

Eminent Indians

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**WHO**  
**WAS WHO**  
**1900-1980**

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**Also Annual Diary of Events**

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**November 25**—Lal Bahadur Shastri resigns following the Ariyalur train disaster.

**November 28**—Chou En Lai, Prime Min. of China, and party arrive in New Delhi on 12-day visit.

**December 30**—Chou En Lai and Nehru begin their second round of talks.

1957

**January 5-6**—62nd Session of Indian National Congress meets at Laxmibai Nagar, Indore, under presidentship of U.N. Dhebar.

**January 20**—Prime Minister Nehru inaugurates atomic reactor in Bombay.

**January 22**—India and Pakistan sign trade agreement.

**February 24**—India's Second General Elections begin.

**May 10**—Dr. Rajendra Prasad re-elected President of India, for second term.

**May 13**—Dr. Rajendra Prasad and Dr. S. Radhakrishnan are sworn in as President and Vice-President respectively.

**June 10**—V.V. Giri sworn in as Governor of Uttar Pradesh.

**June 14**—H.V. Pataskar sworn in as Governor of Madhya Pradesh.

**August 16**—Centenary of First War of Independence (Mutiny 1857) celebrated all over India.

**August 26**—Nagas' convention decides at Kohima to give up demand for Independence.

**August 28**—Jayaprakash Narayan resigns from P.S.P.

**October 29**—Pres. Rajendra Prasad confers upon Pandit G.B. Pant the title of Bharat Ratna.

**November 5**—Yuvraj Karan Singh elected Sadar-i-Riyasat of Jammu and Kashmir State.

**November 10**—U.S.S.R. and India sign an agreement for setting up heavy industries in India.

**December 5**—U.S.A. and India sign pact for eradicating malaria in 3 years.

1958

**January 8**—Harold MacMillan, British Prime Minister, arrives in New Delhi.

**January 12**—Dr. Frank Graham, U.N. Rep. for India and Pakistan, arrives in New Delhi.

**January 18**—63rd annual session of Indian National Congress meets at Gauhati under presidentship of U.N. Dhebar.

**January 26**—D.K. Karve awarded Bharat Ratna.

**February 5**—Ho Chi-Minh, Pres., Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, arrives in New Delhi.

**February 12**—T.T. Krishnamachari, Union Finance Minister, resigns.

**March 22**—Morarji Desai takes over as Union Finance Minister.

**April 18**—Dr. D.K. Karve celebrates 101st birthday.

**May 13**—Discovery of natural gas at Jwalamukhi announced.

**June 14**—Dr. C.V. Raman receives Lenin Peace Prize at Kremlin.

**August 9**—Indian Security Forces drive Pakistan intruders from Tukurgram.

**September 11**—A joint communique by Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan on border disputes released in New Delhi.

**September 14**—M.C. Chagla appointed India's Ambassador to U.S.A.

**September 15**—N.V. Gadgil sworn in as Governor of Punjab.

**November 10**—Oil is struck at one experimental drilling site at Vadser, near Vadodara (Baroda).

**December 15**—Jawaharlal Nehru warns Pakistan that aggression will be met everywhere.

1959

**January 10**—Dr. Rajendra Prasad inaugurates Diamond Jubilee celebration of Haffkine Institute in Bombay.

**January 21**—Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh, arrives in New Delhi on a state visit.

**January 24**—First blast furnace of Rourkela Steel Plant commissioned.

**February 2**—Indira Gandhi elected President of Indian National Congress.

**March 18**—U.N. Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld arrives in New Delhi and meets Jawaharlal Nehru.

**April 3**—Jawaharlal Nehru makes statement in Lok Sabha regarding Dalai Lama's entry into Indian territory on March 31, and seeking political asylum.

**May 6**—Discovery of new coal seam in Madhya Pradesh announced in Lok Sabha.

**June 11**—Prof. N.G. Ranga resigns from Congress and take up leadership of newly formed Swatantra Party.

**July 3**—Robert Menzies, Prime Minister of Australia, arrives in New Delhi on State visit to India.

**August 1**—Swatantra Party's convention meets in Bombay.

**August 28**—Prime Minister informs Lok Sabha of intrusion of Chinese Forces in NEFA and Ladakh.

**September 10**—Govt. of India sends note to Chinese Govt. reaffirming stand on MacMohan Line as representing boundary between India and Tibet region of China.

**September 30**—Kumari Arati Saha successfully swims English Channel.

**October 21**—Chinese soldiers enter Eastern Ladakh, kill 9 petrol policemen, and capture 10.

**November 14**—China releases ten members of police patrol.

**December 9**—Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of U.S.A., arrives in N. Delhi on state visit to India.

