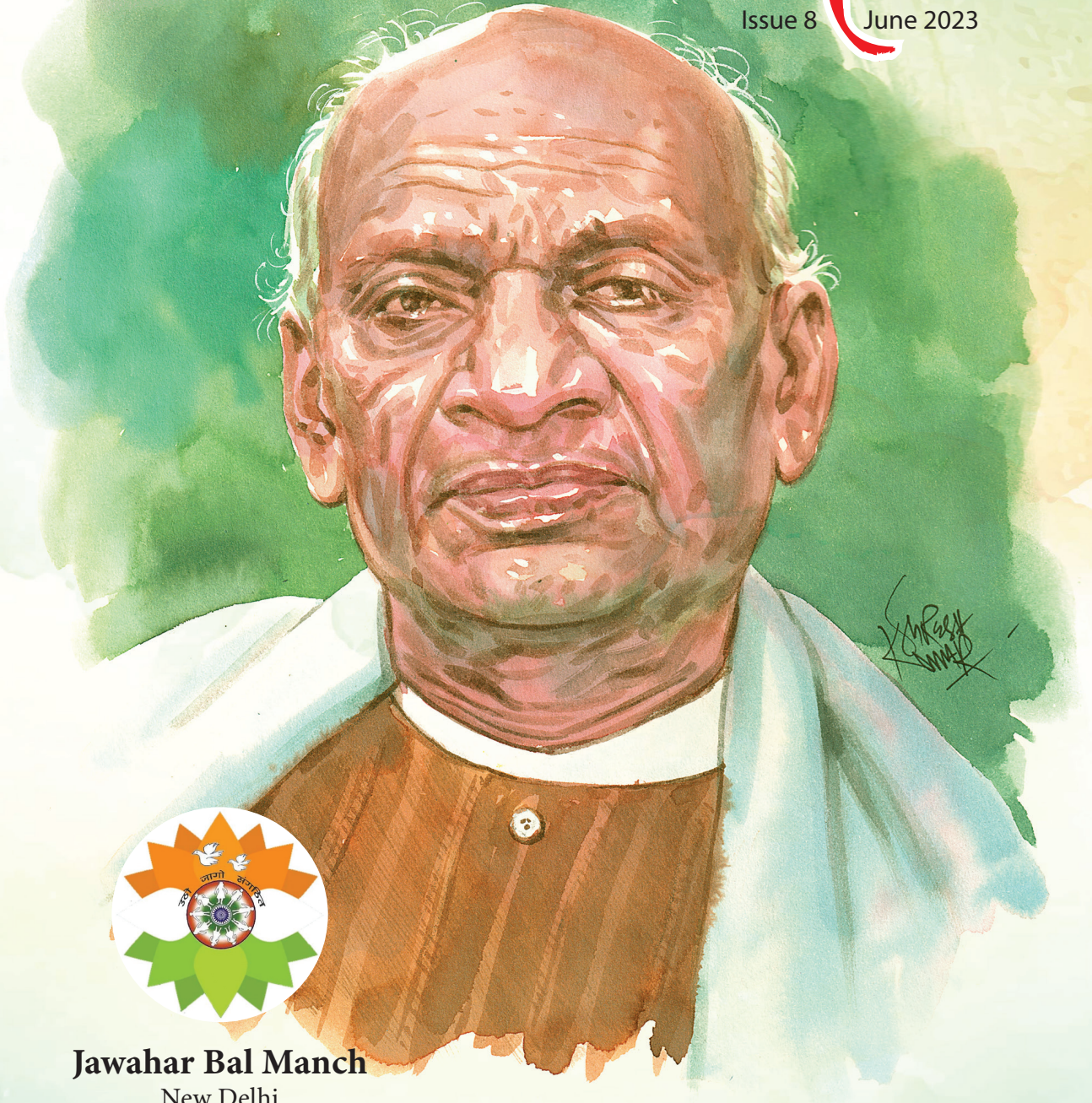


THE Buds

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New Delhi



THE Buds

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Dear friends,

As we all know Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was a senior leader of the Indian National Congress and a prominent figure in the Indian Freedom Struggle, who later became India's first Deputy Prime Minister and first Home Minister.

Patel is considered as the chief architect of integration of the erstwhile princely states with the Union of India.

Paying tribute to him, Jawaharlal Nehru called Sardar 'the builder and consolidator of new India.'

Nehru and Patel was a rare combination. They complemented each other. The two great leaders of the Indian National Congress had mutual admiration and respect.

They always wanted India to be strong, inclusive, alert, polite and developed. He was also instrumental in the creation of the All India Services which he described as the country's "Steel Frame"

As rightly observed by a senior journalist Ruhi Tewari, "Patel's role in Indian nation building does deserve more popular appreciation: From being the closest lieutenant to Mahatma Gandhi to leading key peasant struggles, to being the organisational spine of the Congress. He was a tough minister who ensured the integration of princely states into India and was a far-sighted strategic thinker who gave prudent advice on security and foreign policy issues. Patel also navigated India through the critical post-Independence years when communal tensions were at their peak and he was the home minister. Patel deserves to be remembered – and remembered well".

Rajmohan Gandhi, in his book writes that Nehru was focused on maintaining religious harmony, casting an independent foreign policy, and constructing a technological and industrial base, while Patel focused on getting the princely states to join the Indian Union, modernising the administrative services, and constructing a cross-party consensus on the significant elements of the Constitution.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's ironclad will unite India. The most fitting tribute to him would be to keep the flame of unity he ignited shining brighter than ever.

This edition of Buds is our humble obeisance to the glowing memories of Sardar.

