



Memorial of Freedom Fighter Chittu Pandey

Why in News?

The **Uttar Pradesh government** announced plans to build a **memorial in honour of freedom fighter Chittu Pandey** in Ballia district.

Key Points

- **About Chittu Pandey:**
 - He was a **great freedom fighter and revolutionary** who played **an important role** in [the Quit India Movement of 1942](#).
 - Due to his bravery and leadership skills he is known as "**Lion of Ballia**".
- **Birth:**
 - Chittu Pandey was born on **10 May 1895** in **Rattuchak village of Ballia district** of Uttar Pradesh.
- **Establishment of independent government:**
 - **On August 19, 1942**, under Chittu Pandey's leadership, the revolutionaries of Ballia ousted British officials, proclaimed Ballia's independence, and **established a temporary national government**.
 - Chittu Pandey assumed **charge as the interim administrator (chief)** of this short-lived administration.
 - This government **succeeded in handing over the power to the Collector and releasing all the arrested Congress leaders**.
 - However, after a few days **the British army again captured Ballia and arrested** Chittu Pandey and other revolutionaries.
- **Demise:**
 - He died on **6 December 1946**.

Quit India Movement

- **About:**
 - **On 8th August 1942**, Mahatma Gandhi called for an **end to British rule and launched the Quit India Movement** at the **All-India Congress Committee session in Mumbai**.
 - Gandhi gave the call of "**Do or Die**" in his speech at the Gwalia Tank Maidan, now known as **August Kranti Maidan**.
 - Popularly known as the '**Grand Old Lady**' of the freedom movement, **Aruna Asaf Ali** is known for hoisting the Indian flag at Mumbai's Gowalia Tank grounds during the Quit India Movement.
 - **The slogan 'Quit India'** was coined by **Yusuf Meherli**, a socialist and trade unionist who also served as the mayor of Mumbai.
- **Reasons for movement:**
 - The immediate cause of the movement was the failure of **the Cripps Mission**.
 - The British concept of unconditional support from India to the British in the Second World War was not accepted by **the Indian National Congress**.
 - **Anti-British sentiments** and demands for complete independence had gained popularity among the Indian masses.

▪ **Success of the movement:**

◦ **Emergence of Future Leaders:**

- Leaders like **Ram Manohar Lohia**, **JP Narayan**, **Aruna Asaf Ali**, **Biju Patnaik**, **Sucheta Kripalani** etc. carried out underground activities who later emerged as prominent leaders.

◦ **Participation of women:**

- Women participated enthusiastically in the movement. Women leaders like **Usha Mehta** helped set up an underground radio station that created awareness about the movement.

◦ **Rise of Nationalism:**

- The Quit India Movement brought forth a unique feeling of unity and brotherhood in the country. Many **students left schools and colleges and people left their jobs.**

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