

**Governor visits Sarania Ashram, pays tributes to Mahatma Gandhi**

**Guwahati, October 2:** On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, Assam Governor Gulab Chand Kataria paid rich floral tributes to the father of the nation at Sarania Ashram, Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust here today.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor expressed happiness to visit the place where Mahatma Gandhi himself had visited in 1946. He said, “Gandhi Jayanti is not just a day of celebration but also a day of reflection. It reminds us of the principles and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhi ji had unwavering faith in peace, non-violence, compassion and truth. His commitment to truth and nonviolence inspired us all even today”.

The Governor also said that Mahatma Gandhi played a crucial role in uniting the entire nation and steering India towards its hard-fought freedom. “Let us unite through our collective efforts to bring his vision to fruition, diligently working towards the realization of a society that embodies the ideals Gandhi ji held in high regard”. The Governor said that Gandhi ji did many great works throughout his life, which inspire people even today. He worked tirelessly for Swaraj, against the ills of untouchability, for women's rights and for the economic well-being of the poor and farmers.

The Governor also recalled the contributions of the former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri who also shares the birthday with Gandhi ji. He said that he was a humble yet strong leader who guided India through tough times. He was also a man of vision who led the country towards progress. Lal Bahadur Shastri was deeply influenced by the political teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. Shri Kataria urged upon the young generation to follow the ideals of the great men and said that their ideals and philosophies are relevant even today.

The Governor also spoke highly about Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s initiative of launching Swachh Bharat programme on 2nd October, 2014, which according to him sensitized the countrymen towards cleanliness and gave cleanliness a new momentum throughout the country.

The Governor also planted a sapling at the Ashram.

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