

**Raj Bhavan Assam celebrates Statehood Day of Goa**

**Governor emphasizes on mutual friendship of Assam and Goa**

**Guwahati, May 30:** To take national unity to a greater height, Raj Bhavan Assam under the leadership of Governor Gulab Chand Kataria, today celebrated the statehood day of Goa at Durbar Hall here today. It may be noted that as a part of Central Government's decision to celebrate the statehood days of different states in the Raj Bhavans across the country, Raj Bhavan Assam celebrated the statehood day of Goa.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor Gulab Chand Kataria said, "It is a matter of pleasure for us that Assam has started a healthy tradition of celebrating the statehood day of all the states. As we celebrate the Statehood Day of Goa, let us all rejoice and reiterate our firm resolve to strengthen our mutual friendship."

Shri Kataria also congratulated all on the occasion of Statehood Day of Goa and said that on May 30, 1987, Goa was given full statehood and Daman and Diu were made a separate union territory. Similar to national festivals, the tradition of celebrating special days works towards strengthening the social and cultural harmony, the Governor added.

Kataria further said that Vasco da Gama was the first Portuguese to set foot on Indian soil and discovered the sea route from Europe to India. Since then Goa was the centre for trade and commerce. He also said that Goa has its own charm on the tourism map. The very name of Goa instills in the mind of the tourists the desire to have fun on the beach.

The Governor also said that Goa Statehood Day in Assam is a meaningful step towards celebrating the friendship, unity and brotherhood between the two states-Assam and Goa. "At a time when the country is celebrating Azadi Ka Amrit Kaal, celebrations of Statehood Days augur well towards achieving Ek bharat Shreshtha Bharat".

Commissioner and Secretary to the Governor S.S. Meenakshi Sundaram presented the welcome address. Father John Crasto and Father Mildon Dsouza of St.Xaviers School, Pamohi spoke on the occasion.

A cultural programme was also organized showcasing the rich culture of Goa. The programme was attended by the First lady of Assam Anita Kataria, officers and staff of Raj Bhavan, and members of Goan community.

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**30/5/2023**