

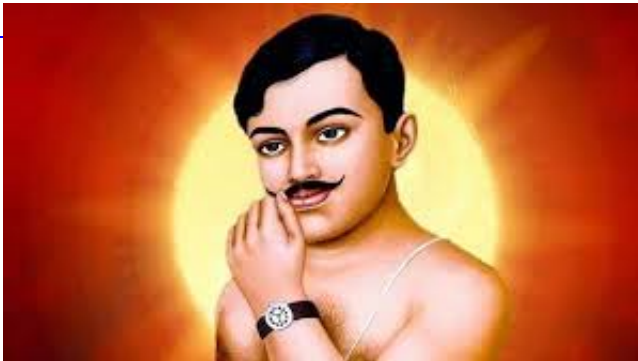


Chandra Shekhar Azad

Why in News

On 23rd July, India paid tribute to the freedom fighter **Chandra Shekhar Azad** on his **birth anniversary**.

Key Points //



- **Birth:** Azad was born on **23rd July 1906** in the **Alirajpur district of Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Early Life:** Chandra Shekhar, then a 15-year-old student, joined a **Non-Cooperation Movement** in December 1921. As a result, he was arrested.
 - On being presented before a magistrate, he gave his name as "**Azad**" (**The Free**), his father's name as "Swatantrata" (Independence) and his residence as "Jail".
 - Therefore, he came to be known as **Chandra Shekhar Azad**.
- **Contribution to Freedom Movement:**
 - **Hindustan Republican Association:** After the suspension of the non-cooperation movement in 1922 by Gandhi, Azad joined Hindustan Republican Association (HRA).
 - HRA was a revolutionary organization of India established in 1924 in East Bengal by **Sachindra Nath Sanyal, Narendra Mohan Sen and Pratul Ganguly** as an offshoot of **Anushilan Samiti**.
 - **Members:** Bhagat Singh, **Chandra Shekhar Azad**, Sukhdev, Ram Prasad Bismil, Roshan Singh, Ashfaqulla Khan, Rajendra Lahiri.
 - **Kakori Conspiracy:** Most of the fund collection for revolutionary activities was done through **robberies of government property**. In line with the same, Kakori Train Robbery near Kakori, Lucknow was done in **1925 by HRA**.
 - The **plan was executed** by Chandra Shekhar Azad, Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaqulla Khan, Rajendra Lahiri, and Manmathnath Gupta.
 - **Hindustan Socialist Republican Association:** HRA was later reorganised as the Hindustan Socialist Republican Army (HSRA).
 - It was established in **1928** at Feroz Shah Kotla in New Delhi by Chandra Shekhar Azad, Ashfaqulla Khan, **Bhagat Singh**, Sukhdev Thapar and Jogesh Chandra Chatterjee.

- HSRA planned the **shooting of J. P. Saunders**, a British Policeman at Lahore in 1928 **to avenge the killing of Lala Lajpat Rai**.
- **Death:** He died at **Azad Park in Allahabad** on 27th February 1931.

[Source: PIB](#)

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