**December 27**—Prime Minister of Cambodia, Prince Norodom Sihanouk arrives in New Delhi.

## 1960

**January 10**—Jawaharlal Nehru lays foundation stone of Rs. 100 million rail-cum-road bridge across Brahmaputra at Pandur.

**January 16-17**—Congress session under presidency of Sanjiva Reddy meets at Bangalore.

**January 20**—President Voroshilov of Soviet Russia arrives in New Delhi on state visit.

**January 21**—Trade agreement between India and Yugoslavia signed in New Delhi.

**February 11**—Nikita Khrushchev, Prime Minister of U.S.S.R., arrives in New Delhi.

**April 19**—Chou En Lai, Prime Minister of China, arrives in New Delhi for talks on Sino-Indian border problem. The National Defence College opened in New Delhi.

**May 1**—New States of Maharashtra and Gujarat come into being.

**June 16**—Indo-Russian agreement for collaboration in oil and gas exploration signed in New Delhi.

**June 16**—International Telex Service between India and United Kingdom inaugurated.

**July 1**—B. Ramakrishna Rao and V.V. Giri take charge as governors of U.P. and Kerala respectively.

**July 10**—Canada-India reactor at Trombay attains criticality.

**August 19**—Second round of talks on Sino-Indian border begins in New Delhi.

**September 14**—M. Visveswaraya Centenary celebrations inaugurated in Bangalore.

**October 14**—Indo-Polish trade pact signed in Warsaw.

**October 25**—Trade agreement between India and Yugoslavia signed in Belgrade.

**November 6**—Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru formally inaugurates Heavy Electricals Plant at Bhopal.

**November 7**—Final round of talks on Sino-Indian border begins in Rangoon.

**November 11**—Prime Minister of Burma, U Nu and Mrs. U Nu arrive in New Delhi on a state visit.

**November 19**—Jawaharlal Nehru inaugurates Govind Sagar Dam and Power House of Chambal Project.

**November 29**—Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko of Japan arrive in New Delhi on state visit.

**December 1**—C.B. Gupta elected chief of Congress legislature in Uttar Pradesh; Air Marshal A.M. Engineer takes over Command of Indian Air Force.

**December 3**—Lt. Gen. P.N. Thapar appointed as Chief of Army Staff.

## 1961

**January 6**—66th Session of Indian National Congress meets at Sardarnagar, Bhavnagar.

**January 12**—Papers concerning Indus water treaty between India and Pakistan exchanged in New Delhi.

**January 16**—Exchange of territories between India and Pakistan under Indo-Pakistan border agreement begins.

**January 21**—Queen Elizabeth and Duke of Edinburgh arrive in New Delhi on state visit.

**February 18**—Binodanand Jha heads new ministry in Bihar.

**March 2**—Queen Elizabeth and Duke of Edinburgh leave after Indian tour.

**March 24**—Five-day session of World Council of Peace inaugurated in New Delhi.

**June 24**—Hindustan Fighter (HF-24) supersonic aircraft, manufactured in India, makes inaugural flight.

**July 19**—President Rajendra Prasad taken seriously ill in New Delhi.

**July 25**—Dr. S. Radhakrishnan sworn in as acting President of India.

**August 15**—Master Tara Singh, Akali leader, begins fast unto death for demand of Punjabi Suba in Amritsar.

**August 16**—Swami Rameshwaranand, Pres. of Punjab Hindi Raksha Samiti, begins counter fast in Delhi to oppose Akali demand for Punjabi Suba.

**August 22**—Indo-Pakistan Conference on Punjab-West Pakistan Border begins in New Delhi.

**October 1**—Master Tara Singh breaks 48-day old fast.

**November 7**—Jawaharlal Nehru meets Pres. Kennedy in Washington.

**November 21**—Averell Harriman, Spl. representative of Pres. Kennedy, arrives in New Delhi.

**November 29**—First Russian Cosmonaut, Yuri Gagarin arrives in New Delhi.

**December 18**—India's Defence Forces march into Goa.

## 1962

**January 1**—First state-owned oil refinery at Nunmati, Assam, inaugurated.

**March 12**—Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, wife of Pres. John F. Kennedy of U.S.A., arrives in New Delhi.

**May 7**—Dr. Zakir Husain declared elected Vice-President of India.

**May 11**—Dr. S. Radhakrishnan declared elected Pres. of India.

**May 13**—Dr. S. Radhakrishnan and Dr. Zakir Husain take oath of office; Dr. Rajendra Prasad, outgoing president, awarded 'Bharat Ratna'. A special postage stamp also issued in his honour.

**August 20**—Govt. of India decides to build second nuclear power station at Rana Pratap Sagar near Kotah in Rajasthan.

**August 29**—Lok Sabha passes State of Nagaland Bill 1962.

**September 3**—Chinese make fresh encroachment on Indian territory in eastern sector.

**September 25**—Three-member team of Gandhi Peace Foundation, headed by C. Rajagopalachari leaves for U.S.A. to appeal for ban on nuclear arms.

