

Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee's 125th Birth Anniversary



Context

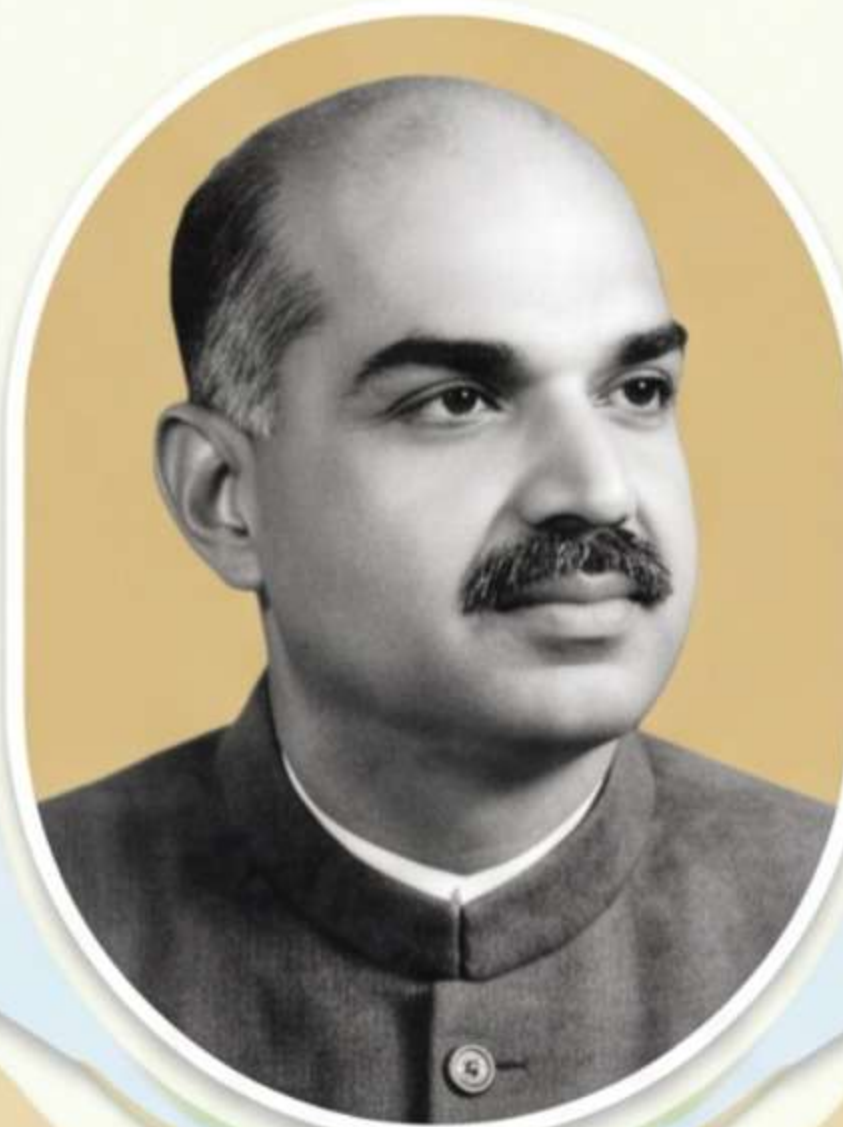
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tributes to Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his 125th birth anniversary.

Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee (1901– 1953)

Early life and political entry



Initially a member of the Indian National Congress; later joined the Hindu Mahasabha in the 1930s.



Academic achievement



He became the youngest Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University at age 33 in 1934.

Political service



He served as Finance Minister of Bengal (1941–42) in the Fazlul Haq ministry.

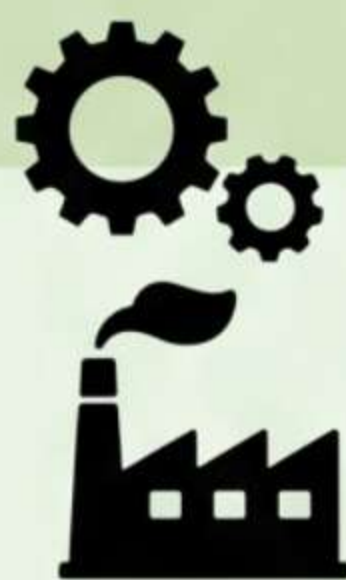
Anti-separation



He was a strong critic of the Muslim League and the partition of India.

Role in the interim government

He joined the cabinet of the interim government as Minister for Industry and Supply after independence (1947–1950), but resigned over differences.



Establishment of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh



Founder of Bharatiya Jana Sangh: In 1951, founded the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the ideological predecessor of today's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Theories



National unity

- Advocated for national unity, cultural nationalism, and economic self-reliance.

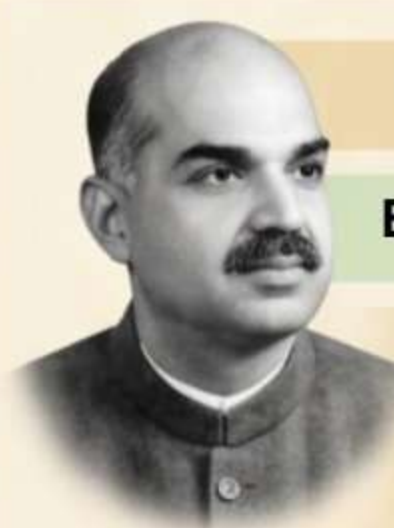


Cultural nationalism



Financial self-reliance

Heritage



Nationalist

Educationist

Advocate of cultural unity

Legacy: He is remembered as a staunch nationalist, educationist, and advocate of cultural unity.

Respect



The Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port in Kolkata and several institutions are named in his honor.