

# National Farmers day, 2021

December 23, 2021

**In news**– National Farmers' Day is celebrated across the nation on December 23 to commemorate the birth anniversary of the fifth Prime Minister of India, Chaudhary Charan Singh.

## **About Chaudary Charan Singh-**

- He was born into a middle-class peasant family in Uttar Pradesh on December 23, 1902.
- He served as the **5th Prime Minister of India between 28 July 1979 and 14 January 1980.**
- Greatly influenced by the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, he took an active part in the fight for independence.
- After that, his political career **largely focused on socialism in rural India.**
- He was active from 1931 in the Ghaziabad District Arya Samaj as well as the Meerut District Indian National Congress.
- Historians and people alike frequently refer to him as the **'Champion of India's peasants'**.
- He **served twice as chief minister of Uttar Pradesh,** where he played a major role in shaping land reforms.
- He was behind several major farmer-forward Bills, including the Land Utilisation Bill of 1939 and the Debt Redemption Bill in 1939.
- While serving as agriculture minister in 1952, he led UP in its efforts to abolish the zamindari system.
- He also played a major role in **drafting the UP Zamindari and Land Reforms Bill himself.**
- He founded the **Kisan Trust** on 23 December, 1978, **a non-political, non-profit making body** with the aim of educating India's rural masses against injustice, and fostering solidarity among them.
- **The aims and objects of the Kisan Trust are to educate India's rural masses against exploitation** and injustice, to foster unity and solidarity among them

- He **also founded Bharatiya Kisan Union** (Indian Farmers' Union) a non-partisan farmer's representative organization in India.
- The western Uttar Pradesh branch of the union was founded on 17 October 1986 by Mahendra Singh Tikait.
- Chaudhary Charan Singh **breathed his last on January 14, 1980 and a memorial** dedicated to him was built at Raj Ghat and is called '**Kisan Ghat.**'
- The Union government decided to recognise Choudhary Charan Singh's contribution to the agriculture sector and welfare of farmers by **celebrating his birth anniversary as Kisan Diwas in 2001.**