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SN GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

INDIAN AND WORLD GENERAL KNOWLEDGE





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Pranay Shastri Director- Serve Nation

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Chapter 1: Indian General Knowledge

A candidate is expected to be equipped with the knowledge of his country, world and other important general knowledge which is very essential for any person to know. The SSB does not include any written paper on the general knowledge but the questions can be asked and the candidate should be able to answer them.

India

India lies at the north of the equator between 8°4' and 37°6' north latitude and 68° 7' and 97° 25' east longitude.

It is bounded on the south west by the Arabian Sea & on the south east by the Bay of Bengal.

India measures 3214 km. from north to south & 2933 km. from east to west with a total land area of 3287263 sq. km. It has a land frontier of 15200 km. & a coastline of 7516.5 km. Andaman & Nicobar Islands in the Bay of Bengal and Lakshadweep in the Arabian Sea are parts of India.

India shares its political borders with Pakistan and Afghanistan on the west and Bangladesh and Burma on the East. The Northern Boundary is made up of the Sinkiang province of China, Tibet, Nepal and Bhutan.

India has seven major Physiographic regions:

- 1. Northern mountains including the Himalayas and mountain ranges in the North-east.
- 2. The Indo-Gangetic Plain.
- 3. Central Highlands
- 4. Peninsular Plateau
- 5. East coast
- 6. West coast
- 7. Bordering seas and islands.

India has seven principal mountain ranges;

- 1. The Himalayas
- 2. The Patkai and other ranges bordering India in the North and North east.
- 3. The Vindhyas, which separate the Indo-Gangetic plain from the deccan Plateau

- 4. The Satpuras
- 5. The Aravalli
- 6. The Sahayadri, which covers the Eastern fringe of the west Coast plains and
- 7. The Eastern Ghats, irregularly scattered on the east Coast and forming the boundary of the East Coast Plains.

Himalayas, the highest mountain system in the world, is also one of the world's youngest mountain ranges.

National emblem

The state Emblem of India is an adaptation from the Sarnath Lion capital of Asoka as preserved in the Sarnath Museum. The government adopted the emblem on 26th January, 1950, the day when India became a republic.

In the state Emblem adopted by the government only three lions are visible, the fourth being hidden from view. The wheel appears in relief in the centre of the abacus with a bull on the right and a horse on the left and the outlines of the other wheels on the extreme right and left.

The bell-shaped lotus has been omitted. The word, Satyamev Jayate from the Mundaka Upanishad meaning 'Truth alone triumphs' are inscribed below the abacus in Devnagari Script.

National Flag

The National Flag is a horizontal tri-color of deep saffron (Kesari) at the top, white in the middle and dark green at the bottom in equal proportion. The ratio of the width of the flag to its length is two to three. In the centre of white band is a wheel, in navy blue, which represents the Charkha (Khadi spinning Wheel). Its design is that of the wheel (Chakra) which appears on the abacus of the Sarnath lion capital of Asoka. Its diameter approximates the width of the white band. It has 24 spokes.

The design of the national flag was adopted by the Constituent Assembly of India on 22nd July, 1947. Its use and display are regulated by a code. Rabindranath Tagore's song Jana-Gana-Mana was adopted by the Constituent Assembly as the national Anthem of India on 24th January, 1950. The first stanza (out of five stanzas) of the song forms the National Anthem.

National calendar

The Saka year has the normal 365 days and begins with the Chaitra as its first month. The days of the Saka calendar have permanent correspondence with the dates of the Gregorian Calendar, Chaitra 1 falling on March 22 in a normal year and on March 21 in a leap year. The National Calendar commenced on Chaitra 1 saka, 1879 corresponding to March 22, 1957 A.D.

National Animal : Tiger

National Game : Hockey

National Flower : Lotus

National Bird : Peacock

National Song

Bankim Chandra Chatterjee's Vande Mataram which was a source of inspiration to the people in their struggle for freedom has an equal status with Jana-Gana-Mana. The first political occasion on which it was sung was the 1896 session of the Indian National Congress.

Indian Religious Communities

The major communities of India are the Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains and Jews (Parsis).

Religious Books

Hindu Four Vedas, The Bhagwad Gita, The Ramayana, the Puranas, The

Mahabharat, The Upanishads, The Ramcharitmanas

Muslims The Holy Quran

Sikhs Guru Granth sahib

Christians The Bible

Parsis Zend Avesta

<u>India – Principal languages</u>

India has 18 officially recognized languages (Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali were added to the official list of 15 in 1992). The 1961 and 1971 census had listed 1652 languages as mother tongues spoken in India. The Indian languages of today have evolved from different language families.

They may be grouped into 6 groups as under:

1. Negroid 2. Austric 3. Sino-Tibetan

4. Dravidia 5. Indo-Aryan 6. Other Speeches

Of the 1652 mother tongues listed in the census, 33 are spoken by people numbering over a lakh.

States of India

| Name | Capital | Language | Area (in sq. Km) | Population | Legislature |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|------------------|------------|-------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | Hyderabad | Telugu & Urdu | 160229 | 49386799 | Unicameral |
| Arunachal Pradesh | Itanagar | Nyishi, Dafla, Miji, Adi Gallong, Wancho, Tagin hill Miri, Mishmi, Monpa, Nocte, Alka, Tangsa and Khampti. | 83743 | 1383727 | Unicameral |
| Assam | Dispur | Assamese | 78438 | 31205576 | Unicameral |
| Bihar | Patna | Hindi | 94163 | 104099452 | Bicameral |
| Chhattisgarh | Raipur | Hindi | 135133 | 25545198 | Unicameral |
| Goa | Panaji | Marathi & Konkani | 3702 | 1458545 | Unicameral |
| Gujarat | Gandhinagar | Gujarati | 196024 | 60439692 | Unicameral |
| Haryana | Chandigarh | Hindi | 44212 | 25351462 | Unicameral |
| Himachal Pradesh | Shimla | Hindi & Pahari | 55673 | 6864602 | Unicameral |
| Jammu & Kashmir | Srinagar(summer) Jammu(Winter) | Kashmiri, Dogri, Gujri, Punjabi, Urdu, balti, dadri, pahari and ladakhi. | 222236 | 12541302 | Bicameral |
| Jharkhand | Ranchi | Hindi | 79714 | 32988134 | Bicameral |

| Karnataka | Bangalore | Kannada | 191791 | 61095297 | Bicameral |
|-------------------|--------------------|--|--------|-----------|------------|
| Kerala | Thiruvananthapuram | Malayalam | 38863 | 33406061 | Unicameral |
| Madhya Pradesh | Bhopal | Hindi | 308313 | 72626809 | Unicameral |
| Maharashtra | Mumbai | Marathi | 307713 | 112374333 | Bicameral |
| Manipur | Imphal | Manipuri | 22429 | 2570390 | Unicameral |
| Meghalaya | Shillong | Khasi, garo & English | 22429 | 2966869 | Unicameral |
| Mizoram | Aizawl | Mizo and English | 21081 | 1097206 | Unicameral |
| Nagaland | Kohima | Ao, Chang, Chakhesang, Konyak, Sangtam, Angami, Sema & Lotha | 16579 | 1978502 | Unicameral |
| Orissa | Bhubaneshwar | Oriya | 155707 | 41974218 | Unicameral |
| Punjab | Chandigarh | Punjabi | 50362 | 27743308 | Unicameral |
| Rajasthan | Jaipur | Hindi & rajasthani | 342239 | 68548437 | Unicameral |
| Sikkim | Gangtok | Bhutia, Nepali, Lepcha and Limbu | 7096 | 610577 | Unicameral |
| Tamil Nadu | Chennai | Tamil | 130058 | 72147030 | Unicameral |
| Telangana | Hyderabad | Telugu, Urdu | 114840 | 35193978 | Unicameral |
| Tripura | Agartala | Bengali, Kakborak and Manipuri | 10492 | 3673917 | Unicameral |

| Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow | Hindi & Urdu | 238566 | 199812341 | Bicameral |
|--------------------------------|-------------|---|--------|-----------|------------|
| Uttarakhand | Dehradun | Hindi | 55845 | 10086292 | Unicameral |
| West Bengal | Kolkata | Bengali | 88752 | 91276115 | Unicameral |
| Union Territories | | | | | |
| Andaman & Nicobar island | Port Blair | Nicobarese, Hindi, Bengali, Tamil, Telugu & Malayalam | 8249 | 380581 | None |
| Chandigarh | Chandigarh | Hindi, Punjabi & English | 114 | 1055450 | None |
| Dadra & Nagar Haveli | Silvasa | Gujarati & Hindi | 491 | 343709 | None |
| Daman & Diu | Daman | Gujarati | 112 | 243247 | |
| Delhi | Delhi | Hindi, Punjabi & Urdu | 1483 | 16787941 | Unicameral |
| Lakshadweep | Kavaratti | Malayalam & English | 32 | 64473 | None |
| Pondicherry | Pudducherry | Tamil, French, Telugu, English and Malayalam | 480 | 1247953 | Unicameral |

History of India

The Indus Valley Civilization

The first known civilization in India is called Indus valley civilization. It appears to have spread over Punjab, Sindh, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Baluchistan. City of Mohen-jodaro was also found here which is known as "Mound of the Dead".

The Vedic culture

The Aryans came to India from Central Asia. Rig Vedic Aryans were largely urban people. The religious books of the Aryans are four in number (1) The Rig Veda, the oldest (2) The Yajur Veda (3) The Sama Veda (4) The Atharva Veda. The epics- Ramayana and the Mahabharata. Mahabharata is the longest epic in the world, puranas – 18 in number, the shastras or the Darshans- six in number and the Manu.

Buddhism

Buddhism was founded by a Kshatriya Prince, Siddhartha born in 1567 B.C. at Lumbini. He was known as Buddha later. He laid the Eight-fold path for the attainment of Nirvana.

<u>Jainism</u>

Mahavira a contemporary of Buddha was the preceptor of Jainism. He was the last of the Jain teachers called Tirthankaras.

Alexander's Invasion

Alexander crossed Indus in 327 B.C. His invasion opened the land route from Europe to India and it paved the way for the political unity of India.

Sangam Age

There were three Sangams. The Cholas, the Cheras and the Pandyas ruled the ancient Tamil Kingdom.

Maurya Dynasty

Chandra Gupta Maurya was the founder of Maurya Dynasty and founder of first historical empire in India. Megasthenes, the Greek ambassador sent by Seleucus came to his court and wrote the book "Indica". Asoka the Great was the most famous king of Maurya Dynasty and one of the greatest king in the history of India.

Kushan Dynasty

The Kushans are important rulers of India and among them is Kanishka. Kanishka conquered and annexed Kashmir to his empire. He used to spend his summer time in Kashmir and named one of the cities as Kanishkapura.

Gupta Dynasty

Chandra Gupta I founded the powerful kingdom and started Gupta Era. It was the Golden period of Indian History. Samudra Gupta I was the most powerful and ablest of the Hindu Kings and was known as "Indian Napoleon"

Vardhana Dynasty

Harsh Vardhana was the king of Thaneshwar and established a strong empire. He was the last great king of North India.

Chalukya Dynasty

Pulakesin II was the most powerful ruler of Chalukya Dynasty in the Deccan. He defeated Harsha of the North and died in war with Pallavas of South.

Pallava Dynasty

Narsimha varman II was the greatest ruler of Pallava Dynasty and he defeated Pulakesin II at Vatapi and was named as "Vatapi Kondan". He performed famous horse ceremony "Ashvamedha". Dandlin lived in his period.

Chola Dynasty

The Chola dynasty was an ancient Tamil Kingdom and the real founder of Chola dynasty of Thanjavur was Vaijyala. This age was most famous for village assemblies and Kudavolai system.

Pandya Dynasty

It was the oldest dynasty and had commercial contacts with Rome in 20 B.C. The invasion of Malik Kafur shattered the Pandya Empire.

Delhi Sultanates:

The Arabs were the first Muslims to come to India. Sultan Mohammad of Ghazni led a series of 17 plundering raids on Somnath Temple in Kathiawar. Delhi was ruled by Slaves, the Khiljis, the Tughlaqs, the Sayids and the Lodhis till arrival of Mughals in 16th century. This period is known as Sultanate period.

Slave Dynasty

Qutub-ud-din was first a slave of Qazi Fakha-ud-din and was later purchased by Mohd. Ghori. He was very generous and was called "Lakh Bakhsha". He started the construction of Qutub Minar which was later completed by Iltutmish who was also a slave. Iltutmish was known as

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"slave of a slave". He had a daughter Razia Beghum, the only Muslim lady ever sat on the throne of Delhi.

The greatest monarch of Delhi was Balban. He was the patron of scholars and learned people. The Parrot of India, Amir Khusro flourished in his time.

Khilji Dynasty

Alad-ud-din khilji was the first Muslim Sultan of India. He was a great warrior, a conqueror, a genius and an economist. Amir Khusro also flourished in this dynasty.

Tughlaq Dynasty

Mohammad Bin Tughlaq transferred the capital from Delhi to Devgiri which was rechristened "Daulatabad". He introduced copper coins as legal tender and putting them par with gold and silver coins. The system failed. He was a gifted Sultan with extraordinary powers but his schemes were far advance from his time.

Sangam Dynasty

Harihara and Bukka founded the kingdom of Vijaynagar. The two foreign travelers Nicoli Conti an Italian and Abdur Razzaq, a Persian visited during the reign of Deva Raya II.

Tuluva Dynasty

Krishna Deva Raya was the greatest and most famous king of Tuluva Dynasty. He had eight celebrated poets known as "Ashtadiggajas". In the Battle of Talikota, Muslims joined and defeated Vijaynagar King. Sadasiva was the last ruler of the dynasty.

The Mughals

The foundation of the Mughal rule in India was laid by Babar in 1526. He defeated Ibrahim Lodi in the First battle of panipat.

