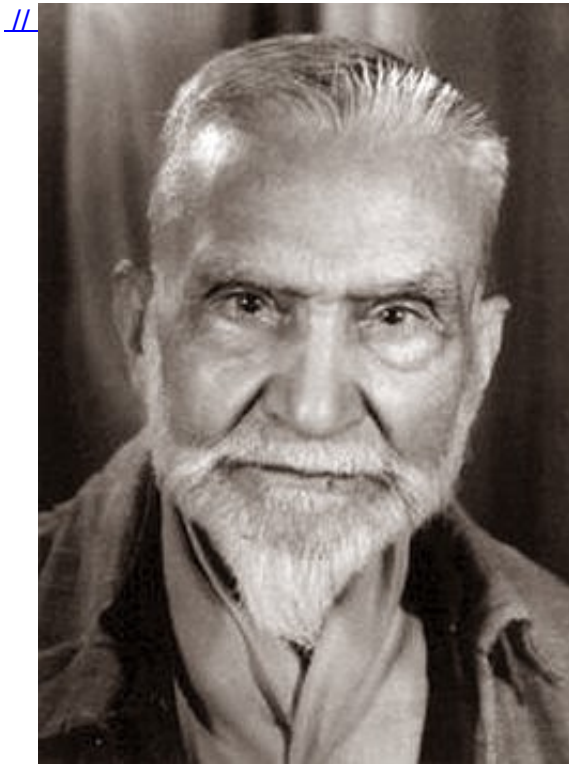# Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh Birth Anniversary

Why in News?

Recently, Vice-President of India Jagdeep Dhankhar paid tributes on the **138th birth anniversary of [Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh (1886-1979),](#)** a visionary nationalist.

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Key Points

- **Background:**
  - Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh was **born on 1st December 1886, in Hathras, Uttar Pradesh.**
  - He was a **freedom fighter, revolutionary, writer** and **social reformer.**
  - He founded **Prem Mahavidyalaya in 1909,** a technical institute at Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh.
- **Freedom Movement Contributions:**
  - Mahendra Pratap actively participated in the **[1906 Congress session in Kolkata,](#)** supported the **[Swadeshi movement,](#)** and supported indigenous industries and local artisans.
  - Mahendra Pratap was deeply involved in India's struggle for independence. In **[1915, during World War I](#)**, he proclaimed the **first Provisional Government of India** in **Kabul, Afghanistan**, with himself as its president, opposing British colonial rule
    - He sought support from countries like **Germany, Japan, and Russia** for India's

fight against British colonial rule.
- He is said to have met **Vladimir Lenin in 1919**, two years after the **Bolshevik Revolution.**
  - He also formed the **Executive Board of India in Japan** in 1940 during the **Second World War**.
- **Internationalist and Peace Advocate:**
  - Mahendra Pratap was nominated for the **Nobel Peace Prize** **in 1932** for his global advocacy for peace and his efforts to expose **British atrocities in India and Afghanistan.**
  - In 1929, Mahendra Pratap launched **the World Federation in Berlin**, which later influenced the creation of the **United Nations.**
- **Political Career:**
  - After independence, he worked hard to promote the idea of Panchayati Raj and served as a **Member of Parliament** from **Mathura (1957).**
- **Death:**
  - He died on **29th April 1979.**