Warmly Yours,

G. V. Hari



Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Iron man who unified India and the Role of JNC

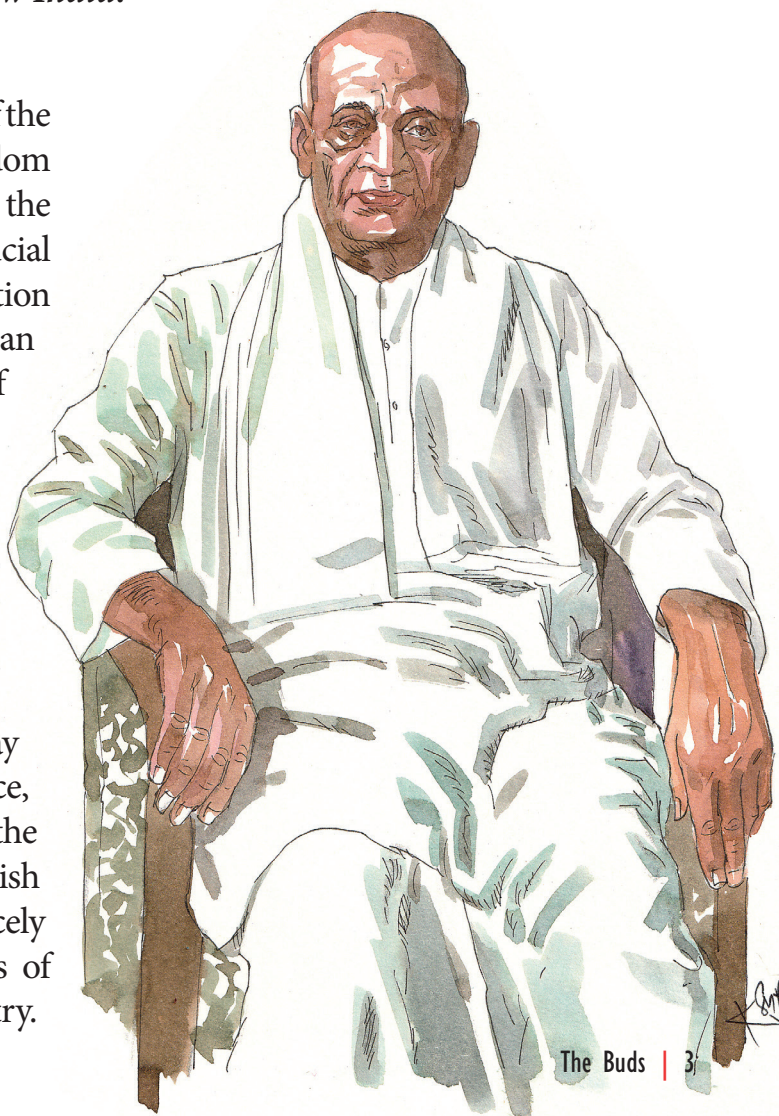
Sardar Patel lived an extra-ordinary life in extra-ordinary times. For his iron will and nerves of steel, he earned the title Iron Man of India. For his astute leadership and compassion, his people lovingly called him Sardar.

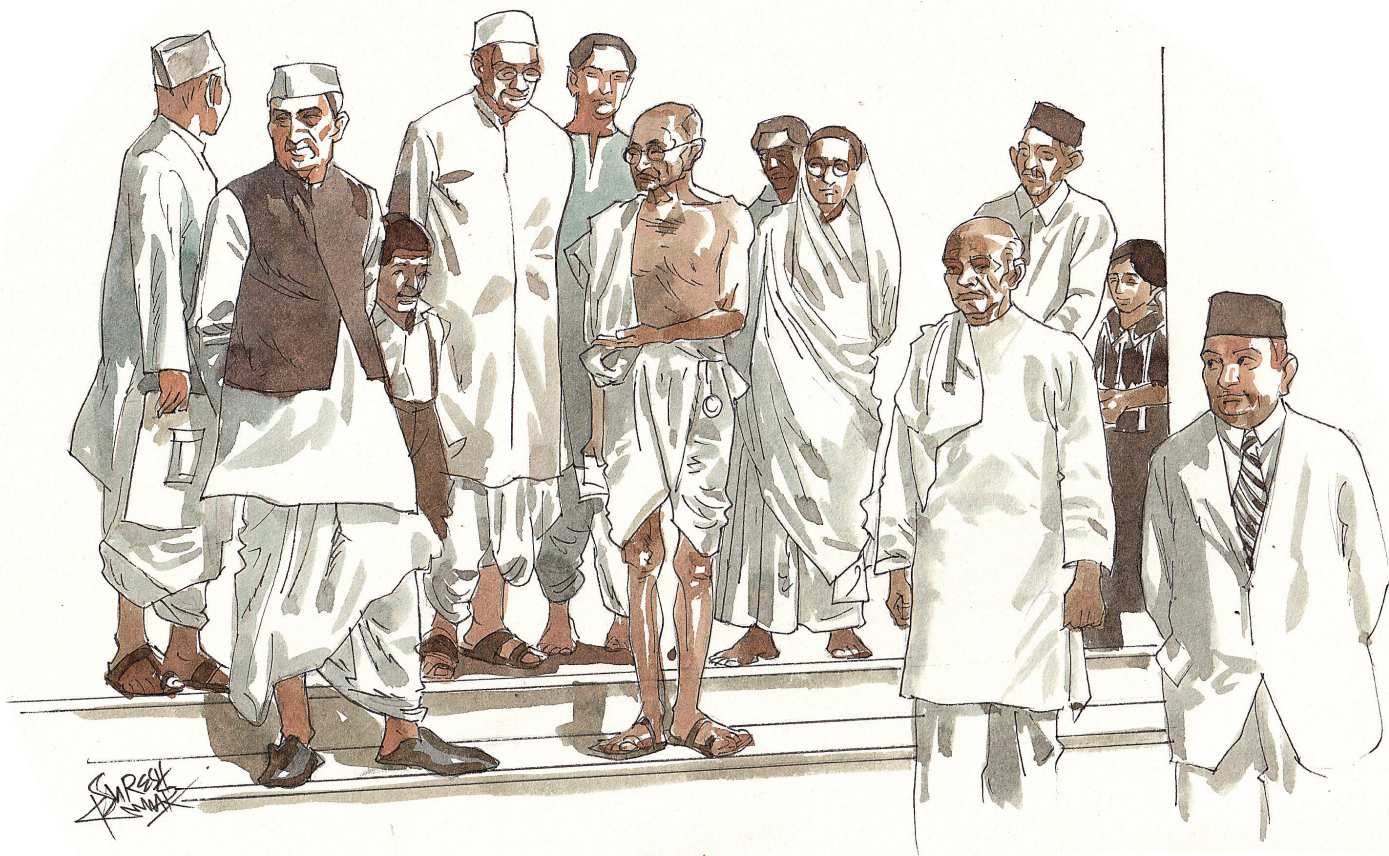
The geographic entity we know as India, bears the imprint of the genius and statesmanship of this one man. It is the most lasting legacy Patel left for the future. 'History', said Nehru speaking about Sardar Patel, would 'call him the builder and consolidator of the new India.'

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was one of the tallest leaders of the Indian freedom movement. Popularly known as the "Iron Man of India", Patel played a crucial role in overseeing the incorporation of 562 princely states into the Indian union, thereby blocking splitting of a country into miniature nations after India gained independence.

