

Alluri Sitaram Raju

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Alluri Sitaram Raju Latest News

The defence Minister recently said that the government has emulated legendary revolutionary Alluri Sitarama Raju's ideals in making a tribal woman, Draupadi Murmu, as the President of India.

About Alluri Sitaram Raju

- He was an **Indian revolutionary** who waged an armed campaign **against British colonial rule in India**.
- **Born to a Telugu-speaking family** on 4th July 1897 at Bhimavaram in present-day **Andhra Pradesh**, he became involved in **opposing the British 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'**.
- Rising discontent towards the British led to the **Rampa Rebellion of 1922**, in which he played a major part as a leader.
- Mustering a force combined of Adivasis, farmers and sympathizers to their cause, he **engaged in guerilla campaigns** against the British colonial authorities in the **border regions of the Madras Presidency** part

of the districts of East Godavari and Visakhapatnam (now part of Alluri Sitharama Raju district).

- He was **nicknamed “Manyam Veerudu” (Hero of the Jungle) by local villagers** for his heroic exploits.
- Alluri **adopted aspects from the Non-cooperation movement**, such as promoting temperance, and the boycott of colonial courts in favour of local justice, administered by panchayat courts, to attract people’s support.
- **Although the movement died out in early 1922**, it had reached the plains area by then, as he was **involved in the propagation of some of its methods among the hill people**, to raise their political consciousness, and desire for change.
- These actions **caused him to be put under the surveillance of police** from around February of that year, although the fact that he was using them as a camouflage to foment armed uprising seems to have not been recognized by either the movement or the political leadership of the British.
- After putting up a massive effort for nearly two years, the **British finally managed to capture Alluri** in the forests of Chintapalle; he was then **tied to a tree and executed by shooting on 7 May 1924** in the village of Koyyuru.
- A **tomb** of him currently lies in the village of **Krishnadevipeta, near Visakhapatnam**.
- The heroic efforts of young Alluri in **fighting an all-out war without any state powers**, against one of the most powerful empires have been recognised by all.
- The **British Government grudgingly acknowledged him** as a **powerful tactician of the Guerrilla warfare** which lasted for nearly two years, the fact that they had to spend over 40 lakhs in those days to defeat him.

Source: TH

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