



Uttar Pradesh: The Leading Producer of Prime Ministers

Why in News?

India has had **15 Prime Ministers** till now since independence. **Uttar Pradesh, constituting 17% of India's population** (according to the 2011 census), has been the birthplace of six PMs.

Key Points

- **9 PMs have represented Uttar Pradesh in the Lok Sabha**, some from multiple constituencies.
- Among all the PMs who were in office, **75% of the time**, the office was held by a PM who concurrently served as a **Member of Parliament** from **Uttar Pradesh**.
- This includes the nearly **17-year tenure of Nehru**, cumulative tenure of over **15 years** of his daughter **Indira Gandhi**, **six-year tenure of Atal Bihari Vajpayee (13 days in 1996, 13 months in 1998 and for five years from 1999)**, and the current **Prime Minister, Narendra Modi**, who has been in office since May 2014.
 - While present PM was born in Gujarat, and subsequently became the Chief Minister of the state, he chose to contest elections from the **Varanasi Lok Sabha constituency** in **2014** and **2019**.
- Every Congress leader has represented **Uttar Pradesh** in the **Lok Sabha** during their time in the PM's residence except **PV Narasimha Rao (Andhra Pradesh)** and **Manmohan Singh**, who was an **MP for Rajasthan and Assam** in the **Rajya Sabha**.
- Uttar Pradesh is India's most populous state with **215 million people (2011 census)**. It also sends **80 members to the Lok Sabha**.
- Members of Parliament from Uttar Pradesh account for **20% of the Lok Sabha** and a **decisive victory in the state** often determines who comes to power at the Centre

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