



DATE: 23 JULY 2026

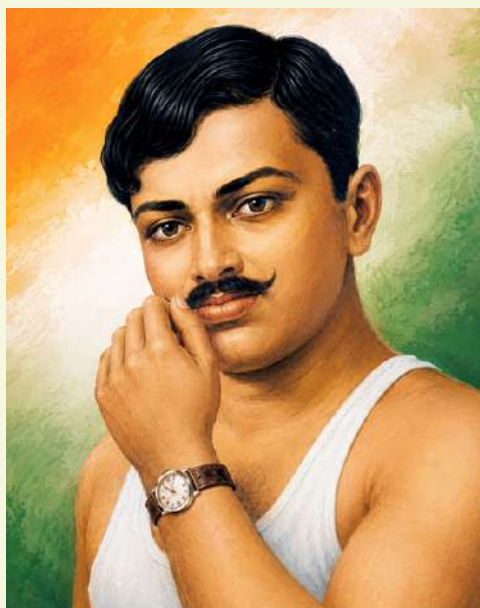
1 Chandrashekhar Azad (Source: PIB)

He was a revolutionary leader who was part of the second phase of the revolutionary movement during the freedom struggle.

- Born as Chandra Shekhar Tiwari in 1906 in Alirajpur (present-day Madhya Pradesh).
- Died at 27th February 1931 at Alfred Park in Allahabad.

Role in Freedom Movement

- Inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's **Non-Cooperation Movement (1921)**, he joined the freedom struggle at a young age.
- The abrupt withdrawal of the Non-Cooperation Movement in 1922 pushed him away from Gandhian non-violence and towards militant, revolutionary nationalism.
- **Revolutionary Activities**
 - Joined the **Hindustan Republican Association (HRA)**, led by Ram Prasad Bismil and Sachindranath Sanyal.
 - Played a key role in the **Kakori Conspiracy (1925)** – a train robbery to fund revolutionary activities.
 - Along with Bhagat Singh, he reorganized the revolutionary youth to establish the **Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA) in 1928**.
 - Reorganized HSRA with Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, and Sukhdev.
 - Planned the assassination of J.P. Saunders (1928) to avenge Lala Lajpat Rai's death.
 - Supported Bhagat Singh & Batukeshwar Dutt in bombing the Central Legislative Assembly (1929).
 - Stayed underground, providing leadership and financial support to HSRA members.





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2 Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak (Source: PIB)

Freedom fighter and lawyer, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, is also known as Lokmanya Tilak.

- He was born on 23rd July 1856 in Ratnagiri, Maharashtra.
- He died on 1st August 1920.
- Referred to as the **“Father of Indian Unrest”** by British author Valentine Chirol in a book called *Indian Unrest*.

Ideology

- Stressed the need for self-rule and believed that without self-rule or swarajya, no progress was possible.
- **Slogan:** “Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it!”
- Believed in Hindu revivalism, but not communalism.
- Advocated *Swadeshi, Boycott, and National Education*.
- Focused on building Indian confidence and unity through cultural nationalism.

Role in Indian National Congress

- Leader of the Lal-Bal-Pal trio (Lala Lajpat Rai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal).
- Represented the extremist faction in the INC (split in 1907 Surat Session).
- Rejoined the INC in 1916 after the Lucknow Pact with the Muslim League.

All India Home Rule League

- Founded by Tilak in April 1916 at Belgaum.
- It worked in Maharashtra (except Bombay), the Central Provinces, Karnataka and Berar.

Editor & Journals Founded

- Kesari (Marathi)
- The Maratha (English)

Books

- Gita Rhasya and Arctic Home of the Vedas.

Social & Cultural Initiatives

- Started *Ganesh Utsav* and *Shivaji Jayanti* to unite people and invoke national pride.
- Opposed child marriage and supported education for all, especially women.

Role in Education

- Co-founded Deccan Education Society (1884) and Fergusson College (1885) in Pune.



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3 Nuclear Energy Mission (NEM) (Source: PIB)

The Nuclear Energy Mission (NEM) was launched under the Union Budget 2025–26 to fast-track India's nuclear energy capacity and technological self-reliance.

Target

- It targets 100 GW of nuclear power by 2047, aligning with India's Viksit Bharat and Net Zero by 2070 goals

Objectives

- **Develop Indigenous Small Modular Reactors (SMRs):** At least five SMRs to be operational by 2033.
- **Private Sector Participation:** Proposed changes to the Atomic Energy Act, 1962, and the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010, aim to encourage private sector involvement in nuclear energy projects.
- **Boost Nuclear Capacity:** From the current ~8.78 GW (2026) to 22 GW by 2031–32, and ultimately 100 GW by 2047.
- **Indigenous Technology Development:** The mission emphasizes the development of BSRs, which are compact 220 MW Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) designed for captive use.