



# IRON MAN, EXPLORER, SCIENTIST THE MANY DIMENSIONS Of PN BOSE MAY 12, 1855 - APRIL 27, 1934

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#### A Letter is Written Indian Industry is Transformed

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The Tata group led by Jamsetji's sons set out to establish his findings, and Bose's prediction was proved right. Even today, Odisha is the largest producer of iron ore in the country.

Steel Works at Sakchi ► Born on May 12, 1855, in the remote village of Gaipur in Nadia district of West Bengal, the most outstanding achievement of Pramatha Nath Bose's life was the discovery of iron ore deposits in the hills of Gorumahisani in the state of Mayurbhanj – a place hitherto not known for its minerals.

Following the discovery, Bose wrote a historic letter to JN Tata on February 24, 1904 which led to the establishment of Tata Iron and Steel Company at Sakchi.

### **Educated in England** Nationalist at Heart

The life of Pramatha Nath Bose stands as the symbolic link between the epoch of India's demand for scientific education and its fulfilment through the efforts of brilliant researchers and their successors. As a child, his close association with nature ignited in him a passion for the study of Earth, compelling him to pursue geology as his profession.

P N Bose, along with other great scientists of his day, believed, contrary to prevailing thought, that Indian scientists could rival European thinkers and investigators. A Swadeshi at heart, he was inspired by the reformer Keshab Chandra Sen to travel abroad to study in England. He appeared in the competitive exams and

#### Surveys in the East Making Waves Nationwide

The British Government went out of its way to offer P N Bose a job at the Geological Survey of India. During this period he carried out surveys of the Narbada valley, Rewa State, Central India, along with the Shillong plateau. His book *National Education and Modern Progress* captures his passion for techno-scientific education in India.

The Jadavpur University, Kolkata ► won a Gilchrist scholarship to study in London in 1874. He went on to graduate in Science from London University, and in Geology from the Royal School of Mines in 1878.



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#### **A Man of Many Firsts** Second to None



P N Bose has several firsts to his credit. He was the first Indian graduate in science from a British University; first to discover petroleum in Assam; first to set up a soap factory in India and also the first to introduce micro sections as an aid to petrological work.

He was also the first Indian to hold a graded position in the Geological Survey of India



where he served with distinction.

As a man of science, he constantly took up the cause of technical education in the country. His efforts also catalysed the foundation of the Bengal Technical Institute which is better known as Jadavpur University today of which Bose was the first honorary Principal.

## **An Icon of Inspiration** A Legacy for India

Bose passed away in 1934 at the age of 79. The citizens of Jamshedpur with the support of Tata Steel and Tata Sons erected a bust of P N Bose at a central location in the steel city. For his descendants Bose remains an icon of inspiration and pride.

In India, he will always be remembered in the annals of history as the geologist who paved the way for steel for the nation.





I am happy to associate myself, even though distantly, with the celebration of the birth centenary of Shri Pramatha Nath Bose. He was, I suppose, one of the earliest of our noted scientists and a great geologist. All of us, or many of us, talk of science and geology today, but in the middle of the nineteenth century it was rare for Indians to think of science. Shri Pramatha Nath Bose was thus one of the pioneers of science and more particularly of geology."

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister, in his message dated September 30, 1955 for P N Bose's biography