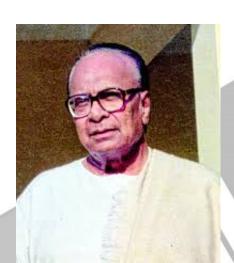


# Biju Patnaik

## Why in News

The **birth anniversary of Biju Patnaik** was celebrated (5<sup>th</sup> March). He is remembered as a freedom fighter, an Indian politician, an aviator and a businessman.

## **Key Points**





#### Brief Profile:

- Bijayananda Patnaik was **born on 5<sup>th</sup> March 1916**, he is popularly known as Biju Patnaik.
- He was an ace pilot and joined the Royal Indian Air Force in 1936.
- He was the two times Chief Minister of Odisha.

## Role in Freedom Struggle:

- Biju Patnaik started his career as a freedom fighter in 1942. He joined the Quit India Movement under the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi to make India free.
  - He became a prominent leader of Congress and was engaged in the Quit India Movement with <u>Jay Prakash Narayan</u> and <u>Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia.</u>
  - In 1943, he **underwent imprisonment for about two years** for his participation in the Quit India Movement.
- He fearlessly undertook covert missions, ferrying freedom fighters to secret meetings with their supporters, and even airdropped leaflets in support of **Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's** Indian National Army.
- He played a major role in <u>World War II</u> and the <u>Kashmir War of 1948</u> as a pilot in the Indian Air Force.

#### Role in Kashmir Integration:

Biju Patnaik had fearlessly flown a DC-3 transport aircraft to Srinagar on 27th October

1947, ferrying soldiers of the Sikh regiment after the tribal invasion from Pakistan in Kashmir.

### • Role in Indonesian Freedom Struggle:

- On the request of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Biju Patnaik flew to Java and brought Sultan Sjahrir out of Dutch controlled territory in Indonesia for a meeting in Delhi.
  - For this act of bravery, he was given honorary citizenship in Indonesia and awarded the **'Bhoomi Putra'**, the highest Indonesian award, rarely granted to a foreigner.
  - In 1996, the Biju Patnaik was awarded the highest Indonesian national award, the 'Bintang Jasa Utma'.

**Source: PIB** 

