



JANASANYOG, ASSAM  
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## **Chief Minister leads the state in paying rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhi**

### **Sonowal attends Gandhi Jayanti Programme at Assam Khadi and Village Industries Board**

**Dispur, October 2:** Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today attended the Gandhi Jayanti programme organised by Assam Khadi and Village Industries Board at Chandmari in Guwahati and paid rich homage to Father of the Nation.

Speaking at a programme held on the occasion, Sonowal said that under the principle of non-violence, Gandhiji set an ideal which everybody should follow. Following the principle of non-violence and Satyagraha, Gandhiji led the freedom movement of country and helped to uproot the mighty foreign administration from India. Therefore, everybody should abjure the path of violence and contribute to peace and prosperity of the state following the principles of non-violence.

On the occasion, Chief Minister Sonowal also requested all sections of the people of the state to be moved by the Gandhian philosophy, work hard to make an *Atmanirbhar* Assam. He also said that taking a pledge to make a self-reliant Assam would be an ideal tribute to Bapuji on his birth anniversary.

Stating that a khadi cloth is not an ordinary cloth, Sonowal said it symbolises the resoluteness, self-reliance and dignity of every Indian. He also said that the COVID 19 induced lockdown which led to closure of the movement of essential commodities from outside, gave an opportunity to showcase the resolve and fortitude of every Indian to become self-reliant. Responding to Prime Minister's call on 'vocal for local', the country took strong steps towards self-reliance. Sonowal also called upon everybody to cooperate to the government's efforts and commitment to make an *Atmanirbhar Bharat*.

Chief Minister Sonowal also thanked the employees of Assam Khadi and Village Industries Board for achieving successes in promoting its products and touching the lives of everybody. Stating that violence is a vice and non-violence is a virtue, Sonowal said that today the people across the globe understood the significance of Gandhian philosophy and as a result embracing it as a part their lives. As an acknowledgement to the importance of Gandhian philosophy, Bapuji's birthday is recognised and celebrated as International Day of Non-violence by United Nations Organization. Chief Minister Sonowal also appealed to the people of the state to take a pledge on the occasion and work hard to make Assam a developed and self-reliant state.

Chairman of Assam Khadi and Village Industries Board Dr. Kamala Kalita while speaking on the occasion thanked Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal for having attended the Gandhi Jayanti programme at Assam Khadi and Village Industries Board consecutively for four years which worked as a source of inspiration to the employees and other stake holders of the Board. He also gave a snapshot of all the development initiatives taken by Assam Khadi and Village Industries Board.

While Chief Executive Officer of the Board Jayanta Kumar Goswami gave the welcome address, Commissioner and Secretary Handloom, Textile and Sericulture Department Gaurav Bothra also spoke on the occasion.

Chief Minister's Media Advisor Hrishikesh Goswami, functionaries of the Board and a host of other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

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