After the departure of the British in 1947 and with the passing of the Indian Independence Act 1947, the longcherished dream of freedom was finally at the doorstep.

However, massive obstacles lay ahead. At the time of Independence, India consisted of British India and the Princely States. There were 17 British Indian provinces, and the 562 Princely States- comprising about two fifths of the geographic territory of the country.





While the Indian Independence Act ceded control of British India to the Indian Government, rulers of the Princely States were given the option to decide whether they wanted to accede to India or Pakistan or neither. In these circumstances, Sardar Patel took up the monumental challenge of accession of the princely states and unifying them into the Union of India.

First Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister

After India's independence, Patel became the first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru became the first Prime Minister.

On 25 June 1947, the States Department was formed under Sardar

Patel. VP Menon was appointed its Secretary.

Patel was also made a member of the Ministry of States from the Indian side in July 1947. These two individuals made a formidable team whose tact and diplomacy made it possible to overcome apparently insurmountable hurdles.

Patel began the process of integration of princely states into Indian dominion on August 6, 1947 and successfully completed it by the virtue of his political maturity and persuasive skills. Sardar's indomitable spirit and relentless efforts made it possible to integrate hundreds of remarkably diverse states to form the modern nation-state of India.

Sardar used all his experience and wit to tackle one state after another -

Facts at a Glance

1st Deputy Prime Minister of India

In office

15 August 1947 – 15 December 1950

Monarch George VI
President Rajendra Prasad

Governor Louis Mountbatten
General C. Rajagopalachari

Preceded by Position established

Minister of Home Affairs

In office

15 August 1947 – 15 December 1950

Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru

Preceded by Position established

Succeeded by C. Rajagopalachari

1st Commander-in-chief of the Indian Armed Forces

In office

15 August 1947 – 15 December 1950

Monarch George VI
President Rajendra Prasad
Governor Louis Mountbatten
General C. Rajagopalachari
Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru
Preceded by Position established

Succeeded by Position abolished (merged to the President of India)

Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel

Born 31 October 1875
Nadiad, Bombay
Presidency, British India

Died 15 December 1950 (aged 75)
Bombay, Bombay State, India

Cause of death Heart attack

Political party Indian National Congress

Spouse(s) Jhaverben Patel (1880 - 11
January 1909)

Children Maniben Patel
Dahyabhai Patel

Parents Jhaverbhai Patel (1829-
1923) (father)

Parents Laad Bai (1847-1932)
(mother)

Alma mater Middle Temple

Profession Barrister
Politician
Activist
Freedom Fighter

Awards Bharat Ratna (1991)
(posthumously)

making consortiums in the form of the United States of Kathiawar and the United States of Rajasthan - bringing together the states.

Some states were initially hesitant but Patel's efforts overcame all resistance. Few princely states like

Travancore, Hyderabad, Junagadh, Bhopal and Kashmir were averse to joining the state of India. By the end of January 1948, Hyderabad and Junagadh were the only states that were still in negotiation. Even Kashmir came around in October 1947.



Iron Man Builds a Nation: Several Difficulties, Plenty of Surprises

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.

The lightning speed with which the Iron Man of India brought together the states was a mission with ups and downs.

“Many were prepared to follow me, but I could not make up my mind as to who should be my deputy commander. Then I thought of Vallabhbhai”

- Mohandas
Karamchand Gandhi



In no other nation or era has integration of such a vast population comprising such diverse people taken place within such a short span of time.

By doing so, Patel stitched the princely states along with British Indian territory and prevented the balkanization of India.

Needless to say, the path was characterized by steep challenges. The process was encumbered by the onerous expectations of the princely states. There were several difficulties. Plenty of surprises. Find out the twists and turns as the process of accession unfolded.

Hyderabad

Despite persuasion from Patel, Mir Osman Ali Khan, the seventh and final Nizam of Hyderabad, did not want to cede Hyderabad to the Indian union. The Nizam's ambitions, if realized, could have cut off north India from the south as Hyderabad ran across the Deccan plateau in the centre of the Indian sub-continent.

Nizam was a disaster to the Hindu community. He and his sidekick Qasim

Razvi believed that since Nizams have been ruling for 200 years, Hindus are captives and are only fit to be controlled by Muslims. That's why they unleashed a reign of horror and genocide to keep Hindus under check in the Nizam area.

Rizvi organized mercenaries under the name Razakar. Muslims were invited by Nizam from all over India to change demographics. Abruptly, millions of Muslims, who wanted to go to Pakistan, got associated with the Razakar army. Hindus were terrorized to abandon their farms and homes. Without guns, Hindus were no match for lakhs of Razakar with arms.

Patel invited Razvi to work out on an achievable & reasonable solution. Razvi was ruthless & arrogant throughout his meeting with Sardar. He wanted nothing less than an independent nation for Hyderabad.

In the first week of September 1948, Patel called for a high-level meeting with the Indian Army to explore ways to march troops into Hyderabad and take control as a form of "police action". In the early hours of 13th September

1948, under the code-name “Operation Polo”, Indian army under Major General Chaudhuri started marching into Hyderabad. It took less than four days for Indian troops to take control of the princely state. As a result, Nizam resigned and accepted the Indian union. Razakars surrendered and Nizam’s Hyderabad became part of India and Hindus were saved.

Junagadh

In an unexpected twist, the Nawab of Junagadh decided to accede to Pakistan, even as the people of the state remained staunchly opposed to it. The Nawab, an eccentric of sorts, who spent a fortune in the upkeep of his pet dogs finally escaped to Pakistan along with his dogs while leaving behind in a hurry, his child and wife. Despite this instrument of accession, Junagadh finally integrated into India with Patel’s resolute efforts.

In February 1948, in a landmark plebiscite, an overwhelming majority of people in Junagadh cast their votes in favour of remaining in India.

Kashmir

Raja Hari Singh of Kashmir had been undecided about accession. However, with Kashmir coming under attack from Pakistan in October 1947, the Raja sought urgent assistance from India. Help was extended by Patel, and the Raja signed the Instrument of Accession in return. The terms of Kashmir’s accession were worked out in the

period between October 1947 and 26 November 1949, when the Constituent Assembly was drafting the Constitution of India.

