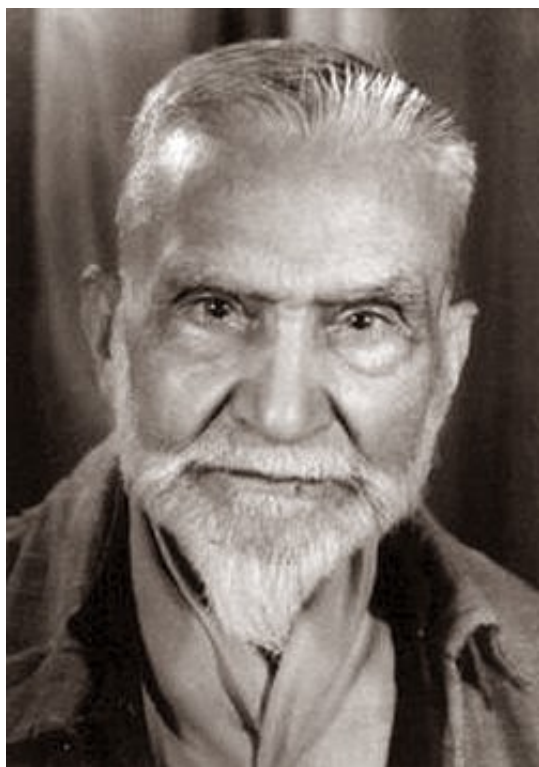




Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh Birth Anniversary

Why in News?

Recently, Vice-President of India Jagdeep Dhankhar paid tributes on the **138th birth anniversary** of [Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh \(1886-1979\)](#), a visionary nationalist.



Key Points

▪ Background:

- Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh was **born on 1st December 1886, in Hathras, Uttar Pradesh.**
- He was a **freedom fighter, revolutionary, writer** and **social reformer.**
- He founded **Prem Mahavidyalaya in 1909**, a technical institute at Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh.

▪ Freedom Movement Contributions:

- Mahendra Pratap actively participated in the [1906 Congress session in Kolkata](#), supported the [Swadeshi movement](#), and supported indigenous industries and local artisans.
- Mahendra Pratap was deeply involved in India's struggle for independence. In [1915, during World War I](#), he proclaimed the **first Provisional Government of India** in **Kabul, Afghanistan**, with himself as its president, opposing British colonial rule
 - He sought support from countries like **Germany, Japan, and Russia** for India's fight against British colonial rule.

- He is said to have met **Vladimir Lenin in 1919**, two years after the **Bolshevik Revolution**.
- He also formed the **Executive Board of India in Japan** in 1940 during the **Second World War**.
- **Internationalist and Peace Advocate:**
 - Mahendra Pratap was nominated for the **Nobel Peace Prize in 1932** for his global advocacy for peace and his efforts to expose **British atrocities in India and Afghanistan**.
 - In 1929, Mahendra Pratap launched **the World Federation in Berlin**, which later influenced the creation of the **United Nations**.
- **Political Career:**
 - After independence, he worked hard to promote the idea of Panchayati Raj and served as a **Member of Parliament** from **Mathura (1957)**.
- **Death:**
 - He died on **29th April 1979**.

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