

Press Information Bureau

Government of India

Key activities taken up for commemoration of 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi

Among the key initiatives taken up include the inauguration by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi of the National Salt Satyagraha Memorial at Dandi on 30th of January this year. The year's republic day parade saw all the tableaux on the theme of Gandhi. Nearly 2037 prisoners across the country have been released as special remission has been granted as a Karyanjali to Bapu highlighting Gandhian virtue of forgiveness. The month of September and October saw the International Sanitation Convention held in Delhi where 70 countries participated. The government has renovated nearly 3 core Gandhian sites namely, Noakhali in Bangladesh, Hindi Prachar Sabha, Chennai and Gandhi Smarak Museum, Barrackpore etc.

As part of the International Outreach and spreading Mahatma's message to the World, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Gandhi Solar Park with 193 solar panels, each representing a member, at the UN Headquarters during the Gandhi@150 commemorative event on 24.9.2019. The United Nations released a commemorative stamp on 02nd October on Gandhiji's 150th Birth Anniversary. The Government of India also released a commemorative coin of Rs. 150 denomination on 02.10.2019. Mahatma Gandhi Convention Centers are also being set up in 9 African Countries.

Ministry of Culture participated in art exhibition with Mahatma Gandhi as theme at Venice Biennale. Indian pavilion was rated among the top 5 ones. So far 179 Gandhi busts/statues have been installed in 87 countries. The Video of Vaishnava Jan sung by famous singers at iconic places of 124 countries was an instant hit across the social media and especially with the young audience. Nearly 100 volumes of Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi in English have been digitized and 45 e-books and 19 books have been published.

The government has a host of activities lined up which includes Project Gandhipedia, with the objective to disseminate Gandhian ideology through social media by Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning based automatic intelligent twitter bot. The coming year is likely to witness the Nobel Peace Committee and winners participating in an International Symposia in India. Nearly, 150 major Indian Universities to tie-up with 150 International Universities to organize conferences on Gandhi and bring out a compendium. A Charkha Start-up Competition – Innovative ideas/business propositions from youth less than 35 years to address issues related to waste management, sanitation and environment is also planned.

NB/AKJ