Baroda

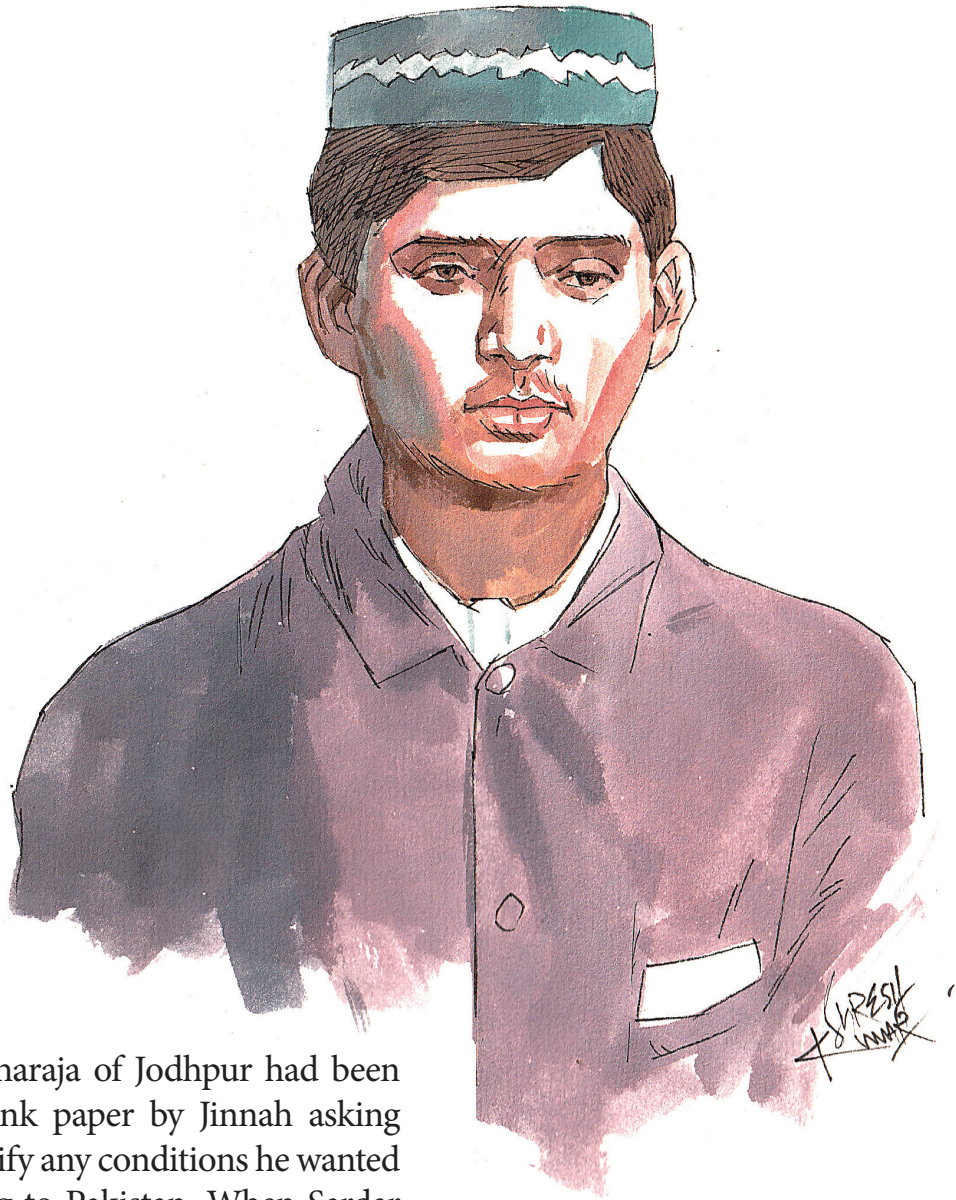
Baroda was one of the first states to sign the Instrument of Accession in favour of India. But soon thereafter, when the situation in Junagadh had given rise to turmoil in Kathiawar, the Raja of Baroda sensed an opportunity to bargain for more. Moreover, he began to make huge withdrawals from the State Treasury and used his position to have them written off. Flatly refusing to entertain the unreasonable demands of the Raja, Sardar ensured he soon towed the line.

Travancore

Travancore had announced that it would assert its right to remain independent giving a boost to other states that nurtured similar dreams. Patel’s diplomacy and statesmanship eventually brought the Raja of the state on board after much reconsideration and deliberation. This decision had a distinct impact on the rulers of other states who were undecided on the issue of Accession.

Jodhpur

In June 1947, Jodhpur, after having attempted negotiations for better terms with Pakistan, had acceded to India following several meetings and negotiations. Geographically, Jodhpur was suited for joining Pakistan.



The Maharaja of Jodhpur had been given a blank paper by Jinnah asking him to specify any conditions he wanted for acceding to Pakistan. When Sardar met him to discuss the possibility of acceding to India, the Maharaja pulled out his pistol in the heat of the negotiations. But finally he acceded to India as a result of Patel's diplomacy and statesmanship.

