

K Kamaraj

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



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About K. Kamaraj:

- 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.

