

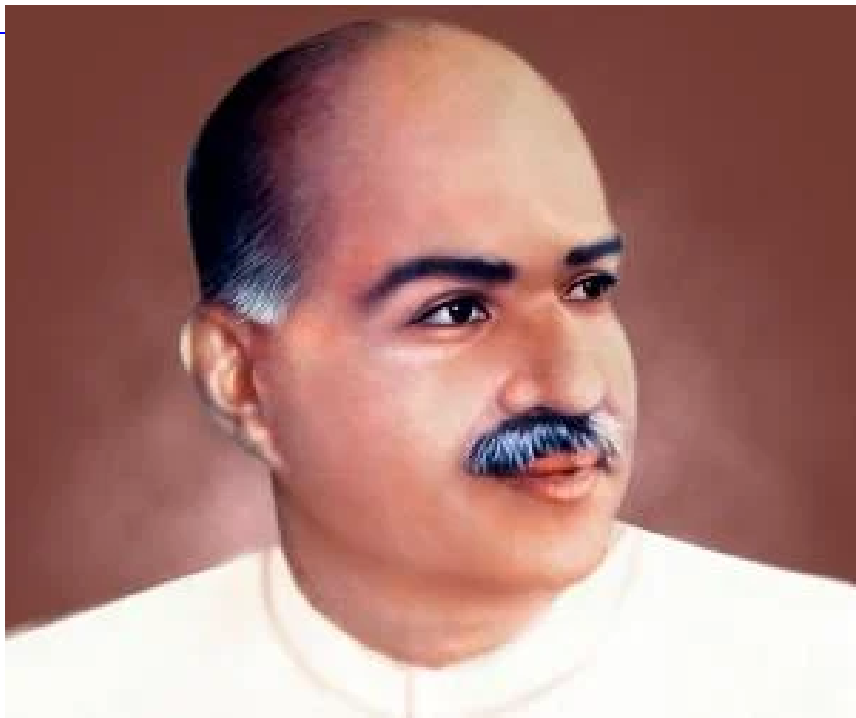


Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee

Why in News?

The Union Home Minister paid tribute to Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee on his birth anniversary.

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Who was Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee?

- Shyama Prasad Mukherjee was born in a Bengali Brahmin family on the 6th July, 1901, in Calcutta.
- He was an **Indian politician, barrister, and academician** who served as the **Minister for Industry and Supply** in Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's cabinet.
- At the age of 33, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee **became the youngest vice-chancellor of Calcutta University in 1934.**
- During His term as Vice-Chancellor, **Rabindranath Tagore delivered the university convocation address in Bengali for the first time**, and the Indian vernacular was introduced as a subject for the highest examination.
- He **demande d the partition of Bengal in 1946** to prevent the inclusion of its Hindu-majority areas in a Muslim-dominated East Pakistan.
- He also **opposed a failed bid for a united but independent Bengal made in 1947** by Sarat Bose, the brother of Subhas Chandra Bose, and Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy, a Bengali Muslim politician.
- He **founded the Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS)**, the predecessor of the modern-day Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).
- In 1953, to **protest against the special status given to Kashmir** he tried to enter Kashmir without seeking permission and was arrested. He died in mysterious circumstances during detention.

[Source: PIB](#)

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