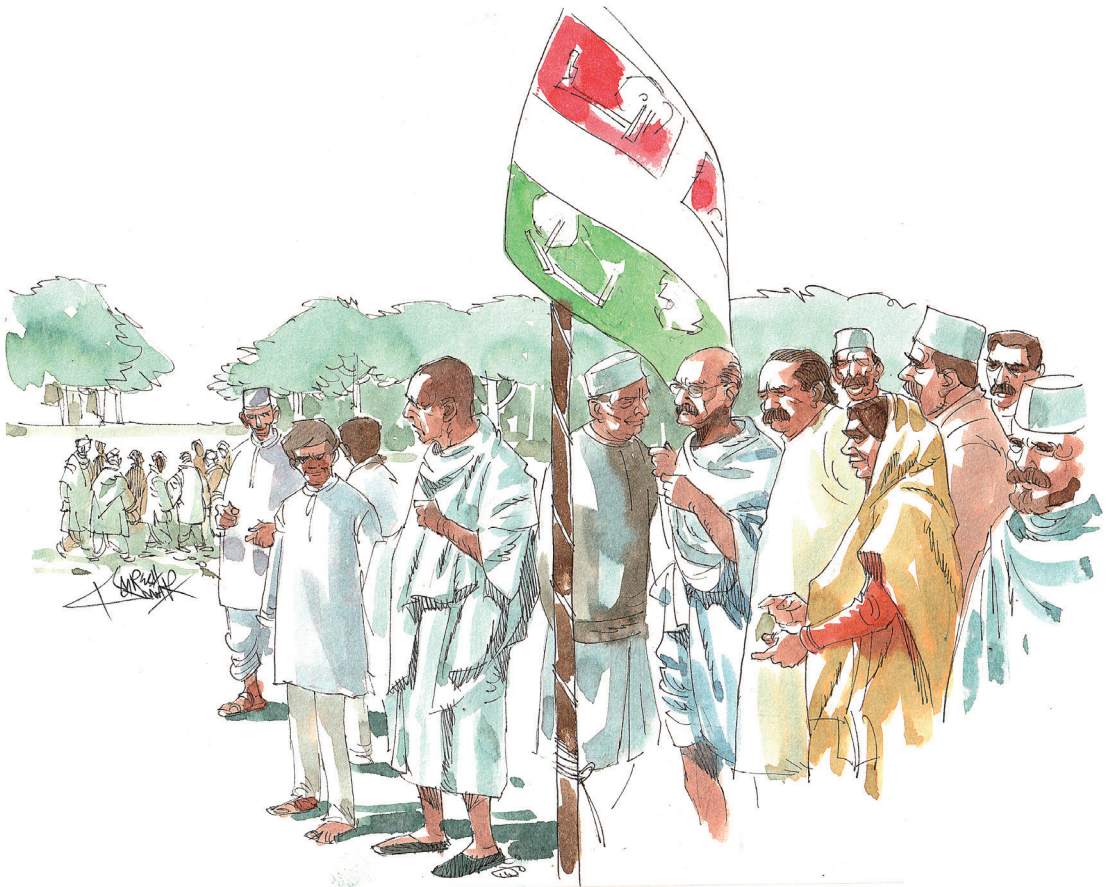
Bhopal

The Nawab of Bhopal wished to join neither India nor Pakistan. He wished to remain independent. After several meetings and lengthy discussions with Patel, the Nawab signed on the dotted line.

Manipur

Manipur acceded to India after much uncertainty. Composing a very diverse population of tribals and facing mounting threats from communist groups of Burma, the Raja of Manipur finally decided to throw in his lot with India.

After achieving the unification of these princely states with the Dominion of India in record time, the Iron Man of India breathed his last on 15 December.



Making of a Sardar

Sardar Patel's life was shaped by major events that took place around him just as much as he gave shape to major events. This Timeline provides a brief glimpse into the extraordinary life of Sardar Patel marking important events and landmarks in his momentous journey.

1875

Born in Gujarat's Nadiad city on October 31, 1875, to Jhaverbhai Patel and Ladba. Vallabhbhai begins his schooling in Karamsad, a small village in Kheda district of Gujarat. He continues in Petlad, a small town in the territory of Baroda. He was regarded as an average student.

1897

Completes matriculation from a school in Nadiad at the age of 22. Owing to the impecunious circumstances of the family, higher education was not within his reach.

1892

Vallabhbhai marries Jhaverba, a girl from the village of Gana. They

had a daughter, Mani in 1904 and a son, Dahya, in 1905. Jhaverba died in 1909 at the young age of 29 when their children were only five and three.

The next best thing was to take a course in law and set up as a country lawyer. This he did and established a small practice at Godhra.

1902

But an attack of plague, which he contracted while nursing a friend, made him leave the town and after spending some time in Nadiad, he moved on to Borsad in 1902, a town in the Kheda district where at that time the largest number of criminal cases in Gujarat were recorded.

At the age of 25, Patel passed the pleader's test and began to wear a black lawyer's coat over his kameez and dhoti along with a red Patidar pagdi.

1910

Leaving for England to study for the Bar: He began to concentrate more on studies and stayed away from his family to prepare for studying law abroad. For that purpose, he saved money, collected books from friends and finally went to England in 1910. After becoming a lawyer, in 1913, Patel returned to India and began his practice in Godhra, Gujarat. He came to enjoy a respected position in public life due to his eminence as a Barrister.

1917

He accepted Mahatma Gandhi's leadership, having been tremendously impressed by the fearless lead that

Mahatma Gandhi gave to right public wrongs.

In 1917 he was elected for the first time as the Sanitation Commissioner of Ahmedabad. There were also calamities like plague in 1917 and famine in 1918, and on both occasions Vallabhbhai did important work to relieve distress.

In 1917 he was also elected Secretary of the Gujarat Sabha, a political body which was of great assistance to Gandhiji in his campaigns.

1918

The association with Mahatma Gandhi became closer during the Kheda Satyagraha in 1918. Leading a Peasant's protest, Patel turned the trajectory of his life toward a path of public service. This was to prove to be a turning point in the life of Sardar Patel.

Gandhi chooses Vallabhbhai as his Deputy Commander. 'Many were prepared to follow me, but I could not make up my mind as to who should be my deputy commander. Then I thought of Vallabhbhai' said Gandhi reflecting upon his choice of Patel to lead the Kheda Satyagraha.

He began to work on a grassroots campaign to make farmers aware of the atrocities of British government and appealed to them to refuse the payment of taxes in Kheda, Gujarat.

It took three months of intense campaigning that was marked by arrests, seizures of goods, chattels, livestock and much official brutality before relief was secured from an un-

willing Colonial Government.

He soon became the secretary of the Gujarat chapter of the India National Congress (INC).

1921

In 1921, the Annual session of the Indian National Congress was to be held in Ahmedabad. Patel was elected as the Chairman of the Reception Committee for the session. Upon his shoulders fell the responsibility of looking after over 5000 visitors and delegates who were expected to attend the session. He also collected large sums of money for the Satyagraha movement.

In 1922, 1924 and 1927, he was elected as the Municipal President of Ahmedabad.

1928

In 1928, when the people of Bardoli town reeled under the dual burdens of a hefty tax and famine, Patel organised a massive movement and participated in negotiations with the British government, leading some British officials to tender their resignations.

The occasion for the Satyagraha was the Government's decision to increase the assessment of land revenue from Bardoli taluka by 22 per cent and in some villages by as much as 50 to 60 per cent.

Having failed to secure redress by other means, the agriculturists of the taluka decided at a Conference on February 12, 1928, to withhold payment of land revenue under the leadership of Vallabhbhai Patel.

The struggle was grim and bitter. There were seizures of property and livestock to such an extent that for days on end, people kept themselves and their buffaloes locked in. Arrests followed and then brutalities of the police and the hired Pathans.

The struggle drew the attention of the whole country to it. Patels and Talatis resigned their jobs. Government revenues remained unrealized. The Government had to ultimately bow before popular resolve and an inquiry was instituted to find out to what extent the increase was justified and the realization of the increased revenue was postponed.

It was a triumph not only of the 80,000 peasants of Bardoli but more particularly of Vallabhbhai personally; he was given the title of "Sardar" by the nation.

