



# Engineer's Day

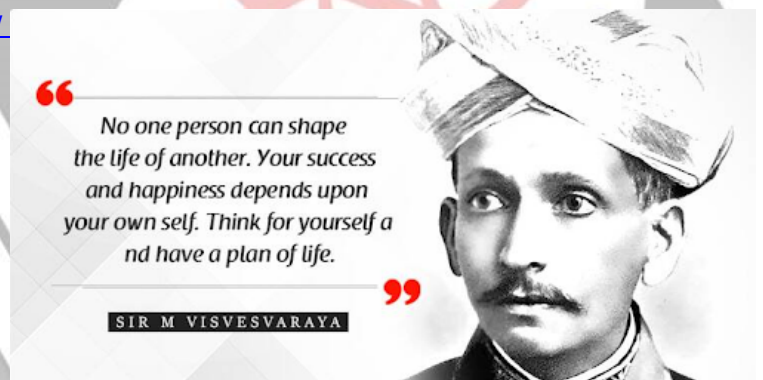
## Why in News

Every year on **15<sup>th</sup> September**, India along with Sri Lanka and Tanzania celebrate National Engineer's day to recognise and honour the **achievements of the great engineer Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya**.

- The day is observed to **commemorate the great work of engineers** and to encourage them for improvement and innovation.
- It is different from the **World Engineers' Day** celebrated annually by **UNESCO** on 4<sup>th</sup> March.

## Key Points

- **About Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya:** [//](#)



- Born in Karnataka in **1861**, he studied Bachelor of Arts (BA) from the University of Mysore and then **studied civil engineering from the College of Science in Pune** and went on to become one of the most eminent engineers in the country.
- He was an **engineering pioneer of India** whose genius **reflected in harnessing of water resources and building and consolidation of dams** across the country.
- His work was becoming so popular that the **Government of India sent him to Aden (Yemen)** to study water supply and drainage systems **in 1906-07**.
  - He designed a project based on his study which was implemented in Aden.
- He served as the **Chief Engineer of Mysore State in 1909** and as the **Diwan of the princely state of Mysore in 1912**, a position he held for seven years.
  - As the Diwan, he made an immense contribution towards the overall development of the state.
- He was **knighted as a Knight Commander** of the British Indian Empire by King George V for his contributions to the public good in **1915**.
- He was an Engineer who had **planned the Indian Economy in 1934**.
- He was awarded an Honorary Membership of **London Institution of Civil Engineers** for an unbroken 50 years.
- He was conferred India's highest honour, the **Bharat Ratna in 1955**.
- He **died in 1962 in Bengaluru, Karnataka**.

▪ **Books Written by him:**

- **'Reconstructing India'** and **'Planned Economy of India'**.

▪ **Major Contributions:** During the course of his professional life, he has contributed a lot towards society by being part of several notable construction projects in **Mysore, Hyderabad, Odisha** and **Maharashtra**.

- He was the **chief engineer responsible for the construction of the Krishna Raja Sagara Dam** in Mysore.
  - This work of his was instrumental in converting the barren lands into fertile grounds for farming.
- He was instrumental in designing and patenting a system of **automatic weir floodgates** in Khadakwasla reservoir in Pune in 1903.
- After the devastating floods (Musi River) in Hyderabad in 1908, he designed a **drainage system** to protect the city from these floods in the future.
- He is the one who **designed a plan for road construction between Tirumala & Tirupati**.
- He played a key role in developing a system to **protect Visakhapatnam port from sea erosion**.
- He also commissioned several new **Railway lines in Mysore state**.
- He had designed and carried out the **waterworks for the Municipality of Sukkur in 1895**.
- He is also **credited with the development of the Block System** which would prevent the wasteful flow of water in dams.
- He was **responsible for founding** the Mysore soap factory, the Mysore Iron & steel works (Bhadravathi), Sri Jayachamarajendra Polytechnic Institute, The Bangalore Agricultural University, and the State Bank of Mysore.

**Source: IE**

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