

## **EMBASSY OF INDIA, JAKARTA**



### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations in Jakarta**

The Embassy of India celebrated Gandhi Jayanti with great fervor and variety of functions were organized in the Gandhi Memorial International School, Jakarta, on the occasion. The Ambassador of India to Indonesia Mr. Gurjit Singh was the chief guest on the occasion. The program included paying of floral tributes to the bust of Mahatma Gandhi by the Ambassador of India Shri Gurjit Singh, choir rendering of favorite bhajans of Mahatma Gandhi and commemorative address by the Ambassador of India Shri Gurjit Singh. An edit page article by the Ambassador of India Shri Gurjit Singh on Gandhi Jayanti and launch of 'Swacch Bharat' appeared today in Jakarta Globe.

Speaking on the occasion Ambassador Gurjit Singh said that the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi is also celebrated as International Day of Non-Violence since 2007. He said that Mahatma gave high priority to cleanliness, sanitation and hygiene and it is fitting tribute to the person that Government of India has decided to launch a nation-wide cleanliness drive titled "Swacch Bharat" meaning "Clean India" on his 145<sup>th</sup> birthday. The project includes building of toilets, cleaning of River Ganga and its tributaries, solid waste management and waste water management projects in about 500 towns and cities across India. He exhorted the students to read Mahatma Gandhi's autobiography "The Story of My Experiments with Truth".

As part of its social initiatives, the Mission undertook a number of activities on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti through the Indian associations. Swami Teonram Satsang arranged to perform free cataract operations on 30 patients at their Clinic Kasih Sayang at Kemayoran, Jakarta. A project under 'Inspiraksi', the CSR program of Tata Motors Indonesia was inaugurated on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2014 by Mrs. Neeru Singh.

The Gandhi Memorial International School organized charity donations to various NGOs viz. Yayasan Lembaga GNOTA (for education of 500 children), Yayasan Binangkit (for repair of village schools in Sukabumi), Yayasan Rawinala (School for multi disabled and visually impaired children), Yayasan Kasih Kanker Anak Indonesia (for helping children suffering from Cancer) on Oct 2, 2014 at its campus.

The Indian Women Association (IWA) distributed food stuffs at a Children school in Sunter podomoro. The Jain Social Group will donate wheel chairs and clothes to Yayasan Pondok Labu at Lebak North Jakarta on Oct 4, 2014. DPS Texmaco School committed to donate food items and clothes to an orphanage in Karawang on Oct 6, 2014. The Art of Living is organizing three open to public "Breath, Water and Sound" camps. The first has been organized today in Jakarta Selatan and the other two camps will be organized on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> October in Sekolah Bangun in Sunter (North Jakarta) and Klender area in East Jakarta. All these initiatives emerge from the Embassy led India Cultural Forum and mark the Gandhi Jayanti week.

The Gandhi Jayanti function was celebrated in true spirit by the Mission and Indian organizations who wholeheartedly contributed their efforts and resources.

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*2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2014*



Ambassador of India to Indonesia Shri Gurjit Singh delivering commemorative speech on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.



Charity donation to Yayasan Lembaga GNOTA for education of 500 children