**September 28**—Indian and Chinese troops exchange fire near Dhola Post.

**October 12**—Heavy fighting begins on NEFA front between Indian and Chinese troops.

**October 20**—China launches massive attack in NEFA and Ladakh areas.

**October 31**—Prime Minister Nehru takes over Defence Portfolio and appoints Krishna Menon as Minister of Defence Production.

**November 9**—Bharat Ratna D.K. Karve, eminent educationist, social worker and centenarian, passes away in Poona.

**November 21**—China announces cease-fire from midnight along entire Sino-Indian Border.

**December 18**—Yugoslav Vice-President Kardelj arrives in New Delhi.

**December 28**—Pakistan and China decided to sign boundary agreement on basis of 'location and alignment of boundary actually existing' between Sinkiang and Pakistan occupied portion of Kashmir.

## 1963

**January 9**—Morarji Desai, Union Finance Minister, announces measures to control gold in India.

**January 15**—Pakistan delegation headed by Z.A. Bhutto arrives in New Delhi for second round of talks on Kashmir and related matters.

**January 20**—Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, inaugurates Vivekananda Centenary celebrations in Calcutta.

**February 28**—Dr. Rajendra Prasad, first President of India, passes away in Patna.

**April 17**—Dr. S. Radhakrishnan presents Bharat Ratna award to Dr. Zakir Husain and P.V. Kane.

**April 27**—An agreement with Phillips Petroleum Co. of U.S.A. for setting a refinery in India signed in New Delhi.

**June 2**—Dr. S. Radhakrishnan leaves for U.S.A. on a state visit.

**August 28**—President Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, accepts resignations of six Union Ministers (who resigned under Kamraj Plan).

**November 20**—K. Kamraj elected President of Indian National Congress.

**December 1**—Dr. S. Radhakrishnan inaugurated Nagaland as 16th State of Indian Union.

**December 18**—Smt. Vijayalakshmi Pandit sworn in as Governor of Maharashtra in Bombay.

## 1964

**January 4**—Orientalists from all over the world meet in N. Delhi.

**January 9** — Kamraj delivers presidential address to 68th session of Indian National Congress held at Bhubaneshwar.

**February 6** — Raj Kumari Amrit Kaur passes away; India rejects in U.N. Security Council Pakistan's demand for plebiscite in Kashmir.

**February 18** — I.A.F. transport Illyushin Aircraft reported missing. Top army officials abroad are believed killed.

**April 15** — National Council of Communist Party of India suspends 32 leaders from party membership.

**May 27** — Jawaharlal Nehru, First Prime Minister of Independent India, passes away; Late Jawaharlal Nehru cremated in New Delhi (Shantivana).

**June 2** — Lal Bahadur Shastri elected leader of Congress Parliamentary Party.

**June 9** — Lal Bahadur Shastri sworn in as Prime Minister.

**October 12** — Prime Minister Shastri and President Ayub Khan of Pakistan meet in Karachi.

**October 18** — Smt. Vijayalakshmi Pandit resigns Governorship of Maharashtra.

**December 2** — Millions welcome Pope in Bombay.

**December 3** — Pope Paul confers highest decoration (Golden spur) on Dr. S. Radhakrishnan.

**December 5** — Pope Paul leaves India.

**December 18** — Pakistan diplomat expelled from Calcutta for spying.

**December 31** — Chinese troops intrude into Sikkim. India sends protest note.

#### 1965

**January 15** — Barauni Oil Refinery inaugurated.

**January 26** — Hindi becomes official language of Union.

**February 6** — S. Pratap Singh Kairon, former Chief Minister of Punjab, shot dead near Delhi.

**May 12** — Lal Bahadur Shastri arrives in Moscow on 8-day state visit.

**June 6** — Lal Bahadur Shastri leaves on tour of UAR, Canada, U.K. and Algeria.

**June 23** — Presidential awards for Everest heroes are announced.

**August 5** — Jayaprakash Narayan awarded Ramon Magsaysay Award for public service.

**August 7** — Pakistani sabotage parties infiltrate two sectors of ceasefire line in Jammu and Kashmir.

**August 15** — Television transmission begins in New Delhi.

**August 25** — Indian security forces cross ceasefire line in **Kashmir at two points** and establish new positions.

**September 1** — Pakistan invades Indian territory in Chhamb sector; India retaliates.

**September 6** — President Ayub of Pakistan declares war on India.

**September 17** — China issues 72 hours ultimatum to India to dismantle military installations on Sikkim border. Prime Minister Shastri warns China against trying to intervene militarily in India-Pakistan conflict.

**September 18** — Soviet Union requests Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri and President Ayub Khan of Pakistan to meet at Tashkent to resolve differences.

