

**Assam Governor inaugurates 132<sup>nd</sup> conference of All India Brahmo Samaj  
Pays rich tributes to Raja Ram Mohan Roy; hails the efforts of Samaj to removing social evils**

**Guwahati, December 27:** Assam Governor Shri Gulab Chand Kataria inaugurated the 132<sup>nd</sup> Conference of All India Brahmo Samaj held at South Point School in the city today.

Speaking at the inaugural function of the two-day conference, Governor Shri Kataria said, "Brahmo Samaj is an important force in the development of modern India. It also influenced the country's renaissance". He said that its originator, Raja Rammohan Roy, was a distinguished social reformer of his time. On August 20, 1828, Raja Rammohan and Dwarkanath Tagore founded the Brahmo Sabha, which later came to be known as the Brahmo Samaj.

The Governor said that the main objective of Brahmo Samaj was to unite the people divided by different religious beliefs and remove the evils prevalent in the society. He also said that the samaj played an important role in promoting women empowerment, abolishing dowry and the caste system.

Paying rich tributes to its founder, The Governor said that Raja Ram Mohan Roy was the father of modern India and a great social reformer. He made incomparable contributions in the field of education and the revival of the society and rediscover its innate vitality. The Indian society will always be grateful to him for his contribution to social welfare.

Governor Shri Kataria also said that Brahmo Samaj was not just a concept, it was the most powerful socio-cultural movement in the county which paved the way for large-scale social reformation. Brahmo Samaj put the importance of Upanishads and Vedas before everyone, which also raised voice for farmers, laborers and workers' interests.

Shri Kataria said that due to the superstition, women were burnt alive. The main inspiration behind the establishment of Brahmo Samaj was the practice of Sati prevalent at that time, the Governor added. He also said that illiteracy was one of the primary causes of social evils. Therefore the principles of Brahmo Samaj include knowledge, free will and truthfulness, the Governor observed.

The Governor expressed happiness to learn that the Gauhati Brahmo Samaj is working for the uplift of the society and also making an important contribution to the spiritual, cultural and literary development of the society.

Social worker Ajay Dutta, Vice chancellor of Rabindranath Tagore University Dr. Amalendu Chakraborty Principal of South Point School Krishnanjan Chanda, MLA Siddhartha Bhattacharya along with a host of other dignitaries were also present in the function.

**PRO/27.12.2023.**