

Prime Minister's Office



## PM takes part in Pongal celebrations in New Delhi

“As the Pongal stream flows from every house in Tamil Nadu, I wish the flow of happiness and prosperity in everyone’s life”

“Today's feeling is similar to celebrating festivities with family and friends”

“Crops, farmers and villages are at the center of most of the festivals”

“Millet promotion is benefitting small farmers and young entrepreneurs”

“The festival of Pongal reflects the national spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat”

“This feeling of unity is the biggest force to build a Viksit Bharat by 2047”

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The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi today took part in Pongal celebrations at the residence of Union Minister, Shri L Murugan in New Delhi.

Addressing on the occasion, the Prime Minister conveyed his best wishes on the occasion of Pongal and said that the festive fervour can be witnessed emanating from every home in Tamil Nadu. Shri Modi wished for a continuous flow of the stream of happiness, prosperity and contentment in the lives of all citizens. He also noted Lohri celebrations taking place yesterday, the festive occasion of Makar Uttarayan today, Makar Sankranti to be celebrated tomorrow and the onset of Magh Bihu very soon. Shri Modi conveyed his best wishes to all citizens for the ongoing festive period in the country.

Prime Minister Modi expressed delight in recognising similar faces and recalled meeting them during Tamil Puthandu celebrations last year. Thanking Union Minister, Shri L Murugan for the invite for today's occasion, the Prime Minister said that the feeling is similar to celebrating festivities with family and friends.

Quoting great saint Thiruvalluvar, the Prime Minister highlighted the role of educated citizens, honest businessmen and good crop in nation-building and said that during Pongal, fresh crop is offered to god which puts 'Annadata Kisans' at the center of this festive tradition. He underlined the rural, crop and farmer connection of every festival of India. He recalled how last time, he talked about the connection between Millets and Tamil traditions. He expressed happiness that there is a new awareness about the superfood Shri Anna and many youth have taken up startup ventures on millets - Shri Anna. He informed that more than 3 crore farmers doing millet farming, are directly getting benefitted from millet promotion.

Observing the tradition of drawing Kolam outside the houses by women from the Tamil community during Pongal celebrations, the Prime Minister dwelled on the process and noted that the design is laid by making multiple dots on the ground using flour, each one having a different significance, but the real look of the Kolam becomes more magnificent when all these dots are joined and filled with colour to create a big artwork. Drawing similarities to India's diversity with Kolam, the Prime Minister said that when every corner of the country connects emotionally with each other, the nation's strength appears in a new form. "The festival of Pongal reflects the national spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat", Shri Modi remarked. He also noted that the same spirit can be witnessed in the tradition started by Kashi-Tamil Sangamam and Saurashtra-Tamil Sangamam which records enthusiastic participation by people from the Tamil community in large numbers.

The Prime Minister said, "This feeling of unity is the biggest force to build a Viksit Bharat by 2047. The main element of the Panch Pran that I have invoked from the Red Fort is to energize the unity of the country and to strengthen the unity. He concluded with a call for re-dedicating ourselves to the resolution of strengthening the unity of the nation on this auspicious occasion of Pongal.

Addressing a programme on Pongal which celebrates the vibrant culture of Tamil Nadu. <https://t.co/ZUGb8BF3Vx>

— Narendra Modi (@narendramodi) January 14, 2024

## Prime Minister Narendra Modi participates in Pongal Celeb...



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