The greatest of the Mughals was Akbar. He was the real founder of the Mughal Empire and the first Muslim who divorced religion from politics and created a new religion called "Din-i-Ilahi or divine faith". He was considered "National Monarch". He introduced the new system in military called "mansabdari system". He made "Buland darwaza" in order to commemorate his victory over Gujarat.

Shah Jahan is called the "Engineer King" who built the Taj Mahal. His reign is regarded as "Glorious Epoch" in the history of empire in architecture. The famous peacock throne originally belonged to him.

The Marathas

Shivaji was the most powerful of all the Maratha chiefs. He visited Aurangzeb's court in Agra in 1666 where he was made a prisoner but escaped. He declared himself the independent ruler of Maratha and was crowned as "Chhatrapati" in 1674. His successors were weak and the government gradually moved into the hands of Peshawas and later on by Mughal king Aurangzeb called "Alamgir".

Downfall of Mughal Rule

Aurangzeb captured and executed Sambhaji, the son of Shivaji. He was internally with the rebellions of jats in Mathura. Rajputs were also a trouble. Sikhs were the followers of Guru Nanak. Nine Gurus followed him. In order to engage Sikh, Aurangzeb ordered the execution of Tegh bahadur. The tenth and last guru, Guru Govind Singh, founded military brotherhood or Khalsa meaning the pure. Auranzeb destroyed several temples in India and reemployed Jajia tax. His death set off the rapid decline of Mughal Empire.

The Sikhs

Sikh community was founded by Guru Nanak as a religious section. The tenth and last guru, Guru Govind Singh, founded military brotherhood from religious sect. Maharaja Ranjit Singh was the greatest Indian ruler of his time and founder of Sikh Rule in Punjab. The ninth Guru, Guru Tegh Bahadur was asked to embrace Islam which he denied and was executed by Aurangzeb.

The coming of the Europeans

The Portuguese were the first among the European nations to trade with India. In 1948, Vasco de Gama discovered sea route to India. Following them, came the Dutch, the English, the Danish and the French.

The English East India Company

The East India Company was first incorporated in 1600 to trade with India. In 1615, the first factory was established in Surat by the permission of Jehangir. The arrival of Robert Clive in India washed away the hopes of French in the Battle of Windiwash. He also defeated Siraj-ud-daulah in the Battle of Plassey in 1757 and laid the foundation of company's power in Bengal. The conquest completed in Battle of Buxar in 1764. He became the first Governor of Bengal and Bengal became the first province in India to be conquered by English.

British Governor Generals and Viceroys

| Name | Duration | During their time |
|------|----------|-------------------|
| | | |

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| Warren Hastings | 1772-1785 | First Governor General of Bengal of East India Company. Appointment of Bard of Revenue, Interference in Rohilla war, Nanda Kumar's murder, the case of Chet Singh and acceptance of bribes. |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|
| Lord Cornwallis | 1786-1793 | Permanent Settlement of Bengal. Reorganization of the Revenue courts-Criminal Courts- compilation of Cornwallis code. |
| Sir John Shore | 1793-1798 | Non-intervention Policy |
| Lord Wellesley | 1798-1805 | Subsidiary Alliance- a scheme to keep British forces under Indian rulers. He is known as the "Father of Civil Services in India" |
| Sir George Barlow | 1805-1807 | Mutiny in Vellore |
| Lord Minto I | 1807-1813 | Treaty of Amritsar |
| Marques of Hastings | 1813-1823 | Passed Tenancy Act to protect cultivation. First to appoint Indians at high posts. First vernacular newspaper Samachar Patrika began to be published. |
| Lord Amherst | 1823-1828 | Mutiny of Barrackpur. Indians refused to be carried away by ships to Burma which led to mutiny. |
| Lord William Bentinck | 1829-1835 | First Governor of India under East India Company. After Macaulay's recommendations, Medical college of Calcutta was started and English was accepted as medium of instruction. Abolition of sati, suppression of thugee, banning of female infanticide. |
| Sir Charles Metcalfe | 1835-1836 | Removed restrictions on vernacular press. |
| Lord Auckland | 1836-1842 | Grand Trunk Road from Calcutta to Delhi. |
| Lord Hardinage | 1844-1848 | First Sikh war started. Success in the war extended British Empire to Doab of Jallunder. |
| Lord Dalhousie | 1848-1856 | Doctrine of Lapse- annexing princely states whose ruler died without a natural heir. Shimla made summer capital. First railway line was laid from Bombay to Thane in 1853. |

| Viceroys of India | l | |
|-------------------|-----------|--|
| Lord canning | 1856-1858 | Universities in India were established at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. Hindu widow re-marriage act was passed. First war of Independence broke on 10 may, 1857. Rule of East India Company ended. Canning was appointed as First Viceroy of India. |
| Lord Lawrence | 1864-1872 | Telegraphy system was opened between India and Europe. |
| Lord Mayo | 1869-1872 | First Census was taken in 1871 |
| Lord Northbrook | 1872-1876 | Suez canal was opened and trade between India and England flourished. |
| Lord Lytton | 1876-1880 | Famine Fund was created. Vernacular Press Act was passed |
| Lord Ripon | 1880-1884 | Vernacular Press Act was repealed. Called "Father of Local Self Government", formed local self-government. Factory Act was passed. Census was taken in 1881. |
| Lord Dufferin | 1884-1888 | Burma was invaded in 1895 and annexed to British empire in 1889. Public service Commission was appointed in 1886. |
| Lord Lansdowne | 1888-1894 | Weekly holiday was awarded to all factory workers |
| Lord Curzon | 1899-1905 | Agricultural banks established. Partition of Bengal in 1905 created trouble. |
| Lord Minto II | 1905-1910 | Minto-Morley reforms |
| Lord Hardinage II | 1910-1916 | Capital shifted from Calcutta to Delhi in 1911. Foundation of BHU, Banaras. Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya was the founder-chancellor of University. |
| Lord Chelmsford | 1916-1921 | Rowlatt Act called Black Act was passed. Jalianwalabagh tragedy took place in 1911 under the command of General Dyer. Khilafat movement, Non-Cooperation movement took place. |

| Lord Reading | 1921-1926 | Visit of Prince of Wales. Moplah Rebellion on South Western Coast in 1921. |
|------------------|-----------|--|
| Lord Irwin | 1926-1931 | Simon Commission. Demand for complete Independence, Gandhi-Irwin pact, First Round table Conference. |
| Lord Wellington | 1931-1936 | II nd and III rd round table Conference-Poona Pact- Communal Award-Government of India Act passed in 1935. |
| Lord Linlithgow | 1936-1943 | Provincial autonomy was established. State of Pakistan was demanded y Muslim League Leader, Jinnah. II nd world war started in 1939. |
| Lord Wavell | 1943-1947 | Shimla Conference. Muslim League launched "Direct Action Day" |
| Lord Mountbatten | 1947-1948 | Indian Independence Act 1947 passed-India and Pakistan created under the Mountbatten Plan. Lord Mountbatten became the first Governor general of Free India and last viceroy of India. |

President of India

President of India is the first citizen of the country. He is the commander- in-chief of the Indian Armed Forces. Presently Mr. Ram Nath Kovind is our President. After the independence, following have been the president of India:

| Name | Term |
|--|-----------|
| Mr. Rajendra Prasad | 1950-1962 |
| Mr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan | 1962-1967 |
| Mr. Zakir Husain | 1967-1969 |
| Mr. V.V. Giri (Acting President) | 1969-1969 |
| Mr. Mohammad Hidayatullah (Acting President) | 1969-1969 |

| Mr. V.V. Giri | 1969-1974 |
|--|-------------------|
| Mr. Fakruddin Ali Ahmed | 1974-1977 |
| Mr. Basappa Danappa Jatti (Acting President) | 1977-1977 |
| Mr. Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy | 1977-1982 |
| Mr. Giani Zail Singh | 1982-1987 |
| Mr. Ramaswamy Venkatraman | 1987-1992 |
| Mr. Shankar Dayal Sharma | 1992-1997 |
| Mr. Kocheril Raman Narayanan | 1997-2002 |
| Mr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam | 2002-2007 |
| Mrs. Pratibha Patil | 2007-2012 |
| Mr. Pranab Mukherjee | 2012-2017 |
| Mr. Ram Nath Kovind | 2017 to till date |

Prime Minister of India

Prime Minister is the Chief Executive of the Government of India. After Independence, India has got the following Prime Ministers:

| Name | Term |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| JawaharLal Nehru | 1947-1964 |
| Gulzarilal Nanda (Acting P.M.) | 1964-1964 |
| Lal Bahadur Shastri | 1964-1966 |
| Gulzarilal Nanda (Acting P.M.) | 1966-1966 |
| Indira Gandhi | 1966-1977 |
| Morarji Desai | 1977-1979 |
| Charan Singh | 1979-1980 |

| Indira Gandhi | 1980-1984 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Rajeev Gandhi | 1984-1989 |
| Vishwanath Pratap Singh | 1989-1990 |
| Chandra Shekhar | 1990-1991 |
| Pamulaparti Venkata Narsimha Rao | 1991-1996 |
| Atal Bihari Vajpayee | 1996-1996 |
| H.D. Deve Gowda | 1996-1997 |
| Inder Kumar Gujral | 1997-1998 |
| Atal Bihari Vajpayee | 1998-2004 |
| Manmohan Singh | 2004-2014 |
| Narendra Modi | 2014 to till date |

Communication and Transport

Postal Service in India

| First Postal Service was started in | - | 1837 |
|--|---|------|
| First All India Postal stamp was issued | - | 1854 |
| First Postal department was opened | - | 1854 |
| First money order was started in | - | 1880 |
| First air-mail service was first operated at | | |
| Allahabad and Nainital | - | 1911 |
| Pin code was started in the year | - | 1972 |
| Speed Post introduced in | - | 1986 |
| Satellite money order started in | - | 1994 |
| Total no. of Postal Zones | - | 8 |

Telecommunication

| First telephone line was started between Kolkata and Diamond harbor | 1851 |
|--|--------|
| First telephone service was started in Kolkata | 1881 |
| First telephone exchange was opened at Kolkata with 50 lines | 1881 |
| First international Telephone line was started between Mumbai and London | 1870 |
| First Automatic Telephone exchange in Shimla was opened at | 1913 |
| Post and Telecommunication started | 1984 |
| Total Post Offices | 155000 |
| Quick Mail Service was started in | 1975 |
| E-post was started in | 2002 |

Indian railways

The Indian railway system is the largest in Asia and fourth in the world after U.S., Canada and Russia. It is the biggest employer in the world and largest public Sector undertaking in India and it has the second biggest electrified system in the world after Russia. On April 16, 1853 first train in India was opened between Bombay and Thane covering a distance of 34 km. Shatabdi Express is the latest super-fast train introduced in the Indian Railways. Deccan Queen is the first Electric train introduced in 1929. Life Line Express or Jeevan Rekha is the world's first hospital on wheels opened in Mumbai on 16th July, 1991 to cater the medical needs of people in rural areas. For every financial year railway Budget is presented by the Union Railway Minister in the Parliament.

Rail Tracks

| Туре | Distance between rails |
|--------------|------------------------|
| Metro gauge | 1.00 meters |
| Broad gauge | 1.69 meters |
| Narrow gauge | 0.77 meters |

Railway Zones: There are nine railway zones in Indian Railway:

| Zones | Opened on | Headquarters |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Central Railway | 05 Nov., 1958 | Mumbai |
| Eastern Railway | 01 Aug., 1955 | Kolkata |
| Northern Railway | 14 Apr., 1952 | New Delhi |
| North-Eastern Railway | 14 Apr., 1952 | Gorakhpur |
| North-East Frontier | 15 Jan., 1958 | Maligaon, Guwahati |
| Southern Railway | 14 Apr., 1951 | Chennai |
| South-Central | 02 Oct., 1966 | Secunderabad |
| South-Eastern | 01 Aug., 1955 | Kolkata |
| Western Railway | 05 Nov., 1955 | Mumbai(Church Gate) |

Roadways

Road Network: With a network of 2.7 million kilometers of road length, India has the third largest road network in the world. From a road length of about 4 lakh kilometers in 1950-51, the road network has expanded nearly seven-fold.

National highways: The National Highway system is the primary road grid of the country. The construction and maintenance of National Highways is the direct responsibility of the Central Government. National Highways have a total length of 34258 kilometers. National Highways carry nearly 40% of the total traffic.

Highways Authority: The main task of the authority is to takeover in a phased manner, the construction, maintenance and operation of the national highways. Before the constitution of the authority the maintenance of the roads were done by the state PWDs.

Twelve of the principal highways are:

- 1. Delhi-Amritsar
- 2. Delhi-Kolkata
- 3. Agra-Mumbai
- 4. Jalandhar-Srinagar-Uri

- 5. Delhi-Ahmedabad-Mumbai
- 6. Chandigarh-manali
- 7. Ambala-Shimla-Tibet
- 8. Jorhat-Shillong-Bangladesh
- 9. manali-Leh
- 10. Pathankot-Mandi
- 11. Cochin-Madurai
- 12. Baewa-Sirohi-Kandla.

Air Transport

The International Airport Authority of India (IAAI) was set up in 1972 and manages the International Airports. J.R.D. Tata was the first to make a solo flight from Mumbai to Karachi, (Now in Pakistan) in 1931

Following are the important International Airports:

- 1. Anna International Airport, Chennai.
- 2. Jawaharlal Nehru Airport (Santa Cruz), Mumbai
- 3. Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi.
- 4. Subhash Chandra Bose Airport (Dum Dum), Kolkata
- 5. Rajasansi Airport at Amritsar, Punjab

The National Airport Authority manages 88 domestic aerodromes and nearly 28 civil enclaves in which 23 are classified as major airport, 43 minor and 22 as intermediate airports.

