



**KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY**  
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# Alluri Seetharamaraju

**Published On: 27-06-2023**

**Why is in news?** President Droupadi Murmu to visit Hyderabad on 4th July to participate in 125th birth anniversary celebrations of Alluri Seetharamaraju

Alluri Sitarama Raju (1897 – 1924) was an **Indian revolutionary** who waged an armed campaign against British colonial rule in India.

He was nicknamed “**Manyam Veerudu**” (**Hero of the Jungle**) by local villagers for his heroic exploits.

He was born in **present-day Andhra Pradesh** in 1897 or 1898.

He **became a sanyasi at the age of 18**, and gained a mystical aura among the hill and tribal peoples with his austerity, knowledge of astrology and medicine, and his ability to tame wild animals.

At a very young age, Raju channelled the **discontent of the hill people** in Ganjam, Visakhapatnam, and Godavari into a **highly effective guerrilla resistance against the British**.

**Guerrilla warfare** is a form of irregular warfare in which small groups of combatants use military tactics including ambushes, sabotage, raids, petty warfare, hit-and-run tactics, and mobility, to fight a larger and less-mobile traditional military.

Colonial rule **threatened the tribals’ traditional podu (shifting) cultivation**, as the government sought to secure forest lands.

He became involved in anti-British activities in response to the **1882 Madras Forest Act**, which **effectively restricted the free movement of Adivasis** (tribal communities) in their forest habitats and prevented them from practicing a traditional form of agriculture known as podu (shifting cultivation).

Rising discontent towards the British **led to the Rampa Rebellion/Manyam Rebellion of 1922**, in which he played a major part as a leader.

The Rampa Rebellion **coincided with Mahatma Gandhi’s Non-Cooperation Movement**. He persuaded people to wear khadi and give up drinking.

But at the same time, he asserted that India could be liberated only by the use of force, not non-violence.

In 1924, Raju was taken into police custody and shot by a public execution, effectively ending the armed rebellion.

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