



Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya

For Prelims: About Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya, his role in freedom struggle and his contributions

For Mains: Role of Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya in freedom struggle movements.

Why in News

Recently, the Prime Minister has paid tributes to Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya on his Jayanti.



Key Points

- **Birth:** 25th December 1861, in Allahabad (now Prayagraj) in Uttar Pradesh.
- **Brief Profile:**
 - He was a **great educationist, pioneer, an eloquent rhetorician**, and a national leader.
 - He took part in numerous activities like the **freedom struggle movements, promotion of industries**, the economic and social development of the country, education, religion, social service, development of Hindi language and many other issues of national importance throughout his life.
 - He was given the **title of 'Mahamana'** by **Mahatma Gandhi** and the second President of India, **Dr. S. Radhakrishnan** gave him the status of a '**Karmayogi**'.
- **Role in Freedom Struggle:**
 - In the freedom struggle, he was midway between the Liberals and the Nationalists, the Moderates and the Extremists, as the followers of **Gokhale** and **Tilak** were respectively called.
 - In 1930, when **Mahatma Gandhi** launched the **Salt Satyagraha and the Civil Disobedience Movement**, he participated in it and courted arrest.
- **Role in Congress:**
 - He was elected as the **President of the Congress committee** (four times) in 1909, 1918,

1932 and 1933.

- **Sengupta was elected Congress chief in 1933** after president-elect Madan Mohan Malviya was arrested.

▪ **Contributions:**

- Remembered for his **role in ending the Indian indenture system**, especially in the Caribbean.
 - Indentured labour was a **system of bonded labour** that was instituted following the abolition of slavery in 1833.
 - Indentured labour were recruited to work on sugar, cotton and tea plantations, and rail construction projects in British colonies in West Indies, Africa and SouthEast Asia.
- Apprehensive of the possibility of the British completely damming the flow of Ganga at Bhimgoda in Haridwar, he **set up the Ganga Mahasabha in 1905**.
- He was a **social reformer and a successful legislator**, serving as a member of the Imperial Legislative Council for 11 years (1909–20).
- **Popularized the term 'Satyamev Jayate'**. However, the phrase originally belongs to the **Mundaka Upanishad**. The term now is the national motto of India.
- **Devnagri was introduced in the British-Indian courts** because of Malviya's efforts with the British government.
- Worked immensely for **Hindu-Muslim unity**. He is known to have given **famous speeches on communal harmony**.
 - He was expelled from the Brahmin community for expressing his views on caste discrimination and Brahmanical patriarchy.
- He **helped establish the Hindu Mahasabha ("Great Society of Hindus")** in 1915.
- He **founded the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) in 1916**.

▪ **Journalist:**

- As a journalist, he started a **Hindi weekly, Abhyudaya in 1907** and made it a daily in 1915 and also **Hindi monthly, Maryada in 1910**.
- He started **an English daily- Leader in 1909**.
- Malaviya was the **editor of Hindi weekly, the Hindustan and Indian Union**.
- He was also the **Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Hindustan Times** for many years.

▪ **Death:** He died on **12th November, 1946**, at the age of 84.

▪ **Awards and Honours:**

- In 2014, he was posthumously conferred with **Bharat Ratna**, the country's highest civilian award.
- In 2016, the Indian Railways started the Varanasi-New Delhi Mahamana Express in the leader's honour.

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