Following are some of the Inland Aerodromes:

- 1. Kamaraj Domestic- Chennai
- 2. Safdarganj- New Delhi
- 3. Juhu- Mumbai
- 4. Begumpet- Hyderabad
- 5. Thiruvanathapuram- Kerala

Radio and television

Radio broadcasting started in India in 1972 with privately owned transmitters at Mumbai and Calcutta. It was named All India Radio (AIR) in 1936 and later became to be known as Akashvani since 1957.

The experimental telecast of Doordarshan started in Delhi in 1959. The national program and other transmissions started in 1982. Doordarshan Commercial Service started in 1986.

PIB- Press Information Bureau

ABC – Audit Bureau of Circulation

No newspapers are published from Arunachal Pradesh and Lakshadweep.

Anand Bazar Patrika has the largest circulation among single edition dailies.

Newspapers and Periodicals

- 1. The first newspaper in India was James A. Hickey's Bengal gazette published in 1780 in Calcutta.
- 2. The largest number of newspapers is published in the state of Uttar Pradesh and the language in which the maximum numbers of newspapers are published in is Hindi.
- 3. The oldest existing newspaper in India is Bombay Samachar published in 1822 in Gujarati. The oldest existing English daily is the Times of India.
- 4. Malayala Manorama enjoys the distinction of being the newspaper with the highest circulation and the Times of India is the largest selling English Daily.
- 5. The Press Trust of India was the first news agency in India.
- 6. There are four main news agencies in India. They are (1) Press Trust of India (PTI) (2) United News of India (UNI) (3) Samachar Bharti and (4) Hindustan Samachar. PTI and UNI supply news in English and the other two are operating through the medium of Hindi and other Indian languages.

Places Associated with Industries in India

| Place | Name of Industries | Place | Name of Industries |
|-----------|--------------------|--------|--------------------|
| Ahmedabad | Cotton Textiles | Mysore | Silk |

| Aligarh | Locks | Nandambakkam (Chennai) | Surgical Instruments |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Alwaye (Kerala) | Rare earth factory, Aluminium | Nangal | Fertilizers |
| Ambattur(Chennai) | Cycle, Enfield motor Cycles | Nepanagar (M.P.) | Newspaper |
| Ambarnath | Machine Tools Prototype | Neyveli | Lignite |
| Amritsar (Punjab) | Printing machines | Ooty, Nilgiris (T.N.) | Film Manufacture |
| Anand | Amul Butter | Perambur, Chennai | Integral coach factory |
| Ankleshwar, Gujarat | Oil | Pimpri, poona | Penicillin factory |
| Avadi, Chennai | Tank Factory | Pinjore, Haryana | Machine tools |
| Bangalore | Aircraft | Rana Pratap sagar | Atomic Power Plant |
| Bhilai (M.P.) | Stell Plant | Raniganj | Coal mining |
| Bhadravati | Iron and steel | Renukoot | Aluminium |
| Bhopal | Heavy Electricals | Rupnarainpur(W.B.) | Cables |
| Bokaro | Steel Plant | Sindri | Fertilizer |
| Mumbai | Atomic Reactors | Singhbum | Copper, iron Ore |
| Nomba High | Oil | Sirpur | Paper |
| Chittranjan | Locomotive | Sivakasi | Match industry |
| Cochin | Ship-Building | Sriharikota(A.P.) | Satellite station |
| Coimbatore | Pulp & Textiles | Surat | Gold lace |
| Dindigul | Locks | Tarapur, Maharashtra | Nuclear power |
| Durgapur (W.B.) | Steel Plant | Thumba, Kerala | Rocket launching centre |

| Ennore | Thermal power | Tiruchirapalli | Cigar |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Guntur | Cotton | Tiruverumbur (T.N.) | Heavy electrical |
| Haldia | Oil Refinery | Titagarh | Paper mills |
| Jharia | Coal | Trombay (Maharashtra) | Atomic reactors |
| Kagithapuram (T.N.) | Paper | Tuticorin (T.N.) | Thermal, pearl fishing |
| Kalpakkam | Atomic Power | Udaipur, Rajasthan | Zinc project |
| Kanpur | Leather | Udhana, Gujarat | Rayon |
| Kollegal (Karnataka) | Silk | Urkunta, Karnataka | Cement |
| Kolar (Karnataka) | GoldMines | Uttapara (W.B.) | Ambassador cars |
| :ucknow | Sugar | Vadodara, Gujarat | Nylon Filament yam |
| Ludhiana | Hosiery | Vandalur, Chennai | Automobile |
| Moradabad | Utensils | Vishakhapatnam | Ship, Submarine |
| Worli, Mumbai | Baby Food | Zaina kot (J&K) | HMT watch factory |

Minerals and their Places

| Minerals | Place | Minerals | Place |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|---|
| Aluminium | Kerala | Mica | Koderms (Bihar), Nellore (Andhra Pradesh) |
| Bauxite | Rajasthan, J&K | Petroleum | Digboi, Mumbai High, Cauvery basin |
| Coal | Raniganj | Red Stone | Jodhpur (Rajasthan) |
| Cobalt | Rajasthan & kerala | Salt | Sambhar lake (Rajasthan), |

| | | | Vedaranyam, Kovalam |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| Copper | Khetri (Rajasthan) | Tin | Hazaribagh (Bihar) |
| Carborundum | Salem, Khasi hills | Thorium | Trivandrum (Kerala) |
| Diamond | Panna(M.P.) | Tungsten | Nagpur, Maharashtra and Marwar |
| Gold | Kolar(Karnataka) | Uranium | Bihar |
| Gypsum | Tiruchy, Bikaner & jodhpur | Zinc | Zawar mines (Udaipur) |
| Heavy water | Titucorin, kota | Zircon | Kerala sea shores & Cape Comorin |
| Iron Ore | Singhbum(Bihar) | | |
| Lignite | Neyveli (T.N.) | | |
| Marble | Jaipur (Rajasthan) | | |

National parks & sanctuaries

| Anna zoological | Vandalur(T.N.) | Hazaribagh | Hazaribagh(Jharkhand) |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sanctuary | | National Park | |
| Annamalai | Coimbatore(T.N.) | Kanha National | Mandla(M.P.) |
| Sanctuary | | Park | |
| Bandipur National Park | Mysore(Karnataka) | Kaziranga National Park | Jorhat(Assam) |
| Corbett National Park | Nainital(Uttarakhand) | Manas Tiger Sanctuary | Barbeta(Assam) |
| Crocodile farm | Kovalam(Chennai) | Mudumalai Sanctuary | Nilgiris |
| Dachigam Sanctuary | Srinagar(J&K) | Periyar Sanctuary | Idukki (Kerala) |

| Ghana Bird | Bharatpur(Rajasthan) | Pichavaram Bird | Chidambaram(T.N.) |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Sanctuary | | Sanctuary | |
| | | | |
| Ghatprabha Bird | Belgaum(Karnataka) | Rangathitto Bird | Mysore (Karnataka) |
| Sanctuary | | Sanctuary | |
| | | | |
| Gir National Park | Junagarh(Gujarat) | Ranthambor Tiger | Sawai(rajasthan) |
| | | Sanctuary | |
| | | | |
| Guindy deer | Guindy(Chennai) | Sivpuri National | Shivpuri(M.P.) |
| Sanctuary | | Park | |
| | | | |
| Guindy snake Park | Guindy (Chennai) | Vedanthangal Bird | Kancheepuram |
| | | Sanctuary | |
| | | | |

Wild Animals

| Black Bear | Kashmir & parts of Himalayas |
|-----------------|---|
| Deer (Spotted) | Many parts in India |
| Elephants | Western Ghats, Karnataka, tamil nadu & Orissa |
| Lions & Panther | All Over India(Gir Forest, Gujarat |
| Rhinoceros | Assam |
| Tiger | Many parts in India |

Geographical epithets

| Bengal's Sorrow | Damodar River | Land of Setting Sun | Kanyakumari |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| Blue Mountains | Nilgiris Hills | Manchester of India | Mumbai |
| City Beautiful | Chandigarh | Manchester of south India | Coimbatore |
| City of Ghats & Temples | Varanasi | Poorman's Ooty | Yercaud |

| City of Golden | Amritsar | Queen of Arabian sea Cochin | |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Temple | | | |
| C:4 CD-1 | IZ - 114- 0- | O | Marana di (II D.) |
| City of Palaces | Kolkata & | Queen of Hills | Mussoorie(U.P.) |
| | Chandigarh | | |
| Garden City of India | Bangalore | Rose Pink City Jaipur | |
| Gateway of India | Mumbai | Scotland of the East Meghalaya | |
| Land of Five Rivers | Punjab | Spice garden of India | Kerala |
| Land of Sunrise | Arunachal Pradesh | Switzerland of India | Jammu & Kashmir |
| | | Venice of East | Cochin |

Association of Places

| Bardoli | Sardar patel | Pearl Harbor | Japan's attack during World War II | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Belur | Ramakrishna Paramhans | Pondicherry | Aurobindo ghosh | |
| Chittor | Rana Pratap | Porbundar, Gujarat | Mahatma Gandhi | |
| Corsica | Napoleon Bonaparte | Sabarmati | Mahatma Gandhi | |
| Dandi | Mahatma Gandhi | Seringapatnam | Tipu Sultan | |
| Fatehpur Sikri | Akbar the Great | Shakti Sthal (New Delhi) | Indira Gandhi | |
| Haldighat | Rana Pratap | Shantivana | Jawaharlal Nehru | |
| Hiroshima | Ist Atom Bomb Dropped | Shantiniketan | Rabindranath tagore | |
| Jalianwala Bagh | Massacre of Indians | Talwandi | Guru nanak | |
| Jerusalem | Jesus Christ | Trafalgar | Nelson | |
| Kapilvastu | Buddha | Ujjain | Mahavira | |

| Lumbini | Buddha | Vijay Ghat (New | Lal Bahadur Shastri |
|-----------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | | Delhi) | |
| Macedonia | Alexander the Great | Vrindavan (U.P.) | Lord Krishna |
| Mecca | Prophet Mohammed | Waterloo | Napoleon |
| Nagasaki | IInd Atom Bomb Dropped | | |

Classical Dance Form of States

| State | Dance form |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | Kuchipudi |
| Assam | Sattriya |
| Gujarat | Dandiya ras |
| Goa | Fugdi |
| Karnataka | Yakshagana |
| Kerala | Kathakali, Mohaniattam |
| Manipur | Manipuri |
| Orissa | Odishi |
| Punjab | Bhangra |
| Rajasthan | Ghoomar |
| Tamil Nadu | Bharatnatyam |
| Telangana | Kuchipudi |

Festivals Of India

| State | Festival |
|-------|----------|
| Assam | Bihu |

| West Bengal | Durga Puja |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Maharashtra | Ganesh Puja |
| Madhya Pradesh | Khajuraho Dance festival |
| Punjab | Baisakhi, Guru parv |
| Rajasthan | Teej, Gangaur |
| Kerala | Onam |
| Tamil Nadu | Pongal |

Famous Museums in India

| Name | Location | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Anthropological Museum | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | |
| Samudrika | | |
| Victoria Jubilee Museum | Andhra Pradesh | |
| Nizam Museum | | |
| Vishakha Museum | | |
| Hyderabad Museum | | |
| Jawaharlal Nehru museum | Arunachal Pradesh | |
| Assam State Museum | Assam | |
| Mayong Central museum and Emporium | | |
| Patna Museum | Bihar | |
| Bihat museum | | |
| Gandhi Smriti Sangrahalaya | | |
| Gaya Museum | | |
| Bihar police Museum | | |

| Government Museum and Art gallery | Chandigarh |
|---|------------------|
| International Dolls museum | |
| Museum of Evolution of Life | |
| Indian Air Force Museum | Delhi |
| National Gandhi Museum | |
| National Gallery of Modern Art | |
| Nehru Memorial Museum and Library | |
| Shankar's International Dolls Museum | |
| Goa State Museum | Panaji, Goa |
| Calico museum of textiles | Gujarat |
| Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya | |
| Sardar Vallabhbhai patel national memorial | |
| Swami narayan Museum | |
| Dharohar Museum | Haryana |
| Shivalik Fossil park | Himachal Pradesh |
| Library of Tibetan Works & archives | |
| Dogra Art Museum | Jammu & Kashmir |
| Munshi Aziz Bhat Museum of Central Asian and Kargil Trade Artifacts | |
| Ranchi Science Centre | Jharkhand |
| State Museum | |
| Visvesvaraya Industrial and technological museum | Karnataka |
| Law Museum | |
| Government Museum | |

| Sardar vallabhbhai patel Police Museum | Kerala |
|---|----------------|
| Teak Museum | |
| Indo-Portugese Museum | |
| Kerala Soil Museum | |
| Wayanad Heritage Museum | |
| Central Museum | Madhya Pradesh |
| Indira Gandhi Rashtriya manav sangrahalaya | |
| Remember Bhopal Museum | |
| Train Durgavati Museum | |
| Prince Of Wales Museum | Maharashtra |
| Coin Museum | |
| Darshan Museum | |
| Shree Chhatrapati Shahu Museum | |
| Nehru Planetarium | |
| National gallery of Modern Art | |
| Manipur State Museum | Manipur |
| Sekta Archeaological Living Museum | |
| Mizoram state Museum | Mizoram |
| Regional Museum of Natural History | Orissa |
| Odisha State Museum | |
| Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports | Punjab |
| Sikh Ajaibghar | |
| Sanghol Museum | |
| City Palace Museum | Rajasthan |

| National museum | |
|-----------------|--|
| Netaji Museum | |

Towns on River banks

| Agra | Jamuna | Pandharpur | Bhima | Patna | Ganges |
|-----------|---|------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| Allahabad | Confluence of the Ganges & Jamuna | Hyderabad | Musi | Saikowaghat | Brahmaputra |
| Ayodhya | Saryu | Jabalpur | Narmada | Sambalpur | Mahanadi |
| Badrinath | Ganges | Kanpur | Ganges | Srinagar | Jhelum |
| Kolkata | Hooghly | Kotah | Chambal | Srirangapatnam | Cauvery |
| Cuttack | Mahanadi | Kurnool | Tungabhadra | Surat | Tapti |
| Delhi | Yamuna | Lahore | Ravi | Varanasi | Ganges |
| Dibrugarh | Brahmaputra | Leh | Indus | Vijayawada | Krishna |
| Ferozepur | Sutlej | Lucknow | Gomati | Haridwar | Ganges |
| Guwahati | Brahmaputra | Ludhiana | Sutlej | Nasik | Godavari |

