is wreaking havoc across all countries and people all over the world are experiencing its impact.

Both the State and the Central governments are doing their best to contain spread of the virus and providing treatment facilities to those who are affected by the virus. The only mantra through which the battle against COVID-19 can be won appears to be by following the principle of 4Ts - 'Tracing, Tracking, Testing and Treating.

It is the responsibility of each and every citizen to be alert and be cautious of the virus and its impact. As far as possible people should remain at home, avoid unnecessary travel, wash hands frequently, always wear a face mask or face shield in public. By following these best practices it is possible to prevent its spread.

I appeal to the people of Andhra Pradesh to be aware of the drastic situation created by the COVID-19 pandemic and keep in mind that prevention is the

only key to defeat the virus. Please ensure that you do not get infected and prevent others from getting infected. There is no need to get panicked or distressed as adequate medical facilities are made available by the government to treat the affected persons. As of now, research for development of a vaccine is still in progress and it may take a few months more before it is made available to the people.

Here, I would like to appreciate the services of the Red Cross, NGOs, Civil society organizations in A.P. In coordination with the doctors, para-medical staff and other frontline warriors, they could spread awareness about the COVID-19 pandemic, distribute face masks, sanitisers, provide food packets to homeless destitute, migrant workers etc. The Red Cross organised voluntary blood donation camps and collected blood even during these difficult times as blood is needed on a regular basis to help people suffering from life threatening diseases such as Thalassemia etc.

While attending programmes organised by various Universities and educational institutions, I have made it mandatory that they organize voluntary blood donation camps and tree plantation. I believe that it is through massive tree plantation only that the ill-effects arising out of climate change can be addressed and rise in pollution can be checked.

I have also mandated to officials to dispense with the tradition of laying red carpets, putting up hoardings and arches during my visits. This measure was meant to do away with traditions brought in by the erstwhile British Raj and to curtail wasteful expenditure.

During the past one year, I could visit the tribal areas in Vizianagaram and Kurnool districts and interact with tribal groups there. I had the opportunity to participate in the Grama Sabha held by the tribal groups in Ammavalasa PTG village in Vizianagaram district and interact with Chenchus, who are

among the particularly vulnerable tribal groups in Srisailam. My interaction with these tribal groups has given me immense satisfaction about implementation of various welfare programmes by the Central and State governments for the welfare of the tribal population in the State.

I also had the opportunity to felicitate our freedom fighters and their family members and to remember the sacrifices made by them during freedom struggle, on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi Jayanthi, Martyrs Day, AP Formation Day etc.

During last one year to recognize achievements of Sportspersons, I felicitated outstanding sportspersons from Andhra Pradesh, such as ace Badminton Champion Kum. P.V. Sindhu, Archery Champion Kum. Vennam Jyothi Surekha, Chess Champion Smt. Koneru Hampi, by inviting them to Raj Bhavan.

It was a pleasant experience for me to meet personally and interact with freedom fighters, senior citizens, esteemed members of civil society, senior officials of the government, defence personnel, members of medical fraternity etc. on the occasion of the 'AT HOME' functions held at Raj Bhavan premises on the occasion of the Independence Day and the Republic Day.

During the past one year, several programmes were held at Raj Bhavan, but notable among them was the celebration of the 'Constitution Day'. On this day the Chief Justice and Judges of the AP High Court and senior officials of the government attended the programme and reiterated their commitment to the Constitution of India.

I wish to continue my endeavour of understanding my people through my visits and field trips and interaction, specially with the rural and tribal people. I, as Governor of the State intend to become a bridge between the Union Government and the State Government to ensure welfare and

betterment of my people. Due to COVID-19 prevalence the movement and activities have got restricted during last few months but the human ingenuity and capability of innovation and adaptation will soon create a solution for this crisis the mankind is facing now.

I am thankful to the people of Andhra Pradesh for their love and affection shown towards me on various occasions and for their cooperation.

I pray to Lord Jagannath, Lord Venkateswara and Maa Kanakadurga, for the well being of the people of Andhra Pradesh and to continue to bestow their blessings on all of us.

Jai Hind