

**Governor visits Sarania Ashram; pays tributes to Gandhiji**

**Governor calls upon young generation to follow teachings of Gandhiji**

**Guwahati, October 2:** Assam Governor Shri Lakshman Prasad Acharya led the state in paying rich floral tributes to the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion of 155th Gandhi Jayanti at Sarania Ashram in Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust in the city here today.

Paying his rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhi, Governor Shri Acharya said that Gandhiji's ideals of truth and non-violence are the sources of inspirations for generations. His non-violence mode of freedom struggle against the foreign rule earned India its independence. The Governor also said that Gandhiji's pursuits of cleanliness, women empowerment, self-reliance, farmers' rights, as well as his stance against untouchability, social discrimination, and illiteracy, have left an indelible mark on the nation.

Referring to Gandhiji's vision of empowering people living at the grass root, the Governor hailed the State government for launching Orunodoi 3.0 and said that the scheme has the potential of lending capacity and dignity to all women including the under-privileged. He said that the scheme is a pioneering initiative benefiting lakhs of people in the state and elevating their socio-economic status.

Shri Acharya also said that visiting the Sarania Ashram is like a pilgrimage for him. He moreover said that the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, inaugurated by Mahatma Gandhi ji on January 9, 1946, where he spent three days, serves as a poignant reminder of India's rich heritage. "Its preservation is a collective responsibility requiring active citizen participation", added the Governor.

Shri Acharya also called upon the present generation to follow Gandhiji's teachings. He moreover said that Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy and teachings are very relevant even today which can find answers to several modern day problems. He also asked the young generation to imbibe the ideals put forward by Gandhiji. Shri Acharya also planted a sapling in the premises of the ashram on the occasion.

Nayan Bhandari Sharma, trustee Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, along with other Gandhians were present on the occasion.

It may be noted that in another programme held at Raj Bhavan, Assam Governor Shri Lakshman Prasad Acharya along with the officers and staff of Raj Bhavan paid floral tributes to Gandhiji and Lal Bahadur Shastri on their birth anniversary. Commissioner and Secretary to the Governor S.S.Meenakshi Sundaram administered the non-violence pledge on the occasion.

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