



Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar

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Why in News

Recently, the Prime Minister has paid homage to **Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar** on 114th **Thevar Jayanthi (Guru Pooja)**.

It is celebrated on **30th October** every year to **commemorate the birth anniversary** of Pasumpon Muthuramalingam Thevar.

Key Points

- **Born:**

He was born on **30th October 1908** in Pasumpon in Ramanathapuram district in Tamil Nadu.



- **About:**

- He was a freedom-fighter-cum-spiritual leader. He is seen as a deity among the **Mukulathor community**, a cluster community comprising the **Kallar, Maravar and Ahambadiar**.

People of the Mukulathor community still make offerings as is done for deities in temples to the statue on his Jeyanthi and **Guru Pooja celebrations**.

- He **did not accept the traditional Hinduism** because it supported '**Varnashrama**'. He always fought against the evils of Hindu religion. He openly **condemned religious superstitions** and narrow mindedness.

- **Connection with Subhash Chandra Bose:**

Being a socialist and a colleague of **Subhash Chandra Bose**, he served as the **national deputy chairman of All India Forward Bloc (AIFB)** from 1952.

He was **elected three times** to the national parliamentary constituency of AIFB.

- **Temple Entry Movement:**

- The Temple Entry Authorisation and Indemnity Act was passed by the government of **C. Rajagopalachari in 1939**.

It removed restrictions prohibiting Dalits from entering Hindu temples.

- He supported this reform and in July 1939 he helped the activist A. Vaidyanatha Iyer **taking Dalits to Meenakshi Temple in Madurai**.

- **Criminal Tribes Act:**

- The **Criminal Tribes Act (CTA)**, enacted by the British in 1920, against the Mukulathor community, **against which Thevar protested** by mobilising the people and launching protests that was a major milestone in his career.

CTA **criminalized entire communities by designating them as habitual criminals**.

- He was **instrumental in getting the act repealed** after continuous efforts in 1946.

- **Death:**

He died on **30th October in 1963** due to illness.

All India Forward Bloc

- It was **formed in May 1939 by Subhash Chandra Bose**. It was a **left-wing nationalist political party in India which emerged as a faction within the India Congress in 1939**.

First All India Conference of Forward bloc was held in Nagpur in **June 1940**. And it passed a resolution titled '**All Power to the Indian People**', urging militant action for struggle against British colonial rule.

- The prime objective of the Forward Bloc was **to bring all radical elements of the Congress party together**. So that it could **spread the meaning of complete independence of India** with adherence to the application of principles of equality and social justice.
- It was declared banned on 23 June 1942. Even when it was declared illegal, **it played a revolutionary role to crown the struggle** of the people with success and glory.

The party **re-established itself as an independent political party** after the independence of India.

Source: PIB