

TRAVANCORE *Information & Listener*

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TO MY BELOVED PEOPLE

ON this epoch-making day, His Britannic Majesty has assented to the Indian Independence Bill by the provisions whereof this ancient State of ours is enabled to recover its traditional and historic independence. On and from the 15th August 1947, the close and friendly alliance that has subsisted for over a century and a half between the British Crown and Travancore will be formally terminated by reason of the renunciation by His Majesty of his suzerainty in respect of the Indian States. The mutual rights and obligations arising out of treaties, agreements, and undertakings entered into between the successive Rulers of Travancore and the British Crown and its representatives will also lapse and from that date, Travancore will reassume its independence and sovereignty in full measure. On this

The above most gracious message was broadcasted by His Highness the Maharaja from the Trivandrum Station at 8-45 p. m. on Friday the 18th July 1947.

solemn and historic occasion, I extend, on behalf of myself and my people, to His Majesty our thanks for the helpful cooperation and mutual service that have marked the relationship of the two countries during many decades and have withstood many trials, including the supreme tests afforded during two great wars. .

The State of Travancore is a priceless heritage and my ancestors and myself have endeavoured to discharge our sacred trust with the sole purpose of labouring for the material and moral progress of its people.

It has been and will be my intention to associate my people with me in the tasks of Government. The material and human resources of this State are abundant. Its people are highly educated and possess intellectual, agricultural and industrial aptitudes of a high order. All the elements necessary for a happy and prosperous national existence are present, and I feel confident that, with the blessings of Providence and the cooperation of my people, Travancore will realise its destiny as a sovereign State working in close collaboration with the rest of India in all matters of common concern. At this auspicious moment, I call upon all my beloved people to rejoice with me and to join me in dedicating ourselves to build anew and in fuller amplitude the fabric of a great Travancore.