Nicknames of famous Indian Personalities

| Person | Nickname | Person | Nickname |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Chachaji | Jawaharlal Nehru | Bengal tiger | Saurav ganguli |
| Bapu, Father of nation | Mahatma Gandhi | Haryana hurricane | Kapil Dev |
| Guruji | Rabindranath Tagore | The Little master | Sachin Tendulkar |
| Iron man | Sardar Vallabhbhai patel | Payyoli Express | P.T. Usha |

| Iron lady | Indira Gandhi | Grand Old man of India | Dada Bhai Naoroji |
|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| | | | |
| Lokmanya | Bal Gangadhar Tilak | Mahamana | Madan Mohan |
| | | | Malviya |
| Punjab kesari | Lala Lajpat rai | Flying Sikh | Milkha Singh |
| Netaji | Subhash Chandra | Saint of the Gutter | Mother Teresa |
| | Bose | | |
| Nightingale Of India | Sarojini naidu | Hockey Wizard | Major Dhyan Chand |
| Man of Peace | Lal Bahadur Shastri | Adi kavi | Valmeeki |

Trophies and Cups related to sports

| Sport | Trophy or Cup |
|----------------|---|
| Hockey | Agha Khan Cup, Bombay Gold Cup, Beighton Cup, Dhyan Chand Trophy, Guru nanak Cup, Indira Gold Cup, MCC Trophy, Lady rattan Tata Trophy, Murugappa Gold Cup, Nehru Trophy, Obaid Ullah Gold Cup, Rangaswami Cup, Ranjit Singh Gold Cup |
| Badminton | Agarwal Cup, Chadha Cup, Divan Cup, Narang Cup |
| Cricket | Ranji trophy, C.K. Naidu Trophy, Deodhar trophy, Duleep Trophy, Irani trophy, Ghulam Ahmed Trophy, Moinuddaula Gold Cup, Rani Jhansi Trophy |
| Football | Bandhodkar Trophy, Chakoia Gold Trophy, D.C.M. Cup, F.A. Cup, I.F.A. Shield, Nixon Gold Cup, Rovers Cup, Subroto Cup |
| Basketball | Bangalore Blues Challenge Cup |
| Table Tennis | Barna-Bellack Cup, Ramanujan trophy |
| Weight Lifting | Burdwan Trophy |
| Polo | Ezra Cup |
| Athletics | Charminar Trophy |

Famous Indian Authors and Their Books

| Author | Book | |
|------------------------|--|--|
| Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam | India 2020, Mission India, India My dream, Wings of Fire, etc. | |
| Arundhati Roy | The God of Small Things | |
| Amitav ghosh | Shadow Lines | |
| Indira Gandhi | My Truth, Eternal India | |
| Jawaharlal Nehru | The Discovery of India | |
| Kalidasa | Meghdoot | |
| Kautilya | Arthashastra | |
| Mahatma Gandhi | My Experiments with Truth | |
| N.R. Narayan Murthy | A Better India A Better World | |
| Panini | Ashtadhyayi | |
| R.K. Narayanan | Malgudi days | |
| Rabindranath Tagore | Gitanjali | |
| Ruskin Bond | The flight of Pigeons | |
| Sarat Chandra | Devdas | |
| Valmiki | Ramayana | |
| Veda Vyas | The Mahabharata | |
| Vishnu Sharma | Panchtantra | |
| Vikram Seth | A Suitable boy | |
| Dr. S. Radhakrishnan | Indian Philosophy | |

Important days

| January 21 | Army day | |
|-------------|---|--|
| January 26 | Republic day | |
| February 28 | National Science Day | |
| April 13 | Jalianwala Bagh day | |
| July 1 | Doctor's day & Chartered Accountant's day | |
| August 15 | Independence Day | |
| August 29 | National Sports day | |
| September 5 | Teacher's day | |
| October 8 | Air Force day | |
| November 14 | Children's day | |
| November 19 | Citizen's Day | |
| December 4 | Navy day | |
| December 7 | Flag day | |
| December 20 | Kisan's day | |

Important Personalities

- 1. Abu Fazal he was the oldest of Akbar's Nine Jewels. He was the brother of Faizi. He was a profound scholar of his time and rose to Akbar's prime minister. He wrote Ain-e-Akbari.
- 2. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Azad Dr. Aavul Pakkiri Jainulabidin Abdul kalam was born in 1931 at Rameswaram in Ramanathpuram, Tamil Nadu. He was familiarly known as the Missile Man of India. He became eleventh president of India on July 25, 2002. He was awarded Bharat Ratna in 1998. He wrote books like "Wings of Fire", "India 2020" and "Ignited Mind".
- 3. Akbar He succeeded his father at the age of 13. He followed a policy of conciliation of Hindu and Muslims. He is called a National Monarch as he abolished the Jazia and Pilgrim tax. He made Ibadat Khana at Fatehpur Sikri. The Mansabdari System was the main essence of his government. In history he is considered as the real founder of Mughal Empire in India.

- 4. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar he is a well known Indian Jurist Statesman, social reformer and scheduled castes leader. He was the Chairman of the Constitution Drafting Body and played a significant role in drafting the Indian Constitution after its independence. He was posthumously awarded 1990 Bharat Ratna.
- 5. Amir Khusro He is called the "Parrot of India" patronized by Alauddin Khilji. His literary works are Laila Majnu, Tughlaq nama, etc. He flourished during the reign of Ala –ud-din Khilji.
- 6. Aryabhatta He is a celebrated Indian astronomer and mathematician who adorned the court of Chandra Gupta Vikramaditya. India's first satellite was christened after him. He laid the foundation of Algebra and was responsible for pointing out the importance of "zero".
- 7. Asoka, the Great He was the most famous king of Maurya Dynasty and one of the greatest kings of the world. He was known as "Devanampriya" which means beloved of god. The most important event of his reign was the war with Kalinga which moved him deeply. He gave up military conquests and evolved a policy of Dharmavijay. He was a Buddhist by faith and got the principles of Buddhism inscribed on rocks and pillars of which Sarnath was the most significant. The National Emblem of our govt. is taken from the design.
- 8. Aurobindo Ghosh He was a brilliant scholar and a revolutionary member of Congress. He was the editor of Vande Mataram. The British govt. involved him in the Alipore Conspiracy case. Later he gave up politics and came to Pondicherry to lead a spiritual life. He established Ashram there and wrote essays on Gita and Savitri, Life Divine, etc.
- 9. Bal Gangadhar Tilak He is called Lokmanya and was one of the greatest leaders of India's struggle for freedom. He started the Marathi newspaper "Maratha" to spread patriotism and nationalism. He was the leader of extremists in the Indian National Congress. He said "Swarajya is my birthright and I will have it".
- 10. Bhagat Singh He is known as Shabid e Azam. He is the synonym of patriotism and revolution. He along with two other revolutionaries SukhDev and RajGuru was hanged on March 23, 1931 for participation in the Lahore Conspiracy.
- 11. Buddha He was a Kshatriya prince. He left his home at the age of 28 in the search of truth. This event is known as the great renunciation. He gave his first sermon in the Deer Park in Sarnath near Banaras. He founded a powerful order of Bhikshus. His chief teachings were 4 Noble Truth. He was indeed the "Light of Asia".
- 12. Chanakya or Kautilya He was Chandragupta's minister and wrote a book "Arthashastra". He was also known as Vishnu Gupta. His book is regarded as the greatest treatise in politics. He is also called "Aristotle of the East".
- 13. Dadabhai Naoroji He was the first President of Indian National Congress. He served as president for three times. He was the first Indian to be selected as a member of the British House

- of Commons from London. He is known as the Great old Man of India. He presented his Drain of Wealth Theory in his book Poverty and Un British Rule in India.
- 14. Gopal Krishna Gokhale An able Indian statesman whom Gandhi regarded as his political Guru. He served as the President of Indian National Congress in 1907. "Servants of India Society" was founded by him.
- 15. Humayun He was the ill-fated king of the Mughal Empire. He was defeated by Sher Shah Suri in the battle of Kannauj. He died in Delhi while coming down of stairs where he fell from and died. The word Humayun means "fortunate" but it is an irony of fate that Humayun proved a most unfortunate king.
- 16. Indira Gandhi The daughter of Jawaharlal Nehru was the Prime Minister of India for 15 years. She was shot dead by her own security man on October 31, 1984. She was the recipient of Bharat Ratna in 1971.
- 17. Jawaharlal Nehru The great Indian Leader and maker of modern India. He was the first Prime Minister of free India from 1947 and remained in the office till his death. He wrote the discovery of India, Autobiography and Glimpses of World History.
- 18. Lal Bahadur Shastri He succeeded Jawaharlal Nehru in 1964. His courageous decision to meet Pakistani invasion to Kashmir by Indian Armed Forces put an end to Pakistani aggression and taught them a lesson. He concluded the Tashkent Agreement and after signing the declaration, he died in Tashkent itself on Jan. 10, 1966. He is associated with the slogan "Jai Jawaan Jai Kisan". He is called "Man of Peace".
- 19. Mahatma Gandhi He is called "Father of Nation". He believed in non-violence and led India to achieve Independence. He founded Sabarmati Ashram at Ahmadabad. He gave the slogan "do or die". He was assassinated by Nathuram Godse on Jan. 30, 1948 at the prayer meeting.
- 20. Rabindranath Tagore The famous Indian poet, novelist and philosopher, in Bengal. He was awarded Nobel Prize for his work in Gitanjali in 1913. He was the first Asian to receive this honor. He composed our national anthem "Jana Gana Mana". He is also called Gurudev.
- 21. Dr. S. Radhakrishnan A great Indian Scholar, thinker and second President of the Indian Republic. He was also the first Vice-President of India. His great works include Bhagwat Gita, The Hindu View of Life, Indian Philosophy, etc. He was awarded Templeton award for special contribution to Hinduism in 1975 and was posthumously awarded Bharat Ratna.
- 22. Dr. Rajendra Prasad He is first President of Republic India. He was the true apostle of Gandhism and a symbol of simple living and high thinking. He was the author of "India Divided".

- 23. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel He was the first deputy Prime Minister of India. He is called "Iron Man of India", "Bismarck of India" who played a key role in the unification of India. He helped in turning the princely states to Indian Union. In the struggle between peasants and British Government, he supported the causes of peasants and succeeded. It was because of this successful agitation that Vallabhbhai Patel came to be called Sardar.
- 24. Shah Jahan He was the most magnificent of the Mughal Emperors. His reign was the golden age of Mughal Architecture. He built Taj Mahal in the memory of his beloved wife Mumtaj. The Pearl Mosque, Red Fort, Jahangir's Tomb, etc are constructed by him. He is called "Engineer King". The peacock throne built by him was taken away by Nadir Shah to Iran.
- 25. Subhash Chandra Bose He is called "Netaji". He was a true patriot of India. He called his Indian National Army or Azad Hind Fauz during World War II and gave a good fight to British Govt. in Assam Hill. He is said to have been killed in an air crash accident. His slogans "Jai Hind" and "Delhi Chalo" are inspirations for our nationalism.
- 26. Tulsidas He was a great Hindu religious preacher. He wrote the famous Ramcharitmanas.
- 27. Valmiki A celebrated Sanskrit Poet of Ancient India. He wrote the famous Ramayana.
- 28. Viswanathan Anand The grandmaster became the First Indian as also Asian Chess Player to clinch the world chess title winning the FIDE World Chess Championship in Teheran.

Chapter 2: World General Knowledge

United Nations

When the World War II was going on the Allied powers had felt the necessity for forming a United Nations Organization. The talks were held at Dumbarton Oaks, Washington D.C. from August 21 to October 7, 1944, which was finally put to concrete shape by the delegates of 50 Allied Nations assembled at San Francisco from April 26 to June 26, 1945. At this place the representatives of 50 nations signed the United Nations Charter and the United Nations officially came into existence on October 26, 1945, after the charter has been ratified by a number of countries. This meant the end of the League of Nations.

Non – Members: The nations that are non-members of the UNO are (a) Switzerland, Taiwan and Vatican are permanent observers.

Official Languages: They are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Flag of the UN: On the flag is the UN Emblem in white superimposed on a light blue ground. The emblem consists of the global map projected from the North Pole and embraced in twin olive branches. (Symbol of Peace).

Objectives: The UN is an organization of nations who have voluntarily joined together to work for world peace, the objectives and purposes of the UN.

- 1. To maintain peace and security in the world.
- 2. To develop friendly relations among nations.
- 3. To work together to remove poverty, disease and illiteracy in the world and to encourage respect for each other's rights and freedom.
- 4. To be a centre for helping the nations to achieve these goals.

Character of the UN: The character of the UN contains aims and purposes of organizations. It gives directions to achieve these aims within the rules and regulations, set by UN. UN General Assembly proclaimed the historic declaration of universal human rights on December 10, 1948.

Admission into UNO:

- 1. A country must get support of the two third members of the General Assembly.
- 2. Country must be Peace loving.
- 3. Country must accept the rules and regulations, aims and objectives of the UNO.
- 4. It is necessary for a new member to get the recommendation of the Security Council.

Power of VETO: If any one of the five permanent members casts a negative vote on the resolution, it falls. This is known as "VETO". Every member has got one vote. To pass a resolution, all the five big powers plus two others must cast their votes in the favor of the resolution.

