



Parakram Diwas 2023

Prelims: Andaman and Nicobar, Param Veer Chakra, Subhash Chandra Bose, Netaji, Indian Freedom Movement.

Mains: Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and his contribution to freedom struggle.

Why in News?

On the Occasion of [Parakram Diwas \(23rd January\) 2023](#), 21 unnamed islands of [Andaman and Nicobar](#) have been named after [Param Veer Chakra](#) awardees.

- Netaji's Memorial, a National Memorial dedicated to Netaji will be built on **Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Dweep**.
- **Parakram Diwas** is celebrated to commemorate the 126th **birth anniversary of freedom fighter Subhas Chandra Bose**.

What is the Purpose of Naming Islands?

- The islands named after Param Vir Chakra awardees will be the site of inspiration for generations to come. People are now visiting Andamans to learn India's history.
 - Param Vir Chakra is **India's highest military decoration awarded** for displaying distinguished acts of valour during wartime whether on land, at sea or in the air.
- It aims to pay tribute to Indian heroes, several of whom **had made the ultimate sacrifice to protect the sovereignty and integrity of India**.
- The islands have been named after Major Somnath Sharma, Subedar and Hony Captain (then Lance Naik) Karam Singh, Nayak Jadunath Singh, etc.

Note: Besides renaming Ross Islands Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Dweep in 2018, Neil Island and Havelock Island were also renamed Shaheed Dweep and Swaraj Dweep respectively.

Who was Subhash Chandra Bose?

- **Birth:**
 - Subhas Chandra Bose was born on **23rd January 1897**, in Cuttack, Orissa Division, Bengal Province, to **Prabhavati Dutt Bose** and Janakinath Bose.
- **About:**
 - In 1919, he had cleared the Indian Civil Services (ICS) examination. Bose, however, resigned later.
 - He was **highly influenced by [Vivekananda's teachings](#)** and considered him as his spiritual Guru.
 - His political mentor was **Chittaranjan Das**.



▪ **Association with Congress:**

- He stood for **unqualified swaraj (independence)**, and opposed the **Motilal Nehru Report** which spoke for dominion status for India.
- He actively participated in the **Salt Satyagraha of 1930** and vehemently opposed the suspension of Civil Disobedience Movement and signing of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact in 1931.
- In the 1930s, he was closely **associated with left politics in Congress along with Jawaharlal Nehru and M.N. Roy.**
- Bose won the congress **presidential elections at Haripura in 1938.**
- Again in **1939 at Tripuri, he won the presidential elections against Gandhi's candidate Pattabhi Sitarammaya.** Due to ideological differences with Gandhi, Bose resigned and left congress. Rajendra Prasad was appointed in his place.
- He founded a new party, '**the Forward Bloc**'. The purpose was to consolidate the **political left and major support base** in his home state Bengal.

▪ **Indian National Army:**

- He reached Japanese-controlled Singapore from Germany **in July 1943, issued from there his famous call, 'Delhi Chalo'**, and announced the formation of the **Azad Hind Government and the Indian National Army on 21st October 1943.**
- The INA was first formed under Mohan Singh and Japanese Major Iwaichi Fujiwara and comprised Indian prisoners of war of the British-Indian Army captured by Japan in the Malayan (present-day Malaysia) campaign and at Singapore.
- The INA included both the Indian prisoners of war from Singapore and Indian civilians in South-East Asia. Its **strength grew to 50,000.**
- The INA fought allied forces in 1944 inside the borders of India in Imphal and in Burma.
- In November 1945, a British move to put the INA men on **trial immediately sparked massive demonstrations** all over the country.

[For Infographic, click here](#)

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Q1. In the context of Colonial India, Shah Nawaz Khan, Prem Kumar Sehgal and Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon are remembered as (2021)

- (a) leaders of Swadeshi and Boycott Movement
- (b) members of the Interim Government in 1946
- (c) members of the Drafting Committee in the Constituent Assembly
- (d) officers of the Indian National Army

Ans: (d)

- Prem Kumar Sehgal, Shah Nawaz Khan and Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon were the second-tier

commanders of the Indian National Army (INA). They underwent court-martial procedure by the British at Red Fort in 1945 and were sentenced to death. However, following the widespread protests and unrest in India, they had to be released.

- Therefore, option (d) is the correct answer.

Q2. During the Indian Freedom Struggle, who of the following raised an army called 'Free Indian Legion'? (2008)

- (a) Lala Hardayal
- (b) Rashbehari Bose
- (c) Subhas Chandra Bose
- (d) V.D. Savarkar

Ans: (c)

- The Free Indian Legion was an infantry regiment formed by Indian volunteers. The legion was made up of Indian prisoners of wars and expatriates in Europe.
- The Indian Independence leader, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose formed this legion with the help of German Government to fight against the British.
- The legion is also known as "Tiger Legion".
- **Therefore, option (c) is the correct answer.**

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