

# Birth centenary of P.V. Narasimha Rao

June 29, 2021

**In news-** 100th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao was observed on 28th June 2021.

## **About P.V. Narasimha Rao (1921-2004)-**

- Narasimha Rao was **born on June 28, 1921** in the village of Laknepally village of Narsampet mandal, in Warangal Rural district, now in Telangana.
- Rao was an active freedom fighter during the Indian Independence movement and joined full-time politics after independence as a member of the Indian National Congress.
- He served as an elected representative for Andhra Pradesh state assembly from 1957 to 1977.
- He became the **Chief minister of Andhra Pradesh in 1971** and implemented land reforms and land ceiling acts strictly
- He served as **Foreign minister from 1980 to 1984 and then from 1988 to 1989.**
- He served as the **9th Prime Minister of India from 1991 to 1996.**
- Rao was the **first leader outside the Nehru-Gandhi family to last a full-term as Prime Minister** after being elected in 1991.
- He was the second holder of this office from a non-Hindi-speaking region and the first from South India.
- Rao's term also saw the **destruction of the Babri Mosque in Ayodhya** in Uttar Pradesh when BJP's Kalyan Singh was Chief Minister.
- He died on December 23, 2004.

## **His contributions-**

- He was personally **responsible for the dismantling of the Licence Raj**, when he headed the Ministry of Industries.
- He is often referred to as the **“Father of Indian Economic Reforms”**.
- With Rao’s mandate, Dr. Manmohan Singh launched **India’s globalisation angle of the reforms that implemented the International Monetary Fund (IMF) policies** to rescue the almost bankrupt nation from economic collapse.
- His reign brought a **paradigm shift from the industrialising, mixed economic model of Jawaharlal Nehru to a market driven one.**
- Rao had launched what has come to be known as the country’s **Look East policy** linking India to many East and Southeast Asian countries.
- He also established **diplomatic relations with Israel.**
- He played a major role in **defeating the 1994 United Nations resolution against India.**
- Under his leadership, the **ballistic missile technology programme was launched**, besides successfully testing the augmented satellite launch vehicle.

**Extra**

**reading:**

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