1930

The boycott of the Simon Commission was followed by the launching of the famous Salt Satyagraha by Gandhiji. Vallabhbhai Patel, though he had not committed any breach of the Salt Law, was the first of the national leaders to be arrested.

He was in fact arrested on March 7, 1930 - some days before Gandhiji set out on the march to Dandi. He was released in June. By then Gandhiji, Jawaharlal Nehru and other leaders were in jail and the tempo of the struggle in the country was rising. In a few months Vallabhbhai was back in prison.

Contribution to Congress Party

While Mahatma Gandhi gave to the Congress a programme for a broad-based action, it was Vallabhbhai who built up the Party machinery so as to carry out that programme. No one before him had given adequate thought to the need of having an effective organisation, but Vallabhbhai realised this need during his campaigns and devoted his organisation-

al talents and energy to building up the strength of the Party which could now fight in an organised and effective manner.

His grip over the Party organisation was complete. Vallabhbhai Patel was thus one of the chief architects and guardians of India's freedom and his contribution towards consolidating the freedom of the country remains unrivalled.

1931

Just out of jail, in 1931, Patel was elected President of the Karachi session of the Indian National Congress which was called upon to ratify the Gandhi-Irwin Pact, which had just then been concluded. At time when the nation was angry over the execution of Bhagat Singh, Sukhdeo and Rajguru, he made a speech that reflected the sentiment of the hour.

1932

In 1932, after the failed Round Table Conference in London, Gandhi

and other Congress leaders including Patel were again arrested and lodged at the Yeravda Central Jail in Pune. By that time, they had struck a strong camaraderie. Vallabhbhai Patel was lodged with Gandhiji in Yeravada Jail and they were together there for sixteen months—from January 1932 to May 1933.

1935

Vallabhbhai then spent another year in the Nasik Jail. When the Government of India Act 1935 came, the

Some Interesting Facts

- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel completed his 36-month long law course in just 30 months at the Middle Temple, Inns of Court, in England and became one of the most successful lawyers of his time.
- In 1932, after the unsuccessful Round Table Conference in London, Patel was detained in Yeravda Jail in Pune with Gandhi. He learnt Sanskrit from Gandhi and discussed strategies to fight the British.
- In 1946, during the process of appointing the president of the INC, Patel was named by 12 out of 15 committees but Gandhi recommended Jawaharlal Nehru and Patel did not challenge it.
- In 2014, the Union government declared Patel's birth anniversary, October 31, as Rashtra Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) in recognition of Patel's role as the Unifier of modern India.

Congress, though generally critical of the Act, decided to try out those of its constitutional provisions that seemed to grant to Indians a measure of self-government and to take part in the elections for Provincial legislatures that were envisaged under it.

1939

In 1939, when Britain declared war on Germany, the Viceroy without consulting either the Central or the Provincial Legislatures, proclaimed India as having entered the war as an ally of Britain. Gandhi launched Individual Civil Disobedience opposing India's participation in the war, and the Congress leaders began to court arrest. Vallabhbhai Patel was arrested on November 17, 1940. He was released on August 20, 1941 on grounds of health.

1942

Then the All India Congress Committee passed the famous Quit India

resolution in Bombay on August 8, 1942, and Vallabhbhai, along with the other members of the Working Committee, was arrested on August 9, 1942 and detained in the Ahmednagar Fort while Gandhi, Kasturba and Mahadev Desai were detained in the Aga Khan's Palace. Patel was imprisoned till 1945.

When, at the end of the war, the Congress leaders were freed and the British Government decided to find a peaceful constitutional solution to the problem of India's Independence, Vallabhbhai Patel was one of the chief negotiators of the Congress.

1947

When India attained Independence Vallabhbhai became the Deputy Prime Minister and was responsible for the Home, States and the Information and Broadcasting portfolios.

It was in this capacity that he was called upon to tackle the most intri-

cate and baffling problem of the States' integration into the Union of India. And it is here that his tact, his powers of persuasion and his statesmanship came into full play.

As Minister of Home Affairs, he presided over efforts to bring back order and peace to a country ravaged by communal strife unprecedented in its history. He accomplished this task with the ruthless efficiency of a great administrator.

He sorted out the problems of partition, restored law and order and dealt with the rehabilitation of thousands of refugees with great courage and foresight. He reorganised our Services which had become depleted with the departure of the British and formed a new Indian Administrative Service, to provide a stable administrative base to our new democracy.

1950

He died on December 15, 1950, leaving behind a son, Dahyabhai Patel, and a daughter, Maniben Patel.

His cremation in Sonapur, now Marine Lines in Mumbai was attended by a crowd of one million including President Rajendra Prasad, Prime Minister Nehru and C.Rajagopalachari.

Sardar Patel was honoured posthumously with the Bharat Ratna award, the highest civilian award of India, in 1991.

Every year his birthday, 31 October, is commemorated as the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day).

Several institutions and monuments have been named after him, which includes the National Police academy at Hyderabad, International airport and cricket stadiums at Ahmedabad, Sardar Sarovar Dam, and many more.

The Iron Man of India

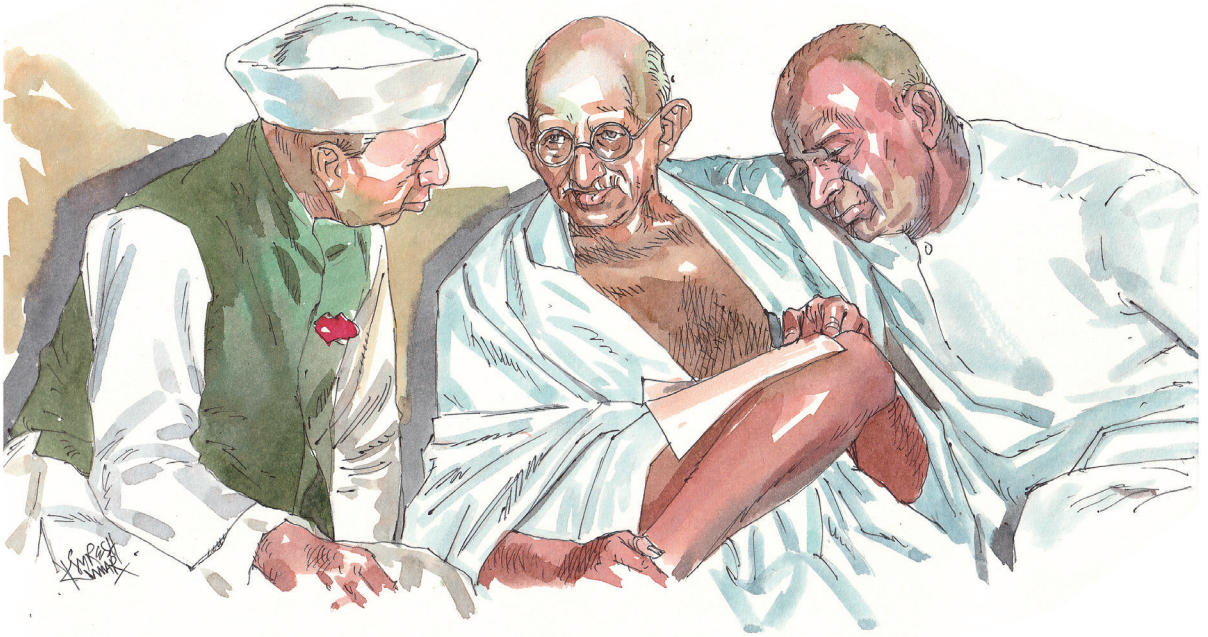
October 31 also happens to be the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel. Known as the 'Iron Man of India', he was a leading figure in the Indian Independence Movement.

