

## Pingali Venkayya, the Man Behind Tricolour

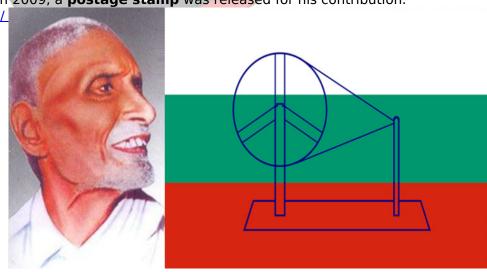
## Source:PIB

The Prime Minister paid tributes to Pingali Venkayya on his birth anniversary (2<sup>nd</sup> August).

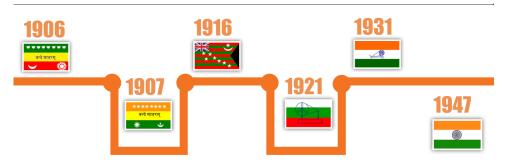
■ He also urged citizens to support the <u>Har Ghar Tiranga movement</u> by unfurling the tricolour between 9<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2024.

## **Evolution of Flag:**

- In 1916, Pingali Venkayya published a booklet titled A National Flag for India, featuring nearly 30 designs for a <u>potential Indian flag</u>, inspired by flags of other nations.
- Venkayya's design for the National Flag was finally approved by Mahatma Gandhi in a Congress meeting in Vijayawada in 1921.
- The initial flag, called the <u>Swaraj flag</u>, consisted of **two red** and **green bands** (representing the **Hindus** and the **Muslims religious communities**). The flag also had a <u>charkha</u>, which represented <u>Swaraj</u>.
  - Mahatma Gandhi adviced Venkayya to add a white band to represent peace.
- The <u>Flag Committee (1931)</u> replaced the red with <u>saffron</u> and placed saffron on top followed by white and then green. The charkha was placed on the white band in the middle.
  - The colors stood for qualities and not communities i.e., the saffron for courage and sacrifice, white for truth and peace, and green for faith and strength. The charkha stood for the welfare of the masses.
- Post-Independence, a national flag committee under <u>President Rajendra Prasad</u> replaced the **charkha with the** <u>Ashok Chakra.</u>
- Pingali Venkayya:
- He fought the Second Boer War (1899-1902).
- In 1913, he delivered a **lecture** in **Japanese** in Bapatla, Andhra Pradesh called as **'Japan Venkayya'.**
- He was also known as Patti Venkayya for his research into the Cambodia Cotton.
- In 2009, a postage stamp was released for his contribution.



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