Principle Organs of the UN:

Headquarters: UN Plaza, New York City, USA General Assembly, Secretariat, Security Council, Trusteeship Council, Economic and Social Council and International Court of Justice.

The General Assembly: The General Assembly is largest of all the organs of UN. The Assembly consists of the representatives of all the member states. Each state has one vote. The General Assembly meets at least once in a year. Special Sessions may be convened by the Secretary General, on a request by the Security Council. The General Assembly determines the contribution payable by each member. It receives and considers the reports of the special committees including the Security Council. It passes the annual budget of the UN. The General

Assembly elects the non permanent members of the Security Council, The members of the Economic and Social Council and elected members of the Trusteeship Council.

The Secretariat:

It is composed of the Secretary General who is the Chief Administrative Officer of the organization and an international staff appointed b him under regulations established by the General Assembly. The Secretary General is appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council.

Security Council:

The member states of the United Nations have delegated the primary responsibilities of the World Peace, security to the Security Council. It consists of 15 members, each of which has one vote. There are 5 permanent and 10 non-permanent members elected for a two year term by a two third majority of the General Assembly. The permanent members have the power to Veto any move. Retiring members are not eligible for immediate re-election. Permanent members: China, France, Russia, U.K. and USA. Non-Permanent members: Bolivia, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Netherland and Sweden (until 2008), Cote d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Kuwait, Peru, Poland (until 2019).

Non-Permanent Member:

The presidency of the Security Council is held for one month in rotation by the member states in the English alphabetical orders of their names. The expansion of the Security Council to include "new Powers" such India, Germany and Japan as permanent members has been suggested. India has formally stakes its claim to a permanent seat in the Council as and when it is expanded.

Trusteeship Council:

The character provides for an international trusteeship system to safeguard the interest of the inhabitants of territory which are not yet fully self governing and which may be placed their under by individual trusteeship agreements. These are called Trust Territories. All of the original 11 Trust territories except one, the republic of Belau (palau) administrated by the USA, have become independent or joined independent countries. Members: China, France, Russia, UK, USA.

Economic and Social Council:

Economic and Social Council is responsible under the General Assembly for carrying out the functions to achieve cooperation of the United Nations with regard to international economic, social, cultural, educational and health to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedom without distinction of race or sex, language or religions. It consists of 54 member states elected by a two-third majority of the General Assembly.

The Council has the following regional Economic Commissions:

- 1. Economic Commission of Europe with its Headquarters at Geneva.
- 2. Economic and Social Commission for Asia with its Headquarters at Bangkok.
- 3. Economic Commission for Latin America with its Headquarters at Santiago (Chile)
- 4. Economic Commission for Africa with its Headquarters at Addis Ababa.
- 5. Economic Commission for Western Asia with its Headquarters at Baghdad.

International Court of Justice:

It was created by n international Treaty, the State of the court which forms an integral part of the United Nations Charter. There are 15 judges. The court has its seat at The Hague. The expenses of the court are borne by the UN. The purpose of the international Court of Justice is to adjust and settle international disputes in conformity with justice and international law. There is no appeal against the decision of the court. The judges of the court are elected for nine years and may be re-elected.

Language: French, English.

Universal Declaration of Human Right:

It was adopted by the UN assembly on Dec. 10, 1948. It is a statement of normal standards to be followed by all nations.

It guarantees international peace and prosperity. It stresses the fact that everyone has the right to life, liberty and security, equality before law, freedom of movement, etc. irrespective of race, religions, sex or language.

International Maritime Organization:

Headquarters: London

It was established as a specialized agency of the UN by the UN Maritime conference at Geneva in 1948

International Labor Organization (ILO)

Headquarters: Geneva

It was established in 191 as an autonomous part of the League of Nations. It is an intergovernmental agency with a three partied structure in which representatives of Governments, Employers and workers participate. In 1969, it won the Noble Peace Prize.

Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)

Headquarters: Rome

The UN conference on Food and agriculture held in May 1943, at Hot Springs, Virginia, setup an interim commission in Washington in July, 1943 to plan the Food and Agricultural Organization, which came into being on 16th October 1945. FAO sponsors the World Food Program.

United Nations, Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Headquarters: Paris

A conference for the establishment of an educational, scientific and cultural organization of the United Nations was convened by the Government of France, and met in London, 1 to 16 November, 1945. UNESCO came into being on 4th November, 1946.

The main purpose of the UNESCO is to promote peace and security in the world by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order that people may have respect for justice, for the rule of law, for human rights and fundamental freedoms irrespective of race, sex, language and religion.

United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)

Headquarters: USA

It was founded in 1946 by the General Assembly. It was established to deliver post war relief to children and it aims at improving the quality of life for children and mother in develop[pin countries. UNICEF is not financed by the UN budget but by voluntary contributions from the governments and individual.

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

Headquarters: Lebanon

It was formed in the International Civil Aviation Conference held in Chicago from 1 Nov. to 7 Dec., 1994. Its aims and objectives are to develop international air navigation and foster the planning and development of International Transport.

International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

Headquarter: Washington

It was established at Britton woods Conference in July, 1994. Its object is to assist the member nations in the economic reconstructions and development of the territories. The bank advances the loans to the member nations for development purposes and encourages Private Foreign Investment and also arranges loans to its own security. It guarantees loans by private investors.

International Monetary Fund

Headquarter: Washington

It was established on 27th December, 1945 and it operates from first march 1947. It works for the promotion of International Trade. It helps those countries with foreign exchange whose balance of trade is in unfavorable position.

World Health Organization (WHO)

Headquarter: Geneva

WHO came into existence on April 7,1948. It aims to assists the government to raise the standard of public health and impart information of health research. It also promotes in improvement of nutrition, housing, sanitation and recreation.

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

Headquarter: Switzerland

It was formally established on 1st July, 1875. It has been established to alleviate uncertainty, confusion and excessive cost of international postal communications by writing its member countries in a single postal territory for the reciprocal exchange of mail. The postal convention has been extended any improved by the various postal congresses.

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Headquarter: Geneva and Switzerland

The international Telegraph Union founded in Paris in 1965 and the International radio Telegraph Union, founded in Berlin in 1906 by the Madrid Convention of 1932 to form the ITU. Its main purpose is to bring the improvement and rational use of telecommunications and increase the efficiency of the telecommunication services by maintaining and extending international cooperation.

International Finance Corporation (IFC)

Headquarter: Washington

It was established in July, 1956. It is affiliated to World bank. The basic object of the corporation is to supplement the activities of the World Bank. It will seek to bring together investment opportunities, domestic and foreign private capital and experienced management. The membership of the Corporation will be open to those countries which are member of the World Bank.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Headquarter: Vienna

It was setup under the UN to make recommendations for the use of Atomic Energy for peaceful purposes. All the nations are to pay a part of fissionable material and also uranium at the disposal of the Agency. The Agency was established at meeting of 82 nations held in New York in September, 1956.

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)

Headquarter: Geneva

It was negotiated in 1947 and came into force on January 1, 1948. It is the only treaty setting rules for world trade. Its functions are to ease trade barriers and establish rules of fair trade. In recent years, GATT made special efforts to develop international trade and has also given particular emphasis on increasing the export trade of developing countries. GATT was replaced by the World Trade Organization (WTO) on January 1, 1995.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Headquarter: Geneva and Switzerland

Conference of directors of the International Meteorological Organization meeting in Washington in 1947, adopted a convention creating the WMO. It aims at improving weather observations and to adopt common measures for weather reporting in order to prevent disaster caused by natural calamities like cyclones, typhoons, etc.

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

Headquarter: Geneva and Switzerland

The convention establishing WIPO was signed at Stockholm in 1967 by 51 countries and came into force in April 1970. In Dec. 1974, WIPO became a specialized agency of the UN.

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Headquarter: Rome, Italy

The establishment of IFAD was one of the major actions proposed by 1974 World Food Conference. The agreement for IFAD came into force on 30th Nov., 1977 following attainment of initial pledges of \$1000 and the agency began its operations.

United Nations Industrial Development Organizations (UNIDO)

Headquarter: Vienna

It provides developing and underdeveloped with advice on all aspects of Industrial Policy converted into a specialized Agency by UN in 1985.

Countries, Capital and Their Currencies

| Country Name | Capital | Currency |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Afghanistan | Kabul | Afghani |
| Albania | Tirane | Lek |
| Algeria | Algiers | Dinar |
| Andorra | Andorra la Vella | Euro |
| Angola | Luanda | New Kwanza |
| Antigua and Barbuda | Saint John's | East Caribbean dollar |
| Argentina | Buenos Aires | Peso |
| Armenia | Yerevan | Dram |
| Australia | Canberra | Australian dollar |
| Austria | Vienna | Euro (formerly schilling) |
| Azerbaijan | Baku | Manat |
| The Bahamas | Nassau | Bahamian dollar |
| Bahrain | Manama | Bahrain dinar |
| Bangladesh | Dhaka | Taka |
| Barbados | Bridgetown | Barbados dollar |
| Belarus | Minsk | Belorussian ruble |
| Belgium | Brussels | Euro (formerly Belgian franc) |
| Belize | Belmopan | Belize dollar |
| Benin | Porto-Novo | CFA Franc |
| Bhutan | Thimphu | Ngultrum |

| Bolivia | La Paz | Boliviano |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Sarajevo | Marka |
| Botswana | Gaborone | Pula |
| Brazil | Brasilia | Real |
| Brunei | Bandar Seri Begawan | Brunei dollar |
| Bulgaria | Sofia | Lev |
| Burkina Faso | Ouagadougou | CFA Franc |
| Burundi | Bujumbura | Burundi franc |
| Cambodia | Phnom Penh | Riel |
| Cameroon | Yaounde | CFA Franc |
| Canada | Ottawa | Canadian dollar |
| Cape Verde | Praia | Cape Verdean escudo |
| Central African Republic | Bangui | CFA Franc |
| Chad | N'Djamena | CFA Franc |
| Chile | Santiago | Chilean Peso |
| China | Beijing | Yuan/Renminbi |
| Colombia | Bogota | Colombian Peso |
| Comoros | Moroni | Franc |
| Congo, Republic of the | Brazzaville | CFA Franc |
| Congo, Democratic Republic of the | Kinshasa | Congolese franc |
| Costa Rica | San Jose | Colón |
| Cote d'Ivoire | Yamoussoukro | CFA Franc |
| Croatia | Zagreb | Kuna |

| Cuba | Havana | Cuban Peso |
|--------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Cyprus | Nicosia | Cyprus pound |
| Czech Republic | Prague | Koruna |
| Denmark | Copenhagen | Krone |
| Djibouti | Djibouti | Djibouti franc |
| Dominica | Roseau | East Caribbean dollar |
| Dominican Republic | Santo Domingo | Dominican Peso |
| East Timor (Timor-Leste) | Dili | U.S. dollar |
| Ecuador | Quito | U.S. dollar |
| Egypt | Cairo | Egyptian pound |
| El Salvador | San Salvador | Colón; U.S. dollar |
| Equatorial Guinea | Malabo | CFA Franc |
| Eritrea | Asmara | Nakfa |
| Estonia | Tallinn | Kroon |
| Ethiopia | Addis Ababa | Birr |
| Fiji | Suva | Fiji dollar |
| Finland | Helsinki | Euro (formerly markka) |
| France | Paris | Euro (formerly French franc) |
| Gabon | Libreville | CFA Franc |
| The Gambia | Banjul | Dalasi |
| Georgia | Tbilisi | Lari |
| Germany | Berlin | Euro (formerly Deutsche mark) |
| Ghana | Accra | Cedi |
| Greece | Athens | Euro (formerly drachma) |

| Grenada | Saint George's | East Caribbean dollar |
|---------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Guatemala | Guatemala City | Quetzal |
| Guinea | Conakry | Guinean franc |
| Guinea-Bissau | Bissau | CFA Franc |
| Guyana | Georgetown | Guyanese dollar |
| Haiti | Port-au-Prince | Gourde |
| Honduras | Tegucigalpa | Lempira |
| Hungary | Budapest | Forint |
| Iceland | Reykjavik | Icelandic króna |
| India | New Delhi | Rupee |
| Indonesia | Jakarta | Rupiah |
| Iran | Tehran | Rial |
| Iraq | Baghdad | Iraqi Dinar |
| Ireland | Dublin | Euro (formerly Irish pound [punt]) |
| Israel | Jerusalem | Shekel |
| Italy | Rome | Euro (formerly lira) |
| Jamaica | Kingston | Jamaican dollar |
| Japan | Tokyo | Yen |
| Jordan | Amman | Jordanian dinar |
| Kazakhstan | Astana | Tenge |
| Kenya | Nairobi | Kenya shilling |
| Kiribati | Tarawa Atoll | Australian dollar |
| Korea, North | Pyongyang | Won |
| Korea, South | Seoul | Won |

| Kosovo | Pristina | Euro |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Kuwait | Kuwait City | Kuwaiti dinar |
| Kyrgyzstan | Bishkek | Som |
| Laos | Vientiane | New Kip |
| Latvia | Riga | Lats |
| Lebanon | Beirut | Lebanese pound |
| Lesotho | Maseru | Maluti |
| Liberia | Monrovia | Liberian dollar |
| Libya | Tripoli | Libyan dinar |
| Liechtenstein | Vaduz | Swiss franc |
| Lithuania | Vilnius | Litas |
| Luxembourg | Luxembourg | Euro |
| Macedonia | Skopje | Denar |
| Madagascar | Antananarivo | Malagasy franc |
| Malawi | Lilongwe | Kwacha |
| Malaysia | Kuala Lumpur | Ringgit |
| Maldives | Male | Rufiya |
| Mali | Bamako | CFA Franc |
| Malta | Valletta | Maltese lira |
| Marshall Islands | Majuro | U.S. Dollar |
| Mauritania | Nouakchott | Ouguiya |
| Mauritius | Port Louis | Mauritian rupee |
| Mexico | Mexico City | Mexican peso |
| Micronesia, Federated States of | Palikir | U.S. Dollar |

