

Lok Sabha Speaker Emphasises the Need for Mutual Respect Even Amid Differences of Opinion in a Democracy



Chennai, 29 Oct 2026: Lok Sabha Speaker Shri Om Birla today emphasised that differences of opinion and perspective are natural in a democracy, but disagreements must always be expressed with mutual respect and dignity. He observed that Sant Kabir's teachings under score the importance of restraint in speech, ethical conduct and respect for others, even when opinions differ.

Addressing the Sant Kabir Mahotsav and the foundation stone-laying ceremony of the Kabir Smriti Bhawan at Kabirdham Ashram in Lakhimpur Kheri, Uttar Pradesh, Shri Birla said that Sant Kabir's timeless message of compassion, equality and social harmony continues to guide society even after six centuries.

He observed that wider dissemination of Sant Kabir's teachings would foster sensitivity, mutual understanding and social harmony.

Recalling Sant Kabir's remarkable contribution to social reforms, Shri Birla said that, at a time when society was divided by caste distinctions, religious differences and social prejudices, Sant Kabir challenged prevailing orthodoxies and worked to break down divisive barriers. Through his simple yet profound couplets, composed in the language of the common people, he conveyed universal messages of truth, morality, equality and righteous conduct. Shri Birla observed that the enduring relevance of these teachings demonstrates their extraordinary power to inspire positive social transformation across generations.

Shri Birla further observed that an individual's true legacy is determined not by their position or status, but by their actions and contributions to society. Referring to Sant Kabir's simple life and enduring influence, he said that his noble deeds, selfless service and a commitment to the welfare of others leave a lasting impression on society.

Shri Birla called upon everyone to draw inspiration from Sant Kabir's teachings, practise restraint in speech, cultivate the habit of self-reflection and work towards bringing about positive change in the lives of others.