**September 22** — India and Pakistan accept ceasefire proposals of U.N. Security Council.

**October 11** — First phase of Gujarat refinery at Koyali commissioned.

**October 30** — Pakistan seizes Indian jute and tea worth Rs. 50 million from ships seized in war.

**November 23** — Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri accepts Soviet Prime Minister Kosygin's invitation for talks with President Ayub Khan of Pakistan in Tashkent.

**December 29** — First tank made in India rolls out of Avadi factory.

#### 1966

**January 7** — A five-year trade agreement is signed with U.S.S.R.

**January 10** — Indo-Pakistani agreement signed at Tashkent.

**January 11** — Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri passes away within hours of signing Tashkent agreement.

**January 18** — Smt. Indira Gandhi elected leader of Congress Parliamentary Party.

**January 24** — Smt. Indira Gandhi sworn in as Prime Minister.

**March 8** — A.K. Sarkar appointed as Chief Justice of India.

**May 9** — President Radhakrishnan inaugurates Gokahle birth centenary celebrations at Poona.

**May 26** — India lifts ban on trade with Pakistan; Vikram Sarabhai appointed Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary of Dept. of Atomic Energy.

**June 6** — Devaluation of Rupee by 36.5 per cent.

**September 10** — Reorganisation Bill passed.

**September 23** — Cochin Oil Refinery inaugurated by Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi.

**October 17** — Govt. appoints commission, headed by Mehar Chand Mahajan, to go into border disputes between Maharashtra and Karnataka and Karnataka and Kerala.

**November 1** — States of Punjab and Haryana and Union territory of Chandigarh come into being.

**November 9** — Gulzarilal Nanda, Home Minister, resigns.

**November 13** — Y.B. Chavan becomes Home Minister and M.C. Chagla, External Affairs Minister.

**December 1** — Parliament passes Goa Opinion poll Bill.

**December 21** — V.K. Krishna Menon quits Congress.

#### 1967

**January 5** — India's first Ayurvedic University inaugurated.

**January 20** — Goa rejects option for merger with Maharashtra by an impressive majority in opinion poll.

**March 31** — New council of ministers headed by Smt. Indira Gandhi sworn in. Morarji Desai becomes Dy. Prime Minister.

**March 16** — New Lok Sabha meets.

**April 9** — President Radhakrishnan decides to retire.

**April 10** — U.N. Secretary General U. Thant arrives in Delhi.

**April 12** — President presents Nehru Award to U. Thant.

**May 6** — V.V. Giri wins Vice-Presidential election.

**May 9** — Dr. Zakir Husain elected President of India.

**May 15** — Bharatiya Kranti Dal is formed by non-Congress leaders.

**August 23** — Pakistan expels three officials of Indian High Commission.

**September 1** — China takes over Indian property in Tibet.

**September 5** — M.C. Chagla resigns from cabinet on language policy.

**November 1** — Telecommunication links with Pakistan restored.

**November 4** — Mahajan Commission awards Belgaum to Karnataka.

**December 11** — A series of earth tremors in Western India wipes out entire Koyna township killing about 250 people.

#### 1968

**January 10** — State of Emergency ends.

**February 13** — A.B. Vajpayee elected Jan Sangh President.

**April 6** — Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi inaugurates construction work of Bokaro Steel Plant.

**April 28** — Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia arrives in New Delhi.

**May 13** — India sends protest notes to China and Pakistan over Gilgit-Sinkiang road agreement.

**May 27** — Second Nehru Award for International Understanding for 1966 is given to Rev. Martin Luther King posthumously.

**July 6** — Submarine Wing of Indian Navy comes into being with arrival of INS 'Kalvari'.

**September 1** — President Ayub Khan of Pakistan rejects India's offer of 'No-War' pact.

**November 10** — Asia's biggest mechanised iron mine at Bailadila project in Madhya Pradesh starts functioning.

#### 1969

**January 2** — Shah and Queen of Iran arrive in New Delhi.

**February 16** — President Zakir Hussain inaugurates week long Ghalib Centenary celebrations, Ghalib Centenary stamp is released.

**March 25** — President Ayub Khan steps down from power.

**March 31** — Gen. Yahya Khan assumes office of President of Pakistan.

**April 5** — First India-built tanker for Navy launched.

**April 18** — King and Queen of Afghanistan are received at Palam airport by President Zakir Husain and Prime Minister Smt. Gandhi.

**April 15-28** — 72nd Congress session under presidentship of S. Nijalingappa meets at Neki Ram Sharma Nagar, Faridabad.

**May 3** — President Dr. Zakir Husain dies of heart attack. V.V. Giri sworn in as acting President.

**May 15** — Lok Sabha passes the President (Discharge of Function) Bill which includes the Chief Justice and the seniormost judge of the