

## Rajiv Gandhi

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Why is in news? PM pays tributes to Shri Rajiv Gandhi on his birth anniversary

Rajiv Gandhi, born on 20th August 1944, is the former Prime Minister of India.

Rajiv Gandhi was the **youngest Prime Minister** in the history of the country. He was 40 when he became the Prime Minister.

He held office from 1984-1989 and made significant contributions to the development of the country.

He was the grandson of the first Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru.

India's first woman Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, was his mother.

Rajiv Gandhi became prime minister following the assassination of his mother, Indira Gandhi.

He introduced several progressive policies aimed at modernizing India's education system and economy.

Rajiv Gandhi, the country's youngest prime minister, sought to foster communal harmony, national integrity, and peace inside India and was considered a Goodwill Ambassador to the rest of the world.

His thought was modern since he was a young man, and he pioneered the concept of a developed nation through various national and international enterprises.

He made significant contributions to the country's progress.

In 1986, he launched a **National Policy on Education** to reform and enhance higher education institutions throughout India.

In 1986, he established the **Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya System**, a centralized government school, to improve the rural segment of society by offering free schooling from the sixth to the twelfth grades.

His efforts resulted in the **establishment of MTNL** in 1986 and the establishment of public call offices (PCOs) for the provision of telephones in rural regions.

In post-1990, he **introduced measures for reducing License Raj allowing businesses** and individuals to purchase capital, consumer goods and import bureaucratic restrictions.

Rajiv Gandhi **introduced the voting age as 18** to encourage the youth involvement in the voting process. He emphasized the potential of the country's youth and introduced schemes like the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana to provide employment opportunities.

Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated by a suicide bomber of the LTTE while campaigning for the elections in 1991.

After his death, he was **honoured with the Bharat Ratna**, the highest civilian award in India.

## Kamaraj IAS Academy

Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: 044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477 / Whatsapp: 09710729833