

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE OF  
**SELVI J JAYALALITHAA**, HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER OF  
TAMIL NADU ON THE DEMISE OF  
THIRU A.P.J.ABDUL KALAM, FORMER PRESIDENT OF INDIA –  
27.7.2015

It was with profound grief and sorrow that I learnt of the sudden demise of the distinguished Eleventh President of India, great inspirational scientist and a beloved son of Tamil Nadu, Bharat Ratna APJ Abdul Kalam. Former President Kalam was one of the greatest public figures of post Independence India. Starting from a very humble background, born into a poor family in Rameshwaram, President Kalam rose to the greatest heights through dint of sheer perseverance, hard work and brilliance.

His contributions to India's space, missile and nuclear programmes are well known. A visionary scientist, he gave India the pride of place on the global stage of space technology and research. He reinforced India's stature as a responsible and self reliant nuclear power.

He led the Satellite Launch Vehicle Development team in the Indian Space Research Organization. He led the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme of the Defence Research Development Organization with great success.

He has been a great source of inspiration for the people of this country and in particular for children and students. He wrote

and spoke with great felicity for all Indians and the youth in particular. He became a great youth icon. He touched everyone with his simplicity and grace. He was a true patriot who placed the interests of the country above all else. His mind was full of ideas for harnessing technology for the benefit of the rural poor.

I join the people of India and of Tamil Nadu in deeply mourning his passing away.

**J JAYALALITHAA**  
CHIEF MINISTER OF TAMIL NADU

**Issued By: DIPR, Secretariat, Chennai 9**