

# **Topic Wise Content**

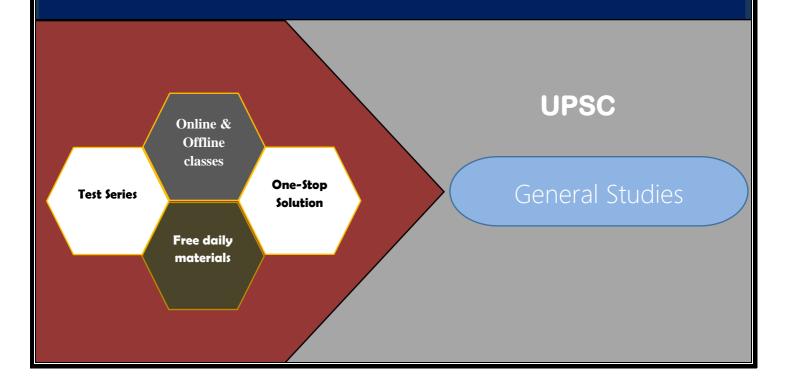


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## Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel

Notes for civil services preparation



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#### Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel

Recently, the Prime Minister paid tribute to India's first home minister, **Sardar** Vallabhbhai Patel, on his 71<sup>st</sup> death anniversary on 15<sup>th</sup> December.

#### **Key Points**

- Born:
  - **31st October 1875** in Nadiad, Gujarat.
- First Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of India.
- He always requested the people of India to live together by **uniting (Ek Bharat)** in order to create a **foremost India (Shresth Bharat).** 
  - This ideology still reflects in the **Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative** which seeks to make India **Self-Reliant**.

Headed various Committees of the Constituent Assembly of India, namely:

- o Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights.
- Committee on Minorities and Tribal and Excluded Areas.
- Provincial Constitution Committee.

#### **Reforms:**

- He worked extensively against alcohol consumption, untouchability, caste discrimination and for women emancipation in Gujarat and outside.
- Integrated the farmer's cause in Kheda Satyagraha (1918) and Bardoli Satyagraha (1928) with the national freedom movement.
  - Women of Bardoli bestowed the title 'Sardar' on Vallabhbhai Patel, which means 'a Chief or a Leader'.
- Remembered as the 'Patron Saint of India's Civil Servants' as he established the modern all-India services system.

#### □ Integration of the Princely States:

- As India's first Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, Sardar Patelplayed a key role in the integration of about 565 princely states into the Indian Union.
- Few princely states like **Travancore**, **Hyderabad**, **Junagadh**, **Bhopal and Kashmir were averse** to joining the state of India.







- Sardar Patel worked tirelessly to build a consensus with the princely states but did not hesitate in employing methods of Sama, Dama, Dand and Bhed wherever necessary.
- He had used force to annex princely states of Junagadh ruled by Nawab and Hyderabad ruled by Nizam, both of whom had wished not to merge their respective states with the Union of India.
- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel stitched the princely states along with BritishIndian territory and prevented the balkanization of India.
- Known as the **"Iron Man of India"** for playing an important role in unification and integration of Indian princely states into the Indian federation of for convincing princely states to align with the Indian Union.

#### Death:

• 15th December 1950 in Bombay.

