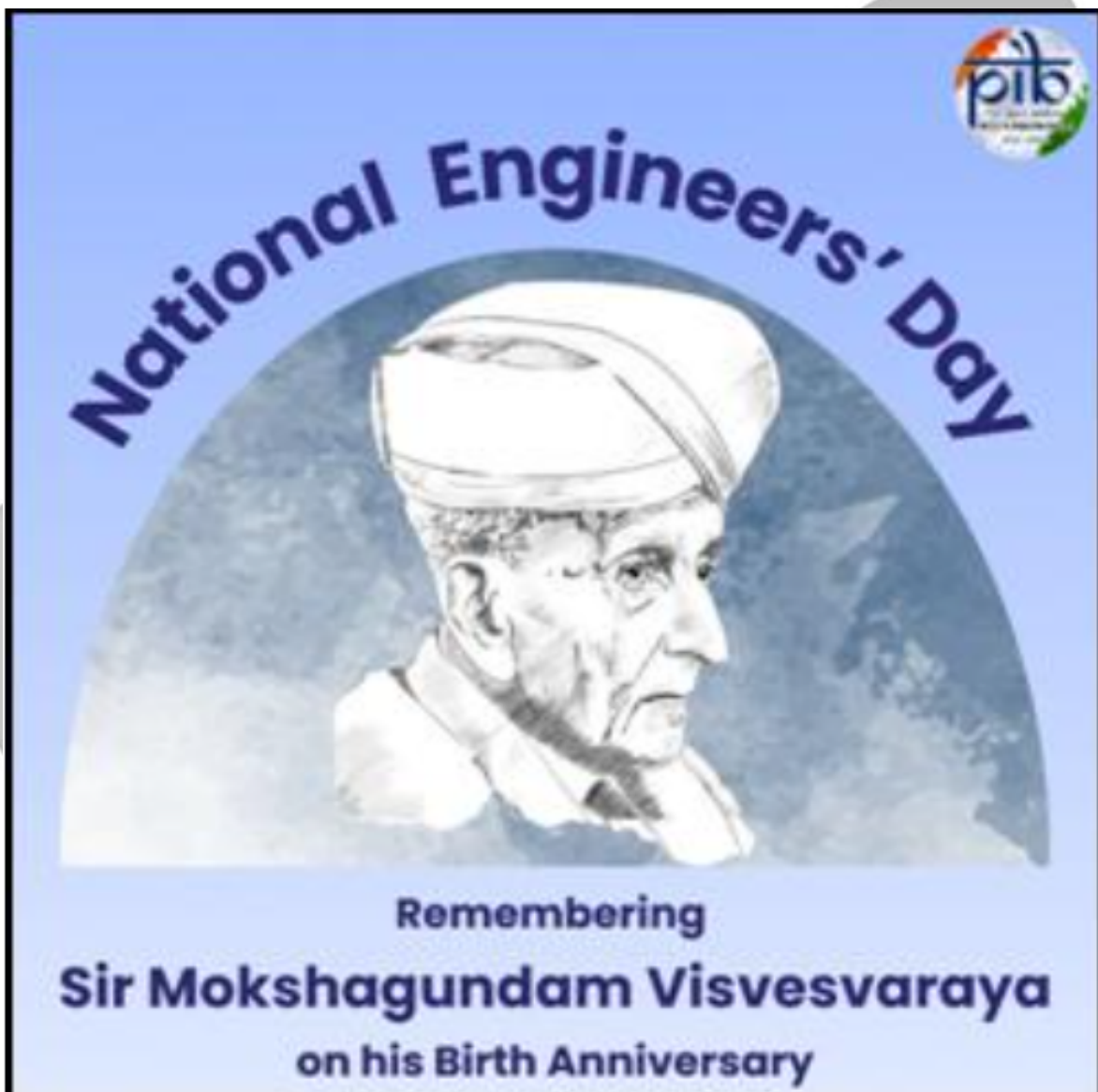




Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya

Why in News?

The **Chief Minister of Bihar**, Nitish Kumar, recently paid tribute to Sir M. Visvesvaraya on his **birth anniversary**.



Key Points

- **About:** Born on 15th September 1861 in Karnataka, he was an eminent engineer, scholar, and statesman.
 - A graduate of the College of Engineering, Pune, he went on to become one of India's most

respected engineers.

▪ **Engineering Contributions:**

- He is best known for his pioneering work in flood control and irrigation projects. His design of the [Krishna Raja Sagara \(KRS\) Dam](#) in Mysuru revolutionized water storage and irrigation.
- In 1903, he developed an innovative system of automatic water floodgates, which were installed at the [Khadakwasla Dam](#) in Pune.
- He played a critical role in the planning of the [city of Hyderabad](#), improving its drainage and water supply systems.

▪ **Role in Public Service:**

- He served as the [Diwan of Mysore](#) (1912–1918) and implemented major industrial and economic reforms.
- His emphasis on education, public health, and industrialization laid the foundation for economic development in the region.
- He is widely recognized as an early advocate and practitioner of [Economic Planning in India](#), called the [Visvesvaraya Plan](#), which he presented in a book titled [“Planned Economy in India”](#).

▪ **Honors and Recognition:**

- In 1955, he was awarded India’s highest civilian honor, the [Bharat Ratna](#), for his exceptional service to the nation.
- In 1915, he was conferred the title of [“Knight Commander of the Order of the Indian Empire \(KCIE\)”](#) for his contributions to the public good.
- Sir M. Visvesvaraya was appointed in 1911 as a [“Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire \(CIE\)”](#) by [King Edward VII](#).
- He received an honorary membership from the Institution of Civil Engineers, London, a fellowship from the [Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore](#), and several honorary degrees, including D.Sc., LL.D., and D.Litt., from eight universities in India.
- He presided over the [Indian Science Congress](#) in 1923.
- His birth anniversary, **15th September**, is celebrated annually as **Engineers' Day** in India to honor his legacy and contributions to the field of engineering.