| Moldova | Chisinau | Leu |
|------------------|---|---------------------|
| Monaco | Monaco | Euro |
| Mongolia | Ulaanbaatar | Tugrik |
| Montenegro | Podgorica | Euro |
| Morocco | Rabat | Dirham |
| Mozambique | Maputo | Metical |
| Myanmar (Burma) | Rangoon | Kyat |
| Namibia | Windhoek | Namibian dollar |
| Nauru | no official capital; government offices in Yaren District | Australian dollar |
| Nepal | Kathmandu | Nepalese rupee |
| Netherlands | Amsterdam; The Hague | Euro |
| New Zealand | Wellington | New Zealand dollar |
| Nicaragua | Managua | Gold cordoba |
| Niger | Niamey | CFA Franc |
| Nigeria | Abuja | Naira |
| Norway | Oslo | Norwegian krone |
| Oman | Muscat | Omani rial |
| Pakistan | Islamabad | Pakistani rupee |
| Palau | Melekeok | U.S. dollar |
| Panama | Panama City | balboa; U.S. dollar |
| Papua New Guinea | Port Moresby | Kina |

| Paraguay | Asuncion | Guaraní |
|----------------------------------|------------|--|
| Peru | Lima | Nuevo sol |
| Philippines | Manila | Peso |
| Poland | Warsaw | Zloty |
| Portugal | Lisbon | Euro |
| Qatar | Doha | Qatari riyal |
| Romania | Bucharest | Leu |
| Russia | Moscow | Ruble |
| Rwanda | Kigali | Rwanda franc |
| Saint Kitts and Nevis | Basseterre | East Caribbean dollar |
| Saint Lucia | Castries | East Caribbean dollar |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | Kingstown | East Caribbean dollar |
| Samoa | Apia | Tala |
| San Marino | San Marino | Euro |
| Sao Tome and Principe | Sao Tome | Dobra |
| Saudi Arabia | Riyadh | Riyal |
| Senegal | Dakar | CFA Franc |
| Serbia | Belgrade | Yugoslav new dinar. In Kosovo both the euro and the Yugoslav dinar are legal |
| Seychelles | Victoria | Seychelles rupee |
| Sierra Leone | Freetown | Leone |
| Singapore | Singapore | Singapore dollar |
| Slovakia | Bratislava | Koruna |
| Slovenia | Ljubljana | Slovenian tolar; euro |

| Solomon Islands | Honiara | Solomon Islands dollar |
|---------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Somalia | Mogadishu | Somali shilling |
| South Africa | Pretoria (administrative); Cape Town (legislative); | Rand |
| South Sudan | Juba | Sudanese Pound |
| Spain | Madrid | Euro |
| Sri Lanka | Colombo; Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte | Sri Lanka rupee |
| Sudan | Khartoum | Dinar |
| Suriname | Paramaribo | Surinamese dollar |
| Swaziland | Mbabane | Lilangeni |
| Sweden | Stockholm | Krona |
| Switzerland | Bern | Swiss franc |
| Syria | Damascus | Syrian pound |
| Taiwan | Taipei | Taiwan dollar |
| Tajikistan | Dushanbe | somoni |
| Tanzania | Dar es Salaam; Dodoma | Tanzanian shilling |
| Thailand | Bangkok | baht |
| Togo | Lome | CFA Franc |
| Tonga | Nuku'alofa | Pa'anga |
| Trinidad and Tobago | Port-of-Spain | Trinidad and Tobago dollar |
| Tunisia | Tunis | Tunisian dinar |

| Turkey | Ankara | Turkish lira (YTL) |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Turkmenistan | Ashgabat | Manat |
| Tuvalu | Vaiaku village, Funafuti province | Australian dollar |
| Uganda | Kampala | Ugandan new shilling |
| Ukraine | Kyiv | Hryvna |
| United Arab Emirates | Abu Dhabi | U.A.E. dirham |
| United Kingdom | London | Pound sterling |
| United States of America | Washington D.C. | dollar |
| Uruguay | Montevideo | Uruguay peso |
| Uzbekistan | Tashkent | Uzbekistani sum |
| Vanuatu | Port-Vila | Vatu |
| Vatican City (Holy See) | Vatican City | Euro |
| Venezuela | Caracas | Bolivar |
| Vietnam | Hanoi | Dong |
| Yemen | Sanaa | Rial |
| Zambia | Lusaka | Kwacha |
| Zimbabwe | Harare | Zimbabwean dollar |

Geographical Epithets – World

| America's Motor City | Detroit |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Britain of the South | New Zealand |
| China's Sorrow | River Hwang Ho |

| City of Dreaming Spires | Oxford (England) |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| City of Eternal Springs | Quito (S. America) |
| City of Flowers | Cape Town (S. Africa) |
| City of Golden Gate | San Francisco (USA) |
| City of Magnificent Building | Washington (USA) |
| City of Quite Thoroughfares | Venice |
| City of Seven Hills | Rome (Italy) |
| City of Skyscrapers | New York (USA) |
| Cockpit of Europe | Belgium |
| Dark Continent | Africa |
| Emerald Isle | Ireland |
| Empire City | New York |
| Eternal City of Hopes | Rome, Italy |
| Forbidden City | Lhasa, Tibet |
| Garden City | Chicago |
| Garden in the Desert | Ethiopia |
| Garden of England | Kent, England |
| Gate of tears | Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb |
| Golden City | Johannesburg |
| Gibraltar of Indian | Ocean Aden |
| Gift of Nile | Egypt |
| Granite city | Aberdeen |
| Hanging Valleys | Valley of Switzerland |
| Hermit Kingdom | Korea |

| Herring Pond | Atlantic Ocean |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Holy Land | Palestine |
| Human Equator f The Earth | Himalayas |
| Island Continent | Australia |
| Island of Cloves | Zanzibar |
| Island of Pearls | Bahrain (Persian Gulf) |
| Islands of Sunshine | West Indies |
| Kashmir of Europe | Switzerland |
| Key to Mediterranean | Gibraltar |
| Land of Five Seas | South West Asia |
| Land of Lakes | Scotland |
| Land of Golden Pagoda | Myanmar |
| Land of Kangaroo | Australia |
| Land of Golden Fleece | Australia |
| Land of Lilies | Canada |
| Land of Maple | Canada |
| Land of Midnight Sun | Norway |
| Land of Morning Calm | Korea |
| Land of Rising Sun | Japan |
| Land of Setting Sun | United Kingdom |
| Land of Thousand Elephants | Laos |
| Land of Thousand Lakes | Finland |
| Land of Thunderbolt | Bhutan |
| Land of White Elephant | Thailand |

| Loneliest Island | Tristen de Gumha(Mid. Atlantic) | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Manchester of Japan | Osaka, Japan | |
| Pillars of Hercules | Straits of Gibraltar | |
| Play Ground of Europe | Switzerland | |
| Quaker City | Philadelphia | |
| Queen of the Adriatic | Venice | |
| Roof of the World | The Pamirs (Tibet) | |
| River in the Sea | Gulf Stream | |
| Sickman of Europe | Turkey | |
| Sugar Bowl of the World | Cuba | |
| Venice of the East | Bangkok | |
| Venice of the North | Stockholm | |
| White City | Belgrade | |
| Windy City | Chicago | |
| Workshop of Europe | Belgium | |
| Yellow River | River Hwang Ho (China) | |

Famous Lines and frontiers

| Durand Line | Pakistan and Afghanistan |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Hindenburg Line | Germany and Poland |
| McMahan Line | India and China |
| Maginot Line | France and Germany |
| Oder Neisse Line | East Germany and Poland |
| Radcliffe Line | India and Pakistan |

| Siegfried Line | Germany and France |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 17 th Parallel | North and South Vietnam |
| 24 th Parallel | India and Pakistan |
| 38 th Parallel | North and South Korea |
| 49 th Parallel | USA and Canada |

Geographical Discoveries

America - Christopher Columbus

Sea Route to India - Vasco de Gama

North Pole - Robert Peary

South Pole - Amundsen

Suez Canal - Designed by Ferdinand de Lesseps

World – Minerals

| Aluminium | USA, France and India | |
|--------------|--|--|
| Asbestos | Canada, Zimbabwe | |
| Bauxite | Australia, Guinea | |
| Chromium | Zimbabwe, India | |
| Coal | USA, England, Russia and Germany | |
| Copper Ore | CIS, USA | |
| Crude Oil | CIS, Saudi Arabia | |
| Diamonds | CIS, Zaire | |
| Gold | South Africa, South America, Australia | |
| Graphite ore | CIS, Brazil | |
| Ilmenite | India | |

| Iron Ore | USA, Russia | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Lignite | East Germany, CIS | |
| Manganese Ore | CIS, South Africa | |
| Mercury | Italy, Spain | |
| Mica, Monazite | India | |
| Natural gas | USA, CIS | |
| Nickel Ore | Canada, CIS | |
| Petroleum | USA, Russia & Middle east Countries | |
| Phosphate | USA, CIS | |
| Silver | Mexico, USA and India | |
| Steel | USA, UK, Russia and Germany | |
| Tin | Malaysia and Indonesia | |
| Uranium | USA, Canada | |
| Zinc Ore | Canada, CIS | |

World - Industries

| Baku (Russia) | Petroleum | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Bangkok (Thailand) | Belfast(Ireland) | |
| Buenos Aires (Argentina) | Dairy Products | |
| Cadiz (Spain) | Cork | |
| Chicago (USA) | Gramophone | |
| Detroit (USA) | Automobiles | |
| Dresden | Optical and Photography apparatus | |
| Glasgow (Scotland) | Machinery, Textiles | |

| Havana (Cuba) | Cigar |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Hollywood (USA) | Films |
| Johannesburg (South Africa) | Gold Mine |
| Kimberley (South Africa) | Diamond Mining |
| Leeds (England) | Woolen Goods |
| Los Angeles (USA) | Film, Oil |
| Lyons (France) | Silk |
| Morocco (North America) | Leather |
| Munich)Germany) | Lenses |
| New Orleans (USA) | Cotton |
| Pittsburg (USA) | Iron and Steel |
| Plymouth (England) | Ship Building |
| Sheffield | Cutlery |
| Venice | Glass |
| Vienna (Austria) | Glass |
| Wellington (New Zealand) | Dairy Products |
| | |

Countries and Nicknames

| Bechuanaland | Botswana | Japan | Nippon |
|--------------|-----------|-------------------|----------|
| Burma | Myanmar | North Borneo | Sabah |
| Ceylon | Sri Lanka | Kampuchea | Cambodia |
| Dutch Guiana | Surinam | Rhodesia | Zimbabwe |
| Formosa | Taiwan | Siam | Thailand |
| India | Bharat | South-West Africa | Namibia |

National Emblems

| Australia | Kangaroo | Japan | Chrysanthemum |
|-----------|----------------|----------|---------------|
| Canada | White Lily | Pakistan | Crescent |
| France | Lily | Spain | Eagle |
| India | Lioned Capitol | U.K. | Rose |
| Italy | White Lily | U.S.A. | Golden Rod |

Name of Parliament

| Afghanistan | Shora | Nepal | Panchayay |
|-------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Britain | Parliament | Netherland | States General |
| Denmark | Folketing | Norway | Storting |
| Germany | Bundestag | Poland | Seym |
| India | Parliament | Russia | Supreme Soviet |
| Iran | Majlis | Spain | Crotes |
| Israel | Knesset | Sweden | Riksdag |
| Japan | Diet | Taiwan | Yuan |
| Malaysia | Majlis | U.S.A. | Congress |

Signs and Symbols

| Sun | Air India | White Flag | Truce |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Wheel (Chakra) | Progress | Olive Branch | Peace |
| Red Triangle | Family Planning | Stars and Stripes | National Flag of USA |
| Black Flag | Protest | Tricolor | National Flag of India |

| Red Cross | Hospital Medical Aid | Justice | A Blind-folded woman holding a balanced scale |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Red Light | Traffic Sign "Stop" | Union Jack | National flag of U.K. |
| Lotus | Culture and Civilization | Hammer and Sickle | National Flag of Russia |

Places associated with Sports

| Aintree (U.K.) | Grand National Horse Race | Hurlingham(England) | Polo |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Bisley | Shooting | Leeds (England) | Cricket |
| Blackhealth London | Rugby Football | Lords (England) | Cricket |
| Chepauk Ground, Chennai | Cricket | Mortlake (England) | Swimming |
| Donchester(England) | St. Ledger Horse race | Nehru Stadium (Chennai) | Cricket |
| Eden Gardens (Kolkata) | Cricket | Oval (England) | Cricket |
| Epsom (England) | Derby Horse Races | Putney | Boat-Rowing |
| Feroze Shah Kotla Ground (Delhi) | Cricket | Trent bridge 9England) | Cricket |
| Florence Chadwik | Skiing | Twinkenhem (England) | Rugby |
| Forest Hills (New York) | Tennis | Wembley Stadium (England) | Association Football |
| Henley (U.K.) | Regatta (Boat Race) | Wimbledon (England) | Lawn Tennis |
| | | Yankee Stadium (New York) | Boxing |

