



सत्यमेव जयते

Address by the Hon'ble Governor
Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan
at the event of 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh'
on September 08, 2021
organized by the Sainik Welfare Dept. at Raj Bhavan

Sri Kumar Viswajeet, Principal Secretary, Home Department, Sri B. Srinivasulu, Commissioner of Police, Vijayawada, Commodore M. Goverdhan Raju, Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam, Brigadier V. Venkat Reddy, VSM (Retd.) Director of Sainik Welfare, Sri R.P. Sisodia, Special Chief Secretary to Governor, Captain V.S.C. Rao, Indian Navy, Sri J. Nivas, Collector, Krishna district and 1971 War Widows and War Veterans present today. A very Good Morning to you all.

On the occasion of 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh', commemorating the 50th anniversary of India's victory in 1971 war, I extend my warm greetings and best wishes to all the 1971 War veterans and their families.

As you all are aware, in December 1971, in one of the shortest wars in the history, lasting only for 13 days, the Indian Army secured a decisive and historic victory over Pakistan Army which led to the creation of a new nation 'Bangladesh.'

During the war, the Indian and Pakistani militaries simultaneously clashed on the eastern and western fronts and the war ended after the Eastern Command of the Pakistan military signed the 'Instrument of Surrender' on 16th December 1971 in Dhaka. The victory resulted in the largest military surrender post World War-II, in which approximately 93,000 soldiers of the Pakistan Army surrendered to the Indian Army.

This emphatic victory has immensely raised the stature of India amongst the comity of nations.

The 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh' celebrations began with the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi, lighting the Victory Flame on December 16, 2020. The Victory Flame was lit from the eternal flame of the National War Memorial, signifying the bravery of the soldiers of the war. Since then the Victory Flame is travelling across the length and breadth of India.

On this special occasion, I take this opportunity to salute the Armed Forces personnel of Andhra Pradesh, who sacrificed their lives at the altar

of duty and their valour and professionalism of the highest order. The nation owes a big debt to them.

I deem it a privilege to felicitate the War Widows, War Disabled and Gallantry Award Winners of the 1971 war.

Wars are won and nations celebrate victory. However, any war demands supreme sacrifices from the soldiers and it can bring misery and immense hardship to the family members who are left behind.

I therefore reiterate that the Governments and the citizens must pay utmost attention to their needs.

I am confident that the Government of Andhra Pradesh and the Sainik Welfare Department are doing everything possible to address their problems.

Thank you all.

Jai Hind