

## **Dalai Lama**

## Source:PIB

Recently, the 89<sup>th</sup> birthday of **Buddhist** spiritual leader **Dalai Lama** was celebrated.

- The **Dalai Lama** belongs to the **Gelugpa tradition of Tibetan Buddhism**, which is the largest and most influential tradition in Tibet.
- There have been only **14 Dalai Lamas** in the history of **Tibetan Buddhism**, and the first and second Dalai Lamas were given the title posthumously.
  - The 14th and current Dalai Lama is Tenzin Gyatso.
- The Dalai Lamas are believed to be manifestations of Avalokiteshvara or Chenrezig, the Bodhisattva of Compassion and the patron saint of Tibet.
  - **Bodhisattvas** are realised beings inspired by a wish to attain Buddhahood for the benefit of all sentient beings, who have vowed to be reborn in the world to help humanity.
- The Dalai Lama (14th) who fled from Tibet to India with thousands of followers during the <u>Tibetan uprising 1959</u>, has been residing in India since then.

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