MESAGE ON THE OCCASION OF SHRIMATI VIJAYA LAKSHMI PANDIT'S BIRTHDAY - 18th AUGUST 1970

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It is not easy to pay tribute and evaluate a rich and outstanding personality especially if this person commands a special affection as an esteemed friend. The rare accomplishments and achievements of Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit place her in the forefront of Statesmen, Political Workers and Freedom Fighters. Whatever office she held she discharged her duties with great dignity and competence, lending to every office the imprint of her rare personality. As a diplomat she held the most exacting and important assignments, as an active Political Worker she devoted all her energies to the great movement that led to Independence. Later she was associated with the work of the Government and occupied high and distinguished positions.

When one thinks of Mrs. Pandit one's mind evokes the image of a person endowed with rare and gracious charm, a rare combination of beauty and commanding Intelligence. She is intensely human and her warm personality sparkles with spontaneous wit and a happy sence of humour. No doubt she received a rich and unique heritage which is such an inseparable and integrated part of her personality, but it is her own personal charm, application and brilliance which have made of her the outstanding personality that she is today. Her great experience and qualities will undoubtedly be called upon again to play an important part in the life of the country.

It is always a joy to meet her as one always does when one meets a really outstanding person, one feels happy in her company and it is a real privilege to have her as a friend.

We wish her long life, health and happiness on the auspicious occasion of her Birthday and we send her our love and affection.