



Civil Services Day

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- Every year, **21st April** is celebrated as the **Civil Services Day** by the Government of India.
- It is celebrated as an **occasion for the civil servants** to rededicate themselves to the causes of citizens and renew their commitments to public service and excellence in work.
- The **date is chosen to commemorate** the day when the first Home Minister of Independent India, **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel addressed the probationers of Administrative Services Officers in 1947 at Metcalf House, Delhi.**
 - He referred to **civil servants** as the **'Steel Frame of India'**.
- The **first function on civil services day** was held in **Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi in 2006.**
- On this day, the **Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration** are presented to Districts/Implementing Units for implementation of Priority programme and innovation categories.
 - These awards bring together civil servants to connect with each other and learn the good practices being implemented across the nation in the field of public grievance.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

- He was born on **31st October, 1875** in **Nadiad, Gujarat.**
- He was the **first Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister** of independent India.
- He played an important role in the **integration of many Indian princely states** to make an **Indian federation.**
 - At the time of independence, he played a key role in convincing several princely states to align with the Indian Union.
 - He also worked hard as a **social leader for the independence** of India.
- **Women of Bardoli** bestowed the title **'Sardar'** on Vallabhbhai Patel, which means 'a Chief or a Leader'.

- He is recognized as the real unifier of India for his colossal contribution to integrate and make India a united (**Ek Bharat**) and an independent nation.
- He requested the people of India to live together by uniting in order to create **Shresth Bharat** (Foremost India).
- He is also remembered as the '**Patron saint of India's civil servants**' as he **established the modern all-India services system**.
- The **Statue of Unity** at Kevadiya in Narmada district of Gujarat was built in his honour.