Guru Hargobind Ji

Prelims: *Currents events of National importance | Indian Culture*

Why in News?

March 23, 2026, marks the Jyoti-Jyot Diwas of Guru Hargobind Ji, according to many traditional calendars.

- **Jyoti-Jyot Diwas –**Refers to the ***death anniversary of Sikh Gurus,*** symbolizing their union with the divine.

Guru Hargobind Ji – Key Details	
Position	6th Sikh Guru
Birth Name	Hargobind
Successor of	Guru Arjan Dev Ji
Successor	Guru Har Rai Ji
Associated Place	Amritsar (Akal Takht)
Period	1595–1644
Title	Saint-Soldier (Miri-Piri tradition)

Key Contributions

- **Miri-Piri Doctrine –** He introduced the concept of combining *Miri* (temporal authority) and *Piri* (spiritual authority), symbolized by wearing two swords.
- **Akal Takht -** Established in **1606** at Amritsar by Hargobind Ji as the highest seat of Sikh temporal authority, complementing the spiritual authority of the Harmandir Sahib.
- **Saint-Soldier Tradition -** Transformed Sikhism into a force for defending justice and humanity, emphasizing courage alongside devotion.
- **Release of Prisoners -** Secured the release of 52 imprisoned kings from Gwalior Fort, remembered as *Bandi Chhor Divas*.
- **Military Organization -** Encouraged Sikhs to train in martial arts, horsemanship, and weaponry to resist oppression.
- **Community Protection -** Strengthened Sikh identity by balancing

spirituality with self-defense.

- **Promotion of Justice & Dignity -** Advocated for protecting human rights and collective harmony.
- **Significance of Guru Hargobind Ji's Legacy - Institutional Strengthening -** Consolidated Sikh practices by adding temporal authority to spiritual leadership.
- **Defender of Faith -** Ensured Sikhism could withstand persecution under Mughal rule.
- **Model of Courage & Compassion -** His life exemplified balance between devotion, justice, and protection of the oppressed.

Reference

India Education Diary | Guru Hargobind Ji

