



Bihar Ex- Deputy CM Passes Away

Why in News?

Recently, Senior Political leader and **former Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi passed away** in New Delhi at the age of 72. He was suffering from cancer.

Key Points

- He was a Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar as well as the Finance Minister of Bihar from 2005 to 2013 and 2017 to 2020.
- He was a lifelong member of the [Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh](#).
- He was appointed the **Chairman of the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers** for the Implementation of [Goods and Service Tax](#) in July 2011.

Deputy Chief Minister

- The post of Deputy Chief Minister in India is **not a constitutional post**, but a political **arrangement to appease allies** or factions within a party.
- He is **equivalent to a Cabinet Minister** in terms of rank and perks but **does not have any specific financial or administrative powers**.
- The Deputy CM has to report to the Chief Minister and seek his or her approval for any decision related to his or her portfolio.
- The Deputy CM does not have access to the files or matters that are meant for the Chief Minister.
- Neither **Article 163** nor **Article 164(1)** explicitly mentions the position of Deputy Chief Minister.
 - **Article 163(1)** establishes a Council of Ministers with the Chief Minister at the head to aid and advise the Governor.
 - **Article 164(1)** outlines the appointment process, with the Chief Minister appointed by the Governor, and other Ministers appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Chief Minister.

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