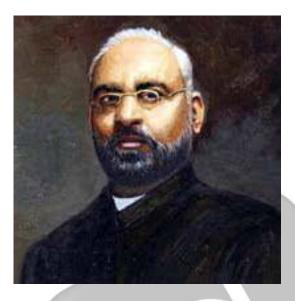


Shyamji Krishna Varma

Why in News

The Prime Minister paid tributes to **revolutionary freedom fighter Shyamji Krishna Varma** on his birth anniversary (4th October).





Key Points

- Shyamji Krishna Varma was born on 4th October, 1857 in Mandvi town of Kachchh district of Gujarat.
- He was an expert in Sanskrit and other languages.
 - His deep knowledge of the Sanskrit language caught the attention of Monier Williams, a professor of the subject in Oxford University.
- He was inspired by Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Swami Dayanand Saraswati and Herbert Spencer.
- He founded the Indian Home Rule Society, India House and The Indian Sociologist in London.
 - Indian Home Rule Society and the India House worked towards inspiring youngsters in Britain to take up revolutionary activities against their own representatives in India.
 - The monthly Indian Sociologist became an outlet for **nationalist ideas and through the Indian Home Rule Society**, he criticised the British rule in India.
- Varma became the first President of Bombay Arya Samaj. He inspired <u>Veer Savarkar</u> who
 was a member of India House in London. Verma also served as the **Divan of a number of states**in India.
 - Swami Dayanand Saraswati was the founder of the Hindu reform organisation Arya Samaj.
- He was a **barrister in London**, when in 1905, he was barred from practising law by the Inner Temple following **charges of <u>sedition</u>** for writing against the colonial government.
 - The move was significant as the **Honourable Society of the Inner Temple** is one of the

four professional associations for barristers and judges in London.

- He was **posthumously reinstated by the Inner Temple in 2015** after the Inn's governing council noted that Varma "did not receive an entirely fair hearing".
- In the face of criticism by the British, Varma **shifted his base from England to Paris** and continued his movement.
- After the outbreak of the <u>First World War (1914-18)</u>, however, he moved to Geneva in Switzerland and spent the rest of his life there. He died on 30th March, 1930.

Source: PIB

