

Tarapur massacre

February 19, 2022

In news— Recently, the Chief Minister of Bihar has said that **February 15 would henceforth be commemorated as “Shahid Diwas”** in memory of the 34 freedom fighters who were killed by police in Tarapur town in 1932.

History Tarapur massacre-

- **The trigger for the protest was the hanging of Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, and Rajguru in Lahore** on March 23, 1931, which sent a wave of grief and anger around the country.
- Another one is the arrest of Mahatma Gandhi following the collapse of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact in early 1932, and then Congress was declared an illegal organization, and Nehru, Patel, and Rajendra Prasad were also thrown in jail.
- There were two **centres of activity for the freedom fighters in Munger: Dhol Pahadi** near Tarapur, and **Supaur-Jamua village** in Sangrampur.
- A call given by the Congress leader **Sardar Shardul Singh Kavishwar** to raise the tricolour over government buildings resonated in Tarapur.
- A group of **young freedom fighters planned to hoist an Indian national flag at Thana Bhawan** in Tarapur on February 15, 1932.
- Police were aware of the plan, and several officers were present at the spot.
- Around 2 pm, even as the police carried out a brutal lathicharge, a 4,000-strong crowd pelted the police with stones, injuring an officer of the civil administration.
- The **police responded by opening indiscriminate fire on the crowd.**
- After about 75 rounds were fired, 34 bodies were found at the spot, even though there were claims of an even

larger number of deaths.

- **This massacre was the biggest carried out by the British police after the one in Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar in 1919.**