Born on October 31, 1875, Patel was responsible for the integration of more than 500 princely states into India before and after Independence.

Patel was one of the top senior leaders of the Congress party. He was appointed as the first Home Minister of Independent India. He also oversaw the ministry of information and the ministry of State.

He spread awareness across India extensively against untouchability, caste and gender discrimination and alcohol consumption.

During the imprisonment of Mahatma Gandhi, Patel led the Satyagraha movement in Nagpur in 1923, which was against the British law of banning the hoisting of the Indian Flag.



Nehru and Patel: An Unbreakable Combination

On the occasion of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's 60th birthday on 14 November, 1949, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel penned a heartfelt tribute to the Prime Minister of the newly independent nation.

Despite what some might say today, the mutual admiration between Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel has been well-documented. This is not to say that political disagreements did not exist, but their camaraderie was a good example of two leaders working despite their differences for the greater cause of the nation.

Perhaps *The Hindu* put it best when it said, "What is the truth? Nehru and Patel often disagreed, and furiously so. But such was the beauty of the rela-

tionship that they rarely kept a secret from each other.

They wrote to each other almost every other day, expressing their doubts and differences honestly and openly, and concluding in the end that their mutual affection and regard outweighed any difference they felt with regard to state policy.

In their letters, the two great men agonised over the rumours surrounding their relationship and the constant attempts to create a divide between them."

This mutual affection can perhaps also be encapsulated in Patel's 1949 letter, which he wrote to pay tribute to Nehru on his 60th birthday.

He began the letter by saying, "Jawaharlal and I have been fellow-members of the Congress, soldiers in the struggle of freedom, colleagues in the Congress Working Committee and other bodies of the Congress, devoted followers of the Great Master [Gandhi] who has unhappily left us to battle with grave problems without his guidance, and co-shares in the great and onerous burden of administration of this vast country."

"Having known each other in such intimate and varied fields of activity, we have naturally grown fond of each other, our mutual affection has increased as years have advanced, and it is difficult for people to imagine just how much we miss each other when we are apart and unable to take counsel together in order to resolve our problems and difficulties. This familiarity, nearness, intimacy and brotherly affection make it difficult for me to sum him up for public appreciation, but, then, the idol of the nation, the leader of the people, the Prime Minister of the country, and the hero of the masses, whose noble record and great achievements are an open book, hardly needs any commendation from me."

Much has also been debated about how Nehru wrested the position of the PM from Patel to lead an independent India.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was instrumental in India's independence struggle, and then for the integration of over 500 princely states into the Union of India.

However, Patel makes his feelings about this abundantly clear in the letter.

"...It was in the fitness of things that in the twilight preceding the dawn of independence he should have been our leading light, and that when India was faced with crisis after crisis, following the achievement of our freedom, he should have been the upholder of our faith and the leader of our legions. No one knows better than myself how much he has laboured for his country in the last two years of our difficult existence As one older in years, it has been my privilege to tender advice to him on the manifold problems with which we have been faced in both administrative and organisational fields...Contrary to the impression created by some interested persons...we have worked together as lifelong friends and colleagues, adjusting ourselves to each other's point of view as the occasion demanded, and valuing each other's advice as only those who have confidence in each other can."

(SOURCES: *Archives of Times of India, Hindustan Times, The Hindu, Sardarpatel.nvli.in, Wikipedia, Culturalindia.net, Divya Sethu*)



Indira Gandhi and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

While Indira Gandhi was shot dead on October 31, 1984, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was born on October 31, 1875.

On October 31, 1984, Indira Gandhi was assassinated by her Sikh bodyguards. This was in retaliation to her Operation Blue Star.

The only female prime minister of the country, Indira Gandhi was known for the reforms she introduced such as the nationalisation of banks and abolition of privy purses of the royal families among others.

She is often known as the 'Iron Lady of India'. She was born on November 19, 1917, in Prayagraj as the only child to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and his wife Kamala Nehru.

Educated in Visva-Bharati University, Swiss schools and at Somerville College, Oxford, she was a key assistant of Nehru during his reign as

Prime Minister and used to accompany him on many foreign trips.

In 1959, she was elected as the President of the Indian National Congress (INC) and became a member of the Rajya Sabha in 1964.

She became the first female Prime Minister of India after the sudden demise of then Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri in 1966. She had served in the Shastri cabinet as the Minister of Information and Broadcasting from the time of her father's death in 1964 to 1966.

Indira Gandhi was the second-longest-serving Prime Minister of the country, serving from January 1966 to March 1977, and from January 1980 to October 1984. During her tenure, she nationalised 14 banks.

After India's victory in the 1971 war against Pakistan and the creation of the nation of Bangladesh, she was awarded the Bharat Ratna.

Inspirational Quotes by Sardar Patel

Manpower without Unity is not a strength unless it is harmonized and united properly, then it becomes a spiritual power.

Every citizen of India must remember that he is an Indian and he has every right in this country but with certain duties.

It is the prime responsibility of every citizen to feel that his country is free and to defend its freedom is his duty.

Even if we lose the wealth of thousands, and our life is sacrificed, we should keep smiling and be cheerful keeping our faith in God and Truth.

My only desire is that India should be a good producer and no one should be hungry, shedding tears for food in the country.

There is something unique in this soil, which despite many obstacles has always remained the abode of great souls.

Work is undoubtedly worship but laughter is life. Anyone who takes life too seriously must prepare himself for a miserable existence. Anyone who greets joys and sorrows with equal facility can really get the best of life.

