

Additional Topic Notes

Challenges of Nation Building

Patel and National Integration

- ★ Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first deputy PM and home minister of India
- ★ Emerged as a major leader of the freedom movement after the Kheda Satyagraha (1918) and the Bardoli Satyagraha (1928)
- ★ Sardar did most difficult of that time by uniting all 565 princely states of India.
- ★ He is also known as Iron Man of India, remained intrasigence on issue of territorial integrity of India.
- ★ Sardar faced key challenges of integration from three states, viz, Hyderabad, Junagarh and Kashmir.
- ★ Under his leadership India forces compelled Hyderabad and Junagarh to merge with India.
- ★ He had different opinion on Kashmir from other leaders and was against two nation theory also.
- ★ Due to political decisions of prominent leaders, Sardar could not succeed in integrating Kashmir fully with India which later turned into a major historical blunder for the country.
- ★ Popularly Sardar characterised as NCR in Indian political theory. N stands for nationalist means a person who identifies with their nation and vigorously supports its interests.

★ C stands for Catalyst means a personality who has ability to precipitates an event or change. Such people talk enthusiastically and this energy causes others to be more friendly.

★ R stands for realist means Sardar had a good grip on the reality of a situation and used to understand what can be done and cannot be done.