Trophies Associated With Sports

| American Cup | Yatch racing | Merdeka | Football (Asian) |
|--------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| Ashes | Cricket (England Australia) | MRF World Cup | Cricket & Boxing |
| Asia Cup | Cricket | Prince of Wales Cup | Golf (England) |
| Asia Oceanic | Tennis | Schneider Cup | Seaplane Race (U.K.) |
| Canada Cup | Golf (World Championship) | Swaythling Cup | World Table Tennis (Men) |
| Colombo Cup | Golf (World Championship) | Thomas Cup | World Badminton |
| Colombo Cup | Football (India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Myanmar) | TunkuAbdul Rahman Cup | Badminton (Asian) |
| Corbillion Cup | World table Tennis (Women) | U Thant Cup | Tennis |
| Davis Cup | Tennis/ Lawn Tennis | Uber Cup | World badminton (Women) |
| Derby | Horse race (England) | Walker Cup | Golf (England) |
| Eisenhower Trophy | Golf (Amateurs- World) | Westchester Cup | Polo (England) |
| Grand National | Horse Steeple Chase race (England) | Wightman Cup | Lawn Tennis (Women of USA & England) |
| Jules Rimet Trophy | World Soccer Cup | Wimbledon Trophy | Lawn Tennis |
| King's Cup | Air Races (England) | World Cup | Cricket |
| | | World Cup | Hockey |

World Cup Football

The most popular tournament the World Cup Football was started in 1930 and is held once in four years. In 1998 these games were held in France. The games were not played in 1942 and 1946.

| Year | Venue | Winners | Runner-Up |
|------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1930 | Uruguay | Uruguay | Argentina |
| 1934 | Italy | Italy | Czechoslovakia |
| 1938 | France | Italy | Hungary |
| 1950 | Brazil | Uruguay | Brazil |
| 1954 | Switzerland | West Germany | Hungary |
| 1958 | Sweden | Brazil | Sweden |
| 1962 | Chile | Brazil | Czechoslovakia |
| 1966 | England | England | West Germany |
| 1970 | Mexico | Brazil | Italy |
| 1974 | West Germany | West Germany | Poland |
| 1978 | Argentina | Argentina | Holland |
| 1982 | Spain | Italy | West Germany |
| 1986 | Mexico | Argentina | West Germany |
| 1990 | Italy | West Germany | Argentina |
| 1994 | USA | Brazil | Italy |
| 1998 | France | France | Brazil |
| 2002 | Japan/ Korea | Brazil | Germany |
| 2006 | Germany | Italy | France |
| 2010 | South Africa | Spain | Netherlands |
| 2014 | Brazil | Germany | Argentina |
| |] | | |

Books, Authors and Literary Works

| Book | Author | Book | Author |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| A midsummer night's Dream | Shakespeare | Lajja | Taslima Nasreen |
| A Pair of Blue Eyes | Thomas hardy | Les Miserables | Victor Hugo |
| Adventures of Sherlock Holmes | Sir Arthur Conan Doyle | Life Divine | Aurobindo Ghosh |
| Anand Math | Bankim Chandra Chatterjee | Mahabharata | Ved Vyas |
| Anna Karenina | Tolstoy | Meghdoot | Kalidas |
| Arthashastra | Kautilya | Merchant of Venice | Shakespeare |
| Bhagwad Gita | Ved Vyas | Midnight's Children | Salman Rushdie |
| Broken Wing | Sarojini Naidu | My Experiments with Truth | Mahatma Gandhi |
| Conquest of Self | Mahatma Gandhi | My Truth | Indira Gandhi |
| Discovery of India | Jawaharlal Nehru | Panchtantra | Vishnu Sharma |
| Eye of the storm, The | Patrick White | Prithviraj Raso | Chand Bardai |
| Far From the Maddening Crowd | Thomas Hardy | Rama Charit Manas | Tulsidas |
| Gitanjali | Rabindranath Tagore | Romeo & Juliet | William Shakespeare |
| Guide, The | Jonathan Swift | Satanic Verses | Salman Rushdie |
| Hamlet | Shakespeare | Shakuntala | Kalidas |
| Ignited Mind | Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam | Tess of the D'Urbervilles | Thomas Hardy |
| Jane Eyre | Charlotte Bronte | The God of Small Things | Arundhati Roy |
| Jungle Book | Rudyard Kipling | Time Machine | H.G.Wells |

| Kumarsambhavam | Kalidas | Ulysses | James Joyce |
|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Vande Mataram | Bankim Chandra | War & Peace | Tolstoy |
| Wings of Fire | Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam | Wuthering Heights | Emily Bronte |
| Yashodhara | Maithilisharan Gupta | Dr. Zhivago | Boris Pasternek |

Highest-Biggest-Longest-Smallest-Deepest-Longest

| Largest Archipelago | Indonesia |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Largest City in World(Area) | London |
| Tallest Animal | Giraffe |
| Fastest Animal in short run | Cheetah |
| Fastest Animal | The Peregrine Falcon |
| Largest Existing Land Animal | Elephant |
| Most Intelligent Animal | Chimpanzee |
| Most Cunning Animal | Fox |
| Largest Sea Animal | Blue Whale |
| Largest Bell in World | Greatest Bell Of Moscow, Russia |
| Largest Bird | Ostrich |
| Largest Sea-Bird | Albatross |
| Fastest Bird | Swift |
| Flightless Bird | Swift |
| Smallest Bird | Humming Bird |
| Singing Bird | Nightingale |
| Longest railway Bridge in India | Sone Bridge, Bihar |

| Longest Steel Arch Bridge | New River Gorge Bridge, West Virginia, USA |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Longest railway Bridge | Huey P. Long Bridge in Louisiana, USA |
| Highest Road Bridge | Bailey Bridge, Khardungia, Ladakh |
| Highest River Bridge | Royal Gorge in Colorado |
| Highest Railway Bridge | Fades Bridge on river Clermont Ferrand, France |
| Tallest Bank Building | Bank of Montreal in Toronto, Canada |
| Longest Canal in India | Saradha Canal in Uttar Pradesh |
| Longest Big Ship Canal in World | Suez Canal |
| Longest Small Ship Canal | Beloye (White Sea) Baltic Canal |
| Largest cave Temple in India | Ellora in Maharashtra |
| Largest Church in World | St. Peter's Church in Vatican City, Italy |
| Highly Populated City in India | Mumbai, Maharashtra |
| Oldest City in India | Kolkata |
| Highest City in World | Wenchuan, China |
| Highest capital | Lhasa |
| Largest City in Population in World | Shanghai, China |
| Costliest City in World | London |
| Biggest Clock in World | Big Ben, London |
| Largest Continent | Asia |
| Smallest Continent | Australia |
| Largest Corridor in World | Rameswaram Temple |
| Largest in Population | China followed by India |
| Largest In Area | Russia |

| Largest Electorate | India |
|--|--|
| Largest Creature | Blue Whale |
| Longest dam in India | Hirakund dam on river Mahanadi in Orissa |
| Highest dam in World | The Grande, Switzerland |
| Highest Straight | Bhakra Nangal on river Sutlej |
| Longest day | June 21 in Northern Hemisphere |
| Shortest day | December 22 in Northern Hemisphere |
| Largest Delta | The sunderban Delta created by river Ganges and Brahmputra |
| Largest Desert in World | Sahara in Africa |
| Coldest Desert | Antarctica |
| Largest desert in India | Thar desert, Rajasthan |
| Largest and Biggest Dome in India | Gol Gumbaz |
| Largest Dome in World | Astrodome in Houston, Texas(USA) |
| Longest Epic | Mahabharata |
| Highest Filling Station | Petrol Pump in Leh |
| Largest forest in India | Assam |
| Highest Gateway in IndiaBuland Darwaza | |
| Largest gulf | Gulf of Mexico |
| Largest Natural harbor in India | Vishakhapatnam |
| Highest Hill Station in India | Gulmarg in Kashmir |
| Biggest Hotel in India | Oberoi- Sheraton in Mumbai |
| Largest Island | Greenland |
| Largest group of Islands | Malaya Archipelago |

| Largest Salt Water lake | Caspian sea |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Largest Fresh Water lake | Superior Lake in India |
| Deepest lake | Lake Baikal in Siberia |
| Highest lake | Titicaca in Bolivia |
| Largest lake in India | Wular lake |
| Largest Library In World | United States Library of Congress in Washington, USA |
| | The Lenin State Library in Moscow, Russia |
| Largest Light House in World | Bishop Rock in England |
| Most Beautiful memorial | Taj Mahal, Agra |
| Largest Diamond Mines in World | Kimberley(South Africa) |
| Deepest Mines in India | Kolar Gold Fields in Karnataka |
| Longest Mountain range in World | Mt. Andes (South America) |
| Highest Peak in World | Everest, Nepal |
| Highest Peak in India | Godwin Austen |
| Highest Mountain range | Himalayas |
| Highest peak in South India | Anaimudi, Anaimalai |
| Biggest Mosque in India | Jama Masjid, Delhi |
| Largest mosque | Umayyad Mosque in Damascus, Syria |
| Largest Cathedral | Diocese of New York |
| Largest temple | Angkor vat temple of Lord Vishnu in Cambodia |
| Largest Museum in India | Indian Museum (Kolkata) |
| Largest Museum In World | American Museum of Natural History, New York |

| Deepest, Largest and Biggest Ocean | Pacific Ocean |
|--|--|
| Biggest palace in World | Vatican palace, Rome(Italy) |
| Largest Peninsula (World) | Arabia |
| Hottest Place in India | Barmer (Rajasthan) |
| Hottest place in World | Azizia (Libya) |
| Coldest Place in World | Verkhoyansk (Siberia) |
| Driest Place | Death valley (California) |
| Heaviest rainfall in World | Mawsynram (Meghalaya) |
| Highest Plateau | Pamir (Tibet) |
| Largest Park | Wood Buffalo National Park in Alberta, Canada |
| Largest, Biggest and Heaviest Planet | Jupiter |
| Smallest Planet | Mercury |
| Brightest Planet | Venus |
| Coldest Planet | Pluto |
| Planet Farthest from the sun | Pluto |
| Planet nearest to the sun | Mercury |
| Dustiest Planet | Mars (Red Planet) |
| The Longest Play | The Mouse-Trap (Agatha Christie's Novel) |
| Longest Poem of the World | Mahabharata |
| Largest Country in Population in World | China |
| Largest State in Population In India | Uttar Pradesh |
| Densest State in Population | West Bengal (India) |
| Smallest state in Population | Sikkim (India) |

| Smallest Union Territory in Population | Lakshadweep (India) |
|--|--|
| Longest railway in World | Trans Siberian Railway from Moscow to Nakhodka |
| Longest railway in Asia | India |
| Fastest Train in World | French T.G.V. |
| Longest railway Station in India | Kharagpur (West Bengal) |
| Longest Railway Platform in India | Sonepur (Bihar) |
| Longest Railway Route | Himsagar Express |
| Longest River | The Nile Egypt |
| Longest River in Volume | Amazon (Brazil, South America) |
| Longest River in India | The Ganges |
| Largest Road in India | Grand Trunk Road |
| Highest Road in World | Le narba Road, Ladakh |
| Longest Road | Pan American Highway (North West Alaska to Southern most Chile) |
| Largest School | South Point High School, Kolkata, India |
| Largest Sea | South China Sea |
| Smallest Independent State in World | Vatican (Italy) |
| Biggest State in India | Madhya Pradesh |
| Smallest State in India | Goa |
| Largest Stadium | Starhov Stadium in Prague, Czech |
| Tallest Statue in World | Statue of Liberty, New York |
| Biggest and Brightest Star | Sirius (Dog Star) |
| Broadest Street in World | Broadway Street, USA |
| Greatest Ship in World | Queen Elizabeth |

| Highest Tower in World | Tokyo Television Tower, Japan |
|---|---|
| | Eiffel Tower, Paris in France |
| Highest Leaning Tower in World | Leaning Tower of Pisa |
| Highest Tower in India | Qutub Minar, Delhi |
| Largest Tunnel in India | Jawahar tunnel, Jammu & Kashmir |
| Longest rail Tunnel | Bombay-Pune Route |
| Longest Highway Tunnel (Laerdal Tunnel) | Norway (Oslo- Bergen_ |
| Oldest University | University of Karueein, Morocco |
| Largest University Building | University of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia |
| Largest Open University | Indira Gandhi National open University, New Delhi |
| Highest Volcano in World | Cotopaxi (Andes, Ecuador) |
| Largest Volcano in World | Mauna Lea (Hawaii) |
| Longest wall in World | Great Wall of China |
| Highest waterfall in World | Angel Waterfalls in Venezuela, South America |
| Highest Waterfall in India | Gersoppa Waterfall, Karnataka |
| Largest Zoo in India | Zoological Gardens in Alipur, Calcutta |

Seven Wonders of The Ancient World

- 1. The Pyramids of Khufu
- 2. The Hanging Gardens of Babylon
- 3. The Temple of Artem at Ephesus
- 4. The State of Zeus at Olympia
- 5. The Mausolos at Halicarnassus

- 6. The Colossus of Rhodes
- 7. The Pharos (Lighthouse) at Alexandria

Seven Wonders of the Medieval World

- 1. The Colosseum of Rome
- 2. The Great Wall of China
- 3. The Porcelain Tower of Nanking, Cahina
- 4. The Mosque at St. Sophia (Constantinople)
- 5. The Stonehenge of England
- 6. The Catacombs of Alexandria
- 7. The Leaning Tower of Pisa

Seven Natural Wonders of the World

- 1. Mount. Everest on the Border of Tibet and Nepal
- 2. The Nile River, Egypt
- 3. Rio de Janeiro Harbor
- 4. Iguassu Falls, Argentina
- 5. Yosemite valley and the Giant Sequoias of California
- 6. The Grand Canyon, Colorado River, Arizona
- 7. The Northern Lights especially from Northern Canada and Alaska

Seven Wonders of Today

- 1. Great Wall of China
- 2. Christ the Redeemer, Rio de Janeiro
- 3. Machu Pichu, Peru

- 4. Chichen Itza, Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico
- 5.The Colosseum of Rome
- 6. The Taj Mahal of Agra
- 7. Petra (Jordan)

