



सत्यमेव जयते

**Rajbhawan Uttarakhand-Information Wing  
Press Note-1**

**Keeping the country clean is the best tribute to our Leaders:Governor  
Prayer Meeting held at Raj Bhawan on Gandhi Jayanti and Shastri Jayanti**

**Raj Bhawan, Dehradun, 2nd October, 2017**

A prayer meeting was held at Raj Bhawan today on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti and Shastri Jayanti. Governor Dr.K.K.Paul garlanded the photographs of the two great leaders and also honoured freedom fighters Sadhu Singh Bisht, Rampratap Bahuguna and Paripurmanand Painuli by presenting them shawls.

Paying rich tributes to Gandhi ji and Shastri ji, the Governor said that the freedom struggle under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi was not just a political movement but also a social, cultural and emotional struggle and thus, alongwith being freed of British rule, we were also freed of many social evils. Former prime minister Lal Bahadur Shastri was an inspiring epitome of simplicity, honesty and patriotism, he said.

The Governor said that for Gandhi ji, cleanliness was an important social issue and he equated it with worship of God.In his entire life, he made people aware of the need for cleanliness . In one of the issues of Young India , he wrote that while he toured the country, it pained him greatly to see that it was not clean. To stay in Gandhi ji's ashram ,the first condition a person had to fulfill was to clean the ashram and ensure garbage disposal as well as clean toilets.

The Governor said that to realize Gandhi ji's dream of a clean India, prime minister Narendra Modi had started the Swachh Bharat mission of October 2, 2014 and this was carrying on throughout the country aiming to make it Open defecation free (ODF). He said we should all contribute to this and include cleanliness in our habits.

Uttarakhand, being the Devbhumi, had a special responsibility towards cleanliness . Today, October 2, is being observed as Swachh Bharat Day

The Governor said that we should keep our homes, colonies, cities, states and the country clean. That would be our real tribute to Mahatma Gandhi.

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