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Image Text

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Artist Rabi Narayan Rath showcases a sculpture on Mahatma Gandhi

Human chains, cultural rallies, Swachhta campaigns and an integration conclave marked the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in the Capital

POST NEWS NETWORK

BHUBANESWAR: Educational institutes, NGOs and general public observed the 150th birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi with a slew of programmes here Wednesday.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik attended the National Integration Conclave at Institute of Engineers. The event saw guests discuss the significance of the Mahatma, with Patnaik extolling the values and teachings of Gandhiji.

He said that Gandhian thought still has relevance in current times. "If each of us inculcate non-violence in our everyday lives, that would bring a lot of the present day problems to an end," he said. Patnaik felicitated freedom fighter Bhawani Charan Patnaik on the oc-

casation. The Chief Minister also inaugurated an exhibition on Mahatma Gandhi titled 'Gandhi and Odisha'. Apart from showcasing the pictures from seminal moments of Gandhi's life, the exhibition also chronicled Gandhi's times in Odisha.

There were historical pictures of Gandhi in gatherings in Angul and Kathajodi as well as a frame of Bapu in Bhadrak with Mirabeau and Independence activist Jayaprakash Narayan.

The atmosphere for the day was set by the devotional song 'Vishnav Jani' which was being played in loud speakers near the exhibition.

The Odisha Khadi and Gramodyog Board also commemorated the birth anniversary of Gandhi in a ceremony that was attended by its members, freedom fighter Bhawani Charan Patnaik and advisor to the WCD and Mission Shakti departments Sulota Das among others at Bhanja Kala Mandap.

Members of the board held a discussion on Khadi's role as an important weapon in freedom struggle. They put forth their views on importance of Khadi in current times and how it is a big help to

the state's cottage industry. Amrlesh Patil said that Khadi is not just a fabric but a thought. Bhawani Charan Patnaik reminded the audience of Gandhi who urged people to boycott British products and use khadi instead as part of the Swadeshi Movement. Students from orphanages and various ashrams were distributed prizes for various competitions that were organised on the occasion. The children were also handed out copies of Gandhi's autobiography 'The Story of My Experiments with Truth'.

DAV Public School, Unit VIII, celebrated the occasion with great zeal and patriotism. They began with a cleanliness drive where students, teachers and parents covered a huge distance on foot propagating Bapu's message. Gandhi's most preferred devotional song 'Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram' was sung by the school choir.

A Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was observed at IIT Bhubaneswar at its permanent campus to commemorate the occasion. It was inaugurated by V Raja Kumar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar offered floral tributes to 'Bapuji' in the presence of other faculty, students and staff.

Meanwhile, 'Fit India Run' was organised by Kendriya Vidyalyaya 4 where 100 participants traversed a distance of four kms in the city. They donned eco-friendly hats, held carry bags and collected plastic garbage from houses and offices along the way.

Students of Ramadevi University also took out a rally where they rendered slogans of 'Plastic Free Odisha' and 'Fit India'. They also cleaned the premises of the university with great enthusiasm.

On the occasion, Indian Council of Agriculture Research co-chaired the Swachhata Hi Seva programme which was launched September 11.



Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik felicitates freedom fighter Bhawani Charan Patnaik at National Integration Conclave in Bhubaneswar, Wednesday



A visitor dressed as Mahatma Gandhi views pictures at an expo titled 'Gandhi and Odisha'



Students form a human chain from Acharya Vihar to AG Square

The institute conducted several awareness programmes on plastic waste management in nearby schools and public places.

Campaigns and rallies were also conducted in Astaranga, Dhuli and Uttara Chowk to educate masses about the perils of single use plastic. Various competitive events like debates, drawing and essay writing were conducted for school stu-

EVENT CATALOGUE

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik attended the National Integration Conclave where guests discussed the significance of Gandhian teachings in contemporary times

About 1000 participants traversed four kms in the city in a rally titled 'Fit India Run' organised by Kendriya Vidyalyaya IV

City-based NGO Bakul Foundation organised an event 'Painting the City' to create awareness about cleanliness among denizens of the city

Students of Ramadevi University took out a rally where they formed human chains on either side of highways

BR Pillai, Director, ICAR-CIFA welcomed the guests and gave an overview of the programme.

Noted Gandhian Prahlad Sinha spoke on the life and teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. He urged the students and other people present to follow the path of 'Satya' and 'Ahimsa'. The chief guest gave away certificates to the school children.

"The campaign was aimed at involving people from all strata of the society towards making India clean. This is a true tribute to Mahatma on his 150th birthday," she added.

On the occasion, city-based NGO Bakul Foundation organised an event 'Painting the City' to create awareness among denizens for cleanliness. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated the event in the presence of local legislators and municipal commissioner Prem Chandra Chaudhary.

The event is a tribute to Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion of his 150th birth anniversary. "With paintings and artwork on walls and public places, we are spreading the message of cleanliness," said founder Sujit Mohapatra.



Artists from across Odisha participate in 'Sankirtan Yatra'



Information & Public Relations Minister Raghunandan Das visits a photo expo



An artiste engaged in painting at Bakul Foundation's 'Painting the City' © PPTOS