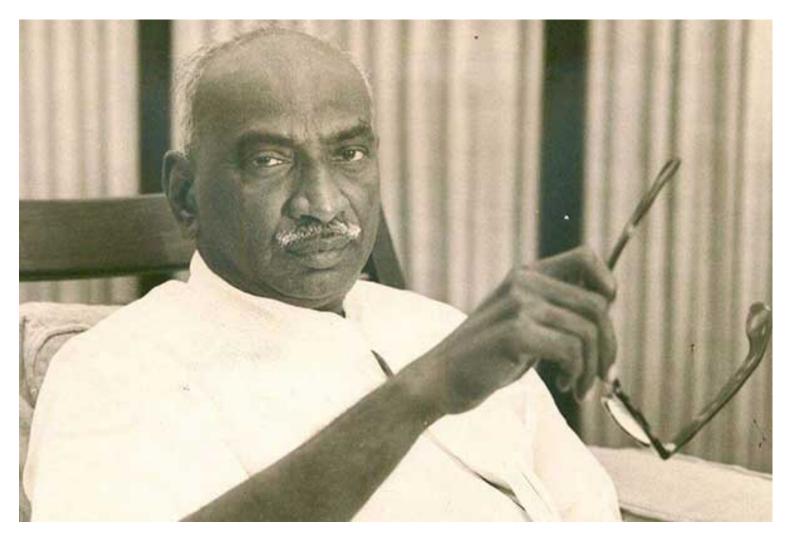
# IT IAS Toppers

## K Kamaraj

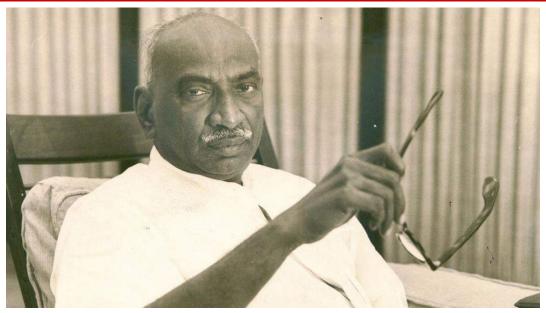
By IASToppers | 2023-07-18 15:15:00



### K Kamaraj

Every year July 15<sup>th</sup> marks the birth anniversary of **Kumaraswami Kamaraj**, popularly known as Kamarajar.





[Ref: The Print]

## <u>About K. Kamaraj:</u>

- Kumaraswami Kamaraj (15 July 1903 2 October 1975), was an **Indian independence activist and politician** who served as the Chief Minister of Madras State (Tamil Nadu) from 1954 to 1963.
- He was born
- He is widely acknowledged as the "Kingmaker" in Indian politics during the 1960s.
- also served as the president of the Indian National Congress for two terms.

#### Contribution

- He was **eighteen years** old when he responded to Gandhiji's call for **non-cooperation** with the British.
- In April 1930, Kamaraj joined the **Salt Satyagraha Movement** in Vedaranyam and was sentenced to two years in prison, the first of many.
- In February 1940, he was elected President of the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee.
  He held that position until 1954.
- He served on the AICC Working Committee from 1947 until the Congress split in 1969.
- He was elected unopposed to the Madras Legislative Assembly in 1937.
  - In 1946, he was **re-elected** to it.
- He was also elected to India's Constituent Assembly in 1946 and to Parliament in 1952.
- He became Chief Minister of Madras in 1954.
- He was perhaps the first **non-English-knowing Chief Minister** of India.
- Kamaraj Plan: He proposed that all senior Congress leaders should resign from their posts and devote all their energy to the revitalization of the Congress.
- He was later elected President of the Indian National Congress on October 9, 1963.

#### Honours

• He was honoured posthumously with India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna, in 1976.

