



## PARAKRAM DIWAS – EVENT

**NEWS:** *On January 23, 2021, the Government of India decided to commemorate Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's birth anniversary as "Parakram Diwas" or the Day of Valour.*

### WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

#### 1. Institution of Parakram Diwas:

- The aim of this celebration is to honor Netaji's immense contribution to India's freedom struggle and to inspire people to display courage and determination like him in overcoming challenges.

#### 2. Objective of Parakram Diwas:

- The government intended this observance to instill fortitude among citizens, especially the youth, to face adversities with boldness.
- It also seeks to ignite a spirit of patriotism and commitment to the nation's welfare.

#### 3. 2021 Event:

- The inaugural Parakram Diwas was celebrated at the Victoria Memorial Hall in Kolkata, West Bengal, the city closely associated with Netaji.

#### 4. 2022 Event:

- A hologram statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was unveiled at India Gate in New Delhi to honor his indomitable spirit and leadership.

#### 5. 2023 Event:

- In an innovative move, 21 unnamed islands in the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago were named after 21 Param Vir Chakra awardees to connect Netaji's legacy with India's military valor.

#### 6. 2024 Event:

- The celebrations took place at the historic Red Fort in Delhi, a site of great significance as it was where the trials of the Indian National Army (INA) officers were held by the British.

### Early Life and Education

#### 1. Family Background:

- Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was born on January 23, 1897, in Cuttack, Odisha, into an affluent and respected Bengali family.
- His father, Janakinath Bose, was a prominent lawyer and government servant, while his mother, Prabhavati Bose, was a homemaker. Subhas was their ninth child.

#### 2. Schooling:

- Bose completed his early education at Ravenshaw Collegiate School in Cuttack, where his academic excellence and discipline were evident.

#### 3. Higher Education:



- In 1913, he joined Presidency College in Calcutta (now Kolkata), where he studied philosophy. However, his nationalist sentiments were already strong, and he was later expelled for participating in protests against British rule.

#### 4. Indian Civil Services (ICS):

- Bose moved to England in 1920 to prepare for the ICS exams at Cambridge University.
- Although he passed the exam with distinction, he was dissatisfied with serving under British administration and resigned to join India's freedom struggle.

### Entry into Freedom Struggle

#### 1. Disillusionment with Gandhi's Approach:

- Bose met Mahatma Gandhi in Bombay (now Mumbai) in 1921 to understand his strategy for achieving independence.
- However, Bose felt that Gandhi's non-violent and gradual approach was too slow and lacked the urgency needed to end British colonial rule.

#### 2. Early Political Rise:

- Bose quickly emerged as a prominent nationalist leader and became known for his radical ideas and assertive leadership style.

### Congress Leadership

#### 1. Haripura Session (1938):

- Bose was elected president of the Indian National Congress at its Haripura session, where he emphasized the urgency of achieving complete independence (swaraj) rather than settling for dominion status under British rule.

#### 2. Re-Election (1939):

- Despite opposition from Gandhi and his supporters, Bose stood for re-election as Congress president and defeated Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, Gandhi's preferred candidate.
- However, growing tensions with Gandhi's faction made it difficult for him to work effectively within the Congress.

### Formation of Forward Bloc

#### 1. Objective:

- After resigning as Congress president, Bose formed the Forward Bloc in 1939 as a faction within the Congress Party.
- The Forward Bloc aimed to unite the radical-left sections of the Congress and mobilize people for an immediate and aggressive struggle for independence.

### Imprisonment and Protest

#### 1. Arrest in 1940:



- Bose was arrested by British authorities in 1940 while planning a protest to remove a monument commemorating the Black Hole of Calcutta incident, which he saw as a symbol of colonial oppression.

## 2. Hunger Strike and Release:

- He went on a hunger strike during his imprisonment, which led to his release in December 1940 due to fears for his health.

## Ideological Differences with Gandhi

### 1. Diverging Views:

- Gandhi believed in achieving independence through non-violence, patience, and self-reliance, while Bose advocated for immediate action, modernization, and the use of force if necessary.
- Gandhi envisioned a decentralized society with limited industrialization, whereas Bose supported a strong central government and technological advancement for India's progress.

### 2. Mutual Respect:

- Despite their ideological differences, Bose admired Gandhi's leadership and was the first to address him as the "Father of the Nation" during a radio broadcast from Singapore in 1944.

## Role in Indian National Army (INA)

### 1. Formation of INA:

- The Indian National Army (INA) was established on February 17, 1942, by Indian prisoners of war captured by Japanese forces during their Southeast Asia campaign.

### 2. Leadership:

- Bose took charge of the INA in July 1943 in Singapore and reorganized the 12,000-strong army to fight against British colonial rule.

### 3. Delhi Chalo Campaign:

- Bose gave the iconic call of "Delhi Chalo" (March to Delhi) to inspire his troops to liberate India.
- In 1944, the INA crossed the Indo-Burma border and advanced toward Imphal and Kohima but had to retreat due to strong British resistance.

## Death and Controversy

### 1. Plane Crash in 1945:

- It is widely believed that Bose died in a plane crash in Taipei, Taiwan, on August 18, 1945, due to severe burns and shock.

### 2. Investigations:

- The Shah Nawaz Committee (1956) and Khosla Commission (1970) affirmed that Bose died in the crash, but the Mukherjee Commission (1999) questioned the lack of conclusive evidence.



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### 3. Declassification of Files:

- In 2015, the West Bengal government declassified 64 secret files on Bose, and the Central government began declassifying its files in 2016.
- Despite these efforts, no strong evidence has emerged to prove Bose survived after 1945.

The country cannot forget the services rendered by the unsung heroes who have done excellent work in the field of Disaster Management.

-Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

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### Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar

- Field Recognised:

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- The Government of India instituted Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar (SCBAPP) to recognise the excellent work done by the individuals and institutions in the field of disaster management.
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- **Administered By:**
  - **National Disaster Management Authority** (NDMA was established under the Ministry of Home Affairs under the Disaster Management Act, 2005).
- **Award:**
  - The awards are **announced on the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose on 23<sup>rd</sup> January every year.**
  - In addition to a certificate, these awards **carry a cash award of Rs. 51 lakhs** for an Institution and **Rs. 5 lakhs for an Individual.**
  - The Institution has to utilize the cash prize for Disaster Management related activities only.
- **Eligibility:**
  - **Only Indian nationals and Indian institutions can apply for the award.**
  - The nominated individual or institution should have worked in any area of disaster management like Prevention, Mitigation, Preparedness, Rescue, Response, Relief, Rehabilitation, Research, Innovation or early warning in India.
- **SCBAPP- 2024:** The **60 Parachute Field Hospital, Uttar Pradesh**, has been selected for the **Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2024** for its excellent work in disaster management, particularly in providing medical assistance during various natural calamities and crises, both nationally and internationally.
  - The **hospital's work during** events like the Uttarakhand floods (2013), **Nepal Earthquake (2015)**, and the **Turkey and Syria earthquake (2023)** is highlighted as examples of its exceptional service.

## Legacy

### 1. Symbol of Patriotism:

- Subhas Chandra Bose is remembered as a visionary leader who united Indians across regions, religions, and ideologies in the struggle for independence.
- Parakram Diwas continues to celebrate his bravery, leadership, and enduring influence on India's history.

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