



Dehradun's Clock Tower | Uttarakhand | 11 Sep 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **Dehradun's iconic Clock Tower** stopped ticking after thieves dismantled its copper innards.

Key Points

- **Historical Significance:**
 - Built in the 1940s and inaugurated by [Smt. Sarojini Naidu](#) in 1953.
 - Commissioned by Lala Sher Singh in memory of his father, Lala Balbir Singh.
 - A subtle reminder of [freedom fighters](#) who sacrificed their lives for [India's independence](#).
- **Architectural Design:**
 - **Hexagonal structure** with one clock on each of its six sides.
 - The tower stands around **85 meters** high, with its chimes once echoing through the city.
 - The Clock Tower symbolizes the **city's evolution** and serves as a monument of pride for Dehradun.



SAROJINI NAIDU
(February 13, 1879 - March 2, 1949)

BRIEF PROFILE

- A Political activist, Feminist, Poet
- Known as **Bharatiya Kokila** (The Nightingale of India)

*Her birth anniversary is observed as **National Women's Day** (13th February)*

CONTRIBUTION TO INDIAN FREEDOM MOVEMENT

- Joined the Indian National Movement in 1905 during the Partition of Bengal
- **First Indian Woman President** of Indian National Congress in 1925 (preceded by the English feminist Annie Besant in 1917)
- Accompanied Gandhi to London for the inconclusive **second session of the Round Table Conference** for Indian-British cooperation (1931)
- A significant leader of Salt Satyagraha Movement (1930); Led **Dharasana Satyagraha**
- Represented India at Various International Forums

OTHER CONTRIBUTION

- A **Renowned Poetess**: The Golden Threshold (1905), The Bird of Time (1912), The Broken Wing (1912), In the Bazaars of Hyderabad (1912)
- **Advocated Women Rights**: Member of the All India Women's Conference (founded in 1927)
- **India's First Woman Governor**: She was appointed the governor of Uttar Pradesh after India achieved independence in 1947

"We want deeper sincerity of motive, a greater courage in speech and earnestness in action"

Drishti IAS