The negligence of a few could easily send a ship to the bottom, but if it has the whole-hearted cooperation of all on board it can be safely brought to port.

Non-violence has to be observed in thought, word and deed. The measure of our non-violence will be the measure of our success.

A war based on Satyagraha is always of two kinds. One is the war we wage against injustice, and the other we fight our own weaknesses.

Faith is of no avail in absence of strength. Faith and strength, both are essential to accomplish any great work.

Take to the path of dharma – the path of truth and justice. Don't misuse your valour. Remain united. March forward in all humility, but fully awake to the situation you face, demanding your rights and firmness.

By common endeavour we can raise the country to a new greatness, while a lack of unity will expose us to fresh calamities.



Words of Wisdom

- **October 3, 1934:** Women in one way are extremely courageous. Men do not endure the miseries to the extent women do. So long as women are not sufficiently educated and inculcated with national spirit, till then there will be no prosperity.
- **September 18, 1950:** Young men and women are to build-up a strong character. A nation's greatness was reflected in the character of her people. It was sullied by selfishness, such a people could not prosper or achieve great things.. Selfishness had its place in life as everyone had to look to his own needs and that of his family, but it could not be made the be-all and end-all of life.
- **January 2, 1935:** Freedom is going to be built up from bottom and not going to fall from above.
- **July 19, 1940:** Character is very essential for real success. One who has no character can succeed neither in politics not in commerce. Commercial morality is very necessary in business. Without honesty and mutual confidence it is impossible to achieve success. Intelligence is also necessary for success in the commercial field. Fate also has its own place but without character and commercial morality everything else fails.
- **October 3, 1950:** The education system should be so reoriented that young men were taught to do things with their own hands in the agricultural and industrial fields.
- **May 16, 1950:** In the history of this country there has never been such consolidation as has been today.

Indian history has shown in the past and, if we take a lesson from past history, then it is our duty to preserve and consolidate the hard earned freedom for which many people have made tremendous sacrifices.

- **January 25, 1949:** Our prestige has gone high because of Mahatma Gandhi. People are praising the manner in which we have achieved integration of the States without violence or bloodshed and by peaceful means and co-operation and in a spirit of cordiality.
- **August 11, 1947:** The need of the hour is to increase the wealth of the country and this can only be done by putting in more and more work and thus increasing production.
- **April 16, 1947:** Caste, community will rapidly disappear. We have to speedily forget all these things. Such boundaries hamper our growth.
- **January 5, 1948:** Even an inch of Kashmir will not be yielded. India wanted to be liberal in setting affairs with Pakistan and wanted to live and let live. But if Pakistan wanted to shell India with the money received from India, it could not be allowed.
- **June 13, 1935:** A drunkard can never become a man of character. He does not have sense of good or evil. He is not able to control him-

self. Therefore, give up drinking forever.

- **October 23, 1935:** No one should spit on the roads, should not throw remnants of eatables on the streets, and should not make the places dirty.
- **June 16, 1933:** Serve the people without any expectation, and try to be as much pure as possible by mind, words and deeds. If you do that much there is no place for pessimism. It is but natural that when you are all alone mind runs a riot, but if you continuously engage yourself in some work then the mind will be peaceful.
- **September 19, 1950:** No distinctions of caste and creed should hamper us. All are the sons and daughters of India. We should all love our country and build our destiny on mutual love and help.
- **January 1, 1935:** Idleness is the greatest enemy of man.
- **February 12, 1928:** Discipline and organization means half the battle is won.
- **September 21, 1929:** Unite and you will not have to fight.
- **January 26, 1939:** Non-violence has to be observed in thought, word and deed. The measure of our non-violence will be the measure of our success.



Samvaad - 23

First National Conference of Jawahar Bal Manch

SAMVAAD - 23, the first National Conference of Jawahar Bal Manch was held in Shimla on May 11-12, 2023 to take stock of the organization's past activity and create a clear plan for the future.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Shri Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu Inaugurated the 2 day conference. The conference was attended by 140 delegates from 17 states across India.

AICC Joint Secretary & JBM In-charge Shri Krishna Allavaru, CWC

Member Shri Sachin Rao, Himachal Pradesh Cabinet Ministers Shri Vikramaditya Singh & Shri Anirudh Singh Joined the historic conference.

Many serious discussions and sessions on important matters happened during the course of two days.

During the conference, 5 key themes - Structure of Jawahar Bal Manch - Programs and Projects, Modus Operandi, Challenges Ahead, Formation and Running of Titli units - were identified to evaluate the all-round vision and mission of the organization and to

दैनिक सेवरा
शिमला, शुक्रवार, 12 मई 2023

आधुनिक भारत के निर्माण में कांग्रेस की विशेष भूमिका : मुख्यमंत्री सुखविंदर सुक्खू

जवाहर बाल मंच के राष्ट्रीय अधिवेशन संवाद-23 का किया शुभारंभ

शिमला, 11 मई : मुख्यमंत्री सुखविंदर सिंह सुक्खू ने शिमला में शुरू हुए जवाहर बाल मंच के राष्ट्रीय अधिवेशन संवाद-23 का शुभारंभ करते हुए कहा कि आधुनिक भारत के निर्माण में कांग्रेस की विशेष भूमिका है। उन्होंने कहा कि जवाहर बाल मंच के माध्यम से युवाओं को जागरूक किया जा रहा है और वे अपने देश के विकास में योगदान दे सकें।



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हिमाचल प्रदेश
शिमला, शुक्रवार, 12 मई, 2023

भारत निर्माण में कांग्रेस पार्टी की अहम भूमिका : मुख्यमंत्री

जवाहर बाल मंच के राष्ट्रीय अधिवेशन में बोले सीएम सुक्खू

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14 को होगी कांग्रेस विचारकों की बैठक सीएम रहेंगे मौजूद

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दैनिक जागरण चंडीगढ़, 12 मई, 2023

आधुनिक भारत के निर्माण में कांग्रेस की विशेष भूमिका

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बोले, राहुल गांधी ने 'भारत जोड़ो यात्रा' से देश के कोने-कोने तक पहुंचाया प्रेम का संदेश

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शिमला, शुक्रवार, 12 मई, 2023

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help improve its performance by setting new goals. The Action Plan 'Shimla Declaration' was also prepared by the delegates attended. Next Conference will

be held in Mysore, Karnataka. IBM has grown into a pan-India organization with a functional two-tier structure that is successfully operational in 20 states and union territories.



**Jawahar Bal Manch
Publication**