



# Vijay Diwas: 50 Years of Indo-Pak War

## Why in News

India will celebrate **50 Years of Indo-Pak War**, also called **Swarnim Vijay Varsh** on **16<sup>th</sup> December 2020**.

- Inaugural event of the celebration will be held at the [National War Memorial \(NWM\)](#) in **New Delhi** which will be attended by the Prime Minister.
  - The **National War Memorial** is a **tribute to the soldiers** who laid down their lives defending the nation, post-independence it also **commemorates the soldiers** who participated and made the supreme sacrifice in **Peacekeeping Missions, and Counter Insurgency Operations**.

## Key Points

- **Vijay Diwas** is observed on 16<sup>th</sup> December every year to **mark India's victory over Pakistan in the 1971 war**.
- The Government of India decided on **3<sup>rd</sup> December 1971**, that India would go for war with Pakistan to **save Bengali Muslims and Hindus**.
- This war was fought between India and Pakistan for **13 days**.
- On **16<sup>th</sup> December 1971**, the chief of the Pakistani forces with **93,000 soldiers** had **surrendered unconditionally** to the allied forces consisting of Indian Army and Mukti Bahini in Dhaka.
  - **Mukti Bahini** refers to the armed organizations that fought against the Pakistan Army during the Bangladesh Liberation War. It was a guerrilla resistance movement.
- Bangladesh was born on this day. Hence, **Bangladesh celebrates its independence day (Bijoy Dibos)** on 16<sup>th</sup> December every year.

**Source: PIB**

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