



## Death Anniversary of Bharat Ratna Karpuri Thakur

### Why in News?

**Bihar Chief Minister** paid floral tribute to the statue of [Bharat Ratna Karpuri Thakur](#) on the occasion of his **death anniversary in Patna** .

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### Key Points

- **On the occasion:**
  - **The Department of Art, Culture and Youth organized an inter-faith prayer**, and presented songs, bhajans, kirtans and Nirgun songs **based on the life and works of [Bharat Ratna](#) Jananayak Karpuri Thakur.**
  - The Chief Minister described Karpuri Thakur as **the people's leader of Indian politics.**
- **About Karpuri Thakur:**
  - Karpuri Thakur, **popularly known as "Jan Nayak"** , was a prominent Indian politician who served as the **11<sup>th</sup> Chief Minister of Bihar twice from 1970-71 and 1977-79**
  - He was a **freedom fighter and a staunch socialist** who worked under the guidance of

stalwarts like [Jayaprakash Narayan](#) , [Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia](#) and Ramanandan Mishra .

- He represented the Nai community, listed as [Extremely Backward Class \(EBC\)](#) among **OBCs** .
- He implemented **wide-ranging policies**, including promoting **Hindi and Urdu as second official languages**, waiving school fees, and strengthening [panchayati raj](#).
- He **died in February 1988**.
- He was **awarded the Bharat Ratna posthumously in the year 2024** .

## Bharat Ratna

- Bharat Ratna is the **highest civilian award of the country**. It is awarded in recognition of exceptional service/highest performance **in any field of human endeavour** .
- It is announced at a different level from the Padma Awards. **Recommendations for Bharat Ratna are made by the Prime Minister to the President of India**.
- The number of **Bharat Ratna awards can be up to three in a particular year**. </li>

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