Towns on River banks

| Baghdad | Tigris | London | Thames |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Belgrade | Danube | Madrid | Manzaneres |
| Berlin | Spree | Montreal | St. Lawrence |
| Budapest | Danube | Moscow | Moskva |
| Buenos Aires | La Plata | New Orleans | Mississippi |
| Cairo | Nile | New York | Hudson |
| Chittagong | Maiyani | Paris | Seine |
| Cologne | Rhine | Prague | Vitava |
| Dublin | Liffey | Quebec | St. Lawrence |
| Hamburg | Elbe | Rangoon | Irrawadi |
| Hankow | Yangtse Kiang | Rome | Tiber |
| Ottawa | Ottawa | Shanghai | Yangtse-Kiang |
| Kabul | Kabul | Stalingrad | Volga |
| Karachi | Sindh | St. Louis | Mississippi |
| Khartoun | Confluence of Blue and White Nile | Sydney | Darling |
| Kurnool | Tungabhadra | Tokyo | Arakawa |
| Leningrad | Neva | Vienna | Danube |
| Liverpool | Mersey | Warsaw | Vistula |
| Lisbon | Tagus | Washington | Potomac |

Important Days

| Date | Day | Date | Day |
|--------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Jan 6 | World War Orphan day | Jun 5 | World Environment Day |
| Jan 10 | World Laughter day | Jun 8 | World Oceans Day |
| Feb 4 | World cancer day | June's 3 rd Sunday | Father's Day |
| Mar 8 | International Women's day | Jun 21 | International Day of yoga |
| Mar 21 | World Forestry day | Jul 1 | Doctor's Day |
| Mar 22 | World Day for Water | Jul 11 | World Population Day |
| Mar 23 | World Meteorological Day | Jul 28 | World Hepatitis Day |
| Mar 24 | World TB day | Aug's 1 st Sunday | International Friendship Day |
| Apr 7 | World Health Day | Aug 8 | World Senior Citizen's Day |
| Apr 17 | World Hemophilia Day | Sep 8 | World Literacy day (UNESCO) |
| Apr 18 | World Heritage day | Sep 21 | Day for Peace and Non-Violence (UN) |
| Apr 22 | Earth Day | Sep 27 | World Tourism Day |
| Apr 23 | World Book and Copyright day | Oct 3 | World Habitat Day |
| May 1 | International labor Day | Oct 4 | World Food Security day |

| 2 nd Sunday of May | Mother's Day | Oct 9 | World Post Office day |
|-------------------------------|--|--------|--------------------------|
| May 8 | World Red Cross Day | Nov 5 | World Tsunami Day |
| May 15 | International day of the family | Dec 1 | World AIDS Day |
| May 21 | Anti-Terrorism Day | Dec 10 | Human Right's Day |
| May 24 | Commonwealth day | Dec 11 | UNICEF Day |
| May 29 | International Day of Un peace Keepers | Dec 25 | Christmas Day |
| Jun 1 | World Milk Day | | |

The First and the Lasts

| First president of the USA | George Washington |
|--|--|
| First prime Minister of Great Britain | Robert Walpole |
| First Women Prime Minister of a country in the world First | Mrs. S. Bandaranaike (Sri Lanka) |
| India's Spaceman First | Sqn. Ldr. Mr Rakesh Sharma |
| Indian to scale Mount Everest | Phu Dorjee |
| First President of Indian Republic | Dr. Rajendra Prasad |
| First Woman Prime Minister of India | Mrs. Indira Gandhi |
| First Indian to win Nobel Prize | Dr. Rabindranath Tagore |
| First person to conquer Mt. Everest | Serpa Tenzing and Hillary |
| First man who climbed Mt. Everest(twice) | Nawang Gombu |
| First Woman who climbed Mt. Everest | Mrs. Junko Tabei, Japan |
| First Indian to swim across the English Channel | (Men) Mihir Sen, (Women) Mrs. Arti Gupta, (Prodigy) Kutraleeswaran, Chennai |

| First Woman to sail non-stop around the | Kay Cottee |
|--|--|
| World, alone | |
| First Woman to reach the North Pole | Ann Bancroff |
| First Indian Woman to scale Mt. Everest | Bachhendri pal |
| First Person to reach the South Pole | Amundsen |
| First Woman to walk into space | Svetlana Savitskaya Space (Russia) |
| First person in the world to land on moon | Neil A. Armstrong and Edwin E. Aldrin Jr. of USA |
| First country to launch cosmic space rocket towards the moon | Russia |
| First Indian Woman to win an Olympic Medal | Karnam Malleswari |
| First test tube Baby | Louise Joy Brown |
| First Man to walk in Space | Alexi Leonov (USSR) |
| First Governor General of Pakistan | Mohammad Ali Jinnah |
| First Oldest Man to Scale Mt. Everest | Mario Curris |
| First Talking Film | Alam ara (1931) |

Inventions and Scientists

| Invention | Scientist | Invention | Scientist |
|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Air plane (Jet Engine) | Whittle | Laughing gas | Priestley |
| Air brake | George Westinghouse | Lightning Conductor | Benjamin Franklin |
| Animal classification | Aristotle, father of zoology | Locomotive | Richard Travithick |

| Artificial heart | Michael de Baxey | Mathematics (India) | Ramanujan S. |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Atomic Physics | Ernest Rutherford | Microscope (electron) | Vladimir Kosme Sworykin |
| Atomic Theory | John Dalton | Motion, law of | Newton |
| Atomic bomb | Otto Han | Natural selection, Laws of | Darwin |
| Ayurveda | Atreya | Neutron | Chadwik |
| Barometer | Torricelli | Nuclear Fission | Otto Han |
| Bicycle | Macmillan | Origin of Life (Artificial) | Stanley Millar |
| Blood Grouping | Dr. Costella and Dr. Moss | Penicilin | Alexander Fleming |
| Camera | Zeiss | Phonograph | Edison |
| Cells in the Plants | Robert Hooke | Printing Press | Caxton |
| Cell Theory | Schleiden Schwann | Printing for the blind | Louis Braille |
| Chloroform | James Young Simpson | Quantum Theory | Max Planck |
| Cinema | Nicolas Lumiere and Edison | Radar | Lee De Forest |
| Cinematography | Thomas Alva Edison | Radio Signals | G. Marconi |
| Clock pendulum | Huygens | Raman Effect | C.V. raman |
| Computer (original Model) | Charles Babbage | Razor (Safety) | Gillete |
| DNA Model | Watson & Crick | Relativity, theory of | Albert Einstein |
| Diesel Oil Engine | Rudolf diesel | Replacing Human Heart | Christian Bernard |
| Dynamite | Alfred Nobel | Solar System | Copernicus |

| Electric Battery | Volta | Submarine | Bushell |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Electric Lamp | Edison | Telegraph | William Cook |
| Electrical Resistance | Ohm | Telephone | Graham Bell |
| Theory of evolution | Charles Darwin | Telescope | Galileo |
| Film (Talking) | Warner Bros. | Television | J. L. Baird |
| Fountain Pen | Waterman | Transistor | W. Shockley & Bardeen |
| Gravitation law | Newton | Vaccination | Edward Jenner |
| Hydrogen | Henry Cavendish | X-Ray | Roentgen |
| Insulin | F. Banting | Xerox | Haloid Xerox |
| Kidney machine | Kolf | Zip Fastener | W.L. Judson |

General terminology

- 1. Adult franchise The right of voting in election granted to every male or female having completed 18 years of age without distinct of caste, creed or color. Also called Adult Suffrage.
- 2. Agricultural Revolution The transition from feudal to modern farming practices is referred to as agricultural Revolution.
- 3. Ambassador A diplomatic envoy of the highest order sent by one state to another.
- 4. Apartheid The language is spoken in South Africa. Its literal meaning is "apart-hood". The word is used to describe the policy of keeping the white and the black people separate from each other. It also means favoring one race at the cost of another. South Africa and Rhodesia follows this policy.
- 5. Autonomy –n power or right of self governing.
- 6. Balance of Power Some believe that rival states should built up equal military strength. According to them, it is necessary for keeping the peace. It is called the theory of "Balance of Power".
- 7. Blue Chip This is the common stock of a large, reputed corporation which has a stable and least risky growth path. The stocks of such a corporation, typical blue-chip, stocks are high priced.

- 8. Budget It is the statement of the receipts and expenditures of a country during a year. It is presented to the assembly for voting. It is a sort of Balance sheet of a country requiring the sanction of the legislature.
- 9. Bulls and Bears these are terms used on the stock exchange. Bull refers to one who seeks to raise the price of stock and speculate on a rise, whereas Bears means one who sells stock for delivery at a future date anticipating fall in prices.
- 10. Cabinet a committee of ministers holding the most important portfolios who work under a system of joint responsibility.
- 11. Coalition It is a combination of political parties when a single party has not won an overall majority of seats in a legislature.
- 12. Customs Duty It is a tax levied on foreign goods imported into the home country or homemade goods exported to foreign countries.
- 13. Direct taxes It refers to income tax levied directly on individuals on their total world income.
- 14. Floor Crossing When a member of the legislature leaves the opposition to join the party in power or vice versa, he or she is said to have crossed the floor. This is also called defection of legislators from their parent parties.
- 15. May day The day of workers of the world celebrated throughout the world on the 1st May every year with the slogan "Workers of the World, Unite".
- 16. Midterm poll A Midterm poll is an election held out of schedule as a result of dissolution of a State legislature before it has been in existence for its normal span of time.
- 17. Mixed Economy Signifies the middle path between capitalism and socialism.
- 18. Octroi It is a form of tax levied on goods entering a municipal town. The tax thus collected is generally used for the maintenance of the town.
- 19. Per Capita Income The term defines national income per head or coefficient resulting from the division of the national income by the size of population.
- 20. Quorum Minimum essential of members to be present in order to be present in order to constitute a house to transact proceedings.
- 21. Snap polls A snap poll means a sudden election to a legislature held at short notice before the expiry of its full term.
- 22. Socialistic Pattern of Society even distribution of economic power or reduction of inequalities in income and wealth in a country.

- 23. Territorial Waters Although attempts have been made to codify international law on territorial waters, it has not been found possible to enforce a universally acceptable limit.
- 24. Veto right of executive head to refuse to approve any legislation.
- 25. Zero-base Budgeting It is improvement over the traditional budgeting and not a substitute of it. It examines critically, regularly and systematically the assumptions of the traditional budget. The budgeted items are treated each year at zero base level as if it was non existent in the past. Its input is related to the output to decide upon its inclusion in or exclusion from the annual budget.

Legal terms

- 1. Accord an informal agreement as between nations or mutual agreement.
- 2. Adjournment Motion a motion moved by a member in a legislature when it is desired to draw the attention of the executive to a matter of urgent public importance or interest.
- 3. Advalorem Means according to the value. It is calculated according to value. A duty the amount of which depends upon the value of the property taxed is called an advalorem duty.
- 4. Affidavit a statement on oath for use as evidence in judicial process.
- 5. Alibi elsewhere a legal plan that the accused was not presented at the time and place of occurrence.
- 6. Amicus Curiae he is a member of the bar or other stand-by who informs the court when it is doubtful or mistaken of any fact or decided case.
- 7. Bicameral Having or consisting of two legislative chambers.
- 8. Certiorari A writ to transfer a law suit from a lower court to a higher one.
- 9. Coup d'état It is a violent and sudden change of Govt. usually by the force of arms.
- 10. C.P.C. Civil Procedure Code
- 11. Cr. P. C. Criminal procedure Code
- 12. Decree The award or decision of a court or arbitrator.
- 13. Defacto which actually functions though it may not have any legal sanction.
- 14. Defamation To attack the reputation of slander or libel.

- 15. Detenue a person who has been detained by the State.
- 16. Estoppel A bar to prevent a person from admitting or denying because of statements made by him previously.
- 17. Ex-gratia It is used to denote payment or grant made on humanitarian consideration.
- 18. Ex-officio by virtue of holding any office.
- 19. Ex parte something done or said by one person in the absence of his opponent.
- 20. FIR First Information Report refers to information relating to the commission of cognizable offence.
- 21. Free Legal Aid Legal aid provided to the poor at the expense of government.
- 22. Genocide The willful extermination of a minority or a religious community or race by mass killing or by passing repressive measures.
- 23. Habeas Corpus A writ refers to the right of an arrested person to be produced before the court of law for trial.
- 24. In Camera In secret
- 25. I.P.C. Indian Penal Code
- 26. Levirate It means marriage of a woman with her younger brother in law after her Husband's death.
- 27. Locus Stand Right to Interfere.
- 28. Mandamus A writ issue by a superior court directing the State or Lower court, to whom it is issued, to perform a specified act pertaining to his office.
- 29. Modus Operandi Mode of Working.
- 30. Negotiable Instrument These are documents which on transfer from one person to another convey the legal right to the property they present.
- 31. Official Receiver A person properly authorized to carry out duties in connection with the winding up of an insolvent's estate.
- 32. Ordinance It is an act promulgated by the Head of a State in case of emergency without undergoing the formalities of the regular procedure of the legislature of the country. It can't remain in force beyond a specified period.

- 33. Parole The release of a prisoner before the sentence has expired, on condition of future good behavior.
- 34. Perjury Making false statement on oath.
- 35. Polygamy Practice or condition of being married to more than one husband at the same time.
- 36. Preventive Detention Imprisonment without trial before the actual commission of a specified crime.
- 37. Prima Facie At the first sight
- 38. Probono Publico For the public good
- 39. Quo Warranto It is the writ issued to person holding an important office of the State to establish his claim to hold that post.
- 40. Sedition Conduct or speech tending to rebellion or breach of public order
- 41. Sine Die Without date, indefinitely
- 42. Status quo ante The previous position
- 43. Sub Judice Under Judicial consideration
- 44. Ultravires Beyond one's power
- 45. Unicameral having only one house in a law making ody
- 46. Vakalat a written authority by a litigant to his lawyer
- 47. Writ a written command by the High Court or the Supreme Court directing the State or the court to act or abstain from acting in some way.



Thank you for reading.

Good luck with your upcoming NDA, CDS, AFCAT exams and SSB Interview

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