

PRESS RELEASE

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CM Attends Deshbhakti Divas

Lauds 'Deshbhakta' Tarun Ram Phukan's Role in Raising Awareness of People of Assam Against Imperial Rule

Dispur, July 28:Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma today attended as chief guest Deshbhakti Divas organized by Government of Assam's Information & Public Relations Department at the Deshbhakta Tarun Ram Phukan Park at Bharalumukh in Guwahati.

Speaking at the event, held to pay homage to "Deshbhakta" Tarun Ram Phukan on his 83rd death anniversary, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma lauded the late freedom fighter for his role in the nation's struggle for Independence. "Deshbhakta Tarun Ram Phukan is one among the greatest freedom fighters who has engraved his name with golden letters in the pages of Indian Independence history," the Chief Minster said.

Terming him a great humanitarian figure, the Chief Minister lauded Tarun Ram Phukan for his service towards uplift of the socially deprived sections of the society. Dr. Sarma further said that the nation and its people would remain forever grateful to Tarun Ram Phukan for his contribution towards freedom struggle.

"To honour this great son of Bharat Mata for his contribution towards national freedom struggle, we (the Government of Assam) we last year decided to celebrate this day of every year as Deshbhakti Divas. I am confident initiatives such as this would act as motivation for the youths to dedicate their lives towards national interests," the Chief Minister added.

The Chief Minister further stated that Tarun Ram Phukan, a political analyst, impactful orator, a skilled hunterand a literary figure, together with Nabin Chandra Bardoloi and Chandranath Sarma, played significant role in joining Assam with the mainstream national struggle of that period.

"During Mahatma Gandhi's visit to Assam, Tarun Ram Phukan accompanied the national leader to various locations within the state. Tarun Ram Phukan travelled to nooks and corners of Assam to raise the awareness of the people against imperial rule," Dr. Sarma stated, adding: "Deshbhakta Tarun Ram Phukan believed that *Swaraj*(self-rule) would be a potent weapon to empower the nation and its people. He worked towards achieving that end throughout his life."

Tarun Ram Phukan's grandchild Dr. Hemendra Ram Phukan and Information & Public Relations Department Commssioner & Secretary Diganta Barah also delivered speeches at today's event. IPRD Minister Pijush Hazarika, Mayor of Guwahati Municipal Corporation Mrigen Sarania, Director of Information & Public Relations Bishnu Kamal Bora, Tarun Ram Phukan's grandson Jiten Ram Phukan, granddaughter Indrani Baruah, among others, were also present.

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